

# LION



M.D. "A" Edition Apr/May/June 2018

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*We Serve*

## A LOT OF "PRIDE" IN NIAGARA



**GREAT JOB  
ST. DAVIDS  
& DISTRICT!**

# Congratulations to Lions Club International as you celebrate 100 years of vision, commitment and service



We salute Lions Club International on this special milestone anniversary. Over the past century your members have pooled their talents and resources to improve the lives of millions of people in local communities and in places of need around the globe.

Through your many programs – among them, sharing the gift of vision, protecting the environment, reaching out and engaging young people, alleviating hunger and raising money for worthy causes – you continue to make a vital difference. Where there is a need, there is truly a Lion!

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Wishing you all the best this year and in the years to come.

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# THE Lion



*Welcome to the April/May/June 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.*

## Contents

M.D. "A" Edition

April/May/June 2018

Bridgeport Lions Club	8
Buckingham Lions Club	24
Charlton-Englehart Lions Club	34
Chatham Lions Club	26
Clinton Lions Club	25
Club Lions de Buckingham	24
Club Lions de Knowlton	27
Copetown Lions Club	33
Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club	21
Fenwick Lions Club	31
Forest Hill Lions Club	25
Grimsby and District Lions Club	24
Guelph Lions Club	13
Guelph Royal City Lions Club	8,13
Hudson Lions Club	34
Knowlton Lions Club	27,30
London East Lions Club	33
Lynn Valley Lions Club	18
Madoc Lions Club	21,27
Marmora Crowe Valley Lions Club	26,27
Mosborough Busy Busy Lions Club	23,34
New Hamburg Lions Club	34
Onaping Falls Lions Club	25
Poplar Hill Lions Club	26
Port Dover Lions Club	26
Powassan Lions Club	30
Pt. Dalhousie Lioness Club	33
Pt. Dalhousie Lions Club	33
Rockwood Lions Club	23
South Brant Lions Club	18,30
St. Marys Lions Club	8,25
Stirling Lions Club	26
Stratford Lions Club	8
Temiskaming Lions Club	23
Thornbury Beaver Valley Lions Club	25
Tweed Lions Club	27
Wasaga Beach Lions Club	27
Whitefish District Lions Club	26,33

President's Message	4,5
Executive Summary International Board of Directors Meeting	5,6
Highlights of February and May 2018 Governors' Council Meetings	6
Convention Call	7
Official Notice - 2018 International Convention	7
LCI Forward Update	7
Service Abroad	8
District A15 Eyeglass Recycling	8
Annual Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days	9
Leo Shines the Spotlight on Sight	9
LCIF Stories	10
Environment Story	11-13
District A-15 Convention Apr 13th-15th	13
Paper, Plastic, Playgrounds	14-16
Healing Healy	16
Candidates for International Third Vice President	18
Celebrate We Did	19-21
MD'A TOUCHSTONE STORY	22
Youth at MD'A	23
Lions Clubs of the Greater Sudbury Area	24
MD'A Convention 2018 Niagara	28
The Lion Magazine on Display at the Convention	28
Editor's Note - Knowlton Lions	30
Lions Homes for the DeafBlind	31
Editor's Message	32
Important Dates	32
Resource Centre Website	34
District Reporters	34
Message from the Editor	34

Agreement Number is:  
41805020\*

The LION Magazine, official publication of Lions Clubs International, is published by authority of the board of directors in 20 languages - English, Spanish, Japanese, French, Swedish, Italian, German, Finnish, Korean, Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Chinese, Norwegian, Icelandic, Turkish, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian and Thai.

Management Committee Lion Magazine  
Lion David Mills PDG  
Lion Dave Hewitt PDG



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M.D. "A" Lion Magazine  
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**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International**  
**President**

## Caring for Our World, Connecting to Future Generations

Namaste!

Lions know that service to others brings its own very special kind of rewards. There is nothing quite like the smile that breaks across the face of a child who plays on a Lions playground, or the look of relief in a mother's eyes when her baby receives a measles shot. Bringing shelter to disaster victims or aid to the needy—these actions connect the humanity in us to the humanity of those all around us.

But sometimes service must be done even when the rewards aren't as immediate. Sometimes, if you aren't careful to keep your heart on the big picture, the sacrifice is all you notice. When being called upon to act for the environment, we're often given a list of things we should not do. Don't use plastic water bottles, don't drive your car too much, don't take a long shower. And you'll find those suggestions in this issue, along with other small ways you can do your part.

But caring for our world shouldn't feel like a chore. This is our only home. And we have a responsibility to future generations to care for it. When we do a service project that makes our environment better, we are connecting ourselves to that future generation. The Environment is an essential part of our new global causes—one by which we have served 64 million people in the past four years alone.

The young people of the world are passionate about this issue. It is a cause that energizes them. Some clubs have reported that they've used environmental service projects as a way to recruit more young people, and it's worked. More than half of all Lions clubs—26,550 and counting—have recently organized a project to help the environment. We're gathering momentum, and its time to see this through until we live in a more verdant world.

In India, we face many environmental concerns. We are struggling with air pollution and groundwater depletion, which threaten the health and livelihoods of everyone, rich and poor. Just like other countries, we use too many plastics and have to deal first-hand with the ramifications of climate change.

But these challenges are not insurmountable. And while there are many small things every individual

can do, there are big things that we can do together as Lions when we use our vast network to connect to our communities.

So, yes, do the little things. Most changes are so small you won't notice them. But do the big things too. Come together as a group to clean a beach or a trail, plant trees on a bare bank, recycle newspapers or plastic bags. Not only might you attract new members, but you will be connecting yourself and your club to the greater community, now and into the future.

Sometimes, we do not feel the Earth turning but night does turn into dawn. For the two billion people who do not drink clean drinking water, for the millions who have no sanitary toilet facilities, for the many animal species that are on the brink of extinction, we need a new dawn for our planet.

This planet does not belong to us, we belong to this planet.

**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International President**

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## There is a Leader in Every Lion

Namaste!

When I was young I dreamed of conquering the world. But I wasn't interested in forcing my way to the top. I wanted to lead through kindness. And when I joined Lions I knew I had found an organization that could help me become the leader I had envisioned.

A Lion leader has two hands—one to serve the community and one to serve Lion members. But the way in which each Lion serves varies. In this issue we look at some Lions—and Leos—who have found ways to serve that fit who they are as people and as Lions. As DG Cheryl Wilbur says so aptly, "If you're

a Lion, you already are a leader in your community."

This month, I met Pope Francis in the Vatican in Rome. The word "Pope" is a Latin derivative of "Papa." While not all of us can become Popes, we can all be fathers to many children and people in need.

We could have profiled any number of our 1.4 million members, as we are all leaders by virtue of what we've chosen to do for our communities. When Lions in Puerto Rico became victims themselves after Hurricane Maria, they never stopped being Lions. Never stopped being leaders.

It doesn't matter what your title is. It doesn't matter

if you've ever seen yourself as a leader. Leadership is not about inspiring followers, it's about inspiring more leaders. That's why I'm so proud to be the international president—because I lead leaders, not followers.

Here's to the leaders in all of you.

**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International President**

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## We Did It

Namaste!

Our centennial year is now coming to a close. It's time to look back on our work and be proud of all we've accomplished. It has been a year of celebrating great service, and a year of doing great service.

We have a number of remarkable examples of what Lions do in this issue. Walks to raise money to support children's hospitals, Buddy Benches for lonely kids,

tackling hunger through food drives, cycling for diabetes awareness, building schools, planting flags on Mount Everest, recycling electronics, and, literally, building bridges—Lions are doing it all. I couldn't be more proud to be part of this global organization of doers.

The numbers are astounding. Since July 2014, we've served more than 236 million people and

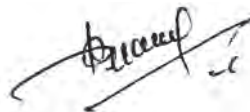
continue to reach more every day. You've completed more than 31,000 Legacy Projects that will benefit your communities for years to come. This year, we are on track to serve more than 150 million people. Please report your service to make sure this happens.

But there is still so much to do. We won't be resting on our laurels. We've set our sights on our next century of service with LCI Forward. Now is the time

to familiarize yourself with our strategic five-year plan and share our long-term goals with your club at your next meeting.

It has been a pleasure being your International President in this very special year of service. While I will no longer be bringing you monthly messages,

I will still always be yours, with you in the name of service and as a Lion. In my title of International President Lion Dr. Naresh Aggarwal, my favorite word is "Lion."



**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
**Lions Clubs International President**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

#### Miami, Florida, USA – April 6-9, 2018



#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. The committee will continue to monitor and follow up on action plans.

#### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Directed the Panipat Greater Lions Club to revoke the membership of Vinay Garg and directed the Kapurthala Lions Club to revoke the membership of Savtantar Sabharwal for conduct unbecoming a Lion. Declared that Vinay Garg and Savtantar Sabharwal shall not be recognized in the future as a Lion by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that they shall not be eligible for future membership in Lionism.
2. Directed the Ulkee Lions Club to revoke the membership of Mu-Deok Lee for conduct unbecoming a Lion. Declared that Mu-Deok Lee shall not be recognized in the future as a Lion by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be eligible for future membership in Lionism.
3. Permitted former member Byeong-Yeol Ahn to join a Lions Club, upon invitation.
4. Revised Chapter VI of the Board Policy Manual to include the provisions related to the Ethical Standards and Conduct of our Lion Leaders that had previously been included as Exhibits in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual.
5. Revised the Standard Form District Constitution, Club By-Laws and Multiple District Constitution to remove the relevant Dispute Resolution Procedure from each document in order to create a new Dispute Resolution chapter to the Board Policy Manual.
6. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to remove Paragraph J. and Exhibits C, D, E and F so that those provisions can be moved to a new chapter and an already existing chapter of the Board Policy Manual that the provisions better align with.
7. Created a new Chapter XXV of the Board Policy Manual for the Dispute Resolution Procedures.
8. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph D. of the Board Policy Manual to add a new Section 10 related to an interpretation of the Definition of "Sufficient Notice" following withdrawal of international

officer endorsements.

9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2018 International Convention to amend Article II, Section 5(b) of the International By-Laws to amend the board representation provision related to simultaneous service to be consistent with recent amendments to the International Constitution.
10. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2018 International Convention to amend Article IV, Section 1 of the International By-Laws to amend the standing committees of the International Board of Directors to include a Technology Committee.

#### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Selected Mexico City, Mexico as the host city for the 2025 Lions Clubs International Convention.

#### DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Approved the Club Excellence Award requirements and the District Excellence Award requirements for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
2. The clubs in MD 51 (Puerto Rico) that were impacted by two devastating hurricanes were given a waiver of the January 2018 dues and an extension to allow more clubs to be officially certified to vote during their multiple district 51 convention, which is scheduled to take place on May 25-27, 2018.
3. Approved the request from district 403 B2 to become single District 417 to take place at the adjournment of the 2018 International Convention.
4. Approved granting the countries of Ghana, Tanzania and Uganda provisional district status at the close of the 2018 International Convention.
5. Approved granting the Ukraine provisional district status as District 134 at the close of the 2018 International Convention.
6. Appointed Past Council Chairperson Myung Shin Kim to serve as the Coordinating Lion for the country of Myanmar.
7. Appointed the Lions submitted by provisional districts to serve as district governors for the provisional districts for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
8. Appointed Lion Muhammed Ishaq Dar to serve

as district governor for District 305 N2 (Pakistan) through the close of the 2018 International Convention.

9. Revised the policy regarding official badges to allow two titles be displayed.
10. Revised the Standard Form District By-Laws be revised to require that changes to zone and regions be approved by the district cabinet and in the best interest of the clubs, district and the association.

#### FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved the FY 2017-2018 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
2. Requested the necessary language be drafted for a By-Law amendment to be proposed to the delegates at the 2018 International Convention for the inclusion of a Technology Committee as a standing committee of the International Board of Directors.
3. Revised Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual be amended by changing the precedence of invites for speaking engagements for an authorized meeting.

#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the curriculum plan and schedule for the 2019 District Governors-Elect Seminar.

#### MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Approved one application for a PR grant for Multiple District E (Venezuela, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao) in the amount of \$6,000.
2. Revised Chapter XIX, Official Protocol of the Board Policy Manual to reflect a modification to add Past LCIF Trustees and Past Board Appointees remove Constitutional Area Executive Staff and Immediate Past Council Chairpersons.

#### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved updates to the Global Action Team structure.
2. Approved extension of the Join Together Program until June 2021, and that existing Lioness Clubs be eligible for the Program regardless of the number of members. Also approved that the charter fee be waived for Lioness Clubs under this Program.

3. Revised board policy to remove the LCIF trustee liaison position as well as a few other housekeeping changes.
4. Amended board policy to include Republic of the Union of Myanmar as the 214th new Lions country.

#### SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Selected members and alternates to serve on the Leo and Lion Advisory Panel for the 2018-2020 term.
2. Selected the Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Program Chairperson Awards for the 2016-2017 year.

3. Revised Chapter XIII of the Board Policy Manual to reflect current practices.
4. Updated Chapter III of the Board Policy Manual to add Leo Lion Board Liaisons.

**For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI Web site at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.**



**David Mills**  
MD'A Secretary

## HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY AND MAY 2018 GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETINGS



**Memorandum of Understanding with CNIB** – With the knowledge that CNIB has now initiated its own Dog Guide Program, the Memorandum of Understanding with CNIB has had to undergo major adjustments. The MOU as presented to the Council of Governors at the February Council Meeting was rejected and sent back for further review. It is recognized that individual Lions Clubs are free to donate as they see fit. The Council of Governors have suggested that donating to specific requests for Lake Jo or supporting the Mobile Eye Van for the north are the preferred targets of donation. We have removed from the MOU any suggested amount of donations emanating from the Lions of MD'A. The MOU was finalized at the Council of Governors Meeting in May.

**Lions Foundation of Canada** – PDG Janet Marissen reported that we will exceed last year's accomplishment of graduating over 186 teams and is hopeful that this year's target of 200 teams is achieved. The campaign to add \$80,000 to the Autism program was successful! Good Luck to Lion Janet as she assumes her duties of Ontario Director for LFC in October of this year.

**Endorsements** – At the February Council Meeting, the Lions of MD'A endorsed PID Brian Sheehan of Minnesota for the position of 3rd International Vice President in Las Vegas, Nevada, 2018. At the same meeting, the Lions of MD'A endorsed PID Patti Hill of Calgary for the position of 3rd International Vice President in Milan, Italy, 2019. Lion Patti's campaign is not unopposed and it is essential that the Lions of MD'A actively assist with the fundraising aspect of the campaign and also make every effort to be in Milan to cast their vote.

**Research and Long Range Planning** – Many thanks to PDG Jim Hilt and his committee who were able to design a ladies Safari Shirt for Convention wear. The new

design is produced locally using existing material. For anyone attending the International Convention in Las Vegas, please check the dress code section in the newly updated Policy and Procedures manual which is on the MD'A Website.

**Lions Quest** – This valuable program has seen a welcomed resurgence. In January a highly successful school-based workshop was held involving 24 Lions and 10 teachers! So our program is alive and well but as is the case with all expanding programs, financial challenges emerge. Be on the lookout for initiatives to help finance this tremendous program and give it your full support. Direct any questions to PCC Bob Tanner.

