

LION



M.D. "A" Edition April/May/June 2019

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THE Lion



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Welcome to the April/May/June Edition of the LION.

To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please utilize the services of your District Reporter. For photos, try to ensure your camera and/or smartphone is at the highest setting to provide quality images. The camera quality of most smartphones available today is excellent. A minimum of 300 DPI is desired. Images copied from the internet and/or Facebook or other social media are usually unsuitable.

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Management Committee Lion Magazine
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Build a Strong Foundation for a Strong Future

When building a home, the most important first step is to have a strong foundation that can support the rooms, furniture, and lives that will rest upon it.

In serving, it's equally important to have a solid foundation to support the work we do.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is that support. It enables Lions to do work that would otherwise be out of reach.

But without the contributions of Lions and friends, LCIF would not be strong enough to support all the work that needs to be done. It would not be able to help fund the water pipes being installed in Malawi or the gender-equity programs for young people in India. It wouldn't have been able to send emergency aid to

the people of California when devastating fires ripped through their town, destroying everything.

Right now, these places may seem far away from your town and the needs of your community. You may be focused on the local homeless shelter that needs food or the high school in desperate need of a new gymnasium. And maybe right now your club can raise the funds for those efforts. But one day your community may need help from LCIF.

And LCIF will be there for your community. But only because millions of Lions around the world recognized that your town is just as important as theirs. They said, "I will help, no matter where the need." And that is how we support one another.

That is how we make this a world of interconnected communities. A world of Lions.

That is why it is more important now—when so many challenges face our global community—that Lions recognize and contribute to the work LCIF empowers.

After all, it could be our community that needs it next.

Yours,


Gudrun Yngvadottir
International President, Lions Clubs International

Convention Call

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the International By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2019 International Convention. Our 102nd International Convention will be held in Milan, Italy. It begins at 10 a.m. July 5 and ends July 9. 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.

Milan is often called the birthplace of the Renaissance and is home to many exquisite works of art, both old and new. Leonardo DaVinci also called this beautiful city home, which is what makes it such

a great place for Lions to begin their own Renaissance of service. Come stroll the streets and marvel at the architecture, sample the gelato, and take a side trip to the Lake District for a glimpse of how the rich and famous spend their leisure time. Do it all while mingling with fellow Lions.

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. Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Tony Blair will be one of the 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 18 day of March, 2019.


Gudrun Yngvadottir
International President, Lions Clubs International

Official Notice - 2019 International Convention, Milan, Italy

The following proposed amendments to the International Constitution will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2019 International Convention.

ITEM 1: A RESOLUTION TO ADD A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AREA OF AFRICA AND TO ADD REPRESENTATION OF ONE NEW INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR TO THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL AREA OF AFRICA IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS; RENAME THE CONSTITUTIONAL AREA OF ISAAME TO ISAME; AND LIST THE CONSTITUTIONAL AREAS IN NUMERIC ORDER. (THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE TO ADOPT)

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article V, Section 3 of the International Constitution be amended by deleting the existing language in its entirety and substituting

the language as set forth below:

Section 3. COMPOSITION AND ELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL BOARD BY CONSTITUTIONAL AREAS. The International Board of Directors shall be composed of the president, immediate past president, the first, second and third vice presidents and directors, which shall be elected as follows:

In each even-numbered year, eighteen (18) directors shall be elected, consisting of five (5) from clubs in the United States of America, its affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas; one (1) from clubs in South America, Central America, Mexico and Islands of the Caribbean Sea; three (3) from clubs in Europe; three (3) from clubs in the Orient and Southeast Asia; four (4) from clubs

in India, South Asia and the Middle East; one (1) from clubs in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Islands of the South Pacific; and one (1) from clubs in Africa;

In each odd-numbered year, seventeen (17) directors shall be elected, consisting of six (6) from clubs in the United States of America, its affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas; one (1) from clubs in Canada; one (1) from clubs in South America, Central America, Mexico and the Islands of the Caribbean Sea; three (3) from clubs in Europe; four (4) from clubs in the Orient and Southeast Asia; and two (2) from clubs in India, South Asia and the Middle East.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Reykjavik, Iceland – April 3-6, 2019



AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Appointed International Director Dr. Datuk Naga to serve as the Coordinating Lion for the former District 301-A1 (Philippines) for fiscal year 2019-2020.
2. Approved the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Board Representation for fiscal year 2019-2020; established the objectives, duties, meeting schedule and budget for the ad hoc committee and authorized the international president, in consultation with the Executive Officers, to appoint one past international president or past international director from each constitutional area and Africa, with one of the members appointed to serve as the chairperson of the committee and that the ad hoc committee appointments will be effective upon confirmation by the international president and continue until the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
3. Authorized the General Counsel to grant a non-exclusive license to the Fondation Des Lions De France and the Lions Australia Fund for LCIF to use the name “Lions” and the association’s emblem in accordance with the association’s trademark policies. Further authorized the Lions Foto Club MD 108 Italy to use the name “Lions” and the association’s emblem in accordance with the association’s trademark policies contingent upon the removal of the term “club” from the name of the foundation.
4. Revised Chapter II, Paragraph C. of the Board Policy Manual to amend the charter of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee to include the committee’s responsibilities related to governance and risk management.
5. Revised Chapter VII, Paragraph A.1., A.2., A.3. and A.4., of the Board Policy Manual to remove unnecessary language.
6. Revised the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual to correct an inaccurate reference in the Rule 6(d) of the Rules of Procedure – Special Meeting to Recommend a Lion for Appointment as First or Second Vice District Governor.
7. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2019 International Convention to amend Article 5, Section 3 of the International Constitution to add a new constitutional area of Africa and to add representation of one new international director to Africa in even-numbered years; rename the constitutional area of ISAAME to ISAME; and list the constitutional areas in numeric order.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Selected Atlanta, Georgia, USA as the destination for the 2026 International Convention.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Approved the Club and District Excellence Award requirements for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
2. Granted relief for June 2019 Semi-Annual Dues Billing for the Palu Maleo Lions Club of District 307-B2 (Indonesia) and dues prior to the December 2018 Semi-Annual Dues Billing for the Juba Host Lions Club of undistricted South Sudan.
3. Granted the Republic of Bulgaria provisional region status at the close of the 2019 International Convention.
4. Approved the appointment of Coordinating Lions for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
5. Approved the creation of district 301-A4 (Philippines).
6. Approved the appointment of district governors for the provisional districts for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
7. Appointed Past District Governor Alf-Goran Andersson to serve as district governor for District 101-S (Sweden) through the close of the 2019 International Convention.
8. Revised Chapter VII, Exhibit A, Standard Form District Constitution, Article VI, Section 2 so that the district global action team coordinators and the LCIF district coordinator are non-voting members of the district cabinet.
9. Provided official name badges for past board appointees and board liaisons.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Amended the Investment Policy Statement for the International Association of Lions Clubs General Fund with the revised Broad Asset Allocation.
2. Approved the FY 2018-2019 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
3. Amended the Investment Policy Statement for the Retirement Income Plan for the Employees of the International Association of Lions Clubs with the revised Target Allocation.
4. Revised Chapter V of the Board Policy Manual.
5. Revised Chapter XI of the Board Policy Manual.
6. Revised Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual.
7. Revised the B.2. Executive Officer Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the curriculum plan and schedule for the 2019-2020 First Vice District Governors/District Governors-Elect Seminar.
2. Amended Board Policy Manual regarding the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute and the Regional Lions Leadership Institute to prepare for future modifications to these programs.
3. Amended Board Policy Manual to clarify the timing of certification expiration and the recertification period for the Lions Certified Instructor Program.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Reviewed the status of existing and upcoming key LCI Forward initiatives: Rollout of global causes, Campaign 100, MyLion, new website and Learning Management System.
2. Recommended an amendment to the International Constitution establishing a new constitutional area designated as “Africa” be presented to the delegates for approval at the 2019 International Convention.
3. Discussed the overall board representation and recommended that further analysis regarding board representation be considered.
4. Reviewed club officer survey results which identified the need to assess clubs’ evolving needs and opportunities and to inform future training programs.
5. Discussed in detail the current process of annual goal-setting by DGEs and possible ways to enhance effectiveness.
6. Reviewed the continuing growth trends of women membership worldwide.
7. Continued its review of the Long Range Planning Committee charter and adopted revisions to align with LCI Forward.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Revised Chapter II, Paragraph J. of the Board Policy Manual to update the Marketing Communications Committee charter to better align with current and future association priorities.
2. Revised Chapter XVI of the Board Policy Manual to remove outdated information on LION Magazine.
3. Revised Chapter XVI, Paragraph B.1. of the Board Policy Manual to add Nepal as an official edition of LION Magazine, effective July 1, 2019.
4. Revised Chapter XVI, Paragraphs A.14. and B.3. of the Board Policy Manual to reduce the minimum required print editions of official editions of LION Magazine from four per year to two per year, and update reimbursement to official editions from USD \$4.00 per member to USD \$2.00 per member, paid bi-annually, effective July 1, 2020.
5. Revised Chapter XIX, Paragraph F. of the Board Policy Manual to designate the International President may distribute International President’s Certificates of Appreciation to Executive Officers, International Directors, Past International Directors, Past International Presidents, and any other title designated by the International President, effective July 1, 2019.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Recommended that the Family Membership Pilot Program in Japan be discontinued in October 2019.
2. The 2019-2020 GAT operational plan and changes effective July 1, 2019:

- Discontinuation of Vice Chairperson positions.
 - Consolidation of CA level GST, GMT, GLT positions to a single CA level GAT position.
 - Discontinuation of CA level Vice Chairperson positions.
 - Creation of GAT Regional Leader positions for some countries in OSEAL.
 - Consolidation of Area level GST, GMT, GLT positions to a single Area level GAT position. Reduction of overall number of area level positions.
 - All positions will be annual appointments.
3. Separated the Lioness Initiative from the Join Together Program and established the Lioness Bridge Program, which would expire on June 30, 2021.
 4. Approved 8 Lions and 9 Leos as part of the Leo Clubs Advisory Panel for July 2019-June 2021 term, along with 6 alternate Lions and 5 alternate Leos.
 5. Requested that all future references to the Leo Lion membership type be modified and

designated as Leo-Lion.

6. Added punitive language to the Family Membership Program to prevent abuse or misuse of the discount for family members not living in the same household (with the exception of those members under age 26 if they are pursuing higher education or serving in their country's military) or to non-family members.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Resolved to retire the Club Twinning program, effective July 1, 2019.
2. Resolved to retire the Children's Symposium program, effective July 1, 2019.
3. Voted on winners of the Partners in Service video contest.
4. Approved changes to service activity reporting, including the reinstatement of signature activities, reporting sub-categories, and the 3,000 cap on reported beneficiaries for each service activity. These changes will be incorporated when Service Activities Reporting transitions from MyLCI to MyLion on July 1, 2019.

5. Approved the Lions Clubs International and Wellness Initiative joint work plan.
6. Approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the American Association of Diabetes Educators.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

1. Established a Privacy Working Group that would report directly to the Technology Committee on GDPR topics. The Privacy Working group would act as the liaison between the GDPR Advisory Group and the Technology Committee. The international president would appoint members of the Privacy Working Group from Lions from Constitutional Area IV.
2. Approved the ERP finance implementation initiative with the understanding that the formal approval of the proposed division budget will take place in June 2019 at Milan.

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

Enriching lives, making memories, building independence on the shores of Lake Joe



At CNIB Lake Joe, people living with sight loss and families can enjoy the same summer pursuits as others. Plus, there's skills development, confidence building and support from a community that understands living with sight loss. "With the generous support of donors like the Lions Clubs, we bring the magic of summer camp to life for people who are blind or partially sighted," says Eugene Chong, General Manager.

Diagnosed with Stargardt disease as a child, Joshua Cook started coming to CNIB Lake Joe in 2012. "Before I went to camp, I felt isolated. I was the only person I knew with a visual impairment," says Cook. "I wanted to be



around other people with sight loss. Lake Joe really put things into perspective for me." Recently, Josh joined the Lake Joe team as a counsellor.

"I wouldn't be the man I am today if it weren't for Lake Joe. If I hadn't been introduced to sailing at camp, I never would have represented Canada at the World Blind Sailing Championships in Scotland," says Joshua. "I want to show young campers what it's like to live with sight loss."

CNIB Lake Joe relies on the generosity of many donors, including its friends and neighbours in Muskoka. In late August 2017, Brian and Kym Read gifted their boathouse to the camp. As Chair of the MD'A' Lions/CNIB Committee, Lion **Bill MacKenzie** is leading a fundraising campaign to inspire Lions to complete the installation of the new boathouse. So far, \$40,000 of the \$120,000 goal has been raised.

"On behalf of the MD'A' Lions/CNIB Committee,



I want to thank those Clubs who have shown support for the project, I urge those Clubs who haven't made a gift to do so," says Lion MacKenzie. "It is critical we help CNIB Lake Joe complete this project and help campers of all ages enjoy water activities! Lions are generous and creative. As Knights of the Blind, we are called upon to meet the challenge to raise funds for the boathouse, along with supporting CNIB Lake Joe's programs, and their Wish List."

This year, the MD'A' Lions/CNIB Committee created the CNIB Colonel Baker Award to recognize exceptional community involvement. It celebrates an individual whose outstanding efforts have made a selfless contribution to change what it is to be blind today. Much to his surprise, Lion Bill MacKenzie was one of the first recipients of the Colonel Baker Award.

"It was completely unexpected," said Lion MacKenzie. "When District Governor **Zoltan Dohar**

presented me with the Colonel Baker Award, I was deeply honoured. Lake Joe is a special place, and I'm delighted to champion fundraising efforts for the camp."

"With the help of our dedicated Lions, CNIB Lake Joe empowers people impacted by blindness to live the lives they choose. Funded by charitable donations and enabled by the selfless contributions of volunteers, our innovative programs and powerful advocacy are changing what it is to be blind," says Monique Pilkington, Executive Director, CNIB Lake Joe. "Together, we're enriching lives, making memories and building independence on the shores of Lake Joe. Thank you, Lions, for your ongoing support!"

Lions Volunteers Needed!

Ontario – Assist campers and families who are taking the CNIB Lake Joe bus from Cambridge, Kingston, London, Ottawa or Toronto, and guide them to pick-up locations.

