

# L I O N



M.D. "A" Edition Jan/Feb/Mar 2019

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Senior Editor: Lion Bob Pearson  
Publisher: Lion Herb Thompson

Editor/Graphic Design: Barbara MacDonald  
Production Co-ordinator: Kari Ross



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# THE Lion



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Welcome to the January/February/March 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.

## Contents

M.D. "A" Edition

Jan/Feb/Mar 2019

Alexandria and District Lions Club	IBC
Amaranth Lions Club	29
Blyth Lions Club	24
Bracebridge Lions Club	27
Capreol Lions Club	30
Club Lions de Knowlton	16,30
Copetown Lions Club	9,28
Dutton and District Lions	28
East Peterborough Lions Club	31
Grimsby and District Lions Club	29
Guelph Royal City Lions Club	4
Havelock Lions Club	13
Keene Lions Club	31
Kendal Lions Club	33
Kitchener Lions Club	33
Knowlton Lions Club	16,30
Lions Clubs of Greater Sudbury	34
Low and District Lions Club	33
Lynn Valley Lions Club	29
Madoc Lions Club	30,34
Marmora-Crowe Valley Lions Club	28
Mattawa Lions Club	28
Minnow Lake Lions Club	30
Mississauga Central Lions Club	24
Mountain & District Lions Club	20,26
New Hamburg Lioness Club	28,31
New Liskeard Lions Club	29
North Dundas Leos Club	26
Odessa and District Lions Club	29
Onaping Falls Lions Club	31
Petrolia Lions Club	33
Poplar Hill and District Lions Club	30
Port Dover Lions Club	33
Providence Bay-Spring Bay Lions Club	27
Ridgeway Lions Club	33,IBC
Sault Ste Marie Lions Club	24
Seaforth Lions Club	10
Simcoe Lions Club	27,34
Stittsville Lions Club	23
Tamworth and District Lions Club	31
Thorold Lions Club	29
Whitefish Lions Club	32

President's Message	4
A-15 Lions and the United Nations	4
Executive Summary International	
Board of Directors Meeting	5
Highlights MD'A' Governors' Council Meeting	6-7
Proposed Amendments to the Multiple District 'A'	
Constitution and By-laws	7
An Update from CC Tim Cheung	7
Special Clubs of Communicators	8
LCI Forward Update	8
A Community Center Flourishes,	
Thanks to Leos and LCIF	9
Bridgette Walker	9
New Opportunity Arises for Homeless in Salzburg	10
Diabetes: Lions Take on a Global Epidemic	11
A Chorus of Lions	12
Better Service, By Design	14-16
Club Delegate Form	17
Voting at 2019 International Convention	18
International Convention club Delegate	
Entitlement Table	18
International Convention Reservation Form	19
Playtime is Better Together!	20
We Speak for the Trees	21-22
Diane M. Smith	23
Lions Celebrate 20 Years of SightFirst in Madagascar	23
Peace Poster Contest	24
Peace Essay Contest	24
MD'A' Convention	25
MD'A' Youth Dinner	26
The Life of a Caregiver is not an Easy One	27
MD'A' Directory Information	32
Important Dates	32
Resource Centre Website	34
District Reporters	34

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Lion David Mills PDG • Lion Dave Hewitt PDG



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## GOVERNORS' COUNCIL 2018-2019

- Council Chair  
Tim Cheung (Patty Ko)  
52 Heatherwood Crescent  
Unionville, ON L3R 8W5  
h: 905-479-1902  
mailto: councilchair@mdalions.org
- A1 Mary Mahovich (PDG Steve)  
413 Lillian Lane  
Belle River, ON N0R 1A0  
h: 519-728-9637  
mailto: lionmary@kelcom.net
- A2 Zoltan Dohar (Debbie)  
144 Brooklin Road, R.R. #2  
Nanticoke, ON N0A 1L0  
h: 905-776-0163  
mailto: z.dohar@a2lions.org
- A3 Frank Hewitt (Theresa)  
763 Mountain Ash Road  
Peterborough, ON K9J 8K1  
h: 705-755-0802 c: 705-868-8916  
mailto: hbros10@hotmail.com
- A4 David Howard (Colleen)  
10160 County Road 3  
Mountain, ON K0E 1S0  
h: 613-286-1574  
mailto: dvdghoward@aol.com
- A5 Verner Presse (Thelma)  
132 Blair Street  
North Bay, ON P1A 4E8  
h: 705-472-1726 c: 705-495-9918  
mailto: verner.presse@sympatico.ca
- A711 Jeffrey Friedman (Lynn)  
5121 Palomar Crescent  
Mississauga, ON L5R 2X5  
h: 905-507-2438 c: 647-401-2438  
mailto: jhfriedman@rogers.com
- A9 Elaine Chalmers (PDG Bill)  
457 Jacob Street, P.O. Box 80  
Neustadt, ON N0G 2M0  
h: 519-799-5914  
mailto: cosynook@wightman.ca
- A12 Bryon McLellan (Judy)  
206 Country Lane  
Barrie, ON LAN 0W1  
h: 705-733-1128  
mailto: lionbryon@yahoo.com
- A15 Kevin Banfield (Jennifer)  
930 Atlantic Blvd.  
Waterloo, ON N2K 4L5  
h: 519-501-3014  
mailto: dg@a15lions.org
- A16 Jean Claude (JC) Lagrange (Dr. Elena Mihu)  
76 Honeysuckle Road  
Kirkfield, ON K0M 2B0  
h: 705-454-2401  
mailto: jcl@lionsa16.com
- Secretary David Mills PDG  
Treasurer Dave Hewitt PDG

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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# Celebrate the Art of Service in Milan

Hello, Lions!

When I think of Italy I think of great food, beautiful landscapes, and a rich diversity of friendly people. This year, Italian Lions—more than 1,300 clubs and 40,000 members strong—are opening their doors to the global Lion community in July, and I hope you will consider joining me there.

Milan, in particular, has a history of fostering creativity and ingenuity. Home to Leonardo DaVinci and Michelangelo, it is the perfect destination for this year's convention, celebrating a renaissance of service.

The annual convention is a special moment for us all to pause and come together to reflect on what we accomplished as Lions over the past year and what we hope to accomplish in the coming year. It is a chance to see firsthand what it truly means to be an international organization.

While not all Lions can make the journey, all Lions will be the focus of this year's events. We will be looking for ways to infuse the work of all who serve with the creativity and passion that make us who we are. I truly believe Lions are among the most creative problem solvers in the world, and each year the time I spend surrounded by this community inspires my own

future service and fuels a renewed dedication to all the work that still needs to be done.

I look forward to celebrating the art of service with you in Milan.

Yours,

*Gudrun Ingvaddottir*  
**Gudrun Ingvaddottir**  
 International President, Lions Clubs International

## Lions and the United Nations

Story compiled by Lion Nancy Ransom, Guelph Royal City Lions, A-15 Historian

As World War II raged, leaders of the Allied nations looked beyond the end of the conflict and held talks on a world body for preserving peace - an entity that would be stronger than the toothless League of Nations. Lions rallied behind the idea. In 1943 in Cleveland at their international convention, Lions endorsed a U.S. House of Representatives resolution calling for an international peacekeeping mechanism once the fighting ended.

In February 1945, Lions' founder Melvin Jones gathered with leaders of other national groups to meet with Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. and Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs Archibald MacLeish to discuss forming a United Nations. In April Lions headquarters asked clubs to hold a United Nations week to show support for the initiative.

Lion Clubs International was one of the first non-governmental organizations invited to assist in drafting the U.N. Charter. Jones, International President D.A. Skeen of Salt Lake City, Utah, and future International President Fred W. Smith of Ventura, California, helped to formulate the NGO section of the charter and participated in developing the U.N.'s humanitarian mission. On June 26, 1945, the U.N. charter was signed by the representatives of 50 countries.

Two years later in 1947, in recognition of the

importance of Lions Clubs to its mission, the United Nations gave Lions consultative status with the U.N. Economic and Social Council, committed to the welfare of people worldwide. For generations, Lions and the U. N. have shared many common goals and worked together to further peace and prosperity.

Each year Lions and the U.N. celebrate their relationship. Begun in 1978, Lions Day with the U.N. calls together leaders from government, business and the nonprofit sector to explore solutions to pressing global needs. The annual event features a keynote address by a recognized world leader, expert panel discussions and, since 1989, the awards ceremony for the winners of the Lions International Peace Poster Contest encouraging young people to express their perspectives on peace. Lions Day is punctuated with a reception for U.N. diplomats, Lions, speakers and guests to celebrate this special and enduring relationship.

The photos shown are from 1988, when Lions International President Judge Brian Stevenson gave an address at the 10th Annual

Lions Day at the United Nations in New York. Judge Brian was our fourth Canadian Lions International President 1987-88.



COME FLY WITH US.....!

"Lions Day at the United Nations!"

with  
 Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar of the U.N.

with  
 International President Judge Brian Stevenson, Calgary

with  
 the 'Royal City Lions Club of Guelph'  
 c/o: 72 Watson Road N., Guelph, Ontario, N1H 6H8  
 March 12th - 14th, 1988

\$ 249.45 / person

This includes: Return flight Toronto/New York  
 All airport transportation to hotel  
 and back to airport in New York  
 Two nights in Consulate Hotel, 4 star  
 on 32nd Street and Broadway,  
 Four hour city-tour in New York  
 One special commemorative pin to  
 Royal City Lions Club-tour participant  
 only....  
 and many more surprises.....!

Additional expenses:  
 US\$ 50.- for lunch and registration  
 US\$ 17.50 for registration only

-----  
 Yes, I am interested in flying with you to New York.  
 I am including \$100.- to the Royal City Lions Club for  
 my reservation, with the balance to follow Jan. 15th, 88

I like to reserve lunch US\$ 50.-  ✓  
 I like to reserve registration only US\$ 17.50  ✓

N. address.....  
 .....  
 .....

Registration form for the 1988 trip, including flight, 2 nights in the hotels, meals and tour package



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

### Ojai, California, USA – October 14-17, 2018



#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

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

#### **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

1. Reviewed a constitutional complaint filed by the Multiple District E (Venezuela) Council of Governors, challenging a decision of the International Board of Directors when it transferred four clubs from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao from District E1 (Venezuela), Constitutional Area III to District 35N (Florida, USA), Constitutional Area I, and found good cause to expedite review of the complaint to Complaint Step Four of the Constitutional Complaints Procedure, affirmed the decision of the International Board of Directors in June 2018, transferring the four clubs from Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao from District E1 (Venezuela) to District 35N (Florida, USA).
2. Appointed International Director Dr. Datuk Naga to serve as the Coordinating Lion for the former District 301-A1 (Philippines) for the remainder of fiscal year 2018-2019 and provided a roadmap to the former district to follow to restore their district status.
3. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to update the fiscal agents in India and Japan and to move the fiscal agent policy from Chapter XV, Legal, to Chapter XI, Finance, as this policy is managed by the Finance Division and is better aligned with the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Committee.
4. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to move the Conflict of Interest Policy from Chapter XV, Legal, to Chapter XI, Finance, as this policy is managed by the Finance Division and is better aligned with the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Committee.
5. Revised the Trademark Policies in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to add a requirement that foundations at the national (country) level must be reviewed and approved by the International Board of Directors.
6. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph A.1.b. of the Board Policy Manual to clarify that the emblem of the association is that of each chartered club and district.
7. Revised the Standard Form District By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual related to who can call a special club meeting in the event the president fails to do so.
8. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph C. of the Board Policy Manual to provide for a constitutional interpretation that by virtue of membership in an individual Lions Club, an individual Lion

is considered a member of our international association.

#### **CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

1. Established per diem allowances for appointed Credentials Committee members serving without other reimbursement, and headquarters staff attending the 2019 Milan International Convention.
2. Revised the 2019 Milan International Convention schedule.
3. Amended Chapter VIII of the Board Policy Manual with housekeeping changes.
4. Amended Chapter VIII, Paragraph E, Election Procedures.

#### **DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE**

1. Granted protective status to the Kozhencherry Lions Club of District 318-B (India) and the Palu Maleo Lions Club of District 307-B2 (Indonesia) through April 7, 2019.
2. Approved the redistricting proposals submitted by Multiple District 101 (Sweden) and 104 (Norway) to take place at the adjournment of the 2019 International Convention and Multiple District 21 (Arizona) to take place at the adjournment of the 2020 International Convention.
3. Appointed Past International Director Elisabeth Haderer to serve as Coordinating Lion for the Republic of Albania, Republic of Kosovo and the undistricted areas of the Republic of Bulgaria and Past District Governor Daniel Zyambo to serve as Coordinating Lion for Provisional District 412-B (Republic of Malawi and Republic of Mozambique) for the remaining months of this fiscal year.
4. Extended the District Restructure and Redevelopment Grant to include redistricting proposals that are approved on or before November 30, 2021.
5. Corrected a reference in the Board Policy Manual to the DGE Seminar so it uses the correct title of First Vice District Governor/District Governor Elect Seminar.
6. Removed the requirement that a Lion must have served as a club president prior to serving as a Guiding Lion.
7. Revised the Redistricting Policy so that redistricting proposals that are approved during the October or November board meeting that are scheduled to take place at the close of the International Convention of the same fiscal year must hold elections before January 1, to enable the district governor elect to attend the First Vice District Governor/District Governor Elect Seminar held in February.
8. Revised the District Governor Reimbursement

Policy so that the District and Club Administration Division was included in the process for approving increases in district governor budgets.

#### **FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE**

1. Approved the FY 2018-2019 1st Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
2. Amended Chapter XXI related to Past International President mileage budget for authorized meetings, timing of submitting speaker request forms to the Travel Department, and agreed to review the current format of the visitation form for all official speakers for whom Lions Clubs International provides reimbursement of travel expenses.

#### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

1. Revised the Board Policy Manual related to the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI) to prepare for future modifications to the Regional Lions Leadership Institute program.
2. Revised the Board Policy Manual related to the change in the number of instructional days for the Faculty Development Institute program from “four” to “three”.
3. Revised the Board Policy Manual to reference programs as Leadership Development and not just Leadership, including the word “development” where needed.

#### **LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

1. Conducted in-depth status overview of LCI's strategic plan: LCI Forward.
2. Reviewed the committee's charter to identify policies that should be updated and revised for action at the next meeting.
3. Reviewed and discussed the status of the ‘Africa Challenge,’ which was a resolution initially passed in April 2010 that stipulates when the continent reaches and maintains 30,000+ members, the Long Range Planning Committee in office at the time, would request the Constitution and By-Laws Committee to draft language for a constitutional amendment for Africa to be its own constitutional area at the following international convention. The challenge threshold of 30,000 was exceeded at the end of July 2018 and the area as of the September 2018 cumulative report is at 30,706 members and is continuing the momentum. Congratulations to the Lions in Africa for reaching this historical milestone. The committee will review the progress of the continent's membership growth at its next meeting and make a final recommendation to the board.

#### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

1. Extended the pilot program “Welcome Home” until March 30, 2020.

- Revised the Global Action Team structure to include additional districts in Africa.
- Approved another Leo of the Year for 2017-2018.
- Allowed former Lionesses to count their Lioness years of service toward Life Membership.
- Amended policy to move governance for the Young Lion and Leo Department to the Membership Development Committee from the Service Activities Committee.
- Extended the sunset policy for Azerbaijan until June 30, 2019.
- Amended board policy to allow additional funds for pilot programs with Board of Directors' approval.
- Approved a pilot program to reverse membership trends in CA I and CA II.

#### MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- Revised Chapter XIX, Official Protocol of the Board Policy Manual to reflect a modification to add Leo-Lion Board Liaison.

#### SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- Approved that the following Lions be awarded the Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Program

Chairperson Award for their service in the 2017-2018 Lions year.

Name	Constitutional Area	Country
Nazan Albayrak	IV	Turkey
Angela Day	II	Canada
Eileen Delaney	I	USA
Ari Lindell	IV	Finland
Gabriela Lutter	IV	Germany
Karl-Heinrich Mohr	IV	Germany
Diane Quinlan	I	USA
Birgit Rastetter	IV	Italy
Pravin Sarnaik	VI	India
Yoshikazu Yano	V	Japan

- Approved the International Diabetes Federation and LCI joint work plan.
- Approved the 2019 Service Activities marketing plan strategic direction.
- Received an update on the Diabetes Mini Grant

program, including the clubs who will be invited to participate.

#### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- Received an update on GDPR and reviewed the set of data elements that are needed by LCI in order to manage its business.
- The committee collaborated with the Constitution and By-laws Committee, resulting in a modification of the board policy about the interpretation of being a member of LCI.
- The committee discussed and approved process improvements suggested as these improvements will help the association in the longer term as priorities become clear and resources are used in a prudent and cost effective manner.
- The committee presented the infrastructure and product roadmap and provided the rationale for additional budget. Based on the approval, the IT forecast will be modified to reflect the additional budget amount.

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



## HIGHLIGHTS MD'A' GOVERNORS' COUNCIL MEETING February 2019



#### SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

The Council Meeting was extremely busy and was immensely positive and upbeat. Here are a few highlights.

#### GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG Len Day was proud to announce that, as of the presentation of his report, membership in MD'A' was a plus 7! Special kudos to Districts A2 and A9 for significant growth in their membership. PDG Len was awarded his Faculty Development pin as he had completed all requirements of the Faculty Development Institute.

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

**How proud the Blyth Lions were to learn that the young lady they had sponsored in the Blind Essay Contest had won the International Award! Mikayla will receive her award when she attends Lions Day at the United Nations. The award also comes with \$5000 USD. It was great to see coverage on CTV news. If you are going to attend the Opportunities for Youth Dinner at the MD'A' Convention, PDG Ev Spiering would encourage you to order tickets early. Information and the order form have been circulated and is also on the MD'A' website. Also see page 26 of this magazine.**

#### LIONS QUEST

PCC Bob Tanner reports that the number of workshops given continues to grow. A hugely successful workshop was held in January with

9 out of the 10 districts being represented. The MD'A' tickets to Milan were won by the London Central Lioness Club. Clubs are encouraged to continue their financial support of this valuable program.

#### ENVIRONMENT

Even though the Environmental Photo Contest is no longer supported at the LCI level, the contest is alive and well in MD'A'. Districts are asked to encourage participation. All the details can be found on the MD'A' Website. Deadline for submission to the MD'A' contest is May 10.

#### CONVENTIONS

Plans are moving forward for the LCI Convention in Milan. This year there will be no Lions Breakfast due to scheduling conflicts as well as too high a price point. For the parade, remember that the official uniform for this year is the Patti Hill t-shirt. The Canadian Caucus, followed immediately by the Canadian reception will be held on Sunday July 7. The dress code for the reception is formal or at least semi-formal. Club Secretaries or Presidents can register their voting delegates on the LCI Website. Please make IPCC John Whyte aware of the voting delegates from your club who will be attending the LCI Convention.

Planning for the MD'A' Convention in St. Catharines is also well underway. You are encouraged to register as soon as possible. There

are lots of great things happening, especially the Dog Bowl in support of LFC. Should be a lot of fun! Details are available on the MD'A' website.

#### LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

PDG Janet Marissen reported that, since the beginning of this Lions Year, 70 teams had graduated with another 14 soon to also graduate. The wait list for Autism Assist dogs is huge and is closed to new applicants. The next Open House is scheduled for Saturday April 13.

#### LIONS OF CANADA FUND FOR LCI

PID Art Woods reported that the fund is doing extremely well and that you can now make your personal donations on-line. Use the link [www.lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca](http://www.lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca) for information. Electronic payments must be made through Global Payments and **not PayPal** which is used in the USA. The good news is that receipts for tax purposes will also be received electronically.

#### DIABETES AWARENESS

PDG Denis Vinette brought much valuable information and of special note is the need to support Camp Huronda. As with many camps, maintenance is an on-going challenge and this is especially true at Huronda. The Medical Cabin needs to be replaced and one of the sleeper cabins has been declared uninhabitable. Members of the Lions Family are asked to consider supporting this need. A multi-district project is underway to raise the needed funds. If a district is interested,

contact District A12 Diabetes Chairperson Jim Bartley at [Jimbartley@royalpage.ca](mailto:Jimbartley@royalpage.ca). Diabetes Canada funded a terrific workshop in November with 45 Lions in attendance.

#### **ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON FOR 2019-2020**

Huge thanks go to the candidates who put their names forward for this position. Congratulations to DG A15 Kevin Banfield who was elected Council Chairperson for the Lions Year 2019-2020.

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

## **Proposed Amendments to the Multiple District 'A' Constitution and By-laws**

### **AMENDMENT #1 – ARTICLE V, SECTION 1 OF THE BY-LAWS – MULTIPLE DISTRICT REVENUE**

**Proposed Change:** To change the annual MD'A' Dues from \$14.50 to \$17.50 per member.

**Rationale:** New programs initiated by MD'A' (Global Membership, Global Leadership and Global Service) require adequate funding. Increased costs associated with the operations of MD'A'. Decline in membership in recent years results in lower revenues. It has been 20 plus years since the last Dues increase.

#### **Proposed Amendment Wording**

##### **Section 1. Multiple District Revenue**

To provide revenue to defray the administrative expenses of the multiple district, an annual multiple district administrative fund per capita dues of Seventeen Dollars & Fifty Cents (\$17.50) in Canadian dollars is hereby levied upon each member of each club in the multiple district and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club on or after the first day of September in each year. The membership of each club shall be based on the number of members on record at Lions

Clubs international on the first day of July. Newly chartered or re-organized clubs shall collect and pay said annual dues on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization, as the case may be. Campus Clubs members shall be exempt from annual per capita dues.

### **AMENDMENT # 2 – ARTICLE V, SECTION 1 OF THE BY-LAWS – MULTIPLE DISTRICT REVENUE**

**Proposed Change:** To add the wording “students, as defined by Lions Clubs International and under the age of 30”

**Rationale** To encourage students under the age of 30 to become members of our organization.

#### **Proposed Amendment Wording**

##### **Section 1. Multiple District Revenue**

To provide revenue to defray the administrative expenses of the multiple district, an annual multiple district administrative fund per capita dues of Fourteen Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$14.50) in Canadian dollars is hereby levied upon each member of each club in the multiple district and

shall be collected and paid in advance by each club on or after the first day of September in each year. The membership of each club shall be based on the number of members on record at Lions Clubs International on the first day of July. Newly chartered or re-organized clubs shall collect and pay said annual dues on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or re-organization, as the case may be. Campus Clubs members and **students, as defined by Lions Clubs International and under the age of 30**, shall be exempt from annual per capita dues.

#### **Voting Delegates**

Delegates appointed by their respective Clubs or who are Past District Governors and who are members in good standing and whose Lions Club is in good standing and who are properly registered and in attendance at the 2019 Multiple District 'A' Convention are entitled to cast a vote 'in favour of' or 'opposed to' for each of the above two (2) proposed Amendments.



**Lion Tim Cheung**  
**MD'A' Council Chair**

Spring is in the air! Or is it really? Well, at least that was what I was wishing for today when I wrote this message. We are two-thirds into our current Lions year. MD 'A' has moved a long way this Lions year.

We are ready to vote for PID Dr. Patti Hill as our next 3rd Vice President of Lions Clubs International in Milan. A new red “Yes Patti” golf shirt is ready for the delegates to wear at the convention. Patti’s campaign pins are available – they would make for a memorable award to those well-deserving Lions in your clubs and/or districts. Contact Promotion Chair IPCC John Whyte for the shirts and pins.

MD'A' is on top of the world with the results of the Peace Essay Contest for 2019. At the 41st Annual Lions Day with the United Nations (LDUN), the MD'A' entry to the contest was announced as the

winner of the grand prize. The essay, “Kindness Matters”, was written by Mikayla Ansley and sponsored by the Blyth Lions Club of District A-9. Congratulations to Mikayla and to the Blyth Lions!

LCIF Campaign 100 has a new process for Canadian Lions to contribute to. You can send your donations online through the Lions of Canada Funds for LCIF, and will receive your tax receipts online with your donations. Please visit the Lions of Canada Funds for LCIF website at: [lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca](http://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca) for more information.

MD'A' has a new Council Chair Elect. District Governor Kevin Banfield of A-15 was elected as the next Council Chair of MD'A' at the council meeting on February 23rd, 2019. Welcome aboard, CCE Kevin! I look forward to working with him to plan out another rewarding Lions year ahead.

We still have about four months to the finish of the Lions year. You will be hearing about a few new initiatives for our Multiples for the rest of the year and beyond. We are exploring the opportunity of hosting a Regional Lions Leadership Institute. I have asked the Long Range Planning Committee to

look at ways to set up MD'A' for a more aggressive Public Relationship Committee to promote all the good deeds of our clubs and districts. We are working at options to expand our presence and to promote Lionism through various media at our next MD'A' Convention.

I am pleased to see that MD'A' has gained membership. As of the end of February, we are at a positive growth, in this Lions year. We have six districts showing positive membership growth. A-2 is leading the pack with A-9 a close second. I want to thank all the Governors and Lions of MD'A' for your hard work in growing membership and your dedicated service to Lionism!

Together, We Serve!

**Lion Tim Cheung**  
**MD'A' Council Chair**

# Special Clubs of Communicators

The last link to start the rapid growth of our organization  
by International Director Rodolfo Espinal

During the recent FOLAC (Forum of CA III) celebrated in Santo Domingo, a fellow Lion journalist, retaking a concept that I had shared with him, conceived the great idea of creating the Circle of Lions Communicators of Latin America and the Caribbean (CIRCOLAC). The intention was to start gathering, in a cybernetic organization, the fellow Lions that in some way or other were associated with the media (journalists, announcers, commentators, blog or social media editors, etc.).

At the very moment of conceiving this idea, we became acquainted with Lion Joaquín de Castro, living in Mexico, who made our project. He has taken the initial steps to create the theoretical platform and social media of CIRCOLAC. Once established in our CA, it will serve as a model to other CAs of LCI.

Why do we believe it could be the missing link to achieve the rapid growth of international Lionism? Because, since we started participating as expositor at the FOLAC, we decided to promote the fact that we Lions should do as the hens do: “cackle our service activities,” as hens cackle the eggs they lay. This means to **publicize broadly** in our communities the service activities that we Lions do, in the different media that reach an ample public and not only in the Lions social nets as we are doing now.

In 2012, during my first presentation at a FOLAC, we did not have the measuring instruments that now we have. However, from then on, I pointed out the fact that the diffusion of our service activities was one of the great means to project our image in society. It is the ideal instrument to recruit new members with service vocation who would like to do as Lions in the community, and that they see in the media (television, radio, internet).

## What is our thesis?

Since today we do have instruments to measure our service activities (amount and type of activities,

resource investment, man/hours at a world level, and reach of our activities in the population, etc.), today we can, with solid arguments and statistics, demonstrate to the world that of which before we could only “boast.” This gives us renown with the organizations and governments that handle big funds for the developing world, and with people who want to serve and who want to find the right partners to do so.

This is to say that we have all the tools necessary for modern marketing, to “sell” “our product”:

## OUR SERVICES!

What are we missing? PUBLICITY.

How do we achieve a greater publicity? Paying for space with money we do not have... or whining the sympathy of those who selflessly can use the media to publish news that interest and benefit their communities, that is to say, the communicators.

And what would be the result if we succeed in having those communicators as part of Lions clubs, or participate as members of specialized clubs. This was started last year by President Aggarwal. In addition to publicize the clubs’ activities, they would have interests in common.

Imagine the results!

Without doubt we would achieve the highest presence of the Lions clubs activities in the media. Thus we will attract the interest of persons with service vocation that we have not managed to convince. They would be interested in the Lions clubs and what we do.

As a communicator, I do not doubt that we will manage to interest other communicators in being part of our world association. They would cover the service activities of our clubs.

I appeal to the Lions to conquer communicators



so they become part of a new legion of Lion communicators. They would become the defenders of the promotion of the rapid growth of international Lionism, as never seen before in the 100 years of LCI.

Let’s form specialized clubs of communicators at the level of the zone, region, district, multiple district and CAs as ours! Let’s give the example with CIRCOLAC! Conquer Lion communicators so they become part of the group!

Let’s, in this Lion year, form the first specialized club of communicators in our district! Help me carry out this idea of growth, originated in CA III for the benefit of international Lionism!

**Strengthen the Pride!**

## LCI Forward Update

**The world is hungry for good news.** That’s why media-savvy Lions in Latin America and the Caribbean are putting their experience to work to tell the stories and elevate the Lions brand.

### Professional communicators partner to promote Lions

Lions in Latin America and the Caribbean realized that something was missing. We have incredible service stories to tell, but Lions often struggle to get the word out in the media. And so the Circle of Lions Communicators of Latin America and the Caribbean (CIRCOLAC) was formed.

This initiative is an online consortium of Lions who are associated with the media field in a

personal or professional way, bringing experienced communicators together to develop better communications programs that would help share Lions’ stories with a broader audience.