**Alert** – LCI no longer supports this program directly but in February the Council of Governors voted to continue this program at the MD'A level under the guidance of PDG Gary Wood. Districts are asked to appoint an ALERT chairperson and have him/her contact Lion Gary as soon as possible. The news is always full of situations where Lions can have a meaningful impact and this is our opportunity to act.

**Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF** – This program allows members of the Lions Family the opportunity to directly donate and receive an income tax receipt. How impactful is this program? Recently clubs from District A16 and District A3 campaigned to raise funds to replace the aging cataract surgical equipment at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre. LCIF has directed us to forward the funds from our account! Canadian Dollars supporting Canadian Initiatives...A FIRST!

**Centennial Impact** – PDG Jim Rohrbach is completing his 4-year leadership and has proudly reported that as of the MD'A Convention, we have completed 588 Legacy programs. This year alone 54% of clubs have completed 2 or more Centennial Service Challenges and we have served almost 500,000 people. Thank you Lion Jim for your leadership.

**Opportunities for Youth** – It was great to see three of the many successful participants from the Effective Speaking and Essay Contest at the Convention. The

display of Peace Posters was very impressive. This most valuable program deserves our continuing financial support as the program is ever-increasing. The Council of Governors has approved the bid of the Petrolia Lions Club to host next year's MD'A Effective Speaking Contest.

**Future MD'A Conventions** – At the February Council Meeting, the Governors accepted the bid from the St. Davids Lions Club to host the 2019 MD'A Convention in St. Catharines. At the May Council Meeting, the Governors accepted the bid from District A12 to host the 2020 MD'A Convention at the J W Marriott in Muskoka.

**Leadership** – The Council of Governors for 2018-2019 continues their training for their upcoming year. DG Tim Cheung (A16) was elected Council Chair for 2018-2019 at the February Council Meeting and DGE Bryon McLellan (A12) was acclaimed Vice Council Chair at the May District Governor Elect Briefing.

**The Art of Recognition** – Our time spent with 1st International Vice President Gudrun Yngvadottir at Convention was truly inspiring. At the International Banquet she assisted Council Chair John in presenting the following awards:

#### International President's Medal

PDG Jim Rohrbach, PCC Harry Marissen

#### International President's Leadership Medal

PDG, PCS John Stewart, PDG Eleanor Colwell

#### International President's Certificate of Appreciation

PDG Al Snider, PDG Charles Liddle,  
PDG/CT Dave Hewitt, IPDG/CS David Mills

**For information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary David Mills at email: [secretary@mdalions.org](mailto:secretary@mdalions.org).**

# Convention Call

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the International By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2018 International Convention. Our 101st International Convention will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, United States. It begins at 9 a.m. June 29 and ends July 3. The purpose of the convention is to elect a president, first vice president, second vice president, third vice president and 17 members of the International Board of Directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Vegas is a city like no other. It is so much more than the bright lights and casinos it's so well-known

for. You can watch the sun rise over Red Rock Canyon, take a boat ride on Lake Mead, tour any of the many museums, or visit one of the award-winning restaurants.

The five convention days will feature renowned speakers, first-class entertainers, and, of course, Lions' convention traditions such as the grand parade, the swearing-in of the new international president and three plenary sessions that demonstrate the amazing range and scope of Lions' service. President George W. Bush and Dr. Sanjay Gupta are two of our special guest speakers.

Convention Week is a wonderful experience

packed with fellowship, fun and learning. Come spend time with fellow Lions, participate in one of the campfire sessions, and become inspired for another year of service.

Signed by me in Oak Brook, Illinois, United States of America, this 3rd day of April, 2018.



**Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**  
Lions Clubs International President



## Official Notice – 2018 International Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA



The following proposed amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2018 International Convention. All By-Laws amendments require a majority vote to adopt.

**ITEM 1:** A HOUSEKEEPING RESOLUTION TO CORRECT A REFERENCE TO "MULTIPLE DISTRICT" THAT SHOULD REFER TO SUB-DISTRICT.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article X, Section 2(a) of the International By-Laws be amended by deleting the word "multiple" and replacing it with the word "sub-" following the phrase "respective single, or" in the second sentence.

**ITEM 2:** A HOUSEKEEPING RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BY-LAWS.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 1 of the International By-Laws be amended by deleting the word "seven" and replacing it with the word "eight" in the first sentence.

**ITEM 3:** A HOUSEKEEPING RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BOARD REPRESENTATION PROVISION RELATED TO SIMULTANEOUS SERVICE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article II, Section 5(b) of the International By-Laws be

amended by deleting the phrase "as members of the International Board of Directors" and replacing it with "as International Directors" in the first sentence.

**ITEM 4:** A HOUSEKEEPING RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO INCLUDE A TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 1 of the International By-Laws be amended by adding the word "Technology"; as a new part (k) and re-lettering the remaining parts.

LCIF

## LCI Forward Update

LCIF

Lions are innovators. For more than one hundred years, Lions have found creative solutions to some of the most pressing needs in their communities. And the world.

Innovation requires vision, inspiration, and strategy. That's why Lions developed a five-year plan called LCI Forward. We're now in the middle of that plan and want to keep you updated on the progress we—and you—are making.

### What is LCI Forward?

LCI Forward is a road map for Lions to plan, implement, and achieve our vision for a better future. It's designed to help Lions triple our humanitarian impact and serve 200 million people a year by 2021.

To accomplish this incredible feat, LCI Forward focuses on:

- Enhancing our service impact and focus
- Reshaping public opinion and improving visibility
- Pursuing club, district, and organizational excellence
- Improving membership value and reaching new markets

We're going to start updating you regularly on how we're doing in these areas by highlighting stories that showcase clubs doing one or more of these things well.

This month we're featuring a club in Healy, Alaska. They were down and almost out, with membership at an all-time low. But rather than give up, they doubled down. The district governors took action, turning to the community to see what was needed.

By reaching out to the community and listening to their needs, the Healy club accomplished two of our main goals: 1) They reshaped public opinion and improved visibility and 2) They improved the value of membership and reached new markets by adding 23 new members, most of whom were young women.

But as you'll see in their story, they didn't do anything fancy. No special tricks. Just simple, straightforward engagement with the community. They reached out, listened, and then, most importantly, they followed up.

Take a look at their inspiring story on page 16, and then share yours. Write to us at [lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org) and tell us how your club has been moving LCI forward.

# Service Abroad

## Getting Their Sea Legs

Lions Clubs in Istanbul, Turkey partnered with the Spinal Cord Injury Association to bring 22 young people with cordial paralysis out for a day of sailing on the Sea of Marmara. Lions helped while four



Young people with spinal cord injuries learn the ropes during a day of sailing

experienced sea captains trained the young people. After eight hours at sea, “There was light, pride, and happiness in the eyes of all the participants,” says Arzu Nizamoglu of the Istanbul Heybeliada Lions Club and zone chairperson.

Turkey is a country surrounded by water, and the Lions wanted to introduce the disabled to sea and water sports as a way to bring color into their lives, says Nizamoglu. The reaction was very positive. “We found out, we did the right activity,” says Nizamoglu.

## Bridging Communities in Indonesia

Indonesia is the world’s largest archipelago. Home to 13,466 islands, the number of rivers that crisscross the remote interior is vast and fording these many rivers can be hard for those who live in rural areas. Children going to school, the sick traveling to community health centers, and mothers trying to make it to the market all have to navigate river crossings that can be difficult and dangerous.

Vertical Rescue Indonesia is a group dedicated to constructing 1,000 hanging bridges throughout Indonesia, helping to connect villages and villagers who would otherwise be unable to reach one another. The Bandung Raya Lions Club sponsored one such project through Vertical Rescue, connecting the villages of Nangklok and Tarikolot in the Regency of Pangandaran.

It took rock climbers and local workers five days and spent US\$5,000 to construct the 50-meter hanging bridge located just off a main road. The original team will return periodically to examine the condition of the steel frame and the local residents have also been trained to do simple repairs as needed or contact the construction crew when serious damage occurs.



A villager crosses the newly constructed hanging bridge

# District A15 Eyeglass Recycling

Recycling is a routine part of our lives, usually in the way of just putting items into recycling bins. However, Lions Clubs internationally and in this case Lions in District A-15 have been recycling used eye glasses for decades. In 1970, **Bridgeport Lions** spearheaded a project called Glasses for India. With help of other groups and the University of Waterloo School of Optometry, 3,500 pairs of glasses were collected and sent to Lions Clubs in India.

In the early 80s **St. Marys Lions** gathered glasses for missions to the Caribbean and Latin America. In 1984, a Hamilton optician **Barbara Skinner**, who went with a team to Ecuador, said that “10,029 patients went through the eye clinic; in total 7,500 pairs of glasses were fitted, but you need much more than you dispense.”

In 1988, **Guelph Royal City Lions** twinned with the Lions Club of Negombo in Sri Lanka. In addition to much needed hospital equipment, the club shipped hundreds of pairs of glasses, which were used in eye clinics in Sri Lanka.

In the early 2000’s, Lions from A-15, accompanied the medical teams on missions to Guatemala. Among these volunteers were **Stratford Lion Royden Brien**, **Guelph Royal City Lion Stephen Jones**, who developed a computer program to keep track of the sorted glasses,

and **Kitchener Lion Charlie Davis**. They went to some of the poorest areas such as the Peten Rainforest, populated by 500,000 people of Mayan and Spanish descent. Translation was a continual problem due to many dialects.

St. Jacobs Lion **Bill Runke**, also travelled with the teams to help build schools as part of the Missionary Ventures Canada project. A-15 supplied a YAG Laser, for the eye hospital in Guatemala at a cost of \$20,000, which was purchased with matching funds from an LCIF International Assistance Grant. The opening of Vincent Pescatore Eye Hospital, San Benito, el Peten, in April 2004, was the culmination of several years work in Guatemala.

Many of the Lions Clubs in A-15 have been collecting used eyeglasses on a continuing basis. This April, at the District A-15 Convention in Guelph, clubs were invited to bring their used eyeglasses to the convention for a special service project sorting the glasses, 6,061 pairs were sorted. The group of Lions who participated, included International guests, International Director **Tom** and Lion **Gillian Gordon**. Lions **Bob Keleher** and **Bill Hocken** sealed and labelled the boxes for shipment to the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, Montreal, via Home Hardware transport from their St. Jacobs warehouse. Millions

of people in other parts of the world have little or no chance of receiving the eye care they need. By donating and recycling glasses, we can help improve someone’s vision and change their life. This is truly a hands-on way to recycle and help others in need in developing countries. Well done Lions!

submitted by PDG Lion Nancy Ransom, Kitchener-Waterloo Community Spirit Lions



Lions Quinton Van de Vrie, Peter Misersky, and Paul Beattie packing glasses for Negombo Lions



# Annual Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days Support Healthy Communities

by Jamie Konigsfeld

“This is what gets a person’s day started,” said an Anthem associate volunteer, just one of many who met up on an October morning to pack up hygiene kits. Distributed to community members experiencing homelessness, the kits included a new pair of warm socks, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, lip balm, feminine hygiene items for girls and women, as well as a toothbrush and toothpaste. Another volunteer mentioned how good it feels just to wash your face in the morning, empathizing with someone who doesn’t have their own bathroom to start and end their day, and understanding their struggles.

In the Denver metropolitan area, Colorado, USA, there are more than 5,000 men, women, and children without a permanent residence, according to the last year’s Point-in-Time report completed by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative. About 1 in 5 of these individuals are chronically homeless, and nearly eight percent are children under 18 years old. Thanks to volunteers participating in the 2017 Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days, 1,200 of those individuals received consideration and care in the form of hygiene kits.

More than 70 volunteers, including members from Denver Five Points Lions Club, along with Denver-area Anthem associates and their friends and family, gathered to assemble the hygiene kits. The kits were delivered to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless,

an organization dedicated to creating lasting solutions to homelessness.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and the Anthem Foundation have committed to improving the health and wellness of communities since 2015. Every fall, the Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days kick off a season-long community service program that takes place across the United States (U.S.) with support from an annual grant awarded by the Anthem Foundation. The 2017 partnership brought together Anthem volunteers and Lions in 19 cities across 11 states. More than 400 local Lions club members joined close to 1,200 Anthem volunteers in a total of 43 service projects that promoted happier, healthier communities.

Seemingly small acts of service, conducted over just a few hours, make a big health and wellness impact on lives across the U.S. Other projects from this year’s Volunteer Days events included making blankets for sick or injured children at the Ronald McDonald House in Indianapolis, distributing donated mattresses to families and individuals who do not have a bed of their own, and packing up food donations for those who are all too familiar with the feeling of hunger.

The grant support from the Anthem

Foundation to LCIF also spurs year-round, Lion- and community-led humanitarian and capacity building initiatives through the “Lions-Anthem Foundation Healthy Heroes” initiative. Aiming to improve the health of communities across the country, the Healthy Heroes initiative awards grants to Lions clubs and districts with programs that support improved health outcomes. The goal is to build up local health and wellness capacities through projects like the establishment of accessible playgrounds or upgrades to critical clinics, hospitals, and community centers.

Since 2015, Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days and Lions-Anthem Healthy Heroes have mobilized more than 20,000 hours of community service, benefitting 1.4 million people with improved health and wellness.



## Leo Shines the Spotlight on Sight

by Madeleine Miller

To showcase the life-changing service that Leos perform in their communities, the Leo Club Program hosts the International Leo Day Video Contest. Now in its third year, the event provides young people with a unique opportunity to share how and why they serve.

The theme for 2017 was #YOUthSERVE, and Leos were asked to produce videos that demonstrated how they served within the five service areas: Diabetes, Environment, Hunger Relief, Childhood Cancer, and Vision.

Placing third, the Olongapo City Leo Club’s video focused on Vision. The club’s winning video told the story of Kimberly Mae Capuvan, a 21-year-old woman from Olongapo City, Zambales, Philippines, who had lost all hope in life because she was unable to see clearly. And she couldn’t afford to purchase eyeglasses.

“I have had a very difficult time since I was 9 years old,” Capuvan recalls, “especially at school. I always had to sit near the blackboard so I could see, and at night, I got headaches because of my nearsightedness.”

Her outlook improved dramatically when the

Olongapo City Peninsula Lions Club was looking for young people who needed glasses. Capuvan’s teacher asked her if she would like to have a pair, and she was thrilled when she was selected for the program. The Lions made her feel that she wasn’t alone, and fitted her with the perfect glasses.

“The first time I put them on, everything came into crystal-clear focus, and I felt new and alive because, for many years, I had trouble reading,” she says. “The glasses have made a world of difference in my studying and in my life.”

Because her local Lions club had helped her so much when she needed it, Capuvan wanted to be a part of the organization. A friend invited her to join the Olongapo City Leo Club and she jumped at the chance. She now serves as the vice president of the club.

Her favorite service project was when her Leo colleagues traveled to a far away Filipino community to donate books to children. The town is difficult to get to, but she knew how much the books would mean to the kids because they lived so far from an urban area.