CNIB Lake Joe – Assist campers and families participating in excursions or stay at the camp to volunteer with guest services, site clean-up, the tuck shop and more!

To volunteer, contact: Sherri Helsdingen, Community Engagement, Team Operations, CNIB Lake Joe 1-877-748-4028 | sherri.helsdingen@cnib.ca





HIGHLIGHTS

MD'A' GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING

May 2019



The Council of Governors is unanimous in its praise of the St. Davids Lions Clubs for hosting another great MD'A' Convention. Participants had a great time, there was lots of opportunity for fellowship and the business of the Multiple District was done efficiently. The following are just a few of the highlights of the Council Meeting as well as the District Governors Elect's briefing.

The Council ratified the recommendation of the Administration Committee and A12PDG Dave Hewitt was appointed MD'A' Treasurer for the term 2019-2024. This will be Council Treasurer Dave's second consecutive term and we welcome his insight and expertise. The Council also ratified the recommendation of the Administration Committee and appointed Council Secretary David Mills to a third term. Council also approved the appointment of the accounting firm Gordon and Flemming to be the auditors for 2019-2020.

Two MD'A' Life Memberships were awarded, one to Lion George Funnel of the Gananoque Lions Club (A4) and one to Richard Piche of the Iroquois-Matilda Lions Club (A4). Congratulations to those Lions.

A bid to host the 2021 MD'A' Convention was received from District A1. It will be held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in London, Ontario, the weekend of May 28, 29 and 30. This bid is dependent on a successful site inspection which will be completed in early June of this year.

Two amendments to the Constitution and By-laws were presented to the voting delegates at Convention. The annual increase in dues from \$14.50 to \$17.50 passed with a 91% approval and the recommendation to not assess MD'A' dues to students under the age of thirty passed with a 96% approval.

PCC Dave Balmos made a presentation on behalf of the Windsor Lions Club which, in the next Lions Year, will celebrate its 100th Anniversary! Mark the date March 21, 2020 on your calendars and watch for exciting information to be forthcoming.

The Global Action Team was thrilled to announce an outstanding growth in membership in Canada. When viewed from the point of percentages, we stand number one in the world! If we strive to maintain and improve our retention efforts, we will be looking good for next year.

Lion Bob Pearson presented a detailed analysis of the impact of the funding cut to the LION Magazine. The intent, of course, is to move more towards digital copies. A "straw vote" of those at Convention indicates that hard copies are still preferred and this will be a part of the budget process this coming summer.

The District Governor Elect's briefing resulted in two important resolutions. The contract to engage the Park Inn by Radisson as the hotel of choice for the Lions Year 2019-2020 was approved. Research into other locations indicated that this was the best choice financially as well as to location. Council Chair Elect Kevin Banfield and Council Secretary David Mills had met with hotel staff earlier to discuss ways in which service could be improved. At the District Governor Elect meeting, DGE Barb Tuxford (A1) was elected Vice Council Chair for the 2019-2020 Lions Year. DGE Barb, in addition to her other duties, will be part of the Administration Committee. Thank you, DGE Barb, for offering your service.

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



District A-2 Announces Candidate for International Director 2021-2023

Lions District A-2 and the St. Davids District Lions Club announces
Past District Governor Allen Snider

as our district's endorsed candidate for International Director 2021-2023.

Lion Allen was installed as our District Governor in Busan Korea in July 2012.

During his year as our District Governor, Allen promoted 'Grassroots Lions':
Fun, Food, Fellowship and Service.

District A-2 is confident that PDG Allen and Lion Susan will represent Canada globally as our 'Grassroots' International Director.

A-16 received the 2017-2018 District Team Excellence Award

At the District A-16 Cabinet Meeting on February 2nd, 2019, IPDG **Tim Cheung** announced that A-16 was recognized by LCI with the 2017-2018 District Team Excellence Award.

During the year of 2017-2018, District A-16 was able to accomplish and complete the Award criteria in Membership, Service, Organizational Excellence, Marketing and Communication and qualified for the Award. A big thank you to the members of the District Governor team 2017-2018: PDG **Susan Tate** as GLT Coordinator, PDG **Brian Moore** as GMT Coordinator, 1VDG **Debbie Dawson** acting double role as GST

Coordinator and 2VDG then, and DG **Jean-Claude Lagrange** serving as 1VDG then. Each member of the Team received a recognition medal from LCI. Congratulations for an outstanding achievement!

L to R: PDG Brian Moore, PDG Susan Tate, CC Tim Cheung, 1VDG Debbie Dawson, and DG Jean-Claude Lagrange



"No one has ever become poor by giving."

—Anne Frank

Lions are doers. There is so much to be done in the world. And the physical act of helping can feel so good — hammering a nail in the frame of a new house for a tornado victim, ladling soup for a hungry child, or ushering a grandmother to her first diabetes screening are all visceral ways to experience the rewards of service.

But what if there was no money to buy the nails, or to pay for the gas to heat the stove, or to get the equipment to screen for diabetes? Where would we be without the donors? Is giving a form of doing?

Campaign 100 will help LCIF empower Lions to create positive change in communities near and far. In addition to messages about our world in need, Campaign 100, and how Lions can be involved in expanding humanitarian efforts, LCIF is proud to present stories from LCIF's 2017-2018 Annual Report. "While I've been humbled and inspired by Lions since joining our incredible organization in 1978, my year as Foundation chair opened my eyes far wider to the world of good Lions do with funding and guidance from LCIF. Twelve months spent crossing the globe and visiting grant projects beautifully illustrated how together, we can."- Chancellor Bob Corlew, Past International President and 2017-2018 LCIF Chairman. To read more about the life-changing humanitarian work Lions accomplished with assistance from LCIF in the 2017-2018 year, enjoy reading the Annual Report.

The list of challenges the world faces is long

Two hundred fifty-three million individuals are blind or visually impaired, and global trends suggest that figure may triple by 2050. Climate change is causing a steady rise in natural disasters, robbing innocent people of homes, jobs, and lives. By 2025, half the world's population will be living in water-stressed areas. Two hundred and forty-five people die each day from measles, prevented easily by safe and inexpensive vaccines. Two-thirds of children report being victims of bullying. Four hundred twenty-five million people are living with diabetes, and this figure may soar to nearly 630 million by 2045. Each night, more than 820 million people go to bed hungry. And every two minutes, a child is diagnosed with cancer.

These are big problems. They need innovative solutions, backed by the means to effect change.

Lions are those innovators. LCIF is the means.

Many Lions on the ground working to address these challenges rely on grants from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). These grants wouldn't exist without the generosity of Lions and

friends who donate money to the Foundation.

100 Reasons Why

The 2018-2019 Lion year marked the launch of the most ambitious capital campaign ever for LCIF. Campaign 100 is in full swing now, looking to wrap every Lion into the fold.

The campaign gets its name from several factors: it was initiated during Lions Clubs International's 100th year of service. The foundation is asking that 100 percent of Lions participate, giving the equivalent of US\$100 per year during the three-year campaign. This aggressive fundraising goal would empower Lions to serve hundreds of millions, ensuring that 100 years from now, the world will be a better place.

It's a lofty goal, but stories of service in action highlight just how important it is to continue funding the vital work Lions do.

What You and LCIF Have Done Together

If you've donated to LCIF this year, here is a sampling of the work you helped enable:

Delivering Dignity in South Korea

New, clean, modern, safe—apt descriptors of a new facility 50 men with intellectual disabilities and severe handicaps now call home.

Augmenting funds raised by Lions in Korea, LCIF provided a US\$100,000 grant to construct a new rehabilitation center in the Eunpyeong District of Seoul, South Korea. Funds were awarded after social welfare facility Angels' Haven was ordered to shut its doors due to unsafe conditions. After the building shut down, residents squeezed into 50-square-meter apartments shared with 14 other people and with just a single toilet. That is where they lived for four years, until LCIF and Lions intervened.

In a collaborative effort bringing dignity to facility residents, Lions in Korea, LCIF, Angels' Haven, and the Ministry of Health and Welfare, Seoul City, Eunpyeong County, that new, clean, modern, safe building was constructed. Residents are finally living with dignity in much-needed private spaces and can also enjoy the building's areas designated for exercise, treatment, and social gatherings.



Residents of a Lions-built care facility in Seoul, South Korea work on a project in their new space

Hurricane Strikes in Puerto Rico, LCIF Responds

September 16, 2017. Some consider it the worst day in Puerto Rico's history. It's the date Hurricane Maria wreaked unprecedented havoc on the island. It's also the date Lions began mobilizing to help the storm's victims. In the wake of Maria, whose 175-mile per hour winds left a trail of death, destruction, and devastation, Lions beat a path to the island's residents despite widespread flooding, downed powerlines, and impassable roads. Amid crumbled homes, obliterated businesses, and fertile fields from which crops had been ripped, Lions stood, delivering help and hope.

They were able to do so because of a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant from LCIF.

Lions in Districts 51-C, -E, and -O began distributing nourishing food almost immediately, helping more than 6,000 people each day maintain the strength they'd need for the long days, weeks, and months ahead. "The Lions are gonna work very hard to help this community come back together," says Lion Miriam Vazquez, Past Council Chairperson. "So I think that's the spirit we have to continue with. To help and show others how to help."



Lions in Puerto Rico went into action after Hurricane Maria devastated the island

Ukraine Orphanage Magnifies Reading

In Ukraine, 27 orphanages are designated for children with disabilities, blindness, or low vision. While most facilities can fulfill basic needs, many don't have the means to provide vision-challenged youngsters with specialized equipment they need to develop scholastically. Reading and schoolwork become challenging, often rendering them defeated and developmentally delayed.

With a US\$34,000 grant from LCIF and funds collected locally, Lions of Ukraine brought hope — in the form of 45 electronic magnifiers — to children with severe low vision at Ternopol Orphanage. Small in size and handheld, the Aidnear Portable Digital Eyesight Aiding Device magnifies images as much as 32 times on a screen delivering full-color, high-

definition, high-contrast images. Perhaps best of all, the children can participate in class alongside their normal-sighted peers and have the opportunity to enjoy and do well in school.



A vision-impaired student at an orphanage in Ukraine uses one of the 45 electronic magnifiers provided by Lions to help keep students on track

Gender Equity Intervention in Delhi, India

Gender-based violence and inequality are sad and pervasive realities. The World Health Organization estimates 35 percent of women globally have experienced some form of physical or sexual violence. As if the wounds and psychological damage weren't enough, in many parts of the world, abused women are shunned. Unable to find work, they have limited ability to provide for themselves and their children. Sadly, the cycle continues. Those raised in families with violence often perpetuate or experience it as adults.

Educating youth on gender equity from an early age is vital to ending the cycle, particularly in India, where the problem is endemic. In collaboration with

communications and television services in India, LCIF is doing just that. Through a gender-based violence prevention program piloted in Delhi, LCIF is helping promote positive and safe learning environments. Dosti Ka Safar (The Journey of Friendship) is based on Lions Quest lessons — which foster social and emotional learning — and designed to foster greater gender equity among 2,000 youth in and around New Delhi. The customized intervention employs teacher-led discussions, films, and the Lions Quest skills practice model, moving constructive behaviors from the classroom to the real world.



Young people in India learn about gender equity in an effort to reduce the rate of gender-based violence

Finding a Balance Between Diabetes and Childhood

“At camp, I was able to make new friends with kids who have the same disease. With them, I was able to talk about diabetes and didn't feel so alone with my problems.”

This message of relief is from Thomas, a young teen fortunate to have attended a Lions type 1 diabetes

camp near Gratz, Austria. With a US\$32,722 grant from LCIF, Lions supported the week-long event for youth ages nine through 14.

In a fun-filled environment, campers learned how to manage their disease and improve metabolic control — critical to maintaining optimum health for children with type 1 diabetes, who really just want to be kids like “everyone else.” Leading the effort was a team of non-clinical and medical staff, who measured participants' blood glucose levels at the beginning of the camp and tested campers as often as 10 times daily.

Alternating between educational activities such as learning to count carbohydrates, calculate insulin doses, and handle insulin pumps and injections, and typical camp happenings like swimming and other sports, Thomas and fellow campers wrapped their week of fun in the sun with new friends and are more comfortable with, and more capable of handling, their disease.



Students at the LCIF-sponsored diabetes camp learn how to manage their disease, and have fun, too

Feeding Filipino Children: A Different Approach

Worldwide, the death of one in three children can be attributed to malnutrition. In the Philippines, Lions took a unique approach to decreasing food insecurity and malnourishment of children by providing an enticing incentive: cash. The program brought healthy food to kids while putting money in their parents' pockets. Lions... serving up a win-win situation!

“We want to make sure there is not one day that children go to sleep with hunger, and not one day that children go to school with an empty stomach,” says Past District Governor Ruth Chua, president of the Manila Amity Lions Club, in the Philippines.

Supported by a US\$1,500 LCIF grant, Lions' innovative program worked like this: As an incentive for parents to take their malnourished children to daily meals provided through the club's supplemental feeding program, cash prizes were awarded for weight gain! “Club members worried that providing just one feeding wouldn't make a lasting impact on the children,” explained Chua. “With the assistance of LCIF, Lions provided nutritious meals every

Our Impact Through Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service

Increase Service Impact

- **Vision:** Lead the global charge to rid the world of infectious blindness, reduce avoidable blindness and visual impairment, and improve overall quality of life by providing services to people who are blind or visually impaired.
- **Youth:** Serve youth through improved access to quality education, vital health services, inclusive social and recreational opportunities, and positive youth development programs.
- **Disaster Relief:** Be deeply engaged in disaster relief efforts and in preparing for, and responding to, natural disasters whenever and wherever they strike.
- **Humanitarian Causes:** Sponsor and deliver programs that address the distinct needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, the disabled, females, orphans, and others disproportionately impacted by social and economic factors and requiring special services.

Fight Diabetes

- **Diabetes:** Be a major part of the response to this global epidemic through multi-faceted, comprehensive health initiatives, reduce prevalence of the disease, and improve quality of care for those living with diabetes.

Expand Our Global Causes

- **Childhood Cancer:** Strengthen medical and social services, increasing global life expectancy of children living with cancer, and enhancing quality of life for them and their families.
- **Hunger:** Work toward a world in which no one goes hungry, expanding resources and infrastructure needed to address food shortages globally.
- **Environment:** Protect the environmental health of our global communities, generating long-term, positive ecological and humanitarian impact.

day to children who were small, often weak, more susceptible to illness and infection, and at risk of falling behind in school. In addition, much needed money was awarded to their parents.”