The current goal of CIRCOLAC is to leverage the skills of Lions who are professional communicators to develop media-ready stories based on real service success and then use their skills and connections in public relations and media to get these stories in local news outlets.

This type of high-impact, highly specialized approach speaks to the innovation happening in Lions. Clubs are finding new ways to tell their service stories and raise their community visibility,

and specialty clubs—which bring men and women together to serve around a specific cause, culture or profession like media—give Lions new ways to serve their communities.

Read the digital March edition for a special message from International Director Rodolfo Espinal on CIRCOLAC.

### Share Your Story

Looking for great resources that can help you promote your club in the community? Then check out some great social media tips at [lionsclubs.org/3FacebookTips](http://lionsclubs.org/3FacebookTips).



by Jamie Konigsfeld

On the coast of Uruguay lies its capital city, Montevideo. Among this vibrant city is the Leo Club Montevideo Ansina, one of the first Leo clubs awarded a grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Recognizing a need for renovations at a local community center, the Leos applied for an LCIF Leo Service Grant and were awarded US\$5,000.

Abandoned 10 years ago, the community center was in rough shape. The inside of the building had deteriorating paint, damaged walls, and dirty floors; most importantly, it needed a new roof. Outside, the weeds and bushes were overgrown and trash littered the lawn.

Eighty Leos from the Leo Club Montevideo Ansina, along with 15 Lions from the Montevideo Ansina and Madame Curie Lions Clubs, funded by the Fundación Leones del Uruguay, worked hard to give the community center a much-needed update. A handful of volunteers from the community center also supported the effort. The volunteers worked together to repaint the interior and exterior walls, doors, windows, outdoor play equipment, and the building's sign. They also spruced up the outdoor areas; volunteers cleaned the patio, the lawn, and tended to the bushes. In addition, professionals were hired to replace the roof and over the next few months, further renovations were made to the building, including a new bathroom, new furniture, a new kitchen, lighting, and air conditioning.

The new-and-improved community center is **directly benefiting 100 children** and will benefit the neighborhood by providing recreational and educational activities. The center will offer computer classes, a library, and community festivals. It will also house a program that serves meals to children who do not get enough to eat and will establish an early childhood care center managed by the government's national care system. The desire to end hunger and help the city's youth is what motivated the Leos to develop this project. In fact, the Leos visit the center every Saturday to give snacks and play games with the neighborhood children. The Leos plan to keep generating new activities to serve the community. One idea is to start a garden.

Thanks to the big-hearted Leos and Lions of Montevideo, along with LCIF, the community will have a new early childhood care center and will flourish with the new space for positive neighborhood development.

Leo Service Grants are a brand-new program offered by LCIF. The grants empower Leos to make a bigger impact

within their own service projects, while being exposed to leadership skills. LCIF will award up to US\$2,500 for Leo clubs in a Lions district or up to US\$5,000 for Leo clubs in a Lions multiple district.

Visit [LCIF.org/BE100](http://LCIF.org/BE100) to learn how Campaign 100 will serve youth and work toward a world where no one goes hungry through sponsoring programs addressing the distinct needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations, and expanding resources and infrastructure needed to address food shortages in our communities and around the world.



LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA  
**DOG GUIDES**



## Bridgette Walker LFC Client and "Estelle" her Hearing Dog Guide Companion

true life-savers, both in the home and out-and-about in the cities. "I was going to my graduation ceremony from college with my first dog Jinny, we had the walk signal. My parents were walking behind us," Bridgette explains, "Toronto is so busy, the streets lined with parked cars, I can't see past them on the street I need to cross to get to grad, but we have the light to cross. I start, but Jinny does something she never did on any of our walks: she blocks my way with her body. The next moment a red blur of a car runs through the light from down the street we were going to cross, right where I would have stepped out. The dog heard the car that I didn't."

Her second dog, a little poodle, Betsey responded to a carbon-monoxide detector, which was vital when Bridgette was living in a finished basement unit with a natural gas furnace. She comments, "Kind of scary to have realized when Betsey woke me up in the middle of the night, in a winter, that it was the carbon-monoxide detector she was reacting to. I could see its little display lit up with the emergency code showing as Betsey was pulling me by leash past it and up the stairs."

Another example she points out is that technology can fail to perform properly and situations need to be

adapted to. With Estelle's help, a toaster that doesn't pop up on cue gets timed with a kitchen timer instead, but Bridgette doesn't want to just stand around watching the timer when she could be preparing the rest of breakfast during the wait. That's where the dog's job comes in on not burning breakfast, or burning down the kitchen. P.S. Bridgette is getting a new toaster, but there are still half a dozen other sounds Estelle still keeps her ears perked and waiting for. These dogs work hard all day, every day! Please continue to support your local Lions Club and the Dog Guides. Thank-you from Bridgette and her Hearing Ear Dog Guides.

**Editors Note:** Your editor is a member of the **Copetown Lions** in District A-15. Back in November we hosted our annual Turkey Roll and by coincidence Bridgette was there with friends and family. Subsequently she spoke to the gathering and outlined her experiences with Dog Guides – it was a rambunctious crowd but when Bridgette was on stage you could have heard a pin drop. Because of her comments and subsequent follow-up she submitted this information for publication in her own words from her perspective. Thank you Bridgette, it is a great story!

Bridgette is an outgoing young lady, who likes her independence but used to feel hindered in achieving that with her many challenges because of her hearing impediment. Thanks to the Lions Dog Guide Program she has been paired successfully three consecutive times with a Hearing Ear Dog. As each Dog Guide retired after years of loyal service, a new one was matched with Bridgette. Currently Estelle, a Yellow Labrador Retriever, fills the role of responding to important sounds, bring comfort and companionship, and even keeps away anxiety with her cool-as-a-cucumber "pawsonality".

Bridgette mentions that her Dog Guides have been

# New Opportunity Arises for Homeless in Salzburg

by Jamie Konigsfeld

A man was living in a small shelter for 500 EUR (US\$568) per month, with only a mattress on the floor for furniture and no shower. His new home is fit for human habitation.

A brand-new building built for a housing program in Salzburg, Austria is giving 55 people without homes a chance to restructure their lives and begin a new path. The program will help citizens of Salzburg reintegrate themselves into society. Thanks in part to Lions and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), these new apartments are fully furnished. The doors opened up to residents on October 1, 2018.

More than 1,700 people in the county of Salzburg do not have a home, according to a survey published by the Fédération Européenne d'Associations Nationales Travaillant avec les Sans-Abri (FEANTSA) in 2017. According to FEANTSA, a non-governmental organization (NGO) fighting homelessness, this means more than 1,700 people are living with friends, in supported housing, shelters, hostels, or with no roof over their heads at all. This number includes 270 children.

Salzburger Studentenwerk (a local NGO) had a building constructed with 55 apartments where

residents can live for up to 36 months while receiving job coaching and life coaching. The construction of the building was financed partly by the Province of Salzburg and public support, and partly by a bank loan. However, there was no money for the furniture. Lions clubs and Rotary clubs of Salzburg collaborated to help furnish the apartments; in addition to raising funds, the Lions of district 114-W also secured a US\$50,000 grant from LCIF. Now, each apartment is furnished with a kitchen counter and sink, a shelf, a table with chairs, a sofa/bed, and a wardrobe. The resident in each apartment assumes operational expenses.

By the end of September, there were 170 applications for residency and by the official opening ceremony on October 16, residents had moved into more than two-thirds of the 55 available apartments.

Hansjörg Brunner, the project chairperson, is proud of the stability this project offers its residents. It's the type of project he says Lions were created for.

He's proud not only because Lions and LCIF were able to provide financial assistance, but also because they were able to source further support by reaching out to their social network within Salzburg.

This new opportunity for housing could not have come at a better time, as the weather in Salzburg becomes colder with averages in the mid-twenties (degrees,



Fahrenheit). The residents will have a safe place to live while receiving the coaching they need to find full-time employment and stable living areas. Lions club members plan to stay involved in the housing program through the supervision of job coaching, mentoring, and help with job placement.

Thanks in part to our global Foundation, this project will benefit approximately 100 people over three years. Visit [LCIF.org/BE100](http://LCIF.org/BE100) to learn how Campaign 100 will sponsor and deliver programs addressing 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.



## Seaforth Lions



Front L to R: Lion Mike Ash, Cathy Semple, Shirley Dinsmore, Lin Steffler Back L to R: Lions Lyle Haney, Bob Fisher, Sherry Boyce, Brenda Wilkinson, Brian Barry, Warren Small

Seaforth Lions Club played a lead role in bringing together four organizations in Seaforth to fundraise for the newly opened Huron Residential Hospice. Lion **Mike Ash**, Lion **Bob Fisher** and Lion **Cathy Elliott** approached the other clubs with the idea of a joint fundraiser. Lion Mike Ash chaired the organizing committee for the Seaforth Huron Harvest.

In September the Seaforth Lions Club, Seaforth Agricultural Society, Seaforth Optimist Club, and the Seaforth Curling Club hosted a fundraising event on behalf of the Huron Residential Hospice. It was an outdoor tasting event which showcased breweries, a winery, a distillery and food producers from in and around Huron County.

Thanks to the generosity of the vendors, the hard work of the volunteers and the patronage of those in attendance, a donation of \$3000 was presented to representatives of the Huron Residential Hospice: Shirley Dinsmore, Sherry Boyce, Cathy Semple and Lin Steffler.

# Diabetes: Lions Take on a Global Epidemic

by Cassandra Rotolo

It's an easy, 12-minute drive from Len Dompke's suburban Chicago home to the local hospital. Yet, the first time Dompke made the drive, it was one of the hardest of his life. Making this drive meant recognizing and changing some unhealthy habits, which was not going to be easy.

Dompke was headed straight for type 2 diabetes. That was before making the drive—each week for a year—to Elmhurst Hospital. If something didn't change, he was going to become one of the 400 million world citizens living with the disease.

District 1-J Lions partnered with Edward-Elmhurst Health (EEH) to develop a diabetes prevention and lifestyle intervention program, which received a US\$95,000 grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Thanks to this incredible teamwork, Dompke has a new lease on life.

## A Preventable Trend

Type 2 diabetes is a disease in which the body does not properly use insulin. Diabetes can lead to serious health complications, including skin conditions, eye problems, and nerve damage. Left unchecked, it can lead to premature death. The number of people living with diabetes has risen from 108 million in 1980 to 422 million in 2014 and continues to rise, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

The good news is that, with changes to diet and lifestyle, type 2 diabetes can be prevented. And that is where Lions get involved.

LCIF diabetes grants can provide Lions with up to US\$250,000. Projects typically support diabetes prevention, education, and improved access to treatment for underserved populations. LCIF also supports diabetic retinopathy programs through SightFirst. Visit [lcif.org/Grants](http://lcif.org/Grants) to learn more about grant funding to help Lions' districts develop and implement large-scale humanitarian projects.

## Lions Heed the Call

The program that helped put Len Dompke's life back on track, Jumpstart Your Health, is focused squarely on providing education and resources to low-income adults at risk of developing diabetes.

Local Lions, backed by that US\$95,000 grant from LCIF and health professionals at EEH, are integral to the program's

success. Each District 1-J Lion involved in the project is trained to be a community ambassador who can advocate for diabetes prevention, facilitate informational meetings, interact with program participants, and host fundraising events. It's a classic example of Lions doing what they do best—serving!

Lion Patty Worden worked diligently alongside her club members to raise their portion of the funding needed for the Jumpstart Your Health program. "I was quite surprised when I took that A1C test and found out I was prediabetic. After going through the program, I'm tracking my steps, drinking more water, serving more fresh foods. I feel better and make healthier decisions," says Worden. "I also have the added benefit of knowing that my classmates wouldn't have been able to take this class without the support of my Lions club. We have worked so hard to provide this for our community. I'm so proud to be a Lion!"

## An Inspirational Success

After a very honest discussion with his doctor and unexpected knee surgery, Dompke, 61, mustered the courage to make a phone call that would change his life. He was determined to turn things around and get healthy. Forever.

Dompke had tried, unsuccessfully, to lose weight on his own. Jumpstart Your Health was the lifeline he needed. "Finally, everything made sense: nutrition, exercise and support are all equal parts of the equation. The program is more than just a diet. It's a lifestyle change, and it gave me the tools I needed to make changes for good," explains Dompke. "The classes were interesting, the materials were easy to read, the goals were realistic, my instructors were compassionate and smart, and no one judged anyone."

Dompke is now a stronger, healthier, and 80-pound-lighter version of his former self. Best of all, with the support of Lions and grant funding from LCIF, he is no longer at risk of developing diabetes.

"Thank you, Lions! I want everyone to know how much good you're doing for our communities every single day," says Dompke.



Len Dompke holds up the pants he wore to his very first "Jumpstart Your Health" class. Dompke is grateful to Lions for the support he needed to make lasting changes. Photo courtesy of Edward-Elmhurst Hospital



Lions are committed to improving the quality of life for people worldwide who are living with diabetes

## Measurable Impact

Individuals at risk of developing type 2 diabetes are offered enrollment in Jumpstart Your Health in attempts to both stave off the disease and improve overall health and quality of life. In just over a year, the program screened 211 individuals, of whom 8% were diabetic and didn't know. Another 31% were prediabetic. Of those with prediabetes, 57% enrolled in the program.

The Jumpstart Your Health program, supported by both Lions of District 1-J and LCIF, has been cited twice for "effectively delivering a quality, evidence-based program that meets all the standards for CDC recognition," putting the program into an elite group of diabetes prevention programs. In fact, only one other hospital in the state of Illinois offers a curriculum that has received this honor. Fortunately for Dompke, the program at Edward-Elmhurst Hospital was just minutes away.

## Make a Difference Together

The LCIF Diabetes grant program offers financial support to Lions who seek to improve diabetes awareness, prevention and management initiatives in their communities, often in partnership with diabetes organizations in their districts. Lions are eligible to apply for grant funding of up to US\$250,000 for impactful projects that enhance and expand diabetes camps, support comprehensive diabetes screening events, increase access to high-quality health facilities that provide diabetes services, and improve health care professionals' knowledge.

"This program is proof that Lions are making a big difference in the community. With the help of Lions around the world who support LCIF, we created something that is not only changing but saving lives. This is just the start of what we can accomplish together," says Lion Jim Worden of the Elmhurst Lions Club.

Visit [lcif.org/BE100](http://lcif.org/BE100) to learn more about how LCIF plays a major role in responding to the diabetes global epidemic through comprehensive health initiatives targeted at the communities in which we live and serve.