Today, Capuvan is working on her second bachelor’s degree in management, having finished her bachelor’s degree in hotel and restaurant management. She has also completed units in education so that she can pursue her dream of becoming a teacher and advocate for children’s vision in the near future. In her free time, she participates in sports. For the past four years Capuvan has played wide receiver for the Olongapo Warriors Flag Football team and she hopes to travel the world one day.

Becoming a Leo has made her realize that she can touch other people’s lives in a positive way, she says. “I was helped by a Lions club. Now I want to give back. There’s no end to what we can do to help others, together.”

She is also grateful to the Olongapo City Leo Club members for being her brothers and sisters in the organization. “I wouldn’t have been able to share my story if it weren’t for them,” she adds. “Our eyes are our guide along life’s journey. And I’m living proof that clear vision leads to a brighter future.”

## New LCIF Grant Opportunities Give Lions More Ways to Serve

The needs of the world continue to increase and Lions are responding. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is making some exciting changes to its grant structure that will better support Lions by empowering service. There's nothing more central to being a Lion or Leo than service. It's why we join, it's what we do. Of course, we don't do it alone. Lions are supported by a powerful global foundation. LCIF empowers Lions with the resources needed to take on the issues we care about, bringing about real and lasting change.

### Adjustments to the Structure

LCIF's grants are available to support Lions' districts in large-scale humanitarian initiatives. The foundation provides support in four areas of service, including sight, youth, disaster relief, and other humanitarian efforts.

- Standard grants are now called Matching grants, a title that better represents the grant.
- Core 4 Lions Quest grants are now called Lions Quest grants.
- Core 4 Diabetes grants are now called Diabetes grants.
- Lions Quest grants and Diabetes grants are grouped under Humanitarian Grants.

International Assistance Grants (IAG) are no longer available, but an alternate option for equipment needs is to apply for a Matching grant. This change will enable a greater focus on sustainable service projects.

Be sure to visit LCIF's website for more details, and note that the criteria for some of these grants are being updated. Application deadlines will remain the same. As a reminder, here are the remaining deadlines for the 2017-2018 fiscal year:

- May 12: Application deadline for SightFirst grants to be reviewed at the August 2018 SightFirst Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting
- May 14: Application deadline for Humanitarian Grants (including Lions Quest Grants) to be reviewed at the August 2018 board meeting

### New Grant Opportunities

LCIF is excited to announce two new grant opportunities. Inspiring positive action, these opportunities represent LCIF's focus on the future.

#### Leo Service Grants

The eagerly anticipated Leo service grants are now available for application. These grants enable



*Grants through LCIF can help your club set up vision screening like this one for children in Pakistan*

Leos to assess, plan, and implement their own service projects, creating a bigger impact in their communities and around the world. Grants will be awarded up to US\$2,500 to Lions districts and up to US\$5,000 to Lions multiple districts. Potential project categories include any of LCIF's focus areas and our new global causes.

### District and Club Community Impact Grants

Soon there will be a program that allows 15% of a club or district's donations to LCIF to be transformed into grants that serve their local community. The District and Club Community Impact grant requires a US\$5,000 minimum annual donation for clubs and a US\$10,000 minimum annual donation for districts, and donations must be unrestricted to qualify (beginning next fiscal year, campaign donations will also qualify). Donations to LCIF in one fiscal year are made available for a grant application in the following fiscal year.

Visit [LCIF.org](http://LCIF.org) for more information, as criteria for this program are still being developed.

With exciting changes on the horizon, there has never been a better time to become involved with LCIF. Supporting LCIF is a wonderful way to empower the service of Lions through exciting new programs such as these.

## Lions Make Major Measles Impact

The goal has been reached! Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)'s US\$30 million commitment to



*Boy receives measles vaccine as part of a global initiative to eradicate the illness*

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance was reached at the end of December 2017.

At the Lions Clubs International 96th annual convention in Hamburg, Germany, LCIF made a commitment to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to raise US\$30 million to help protect tens of millions of children in some of the world's poorest countries against measles. If LCIF could accomplish this ambitious goal, these funds would be matched dollar-for-dollar by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and their partners, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the UK Department for International Development. LCIF is pleased to announce that thanks to the generosity and service of Lions, this goal has been reached, bringing the total amount raised to US\$60 million.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can cause serious consequences such as hearing loss, blindness, and death. It usually begins by attacking the respiratory system and causing a high fever. A rash will then develop and spread across the body. The virus is so contagious that 90% of people who come in contact with it will become infected if they are not immune to it. Though the risk of infection is great, measles is preventable with a vaccine.

Lions and LCIF are working together to ensure that every child has access to the vaccine. The impact of LCIF's financial support and the Gavi matching funds is projected to be 87.7 million children immunized, 97.8 million doses of the measles or measles-rubella vaccine procured, and 61,000 future deaths averted. For the first time in known history, the annual measles death rate has declined to less than 100,000 deaths per year. LCIF and Lions are applauding that achievement and are happy to be a partner contributing toward it.

Lions around the world support measles vaccination campaigns with aid from LCIF. For Lions in Indonesia, the goal is to eradicate measles in their country by 2020. After a successful first phase in 2017, Lions of Indonesia are now planning their second phase this coming fall. They have already begun to prepare for this campaign, which is larger than the last. Covering the 28 provinces outside of Java Island, the campaign will involve four Lions districts.

Though LCIF and Lions have made great strides to end measles, there is still so much left to do. Measles has an average daily death rate of 245 people, most of them children. To ensure Lions can keep fighting this terrible disease, please consider making a donation to LCIF. Make a donation in honor of World Immunization Week each year. Make a donation to show gratitude for the healthy children in your life. Or make a donation to extend a helping hand to children in disadvantaged areas of the world who have not yet received their immunization. Together, LCIF and Lions can help end measles for good.

# Environment Story

## The Shape of Our Water

by Erin Kasdin



photo by Heidi Walker

Water is, quite literally, everywhere. The most abundant substance in the world, it covers more than two thirds of the Earth's surface. It makes up 70 percent of our bodies. It comes down on our heads when we leave the house without an umbrella. Yet, in Cape Town, South Africa, there is none to drink.

The Pacific Ocean is home to most of the islands in the world—25,000 atolls, archipelagos, and islets. It's also home to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch—a soupy vortex of marine trash that, as of October 2016, was estimated to span more than 1.7 million square miles. The patch isn't really a solid mass, but an area of high concentration of litter at the surface with most of the debris comprised of very small pieces of floating plastic that may not be readily visible. It was only recently discovered, but debris has been washing ashore on Pacific coast beaches for decades, creating hazards for humans and wildlife, and bearing a chilling reminder that what we throw away doesn't really go "away."

### **Water Emergency in Cape Town Unites South African Lions**

Cape Town, South Africa is facing a frightening crisis, with municipal water taps set to run dry April 12, 2018. Despite being surrounded by some of the world's most beautiful beaches and oceans, the Mother City is suffering a severe drought that started in 2015 and has steadily depleted its natural resources, leaving residents of Cape Town facing a disaster unlike anything seen before.



**The Theewaterskloof dam outside Grabouw is Cape Town's main water supply. Severe droughts have caused an emergency, with taps set to run dry in mid-April. AP photo**

Area Leader and Past District

Governor Carl van Blerk, founding member and charter president of Edens Lion Club based in the coastal town of George, just under 300 miles from Cape Town, notes the ingenuity residents of Cape Town have shown, turning to inventive ways to save water. "Never before have toilet habits been so well debated by men and women," he says. With phrases such as "If it's brown, flush it down," and "if it's yellow, let it mellow," now found printed on papers and stuck on toilet doors across the city, residents are holding each other accountable. However, they haven't curbed their water use enough and the city has now limited usage to 50 liters (just over 13 gallons) of water per person, per day.

South Africans from all over are coming together to help, with people sending bottles of tap water in trucks from as far away as Johannesburg—nearly 900 miles from Cape Town. Van Blerk notes that as well-intentioned as these efforts are, tap water from unreliable sources, poured into unsanitary bottles, and shipped on the back of trucks over long distances can

spell a secondary health disaster.

Recognizing the need for a coordinated effort to get clean water to residents of Cape Town, the Edens Lions have stepped in and designated the Cape Town Water Project a priority for the club. They have called on residents of South Africa—and the world—to look at donating funds. All funds raised will be used to purchase bulk water at greatly reduced prices from water suppliers just outside of Cape Town, where the drought has not taken affect. The five-liter (1.3 gallon) sealed bottles of water, are then transported by the supplier in suitable trucks, to a central location in Cape Town and distributed to Lions clubs throughout the region. The local clubs then distribute the water where it is needed most—such as homes with the elderly, young children, or the sick.

An eight-ton truck can carry approximately 1,600 bottles of fresh water and can be delivered for around US\$1,600—just a dollar per bottle. Local schools from across the country have been asked to join the Lions Water for Cape Town drive by collecting enough funds to purchase and send a truckload of water to a school in Cape Town along with a message of hope and love for those who are in need.

"Residents from across South Africa have come together in a way that South Africans have proven in the past they can do so well," says van Blerk.



**Residents wait in long lines at fresh-water springs around Cape Town.**

AP photo Bram Janssen

### **Reduce Your Water Footprint**

According to a 2014 Government Accountability Report, 40 out of 50 state water managers in the U.S. expect water shortages under average conditions in some portion of their states over the next decade. Reduce your water footprint with some easy adjustments.

**Check your faucets.** Leaks account for more than 1 trillion gallons of wasted water every year, or 10,000 gallons per household.

**Replace your lawn.** Some municipal water suppliers are paying people to replace their lawns with drought-resistant and native species, sometimes called a “cash-for-grass” program.

**Take shorter showers.** One 10-minute shower with a traditional showerhead uses about 50 gallons of water. Replace your showerhead with a low-flow model and cut that in half.

**Turn off the faucet.** Letting the water run as you brush your teeth or wash dishes wastes two gallons per minute—as much as 3,000 gallons of water per year.

**Choose less meat.** A lot of resources—especially water—are needed to produce meat. Replacing 1 pound of beef with vegetables once per week can save more than 94,000 gallons of water per year.

### *Cleaning Up the Coasts One Piece of Plastic at a Time*

In 2012 a 165-ton floating structure washed up on Agate beach along the Pacific coast in Oregon. The 66-foot-long piece of concrete and steel was 7 feet high and 19 feet wide. And it happened to have come from across the Pacific Ocean. It was a Japanese dock that had been torn away during the 2011 tsunami, taking just over a year to make its way to a remote area of Oregon’s famous coastline where it promptly beached itself. It was, essentially, a large piece of marine debris.

Marine debris has become a growing concern over the past few decades as more and more of what we consume is considered “one-use” and made of materials that do not degrade. The result is an accumulation of floating debris across the world’s oceans. Weather conditions wash items ashore and fish and wildlife become entangled or eat the debris and become sick. “And it’s also kind of a public nuisance. People come out to our beaches and they expect to see a very wild place and they’re very surprised to see things like rope and plastic bottles,” says Carole Bernthal, Sanctuary Superintendent for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in Port Angeles, Washington.



*Lions clean debris from a Washington coast beach, photo by Branson Tarr*

In 2007 the Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club joined other local organizations in forming the Washington Clean Coast Alliance. The Alliance then launched CoastSavers to coordinate the efforts of individuals and volunteer groups that had been cleaning up Washington’s Pacific Coast since 1971.

***The ultimate goal is to stop the flow of trash into the oceans to begin with, says Messmer.***

Nancy Messmer from the Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club, and environmental co-chair for Multiple District 19, was one of the Lions instrumental in organizing CoastSavers. Messmer and her husband, Lion Roy Morris, wanted to leverage the collective power of all the individuals and groups who were interested in keeping marine debris at bay. “Lions don’t ever need to work alone. You can always work in partnership,” she says.

Lions clubs along the coast in the U.S. and Canada now participate in three yearly cleanups along the outer coast of Washington and into the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Their signature event, the Washington Coast

Cleanup, began as a series of separate beach cleanups but now draws 1,200-1,400 participants and moves more than 20 tons of debris.

“Individually it is really overwhelming, especially when you look at the rates of marine debris buildup,” says Bernthal. “[But] by working together we can really make a difference. And we have to, there’s no choice. I don’t want to give our children and their children an ocean that is devoid of life.”

Bernthal believes working with Lions may be an important key to success in the fight against ocean trash.

“I would love to see this spread all across the Pacific rim. And an organization like Lions Club is really key to that because you are located in many, many communities around the world. So you have the ability to tap into people that I have no access to,” says Bernthal.

Messmer thinks it’s important to broaden the picture of what it means to be a Lion. Protecting the environment isn’t necessarily new to Lions, she says. “So many parks are Lions clubs parks. We take care of trails, we clean our community. All of us do that. Much of that is protecting our environment.”

The goal, of course, isn’t to see the number of volunteers at beach cleanups—and the corresponding amount of trash collected—continue to grow. The ultimate goal is to stop the flow of trash into the oceans to begin with, says Messmer. “When you go out on a wild beach and you pick up marine debris and you’re lugging bags of marine debris around, it makes you very sad. And then it starts to make you mad. And our idea is that people that are both sad about marine debris on beaches and mad about it will start asking where this stuff is coming from. And that’s the start of working on prevention.”

Even if you aren’t a beachgoer, marine debris can impact you. In addition to the tons of trash that make it to shore, all over the world there are large amounts of concentrated debris formed into patches by rotating ocean currents. This floating garbage has economic ramifications in addition to the stunning environmental damage it causes. For example,



NOAA reports that a team of researchers found that by removing derelict crab pots in active fishing areas, the blue crab harvest could increase by nearly 24 percent—a difference of US\$33.5 million.

But mostly, the members of CoastSavers believe that caring for our oceans is part of being good stewards of the Earth—for ourselves, other living creatures, and future generations.

“We’re all downstream from somebody,” says Messmer.

### What is Marine Debris?

Marine debris is any trash that somehow ends up in the ocean. A plastic water bottle you threw away several months ago in your kitchen trash can blow away and end up in nearby sewers or waterways where it eventually makes its way to the ocean.

Commercial fishing boats may lose gear in storms and nets, hooks, and other nasty things end up adrift, damaging coastal fisheries and killing marine life that gets caught in the lines or swallow the debris.

### Help keep trash out of the ocean

#### Reduce

- Reduce the amount of waste you produce by using products that have recyclable or reusable containers.
- Reduce the amount of trash in the waterways by ensuring your garbage and recycling receptacles have properly fitting lids
- Avoid purchasing products with excessive packaging

#### Reuse

- Use reusable shopping bags
- At work, bring your lunch in a reusable lunchbox or cooler
- Pack sandwiches, snacks, and drinks in reusable containers rather than in plastic bags and disposable bottles



### Recycle

- Know what your community recycles and what it doesn't
- Buy products made from recycled materials

No matter where you live or what kind of work you do, you can help reduce marine debris.

**To learn more about CoastSavers or to join a cleanup, visit [Coastsavers.org](http://Coastsavers.org).**

### Project Ideas

**Whether you are a beginner or an experienced environmentalist, here are some ideas to get your club going.**

**Plant trees.** Consult your local environment authorities (start with Parks and Recreation) to determine a location and the type and number of trees needed.