Malnourished children in the Philippines get regular meals thanks to the innovation of Lions

More Resources Means More Children Saved

“Your child has cancer.” Four gut-wrenching words no parent ever wants to hear. For many in the State of Wisconsin, USA, those words are inextricably linked to vital medical services provided at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW). Through its oncology program, CHW cares for two-thirds of the state’s children with cancer and has treated more than 8,000 patients.

With the number of children needing cancer-fighting bone marrow transplants expected to rise, CHW desperately needed additional — and extremely costly — treatment technology. LCIF and caring, compassionate Lions, stepped in to help. A US\$100,000 grant from LCIF, and assistance from more than 500 Lions clubs in Wisconsin, helped the hospital purchase life-saving equipment. Now, CHW’s medical team is able to treat an additional 150 children every year.

Vital medical services and equipment are critical to giving children a fighting chance against cancer. Thanks to LCIF, 150 children each year will get a better shot at beating cancer and going on to live full, healthy lives.

Wells for Wellness in Malawi

Humans can go just three days without water. After around 72 hours, the body begins to rebel. So, if your only access to life-sustaining hydration is unsanitary, you drink what’s available, cook with what’s there, and bathe in what’s accessible. In other words, you jeopardize your life in trying to sustain it.

In the African country of Malawi, 70 percent of the population are without treated, sanitary drinking water. Nearly half of rural populations have to travel 30 minutes or more to obtain their drinking water. This means millions of people in Malawi — men, women, children, entire families — are living in rural areas without access to a safe water source. Water-borne diarrheal diseases are the second leading cause of death for children under five.

Malawi’s average 6-month rainy season,

responsible for 95 percent of the country’s annual rainfall, has been shorter than usual in recent years.

With a focus on the environment and serving humanity, in January 2018 LCIF awarded a US\$60,000 grant to compassionate German Lions committed to delivering liquid hope — clean water — to Malawians.

In the country’s Madisi area, five water wells are being drilled and will be equipped with solar-powered pumps. One well, strategically located at a school for kindergarteners and primary school children, will ensure youngsters are hydrated throughout the school day, thus enhancing their ability to learn. The remaining wells will serve residents of nearby villages, providing them with safe, sanitary water for cooking, drinking and maintaining personal hygiene.

The benefits continue. Wells will support Madisi’s agricultural efforts, a main source of food for 60 percent of the population and the primary source of income for another 20 percent.



Lions build water wells for communities in Malawi, enabling residents to get safe drinking water

What Goes Around Comes Right Back Around

While Lions belong to a global organization, they are often focused on bettering their immediate surrounding communities. It can seem like a lot to ask them to give money to a foundation that funds projects around the world. But, we are a global community of Lions and we empower one another no matter the distance. Better yet, that same foundation — LCIF — *also funds projects in their community.*

The money you give to LCIF comes back, amplified by the donations of other Lions. For example, giving US\$100 to the foundation one year could come back to you as US\$300 when your district is in need.

It’s an investment in your club. Your club is an investment in your community. And what is the world if not a collection of communities?

To see more success stories and envision how your club might make a difference, visit <https://lionsclubs.org/en/explore-our-clubs/service-stories>.

Want to know more about the most ambitious capital campaign in Lions history? Watch now at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2oyXsVuiVY>

How to: Applying for an LCIF Grant

Assess the needs in your local or global community

1. Work with fellow Lions and local leaders to come up with a project plan addressing unmet needs
2. Research LCIF grant eligibility
3. Complete and submit a grant application to LCIF; applications and instructions can be found at: lcif.org/grants
4. Work with your local team and LCIF to answer any questions about your application.
5. If your project is approved by the Board of Trustees and grant conditions are met, LCIF disburses funds and you can get started
6. Submit periodic progress reports to LCIF
7. When your project is complete, submit a final report to LCIF and celebrate the impact you’ve made in your community, however global or local it may be!

For more detailed information on the specific requirements and processes for each grant type, visit lcif.org/grants.

Mountain Township and District Lions

The Mountain Township and District Lions Club hosted their semi-annual dinner and show in April featuring the musical comedians, Bowser and Blue. The crowd of nearly 250 people helped support many upcoming Lion’s charitable programs while laughing the night away. Their taste buds were treated to Mountain’s finest grill masters’ steaks cooked to perfection with all the fixin’s. Dessert was the usual spread of pies and cakes to make your sweet tooth happy.

Another feature of the evening was the presentation of a cheque from the Lions Club to the South Mountain Agricultural Society for \$5,000, which completes our commitment of \$40,000 over the past four years toward the renovations of the Ag Hall. We hope to see everyone at our next Lions event, Canada Day Celebration at the South Mountain Fair Grounds.



Bowser & Blue

LCIF Eases a Heavy Burden in Tanzania

by Cassandra Rotolo

Imagine trekking across the savannah with your child in the blistering sun to collect water for drinking, cooking, bathing, and farming. For you, the three-mile journey is grueling, but standard practice. For your five-year-old daughter, it's an exhausting trip that brings sweat to her tiny forehead and introduces the challenges of living in a water-stressed part of the world.

Imagine arriving at a sandy riverbank, already exhausted from the walk. Imagine plunging that jug deep into murky water where mothers bathe their children, knowing the water you'll struggle to carry home is dirty. Swatting flies from your child's eyes, you long for her to be in school, learning to read and write so she can forge a better future for herself. But you need her to help with the back-breaking chore of fetching water. You might rest a bit with your fellow villagers, mustering the energy to make the trip back home.

Imagine knowing that tomorrow you'll do it all over again. But right now, you can focus on today only. Today, you need water.



Funding from LCIF is instrumental in bringing the life-saving water that many worldwide take for granted to people like Matiku

Relief Flows Like Water

Valentina Matiku, 15 years old, doesn't have to

imagine this scenario; it was her reality for most of her life. But with a US\$77,000 grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), and the efforts of caring and compassionate Lions close to home and continents away, Matiku and others from her village no longer have to make that daunting trek. Where there is a need, there is a Lion!

Lions in Austria learned of the scarcity of clean water in Tanzania and reached out to local Lions. Together with 18 Tanzanian Lions clubs and non-profit SEI SO FREI, they used the LCIF grant to expand access to water in several rural communities. These communities, which rely heavily on subsistence farming, struggle constantly to get the clean water they need for daily life.

This "Land for Life" project took about nine months and consisted of digging three wells and building six water tanks throughout the Mara region. While crews focused on construction, volunteers got to work training residents to use new agriculture and fish farming equipment. The project has eased the burden of water scarcity and increased farming output for nearly 5,000 people in the region, and its ripple effect will be felt for generations to come.

In Their own Words

It is easy to get lost in the numbers: US\$77,000 from LCIF, Lions in two countries, 5,000 beneficiaries, six tanks, three wells, etc. But the real test of a grant's success lies in its impact. That impact is perhaps best put into words by the people who feel it every day.

"Having a [well] in my village is a savior," says Matiku. "I used to go far away to fetch surface water in the dam where animals also drink." Thanks to the generosity of LCIF donors, Matiku and her family now have easy access to clean water. Now Matiku can focus on her education instead of her chores.

Mwacha Mwita, age 13, sees how much this LCIF grant project has improved the quality of life in her



Mwita is proud that her school's water tank provides clean water to everyone in her village

village. She is grateful that she does not have to carry water over long distances to water the trees, cook porridge or wash plates anymore. "I enjoy being in school because I can drink water from the tank," says Mwita.

Empower More of This Service

*For all the reasons you serve,
please give.*

Your gift of US\$100 to Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service — just US\$2 per week — can provide 14 people access to clean water! Young women like Valentina Matiku and Mwacha Mwita are counting on you. Visit lcif.org/donate to make a donation and ensure humanitarian efforts like this continue for generations to come. Or, fill out and return the pledge form included in this issue of LION Magazine.

CAMPAIGN | 100



LCIF • EMPOWERING SERVICESM

As the challenges facing our world expand, so must our capacity to combat them. To build a future promising even greater service impact, LCIF — your foundation — has introduced *Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service*.

The most ambitious fundraising effort in LCIF history, Campaign 100 will span three years and aims to raise US\$300 million. Campaign 100 will empower Lions to serve hundreds of millions of people by increasing our service impact, fighting diabetes, and expanding our global causes.

INCREASE SERVICE IMPACT

LCIF will expand Lions' commitment to our communities, with a focus on *Vision, Youth, Disaster Relief, and Humanitarian Causes*.

FIGHT DIABETES

Together, we'll respond to this global epidemic, helping prevent diabetes through multi-faceted, comprehensive health initiatives targeted to the

communities where we live and serve.

EXPAND OUR GLOBAL CAUSES

LCIF will identify areas of greatest need and opportunity; conduct pilot projects to develop expertise; and build sustainable, long-term programs related to *Hunger, Childhood Cancer, and the Environment*.

In 100 years, we've proven that Lions united in service can transform the lives of millions. With the help of every Lion in every club, LCIF is poised to make an even greater impact today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

Candidates for International Third Vice President Bios 2019-2020



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 96 countries, and has attended 31 consecutive international conventions, 84 area forums and more than 60 regional conferences. Recipient of several Lions awards, he was decorated with Lebanon's National Medal of Merit.



Fabrício Oliveira

Fabrício 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 12 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 four times by Constitutional Area III.



Pravin Chhajed

Pravin Chhajed of Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, served as an international director from 2001 to 2003. He is director of a textiles, travel, and event management company. Starting as a Leo in 1979, he has been part of the Ahmedabad Karnavati Lions Clubs since 1984 and has personally sponsored more than 500 members. He has served as project chairperson for

the Lions Karnavati Shantaben Vishnubhai Patel Eye Hospital, chairperson of the 2005 DGE seminar in Hong Kong, chairperson for two ISAAME Forums and is currently vice chairman of Laji Mehrotra Lions School. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and the recipient of the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the association's highest honor.



Patricia "Patti" Hill

Dr. Patti Hill of Edmonton, Canada, is a psychologist, business owner, 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 on Global Membership and Global Leadership Teams, as a Multi-National Coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II, Institute Faculty, Committee Member for USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, and presenter at Forums and International Conventions. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, Dr. Patti Hill also received the Inspiring Woman Award and remains active in service and in her professional organizations.



Somsakdi Lovisuth

Somsakdi Lovisuth of Bangkok, Thailand, served as an International Director from 2004 to 2006 and Board Appointee from 2014 to 2015. He is the President of a high-tech electrical engineering company and has been a member of the Bangkok Cosmopolitan Lions Club since 1986. He has served as a Coordinating Lion for Cambodia, DGE Seminar Chairperson, LCIF MD Coordinator and GMT/GLT Area Leader. As an LCIF Humanitarian Partner and SightFirst II Lead Gift Donor, he is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 100% District Governor Award, 14 Presidential Awards and the association's highest honor, the Ambassador of Good Will Award.

Madoc Lions, Madoc Kiwanis and Moira Lake Property Owners Working Together!

Over 300 anxious young egg hunters turned out for the 18th Annual Madoc Easter Egg Hunt. Big Lions Roar to all the volunteers, including **Katharine Morton**, **Steve English** and **Corinna Vesterfelt**.

Lots of great prizes were given out including four bicycles. Many thanks to all the businesses and individual donators. A great group of guys and gals from Madoc Kiwanis Club, Wendy Spence, Shane Gylytiuk, Brett Crawford and Art Lessard looked after the BBQ and also donated the use of the hall for the event.



The egg hunt was preceded by the Madoc Lions Club Annual Family Weekend Fishing Derby in February in partnership with the Moira Lake Property Owners Association - Great prizes for all and great fishing as well, take a close look at the picture!



Burford Lions

The Burford Lions Club has donated \$4000 to the County of Brant to purchase new streets lights along the Lions Way Walking Trail on Maple Ave. N. in Burford, Ontario.

The Lions Way Walking Trail extends from Broadview Dr. on Maple Ave. N to the Lions Art Cadman Park Lions Park where the beautiful Whiteman's Creek winds through the park and an abundance of trails can be enjoyed.

"The trail is used for walking and biking by

hundreds of people each year," said **Willie Maertens**, President of the Burford Lions Club. "Residents enjoy this trail and safe access to the park year round. The new streetlights help to illuminate the trail in the evening and early morning hours. The Burford Lions are committed to the health and wellbeing of people in our community."

The County of Brant has installed the new street lights.

"We are so grateful for the Burford Lions Club and



their generosity to the people who live in and visit the County," said Mayor David Bailey. "The Burford Lions Club have been incredible community leaders for many decades and are continuously working to advance the quality of life within our community."



Lions Quest Students Partner with Leos to Protect the Environment

by Jamie Konigsfeld



Ganesha is the Elephant God, the remover of obstacles, the patron saint of arts and sciences, and the deva of intellect and wisdom. As no Hindu event starts without first invoking Ganesha, Lions Quest students and Leos find great importance in finding a way to honor Ganesha, and in an environmentally friendly way.

Every year during August or September, the birth of Ganesha is celebrated with the Hindu festival, Ganesh Chaturthi. During this time, participants worship Ganesha idols for 10 days and then immerse them in the sea or in other pools of water. Many of the ingredients to create the Ganesha idols are pollutants, and when millions of these idols are immersed into local seawater, lakes, ponds, and wells, the water becomes polluted with toxins and kills marine life, year after year, causing great damage to the underwater ecosystem.

To change this practice, middle school students in Bangalore, India are creating environmentally friendly clay idols as part of a Lions Quest service project led by Leos. Lions Quest is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)'s social and emotional learning curriculum. The pre-kindergarten through grade 12 program promotes positive behavior; anti-bullying; drug, alcohol, and tobacco awareness; character education; and service learning all while building a connection to school. *Skills for Adolescence*, the Lions Quest curriculum for grades 6, 7, and 8, promotes positive student behavior that will lead to greater academic success. Students develop the knowledge to say no to negative peer pressure and make healthy choices that will follow them outside the classroom into their community.

One aspect of the program that Lions and Leos can especially connect with is service learning. At a nearby high school, there are Leos in each grade level who are part of the Someshwarapura Legacy Leo Club. Their primary role is to promote Lions Quest



Leo Yashas teaches the schoolchildren how to make environmentally friendly clay Ganesha idols

and to lead service projects with their classmates and other area schools. The Leos recognize the local water pollution as a big problem and want to make a difference.