A simple blood test can help diagnose diabetes and put those affected on a course to healthier living



# A Chorus of Lions

## Experienced Leaders Bring New Voices to New Levels

The program may be called “New Voices,” but many of the women involved with International President Yngvadottir’s new initiative celebrating women in leadership have been doing the hard work of leading as Lions for some time.

PDG Elizabeth Halim, a district governor in Indonesia and New Voices Chairperson for Constitutional Area (CA) 7, has been a Lion for 30 years. PDG Gloria Lassey and PID Teresa Mann, also New Voices chairpersons, have been serving for 27 years and 25 years, respectively. Altogether, the chairpersons of the seven constitutional areas (and Africa) have 144 years of experience as Lions.

“These women [chairing the constitutional areas] have so much experience, but were not heard before as they are today, just like the many other Lions out there who are serving and running meetings, but do not have a voice,” says New Voices Global Chairperson and chairperson for CA 6, PID Sangeeta Jatia. “This initiative celebrates them and looks forward to their active leadership in the years to come. We are looking for these new voices!”

The goal of the New Voices Chairpersons is to be a resource to the Lions in their area who want to learn more about and participate in the program. They are working diligently to amplify the New Voices message, help tell your stories, and gather feedback from you in order to better empower New Voices volunteers.



**Teresa Mann**

### *Diverse Backgrounds Bring Breadth of Knowledge*

These women leaders come to the table with a broad range of experiences that give them a unique perspective on being a Lion—and enable them to help inspire others.

Some grew up with Lions, like PID Joyce Middleton, Chairperson for CA 1. “They were, and are, a significant part of the fabric of my hometown,” she says. But they were divided by gender. A few years after she and her husband had joined separate clubs, they decided to charter a new one, based on families, where members could bring their children to meetings. “I love that, in our town, there is a place for anyone to serve,” says Middleton.

It was just such a place that Halim needed when she became a Lion. “I was a young mother, only in my twenties, trying to manage my time, juggling between work and taking care of my little kids. But even then, I managed to spend a few hours for Lions meetings every week,” she says.

Lassey, who chairs CA 8, knows all about juggling her role as a Lion with her role as wife, mother, and employee. Lassey joined Lions when she still had three young children at home and a full-time job. “As one who does not do things by halves, I fell deeply in love with this structured and organized way of rendering service to the needy,” she says.

Others came to Lions later in their career, after raising their families, when they were looking for a meaningful way to spend their time. “Some might say that me becoming a Lion was somewhat a result of ‘empty nest syndrome,’” says Mann, chairperson for CA 5.



**Mónica Segura**

### *Lions Changed Them*

But no matter when in their life cycle they decided to become Lions, all have been deeply impacted by its role in their life, and share a vision of creating a more diverse leadership that reflects the face of Lions on the ground around the world.

“As a woman Lion leader I hope I can create a bridge between men and women, young and old—whatever the assignment is,” says PID Elisabeth Haderer, Chairperson for CA 4. “Lions has taught me to use everything I have to give for the benefit of others.”

PDG Mónica Segura, Chairperson for CA 3, talks about a defining moment for her during her time in the Patagonian Desert, doing vision screenings for a population in the remote region. “An adolescent left the optician’s room, running outside,” she says. “He was crying and shouting something we could not understand. We all ran after him until he stopped and stood looking at the tree in the yard of his school. He sobbed and he couldn’t speak. After a while he said to us, ‘This is the first time I can see the leaves of my favorite tree in my school yard. I always sit here during break time.’ We all cried with him. We had



**Gloria Lassey**

provided sight to a young man who could not advance in his studies because he did not have a pair of reading glasses. A miracle? Yes, a miracle,” she says.

Becoming a Lion pushed PDG Nicole Héon Lepage, chairperson for CA 2, to have her own transformative moment. Her club was well known for its successful Christmas party at a local hospice, but for two years Lepage couldn’t bring herself to attend. It brought back too many painful memories of when her grandfather had lived in a similar home. “On the third year I donned a Mother Klaus costume and played a role,” she says. “Since then I have not missed one year and play my role with all my heart.”

Many of the women talk about the opportunities that open up after becoming a Lion leader. The skills and leadership training that’s available. But they all also agree that the real value of being a Lion—at any level—is in the intangible.

“Being a Lion has allowed me to explore and develop skills in areas that have nothing to do with my career,” says Middleton. “It’s added another dimension to my daily life.”

### *In a Busy Life, There Still Can be Room for Service*

Lassey knows that the fabric of women’s lives today is different than it was thirty years ago. “Our hallmark is events oriented and face-to-face interaction which has still not been very well adjusted to the 21st Century era,” she says. “It’s difficult to balance with the fast-paced lifestyle of young women



**Elisabeth Haderer**

who often use social media to connect to friends and family.”

Haderer acknowledges the challenges for young women today. “Time is precious, isn’t it,” she says. But, she says, there are two key principles to keep in mind when thinking about how to spend your time and energy. “We become successful by what we get. But we become happy by what we give.”

**Vision for New Voices**

“Studies have shown that by creating gender balance in leadership, organizations are much more successful,” says Haderer. “By increasing the opportunity for women to become effective leaders,

offering them learning experiences online and in classrooms ... we are convinced that we will attract women outside Lions to join us and make a difference. The women of Lions are a powerful source, working side by side with men, young and old.”

Jatia, just wants women to be themselves. “To me this is what New Voices is all about—speaking our mind, using our unique capabilities and being ourselves,” she says. “Let us celebrate being a woman.”

**Meet the Team**

PID Joyce Middleton, CA 1

PDG Nicole Héon Lepage, CA 2  
 PDG Mónica Segura, CA 3  
 PID Elisabeth Haderer, CA 4  
 PID Teresa Mann, CA 5  
 PID Sangeeta Jatia, CA 6  
 PDG Elizabeth Halim, CA 7  
 PDG Gloria Lassey, CA 8

*Each leader has their own story to tell. Find your leader, read their stories, and get inspired at [weserve.org/newvoices](http://weserve.org/newvoices).*



PID Joice Middleton



PDG Nicole Héon Lepage



PID Teresa Mann



PID Sangeeta Jatia



PDG Mónica Segura



PID Elisabeth Haderer



PDG Elizabeth Halim



PDG Gloria Lassey

## Havelock Lions

Rose Yome is the owner of Tuxedo Farm, breeders of purebred standard poodles.

Rose attends the Havelock Lions Club Wednesday Night Bingo on a regular basis. During this time she learned about the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide Program.

From conversation with Lion **Don Radnor** of the Havelock Lions Club, Rose felt she would like to donate a puppy to the Lions Dog Guide Program in the hopes that it would become a successful dog guide. The donation was to be in memory of her sister-in-law Gail Fraser of Marmora who passed away in February of 2018.

Lion Don contacted **Sam Hobbes** who is the Breeding and Puppy Program Co-Ordinator from the Lions

Foundation of Canada in Oakville. In July of 2018 Sam made the trip to Havelock to meet Rose and her puppy “Piper” and to view the dog’s papers and validate the lineage. All the paperwork was in order and Sam was also able to meet Piper’s Dam, Sire and Grandsire who are part of the breeding program at Tuxedo Farm. All that was left to do was to fit Piper with an official LFC puppy jacket and then return her to the Oakville training facility to be placed with a foster family to begin the first part of her training.



Rose Yome, Piper, Sam Hobbes LFC, Lion Don Radnor

# Better Service, By Design

## Creating a More Beautiful World Through Service

by Emma Harper

There might never be a better reason to pack your bags this summer. The 102nd annual International Convention will be held in Milan, Italy—located in the heart of Europe where everything, it seems, is within arm’s reach.

### *Destination: Milan*

July 5-9, 2019, Lions will be converging on the city famous for its works of art — and the artists who made them — to discuss a different kind of art form. Service, the act of giving, is itself a kind of art. And this summer, Lions will be using their creativity to work toward solutions to the world’s biggest problems. If it’s inspiration you’re looking for, you’ll find it in Milan.

### *The Art Scene Only Begins at “The Last Supper”*

Unlike Rome, renowned the world over as the seat of the Roman Empire, and Florence, often named as the birthplace of the Renaissance, Milan doesn’t have an easy tagline. Many visitors come with a



short list of sites in mind: usually “The Last Supper,” Leonardo da Vinci’s Renaissance masterpiece, and the grandly ornate and stylistically hybrid Duomo, perhaps with time built in for a stop at one of the city’s many designer boutiques.

But the forward-thinking creativity of the Milanese goes beyond these showy centerpieces. Artworks that run the gamut of time periods and art movements are tucked away in house museums and churches, and the city

hums with an inventiveness and dynamism that reveals itself in fashion, design, architecture, and urban development. It’s this confluence of historic and creative forces that makes Milan such a stirring place, one whose many strands you won’t want to stop unraveling once you begin.



## Five Day-Trips from Milan

Milan has plenty to offer visitors who are willing to scratch below the surface, but its central location in northern Italy also makes it an ideal base for exploring the smaller cities and majestic lakes that are an hour’s train ride from downtown.

### **Lake Maggiore**

Northern Italy’s lakes are about as picture-perfect as they come: rough-hewn mountains spill into crystalline water. Each has its own personality, with Lake Maggiore being the grand dame of the bunch. Nowhere is this majesty better appreciated than in Stresa, where a long verdant pathway allows you to relish the lakefront on one side and the town’s opulent hotels on the other.

The three jewel-like Borromean Islands only add to the sumptuous feel of Stresa. Isola Bella is the closest to the town, and its fantastical ten-tiered baroque garden can be glimpsed from the shore. Stop for lunch at one of the excellent seafood restaurants on Isola Superiore before taking the ferry over to Isola Bella to explore this garden, complete with white peacocks, and Palazzo Borromeo, the palace it’s attached to. For a bird’s eye view of these beauties, take the Funivia Stresa-Alpino-Mottarone, a cable car that runs between Stresa and Monte Mottarone with a stop at Alpino midway.

### **Cremona**

Classical music lovers will want to make a beeline for Cremona, a city that became renowned for manufacturing musical instruments in the 16th century and where Antonio Stradivari later made

his world-famous violins. Today the high-tech Museo del Violino, which opened in 2013, exhibits many gorgeous Cremona-made violins and invites musicians to perform on these precious instruments; be sure to check the website for recital and concert dates. The medieval city center is also worth a visit, not just to see the picturesque Piazza del Comune and the 12th-century Cremona Cathedral, but also to wander the narrow backstreets, where you can still glimpse luthiers practicing their craft.

### **Lake Como**

A playground for celebrities, Lake Como is perhaps the flashiest of the northern Italian lakes. To really soak up the luxury, take a train to Varenna, where you can dine on a terrace suspended over the water and poke around elegant villas in the old town. From there, hop over to Bellagio by ferry (or private boat, if you want to live large) to wander the lakeside village’s cobbled lanes, which are studded with small boutiques.

For something a bit more active, follow the Sentiero del Viandante, an ancient track running along the eastern edge of the lake, from Varenna to Bellano. Just over six km long, this portion of the hike can be comfortably walked in three hours and is relatively flat, except for the initial ascent. Reward yourself with a swim at the public beach in Bellano before hopping on a train back to Varenna.

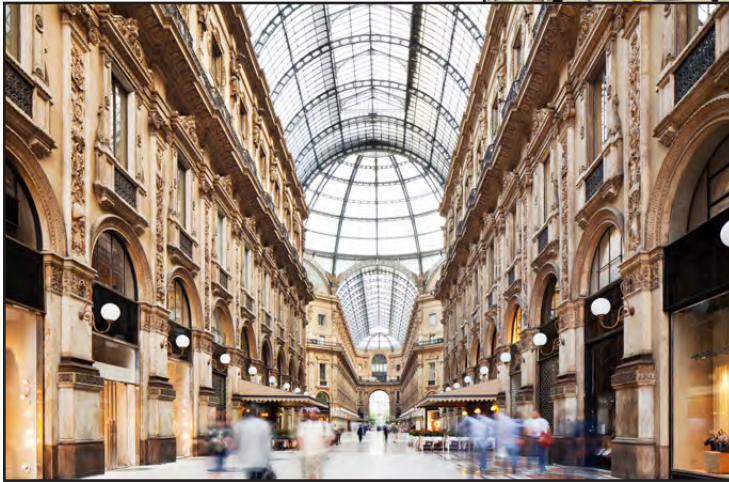
### **Turin**

There’s much to love about this former center of industry (Fiat’s Lingotto car factory, now a huge

arcade of shops and entertainment outlets, was an icon of Italian industrialism when it was built in the early 20th century). Turin was the first capital of the unified Kingdom of Italy in the 19th century and the seat of the Savoy dynasty—the royal residences and long porticoed arcades, allegedly built to keep the aristocrats dry, give the city a regal air. Today, it is Italy’s fourth largest city and also the capital of the Piedmont region, famed for its food and wine, making the dining scene an embarrassment of riches. Add in an elegant café culture and an offbeat art scene—it’s home to both the museum of the Shroud of Turin and an archeological museum dedicated to Egyptian culture—and you’ll never want to leave.

### **Bologna**

Many people would argue that the best food in Italy can be found in the Emilia-Romagna region. So foodies should not miss the region’s capital, and what some would call the gastronomical capital of Italy, the medieval city of Bologna. Try the renowned tortellini in brodo (a filled pasta dumpling served in broth), tagliatelle al ragù (ragù, better known to most foreigners as Bolognese sauce, was first concocted here) or mortadella (cured pork) at one of the many fine restaurants that dot this ancient city. For an all-in-one experience, take a bus to the recently opened FICO Eataly World, a theme park with 40 food factories and just as many restaurants, as well as educational “carousels” and a cornucopia of food products from all across the country.



### Take in the Masterpieces

Leonardo da Vinci, the inventive Italian polymath, had an expansive range of interests — it would almost certainly be easier to list the subjects he didn't take a liking to rather than all those he did. But da Vinci is best known as a painter, and his masterpiece “The Last Supper” at the monastery of Santa Maria delle Grazie reveals his genius, even in its ghostly state.

Leonardo spent almost two decades of his early working life in the city, where Ludovico Maria Sforza, also known as Ludovico il Moro, a regent and later Duke of Milan, served as his patron. In fact, it was Ludovico who commissioned “The Last Supper,” which da Vinci made using the novel technique of

applying tempera paints to dried plaster (traditionally frescoes were painted on wet plaster and thus had to be completed quite quickly).

Due to the fragility of the painting, small groups can bask in Leonardo's genius for only 15 minutes at a time (this limit on visitors is the reason why tickets often sell out months in advance). Yet there's no cap—outside of opening and closing times—on how long you can admire his frescoes in the Sala delle Asse (Room of Wooden Boards) at the Sforza Castle or pages from his Codex Atlanticus notebooks at the Biblioteca Ambrosiana, a library and picture gallery.