**Clean up a natural area.** Pick a beach, a park, or a favorite trail and meet monthly to pick up debris.

**Collect used cell phones.** Set up a donation box just like you would for eyeglasses, then distribute them to individuals in need.

**Reduce water waste.** Survey your homes and community for leaks in sinks or communal water fountains. Contact local officials if repairs are needed.

**Start a community recycling drive.** Solicit gently used items that can be donated to charity organizations.

**Organize an environmental-themed mural competition.** Paint the winner's artwork in an appropriate area to beautify your community and promote environmental awareness.

**Raise native plant awareness.** Plant a demonstration garden using native plant species to encourage community members to landscape in an ecologically sustainable way.

**Sponsor a training program for farmers.** Bring in experts to show them how to make and use organic fertilizers and pesticides.

**Build a rain barrel.** Partner with your community to build and use the barrel, demonstrating how to use it for watering and irrigation.

**Build a garden.** Work with local schools to establish organic gardens and composting programs to improve the quality of school meals and reduce waste.

Watch Lions in action protecting their environment.

*CoastSavers cleans a Pacific coast beach. [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIWT6DhdXh0&feature=youtu.be>]*

*Jamaican clubs reforest their land. [<https://www.facebook.com/lionsclubs/videos/vl.1655014488098574/10153218086477492/?type=1>]*

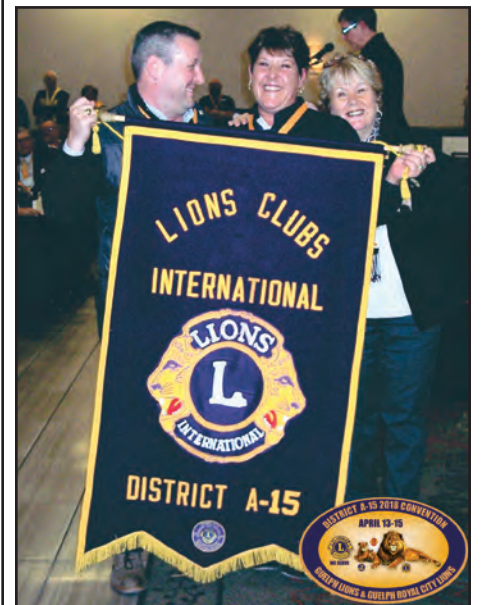
# District A-15 Convention Apr 13th-15th

In spite of the weather the Lions of A-15 know how to put on a show. The theme of the convention was “On The Road Of Service” and that road led to Guelph. A late season snow storm held the attendance numbers down a bit but a great time was had by all that attended. International Director Lion **Tom Gordon** was the keynote speaker. Several International awards were given out and also on the agenda was a very productive eyeglass service project. The agenda was chock full of great entertainment and campaigning.

The A-15 “Recycle For Sight” Program is the subject of a separate feature article elsewhere in this edition.

The convention was hosted by the **Guelph Lions** and **Guelph Royal City Lions**. A big Lions Roar to the convention committee: Lions **Nancy** and **Gary Ransom** and Lion **Robert Keleher**.

More A15 Convention photos available on A15 Newsletter May Edition: [www.a15lions.org/pages/Directory/Newsletters](http://www.a15lions.org/pages/Directory/Newsletters)



*Shown leading the Banner Parade and obviously having a great time are (l-r) VDG-1 Kevin Banfield, VDG-2 Tracy Robinson and DG Char Dwyer*



*Eyeglasses Service Project*

# Paper, Plastic, Playgrounds

## Lions find a way to give it all a second life

by Joan Cary



### Paper

The Prescott Noon Lions politely quiet down when a Lion stands before his club to introduce a prospective member. But if the introduction ends with “and he owns a pickup truck,” the lunchtime crowd roars in celebration.

If there’s no pickup, well, they’ll welcome him anyway because the world can always use another Lion.

Members with pickups are highly coveted here in Prescott, north of Phoenix, Arizona, where the Lions have recycled more than 38,800 tons of paper since 1991, and used the proceeds of \$2.8 million to support other nonprofits in town.

It takes about 60 Lions a week, a lot of labor and a fair number of pickups to do what this club of 108 does, says Mike First, the club’s paper project chairman. But it’s worth it because it keeps recyclable paper out of the landfill, which helps the environment. The people of Prescott can easily help others in their community by dropping their unwanted paper in Lion trailers around town. And the money raised—about \$40,000 last year—stays in their community.

“The best part is that nobody gripes about doing it,” says First. “Sometimes we’re out there and it’s below 20 degrees. We do have four seasons here. But people come out and do it. There’s a lot of satisfaction in knowing your efforts are going to a good cause.”

“We share those emotions with every Lion in the world.”

The Lions own about a dozen trailers scattered around town, and on Tuesday and Friday mornings,

Lions with pickups or big vehicles hitch up to a trailer and tow it to the central yard—a large city-owned property with a metal building that is open at one end. Inside, a series of conveyor belts carry hand-sorted paper to an 18-wheeler.

Lions pull up to the conveyor belt to unload the trailer, and two of them with good knees crawl into the trailer to make sure it’s cleaned out. They sort and toss, cleaning out debris like plastic wrappers, cans and bottles, and cardboard that has been thrown in. Cardboard has paste in it, and no matter how many signs are affixed to the trailers that say “please no cardboard,” people throw it in anyway, says First. “It’s painful.”

On a “yard day,” the Lions may be lined up to unload as early as 6:30 or 7 a.m., but this is no car wash. They don’t sit and wait their turn. They get out and help until it’s their turn to unload, says First.

About every three weeks the truck carrying 40 tons of paper heads off to a broker in Scottsdale who sells it to an insulation company.

It’s a well-oiled system, says First, but there’s even more to it. Another 20 Lions go to the Yavapai Regional Medical Center in Prescott and do all their shredding, then bag it. The 70 to 80 25-pound bags are added to the paper in the truck. And at another location, Lions are paid just to do the shredding.

Unfortunately for the ambitious Lions, tonnage is down from what it was before social media and the decline in newspaper subscriptions.

In 2006, the Lions recycled 5.4 million pounds, but by 2009 that figure dropped to 2.9 million. Last year, the number dropped below a million, to 874,320 pounds, says Lion Bill Parker, the “yard boss” who joined the club in 1990 and was immediately put in charge of recycling. Although the Lions began recycling in the early 1970s, it wasn’t until Parker came onboard that the paper project was steady and records were kept.

There were exceptional times when Lions were grossing more than \$200,000 a year for charity, but paper prices were high and the volume was much greater, says Parker. “That’s not the case any longer. That’s history.”

Still, last year’s profit of \$38,888 is pretty impressive.

It’s a dirty job, and one that has to be done in rain or shine, but the job is better than it was, remembers 47-year Lion Norm Humphrey. “When we started we had to bail the papers with wire strapping in bundles that were about 80 pounds or so. We had to stack them in pallets, and when we got enough pallets they would send a truck with a forklift. When they quit banding them we still had to load the truck by hand. That was hard work.”

The reward, though, has always made the work worthwhile. Every year Lions distribute the money made to local nonprofit organizations that have applied for a Lion “grant.” Last year they split the money between 30 charitable organizations.

People Who Care, a volunteer caregiving organization that assists those who are no longer able to drive, and provides non-medical assistance in the home, has received the financial support of the Lions every year for more than 15 years, says executive director Fritzi Mevis.

“Oh my gosh. It’s solid support from them. We know that they are behind us,” Mevis says. “It’s so reassuring to know the Noon Lions are there and have been there. And we try to support them as well. We recycle papers for them. It’s grand.”

“We have a high morale in this club and that’s why we can continue,” says Parker. “I’d say at least 95 percent of the members are retirees, but everybody is ready to help out.” In fact, the Lions log 950 volunteer hours a month—about 850 of those involving paper recycling, according to First.

Not everybody can do that kind of work, but there are Lions every week who reliably get the coffee and doughnuts set up for the guys who have finished at the yard. That’s important too.

Times like these are an especially nice way to get acquainted with new members, explains Humphrey. “You don’t always get to sit with a new member at the meetings.”

“Well the money we make is great, but the man-hours our club puts in is something else also,” says Parker. “We’re fortunate in that we have good camaraderie in the club. What we make, of course, fluctuates, but it’s better than selling light bulbs. Let me put it that way.”



## Plastic

Although California has banned single-use plastic bags, there are still many plastics—in the form of bread bags, newspaper sleeves, dry cleaner bags and more—out there, and Pomona Host Lion Chad Dominguez has led a mini movement to recycle them in a way that benefits the environment and the homeless.

Dominguez and his sisters, Lion Kris Georgeson-Hunkins and Lorie Georgeson, have spent multiple Friday nights crocheting bed mats from the discarded plastic, then donating the lightweight, waterproof mats to homeless shelters.

It's an idea that's spread across the country, judging from the number of how-to mat-making videos available on YouTube. But Dominguez, 29, who has Downs Syndrome and is nonverbal, has taken the project to heart, hand delivering some mats to the homeless on the street, and making Mats4Homeless his Eagle Scout project.

He frequently stays at the homes of his siblings, so he feels like he has many homes, explains Kris. "It hurts him to know that when he has all these homes, there are people without any."

Dominguez got interested in making mats after his sister, Lorie, learned the technique at a beach cleanup. He flattens and folds the discarded bags. Kris cuts them into strips, and Lorie crochets them with a Q crochet hook. For his Eagle Scout project, he made 12 mats and took them to a homeless shelter, says Kris. "It broke our hearts when we realized they were for a family with small children."

More mats needed to be made, Dominguez decided, so he and Kris took the show on the road, first sharing their work with the Pomona Host Lions. Lions soon began bringing bags to meetings, and people started dropping off bags of bags at "the Bag Lady's house," to the point where a bathroom, she says, was filled to the top with plastic bags.

The brother/sister duo began hosting monthly "Mats4Homeless" workshops in the community. Past District Governor Ken Myers drove from the Upland Host Lions for one of the Plarn (plastic yarn) nights, and took the idea home to their club where they made more than 80 mats. Each mat takes from 200 to more than 500 bags.

"We've lost count," says Kris, when asked how many presentations were given or mats were made. Although the workshops have ceased, as a family they have made more than 100 mats.

"What's truly great is that it's not only helping our homeless population everywhere, it's helping the environment, and it's connecting people," she says.

On occasion, she and her brother have even driven around with finished mats in the car. When Dominguez sees a homeless person who could use one, the blue-eyed young man walks up to them and gives them one. He also gives them a hug.

"They're amazed that he wants to give them

something and he wants nothing in return," says Kris. "He inspires me every day."

Halfway across the country, in Kansas, Everest Lion Brenda Troop goes to Monday afternoon meetings to meet with Sacks to Mats, a recycling group led by Janet Rebant of nearby Horton. Rebant taught the skill to the Everest Lions.

"We have some [special needs] people in our group who can't do a lot of other things, partly because of their age, but they can do this. It gives them fulfillment, says Troop. "For me, recycling is important and there's not a lot of it going on in our community. It's a win-win. It helps people both ways."

These volunteers weave the mats with a simple handmade loom, using a heavier plastic as the warp to weave the thinner plastic over and under. They also weave pillows, stuffing them with the extra plastic pieces left from mat making, so nothing is wasted.

"We figure we have kept at least 129,000 bags out of landfills and 258 mats have been distributed to the homeless since we started," says Rebant.

"When we first started we didn't know if we would get enough plastic. But it's not unusual for me to find 10 to 20 big garbage bags full of bags on my porch now. If you say you want plastic bags, stand back."



**Pomona Lion and Eagle Scout Chad Dominguez in California is proud of the bed mats he and his sisters crochet for the homeless from recycled plastic bags.**  
photo by Orange County Register

## The Plastic Bag Problem

- Between 500 billion and one trillion plastic bags are used worldwide every year—an estimated 100 million of them in the U.S.
- The plastic doesn't biodegrade. It photodegrades, very slowly breaking down into smaller and smaller toxic bits.
- Each bag is used for an estimated 12 minutes before being tossed away.

***If you say you want plastic bags,  
stand back.***

## Playgrounds

When the Sugar Grove Lions in West Virginia were offered a hand-me-down McDonald's Playland playground to take apart, transport and put together in their community, the response was immediate.

"Let's do it!"

The adventure started when Sugar Grove president Brandon Mitchell got a call from his sister in Dayton, Virginia, notifying him of a playground available for the taking.

Mitchell, the father of two young children, thought "heck yeah," he'd get it and put it in his backyard so he wouldn't have to mow the lawn anymore, says his father, Tom Mitchell, also a Sugar Grove Lion. But Brandon Mitchell's wife, Cara, thought differently. So, the Lions decided the large playground would be better placed where all the children in their community could enjoy it.



With little time for thought, and much labor ahead of them, 10 Lions drove three trucks and three 24-foot flatbed trailers 45 miles over the mountain to Dayton, Virginia where a family had outgrown the playground. It took them at least six hours to disassemble it, take pictures, make drawings and bag all those little nuts and bolts "because we knew we had to be able to put it together again," says Brandon Mitchell.

Then over the mountain the convoy went to the playground's new home in the Richard Homan Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Community Park in Sugar Grove, which is larger than the Lions Park next door.



# Healing Healy

by Joan Cary

In the small town of Healy, Alaska, on the outskirts of Denali National Park and Preserve, where thousands witness the rebirth of the land each spring, the Healy Valley Lions are celebrating a renewal of their own.

Not too long ago membership in the Healy Valley Lions Club had dwindled to just a few committed individuals. Faced with imminent demise, they reached out to the district for help. District Governor Cory Bellows – a Fairbanks Offroad Lion, PDG Howard Rixie from the North Pole Club, and Robert Marcinkowski – an Interior Baseball Lion in Fairbanks, responded. The three drove two hours to host a spaghetti dinner intended to re-introduce the town to Lionism.

Krista Zappone attended the dinner along with about 25 others, and it was there where she met Bellows, a man who minces no words when it comes to his love of Lionism — and the commitment it includes.

“Are you a chicken or a hog?” Bellows says. “When a chicken eats, it eats. When a hog eats, he’s committed.”

Krista wasn’t phased. “We left there thinking we could totally do this,” she says.

With the help of Bellows and others, they knocked on doors, recruited friends, and shared their enthusiasm with the community. And it worked. Eleven new Lions were inducted into the Healy club on Oct. 1, 2016, and in the 18 months since, another 12 have joined.

Adding 23 new members in a year and a half is an impressive feat in its own right, but there’s more. The new club members are young. Zappone is just 29. Most of the new members are in their late 20s and early 30s.

They are young and enthusiastic, but Lionism requires much more than wearing the pin, as Bellows knew and Zappone was quick to learn.

“It was a bit of a struggle to get our heads wrapped around what we signed up for,” she says. Because the Lions had been inactive in Healy for a while, they began by surveying the town to see what was needed. To encourage participation, they sponsored a raffle and gave a raffle ticket to anyone who completed their survey.

The community wanted Otto Lake taken care of as the Lions had done in the past. They also asked for Lions to add a hot lunch day for the school children who bring sack lunches to school. And they wanted the club to help another nonprofit take care of the Healy Ice Rink.