Each year, a month in advance of the celebration, the Leos guide students through making their own environmentally friendly clay Ganesha idols. They take time to show the students how to carefully sculpt each part of the idol. They also visit other schools, colleges, and temples to spread the word and teach others. Each year, the Leos teach a new class of students how to make their own clay Ganesha that will not harm the earth, a skill the students can pass along to their family and friends.

When the students finish creating their Ganesha, they proudly take it home, worship it for 10 days, and then immerse it into a bucket full of water. Afterward, the bucket of water, which has no pollutants, only clay, is used to water plants. Year after year, the students learn taking care of the environment can be easy and they are proud to be contributing toward a healthier environment for their city and homes. By working to change a centuries-old tradition, the students' service is promoting a healthier environment for generations to come.

Visit LCIF.org/BE100 to learn how Campaign 100 will protect the environmental health of our global communities, generating long-term, positive ecological impact.



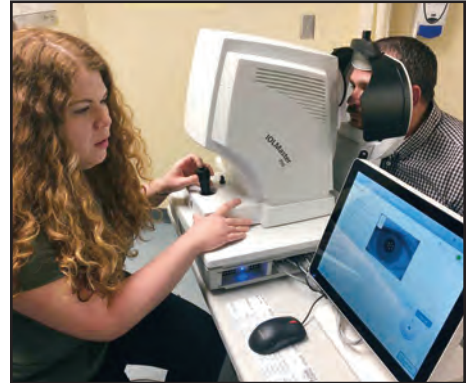
A traditional Ganesha idol is immersed into the sea



Two students present their versions of the environmentally friendly clay Ganesha idols

Amherstview, Gananoque Lions and Westport Lions

Hotel Dieu Hospital's Ophthalmology Department was able to purchase a state of the art measurement device thanks to donations from A-3 and A-4 District Lions Clubs. The new Lenstar Optical Measurement Device takes the measurements needed for the surgical procedure for cataract patients. The clubs involved donated over \$30,000.00 towards the purchase of the new equipment.



Hospital Employee testing a patient



L to R: Lion Bruce Johnson from Amherstview Lions Club, Susan Tunnicliffe, Zone Chair 30 South, Gananoque and President Paul Robertson from Gananoque

West Coast Lions

West Coast Lions Club of Grand Bend donated \$5,000 to the Ivey Eye Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, part of the Ophthalmology Department at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at Western University.



On hand for the cheque donation were: L-R Lisa Giroux, Development Officer at St. Joseph's, Lion Sherman Roth, Lion President Art Parkes, Dr. Michael Motalko of the Ivey Eye Institute, and Jordan Miller of Ophthalmology Finance, Schulich School

Introducing the New Voices Winners

The New Voices Initiative celebrates the extraordinary achievements of and contributions by women in Lions Clubs International.

The following four women have been chosen by IP Yngvadottir for their significant accomplishments in the areas of service, growth, leadership and marketing.

As you celebrate these four finalists, consider the important role that you played in supporting and empowering the women of Lions. Together, we are doing so much to make the world a better place. Together, our voices are inspiring people everywhere.

Leadership

Zeynep Kocasinan

CA4 Europa, District 118-R

Fethiye Mugla Lions Club

Muğla, Turkey

Member since 2007



“My focus is on a peaceful world — one in which women can lead and speak without fear. As Lions, we are leading the way to a better world for all.”

Over the years, Zeynep Kocasinan has given away countless copies of the autobiography of Helen Keller. “Discovering how a family and a teacher can open up the world to a child who cannot see

or hear amazed me,” she says. As she read more about those with disabilities, she realized that it wasn’t only them who struggled, but their mothers as well.

“The lives of the children were difficult, and that difficulty was obvious,” she says. “However, the mothers were under other, different pressures.”

Kocasinan has dedicated herself to empowering women in her community and raising environmental awareness across the region. Her focus on women’s issues has led her to organize several ambitious programs, including a district-wide symposium and an award-winning project called “Non-Violent Communication—Communication for Peace.”

Both projects emphasize ending violence against women and empowering them through legal rights education. Her vision has helped create many opportunities for women, especially for mothers of disabled children.

In all her work, Kocasinan is focused on non-violence and peace.

“I believe that supporting the environment is an act of peace. Is an act of kindness and compassion,” she says. “It creates a feeling of respect for life. It makes us aware that we cannot survive on our own. It makes us aware that we are a part of a bigger life. We are connected.”

Kocasinan embodies the innovative leadership and global perspective that helps Lions overcome obstacles every day. “To be able to support anyone, we need to come from a space of acceptance,” she says.

Her initiative as a Lion, in civic organizations, and professionally has made her a role model for many young men and women in her community and across her district. Her influence has empowered many women throughout Turkey to speak out on environmental causes. And her emphasis on peace and international relations demonstrates to the world what Lions can accomplish.

Her voice speaks guidance to those who share our vision.

Membership

Mi Yang

CA5 OSEAL, District 356-C

Jeonju Dong Haeng Lions Club

Jeonju, Korea

Member since 2007



“We should spread our work far and wide, not to show off, but to inspire more people to participate in service.”

There were days when Mi Yang would pull a blanket over her head so that no one would hear, and then cry and scream curses. She was watching her son, who had severe autism, close his mind against the world, locking himself away. She blamed the world for her situation.

“But one day I suddenly began to question myself,” she says. “What kind of help have I given to the world? What kind of effort

On the importance of gender balance

As an industrial engineer, Kocasinan is used to being the only woman in the room. “There were times people would address me as Mr. Zeynep just because they were not used to having a female boss or a female engineer and they did not know where to place me or how to address me.”

Having attended an all-girls high school and serving in an all-women Lions club, she is also familiar with what it’s like to be working only with women. “I have experienced the pluses and minuses of working and serving in gender unbalanced environments,” she says. “Men and women need to work together to create a sustainable safe space, not limited by the perspective of one gender only.”

have I made for other people and my neighbors? I felt ashamed of myself and realized I should help others first to change the world toward the direction where I wish to be.”

And so she joined Lions.

She focuses on projects that help seniors living alone and children without parents, recognizing that socially marginalized people struggle not just with poverty but with a lack of emotional support. “I would like to give them hope and love by letting them feel that they are not alone and we are with them,” she says.

Since becoming a Lion, Yang has been surprised to discover that despite her service to others, she is actually receiving more help than ever before.

“Lions has helped me become a person who contributes toward building a harmonious and balanced world for us to live in together. I have learned the joy of sharing. I have met good people. I have also gained self-respect because I felt I was needed by other people.”

On Role Models

Jayalath shares a memory of her mother, sitting on a hospital bed coordinating the purchase of medicine to donate to children with cancer while she herself was being prepped for surgery to remove a tumor. While not a Lion, Jayalath calls her mother “one hell of a contributor,” and a very important role model to her growing up.

“A good role model,” says Jayalath “is someone who walks the talk, inspires and sets the standards.”

Her spirit and encouragement have inspired many to begin their own service journey with Lions. Within four months of chartering a club, she grew its membership from 84 charter members to 200 Lions, becoming the largest club in her district. With so many contributing to the good of their community, they have made an incredible impact on their neighbors' lives and continue to inspire others to action.

Her voice speaks comfort to those who need hope.

Marketing

Shyana Jayalath

CA6 ISAAME, District 306-A1
Colombo Host Lions Club
Ratmalana, Sri Lanka
Member since 2005



"I am inspired by the strength, resilience and generosity of the human spirit!"

Shyana Jayalath feels strongly that no one should be in danger of cyber exploitation, and those disproportionately affected are women and girls.

She created the #StopShaming initiative to create awareness about the controversial issue of cyber exploitation and violence against young women.

"The act of blaming a woman for any sort of harassment is not limited to Sri Lanka," says Jayalath. "It is a constant thorn in my side that women who are victims of any form of violence or

harassment are shamed."

The innovative campaign proved to be so successful in her community that it was included in the district plan for the upcoming year. Building on the success of this campaign, Jayalath is planning a broader effort to highlight violence against women. Implementing social media, workshops, and the media, she is encouraging her club to speak out on behalf of those without a voice.

"Service is so much more than we have grown up with," she says. "It's no longer only charity. Service encompasses any action we do to help another person and addresses issues which are often swept under the carpet."

Jayalath champions the vigilant advocacy and

adaptability of Lions defending their communities from injustice.

Her voice speaks for those who cannot.

Service

Maria José Rodrigues Pinto

CA3 FOLAC, District LA-3
Maceio Panalto da Jacutinga Lions Club
Maceió, Brazil
Member since 2011



"My journey in Lions has been full of wonderful experiences and successes, but mostly of dreams come true."

Maria José Rodrigues Pinto leads a group at her Parish every other month called "Coffee for Friends." The trust she builds with them ensures they will listen to when she most needs them to. "I want to promote their health and well-being," she says.

A diabetic herself, Pinto knows the importance of self-care in managing the condition. And she's seen first-hand how little some people in her country know about how to care for themselves.

Recognizing the need for diabetes education, Pinto wrote a book titled, *Alimente-se Bem para Viver Bem (Eat Well to Live Well)*, which illustrates the benefits of healthy lifestyles, especially for those living with diabetes.

Her enthusiasm has inspired many around her to action. Her club and her church group are quick to mobilize and serve. Pinto has launched several educational programs and more than 200 participants have already signed up for an initiative to prevent the accidental administering of glucose serum to diabetics.

Pinto envisions chartering a specialty club for diabetics and building an educational and resource center that will serve as the standard of service within her district.

Her voice speaks for those who need our help.

Hear from New Voices leaders around the world about why we need these (and other) great women in Lions weserve.org/newvoices!

LCIF LCI Forward Update

There's always room for a new goal. There are no small acts of service. But there are always new ways to think big about service.

Thinking Outside Your Town

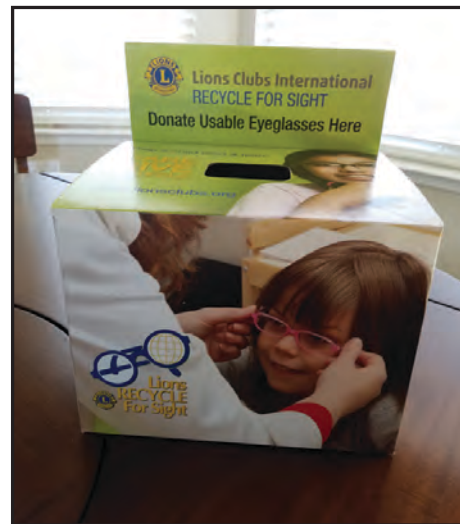
In 2004, the **Rocklin Lions** in California decided they needed to step up their efforts in collecting eye glasses. Until then they had been happy if they collected 35 in a year.

But new club president **Max Best** decided they could do better. In addition to implementing an expanded drop-box program in their town, they also began contacting local lost and found departments for unclaimed glasses. After some success with that, they asked themselves, "Why limit ourselves to just our town?"

They began contacting the lost and found departments in every casino, hotel chain, police department, and college they could find across the country. They went from collecting 35 glasses per year to collecting between 30,000 and 40,000 per year, with about 25 percent of those collected locally and the remainder gathered from across the U.S.

Buoyed by the success of their new strategies, the club set a goal of collecting half a million eyeglasses. By early 2019, they had collected 504,548.

While this may not be the most any club has collected, this is an example of one club deciding that "good" was actually not good enough. They challenged themselves to think creatively to find new sources for their program, enhancing their service impact.



Share Your Story

Has your club found innovative ways to improve membership value and increase membership, reshaped public opinion and visibility, or enhanced their service impact in a notable way? Tell us at magazine@lionmagazine.org.

A High Note

Sometimes Saving One Life Can Help Change Your Own

by Jay Copp



Jayden endured treatment for neuroblastoma, a rare cancer affecting young children, in three different countries before being cleared to go home

His father calls him “cheeky and cheerful.” Jayden, 3, also is—in the best sense possible—a mimic of sorts. Often confined to a hospital bed while he battles cancer, he’s accustomed to being helped. But he’s learned to do unto others as has been done for him. He’s not afraid to reach out to others in affection.

When his mother reads to him, he energetically claps to show his appreciation. When his illness gets the best of her and her spirits sag, he gently asks, “What’s wrong, mummy?” He consoles her, “Don’t worry.”

Lots of Lions in four nations have worried about Jayden and lent their support since his parents learned he suffered from neuroblastoma, a rare, potentially fatal disease. He’s been treated in his native Malaysia and then Singapore and, lastly, Spain. If funds can be raised, his parents hope the next stage of treatment will take place in New York, where a vital vaccine is available.

His doctors in Malaysia, unable to provide the necessary sophisticated medical procedures, had almost given up hope after his initial treatments. Jayden’s parents were at a low point, believing they were out of options. What subsequently happened—his odyssey to other nations to receive advanced care—is testament to the network that exists among Lions, as well as their determination to serve and step forward to save the life of a toddler.

“Battling cancer is a marathon. Every new symptom is a reason for sleepless nights,” says his father, Marcus Ban, who works in the engineering

industry. “Jayden currently is living a cheerful life. We’re looking forward to returning home on a high note.”

Lions who have visited with Jayden are struck by his upbeat demeanor, despite the often grueling and painful treatments. “He’s been a fighter since he came into the world. For us, Jayden is a superhero,” says Eduardo Zea of the Barcelona Gaudi Lions Club.

Neuroblastoma commonly occurs in children under 2. Immature cells called neuroblasts do not grow into functioning nerve cells. Instead, for reasons not understood, they become cancer cells. Only 700 cases are diagnosed each year in the United States. When found and treated early on, chances for recovery are good in the United States. But outcomes are far less positive in developing nations.

After he and his wife began to despair of securing adequate care, Ban happened to learn about a child with a rare disease who was helped by the Kuala Lumpur Lions Club and other Lions in Malaysia. The story was told in the LION Magazine (September 2018) and regular updates were being given on Facebook and WhatsApp.

“Marcus rang me up,” recalls Stella Foo of the Kuala Lumpur City Lions Club. Kuala Lumpur is the capital of Malaysia with 1.6 million people. “Maybe we can’t help everyone survive, but we could at least save this one life. It meant the whole world to his parents and family.”