There's a reason why da Vinci is so renowned, but he's not the only master in town. The Museo Poldi Pezzoli, an often-overlooked house museum, contains a superb collection of Renaissance works while the Pinacoteca di Brera has some fantastic 15th-century Venetian paintings.

### Experience Today's Masters

Artistic production in Milan is by no means a thing of the past. The contemporary art scene has recently flourished there. In 2015, Fondazione Prada opened a new permanent location in an old gin distillery on the southern edge of the city; on the northern fringes, Pirelli transformed a former locomotive plant into its own contemporary art space, Hangar Bicocca, in 2012. Both are immensely popular and packed with crowds on the weekends.

Milan has also earned a reputation as a design powerhouse. Propelled by the city's growth as an industrial center over the last century or so, Milanese designers have embraced innovative technology and experimental shapes to create iconic objects — not unlike Leonardo with his inventions.

La Triennale di Milano, a design and art institution in Sempione Park that organizes temporary exhibitions and events, is one of the best places to soak up the city's design history. For more contemporary works, visit Spazio Rossana Orlandi and browse



experimental objects and furnishings sprawled across 19,000 square feet of a former tie factory.

More visibly, the new buildings that have recently reshaped the skyline show an eager embrace of forward-thinking architecture. Perhaps most stunning are the skyscrapers in the CityLife district designed by

“starchitects” Zaha Hadid, Arata Isozaki, and Daniel Libeskind.

Adjacent to these three shining towers is where Lions will call home for five days. The curvaceous MiCo Milano Convention Center is easily accessible by metro (via the Amendola or Lotto stop on Line 1 or the Portello stop on Line 5). It can also be reached by bus number 78 (the Colleoni/Gattamelata stop) and tram numbers 19 (the Boezio stop) and 27 (the Piazza 6 Febbraio stop). But the most enjoyable way to navigate the city is by foot, and MiCo is no exception: it’s a 30-minute walk from Sempione Park.



## Food To Eat While in Milan

People love eating Italian food wherever they are. But these four specialties are best eaten in Milan and nowhere else.

### Cotoletta

You can find cotoletta alla Milanese, a cousin of the schnitzel, just about anywhere in Milan, whether you’re dining at Michelin-starred restaurants or going for lunch at a neighborhood bar. And while the basic recipe is the same—a veal cutlet breaded and then fried in butter—each spot seems to have their own twist on the dish. Some go for boneless while others prefer bone-in, and then there’s the debate over thin versus thick, crunchy versus juicy. Don’t be afraid to order it more than once until you find your favorite version.

### Risotto

Most people associate Italy with two dishes: pasta and pizza. While both are certainly widespread, you’ll actually find that rice, rather than pasta, figures more prominently in the traditional cuisine of northern Italy. In Milan especially, which is located in the Po Valley, also known as the “rice bowl of Italy,” you’ll often find risotto on the menu. The city is particularly famous for risotto alla Milanese, a dish made bright yellow by the addition of saffron. Taste-wise, though, the most important components are Parmesan or Lodigiano



cheese and bone marrow, which are responsible for the rich flavor.

### Ossobuco

Like cotoletta, ossobuco is another veal main found at traditional Milanese restaurants. Yet unlike the fried cutlet, ossobuco is slow-braised shank and thus requires more time to cook. The end result, though, is worth the wait: the fork-tender meat almost dissolves on the tongue, and the delicious marrow at the center of the bone adds a punch of flavor. For a real whopper of a meal, order the ossobuco and risotto alla Milanese combination offered at a number of spots.

### Panettone

Come Christmastime, Milan’s pastry shops are stacked high with elegant boxes of panettone, a loaf of sweet bread with origins in the city. Cylindrical in shape and with a domed top, this dessert, which falls somewhere in between a bread and a cake, will blow away any memories you may have of inedible Christmas fruitcakes: the dough is fluffy and pillowy rather than a dense mass, and the candied fruit and raisins are luscious as opposed to rock-hard. Many pastry shops now bake panettone year-round, and a slice of this masterpiece is the perfect accompaniment to your afternoon coffee.

## Serve in Milan

You may be away from home, but that doesn’t mean you have to be away from what you love best. There is nothing more foundational to Lions than service. Convention service projects allow you to step out of the convention center and gain a unique perspective of how local Lions serve in their community. Join Leo and Lion friends from around the world while giving back to those less fortunate. Space is limited, register today: <https://weserve.org/lcicon/experience/service-projects/>

## Knowlton

On November 28th at the Dépanneur Rouge in Knowlton, under the direction of Lion **Gary Crandall**, four new members: **Karen Shaver**, **Blair Goyette**, **Rolley Mammers** and **Jean McGee** were inducted into the Knowlton Lions Club.

“Becoming a Lions club member gives you the opportunity to volunteer locally, or internationally, make new friends and professional connections and lead projects that make your community a better place to live.” said Lion **Pierre Guindon**, President of the Knowlton Lions.

*L to R: at the ceremony, new Lions, Blair Goyette, Karen Shaver, Jean McGee and Rolland Mammers*



*G à d : lors de la cérémonie, les nouveaux Lions, Blair Goyette, Karen Shaver, Jean McGee et Rolland Mammers*

Le 28 novembre, au Dépanneur Rouge de Knowlton, sous la direction du Lion **Gary Crandall**, quatre nouveaux membres: **Karen Shaver**, **Blair Goyette**, **Rolley Mammers** et **Jean McGee** ont été intronisés au Club des Lions de Knowlton.

“Devenir membre d’un Lions club vous donne la possibilité de faire du bénévolat au niveau local ou international, de vous faire de nouveaux amis et de nouer des contacts professionnels et de mener des projets qui font de votre communauté un lieu de vie meilleur”, a déclaré Lion **Pierre Guindon**, président des Lions de Knowlton.





## Club Delegate Form

Club Delegates for the 2019 International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned using one of the options below:

- Log on to MyLCI >>> My Lions Club >>> Conventions
- Submitting this form to LCI headquarters, at the address below.

Confirmation of the Club Delegate assignment will be emailed to the Club Delegate. When the email address of the Club Delegate is not available, the Confirmation will be emailed to the club officer.

Club Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate Name: (first middle last) \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Delegate Preferred Ballot Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorizing Club Officer: *(select one)*       Club President       Club Secretary

Officer Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Name: (first middle last) \_\_\_\_\_

Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form by May 1, 2019 to:

Member Service Center – Lions Clubs International – 300 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> St. – Oak Brook, IL USA 60523  
[MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org)    Phone 1-630-203-3830    Fax 1-630-571-1687

Clubs using this Club Delegate Form to assign their delegates must mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2019.

If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2019, bring signed form, along with your government issued photo I.D. to the convention site.

Clubs using MyLCI must assign their club delegates by July 2, 2019 (11:59pm CST)



# Voting at 2019 International Convention

## Voting for Executive Officers and International Directors

Every Lions club in good standing can participate in the election of executive officers and international directors and can vote on amendments to the association's bylaws by assigning delegates to represent the club at the international convention.

At the International Convention certification and voting will occur at the same time in the convention Voting Area. As soon as you are certified, you will receive a ballot and will be able to vote immediately. Certification and Voting days and times are:

- Sunday, July 7, 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM (12:00 – 17:00)
- Monday, July 8, 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM (12:00 – 17:00)
- Tuesday, July 9, 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM (7:30 – 9:30)

## Assigning Club Delegates

Club Delegates for the International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned by the club president or secretary, using one of the options below:

- Log on to [MyLCI](#) >>> My Lions Club >>> Conventions
- Submitting the [Club Delegate Form](#) to LCI headquarters, at the address below.

Clubs using MyLCI can assign their club delegates at any time between January 1 and July 2, 2019 11:59 pm CST (US).

Clubs using the [Club Delegate Form](#) to assign their delegates will need to mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2019. If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2019 bring signed form to the convention site. The [form](#) will also be available online.

For more information on voting at the International Convention go to: <http://licon.lionsclubs.org/experience/certification-voting/>

Member Service Center Lions Clubs  
International 300 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Oak Brook IL USA 60523

Email: [MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org)  
Phone: 1+630-203-3830  
Fax: 1+630-571-1687

**International Convention  
Club Delegate Entitlement Table**

Membership	Delegates Entitled
1-37	1
38-62	2
63-87	3
88-112	4
113-137	5
138-162	6
163-187	7
188-212	8
213-237	9
238-262	10
263-287	11
288-312	12
313-337	13
338-362	14
363-387	15
388-412	16
413-437	17

Membership	Delegates Entitled
438-462	18
463-487	19
488-512	20
513-537	21
538-562	22
563-587	23
588-612	24
613-637	25
638-662	26
663-687	27
688-712	28
713-737	29
738-762	30
763-787	31
788-812	32
813-837	33
838-862	34

Membership	Delegates Entitled
863-887	35
888-912	36
913-937	37
938-962	38
963-987	39
988-1012	40
1013-1037	41
1038-1062	42
1063-1087	43
1088-1112	44
1113-1137	45
1138-1162	46
1163-1187	47
1188-1212	48
1213-1237	49
1238-1262	50
1263+	See right*

Delegate count is based on the club's membership as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. See Article VI, Section 2 of the International Constitution and Chapter XVII – Membership, Board Policy Manual.

\*Delegate entitlement is one delegate for every 25 members or major fraction thereof.



# CONVENTION AND HOTEL RESERVATION FORM LIONS CLUBS 102ND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Milan, Italy • Friday, July 5 – Tuesday July 9, 2019

**DEADLINES MAY 1, 2019:** Deadline for advance registration and hotel reservation. Deadline to submit a refund request for registration, housing and/or ticketed event cancellation.

**REGISTRANT INFORMATION:** Please type or print name as it appears on passport/photo ID.

First Name/ Family (Last) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge/Call Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Lion  Lioness  Alpha Leo  Omega Leo  Adult Guest Club No. \_\_\_\_\_ Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANION: First Name/ Family (Last) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge/Call Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lion  Lioness  Alpha Leo  Omega Leo  Adult Guest Club No. \_\_\_\_\_ Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

CHILD: First Name/ Family (Last) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  Alpha Leo

**PACKAGE A:**

Includes convention registration for each registrant listed above plus one (1) hotel room serviced by shuttle buses during convention.

- Before January 11, 2019  Reservation in delegation hotel
- After January 11, 2019  I prefer my delegation hotel  Prefer another hotel

Hotel Name \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Day/Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Day/Date \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Guests in Room \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Beds Needed  1  2

Special Requirements:  Wheelchair Accessible  Other

- **US\$200 Hotel Deposit** is per room and credited to your hotel bill at check out.
- Hotel rooms are equipped to accommodate a total of two (2) guests per room.
- Hotel Deposits paid by credit card will be charged an additional 8%.
- The Hotel Deposit will be sent to the hotel in Euros at the prevailing exchange rate.

**PACKAGE B:**

**NO ROOM REQUIRED** (Registration only for each person listed above.)

**OPTIONAL TICKETED EVENTS**

*I/we plan to attend the following event(s): (Must be registered to attend)*

EVENT: MELVIN JONES FELLOW LUNCHEON

DATE/TIME	FEE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT DUE
July 8/ 12:00-14:00	US \$75	_____	\$ _____

EVENT: DISTRICT GOVERNOR/PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR BANQUET

DATE/TIME	FEE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT DUE
July 8/ 20:00-22:00	US \$135	_____	\$ _____

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE PROJECTS IN MILAN**

I am interested in participating in a hands-on community service project during the Milan International Convention. Further details on registering for service projects will be sent to you in the coming months.

**PAYMENT:** Full payment is required with this form. US currency only. Checks and money orders must be drawn on US banks. Visa, MasterCard & Discover cards accepted.

REGISTRATION FEES:	Adult	Child (17 and under)/Alpha Leo	Omega Leo	PACKAGE A:	PACKAGE B:
EARLY (Before January 11, 2019)	US\$150	US\$20	US\$100	Registrations: US\$ _____	Registrations: US\$ _____
REGULAR (January 12 through March 31, 2019)	US\$200	US\$20	US\$100	Ticketed Events: US\$ _____	Ticketed Events: US\$ _____
LATE (April 1, 2019 – onsite)	US\$225	US\$20	US\$100	Hotel Deposit: US\$ <b>200.00</b>	Total Due: US\$ _____
				Total Due: US\$ _____	

Check # \_\_\_\_\_  Wire transfer (payment slip must be attached to this form)  Visa  MasterCard  Discover

Name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_ Credit card must be in the name of the registrant.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires Month/Year \_\_\_\_\_ Security code (3 digits) \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder Signature

**Mail form and payment to:** Lions Clubs International Attn: Convention Division • 300 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA • Allow 4 weeks for processing.

- Credit Card and Wire Transfer Payments can be faxed to: (630) 571-1689
- LCI will email your Official Registration Confirmation. **Please print and bring with you to Milan, Italy.**
- All registrants will pick up their name badge onsite in Milan. Please bring your LCI Official Registration Confirmation with you to scan and print your name badge. A photo-ID is also required. **LCI will not mail badges in advance.**
- Information provided on this document shall be used in accordance with the privacy policies and procedures of Lions Clubs International.
- Questions? Email us: registration@lionsclubs.org.

HOUSING FORM CRHF 2019 EN 8/18

Please note: Lions Clubs International will be documenting the international convention for promotional purposes. Your participation may be filmed or photographed at this event. Your registration is your consent for use of these images by Lions Clubs International.

# Playtime is Better Together!

by Cassandra Rotolo

In Tennessee, the Lions-Anthem Foundation Healthy Heroes initiative helped to fund and build the All-Inclusive Playground at the Karns Lions Club Community Park, in the spring of 2017. The playground serves more than 3,500 families each year and is the only one in all of Knox County that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The playground features a musical garden, modern accessible play structures and much more. Thoughtful and inclusive design are key. There are no hills, mulch or rocks. This artificial turf provides a soft, even surface on which all children can walk, run, and even fall safely.

For 5-year-old Natalie Barham, that means more confidence. Natalie's difficulty with balance used to keep her from exploring other playgrounds freely. Amy, Natalie's mom, explains, "We never spent much time at parks before because it was just too difficult for us." Natalie is an outgoing and friendly child, playing happily with new friends of all abilities she meets at the playground.