Bellows applauds the survey. “She listens,” he says of Zappone. “She’s faced a lot of tribulation and trials, and she’s doing an outstanding job. They know their community well. When you’re a Lion,



“About 15 people showed up to help, and when the community saw what we were doing, we had people stopping to pitch in,” says Brandon Mitchell who estimates more than 150 Lion hours were spent on the project during 11 visits to the park.

A local man with a body shop used his “boom truck” to set the top on for them. Multiple missing parts had to be found on the internet, purchased, and installed. “Nuts and bolts? Too many to count,” says Mitchell. “It was crazy.”

To fund the project, Lions used \$3,000 from the \$7,500 raised at their food stand during the Treasure Mountain Festival to fund their project. Every year they sell country ham sandwiches, beans, and cornbread.

***When the community saw what we were doing, we had people stopping to pitch in.***

Along with the purchase of missing parts, they bought rubber landscape borders and 1.5 tons of rubber mulch that was added under and around the playground for safety. A picnic table and cedar swing handmade by a local man was added nearby.

They’ll also be adding a see-saw and merry-go-round, and revamping the baseball field this spring.

Seeing the Lion effort has also ignited a fire within the VFW, fueling even greater enthusiasm for the project, says Mitchell. The VFW has added restrooms and a trail that connects their park with Lions Park, and the two groups, working together, split the cost of liability insurance.

Lions are also adding two new members—people who saw them working hard and stopped to help.

“It’s been really cool,” he says. “This day and age it’s hard to find people who have the time or want to take the time to help. But when you have things organized, people do show up and help.”



you have to know that your community depends on you. You have to listen to their needs and wants, not your special interests.”

Zappone didn’t expect to be club president so quickly, but when the president had to re-locate, she stepped up. “It’s been a challenge, she says. “As a young leader it takes a lot of determination and grit. You have to be willing to take the not-so-positive feedback along with the good stuff. That was particularly tough for me. I’ve cried. I’ve yelled. I’ve laughed. I’ve thrown my computer. I’ve done it all. But I felt it was within my power to bring this younger adult group together in a way that was impactful.”

Zappone says the district leaders took turns supporting them by attending multiple club meetings, driving hours each way as they began to breathe life into the dying club. Knowing that many clubs struggle to entice young members, the Healy Lions cater their activities to a new young crowd.

“You have to talk about stuff where they are,” says Zappone. “You have to go and find them, and we’ve tried to incorporate what they are already doing, so it’s convenient for them to be an involved Lion.”

The club meets at a restaurant with a bar attached so Lions can come straight from work and have dinner or a drink if they choose. They keep meetings organized and no longer than an hour, knowing their members don’t have much time.

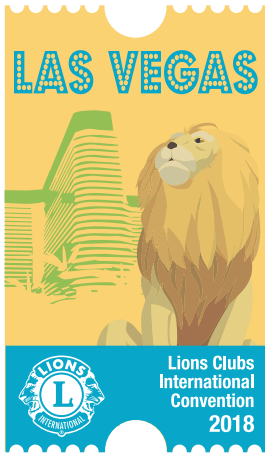
“Don’t get stuck doing things the way they used to be just because they used to be,” Zappone suggests. “You have to be excited. You have to be on social media. Facebook is important.”

“Why do people want to join Lions when there are so many volunteer organizations they can join for free?” asks Bellows, who then answers his own question. “Because the community depends on us and we have something to offer.”

He thinks Zappone is on the right track with the club.

“We have to focus on youth and bringing them up. And we have to get the heritage Lions who have been around for 15, 20 or 40 years to accept that things change. This isn’t about you. This is about your community,” Bellows says. “Take the knowledge and use it to empower the up and coming instead of sitting in the corner and saying, ‘We do it this way.’”





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# Candidates for International Third Vice President

## Patricia "Patti" Hill

Dr. Patti Hill of Edmonton, Canada, is a psychologist and member of the Edmonton Host Lions Club. international director from 2007 to 2009, she served as the Leadership Chair. Dr. Hill has also served as a member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Planning Committee, a Multi-National Coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II, Institute Faculty member, and presenter at numerous Forums and International Conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Dr. Patti Hill also received the Inspiring Woman Award and remains active in professional and community organizations.



## Salim Moussan

Salim Moussan of Beirut, Lebanon is a retired businessman and member of Beirut St. Gabriel Lions Club. An international director from 1997 to 1999, he has twice been a board appointee, twice a group leader and has chaired several leadership forums. He is fluent in three languages, has visited 94 countries and has attended 30 consecutive international conventions, 78 area forums and more than 50 regional conferences. Recipient of several Lions awards, he was decorated with Lebanon's National Medal of Merit.



## Brian E. Sheehan

Brian E. Sheehan of Bird Island, Minnesota, served as an international director from 2011-2013 and board appointee from 2014-2015. The founder and CEO of Rural Computer Consultants, a software development company, he is also active in many professional and community organizations. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, he is the recipient of many honors including six International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He has held many offices including LCIF Executive, Chairman of Finance and Headquarter Operations, Constitution and Bylaws and GLT area leader, and presented at numerous Lions events, including the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. He has been a DGE Group Leader numerous times and a member of the faculty for ALLI, ELLI and RLLI.



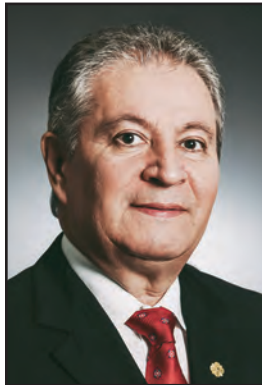
## Somsakdi Lovisuth

Somsakdi Lovisuth of Bangkok, Thailand served as an international director from 2004-2006. He is in the import and export business and has been a member of the Bangkok Cosmopolitan Lions Club since 1986. He has held many offices including club president, region chairperson, zone chairperson, youth exchange chairperson and district governor. As a Melvin Jones Fellow, he is the recipient of numerous awards including the 100% District Governor Award and the Ambassador of GoodWill Award.



## Fabricao Oliveira

Fabricao Oliveira of Catolé do Rocha, Brazil, served as an international director from 2006 to 2008. He is a businessman and business administrator, and has been a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club since 1985. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and has received the Global Vision Medal Award, the Ambassador of Good Will Award and 11 International President's Awards. Twice a District Governors-Elect seminar group leader, Oliveira is also active in many professional and community organizations. He has been endorsed three times by Constitutional Area III.



## Walter R. "Bud" Wahl

Walter R. "Bud" Wahl of Streator, Illinois, served as an international director from 2003 to 2005. A retired risk manager and foundation coordinator in the healthcare field, he is a charter member of the Streator Hardscrabble Lions Club. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Wahl is also active in many professional and community organizations. He has served as chairperson of the 2011 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, as a national coordinator for Campaign SightFirst, as chairperson of the 2012 Elections Committee and has been a presenter at LCI national and international seminars.



## Lynn Valley Lions and South Brant Lions Annual Perch Dinner



Lion Bob Townsend is a big part of the event, he is shown with his daughters, Alexandra and Mackenzie who make it a family affair

Every Good Friday for the last ten years the clubs involved have combined to put on a perch fish fry. The Lynn Valley Lions Club of Simcoe and the South Brant Lions Club have gone from serving three hundred meals and raising much needed funds for their respective service projects. The number of dinners served is now over six hundred and fifty. Served with perch, fries, coleslaw, bean salad, pickles, bread, dessert, and a drink, this event is a community favourite. Most say the highlight is the perch along with the homemade tartar sauce. The well-attended event includes community members and many Lions



from District A2 from Niagara Falls to Tillsonburg, no one goes home disappointed.



# Celebrate We Did

## A Brief Look at Lions' Centennial Service Work

It was called the Centennial Celebration, but what it became was a large-scale commitment by Lions around the world to serve more, better, and beyond anything that had been done before. Lions led through service, sharing their work and their impact to connect with communities around the world.

Through the Centennial Service Challenge Lions served more than 236 million people through youth, vision, hunger, environment, and diabetes projects, more than doubling the original goal to serve 100 million people.

Centennial Membership Awards inspired Lions to invite hundreds of thousands of new members and start thousands of new clubs. More than 31,000 Legacy Projects have connected Lions more than ever to the communities where they live and work.

Now that the party is officially over, take a look at some of the many amazing projects Lions have engaged in over the past four years, and consider how you and your club might be inspired to continue doing great work into Lions' second century of service.

### **Constitutional Area 1 – USA**

#### ***A Recreational and Learning Park***

Lions have a long history of support for the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind. Sixty-one Lions Clubs in South Carolina raised over US\$100,000 to match a US\$100,000 Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) grant and collaborated with other community partners to create a playground specially designed for these children to enjoy playing together.



#### ***Walks for Childhood Cancer Research***

Ohio Lions are fighting pediatric cancer, one step at a time, by hosting walks and participating in fundraisers. Together they raised US\$25,000 for the Cincinnati, Toledo, Cleveland, Akron, Columbus and Dayton Children's Hospitals and priceless awareness of the need to support children with cancer.



#### ***New Vision Centre in Jamaica***

The Lions Club of Montego Bay partnered with the Canadian Vision



Care Volunteers/Red Deer Central Lions Club, the Ministry of Health and the Brenda Stafford Foundation to open a new Vision Clinic in Albion Montego Bay, where people receive glaucoma and cataract examinations and prescription eyeglasses.

#### ***Lions Centennial Bus Tour***

Centennial President Bob Corlew shared our celebration across 20 states and two Canadian provinces on a Lions Centennial Bus Tour in the fall of 2016.

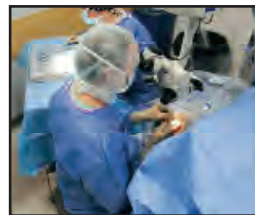


Lions and Leos around the world followed the tours on social media. Throughout the tour, President Corlew met with club members and civic leaders, inducted new members, chartered clubs and participated in Lions service projects.

#### ***Constitutional Area 2 – Canada***

#### ***Mount Cheam Lions Club Eye Centre***

Mount Cheam Lions Club partnered with the Steller's Jay Lions Club to raise US\$600,000 and LCIF provided a matching grant for the purchase of cataract surgical equipment at Chilliwack General Hospital. More than 5,300 surgeries take place annually at the center with people traveling up to 400 miles to receive treatment.



#### ***The Jarvis Lions Walking Trail***

Lions in Jarvis, Ontario raised funds to construct a 1.1 kilometer paved walking trail for their community. Club members planted trees and installed solar lighting and benches with the Lions logo along the trail. The trail is used by all ages and enhances the recreational opportunities of residents and visitors.



#### ***Westbank Lions Community Centre***

Lions devoted countless hours to maintain this community meeting place for over 40 years. When the building was recently damaged by fire, Lions rebuilt and



enlarged the facility, then made it a Centennial gift to the City of West Kelowna, where it serves over 35,000 people.

#### ***Buddy Benches for School Children***

A buddy bench is a place where children who feel left out, lonely, or bullied can sit to signal that they would like to talk or be invited to play. The Edmonton Southgate Lions Club, assisted by students and teachers, assembled 80 buddy benches for schools across their city to support students' emotional well-being.



#### ***Constitutional Area 3 – FOLAC***

#### ***Relieving Hunger in Latin America***

Leos and Lions in Latin America and the Caribbean came together to alleviate hunger as part of the Centennial Service Challenge. Over 800 clubs and nearly 13,000 Leos from 17 countries participated, collecting food donations from community members and distributing the food to vulnerable families.



#### ***Centennial Monoliths Nationwide***

A Lion and architect created this design to unify Lions across Argentina with a shape that represents their country. These Lions Centennial monoliths have been installed by districts and clubs from the north to the south, in squares and other visible locations, drawing public, media and social media attention to the legacy of Lions Clubs.



#### ***Lions Run for Children***

To benefit an educational activity center for children with disabilities and autism, Lions throughout District O4 worked for more than a year to host a marathon with 500 runners. Tee-shirts were distributed to illustrate Lions Clubs support of children on the front and the Centennial Celebration on the back.



#### ***Extended Flood Relief in Paraguay***

Eighteen months after devastating floods struck Paraguay, local Lions finished repairs on five primary schools that were destroyed by flood waters,

allowing 1,725 students to return to school. LCIF provided emergency relief immediately after the flood and continued to provide funding for long-term community reconstruction needs.



### **Constitutional Area 4 – Europa**

#### **Cycling Brings Diabetes Awareness**

The Tour of Italy lasts for 21 days and crosses much of the country. Italian Lions and Leos were present at stops in 46 communities inviting spectators to participate in diabetes screening tests.

A Lions Clubs car was also part of the tour's race caravan, which was seen by millions of spectators along the route.



#### **Spaces for Youth in Need to Live & Play**

Netherlands Lions, in cooperation with Foundation Forgotten Child, are providing Magic Gardens (for young children) and Chill Inns and Outs (for older youth) in every one of their districts. Over €620,000 was raised for this national gift, which will transform playing and living environments for 50,000 young people.



#### **We Run – We Serve**

Promoting WE SERVE with every step, several Lions from Poland have run every year of the Centennial Celebration, collecting funds for children in need. In 2017, they ran from Helen Keller's hometown in Alabama to the Lions Clubs home in Illinois. With 1,000 co-runners, they have collected €70,000, benefitting over 1,000 children in seven countries.



#### **A Mountain Top International Meeting**

As part of their Centennial Celebration, Lions from France, Italy, and Switzerland decided to meet at the top of Mont Blanc, the highest summit in Europe. The climbers set out on Lions Clubs' 100th birthday, June 7, 2017 and reached the peak two days later. A celebratory festival followed in Courmayeur, Italy.



### **Constitutional Area 5 – OSEAL**

#### **Building a School in Record Time**

District 334-B donated an elementary school with

solar power to a village in Myanmar. The school, constructed in only six months is very much



appreciated by the people of the village. Lions shared their joy with a sense of accomplishment for taking on the challenge of raising over ¥2 million to make this gift to the community.

#### **Vision Screening in Taiwan**

The first *Sharing the Vision* month during the Centennial Celebration was October 2014. Knowing vision problems can hinder a child's ability to perform well in school, the Keelung Hsin I Lions Club in Taiwan organized a vision screening that month for local children – a great example of how Lions and Leos show they care every day.



#### **A Dormitory for Future Leaders**

Students who walked for up to 4 hours to attend school or relied on unsafe transportation, now have a place near their school to stay, thanks to the Lions of Korea, Kota Kinabalu Host Lions Club in Malaysia and LCIF. Not only can students spend more time studying, they also receive healthy meals and can join in extracurricular activities.



#### **School Vegetable and Fish Farm**

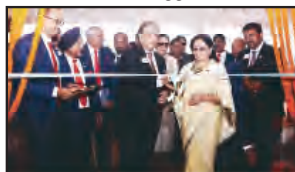
In the Philippines, Lions Club members, school staff, students and parents worked together to build a vegetable and fish farm. A seminar was also provided so the school community would develop the skills needed to maintain and continue benefiting from their farm.