Like the other child helped by Malaysian Lions, Jayden was flown to Singapore, where he received surgery and chemotherapy. Unfortunately, the microscopic cancer cells, tiny but ferociously malignant and resilient, often prove to be resistant to chemotherapy. So off Jayden went to Barcelona for eight months or so of immunotherapy.

Lions from the various nations came together to help Jayden thanks to the Global Action Team (GAT), a worldwide network of Lion leaders that provide lions and community leaders with access to key programs and tools. GAT promotes membership, leadership and service.

Past Council Chair Patrick Chew of Malaysia, a GAT Area Leader, contacted GAT staff at LCI about Jayden’s plight. A meeting was arranged at the LCI convention in Las Vegas with Past Council Chair Patrick, Past District Governor Ken Chew, a GAT Area Leader from New York, and Portia Fagel of the Yonkers Millennium Lions Club in New York.

“This is a great example of how the GAT activated the global Lion-to-Lion network,” says Global Action Team Chairperson, Past International President Kajit Habanananda. “Lions were able to reach across borders in service.”

Helping Jayden was a no-brainer for another reason: pediatric cancer is one of Lions’ global causes.

Lions have assisted Jayden in numerous ways. Kuala Lumpur Lions donated from their own pocket, appealed for funds on social media, and persuaded other clubs in Malaysia to help. The Singapore Tanah Merah Lions Club raised funds at its multiple district convention. The Yonkers Millennium Lions Club in New York raised money and acted as a liaison between the family and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. The GAT team at LCI in Oak Brook sent Christmas presents to Barcelona for Jayden.

Lions in Barcelona helped make Jayden and his parents feel at home in their city. They visited the hospital, donated 700 diapers (diarrhea is a nasty side effect of the treatment), presented him with a nifty bathrobe, and even provided the family with a transit card for local transportation. They threw Jayden a birthday party when he turned three and gave him a fire truck and a stuffed lion.

Lions have donated nearly 25 percent of the US\$340,000 in medical expenses incurred so far for Jayden’s treatment.

“We are forever grateful and indebted to Lions,” says Ban. “Their kindness, generosity, and love transcend borders and ethnicity. Lions have helped us grow from despair to hope.”

Ban is particularly grateful to Foo for her tireless service on behalf of Jayden. She’s the “big bang” at the center of Lions’ efforts, he says.

The generosity of Lions has inspired Ban to reach



Jayden plays doctor—something he’s very familiar with after a battle with neuroblastoma that began when he was just two years old

out to other families in similar straits. He and his wife, Mooi Mooi, coordinate a WhatsApp chat room for other families in Spain grappling with neuroblastoma. Five families currently are leaning on Ban and Mooi for advice. "They're strangers here. Life can be really tough. They need help in looking for accommodations, translation services, visas, even groceries," he says.

Jayden and his family were expected to return home to Malaysia in April. But to prevent a relapse they'd like Jayden to receive a vaccine treatment, an extension to the immunotherapy, which may become available in Barcelona within a year but is currently offered in New York. Ban is willing to uproot his

family to ensure his son stays healthy: he says he is considering relocating to the States and finding a new job here.

Jayden's care is lifesaving. For involved Lions, it's been life-changing. "I feel good to be someone's light when they are in darkness," says Foo, who has two young children. "I'm a happier soul after seeing what I've done. I feel that we all need help at a certain point in our lives. I know how to love my own family better than before because I know that life is so fragile."

Jayden and his parents celebrate after getting the green light to go home from his doctor



Young Lions and Leos Retreat - West London Lions

After their charter it did not take the West London Lions long to get involved in long range thinking and planning about encouraging young people of today to become Young Lions and Leos. On the heels of the new Lions Charter this year a concept was put forward by Lion **Kyle Boutillier**, our International Leo Lion Board Liaison who raised his concern that the demographic of Lions Clubs across Canada are skewed and that there is a distinct lack of representation of young Lions. He additionally brought up the issues with Leos continuing their Lionism involvement.

As Service Chair of the newly formed West London Lions Club, Kyle and club president **Nikhil Patil** set forward a plan to create an event that would tackle both of these issues. With the help of the other members of the West London Lions Club and Lion mentors from all over, the idea to start a Canadian Young Lions Retreat, the first of its kind in the Lions world, was conceived. The target audience are Leos and Young Lions in the 16-30 age bracket.

A-15 1st VDG **George Corrin** and his wife Lion **Barb** are on a mission to bring and keep younger members into our organization and what Kyle Boutillier had in mind hit the mark with George. The Retreat in Woodstock was an project organized by the newly chartered Lions Club. It was obvious that Lions George and Barb would make a solid support structure for this event, they know how Lions work and greatly assisted the London West Lions to pull it together.

This event helped to unite young Lions and Leos from all across Canada, by offering personal development and empowering them to return to their communities to start new Lions Clubs, increase young Lion representation in our existing clubs, successfully assist in the Leo to Lion transition, and ultimately grow our membership.

The event took place in Woodstock, Ontario on March 22/23/24 and the results went over the top from what was expected. From the comments of Lions that were in attendance as mentors it was an obvious success, truly a labour of love. A highlight for all was the rotating round table dinner chats with long serving Lions member professionals. The discussions focused on the Young Lion or Leo career choices. The underlying message was that you can maintain a long serving connection with a local Lions club and have a successful career as witnessed by the list of well qualified mentors. **Dr. Cary Green** Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Leo Advisory Board was one of a fine list of speakers on hand.

They included: PDG **Dr. Thom Herman** - Neuro Sciences, PDG **Dr. Diane Smith** - Veterinarian & Lecturer, University of Guelph, PRC. **Dr James Keron** - Archeologist, PCS. **Dennis Loughheed** - Educator and Head of Science Department, **Dr. Edwige De Souza** - Infection Control Practitioner, Hamilton Health Science, VDG2 Elect **Harvey Wood** - Commerce and Financial Planning Specialist, **Thamesford Lion Andrew**

McClure - Epidemiology & Biostatistics. International Director from MD'A' **Tom Gordon** and his wife, Lion **Jillian**, PCC **Bradd Anderson** - District A2- Leo Advisor, PDG - GMT **Chris Lewis** - District A12, **Rick Nemmet** - Leo Advisor and President Pt. Stanley Lions.

There were sixty -two Young Lions and Leos in attendance from near and afar, the furthest being from Vancouver. Aside from their main objective, a service project was completed - that being the entire group of young Leos/Lions Canadian retreat attendees made blankets using the **Ingersoll Lions** den, The blankets were for children with cancer at the Ronald MacDonald house in London, Ontario. Beside the fact the attendees were very enthusiastic in respect to their main purpose, it was not hard to tell how much they enjoyed this aspect.

Clubs involved were: A-1 **West London, Port Stanley and District** and **Lakeshore Leos** from Belle River Ontario, A-2 **St David's and District**, A-15 **Kitchener Waterloo Leos** and **Vancouver Lions**. Transportation was provided by Lions members from A15 **Sweaburg, Thamesford, Ingersoll, Copetown** and from A-12 **Barrie** Lions.

From all accounts the Retreat was a huge success and plans are in the works for next year!

A big **LIONS ROAR** to the event organizers, the mentors, the support group and especially the Young Lions and Leos for their efforts.



Attendees and blankets



*L-R : Lion Nikhil Patil,
Lion Barb Corrin,
VDG 2 - Lion George Corrin,
Lion Kyle Boutillier*

Region 17 Lions

When we work together, we can achieve anything. No truer words have been spoken in relation to the Lions Clubs of Region 17. Twenty-five years ago the Lions came together to raise money to fund the operation of the community's first CT scanner through the Terry McKerrow Fund, named after a hardworking Lion who had passed away. In honour of his friend and fellow member, Lion **Reg Laroche** worked hard to secure the support of every club in Region 17 and carried on the fundraising efforts of his late friend.



Lion Glenda Chappelle

Owing to the hardworking Lions of this region, the Fund was able to donate \$1,000,000.00 to the new CT Scanner in 2017. They did not stop there, the continuing and ongoing support of the Lions Clubs of Region 17 is still supporting the fund in raising money for a second CT scanner and maintenance of the CT suites.

In October of 2018, the Fund Board honoured the Lions by naming the CT suites at the North Bay Health Centre after the Lions Clubs of Region 17 and the late Lion Reg Laroche, who passed on in 2002. Congratulations to Region 17 Lions for this honour and for all of the hard work you do every day to support your community.



L to R: Lions Blake Chappelle, Treasurer, Deborah Armstrong, Nora McKerrow (wife of Terry McKerrow), Glenda Chappelle, Ellen Thibeault, President Sharon Fleguel and Marlene Link, in front is Lion Wendy Porter Greason, Secretary

District A-2 Lions

Last September, under the leadership of **Jarvis Lions** member **Rick Fess**, District A-2 set a course to screen all Senior Kindergarten students within the Niagara Region. Under a partnership between the A-2 Lions and the Niagara Region Public Health Unit a process was established for Lions members and community volunteers to attend each of the Niagara Regions 150 schools to complete the 3 part Vision Screening assessment. Niagara Region Health provides the screening training and certification, the tools and extensive administration.

Lions: we provide that 'We Serve' spirit with hands-on volunteer service.



L to R: Lions Deb Chagnon, Allen Snider, Bradd Anderson, Janet Guy, Volunteer David Hooker, Merriton Lion Keith Brown, (Front Row) Susan Snider and Volunteer Liz Hooker

Argyle Lions

The Argyle Lions Club are always there to help out their small community. They held a seniors appreciation Easter dinner April 11th with a fantastic turnout of over 90 seniors. The dinner was held at the Argyle Community Centre in Arnstein and they thank their Community and of course all the volunteers who came out to support the event and for the donation of the door prizes. It is events like this that make District A5 proud and strong. For such a great community support that made this event so successful we give a big Lion's ROAR!!!



The community members enjoying the good food and people



Lions Paul Dobbs, Julia Moore and Lana Reading and volunteers Strowan Robertson, Mary Reading and George are hard at work in the kitchen.

Calabogie Lions Lions supporting Lions

A terrible tornado landed in Calabogie on September 21st, 2018. Twenty-four families experienced damage to their homes. The Calabogie Lions quickly partnered with a community fundraising group and through a number of initiatives \$34,000.00 was raised in a span of six weeks - \$6,000.00 of which was donated by the Calabogie Lions Club. These funds were distributed to 17 families. Seven families kindly rejected financial assistance. The funding was fully exhausted by December 31st, 2018. As we approached the exhaustion of these funds, we still had five families in interim accommodations who were continuing to need financial help. We sought assistance from our Sister-Clubs in A4 - Region 22 and from MDA - A4 District Governor's Emergency Response Team.

Within a few weeks, five Clubs from Region 22 (**Beachburg, Douglas, Pembroke-Petawawa, Arnprior and Killaloe**) sent us a total of \$2,500.00; six Clubs from Region 30 (**Kemptville, Westport, Merrickville, Elgin, Gananoque, Seeley's Bay**) sent us a total of \$5,650.00; and, four Clubs from Region 41 (**Metcalfe District, Iroquoi, North Dundas Leos, Russel**) sent us a total of \$3,450.00. These funds are currently being used to provide the five families in interim accommodation with a monthly support payment for a subsequent five months.



Charlton Englehart and Hudson Lions

Recently, the Charlton Englehart Lions and the Hudson Lions were pleased to have the CNIB Eye Van staff join them for their meeting. Prior to their meeting the staff gave the members the opportunity to have a look inside of the van showing them the impressive things they can do with it. Operated by CNIB, the Medical Mobile Care Unit, known as the Eye Van, is a fully equipped, medical mobile eye-care clinic on wheels that travels more than 6,000 kilometres annually, from spring till fall, to provide service in Northern Ontario. With a commitment from more than 25 ophthalmologists, the CNIB Eye Van serves 4,500 patients.



The Charlton Englehart Lions and the Hudson Club proudly support this service and presented the team with two cheques totaling \$3,000. We thank the CNIB and their crew making a stop at the Club and for delivering such a vital service to many communities.



Cheque presentation from left to right are Dr. Anne Drysdale (ophthalmologist), Alysa Elik (RPN/OPA), Layla Sykes (RPN/OPA), Lion President Rhonda McCallum, Jim Ainsworth (Program Assistant)

The Hudson Club recently visited the Charlton - Englehart Lions for one of their meetings, it was a great night to celebrate their joint ventures.



L to R: Charlton Englehart President Lion Rhonda McCallum, Hudson Lions Bill, Alva, Bev, Vic and Marilyn

Madoc Lions - Here we grow again

At a recent meeting, Zone Chairman Don Radnor inducted four new members into the club: Lions **Ann Hill, Rosemary Ramsey, Jenn Generaux** and **Teri Beaulieu**.

Also welcomed with open arms were four junior Lions who were accompanied by their parents: Junior Lions **Alex, Hunter, Liam** and **Xander**. Plans are in the works for a Leo Club in the 2019-2020 Lions year.

Lions members from the Tweed and Havelock clubs came for a visit.

The guest speaker for the evening was retired NHL player Shawn Antoski. He was instrumental in forming a group called "Fear Nothing" in 2015. After struggling with mental health issues, Shawn became a

strong and passionate advocate wanting to help others. As a result, he spearheaded a group in Belleville led by Howie Marshall. Fear Nothing meets on a weekly basis where everyone is welcome. There is no cost, no commitment, no expectations and no judgment, just people helping people with kindness, understanding and support. Members are individuals from all walks of life who struggle or who have struggled with mental health issues. Sharing, understanding and support are key to the healing process. Together we are better, and kindness really does matter.



Shawn Antoski



Lindsay East and District Lions

Lindsay East and District Lions did a road cleanup on a nearby highway that has been adopted by the club. The crew of Lions collected over 130 kg of garbage and recycle materials from the roadside. The club is gearing up for another cleanup of the same busy area during our District Governor's Service Week in October.



Madoc Lions Giving Back!

Madoc Lions held their annual appreciation dinner to recognize their many supporters and sponsors in their fund-raising initiatives. In a small way it is a method of thanking them for their continued support. They were treated to a roast beef dinner followed by a slide presentation to illustrate how they impact our community in such a positive way. The special guests all received appreciation certificates from the Lions, a Little Club with a Big Heart.