Natalie (far right) gets some help on the climbing wall from her mom

Perhaps as important, the playground is not only accessible, but inclusive. "Accessible" playgrounds are built exclusively for children with disabilities, whereas "inclusive" playgrounds are built for children of all abilities. For 7-year-old Addie Humphreys, who has cerebral palsy, this distinction is vital. Design elements like extra handrails and low transfer points on slides give Addie the opportunity to connect with other children. Disc-shaped swings provide Natalie the exhilaration of swinging alongside friends.

For Addie's mom, Rachel, the Karns Lions playground offers peace of mind. Addie lacks the core control to safely navigate traditional playground equipment, which often means she plays with her mom instead of other children. The innovative equipment lets Addie interact without her mom hovering too close. "Thank you so much, Lions and Anthem," says Rachel. "You see so far outside of yourselves. This is a gift for the kids, for the parents and for the entire community."

The project reflects Lions Clubs International Foundation's and Anthem Foundation's shared vision of health and wellness for all. Since 2015, Healthy Heroes projects have directly benefited more than 200,000 lives across



Addie (L) and Natalie (R) enjoy the music garden at the Karns Lions All-Inclusive playground

eight states, through disability inclusive projects, food banks, shelters, and more.

"The Anthem Foundation remains committed to ensuring families across the country have access to programs and resources that improve the health and wellness of our communities," said Lance Chrisman, executive director of the Anthem Foundation. "Our collaboration with the Lions to support the All-Inclusive Playground is another example of how together, we are working to ensure all children have access to safe places and opportunities to live active lifestyles."

Monica Dailey, a local former special education teacher, advised the Lions on their new playground. Inclusivity is paramount for her. "Separating children from each other isn't the answer," she says. "Inclusion teaches compassion and acceptance. And everyone benefits from more of that."

Visit lionsclubs.org to learn how Campaign 100 supports the work of Lions to help people with disabilities lead more independent, productive and fulfilling lives.

## Mountain & District Lions and Community

The Battle of Hill 70 took place in World War I between the Canadian Corps and five divisions of the German 6th Army in August of 1917 in France. It was a significant event and went a long way towards the success of the allied armies and was a key turning point in the war, it became known as the "Forgotten Battle". The community of Mountain and it's citizens recognized the importance of the battle and constructed a memorial which was dedicated in 1925 with participants from the event involved in the dedication.

Some 80 years passed until the Mountain and District Lions undertook an initiative to renovate the existing memorial. This action was a result of the efforts of a school teacher and historian, Eunice Johnston, who after reading an news article pertaining to "A Forgotten Battle" she and her husband, Lion **Don Johnston**, viewed the site. This took place approximately 10 years ago and since, Eunice, with determination and enthusiasm encouraged

her husband and Lion **Bob Weagant** to chair a Lions' Committee to renovate the existing site. As part of the project, the Club erected granite tablets with the names of all the fallen soldiers and the story of the Hill 70 Battle etched into the structures. The site was rededicated in November 2012. The memorial has a tree planted and a plaque on sight in memory of



Original Memorial - Lions Bob Weagant, Ian McKelvie and Don Johnston

Eunice Johnston. "May these brave soldiers never be forgotten".

In 2017 there was an memorial event that was a celebration of the Hill 70 Battle. That was followed by a musical Concert in the Park in 2018 highlighting the Hill battle with wartime hymns to celebrate the end of World War One.



New Memorial

# We Speak for the Trees

## Lions mobilize to staunch the loss of the worlds' forests

by Joan Cary and Erin Kasdin

*Unless someone like you  
Cares a whole awful lot  
Nothing is going to get better,  
It's not.*

*-The Lorax, by Dr. Seuss*

With nearly 1.5 million members, Lions have a powerful voice. And around the world, Lions are using that voice to raise awareness about climate change and mobilize. In 2011, then International President Wing-Kun Tam challenged Lions to plant 1 million trees. They responded by planting 15 million in every inhabited continent and have continued to plant millions more since.

With tree cover currently disappearing at a rate of 73.4 million acres per year in 2016 (51 percent higher than the previous year), the question remains, is it enough?

### **From Fable to Fact**

In 1970, Theodor Geisel and his wife, Audrey, left their home in La Jolla, California, to vacation at the posh Mount Kenya Safari Club, located at the base of Mount Kenya in Africa. Geisel—better known to the world as Dr. Seuss—spent one breezy afternoon during this vacation writing the bulk of the manuscript for what would become one of his most popular (and controversial) books, “The Lorax.”

The fable, told in typical, sparse Seussian rhyme, pits consumerism against ecological health and sustainability. It’s the tale of the Once-ler who exploits the yarn-producing Truffula trees to knit and sell thneeds. The Once-ler depletes the forest, devastating the wildlife that depend on the trees, but he cares

only about his profits. The Lorax—a small, orange, mustachioed ball of fluff with a long grimace—begs him to stop, saying he speaks for the trees. He tries to show the Once-ler that an entire ecosystem depends on these trees. The admonitions go unheeded and the story ends with the Truffula Tree and the surrounding ecosystem on the brink of extinction.

Written when the environmental movement was just picking up steam, The Lorax has resonated with readers then and now. But despite the fanciful nature of his illustrations, in a recent study published in the journal *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, researchers suggest the story might not be purely a figment of Geisel’s imagination, but actually based on what he saw on his trip to Kenya.

As it turns out, Mount Kenya is prime habitat for the patas monkey—a small, orange primate with a gloomy countenance who depends on one specific species of spindly tree, called the whistling thorn acacia.

Is it possible that the iconic environmental children’s tale is based on a real-live monkey and its habitat, which is still in peril today?

Nearly 50 years after its first publication, Kenya is fighting a battle for its environment that eerily parallels Geisel’s fable. Over the past half century charcoal and timber production, unregulated logging, and urbanization have eroded Kenya’s lush and diverse landscape. By the mid-80s more than 70 percent of Kenya’s original forests were gone.

The loss of Kenya’s forests has had far-reaching effects on its population. Kenya relies on the mountains and forests to act as natural “water towers,” catching and preserving rainwater during the rainy season and providing naturally filtered water to the aquifers and streams during the dry season. What’s more, the loss of these mountain forests also



**Is the patas monkey the inspiration behind the Dr. Seuss character the Lorax?**

*Photo by DeAgostini/Getty Images*

leads to flash floods, as the rainwater isn’t captured by debris and absorbed by the roots of trees.

As a consequence, Kenya is plagued by drought and flooding, and the arid conditions are making it harder and harder to farm successfully, creating a large population that is struggling for food and water. While the patas monkey is not yet listed on the endangered species list, its population is in decline, largely due to habitat loss. It seems that Geisel’s fable is turning into reality.

But don’t despair.

### **The Answer is in the Trees.**

“The more trees you have, the less flooding you have, the fewer extreme weather events, the



**The whistling thorn acacia supplies 80% of the food to the patas monkey. The pair (monkey and tree) is thought to be the inspiration for The Lorax, a popular environmental fable written by Dr. Seuss.**

*(Photo by Gerry Ellis)*



**To fight the effects of deforestation, Lions in Kenya have partnered with global and local foundations to plant more than 10 million trees over five years**



Since 1984 the members of Lions club Asbjorn in Iceland have planted 2,000 or more trees to convert a barren, windy spot into a picnic grove. They have revitalized nature, educated their children, and created a Lions presidential forest along the way

more stable, healthy environment you live in,” says Murphy Westwood, global tree expert at the Morton Arboretum outside Chicago, Illinois.

The most recent report from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) wrote “Our planet’s future is inextricably tied to the future of its forests.”

This is good news. Because, as Lions know, trees can be planted. Forests can be reborn. The damage can still be undone, but it won’t be easy.

“Innovation is a function of constraints,” said James Shaw, the New Zealand minister for climate change, during the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco in September of 2018. “When things really get constrained, that’s when you get creative.”



Four benches at the Lion Jim Sinclair Memorial Forest in Saskatchewan, Canada, give visitors a place to rest. Regina Beach and District Lions tend to more than 1,750 trees in the growing forest

What better group of innovators than Lions?

### Lions Take on Trees

To combat the effects of deforestation and climate change, Lions around the world are finding a wealth of reasons to begin planting forests.

In Iceland, the members of Lionsclub Asbjorn near Reykjavik, have planted so many trees that Lion Halldór Kristjánsson says it’s sort of become a habit.

Each year the Asbjorn Lions—a club of about 38—plant up to 200 Icelandic birch, pine, fir, and Alaskan poplar on a 125 to 250 acre area they began converting from barren rocks and moss to a picnic grove in 1984. The land belongs to the town of Hafnarfjorour but was unused due to poor drainage. It was always wet, sitting in snow. Asbjorn Lions, says Kristjánsson, first dug a ditch to channel the water away and planted grass on a wide stretch to control erosion. Then they began planting trees to provide shelter from the wind.

From the grove picnickers now look out on Mt. Helgafell, or “holy mountain,” an area steeped in Icelandic folklore.

Many children of the Lions have not only learned about their environment but met and made friends through the planting of 2,000 or more trees at the scenic spot. And it’s also there where Asbjorn Lions have welcomed Lions International presidents, planting trees in their honor to create a presidential grove.

In 1999 IP Kajit Habanananda visited Iceland, and Kristjánsson, then council chair for MD109, had the idea to ask the president to plant a tree in their grove, encouraging care for the environment. The president accepted, and since then all but one of the international presidents have come to Iceland and planted a tree in the grove. IP Yngvadottir is expected to add her tree in April.

Near the picnic grove, the Lions in 2011 created a Peace Path in memory of a young club member who died of cancer during his tenure as president. The path features sitting areas and bronze plaques with poetry where visitors can pause. The

trail of forest and moss culminates with a view of scenic Hvaleyrarvatn Lake where Kristjánsson says visitors get yet another reminder of all nature has to offer.

In Canada, Lion-created memorial forests support the environment and Lions Foundation of Canada, including the foundation’s Canada Dog Guide Program. After visiting the Lions Foundation of Canada Memorial Forest in Breslau, Ontario, where the first trees were planted in 1999, the Regina Beach and District Lions Club started the Lion Jim Sinclair Memorial Forest in Saskatchewan. That forest now includes more 1,750 trees of four or five species that are tended by Regina Lions.

Another forest in Quebec includes more than 600 trees planted since 2012, and Lions say there are at least 12 or more other memorial forests that have been planted in their country. They expect further expansion of the project as the country approaches its Centennial in 2020.

“It’s good,” says Past District Governor Ken Peters. “It’s good that a memory lives on and grows.”

And in Kenya, Lions Clubs are working hard to avoid imitating the story their land inspired. In 2013 they partnered with global and local foundations to plant more than 10 million trees over five years.

### Just a Shaded Place to Sit

It doesn’t have to be millions of trees. Forests are rebuilt one seed at a time. A community may not need a new forest, but just a tree for people to rest under, shaded from the sun.

When the Franklin Park-Manila Lions Club in Illinois asked their community what they could do to help, the first thing community members said was “plant a tree.”

So the Lions worked with their village officers and planted two white oak trees outside their local police station, and celebrated with a ribbon cutting and a plaque as you might commemorate the opening of a new store or a community center, recognizing the value the oaks brought to the village.

### Unless

At the end of “The Lorax”, as the Lorax leaves the now barren land, he says to the Once-ler, “Unless.” And that’s when the Once-ler finally realizes what the Lorax meant. He tosses the last Truffula seed to the unseen listener of his story.

“But now,” says the Once-ler, “Now that you’re here, the word of the Lorax seems perfectly clear.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”

See how Lions in Iceland have helped reverse the effects of deforestation and become one of the most environmentally friendly nations in the world. [Link to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdBm3pHqAYI>]

For a guide on how to get started with an environmental service project, see our Environment Service Planners at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-global-causes/environment>.

## Stittville Lions

Lion President, **Paul Riddell**, got the ball rolling in regards to assisting families in the Dunrobin Community where one of the most destructive storm ever to hit the Ottawa Valley area occurred last September. The damage was severe as evidenced by the photo above. The Stittville Lions donated \$2,500.00 to the West Carleton Food Access Centre and continued with their service work by providing a roast beef dinner for community members with the assistance of area Councillors.



**L to R: Stittville Lion President, Paul Riddell; El-Chantiry, Councillor for West Carleton March; Lion Shad Qadri, Councillor for Stittville & Kanata; Lion Theresa Qadri**



### We Serve



*We are Lions and what do we do?  
Well, together we make a formidable crew.*

*We pack up glasses and check children's eyes,  
We teach folks to read to their delight and surprise.*

*Houses we build and trees we do plant,  
Doing the work and denying the word "can't".*

*We send kids to camp and we donate of our time,  
There is no hurdle we dare not climb.*

*We cook and have raffles and sometimes we dance,  
All in an effort to give others a chance.*

*We work very hard with dogged persistence,  
The outcome of which is the gift of assistance.*

*We work close to home and around the world too,  
Changing lives....that's just what we do!*

*Its service that drives us all forward it seems,  
To help those in need accomplish their dreams.*

*PDG Diane M. Smith A15*

## Lions Celebrate 20 Years of SightFirst in Madagascar

by Jamie Konigsfeld



Cataracts are the number one cause of blindness. Moved to change the reality for those affected, more than 20 years ago, Lions in Madagascar started a SightFirst project to address the issue. Since then, the Lions have gone on to do so much more.

"When we see the smiles of the people we help, it goes straight to your heart. No riches in the world can buy the feeling of happiness that comes from helping others," says Lion Anja Ramilison of Antananarivo Lions Club.

Lions SightFirst Madagascar (LSFM), a program supported by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), recently marked its 20th anniversary restoring sight and expanding comprehensive eye care services across Madagascar.

Approximately 1.3 billion people worldwide live with some form of vision impairment, according to the World Health Organization, be it a refractive error, cataracts, or another eye condition. However, close to 80 percent of all vision impairment is avoidable. Many times, a pair of glasses is all that one needs to see clearly. Despite this, millions are seeing their lives through blurry eyes.

In Madagascar, almost 80 percent of the population lives on less than US\$1.90 per day and cannot afford an eye exam or glasses. So, in addition to a major cataract problem, Madagascar has many people living with uncorrected refractive errors. Many parents who lost their vision are no longer able to care for their family. They cannot work, so they cannot earn a living. In addition to a problematic economic situation, blindness and visual impairments lead to other health issues and a shortened life expectancy.

Recognizing an enormous problem, Lions of Madagascar opened the SightFirst Madagascar Eye Center, which is open every day of the week to provide eye care to those who need it. The eye center is committed to improving access to comprehensive

eye care, including treatment of uncorrected refractive errors, and has affordable eyeglasses made on-site. In addition, the center trains physicians to perform screenings and cataract surgeries that restore vision to people who were once blind.