### **Constitutional Area 6 – ISAAME**

#### **A Second Eye Care Hospital for Club**

Centennial President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal inaugurated the Siliguri Greater Lions Shri Vidya Sagar Oswal Eye Hospital & Training Institute



in 2017. This is the second flagship project of the Siliguri Greater Lions Club, who opened their first hospital over 30 years ago. Supported by LCIF, the new 100-bed facility greatly expands eye care for the people of east India.

#### **Rebuilding after an Earthquake**

There are many immediate humanitarian needs when an earthquake strikes. Lions continue giving until a community is restored. After the Ridvan Academy school building was damaged in a devastating earthquake, the Kathmandu Laligurans Lions Club donated a new six-room school house for the community's children.



#### **Lions Kidney Dialysis Center**

Lions had already contributed an eye care center and blood bank for a hospital in Ognaj, India. The Ahmedabad Karnavati Lions Club, in partnership with the State Bank of India, gave those suffering from kidney failure a new treatment center in the hospital with 10 kidney dialysis machines as part of their Centennial celebration.



#### **Lions Flag on Top of Mount Everest**

Sir Edmund Hillary, a New Zealand Lion, and Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay were the first climbers confirmed to have reached the summit of Mount Everest. In 2017, Pema Sherpa and Pemba Ongchuk Sherpa each unfurled the Lions Flag at the top of the world, honoring the history of Lions Clubs. This activity was coordinated by Mr. Jamling Norgay, son of Mr. Tenzing Norgay.



### **Constitutional Area 6 – Africa**

#### **Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy**

In people with diabetes, high blood sugar can damage blood vessels in the retina, leading to vision loss, even blindness. The Casa Anfa Lions Club, in partnership with LCIF, donated medical laser equipment, so 20 people per day can be treated for diabetic retinopathy.



## Saving Children's Lives in Tunisia

Lions donated a medical resuscitation unit to the pediatric ward of the Charles Nicolle hospital in Tunis. This resuscitation unit will save the lives of children suffering from conditions like renal or liver failure in the northern region of Tunisia, which has a population of 5 million.



## Electronics Recycling

Seven Lions Clubs in Egypt, the Middle East, and Africa are preserving our environment for future generations by collecting electronic waste, refurbishing equipment that can be reused and safely disposing the remainder in proper landfills. Eight of the computers produced from this project are being used in Lions' classrooms.

## Lions for Rhinos

It is estimated that only 28,000 rhinos still live in the world. If rhinoceros poaching continues at the current rate, the last rhino in the wild will disappear within the next 15 years.

The MD 410 Lions have launched an international marketing campaign to raise awareness of the plight of rhinos and help end the poaching of these majestic animals.



## Constitutional Area 7 – ANZI

### Our Centennial Stories

For 100 years Lions have shared a core belief that community is what we make it. Lions Clubs across Australia donated more than \$100,000 to over 100 local projects to celebrate this belief. The Community 100 program brought clubs together across Australia and strengthened local relationships. An ebook, Our Centennial Stories, was created to document the humanitarian service provided.



## Diabetes Awareness Campaign

Lions took up the fight against diabetes in a big way in Indonesia, where 47 clubs held simultaneous diabetes awareness programs, serving over 10,000 people. Activities included blood sugar testing and seminars about preventing, controlling and treating diabetes.



Attendees also participated in physical exercise to support healthy lifestyles.

## Lions Tree Grove

District 202L and the Ngongotaha Lions Club set out to create an oasis of New Zealand native plants. With dedicated hard work and supporting donations, they planted over 6,000 trees and bushes and added park benches and grassy spaces. This ongoing heritage project will be a pleasure for residents and visitors for many years to come.



## Lions Connecting People

This suspension bridge was built by Lions Club Bandung Raya in cooperation with The Vertical Rescue. It connects two villages over a river in West Java, Indonesia. The next nearest crossing not only takes more than an hour, but becomes unusable in the rainy season when the river overflows. More than 1,000 people cross this bridge every day, a symbol of Lions dedication to connecting people through humanitarian service.



## Our Second Century of Service

For 100 years, the Lions Clubs International mission of service has brought light into countless lives. Our Centennial torches, which inspired Lions and Leos around the globe, are now a shining display at our worldwide headquarters. The inscription reads, "Lighting the way to our second century of service."



Our five-year strategy, LCI Forward, builds on the success of our Centennial Celebration. Supported by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), LCI Forward is strengthening our organization and will empower Lions and Leos to serve 200 million people, not across a span of four years, but every year.

So be proud of your contributions to our Centennial Celebration. Together, our achievements have made our organization ready to serve humanity in the century to come.

As our founder, Melvin Jones, said, "I hope there will always be a Land of Beyond for Lions International, a goal that will keep growing larger and larger as we approach it, yet will keep just out of reach, challenging us to run faster, work harder, think bigger, give more."



# Madoc Lions Club

In support of "Youth Unlimited" the Lions of Madoc were part of a major fund-raiser for the organization. Lions **Tony** and **Deb Best**, **Larry Bradley** and **Tom Simpson** made sure lots of wings were available for the capacity crowd. The Lions served up over 175 pounds of chicken wings. Congratulations to the community for supporting this important event.



# Denbigh-Griffith Lions

Zone chair **Linda Zwier** (R) presents 2016-2017 Club Excellence Award to Lion President **Gail Fritsch** of Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club. Well deserved Lions, here is a partial list of some of your outstanding service work:

The Denbigh-Griffith Lions Club have, with the generosity and support of the Community, donated to the following charities over the past few years: Renfrew Victoria Hospital, \$25,000, Renfrew Hospice, \$25,000, Renfrew Victoria Hospital CAT Scan \$5000, Lakeland Family Health Team \$25,000 over 5 years. Several other charitable organizations have also benefited from the efforts of the club along with strong community support.



# MD'A' TOUCHSTONE STORY – Wellington District Lions Club

## “Where There’s A Need There’s A Lion”

*Submitted by Council Chair John Whyte*

Where there is a need, there you will find a Lion, or in this case a whole pride of Lions. This story actually begins some 31 years ago in Picton, Ontario. Andrea Taylor was born with a congenital birth defect called volvulus, or twisted bowel syndrome. She was in constant pain and needed a team of eight caregivers to provide round the clock care. At age 12 weeks, she underwent life-saving surgery to correct the problem. Ordinarily, such children have little, if any, problems later in life related to their condition. Not so with Andrea. She began to experience intestinal problems in her early teens that worsened as she grew older. Despite that, she led an active lifestyle, competing in equestrian events, reaching the Eastern Ontario finals in swimming and becoming a member of the Trent University varsity cross-country running team. She graduated from Trent and went on to become a special education teacher, last working in Calgary in December 2016. Worried about Andrea’s declining health, her parents — Keith and Valerie Taylor — persuaded her to come back home to Picton where they could better care for her.

During 2017, Andrea’s condition steadily worsened. Her doctors were skeptical that her problems were related to the surgery she had as a baby, suspecting Crohn’s disease or something similar. Andrea took it upon herself to find out more about her condition. After extensive research on the medical literature, she decided to look on social media and found a Facebook support group on intestinal malrotation — exactly Andrea’s condition. The members are from all over the world, but principally the US and there were quite a few members who had undergone gut rehabilitation surgery offered by Dr. Kareem Abu-Elmagd, a specialist in Cleveland.



*Andrea - prior to surgery*

Early in 2017 she contacted Dr. Abu-Elmagd, and was told that he would be able to help her. After obtaining a high-resolution MRI scan in Gatineau (at their own expense, as such scans are not available nearby in Ontario) she and her parents made the trip to Cleveland for a consultation. She was told that she was a good candidate for the surgery, which would place her intestinal organs in the anatomically correct position. The trip to Cleveland was a difficult one for Andrea. “I was very ill, trying to force food down,” she said. “My ability to tolerate food was slowly declining.” She went on a low-residue diet, then on to soft foods and then to a completely liquid diet. Upon returning to Ontario, she and her parents began the process to apply for OHIP to cover the cost of the operation. It is a long, intricate and detailed process, requiring endorsement from Andrea’s gastroenterologist and a recommendation from another qualified surgeon that the operation was medically necessary.

In August, Andrea was admitted to hospital to be treated for malnutrition and was placed on total parenteral nutrition (TPN), where liquid nutrients are taken through an IV in her upper arm. She hasn’t eaten since then, and was limited to drinking no more than half a cup of water per day. While TPN was preserving Andrea’s life, there are risks associated with the treatment. The only sure way forward was to have the surgery done at the Cleveland Clinic. The cost was prohibitively expensive, first quoted as \$250,000, not including post-operative care. Faced with Andrea’s increasingly frail condition, the family decided to book the surgery at the clinic. They mortgaged their house to come up with the down payment, and then driven by necessity, Keith started a crowdfunding campaign to raise money for the surgery. At this point OHIP flatly refused to cover the cost of the operation.

This was when the Wellington District Lions Club first heard of the Taylor family’s situation. It took very little discussion for the club to spring into action. The members initially decided to hold a fundraising dance, but became aware that the Waring House Restaurant in Picton was also looking doing something similar. They joined forces. The Waring House would provide the venue with live music and complimentary snacks, and the Wellington District Lions Club would gather items for a live and silent auction. Within three short weeks, the club obtained over 180 items, ranging in value from \$50 to over \$3,000. The community support was nothing short of phenomenal. Hundreds of people showed up at the fundraiser, which raised \$32,000. Much of that came from the auction items, but the restaurant donated the entire bar receipts for the night to add to the total. The dedicated work of the Wellington District Lions Club members,



*Council Chair Lion John Whyte reading message of hope and inspiration at fundraising, written by one of the donors at live auction*

responding to a family in need, went a long way to making this a successful event. That donation pushed the crowdfunding campaign well past its revised goal of \$175,000, down from the initial cost after the Cleveland Clinic found ways to reduce expenses.

Andrea’s surgery, initially scheduled for the end of April, was done on April 4. The following morning, Andrea posted a Facebook message saying, “Surgery went well. I am incredibly sore but so happy to be starting the recovery phase. I cannot thank everyone enough for the support, donations and well wishes!” There is yet a long road ahead for Andrea, with many weeks of recovery and healing. The Wellington District Lions Club plans to do more fundraising to help with the cost of the post-operative care for Andrea, truly exemplifying the Lions motto, “We Serve.”



*Andrea - post surgery in U.S.*

# Temiskaming Lions MD A 50-50 Winners

Needless to say the club are very happy, well worth the trip from the north!!!



# Mosborough Busy Busy & Rockwood Lions

The Motorcycle Ride for Dog Guides is Saturday June 16. The club has teamed up with Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides and the Rockwood Lions to make this event bigger and better. It is a poker run event with the starting point at the Dog Guide Facility in Oakville, and end at the training and breeding facility in Breslau, with several stops along the way. There is a new route, fun games, prizes and a great lunch planned at the end. Join us for a fun day of riding and puppies, all to benefit Dog Guides. To register in advance go to [www.dogguides.com/ride/](http://www.dogguides.com/ride/)

The Mosborough Busy Busy Lions presented two cheques to Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides in May, the first was for \$30,000 in conjunction with the Dog Walk donation matching program. Our club matched Walk for Dog Guides donations collected by foster families, graduates and volunteers with the Lions Foundation of Canada for 97 walkers in 33 walks across Canada.

The second cheque is part of a donation of \$12,000 to purchase various items for each of the programs at the Lions Foundation. These items will provide much needed tools to the hard working staff in all areas.



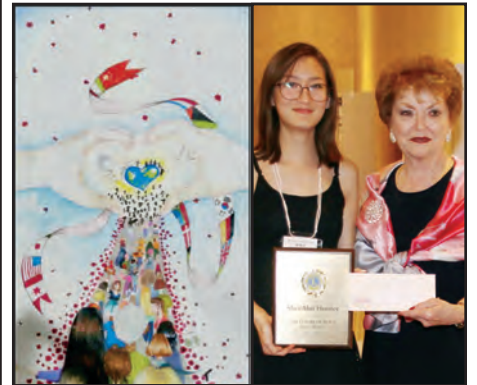
# Youth at MD'A' Convention



Jamie White - Senior English winner; presentation by Barb Ennis, Effective Speaking Chair



Parsa Entesari - French winner



Peace Poster Contest Winner from District A-4, artist SheeAhn Hunter, Lion Janet-Dawson Brock



Peace Essay winner - Arielle Ann Drapeza, presented by Lion Janet-Dawson Brock



## WINDSOR DOWNTOWN LIONS

?

?

Do you know what's happening March 21, 2020 ?

You might need an old calendar to figure it out, more to follow....

## Buckingham Lions

During their traditional holiday visit to residents of the Buckingham Elderly Centre, the Lions Club celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Centre on December 17th of last year. With more than 150 residents and guests present, the Lions had a great project to unveil. Prior to the ceremony each of residents received a gift from the Lions and Santa Claus who accompanied them.

Lions **Horace Gauthier** and **Richard Besner** told the history of the centre room of the Bel-Air Residence to the Lower Lièvre accommodation centre by reviewing the donations made by the club over the years including the purchase of four (4) adapted vehicles, the refurbishment of washrooms, donations of scooters and the construction of a glass roof. Anne Legault and Lucie Brazeau on behalf of the administration, as well as MP Alexandre Iracà, pointed out how much Lions have changed the lives of residents over the years.

The highlight of the day was the unveiling of the gift of beautiful stained glass windows by artist France St-Amour who was present for the presentation along with Lion President **Richard Chartrand**. The windows represent the famous infrastructures that have furnished the history of the municipality, including Nazianze Church, Sisters of Charity Convent, St. Michael's Hospital, tug boats on the River Lièvre, the old post office and many other beautiful buildings who were the pride of Buckingham.



## Lions de Buckingham

Pendant leur fête traditionnelle visite aux résidents de l'Buckingham personnes Âgées Centre, le Lions Club a célébré le 40e anniversaire du Centre le 17 décembre de l'année dernière. Avec plus de 150 résidents et aux invités présents les Lions ont un grand projet pour dévoiler. Avant la cérémonie de chacun des résidents a reçu un don du Lions et du père Noël qui les a accompagnés.

Les Lions **Horace Gauthier** et **Richard Besner** a raconté l'histoire de la salle du Bel-Air à la Résidence de la Basse Lièvre centre d'hébergement en examinant les dons effectués par le club au fil des ans, y compris l'achat de quatre (4) véhicules adaptés, la rénovation des toilettes, de dons de scooters et de la construction d'un toit en verre. Anne Legault et Lucie Brazeau au nom de l'administration, ainsi que le député Alexandre Iracà, a souligné combien les Lions ont changé la vie des habitants au fil des ans.

Le clou de la journée a été l'inauguration du don de beaux vitraux de l'artiste France St-Amour, qui était présent pour la présentation avec Lion le Président **Richard Chartrand**. Les fenêtres représentent la célèbre infrastructures qui ont meublé l'histoire de la municipalité, y compris Nazianze Église, Couvent des Sœurs de la Charité, l'Hôpital St Michael, remorqueur de bateaux sur la Rivière du Lièvre, l'ancien bureau de poste et de nombreux autres beaux bâtiments qui étaient la fierté de Buckingham.