Members Helping Members and the Community

This District A-1/ Zone 3 Project involved the Lions Clubs of **Belmont, Dutton and District, Highgate and District, Port Stanley, Rodney and St. Thomas.**

Port Stanley Lion President **Bob Nemett** (R) and Lion **Larry Larmour** (L), are shown presenting a substantial donation from the proceeds of the Dist. A-1/Zone 3, Zone project to Lori Ann Horley, Manager of Annual Giving, London Health Services Centre Foundation. The donation from the six clubs in the Zone will be earmarked for Research Seed Funding at LHSC. Lion Larry, has been undergoing treatment at the hospital, for Multiple Myeloma and is pleased that the Zone nominated the Cancer Treatment Program as a recipient of the funds.



Trout Creek Lions

The Junior All-Star Cheer Team from Apollo Gymnastics in North Bay received a donation from the Trout Creek Lions Club to help offset expenses to travel to an international competition. The competition, called “The Summit” is being held in Orlando Florida and the North Bay team has been awarded a bid to compete.

The Junior Team known as “Blackout” consists of 18 athletes ranging in age from 8-16 years. Two of these competitors are from the town of Powassan. They are Payton Hargrave and Avery Beachy who were invited to the club to give a cheer demonstration and were presented with a cheque to help cover some of their travel expenses. The Trout Creek Lions wish them the best of luck and will be rooting for them from home!

Payton Hargrave,
Trout Creek
President
Betty Jo Gibson
and **Avery Beachy**



KW Leos

A15 District Governor **Kevin Banfield** has learned the Lions Club of Kitchener’s, KW Leo Club Charter President **Duru Uluk** has been appointed to serve as a member of the Leo Club Program Advisory Panel for Constitutional Area II. Leo Duru will serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021. Apparently she is one of two Canadian Leaders to be appointed to the panel.

As a member of this international level panel, Leo Duru will play a critical role in the growth and development of the Leo Club Program throughout all seven constitutional areas, and so will represent Leos and Lions from our constitutional area as our ambassador for the Leo Club Program. Congratulations Duru, we know you will represent

our district well and will bring back some great ideas to help strengthen our youth programs.



Photo from A15 Convention Leo Duru receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from LCI President Gudrun Yngvadottir. L to R - Young Miss Uluk, Lions Art Woods, PID, DG Kevin Banfield, Leo Duru Uluk, PID Garnet Davis

Weston Lions



Arena Celebrates Seventy Seasons

In November of 1949, the Weston Lions Club celebrated the grand opening of their new community service project, Weston Arena. The Lions club worked for many years to raise funds and many club members provided physical labour and expertise in the construction of the facility.

Ontario Premier Leslie Frost cut the ribbon to open the arena, which has been home to the Weston Dukes, Weston Dodgers, Weston Minor Hockey League, the revival of the Dixie Bee Hives Jr Hockey team, Weston Figure Skating Club and many other teams and groups over the past seven decades.

The Weston Lions continue to operate Weston Lions Arena as their major community service project. Lions and friends volunteer to run the arena Snack Bar, home of our world-famous Arena Fries, with all booth profits donated back into the community. We train local students in customer service and snack bar operation, providing them with their volunteer community service hours and work experience.

The Weston Lions Club are proud of their over 75 years of service to the community of Weston and delighted to celebrate Weston Lions Arena’s 70th season.

Take Us Out to the Ball Game! Weston Lions Serve Up Blue Jay Giveaways for 42 Seasons

On March 28, the Weston Lions Club attended the

Toronto Blue Jays 2019 season Home Opener to assist with the Jays fan appreciation t-shirt giveaway to begin our 42nd season partnering with the ball club in this unique volunteer activity. Weston began working with the Jays at the old Exhibition Stadium and moved with them to Sky Dome, now the Rogers Centre.

Weston Lions members, friends of Lions, and community volunteers travel to the stadium by chartered bus and greet Jays fans at the entry gates with t-shirts, hats, umbrellas, baseballs and those infamous Bobbleheads. Over the years, we have worked with hundreds of great volunteers. We offer our many high school students countless community service hours, as well as valuable employment experience in customer service and promotions.



Funds raised through our work with the Toronto Blue Jays allows the Weston Lions Club to support many community and international charities, including our local food bank, youth and senior centres, Weston area schools and hospitals, the training of several service dogs through Lions Foundation of Canada and disaster relief activities through LCIF.

The Weston Lions are excited about the new Blue Jays baseball season and thrilled to be back working with the ball club’s fan experience crew.

Let’s Go Blue Jays!



**Lions Clubs International
District A-15
News Bulletin
Spring 2019, Supplement**



**“A NIGHT
AT THE
OSCARs”**



**“LIONS,
THE LAST
HUNDRED
YEARS”**

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We Serve

Editors Note: This excellent look back is to be published in a future Lion Magazine edition and circulated to the Lions of A15 even sooner. It should have been in the last LION Magazine but owing to a “senior moment” on behalf of the Editor it was missed. The district can be proud of the efforts of the Lions involved in this excellent production.

“LIONS, THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS”



“A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS”



On being asked to put together an Orientation Ceremony for Lions in A15, Past District Governor Lion Denis Vinette took a long hard look at the remarkable history of Lions Clubs International. He thought about the new Lions coming in, as well as the Lions who have been active for 5 to 10 years. “What was missing in their knowledge of Lions?” he thought. And then he realized that many Lions were missing an integral part of Lions history, its beginning. Pride begins in the roots.

And so the evening began with Linda Vinette, portraying Melvin Jones’ Great Grand-daughter sitting, wrapped in her shawl, on a rocking chair, reminiscing as she thumbed through a photo album. She skillfully led us from her



Great Grandfather’s initial vision, and traveled up the winding road to present day. Each performer dressed appropriately, and participating in their individual roles along the way; complete with a surprise appearance of Helen Keller, who delivered an inspiring rendition of her 1925 speech to the Lions.



The History of the organization was followed by an overview of the Association’s architecture, and finished off with a rowdy Region Chair cheering competition. Next came the Service segment with a walkabout-style interview with the various Committee Chairs. An added bonus was Lion Paul and Diane’s recitation of their poem which was previously posted in the LION magazine.



The evening concluded with DG Kevin’s Rededication Service for new, and experienced Lions, who listened to a special live video message created for the evening by 3rd Vice President Brian Sheehan, USA.





“LIONS, THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS”

“A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS”



We were fortunate to have in attendance CTV’s Roving Reporter, Janet Dawson Brock, who summed up the evening as follows:



On Thursday, January 24th the red carpet was rolled out to celebrate OSCAR NIGHT in the big metropolis of St Agatha. This CTV reporter interviewed all of the actors on this, their special night. A welcoming committee greeted everyone along with Master of Ceremonies, Denis Vinette, the movie that was up for most of the nominations of 2019 was:

“*Lions, the Last Hundred Years*”

Oscar for Best Actress went to Linda Vinette for her role as Melvin Jones' Great Grand-Daughter



Best Supporting Actress - Karen McNeight for her Role as Helen Keller

Best Male Actor - Doug Smith for his role of Melvin Jones.



Best Costume Design, as a 1920's couple - Diane Smith and Paul Shutsa.

“LIONS, THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS”



“A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS”



Oscar for Best Screenwriter, and Director - Denis Vinette



Most Passionate Performance - Charlene Dwyer



Best Comedic Actor - Cecilia Fulker



Best Cinematography - Garry Ransom



Best Video - Jim Keron



Best Display - Peace Poster - Essay Committee

Best Consumers at the Oscars - St Jacobs Lions.



Most Innovative Rededication Ceremony- Kevin Banfield.



The final award, the Humanitarian Award, was presented to Karen McNeight for her role as Helen Keller, and her effort to learn sign language. Kudos to Denis Vinette who, with the assistance of Linda, put together an informative, noteworthy, and engaging presentation. On the red carpet at the end of the evening, this CTV Reporter suggests that this Box Office hit goes to their sister station in St Catherines in May. If this reporter missed anyone, we humbly apologize.

**Signing Off, CTV Roving Reporter, Janet Dawson Brock
Intro by Denis Vinette & Karen McNeight**

District A1 “The Lions Keep Life-Changing Eye Surgeries in London”

The District A1 Lions Sight Conservation Foundation “Eyes Right” was established in 1991 as a means for the Lions Clubs of District A1 to pool their resources with the goal of eradicating preventable blindness. The District A1 Lions are very proud of their Foundation. Since 1991, most District A1 Lions, Lioness and LEO Clubs have made yearly donations to the Foundation from their fundraising activities. In turn, as money accumulates, the “Eyes Right” Foundation donates eye surgery equipment to hospitals within the boundaries of District A1.

Our most recent project was to purchase a paediatric surgical vitrectomy machine for London Children’s Hospital at cost of \$140,000. The city of London is located in District A1, but the hospital’s catchment area includes four of the Lion Districts of MDA: A1, A9, A15, and part of A2. As a regional referral centre, Children’s Hospital provides specialized paediatric inpatient and outpatient services to children in

Southwestern Ontario from birth through to age 18. In 2017, 31,700 patients came to Children’s Hospital. It serves children in London, Southwestern and Western Ontario and parts of Northern Ontario, serving a population of 1.5 million, with over 400,000 children.

A vitrectomy machine is used primarily to provide sight saving surgeries on infants and children born with congenital cataracts. The hospital’s existing machine was 20 years old, which made it the oldest in Canada still in use. It was declared obsolete by the manufacturer, which means that disposables or parts are no longer available. In April 2018, the Eyes Right Board of Directors voted to approve the proposal by the **Belmont Lions Club** and the **Sarnia Lions Club** to purchase a Constellation Vision System vitrectomy machine for London Children’s Hospital.

In consideration of the high cost of the equipment, Eyes Right worked with District A1, PCC **John Johnston (Belmont)** and PDG **Don McKessock (Sarnia)** to

prepare a proposal to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) for a matching grant. The LCIF Board of Trustees approved our request in January 2019, resulting in great celebration by those involved in the application process! We were thrilled to welcome Lions International President Gudrun Yngvadottir and International Director Tom Gordon, as well as their spouses, to Children’s Hospital on March 6, 2019 for the presentation of two \$70,000 cheques, from LCIF and from *Eyes Right*.

On behalf of London Children’s Hospital, District A1 Lions and the District A1 Lions Sight Conservation Foundation, we express our profound gratitude toward LCIF for the support of this project, and to all of the Lions Clubs that financially support the work of LCIF.

Submitted by Lion Dr. Gail Tanner, Chair, District A1 Lions Sight Conservation Foundation

Jack’s Story:

When you think of cataracts, you generally think of the older population. But Erin and Greg learned otherwise when they discovered their three-day-old baby, Jack, had cataracts so thick he could not see.

Dr. Inas Makar, Jack’s ophthalmologist at Children’s Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre, gave the new parents hope and confidence. “She had a plan and was optimistic about his outcome. She let us know Jack would need surgery in one eye, then a week later in the other to remove the cataracts.” “Our son had sight again,” recalls Erin.

At one year of age, they discovered Jack’s cataracts were caused by a genetic condition, Lowe syndrome. In addition to cataracts, it causes delayed development, weak muscle tone and an increased risk of glaucoma. Jack was diagnosed with glaucoma when he was five. Now nine, Jack continues to see Dr. Makar at Children’s Hospital every six months.

It was a vitrectomy machine that saved Jack’s vision. A piece of equipment that has become

outdated, as it is over 20 years old, and in desperate need of replacement. Thankfully, the Lions Eyes Right Foundation and the Lions Clubs International Foundation made a generous donation of \$140,000 to purchase a brand new vitrectomy machine. Because of this gift, the team at Children’s can continue to perform cataract surgeries and vitrectomies, keeping them as close to home as possible.

“With everything we’ve been through, I’m extremely grateful that my son has access to exceptional eye care in London. I can’t imagine if we had had to travel to Toronto for Jack’s eye surgeries and then continue to return to the busy city for postoperative care. I believe it would have placed a lot of added stress on our family,” expresses Erin.

Thank you Lions Eyes Right Foundation and the Lions Clubs International Foundation for your incredible generosity. You are helping to keep kids close to home while preserving their eyesight so that they can fully see

all that their futures have to offer!



Jack



The vitrectomy machine: L-R PCC John Johnston, A1 DG Mary Mahovich, IP Gudren, Dr Inas Makar, paediatric ophthalmologist, Lion Dr Gail Tanner



L-R (front) PCC John Johnston, ID Tom Gordon, Jack, IP Gudren Yngvadottir, Lion Dr Gail Tanner, Eyes Right Chair, Scott Fortnum, Children’s Health Foundation, The remaining Lions are the Board of Directors of Eyes Right: (second row) PDG Joe Elliott, Lioness Sherry Wismer, PDG Jacqui Flood, PDG Don McKessock, (top row) ZC Larry Badder, Past Chair Lion Harry Wismer, PDG Mark Mahovich



Essay

Mikayla Ansley update

As mentioned subsequent to Mikayla's unforgettable trip to New York the **Blyth Lions** held a special day in her honour to further commemorate her accomplishments, the turnout as expected was very good with 175 guests on hand and several presentations were made. The event took place Sunday April 14th at the Blyth Memorial Hall, those in attendance were asked to make a food bank donation and the response was excellent.



Blyth Lions Club
invites you to come and celebrate
Worldwide Peace Essay Champion
Mikayla Ansley

Blyth Memorial Hall
Sunday, April 14
3:00-5:00 p.m.
Presentation at 3:45 p.m.

Bring a food bank item
to show
"Kindness Matters"



IP Gudrun Yngvadottir and John Stewart make presentations to Mikayla



Mikayla reading her essay to 175 attendees at Mikayla Ansley Day



Janet Dawson Brock, MD A Essay/Peace Poster Chair, paying tribute to Mikayla

Exeter Firefighters' Association and Exeter Lions

The Exeter Firefighters' Association and the Exeter Lions Club, along with the support of community members, have helped to make the community safer and more active with a donation of \$7,000 to the Jones Bridge Project for the new pedestrian bridge on the South Huron Trail.

The money was raised at the Lions vs. Firefighters

Charity Concert and Hockey Game on in March at Exeter Arena. Presenting the ceremonial cheque, from left to right in photo, are: **B. J. Theophilopoulos**, Lions Club member; Bryan Denomme, firefighter; and Jeff Musser, District Fire Chief. Accepting the cheque are Dave Frayne, Chair of the Pedestrian Bridge Community Working Group and Chair of Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation; and Kate Monk, Manager of Stewardship, Land and Education at Ausable Bayfield Conservation.