In LSFM's 20-year history, the center has made great strides against visual impairment and blindness. It has:

- Performed 77,794 cataract surgeries
- Distributed 101,644 pairs of eyeglasses
- Diagnosed and treated 602 cases of diabetic retinopathy
- Trained 60+ physicians

These accomplishments would not have been possible without LCIF and the support of 53 Lion and Leo clubs. Overall, LCIF has awarded seven grants to LSFM, totaling US\$4,144,623.

To celebrate their 20th anniversary, LSFM Lion and Leo Clubs organized a parade and held a massive ophthalmic screening. Later that day, LSFM employees received medals from the Malagasy Government for their outstanding contributions.

Visit [LCIF.org/BE100](http://LCIF.org/BE100) to learn how Campaign 100 will lead the charge to rid the world of infectious blindness, reduce avoidable blindness and visual impairment, and improve overall quality of life to those with blindness or visual impairment.

## Blyth Ontario Student is World's Best

The **Blyth Lions Club** is extremely honoured to announce that Mikayla Ansley of Blyth is the Grand Champion of the Lions Clubs International Peace Essay Contest. covering 200 countries worldwide and her essay was judged to be the best.

Lions Clubs International introduced the Peace Essay competition to give visually-impaired students aged 11-13 an opportunity to express their feelings of peace. Mikayla's Peace Essay, entitled "Kindness Matters", details her battle with bilateral retinoblastoma, a rare form of ocular cancer that resulted in the loss of her left eye and most of her vision in her right, and how the kindness of others helped her and her family through difficult times.

Her composition was judged the top essay at District A9 and Multiple District 'A' competitions prior to advancing to International. At the International level, Mikayla was in competition with winning essays from multiple districts



*Mikayla Ansley, representing the Blyth Lions Club (A9), received the Lions Plaque for winning the District A9 Peace Essay Contest. Presenting the Plaque to Mikayla is Club Youth Opportunities Chairperson Shawn Loughlin (left) and Club President Barney Stewart (right). Mikayla's entry went forward to the MD A contest where hers was also the winning entry.*



# ESSAY

## Kindness Matters

Kindness is a simple but powerful thing. It can be as small as a smile or a wave, or as big as sponsoring a child. Even if you don't realize that you are doing it, that can still make someone's day. Kindness matters more than you think.

My name is Mikayla and I have been legally blind since the age of two. I had a rare cancer called bilateral retinoblastoma, which is a cancer that affects both of the eyes. Because of that cancer I had to lose my left eye and lost most of my vision in my right eye. It was this tragedy that taught me the lifeline of kindness. How to be thankful for what I have instead of wanting more. During my cancer journey, my parents had to quit their jobs and be at the hospital with me all the time. I'm so thankful to all the people that held our hands through it all, by donating toys, blankets and money so that this family could stay on our feet. It is because of that experience I am on a mission to change the world with kindness. By helping others through there dark times like they help me through my cancer. In the past, I have written a letter to the minister of Australia in hopes I would change his decision of not allowing the refugees in to his country.

Taking their sanitation, food and water away from the refugee camps so that they would leave his country is intolerable. Hopefully my letter was the smallest bit of a difference, people like that need to change. Also organized a fundraiser at my school, to buy teddy bears for the orphan and abandoned children in Haiti. Because I believe every child deserves something to hold on to and love.

I know that the world needs more of that kindness, to live in peace and friendship, without war or abuse. For everyone to believe they are truly safe and happy. Sometimes life can be tough and you might feel like the whole world is against you, believe me as a stubborn legally blind girl it has happened more than once. If you just keep being kind to one another, it can make yours and everyone's world brighter. If the whole world was filled with smiles and laughter, everything would be great. One day everyone will believe in their hearts, that kindness really truly matters.

*Mikayla Ansley*

## MD A Peace Poster Contest

Congratulations to Sara Abu Haieh, sponsored by **Mississauga Central Lions Club** from District A 7-11 on winning the Peace Poster Contest with the theme "Kindness Matters" for 2018.

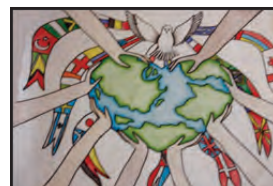


## Sault Ste Marie Lions

The Sault Ste Marie Lions Club were proud to take part in the District Peace Poster Competition. At the local level, 1st and 2nd prizes were awarded to two students from Holy Cross Catholic Elementary School. Their beautiful creations were forwarded to the District Governor to be judged at the District Level .



*L-R Lion David Chadwick-Peace Poster Chair, Tyra McKenzie-1st place, Kloeey Pine-2nd place, President Lion Zachary Good*



*1st Place*



*2nd Place*



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FRIDAY, MAY 24 TO 26, 2019**

**FEBRUARY UPDATE**

St. Davids & District Lions Club (your MDA convention host committee) is working with the MD Convention Committee again this year to provide a service filled event. The convention program is still a work in progress; however, we think you are going to like what your convention has planned!



**Friday Evening "Welcoming Dinner" \$48 (same as 2018 pricing)**

The MD-A Convention Committee has renamed the convention Friday evening dinner to the Convention Welcoming Dinner. As the new name indicates: the dinner event welcomes all convention attendees. (Business attire recommended.)



**Friday & Saturday Evening Social Time - \$10 (proved to be a hit in 2018)**

- Join the host committee and friends on Friday and Saturday evenings for some light music and conversation in our lower level hospitality area. (Fee includes one beverage with refills at Lions Clubs prices.)



**Saturday International Banquet Luncheon - \$25**

- The International Banquet Luncheon keynote speaker is our Lions International Director for Canada, Tom Gordon.



**Saturday Afternoon 'Friendship thru Service' Project**

- Join the St. Davids Lions organizing and packing eyeglasses for shipment to the Canadian Lions 'CLERC' center in Calgary. CLERC grades, sorts and cleans the eyeglasses for use in Lions service projects in one of 76 countries worldwide.



**Saturday Afternoon 'Dog Bowl' Event**

- Convention attendees are invited to join the Lions of District A -2 to compete in the first MD A 'Dog Bowl' LFC Dog Guides fundraising event. Visit our website for details: [www.stdavidslions.ca](http://www.stdavidslions.ca)



**Remember - Convention 50/50 Draw- Current Draw Value: \$ TBA**

Purchase tickets at the convention registration desk or from the tickets mailed to your club.



The St. Davids Lions Host Committee's goal is to make the MDA Convention filled with Friendship & Service.

Check our website ([www.stdavidslions.ca](http://www.stdavidslions.ca)) for updates.

PDG Allan Snider  
MDA Host Committee Chair



# Calling all Lions, Lioness, Leos and Friends

## *Opportunities for Youth Dinner*

### *MD A Convention May 25, 2019 6 PM*

*Following Buffet Dinner Presentations by: Youth Camp & Exchange, Effective Speaking Program, Leos, Peace Poster/Blind Essay Contests, Lions Quest.*

**Tickets \$26.00, contact Lion Evelyn Spiering  
519-631-1625**

**or pdglionev@gmail.com.**

**Cheques payable to Evelyn Spiering (noted "Youth Dinner")  
to be mailed to 2-20 Holland St., St, Thomas ON N5R 4S2**

*Tickets to be ordered and paid for in advance.*



## Mountain & District Lions & North Dundas Leos

Lions **Nancy and Bob Tapping** were vacationing in St. Kitts when they visited with the **Basseterre St. Kitts Lions**. Subsequently on their return their home club got involved along with District A4 North Dundas Leo's Club who took on a project to help the community of St. Kitts. The Mountain Township and District Lions twinned with the Basseterre, St. Kitts Lions. Shortly after the hurricanes hit the Caribbean islands, the Mountain Lions sent clothes to St. Kitts to assist with the disaster relief in that area. From there the Leos started plans to travel to St. Kitts and help first hand.

Before getting there, many fundraisers were organized such as bottle drives, raffles, and chili suppers. The clubs of District were very generous in donating to the Leos as well. The Leos collected personal hygiene items and school supplies from the North Dundas community and at the District A4 convention. The supplies were sorted, boxed, packed into crates and sent ahead of their trip. The work preparing for the trip lead to many of the Leos having over 100 hours of service.

They visited four schools to deliver soccer uniforms

(jersey, shorts, and socks). The Leos also visited an orphanage and spent time with the children playing soccer and taking pictures with their phones.

The Leos were put to work while there. They were all trained on how run an eye screening clinic. A clinic was run at a local school, where students and staff were tested. Approximately 2/3 of those tested were recommended to seek further testing with an eye doctor. The local television station came to interview the

Leos and highlight the work being done.

The 2017-2018 Mountain Lions year was a rewarding year for the Leos of North Dundas. Recently they received the well deserved Leo Club of the year award for District A4.



*Shown in the photo along with St. Kitts students are Roxanna Backs Leos Leader in the front row on the right, Lion Nancy Tapping in the top row on the left, several Leos are in the photo in their blue Leos t-shirts*

# The Life of a Caregiver is not an Easy One

by Lion Keith Ashley - Simcoe Lions

From our very start in 1917 Lions have been involved in caring for the needs of the blind. In 1925, Helen Keller issued a challenge to all Lions Clubs around the world to become Knights of the Blind.

How have Lions responded since that day in Chicago? Here are just a few programs that have been started or expanded by Lions Clubs. Job creation programs that used the many skills blind people possess. Camps were established so they could feel as normal as possible. Service dog programs were developed in many countries. The establishment of eye banks to bring light to the darkness. Collection of glasses to be sent to areas of need.

And then there is the Sight First programs run by Lions and volunteers.

The phrase, "Out of the darkness and into the light", has been and still is, our challenge.

Now there is another growing challenge facing a growing portion of the world's population and that is

Alzheimer's. It is a debilitating disease of the brain. It literally takes those people from the light into a darkness that is so hard to understand.

**It is from a personal experience that I write. The slow but ever encroaching process is not easy for the caregiver to see.** It is much easier for those away from the day-to-day routines to notice the decline. As I became more aware of the things that once were routine and now a forgotten memory, my role as the caregiver became one of 24/7 duty. As I watch the ability to cook, sew, do all those daily routines disappear I sought out advice from the local Alzheimer's Society as to how to care for my wife. The Society was an extremely valuable aid for me, not just for how to care for my wife but how to look after myself. It was during this time that our Simcoe Lions Club became more involved with the local Alzheimer's Society. Major contributions have been made to support their Music for Memories Program. Alzheimer's patients often are able to retain musical memories. Medical testing has shown that listening to familiar music from the past activates areas of the brain not typically damaged. People living with dementia that utilize an iPod containing a familiar music playlist find this experience comforting. Seeing it in action is something every Lion should experience. Since the local Society depends on their many fundraising projects to deliver their programs to those in need we thought it was time to step up our efforts to help bring the people affected by Alzheimer's "Out of their darkness and into the light" and provide them with some peace of mind if only for a short time. Our \$10,000 donation will assist those in need in our area.

Our local Alzheimer's Society is part of the Brant, Norfolk, Haldimand, Hamilton and Halton Society. In order to meet their increasing demand for service they need to raise \$1,000,000 a year just to sustain their existing programs. Unless you have dealt with this silent killer, Alzheimer's, you will not understand how devastating and debilitating certain forms of dementia can be. The best way to treat the loved one who has Alzheimer's is summed up in the following poem shared with me.

## Do Not Ask Me to Remember

Do not ask me to remember,  
Don't try to make me understand,

Let me rest and know you're with me,  
Kiss my cheek and hold my hand.

I'm confused beyond your concept,  
I am sad and sick and lost.  
All I know is that I need you  
To be with me at all cost.

Do not lose your patience with me,  
Do not scold or curse or cry.  
I can't help the way I'm acting,  
Can't be different though I try.

Just remember that I need you,  
That the best of me is gone,  
Please don't fail to stand beside me,  
Love me 'til my life is done.

- Owen Darnell



L to R: Lion Keith Ashley, Aileen Bradshaw - Director of Development - Alzheimer Society Haldimand Norfolk, and President Lion Bill Easdown Simcoe Lions

## Providence Bay - Spring Bay Lions

Many Lions clubs are always wondering "How do we get younger members?" Well perhaps they should do what one club in the A5 district are doing, bring your kids to the club. The Providence Bay-Spring Bay

Lions are a small club with lots of spirit. For the past 3 years, young **Aiden McFarlane** has been attending the Lions meetings with his dad, Lion **Dennis McFarlane**. Perhaps a future Lion in the making. A great way to introduce children and grandchildren to the Lions. If we introduce these young people to "We Serve" at a young age, hopefully they will become full fledged Lions.



Aiden and dad Lion Dennis McFarlane



Left to Right : Lions Anna Orford, Joanne Bisailon, Bonnie McFarlane (grandmother of Aiden), Marlene Moore, John Bisailon President, 2nd VDG Anne Dechaine. Back Row : Dennis McFarlane, Brian Mitchell Past President. Front and Centre: Aiden McFarlane

## Lions Club of Bracebridge

The Lions Club of Bracebridge was thrilled to welcome four new members at their Jan 10, 2019 meeting.

PDG **Chris Lewis** attended the meeting and inducted **Mildred Edwards, Don Edwards, Dan French** and **Sue Senchal** into the Lions Fellowship.

The club is thrilled to welcome them aboard.



L to R: PDG Chris Lewis, new members Lions Dan French, Sue Senchal, Mildred Edwards and Don Edwards

## Marmora-Crowe Valley Lions

A3 District Governor Lion **Frank Hewitt** and wife Lion **Theresa** attended the 70th wedding anniversary celebration of Marmora Crowe Valley Lions **Vera** and **Winston Wylie** in October of last year.

Lion Vera hosted the club's weekly card parties for many years and has been President of the Marmora Senior Citizen Club. Lion Winston served as Zone and Region Chairs for District A3.

Much of their time together has been dedicated to Lionism. Congratulations to this wonderful couple.



## Dutton and District Lions

At the Municipal Council Meeting in Dutton on January 23rd, 2019, the Dutton and Districts Lions Club members presented another cheque to help with funding the Dutton Splash Pad project.

In 2018 the local Lions Club members pledged to raise funds by volunteer work at a number of community events to sponsor this project. The Lions have made a commitment of \$60,000.00.



**"A COMMUNITY COMMITMENT"**  
Presenting the donation is Dutton Lion Member Mike Brady (left), Municipal Treasurer Joe McMillan (center) and Lion's Club President Duncan McCallum (right)

## Mattawa Lions

The Mattawa Lions are proud to announce the installation of the new Philips Digital Diagnostic in the Mattawa Hospital. This is a state of the art digital radiography system which will greatly improve and enhance the diagnosis of trauma and disease in adults and, in particular, can be a first stop for children showing signs of cancer. The Mattawa Lions X-Ray Imaging Room, as it is called, is a lasting Legacy to the Mattawa Lions who have played a huge part in the purchase of this equipment through their TV Bingo proceeds.