## Grimsby and District Lions and Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch

The Grimsby and District Lions Club has joined with the Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch to provide nesting opportunities for the American Kestrel in the Grimsby Area. Their population is declining. They nest in tree cavities and suitable houses. Members of the Lions Club have been busy getting fifteen nesting boxes built and placed before the birds start to nest. Their diet of small rodents is appreciated by farmers. A number of local property owners have welcomed the addition of kestrel boxes to their property including Peninsula Ridge Estates Winery in Beamsville, Puddicombe Farms in Winona and Stevens Auto Electric in Grimsby.



Lion Bruce Mackenzie, Grimsby Lions photo by Lion Don Ritchie



American Kestrel photo by Lion Don Owen

## Lions Clubs of the Greater Sudbury Area

Recently, the many Lions Clubs of Greater Sudbury and area were presented with the prestigious Community Builders Award. The award has been celebrating 15 years of honouring extraordinary leadership in the Sudbury area. We are pleased to announce that The CTV Lions Children's Christmas Telethon has been presented with the 2018 Hall of Fame Award. Congratulations to all of the many many volunteers who make this an amazing event each year.

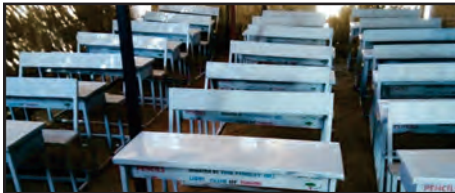


Pictured are some of the representatives of the various clubs including our District Governor, Lion Steve Olsen, front row second from left



## Forest Hill Lions Club

As part of their commitment to the P24K Project (Pencils For Kids) the Forest Hill Club purchased a complement of desks for a school. These desks are in a region called Bonkoukou, in a village called Imijar, in Niger. The school has never had any desks, and has been in existence for seven years. This service activity is a great contribution to the program and the club knows only too well there is much more that can and will be done. The photos show the desks in place and the dedicated group of Lions.



## Community Effort - St. Marys Lions - St. Marys Rotary

At a recent meeting of the St. Marys Lions the members received a presentation from town administrators concerning the final design and revitalization of Cadzow Park. The project is being funded by the town, the St. Marys Lions, the St. Marys Rotary and other community groups. When completed it will include an outdoor amphitheatre and a splash pad. The new facility will be recognized as a Lions Club of St. Marys project.



## Tabs for WheelChairs Thornbury Beaver Valley Lions

Club members **Robert** and **Grace LeClair** delivered twenty-eight pounds of aluminum can tabs to resident Jerry at Participation Lodge in Markdale. Patients and staff at the Lodge collect the tabs for the aluminum content and convert the tabs into funding for wheelchairs for the disabled. It is a convenient method to raise funds and can be accomplished easily, a task for all ages. The Thornbury Lions would be happy to receive tabs from other clubs.



## Clinton Lions Club

In October of last year Clinton Lions made a \$6,000.00 donation to Central Huron's Community Improvement Initiative to help with the construction of a skate park. The project is becoming a reality as evidenced by the photo. The presentation was made by Lions Club President **Charles Bodle** and Secretary **Clayton Groves**. On hand for the presentation were Steve and Karen Ott as well as their son Sam, who have been instrumental in getting this project off the ground; a new skateboard park in Clinton.



L-R: Karen Ott, Lions Club President Charles Bodle, Angela Smith, Lions Secretary Clayton Groves, Steve Ott, Sam Ott

story and photo by Bob Montgomery, Blackburn News

## Onaping Falls Lions

The Lions of Onaping recently hosted their 12th Annual Spaghetti Dinner. Lion **Larry Gauthier** originated this event in the 50th anniversary year of their charter and is well remembered for his contribution to Lions. Admission is a voluntary donation to the cause. The proceeds from the dinners have gone to various charities since its inception. This year the club chose the NEO Kids foundation as the recipient of their service work. The goal of NEO Kids is to ensure as many children as possible can stay in Northeastern

Ontario to get the care they need in a child-and youth-centred environment. The Lions were able to make a donation of \$1,000.00 to this very worthy foundation. For more information about the organization you can go to: <https://www.neokidsfoundation.ca/>



## Marmora Crowe Valley Lions - Stirling Lions

The Vision Team visited the Madoc Public School and screened forty-five students and performed the same service at the Madoc Township Public School.



Lion Jeannette Goodchild from MCV

Mary Jane Goodchild, Cynthia Reid and Carolyn Fluke along with Stirling Lion Baitley



## Where There's A Will, There's A Lion From Poplar Hill

Poplar Hill Lions just started collecting glasses this year and came up with an unusual collection "barrel." Over the past two months they have collected approximately 500 pairs and during a week in early May, another 150 pairs ... now that's advertising Lions.



## Port Dover Lions Give to Building a Better Hospital

The Port Dover Lions presented a \$30,000 donation in September to the Norfolk General Hospital Foundation as part of their commitment to the Building a Better Hospital Campaign. The Lions made a commitment to the hospital to donate \$50,000 over 5 years through their Win a KIA Draw.

The Port Dover KIA Dealer proposed a raffle for a new KIA, it was a huge success and raised \$30,000.00 towards their commitment. A big Lions Roar to the Lions and the community minded Port Dover KIA.



Jennifer White, NGH Foundation Director accepted the donation from Lion Joe Green. D.G. Jim Lomas, Reg. Chair Alain St. Jacques and Z/C Gord Leaker along with many hardworking Lions are in the photo. Ms. White told the Lions, "your generosity is phenomenal and very much appreciated, thank you"

## Chatham Lions

The Chatham club has been very active, they have been in existence for sixty-seven years and show no signs of slowing down. Recently they completed one of their Centennial Projects with the installation of a Centennial Lions Bench in the Lioness park. They are strong proponents of the Lions Effective Speaking contest. Shown at a recent meeting are the 2018 contestants with DG Joyce Mahovlich and Lion Curtis Maywood on the right. "They Were All Winners!"

The club is part of the community sponsorship of the annual "Hike for the Chatham-Kent Hospice" that raised in excess of \$60,000.00 in April and they continue to support the "Outreach For Hunger" program with an annual food drive.



## Whitefish Lions Club

The Whitefish Lions Club, along with KGHM Mining purchased a new basketball net for R.H. Murray public school. Another example of how the Whitefish Lions support their small Northern Ontario community. A big shout out and thanks from R.H. Murray School.



## The Knowlton Lions support the Brome County Historical Society



At a recent meeting the members of the Knowlton Lions Club agreed to give a contribution of \$1,000 to the Brome County Historical Society (BCHS). Incorporated in 1898, the Society's objectives are to preserve the past for future generations. The Board, Volunteers and Staff are to be commended for their excellent work.

The local Lions Club has been a regular supporter of the institution over its sixty years of service to the community.

*At the cheque presentation, from left to right Beverly De Winter and April Wisdom, members of the Knowlton Lions Club, Donald Gray-Donald, president of the Board BCHS, and Arlene Royea, managing director BCHS*



## Le Club Lions de Knowlton appuie la Société Historique du Comté de Brome

Lors d'une récente réunion, les membres du Club Lions de Knowlton ont convenu de remettre une contribution de 1 000 \$ à la Société Historique du Comté de Brome (SHCB). Incorporée en 1898, la société a comme objectif de préserver le patrimoine pour les générations futures. Le conseil d'administration, les bénévoles et le personnel doivent être félicités pour leur excellent travail.

Le Club Lions a appuyé régulièrement cette précieuse institution pendant ses plus de soixante années au service de la communauté.

*Lors de la présentation du chèque, de gauche à droite : Beverly De Winter et April Wisdom, du Club Lions, Donald Gray-Donald, président du c.a. BCHS et Arlene Royea, directrice générale BCHS.*

## Madoc, Tweed, and Marmora Crowe Valley Lions join with Alzheimer Society, the OPP and Other Community Groups To Battle Alzheimers



In late November the Hastings-Prince Edward Alzheimer Society and the Central Hastings OPP officially launched Project Lifesaver during a press conference at the detachment building. The project combines radio technology with a coordinated police response to assist in locating those with memory impairment when they've become disorientated and lost.

With Project Lifesaver the time it takes to find a missing person averages thirty minutes, ninety-five per cent less time than without the equipment. Participants in the local Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband that emits a locating signal. When a caregiver alerts the local partnering service a client has gone missing, trained police officers can use Project Lifesaver equipment to search for and locate the missing person.

Madoc Chamber (cruise night 50/50), C.H. Snowmobile Club, Community Care C.H. (Madoc Thrift Store), Madoc Lions, Madoc Kiwanis, Madoc Legion, Centre Hastings-People Helping People, CPAC, Tweed Kiwanis, Tweed Legion, Tweed Lions, Crowe Valley Lions along with anonymous donors, all raised funds for the project. More than

\$15,000 was raised to cover the cost of the location equipment, five bracelets and to get the program up and running, as well as some of the first year administration costs.

The project is becoming well known with Lions elsewhere; **Shawville, Quebec Lions Club** visited Madoc Lions recently to learn more about "Project Lifesaver". They heard of the success of the project and intend to introduce the initiative in the Shawville area. After a lunch hosted by Madoc Lions they were given an update by Maureen Corrigan Executive Director from Alzheimer's Belleville. A demonstration of equipment was given by Central Hastings O.P.P. Constables Lisa Robson and Lonnie Foeller. On hand for the event from the Madoc Lions were Lions **Marj Young, Tom Simpson** and **Jim Wilkinson**. **Shawville Lions Club** present were Lions **Tom Farley, Dave Cummings, James Howard** and **Arnold Yach**.



## Wasaga Beach Lions Legacy Projects

The Wasaga Beach Lions continue to work with their vision screening machine in conjunction with their Legacy Project from LCI's centennial year. They have since partnered with the Wasaga Beach Community Policing Committee and The Town of Wasaga Beach for their second Centennial Legacy Project to purchase and install three Traffic Calming Signs. The signs have been successful in reminding drivers of speed limits and making roads safer for our children.

"I want to thank the Wasaga Beach Lions Club and the Wasaga Beach Community Policing Committee for their continued contributions to our town. Through the hard work of caring local residents, these two organizations help make our community better for us all," said Mayor Brian Smith.

The clubs third Centennial Legacy Project is to purchase new equipment for the playground and yard of Worsley School to be installed in the spring of 2018.



# MD'A' Convention 2018 Niagara

The St Davids and District Lions would like to thank all the Lions, Lioness, Leos and guests for taking the time to attend the MD-A 2018 Niagara Convention in St. Catharines. We worked hard to make the shortened Convention Schedule a success and an event that will be remembered as a chance to renew friendships and have a lot of fun.

The Hospitality Room was a welcome feature judging by the noise and laughter coming from the

basement rooms. The service projects were very well received especially the eyeglass packing. With over 50 willing hands ... 12,000 pairs were boxed up and ready to ship. The participation and sponsorship of Konzelmann Estate Winery provided a chance to purchase a souvenir bottle to take home and enjoy memories when opened.

We hope that the experience was such that all will want to come back again next year and bring more of

their fellow Lions. The **St Davids Lions** will be striving hard to make the 2019 Convention even better.

*PDG Allen Snider,  
Host Committee Chair.*



*International Guest - Lion Gudrun Yngvadottir 1st Vice President Lions International*



*International Guests - Lion Gudrun and husband Lion Jon Bjarni Thorsteinsson, Past International Director*



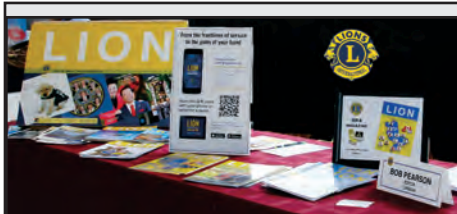
*Lion Tom Gordon International Director*



*MD A Council Chair Lions John Whyte*



*MD A Council*



Your Lion Magazine was part of a display area at the MD "A" convention in May. Many National and International versions were available for the taking.

## THE LION MAGAZINE ON DISPLAY AT THE CONVENTION!

The print edition is still as popular as ever and in keeping with the electronic age an information sign was present displaying information about the **MyLion** app for the digital version. If you are so inclined scan the Q.R.(Quick Recognition) code with your smart phone or tablet and see what happens. If you don't have a scanner on your device, it is a free download.

Many thanks to the staff at Thompson Printing in Paris, Ontario for supplying the display signs. As indicated in the magazine they are the print service that supply the layout service and the excellent finished product.





Be A Donor Display



Special Olympics Display



Diabetes Display



Optometry Display

Lions packaging glasses



Lions packaging glasses





**Editors Note:**

Special thanks to Lion **Bill Crawford** from **South Brant Lions** in District A-2 for the marvelous job with the convention photos, some of which are in this issue and some of the remainder will eventually make their way to the MD A website.

## Powassan Lions

Congratulations from District A5 to Lion **Joe Geisler** for serving the Powassan Lions for 70 plus years of service with perfect attendance. Lion Joe joined the club on May 26th, 1947 at the tender young age of 22. He immediately shared his energy and talents by chairing numerous committees and projects and serving twice as president of the club.

Lion Joe rarely misses a meeting; unless he is hunting deer, fishing for that elusive trophy Muskie or unfortunately in the hospital. Lion Joe has attained perfect attendance since 1947 and is always eager to get a "make up credit" if he does happen to miss a meeting. Lion Joe faithfully recites the Lions' Prayer at all of our dinner meetings, which he memorized early in his Lion's career. In 2013 he was awarded a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his many contributions and commitments to the Community of Powassan.

Although he has resigned himself to letting the younger members do most of the work now, he is always keen to find out how our projects are progressing or if they were successful. He continues to be an inspiration to his fellow Lions. Lion Joe was

extremely pleased to welcome the latest member inducted into the Powassan Lions Club, his great niece **Nicole Oshell**, a 3rd generation Lion who is just 22 years old. Will this be the next 70 years of service?

Thank you to Lion Joe for all of his many years of service to both the Lions and his community.



L-R Lion **Nicole Oshell** (great-niece), **Lion Joe Geisler** and **Lion Sue Oshell** (niece)

## Editor's Note - Knowlton Lions

Generally speaking Lions are not looking for recognition for the all-important service work they do. But it is nice when something comes up that triggers a mention in the International Lions Magazine. Of note is the LCI January 2018 Digital Magazine story "Teaching Fire Prevention" which originated from a Knowlton Lions project titled "Guardian Angels" project that was featured in the MD - A Magazine, November/December 2017 edition.



The digital version is available for viewing on the LCI site:

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/news-media/lion-magazine/past-issues.php>, then navigating through the January 2018 edition under the service tab.



Keep up the Good Work Lions!  
Lion **Bob Pearson**, Editor

# Lions Homes for the DeafBlind

With excerpts from article from the Hyde Park-Oak Ridge Villager, May 2018.

In 1967, Reverend Bob Rumball, pastor of the Ontario Mission of the Deaf approached the **St. Catharines Central Lions Club** to help purchase a farm for deaf children. It became obvious that this project was much larger than one club could handle, so a group of Lions led by Lion **Jack Graydon** took over the project along with Lion **Gary Martins** who was a young teacher at the Ontario School for the Deaf Milton.