The generous donation on behalf of the firefighters, the Lions, and the community, will help the Jones Bridge fundraising campaign get closer to reaching its capital budget target.

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Jones Bridge took place in late April.

Minnow Lake Lions

Lion **Mary Ann Wierzbicki** of the Minnow Lake Lions Club celebrated her 94th birthday recently. Mary Ann began as a Lioness in 1984 and became a Lion in 2007. She is still a very active member attending meetings, visitations and selling tickets. In fact in 2017-18 she received a perfect attendance pin as well as the Lions Appreciation Award for all of her hard work and service. Our meetings are made brighter by her smile which lights up the room. From all of the Lions who love her dearly, Happy Birthday to our very special Lion Mary Ann.



THE PRICE of CHANGE.....

“The price of doing the same old thing is far higher than the price of change” - Bill Clinton

History has taught us that price; empires collapsed through tyranny, businesses crumpled because they couldn't adapt, relationships folded because one grew, and the other didn't.

What about our Lions Clubs?

What do we want for our Lions Club when we say we want New Members?

Are we saying, “I want new people to join, and I am willing to adjust what we have always done, and how we have always behaved, and embrace the ideas they bring with them?”

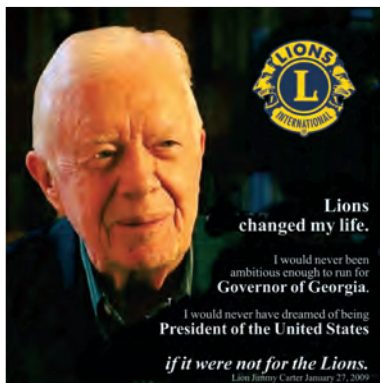
OR, are we saying; “I want new people to join, as long as they help us do what we have always done, in the way we've always done it, and behave as we have always behaved?”

Our Clubs are not the same as those of our predecessors, nor will our successors be the same as ours. And that's as it should be.

As John F. Kennedy once said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past, or present, are certain to miss the future." That said, does our opposition to change then benefit the Club, its members, and its future?

Right or wrong, our world is in a constant state of change, and so our Lions Clubs have to keep changing, adjusting and adapting, to continue moving forward with it. Change is uncomfortable; it feels like work. Can we adapt our meetings to meet the needs of our Club members? Can we re-think how we do things, and make changes accordingly? Yes, we can. Is it easy? Of course not, but it is worth the effort in the long run.

When someone wants to make changes to our Club, or to an event, it can feel like an insult, as though everything we have done before wasn't good enough. Instead, it should be viewed as a compliment. The new Lion may actually enjoy the activity, and just want to contribute to it. Allowing a new member to put their stamp on an activity actually helps to make a new Lion feel like part of the Club. They become engaged in the event, and they begin to belong, which is so important for the health of the Club. We need to recognize the skill sets the new members are bringing with them.



May we never hold the reins so tight that we discourage, hold back, or beat down those new members we want, and whom we need for the longevity of our Club.

Because the activities of the Club belong to all the members, it is as equally important to recognize the enthusiasm of the new, as it is the experience of the old. Forget the word “change” and let's “blend”!

Let's blend the new voices with the old, and develop something that we can all embrace. As Lion Jimmy Carter once said, “We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.”

Different, but still the same motto - “We Serve”

Without change there would be no butterflies....

PDG Karen McNeight



Grantham Lions Gold Level Sponsors New Playground Project

In late February the Grantham Lions made a contribution to the Grantham School new playground project. Pictured is the official presentation which was followed up by a thank you note from the Pine Grove playground project committee.

“Tonight April Taylor and I had the pleasure of accepting a generous donation of \$1,500 (gold level) from the Grantham Lions Club towards our new accessible, nature-inspired playground. Thank you so much to the members of the Lions Club for their hospitality and for your donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by our school community and by all of the children at Pine Grove.

Amy McDonnell, Pine Grove School



L to R: Pine Grove School representatives, Amy McDonnell, April Taylor, with Lions Paul L. Hammond & Club President Stephen Vukovics

Sweaburg and District Lions

The Lions of Sweaburg and District organized a benefit concert to help send kids to a diabetic camp, the concert featured a popular local musician Kylie Joe Masson. Lions **David Barker** and **Sue Kirkpatrick** organized the event. \$3000.00 was raised and donated. Lion David and Lion Sue presented the cheque to Gord Miller, Regional Chairperson, Diabetes Canada. The donation will make it possible for three diabetic children to attend Camp Discovery in Komoka.



South Mountain Lions

The 7th Annual ATV Ride for Dad was held March 2nd, 2019. The route began and ended in the South Mountain Agricultural Hall in South Mountain, Ontario and covered approximately 100 kilometers. The day included a lunch stop, supper and a silent auction. Mountain Township & District Lions Club members were involved and helped with registration and where needed. All funds raised are provided to local organizations. These include Prostate Canada Fight Foundation in Ottawa which supports research and education on prostate cancer and men's health

as well as the Winchester PSA Event at Winchester and District Memorial Hospital. This year, the PSA Event is being held on August 10, 2019 and provides education on Prostate Cancer and access to a free PSA blood test. Over the past six years, the event has raised \$357,000.00 for Prostate Cancer research and men's health awareness.



Lions Ted Ceelen(L) & Bob Weagant(R)



District A-5 Clubs and de Lions d'Earleton

The project this past year for PDG Lion **Steven Olsen** was to raise enough funds for a seizure dog from the Lions Foundation for Guide Dogs to be designated for a person in the A5 District. At the time of the

convention, the cheque presented totaled \$18,400.00, just \$1,600.00 short of sponsoring two seizure dogs. Within fifteen minutes of this presentation, the members present along with Le Club de Lions d'Earleton, more than raised the additional monies to be able to fully sponsor two dogs for the A5 district. By the end of June, then DG Lion Steve Olsen was thrilled to announce that the clubs had still been contributing and the final total was \$22,947.00.

Editor's Note: This article was intended to be placed in an earlier edition of the magazine, but got lost in the process, our apologies....

Great Work Lions!



PDG Steve Olsen presenting to LFC Sandy Turney

Burlington Lions Club makes another donation to the Joseph Brant Hospital

As one of our Centennial Legacy projects, the Lions Club of Burlington made a donation of \$25,000 to outfit a room in the new wing of the hospital. In February, representatives of the club attended the dedication of the room. Over the years, donations from our club to the hospital are closing in on the \$300,000 mark.



L to R: Burlington Lions Louis Gallant, Barry Leppan, Carol Leppan, Perry Bowker, Jim McLaughlin, Blair Greer, Mike Wallace, and Peter Hughes

Cobourg Lakeshore Lions

A major fund-raising project is underway in the Cobourg area to accumulate the necessary funds to complete the construction of Ed's House, Northumberland Hospice Centre. Cobourg Lakeshore Lions Club did their part for the "Honouring the Journey Campaign" by donating \$6,000.00 to the cause. The funds were generated from a club sponsored car raffle. Shown in the foreground of the photo with the cheque are Lions Lynda Kay and Lynne Hardy, their support group of Lions were also present.



Petrolia Lions Supporting Youth Groups

The club continue to support local youth groups in the area with donations, for which some of the funds are generated by sales from their food trailer and the local Meat Bingo.



Lion **Karen** presented a cheque for \$1,000.00 to the 1st Petrolia Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers.



Petrolia Lions President **Cheryle** presented a cheque for \$1500.00 to the Boy Scouts of Petrolia.



Keep up the Good Work Lions!

Tiny Township Lions

Members and friends of Tiny Township Lions Club devoted many hours this past winter knitting and crocheting squares for these beautiful afghans. Wool was generously donated in memory of Muriel VanderVoort of Wyevalle, who was an avid knitter. Completed afghans and lap blankets have been donated to local Shelters and Hospice.



L to R: DG Bryon McLellan, Carol Paznar, Susan Truax, Linda Robitaille, Kelly McNamara, Elaine Coulter, Sandy Rawn, Terry Sharko, Gillian Reynolds

District A15 Autism Dog Project

We had the most wonderful pleasure to attend the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides graduation for the Autism Assistance program. The funds from the District A15 Autism Assistance Dog Guide project from Immediate Past District Governor Lion **Char Dwyer** was applied to the graduation of a beautiful Lab named Taz who graduated and will go home to Kitchener to be with "his boy" and their family, we had the pleasure to meet Mom Marilyn!

Also on hand the other sponsor for this graduation was the Woolwich Community Lions Club also from A15! There wasn't a dry eye in the room when we heard from the parents of the recipients of these amazing canines and the difference it will make in their child's life. Thank you to all the Lions, Lioness and LEO Clubs and everyone who donated toward the A15 AAD project, you have truly given an amazing gift to a child and their family who needed it. Well done A15!



DG Lion Kevin Banfield, Lion Cub Rory, Woolwich Community Lions Club members PDG Diane Smith and Lion Sandy Ladd, Taz's new Mom Marilyn and IPDG Lion Char

Port Dalhousie Lions

The Lions in Port Dalhousie are in for the long haul with their donations to the Niagara Health Foundation and their program for defibrillator units for the community. They made a \$3000.00 donation in September of last year and followed it up with a



September - L to R: Lions Ken McNames, Dick Thomas, Dick Wendel, Howard Staynes, George Charlton, Grant Edwards, Gunther Bujtas and Greg Baker

second one for the same amount in April of this year. Judging from the photos it is obvious somewhere in the Port Dalhousie area there is a merry-go-round missing a Lion.



April - L to R: Lions Grant Edwards, Ken McNames, Dick Thomas, Howard Staynes, Dick Wendel, George Charlton, Greg Baker and NHF representative Mary Sergenes

Kirkland Lake Lions

The Kirkland Lake Lions are now back in existence, the club is now re-invigorated and recently held their fund-raising event to pitch in and help out with community needs. Recently the club sold raffle tickets at the local mall. The three prizes were wonderful gift baskets, all donated by local merchants. The tickets sold out a month ahead of the planned schedule.

The club extends a big thank you to the community businesses that donated prizes and to all the people who bought tickets as together you helped make this event a huge success. With the community's support, not only did the club receive all of the prizes through donations, a local printer also donated the printing of the tickets. The club sold out for the draw in the first month of sales. Congratulations to the winners and to our newest club for bringing back Lionism to Kirkland Lake community.



Selling tickets from right to left is President Milne Rennie, member Lion Jeanne Clouter and Secretary Lion Karen Suykens. Keep up the good work Kirkland Lions!

Thamesford Lions

The Thamesford Lions recently purchased a high end tricycle for a young lad in the village who suffers from cerebral palsy which makes it impossible for him to ride a regular bike. With some adjustment the vehicle is working fine and he is now "tearing up and down the sidewalk" with his new found freedom. "Investing in Youth."



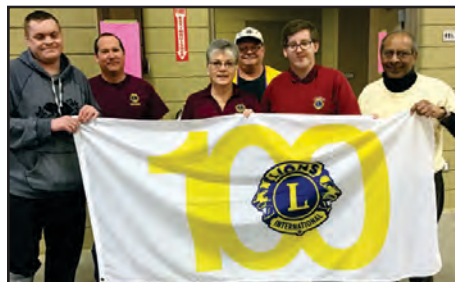
Nobleton Lions Club

At a recent meeting Sarah Shaw of the Autism Ontario York Region Chapter gave club members a summary of the changes in autism diagnosis and treatment funding recently announced by the Ontario government. Here Club President **Earl Groombridge** presents a donation for the work of Autism Ontario. It is one of about 20 community organizations and ongoing events regularly supported by the club.



Ancaster Lions Community Food Drive

As part of their Centennial Project that started with the Community Food Drive, the Lions of Ancaster helped out with the sorting at the Ancaster Fair Grounds. Lion **Chris Lukas** and Ancaster Lion President **Suzanne Gunby** are shown assisting. A record 109,000 pounds of food were collected.



The crew of volunteers are shown on site with their Centennial Banner. L to R: Lions Chris Lukas, Chris Matthews, Suzanne Gunby, Peter Lukas, Brendan Power and Usuf Ishawk

Capreol Lions Active on many fronts!

The Lions of Capreol are pleased to announce they made a donation of \$500 to the Capreol Irish Royal Canadian Army Cadet program. The Cadets offer an excellent mentoring program where Cadets learn skills, receive a structured atmosphere with training that also builds self esteem. The Capreol Lions are very happy to have built a new partnership with our local Cadet Corp and they have helped out at one of or events. Lion **Robin** addressed those in attendance and thanked the Royal Canadian Military Officers for their service to the Country. He also congratulating the Cadets on their commitment to the Cadet Corps. Lion Robin presented the cheque from the Capreol Lions to Donna Landry treasurer for the Cadets.



Keeping up with their community support the Lions also sponsored a skating event at the local arena. What is better than the word FREE? Well it's even better when the word skate comes after it. The Club sponsored a Free Skate on Family day at the Capreol Arena. To make the day even better, the Lions provided free hot chocolate to all of those who came out to skate or attempt to skate as the case may be. This is an annual event and much appreciated by the community.



A crew of Lions were helping out, Lion Norm was taste testing the hot chocolate to make sure its just right. The rest of the Lions are new Lion Jocelyn, Julie, Dorothy and Rick

The Chicken or the Egg? by Ray Charbonneau, Historian

An age-old question to be sure and now often reserved for the kind of indifference associated with “what does it matter or who cares?”. In Lions, a parallel can be drawn with the discussion of the order in which clubs were chartered. So, herein we provide our list of the first 10 years of Lions Clubs in Canada for your consideration.

MD" A " Record of Early Club Charters

(by Pauline Dean 1986 and Ray Charbonneau 2019)

1919-1920 (DG John Garner) (IP Jesse Robinson)

Windsor Downtown 3/12, 1920
Toronto Central 5/18, 1920

1920-1921 (DG's John Garner, Fred Ketcheson, Louis Livingston) (IP Dr. C. Reid)

International Association of Lions Clubs (Ontario)
07/06 1920 *
Hamilton Central 7/19, 1920
Chatham (1920-....) *
Oshawa organized Sept 20/20 charter night
Mar 31/21 *
Belleville (1920-1923) *
District A October 12th, 1920
Wallaceburg organized May 2/1921 *
London Central 6/28, 1921

1921-1922 (DG's Louis Livingston, Ernest Linger) (IP Ewen Cameron)

*Spences Bridge BC 1921-1961 **
Vancouver BC
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Niagara Falls June 2, 1922
Ottawa Vanier 1922, Ottawa since 1948 merger of
Ottawa East and Ottawa Central

1922-1923 (Ernest Linger) (IP Ed Vaught)

Port Colborne 7/4, 1922 charter night Oct 25, 1922
St Catharines 7/11, 1922 charter night
Sept 13/1922 *
Goderich 8/7, 1922
Montreal Central 9/14, 1922 charter night January
18, 1923
Welland 4/3, 1923
Wingham *
Quebec City Apr 24, 1923-1924 *

1923-1924 (DG Lt. Col. C.M. Graham) (IP John Noel)

Strathroy 5/29, 1924

1924-1925 (DG Fred Avery) (IP Harry Newman)

Sudbury 9/24, 1924
Tillsonburg 10/10, 1924
Seaforth 12/24, 1924
Stratford 1/13, 1925
North Bay 3/2, 1925
Burlington Central 4/27, 1925
Dunnville 4/29, 1925 (Harry Newman was originally from Dunnville)

1925-1926 District A (DG Jack Arnott) (Ben Jones)

Oakville 1925 *

1925-1926 District B (DG Irvine Wiley) (Ben Jones)

Leamington 12/11, 1925
Brantford 2/23, 1926
(note) District A had been divided into District A (Hamilton and all clubs East) and District B (all clubs West). Each had their own Governor. Leamington and Brantford have the distinction

being our only clubs formed in District B which was later assigned to Mexico. This division only lasted 1 year..

1926-1927 (DG Alex Morrison) (IP William Westfall)

Fort Erie 2/25, 1927
*Swift Current, Saskatchewan 1927 **

1927-1928 (IP Irving Camp)

Moose Jaw 1928
International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada)
07/06 1928 *

1928-1929 (IP Ben Ruffin)

Alberta, Calgary 1929
Edmonton, Alberta 1929

1929-1930 (IP Ray Riley)

Other Lions Clubs Before 1930 (information missing)
Bridgeburg, Sandwich and Toronto (Mount Denis), Ontario *
Eastend, Arcola, Leader, Regina, Saskatoon and Yorkton, Saskatchewan

* indicates clubs that have gone and in some cases been reorganized later.
Italics indicate clubs in other provinces and other governing bodies.



By the way, Neil deGrasse Tyson says:

“Which came first: the chicken or the egg? The egg—laid by a bird that was not a chicken”.

Sunderland Lions

A group of long term Lions from Sunderland received their milestone chevrons from District Governor JC LaGrange. This group has accumulated a total of 255 years of service to LCI, the most in District A-16 this year.



L to R: Governor JC LaGrange, David Brown, Wayne Down, Harold Moulton, Stan Durward, Brian Manorek, Paul Bryan and President Darryl St. John

Also at a recent meeting the Sunderland club received the Crossland Brands Membership Growth Award for Region 45 in the District for 2018 - 2019. Accepting the award was President **Darryl St. John**. The photo shows the DG making the presentation and the new members and their sponsors .



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Lynden Lions

Lynden Lions celebrated their 62nd anniversary on March 7th. They were chartered in 1957 and can be proud of their community support. In the photo is club president **Jack Brooks** in the centre and two charter members, **Wray Smith** (left) and **Ray Edworthy** (right). They are also shown with a group photo of the club members.



Charter Night In London- West London and Dorchester Lions



International President **Guðrun Yngvadóttir** is shown in the photo with a group of proud new Lions

On March 6th this year a dream of Lion **Kyle Boutillier** became a reality. West London Lions Club was officially chartered and 23 young Lions between the ages of 18 and 21 were officially inducted on this special Charter evening. Induction was performed by IP **Guðrun Yngvadóttir**, who together with her husband PID **Jon Bjarni Thorsteinsson** travelled from Iceland to participate in this special occasion.

West London Lions Club was proudly sponsored by the Dorchester and District Lions Club. Special thanks to ID **Tom Gordon**; PCC **John Johnston** CGL; Lion **Daniel Armstrong** CGL; Lion **Dianne L Piggott**; Lion **Michelle Mundy** and many others for organizing and supporting this amazing evening.

Minnow Lake

The Minnow Lake Lions Club was proud to induct three new members to our club. Their newest members are Lion **Al Obumsawin**, Lion **Darlene Wickham** and Lion **Bill Leduc**. In a time when many of the older clubs are losing members, they are proud to add these new members to their club. Let's give a Lions ROAR to all new Lions members this year.



Remember this date
Mark it on your calendar!

March 21, 2020

Join us in celebrating our 100th anniversary!
That's 100 years of community service!

Windsor Lions

Caboto Club - 2175 Parent ave, Windsor

"The Club that made Lions International!"



IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2019/20 London, Ontario May 28 - 30, 2019

International Conventions

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 19 - 21, 2019	Spokane, Washington
Sept 15 - 16, 2020	Louisville, Kentucky
Sept 9 - 11, 2021	Des Moines, Iowa

St. Davids Leos, St. Davids Lions, Merriton Lions

Courtesy Penny Coles, 'The Local', reprinted with permission.

Zoe Abraham has been a St. Davids Leo Club member for about four years, and as often as she says it, she can't say it enough: "I love it. I love the Leos. I love the events." Now in Grade 9 at A.N. Myer Secondary School in Niagara Falls, she joined the club when the St. Davids Lions decided to start a chapter at St. Davids Public School.

The Lions International program for young people offers leadership, experience and opportunity, says Lion **Bradd Anderson**, one of the Leo Club advisors. The goal is to encourage young people to affect positive change within their communities, develop valuable leadership skills, make new friends and have fun — and Abraham says she's doing all that and more.

With the many projects she and her fellow Leos undertake, she feels she is helping in her community. The Lions who mentor the youngsters are teaching leadership and volunteerism; she has had many opportunities to become involved in projects within and outside her community; she's met new people and made new friends; and as she will tell people every chance she gets, she's having a lot of fun. She originally joined Leos because she had some friends who were having fun in the group, and she was thinking ahead to the volunteer hours she would need to accumulate for high school, "but I really liked it, for so much more than that — I liked the leadership opportunities, and the people I met."

When she went off to high school, she was loving the club activities so much she didn't want to quit, so she encouraged others to join her in remaining a Leo. The "hook" to get high school students to join, she said, is telling them it's a great way to build up the 40 volunteer hours students require to graduate. But while that may get them to join, they stay because of the many opportunities the club offers, and because they have so much fun, she said.

The club has grown to 28 members, eight from high schools, A.N. Myer and St. Paul Catholic High School in Niagara Falls, and Laura Secord in St. Catharines, making it the second largest of the 28 Leo clubs in

Ontario. The school and the club, neighbours on York Road, developed a partnership when the school was looking for donations to help purchase smart boards interactive whiteboards that bring technology into the classroom. Students began helping out at Lions fish fries and the annual carnival, as runners and callers for the bingo tent. Long after each classroom had a smart board, the partnership continued, said Anderson. The Lions introduced the Leo Club to keep students motivated, contributing to their community, and hopefully interesting them in becoming Lions as adults and continuing service to their communities.

But whether or not they become Lions, they are learning volunteerism and skills that will help them throughout their lives, says Anderson. Abraham speaks of a retreat she went to in Woodstock to meet Lions from other clubs. The goal was to have a youth voice on the international level. There were about 30 Leos attending from St. Davids and other Ontario clubs, talking about being involved with Lions International and the importance of keeping Leo clubs going for Lions clubs of the future.

The Leos took on a project during the retreat, teaming up with a local Lions member to make blankets for children, she said. Leos, said Abraham, have partnered with businesses, hospitals and charities, and in addition to knowing they are working for worthwhile causes, "it looks good on a resume."

St. Davids Leos also help with a Niagara Health Foundation event, the Kids Ultimate Challenge annual obstacle course experience for kids aged four to 13 held at Burgoyne Woods, which raises money for the children's health unit at the St. Catharines hospital site. "It raises an amazing amount of money, at an event for kids helping kids," said Abraham. "It was so much fun, supporting such a great event."

Last week LEO Club Advisors Anderson and **Susan Snider**, and a group of Leos attended a meeting of the Merriton Lions Club, whose members helped

the local Leos purchase a dog guide. Initially it was a fundraising goal for the Leos; the St. Davids Lions offered to help by matching the kids' fundraising efforts, and the Merriton Lions came on board by donating proceeds from their annual Dog Bowl, a five-pin bowling event the club holds to raise money for dog guides. Called "blind" bowling, participants use specialized glasses that mimic eye disease, experiencing bowling through the eyes of someone who is visually impaired. The event raises money for Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, and by joining with St. Davids, together they were able to purchase an autism assistance dog guide for a youngster in St. Catharines.

Autism is one of six Lions Canada dog guide programs; they also provide service dogs trained to help those who are visually impaired, hearing impaired, have a medical or physical disability, or suffer from epilepsy or diabetes. Abraham was excited about a recent trip the Leos took to Oakville, where the Lions dog guide training centre is located, and where the youngsters met some of the puppies in training. She can't be sure they were introduced to the dog destined for St. Catharines, and they don't know who the lucky recipient will be, but she said it felt pretty good to know the Leos' fundraising efforts were helping to train one of the adorable puppies for a child, aged three to 12, who will be assisted by the presence of the dog. "Some child is going to absolutely adore it," she said.

The Leos have already begun fundraising for the next dog guide, she said, and will be participating in the Pet Valu walk in St. Davids in May — she's already collected \$250. But her real passion, and her main concern, is to ensure Lions Clubs build their membership with young people. "I'm loving it all so much. I hope to become a Lion one day, to keep this going. It's so amazing, so cool. I want to be the young person to help spearhead this."



St. Davids Leos Isabella Recine, Dawn Truong and Zoe Abraham at a Woodstock retreat, where they worked with a Lions Club member to make a blanket for a needy child



Merriton Lions George Hostick and Dunc Tolley, St. Davids Leos Bella Recine, Ayla Jamal, and Zoe Abraham, and Merriton Lions Linda and Bill Sowrey partnered to fundraise for a dog guide

Wheatley Lions

Last December our club celebrated their 70th Anniversary on that occasion DG **Mary Mahovich** presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship to PDG **George Vary**. Lion George has been a Lion since 1976 when he joined the **Port Stanley Lions Club**. He ultimately transferred to the Wheatley Lions during the 1980's and helped form the Wheatley Lioness Club in 1985. He served as District Governor in 1991-92 and has been a solid leader in our club for many years and



has brought several members into the organization. The anniversary night was also an occasion for other awards, the club received a Club Excellence Award presented to Past President **Bob Springthorpe** by PDG **Joyce Mahovich**.



Thamesford Lions

The Thamesford Lions donated \$10,000 to the Alexandra Hospital Foundation.

Statement from the Foundation

We are so very fortunate to have incredible support from our local community. Today the Thamesford Lions Club donated \$10,000 to the hospital equipment fund. Yes you read that right! \$10,000. (L to R) Lion members Bob Fisher, Jack Broadfoot, Jim Keron, Tony Redix and Don Weir present the cheque to Joanne Ackert RN, Dr. Jill Matsuo, Al Lockhart, George Way - AHF Chairperson and Sue Harrison. Thank you! Government funding does not cover new equipment needed for the hospital so these funds will help us immensely!



ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

District Reporters

There is a reporter designated for each district, their function is to assist clubs and the magazine staff with submissions that include high resolution photos and a summary of the service activity. Please utilize their services. They can be contacted as shown:

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Port Stanley Lions



Lion Peter Wilson being presented with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award by Lions Bradd Anderson (Left) and Wayne Stoddart (Right)

MD'A' Lions Resource Centre Website

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

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

The Georgetown Lions Club Honours Fred Zorge

Lion Fred was invited to join the Lions in March of 1959 by a contractor that he was working with. He became a very active member serving on almost every committee including the annual rodeo, Santa Claus Parade, Georgetown Fall Fair, races at the fairgrounds, Grey Cup draw and many more. He was instrumental in starting the Citizen of the Year project and our ongoing support for the Guide Dog School in Oakville. If it was a Lions' project Fred stepped up to help and does so to this day a remarkable achievement for someone who just turned 92.

Not content to just serve locally Fred became a zone and regional chair and then in 1971/72 was elected governor of our district for the first time;



Lion Linda Dilks presenting Lion Fred with the award, named in his honour

Fred served another term as District Governor. This required Lion Fred to travel to all the clubs providing mentoring and help. He also became very well known throughout District A-711, Fred made friends with Lions throughout the world and has attended 17 international conventions.

Fred has been an ardent supporter of the Guide Dog School in Oakville, working together with the first Executive Director Ron Brown; he approached Lions clubs to support the development of the school. In 1997 through his efforts our District raised over \$100,000.00 to get the project going.

Fred is a leader who has that rare ability to get things done while ensuring that members are valued in their volunteer work. His contributions to our club and the world wide Lions movement have been outstanding. He truly epitomizes our promise of "WE SERVE".

The Georgetown Lions have created a new award called the Lion Fred Zorge Service Club Member of the Year and Lion Fred is the first recipient. The award will be given every three years to a deserving service club member in Georgetown and is open to all other service clubs.

The Georgetown Lions club is proud to have Fred as member, mentor and is a shining example that we all look up to. Thank you Lion Fred for 60 years of service. This award is a testament to your commitment to the community.

MD'A' Convention



Editor's Note:

As you can see the April, May and June edition is chock full, we will have complete convention coverage in the July, August and September version. It was a great convention, a BIG Lion's Roar to the St. Davids & District Lions for putting on another Great Show!

If you have any photos from the convention and would like to share them please email your high resolution images to: mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

Lion Bob Pearson, Editor



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Milan, Italy
2019**



Patti is a remarkable Lion leader and brings to the world a dedication and commitment to ensure that Lions Clubs International continues to be the number one service club organization on our planet. Her extraordinary background, her outstanding qualifications, and her exceptional leadership skills will make our Canadian Lions, from coast to coast to coast **PROUD**. It's been 30 years since Canada had an International Executive Officer. Now is the time for another Canadian. Now is the time for Patti Hill. I hope to see as many of you as possible in Milan.

**Thank you for supporting Patti Hill!
Judge Brian Stevenson
Past International President**

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