Since then Ontario Lions and Lioness clubs have been involved in fundraising to help establish homes in Ontario for people who are deaf or deafblind and as you will read they have done a fantastic job. LHDP focused on those type of homes over the years. At the same time they also completed other significant projects, for example a building for an infirmary at the Camp for the Deaf in Parry Sound, not far from the CNIB Camp.



Lion Gary Martins

“Some of the original homes,” said Mr. Martins, “were two-storey with narrow staircases and doorways that didn’t fit wheelchairs. That made things difficult and we worried about the children getting out safely in event of a fire. The newer homes are designed for safety and accessibility. Such is the case in the Sandbar Road home in London.

It was opened in August of 2013, thanks to funding through the Canada-Ontario Investment in Affordable Housing Program and the Lions Homes for Deaf People.

The Lions Homes for Deaf People have been instrumental in the funding of three of DeafBlind Ontario Services’ London locations. To honour them and longtime Lions Homes for Deaf People board member Gary Martins, the home was named Lions Martins.

DeafBlind Ontario Services is a not-for-profit organization that helps individuals who are deafblind to increase their independence and improve their quality of life through specialized services. Deafblindness is a combined loss of hearing and vision to such an extent

that neither the hearing nor vision can be used as a means of accessing information to participate and be included in the community.

Lions and DeafBlind Services have worked tirelessly over the years to establish similar facilities in other locations, including:

Homes for Lion **Bob Rumball** Association in Georgetown, Belleville, Nairn, and Ottawa where there are three different homes and subsequent other projects in support of the Total Communications Environment. There is a new home in Brantford for the Canadian Deaf Blind Rubella Association. They also provided rooms in twenty-seven Canadian Hearing Society offices across the province to display working devices to assist people with a hearing loss.

In Sudbury The Centre for the Deaf was built at a cost of 3.5 million and is now rented to the Canadian Hearing Society for \$1.00 a year and serves all of Northern Ontario. In the London area there is the Lions Mercel Home in Byron and the Lions Martins home.

A new home has been built in Barrie and will honour Lion Jack Graydon. It will be officially opened Thursday June 21st at 1 PM.

From inception, Lions from all of MD “A” including Quebec and Labrador were involved. Hyde Park and Lambeth were really helpful with the Lions Martins Home in the landscaping and funding of the official opening. Local Lions and Lioness historically helped out with the projects in various ways and in some cases have maintained a good relationship with the homes and facilities in their area. For example, the Parry Sound Lions put plenty of manpower into the camp for many years, paying for repairs and working to maintain the camp. Here in London, we have just finished raising funds for a modification to the kitchen.



Lions Martins Home Official Opening 2014 (l-r) - Sandra Datars Bere(Deaf Blind Services), Lion Bob Tanner, Lion Gary Martins, Lion Jack Graydon, Susan Manahan(Deaf Blind Services), Lion John Johnston



Lion Jack Graydon

They are hoping that both Lambeth and Hyde Park and all of their zone will keep that relationship going for many years to come.

More valuable information is available at:  
[www.deafblindontario.com](http://www.deafblindontario.com)  
[www.e-district.org/sites/lhdp](http://www.e-district.org/sites/lhdp)  
 (Lion Homes for the Deaf)  
[www.chs.ca](http://www.chs.ca) (Canadian Hearing Society)  
[www.tceottaw.org](http://www.tceottaw.org)  
 (Total Communications Environment)

## Fabulous Fenwick Lions

The Fabulous Fenwick Lions hard at work again with partnering with the Town of Pelham’s Community Clean Up Day Saturday April 21st, where Lions **Ken Angle**, **Bill King**, and **Ron Acaster** are pictured with the Town Mayor Dave Augustyn, Town staff, and volunteers. The Fabulous Fenwick Lions hosted a free BBQ to all the volunteers that came back to Centennial Park for a well deserved lunch of hotdogs, hamburgers, fries, coffee, and pop. approximately twenty bags of garbage were collected from roadside debris over

the past year by about fifty hard working volunteers.



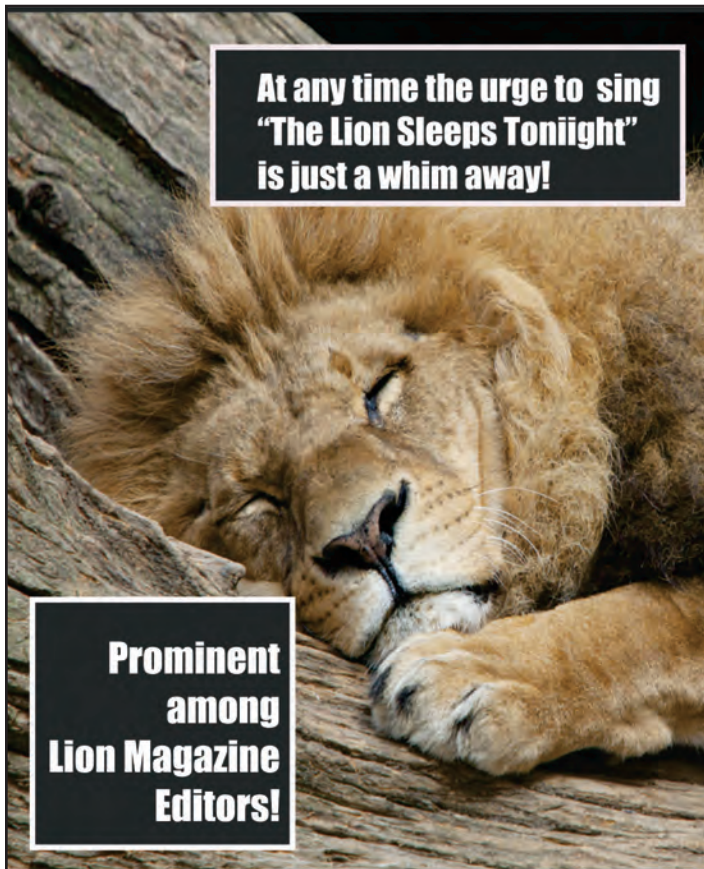
Mayor Dave Augustyn is 2nd from left



LION Magazine is an incredible publication highlighting life-changing stories of Lions around the world. It has played a key role in keeping Lions informed and connected for nearly a century and loyal readers such as yourself are a testament to the value the magazine provides.

Technology is changing the way the world is reading and finding information. That's why the LCI International Board of Directors voted to change the LION Magazine publishing model by reducing the number of print issues and adding a digital magazine counterpart. The Board of Directors wanted to ensure we were meeting people in the digital spaces where so much of the world is connecting.

The LION Magazine team loves print. And it's not going away. But we also realize that the digital LION offers a magazine experience that isn't possible with print. Videos bring stories to life in exciting new ways. You can instantly share stories on social media so your community can see the incredible service we're providing. You can access LION Magazine anywhere, anytime with a mobile device. And links help you find more of the content you're interested in, including an extensive archive of past issues. Moving forward, we will print four issues of LION Magazine each year, and digitize those four issues. You can read the magazine online at: <http://digital.mdalions.org/> or download the LION Magazine mobile app to read it on the go. We are looking forward to delivering great print and digital magazines to you this year, and in the years ahead.



**At any time the urge to sing "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" is just a whim away!**

**Prominent among Lion Magazine Editors!**

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MDA Convention

2018/19 Holiday Inn & Suites Parkway Conference Centre, St. Catharines, Ontario May 24 - 26, 2019

### International Conventions

- 101st Las Vegas, Nevada, USA June 29 - July 3, 2018
- 102nd Milan, Italy July 5 - 9, 2019
- 103rd Singapore, Singapore June 26 - 30, 2020
- 104th Montreal, Canada June 25 - 29, 2021
- 105th New Delhi, India July 1 - 5, 2022
- 106th Boston, Massachusetts, USA July 7 - 11, 2023
- 107th Melbourne, Australia June 21 - 25, 2024

### USA - Canada Forums

- Sept 20 - 22, 2018 Columbus, Ohio
- Sept 19 - 21, 2019 Spokane, Washington
- Sept 15 - 16, 2020 Louisville, Kentucky



# Helen Keller Award

DG **Joyce Mahovlich** presented Lion **Shawn Davison** with a Helen Keller award. **London East Lions** honoured Shawn with this award for tirelessly volunteering in his club. Congratulations Lion Shawn.



# Whitefish District Lions

The Whitefish District Lions celebrated their 50th Anniversary recently. They were honoured to have the District Governor Lion **Steve Olsen**, as well as Zone Chair Lion Claire Hobden in attendance. Over 90 guests attended from as far away as Espanola. A wonderful time was had by all.

On this night, two exceptional members were recognized for their dedication to Lionism: Lion **Don McLeod** was presented with a Helen Keller Award and Lion **Helen Makela** was presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Congratulations to these two hard working members of the Whitefish Lions Club.



Zone Chair Lion Claire Hobden, District Governor Lion Steve Olsen, Lion Don McLeod, President Lion Rick Wise



District Governor Lion Steve Olsen, Lion Don McLeod, Lion Helen Makela and President Lion Rick Wise

# Copetown Lions @ A15 Convention

The Lions of Copetown were well represented at the A15 Convention in Guelph, our most senior member, Club President Lion **Bill Shewfelt** received a Global Action Team award issued by International President **Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**. Shown presenting the award to Lion Bill is International Director **Tom Gordon** and District Governor **Char Dwyer**. As a special note

this is Lion Bill's second go around as the Lion Chief, he was the second president in 1977-78, the year after our charter some forty plus years ago.



Also on hand at the convention were perennial convention attendees, Lions **Dave Biehler** on the left and **Don Rostron**, shown proudly displaying the Copetown Banner.



# Pt. Dalhousie Lions and Pt. Dalhousie Lioness

In March of this year the Lions and Lioness of Pt. Dalhousie celebrated their 70th and 69th anniversaries respectively. Part of the celebration was the presentation of a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion **Wayne Stoddard** for his dedication to Lionism.

The presentation was made by A-2 District Governor **Jim Lomas**. A check of the club's facebook sight revealed the photo from seventy years ago.



# MD'A' Awards

At a previous Governor's Council meeting in November of 2107 there were two significant award presentations. The report should have been in the January/February/March edition but the item slipped through the cracks and the editor apologizes for the omission. However better late than never. PDG's **Diane Smith** (A15) and **Larry Bell** (A16) each received LCI Leadership Certificates, shown making the presentation are Council Chair **John Whyte** (L) and PID **Carl Young** (R).

At the same time PDG Larry Bell received a LCI Development Award of Merit for his service as GLT District Coordinator for the 2014-2017 Lions years. This award was only one of two received in Canada. C.C. John and PID Carl also made this presentation.



## Mosborough "Busy Busy" Lions

The members of the Mosborough Busy Busy Lions Club were very "busy" last year. They have produced a calendar featuring photos of Future Dog Guides from the Lions Foundation of Canada with all of the proceeds from this project being used to benefit LFC. With the help of other Foster Families we have been promoting and selling our calendars at various locations. One of their trips took them to Union Station in Toronto for a day, selling calendars and promoting LFC.



## Hudson & Charlton-Englehart Lions



In January the Hudson Lions held an event to support a local family who had suffered a tragedy when a family member was severely injured and the club was putting on a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for the family. When the Charlton Lions learned of this event they rose to the occasion and a large contingent made the fifty kilometre trek to the event in January no less.

This kind of inter-club visits and assistance is not unheard of in these small northern communities. Many heartfelt thanks to the members of both the Hudson Lions and the Charlton-Englehart Lions for rising to the challenge and helping an injured member of the community.

## New Hamburg Lioness and Lions

The New Hamburg Lioness and Lions clubs continue to support the Wilmot Terry Fox run with the purchase and donation of a full size banner which runners and donors could use to take their picture to denote their participation.



## MD'A' Lions Resource Centre Website

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

The MD'A' "Lions Resource Centre" website may be viewed by going to the MD'A' website at [www.mdalions.org](http://www.mdalions.org) and clicking on "**Lions Resource Centre**" on the left side of the page.

### ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

#### District Reporters

There is a reporter designated for each district in MD-A, their function is to assist the Lions and magazine staff with submissions by collecting high resolution photos where possible and the accompanying stories. Please utilize their services. They can be contacted as shown below:

- A1 - Lion M.B. Wilson: [wagotrains@msn.com](mailto:wagotrains@msn.com)
- A2 - Lion Wayne Scott: [w.scott@a2lions.org](mailto:w.scott@a2lions.org)
- A3 - Lion Wilma Bush: [b2wbrady@gmail.com](mailto:b2wbrady@gmail.com)
- A4 - Lion Sandra Baldwin: [sbaldwin@rogers.com](mailto:sbaldwin@rogers.com)
- A5 - Lion Brenda Lalonde: [bmlsudbury@hotmail.com](mailto:bmlsudbury@hotmail.com)
- A7/11 - Lion Ilkka Ahola: [iahola02@gmail.com](mailto:iahola02@gmail.com)
- A9 - Lion Mike Murphy: [Mmikey45@gmail.com](mailto:Mmikey45@gmail.com)
- A12 - Lion Kierstan Hargrave: [pr@a12lions.org](mailto:pr@a12lions.org)
- A15 - Lion Gerry Haliburton: [bulletin@a15lions.org](mailto:bulletin@a15lions.org)
- A16 - Lion Micheline Lush: [governornews@lionsa16.com](mailto:governornews@lionsa16.com)

Editor: Lion Bob Pearson  
[mdathelionmag@hotmail.com](mailto:mdathelionmag@hotmail.com)

#### To the Lions of MD "A"



As outlined in an editorial item on page 32 there have been significant changes to the magazine in the areas of the number of issues per year and the advent of the digital versions. This new process is not without some areas that may be a cause of concern. As is the case in the past the submission process for some issues during the year are traditionally chock full with many quality items being submitted through your District Reporters. This issue is no different, in fact because of the reduced number of issues we have added four pages to try and accommodate the extra material.

Even with that we have not been able to include all the items received and we will attempt to get caught up with the next issue, which historically has less content. We ask that you be patient if your submission did not make it in this time around. Please contact your District Reporter or the editor if you have concerns.



## Partnership Works!

### New This Year!

The TELUS Ride For Dad has a brand new website page designated for the Lions Clubs in Multiple District A, to access. This would allow you to get the word out about local events, volunteer requests and more by entering your information at any time once you become partners with the Ride For Dad!

Visit [RideForDad.ca](http://RideForDad.ca) and look for the Lions International logo. Click on it to see what we can do for you and your Club.

The fee is the same: \$5 per club member (ie. 50 members = \$250).

### Continued Benefits

1. Lion's logo placed on over 15,000 posters, pledge forms and sponsorship pamphlets in Ontario alone!
2. Opportunity for the Lions to set up and staff an information booth at Ride For Dad locations where the venues allow.
3. Thousands of donors will see the Lions logo and know you are supporting this worthwhile cause.
4. Have your pamphlet placed in over 7,000 participant gift bags (if provided).
5. Be aligned with other major organizations and companies.

Contact Colleen Campbell

[national@RideForDad.ca](mailto:national@RideForDad.ca) or 613-623-0733