**Ribbon Cutting:** Dr. William Hodge-Medical Director of Diagnostic Imaging, Wayne Reid President Mattawa Lions, Sylvie Byrnes-Community Member, Pierre Noel- CEO and President, Francine Charette-Diagnostic Imaging Coordinator, Tanya Belanger-Vice-President of Clinical Services, and Robert Simmonds-Board Chair

## Copetown Lions

The Lions of Copetown continue with their support of local community groups and charitable organizations.

Diabetes ranks high on the list. In November of last year the club made a donation to the Diabetes Association. Shown in the photo with the mock cheque are Lion Chief **Dan Bingham** on the left and Past President **Moe Crickmore** on the right. This event took

place at the Club's annual turkey roll which continues to be one of their best fundraisers.



## New Hamburg Peace Poster Entrant



Ella Hanson from Forest Glen School in New Hamburg received her winning cheque from the Lioness Club of New Hamburg for her poster entitled "Kindness Matters". Ella won \$25.00 at the local level then her poster went on in the club's district area and she won at that level and received a cheque for \$250.00.



L to R: Lioness Maggie McElligott, Ella and Lioness Karen Faulkner

## Odessa and District Lions



The club provided Christmas Baskets for 90 families. Among the numerous baskets were turkeys, milk, eggs, potatoes and other basics for healthy Christmas dinners while students at Ernestown Secondary and Odessa Public School collected many other food items. Special thanks to Amherstview Jets Junior for adding some muscle to our deliveries that occurred December 22nd and thanks also to the Doornekamp family for help with sorting Friday evening. The local Salvation Army Brigade added toys to the deliveries. A great community effort!



## Grimsby & District Lions Club

### Helping at the Local Food Bank



Lions Bob Franks & John Lampman are at the center of the Grimsby Food Bank Christmas Hamper preparation. Over 100 community volunteers including the Grimsby Lions Team took part in this annual Grimsby Benevolent Fund activity. A Great Community Effort!

## Amaranth Lions

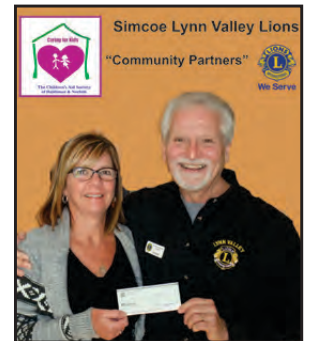
Proud Lions at the playground. Amaranth Lions have funded this playground to support the building of Bravery Park in Orangeville. Funds were raised through the selling of the Lions Lottery Calendars. The park is to serve as a living testament to our Canadian soldiers while creating awareness of the role they play in keeping Canadians safe. For the men and women in uniform, the park will honour their bravery, achievements and sacrifices. Through this living and interactive project, Bravery Park will promote both awareness and understanding of the sacrifices & struggles our Canadian Forces undergo to promote peace here at home and worldwide.



L to R: Front Row - Lions Phil Williams, Mike Murphy, Marian Pilatzke, Jane Blears, Richard White and Bruce Blears. Top Row: Lions Michelle White and Karl Pilatzke

## Lynn Valley Lions

THANK YOU to the Lynn Valley Lions Club of Simcoe for their generous donation toward our Children's Holiday party! We very much appreciate their ongoing support; helping people in need in our community.



Shari Gardener of the Childrens Aid and Lion Steve Hart of the Lynn Valley Lions

## New Liskeard Lions

The New Liskeard Lions club are a strong supporter of their small northern community. In keeping with this tradition, they have pledged to donate \$60,000.00 to the Temiskaming Hospital Foundation to be completed within five years. This is being completed by donating \$12,000.00 each year. The club completed the second installment of the contributions in 2018. This is an amazing amount of support for their local hospital and the community it serves.



L to R: New Liskeard Lions club members Eric Campsall, Manju Dangalle, Ron Sutton and Alf O'Reilly. Representing the hospital and Temiskaming Hospital Foundation are Denis Lacroix, Mike Baker and Andre Hurtubise

## Thorold Lions

Lions **Brenda Dolha** and **Sharon Major** presented the Thorold Community Cares organization with \$700 in Food Vouchers for use at Foodland. The spirit of giving back to the community: a year round project for the Thorold Lions Club. WE SERVE.



## Poplar Hill and District Lions

The Poplar Hill and District Lions Club participated in their last parade of the 2018 season ending in London as part of the Argyle Santa Claus Parade. Santa even jumped aboard their famous award winning Hillbilly Float for a quick pic prior to the parade start. Even though the weather was cold the crowd young and old were dancing in the street to the Christmas Hillbilly music. Yee Haw!



Just in case anyone has forgotten, the Poplar Hill float won first prize in the parade at the Chicago convention in 2017, quite an accomplishment.



## Madoc Lions Community Christmas Day Dinner

A full house turned out for the Madoc Lions Community Christmas Day Dinner. A grand time was had by all those in attendance including a host of volunteers from the area. More than dinner was enjoyed with many residents sharing stories, reuniting with old friends and enjoying each other's company.

There was plenty of activity after the dinner with bingo and board games, several prizes were drawn and given out on behalf of Santa Claus. There was a special guest on hand, Ester, who had a recent



## Minnow Lake Lions

The club donated \$1000.00 to the Salvation Army as well as assisting by manning their Christmas kettles during the holiday season.



Accepting the cheque from Lion Bob Wallace (left) and Lion President Lion Blaine Lachance is Captain Jim Vander Hayden of the Salvation Army

## Capreol Lions

The Lions of Capreol had a great float in the town's annual Santa Claus parade and the snow is the real stuff. This always popular event and others have a special significance in that 2018 was Capreol's 100th Birthday!



## Knowlton

Once again this year, as it has been for nearly fifty years, the Knowlton Lions Club Santa Claus Parade was a success, with more than twenty-nine registrations and a large crowd along the way. The smile on the faces of the young spectators during the event testified to it. All this would not be possible without the generosity of our fellow citizens. At the risk of forgetting, and Father Christmas apologizes in advance, he would like to highlight the following contributions: those who participated in the parade, Glen Whitehead, Pro-Construct Inc. for the garage, the trailer truck and James his driver for the Santa Claus float, Lise and Jean-Yves Lepage for Christmas trees, IGA Gazaille for juice, Virgin Hill for hot chocolate, Windmill Plastics for parking, Thomas McGovern, Knowlton Academy, The Harmony Band, the first responders, the banner bearers, the star fairy and the elves, Town of Brome Lake and the firefighters and first responders of Lac Brome.

Beside Santa's float. To the left of Santa Claus, Ebenezer Scrooge and the star fairy, on the right are the two elves and the three banners



À côté du char allégorique du Père Noël. À la gauche du Père Noël, Ebenezer Scrooge et la fée des étoiles, à droite les deux lutins et les trois porteurs de bannières

90th birthday, the group sang Happy Birthday in her honour.

Special thanks to Trinity United Church, the Central Hastings Support Network and area churches for their assistance.

A big thank you to Lions **Larry Bradley**, **Shawn Wood** and **Tom Simpson** for heading up the event.

Madoc Lions – "The Little Club with the Big Heart!"



## New Hamburg Lioness

The Lioness of New Hamburg were busy last year with two traditional community events.

The Tree of Light was November 30th and the Aldaview and Friends Christmas party was December 12th. The Tree of Light celebrates Christmas by helping others in the community. The lighting of the tree event raises money for Interfaith Counselling, Wilmot Resource Center, and Aldaview Residential Services by gaining sponsorship from local people and businesses.



## Keene Lions Club

Keene Lions Club Annual Santa Claus Parade, December 8, 2018.



Lions Ray Dyck and Ted Eason leading off the parade



Santa Claus, aka Lion Bill Kempt riding in sleigh

## Tamworth and District Lions

In December of last year, the Tamworth & District Lions Club prepared 23 food baskets for local residents. With the generosity of area schools and businesses, food was collected for several weeks leading up to the event. The club received donations of cat and dog food from a local veterinarian, and donations of tooth brushes and toothpaste from a local dentist. All boxes contained either turkey or ham, eggs, bread, baked goods, and fresh produce as well as variety of canned and boxed food. The Lions provided boxes of wrapped toys for local families.

The New Legacy Centre from Tamworth participated with tables of clothing for local families, those in attendance were encouraged to take what was needed for their families.

Tamworth – a small community with a HUGE heart.

Lion Helen Thompson



Left - Lion Debbie Howell, Right- Lion Marie Williams

## East Peterborough Lions Club

Peter Bishop, Metroland East publisher, and Ashlee Aitken, Kawartha Food Share general manager, are joined by members of the East Peterborough Lions Club. The Lions donated 10 turkeys and 10 hams to the Great Turkey Exchange. They raised the funds by volunteering at Delta Bingo. Just one example of the many community projects by this club.



## Onaping Falls Lions

The Onaping Falls Lions hosted their first free community Christmas supper for the residents of Onaping, Levack, Dowling and Cartier at the Dowling community centre. In addition to the Lions, groups from the communities donated items, helped to decorate, prepare and serve this wonderful meal. Some of these community partners included Knights of Columbus, Golden Age Club, Canadian

Legion, Roger's Valu Mart, Kellys Restaurant, Falls Food and the many churches.

A bus was hired to transport people from Levack and Onaping to the dinner. Several vans also brought those coming from Cartier. Over 325



Lions, helpers and Lion Bernadette Desbiens, the birthday girl

people enjoyed a wonderful meal and evening, as well as 30 take-out meals for those not able to make it. Mayor Brian Bigger, France Gelinas MPP, and Gerry Montpellier Ward 3 councillor attended.

Before the party started, the workers presented a surprise 80th birthday cake to Lion **Bernadette Desbiens**, mother of Lions **Sylvia** and **Lorraine**, Onaping Falls members.



Mayor Brian Bigger, France Gelinas MPP, Gerry Montpellier Ward 3 councillor & ZC Lion Carmen Portelance



Leos: Hayley Verdon, Shannon Findlay leader, Jordan Hurley, Audrey Coutr, Breanna Poulin, Alexa Giroux. (Not necessarily in proper order)

# Whitefish Lions

Whitefish Lions have been serving the community in a different way. For the last four years the club has been adopting one night of the Safe Ride Home Program to help out with the impaired driving situation. Just another way that Lions serve the community.



Lions Don, Karen and Sheri



Remember this date  
Mark it on your calendar!

## March 21, 2020

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

*Windsor Lions*

Caboto Club - 2175 Parent ave, Windsor

**"The Club that made Lions International!"**



## MDA Directory Information

### Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting, Radisson Park Inn, Markham – February 22-23, 2019
- Council Meeting – Convention – May 25, 2019

### District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A-1	Point Edward, Holiday Inn	April 5 - 7, 2019
A-2	St. Catharines, Holiday Inn & Suites	March 29 - 31, 2019
A-3	Peterborough	April 26 - 28, 2019
A-4	Cornwall, Navcan Centre	April 12 - 14, 2019
A-5	North Bay, Best Western Lakeshore	May 3 - 5, 2019
A-711	Oakville, Holiday Inn	April 26 - 28, 2019
A-9	Walkerton, Best Western Hotel	May 3 - 5, 2019
A-12	Huntsville, Hidden Valley Resort	April 12 - 14, 2019
A-15	Woodstock, Quality Inn	April 5 - 7, 2019
A-16	Oshawa, Best Western Plus	April 26 - 28, 2019

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MDA Convention

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



## Petrolia Lions



Petrolia Lions President Cheryl Schleihaut presenting to Lions Bryan & Chris Piggott their Q-Bear Fan Club Member Certificates and Pins at the Petrolia Lions Christmas Party.



Petrolia Lion President Cheryl Schleihaut presented Lion Dr Gail Tanner with a Lions Quest Fellowship award at our Club Christmas party on Dec. 14th 2018

## Port Dover Lions

Port Dover Club President **Paul Boulanger** presented a plaque titled "For All You Do" to the pictured Port Dover Lions members for their ongoing and continuous service to the Port Dover Community.



L to R: Don McKinnon, Bob Ryerse, Jim Lomas, Marty Forsyth, Dennis Pascoe, Paul MacNeal and Don Tomlinson (absent)  
photo courtesy Port Dover Maple Leaf

## Lions Club of Kitchener

### Good News for Multiple District 'A' and District A-15

The Council of Governors are pleased to announce that District Governor of A-15, **Kevin Banfield** has been successful in his bid to become Council Chair for MD'A' for 2019-2020. All the members of MD'A' wish him well in this important Leadership Role. Kevin is a proud member of the Lions Club of Kitchener. The picture



L-R : DG Kevin Banfield, PZC Dennis Lougheed, PDG Dianne Smith, PDG Denis Vinette, PCC Bill Carson, Seated - VDG Tracy Robinson

is of some of the A 15 members in attendance at the February Council meeting. Please take note of Kevin's happy grin!!



## Low and District Lions

Congratulations and thank you goes out to Lion **Bobby McCrank** for 45 years of service. Thank you for all that have done over the past 45 years.



L to R: District Governor Dave Howard, Lion Bobby McCrank, Club President Jack Desmarais

## Ridgeway Lions (Crystal Beach)

The Ridgeway Lions were chosen as the recipient of \$4047.00 from the "Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign". When The Ridgeway Lions decided to raise the \$85,000 for the New Bay Beach Playground, The Crystal Beach Tim Hortons wanted to be a part of the community fundraiser.

Their major fundraiser was the sale of over 300 Engraved Paver Stones that will be part of the sidewalk at the playground. The club started the effort in April of 2018 and it ended in January 2019 with total sales surpassing \$85,000. With the addition of a Trivia Night, Bingos and Dinners, the Ridgeway Lions managed to raise over \$110,000. As always, it was the strong support of our community and local businesses that enabled us to reach our goal.



Lion Ron Brunner receiving a cheque in the amount of \$4047.00 from the Crystal Beach Tim Hortons store manager Rebecca Blais

## Kendal Lions



Lions Shirley and Bob Robinson were presented with Judge Brian Stevenson Fellowships in January, Kendal Lions Club is honoured to recognize their outstanding involvement in our community and Lionism overall

# Lions Clubs of Greater Sudbury

Recently, the Lions Clubs of Greater Sudbury and area were presented with a prestigious award, The Community Builders Award which has been given out on a regular basis for 15 years. The award is to recognize extraordinary leadership in the Sudbury area. We are pleased to announce that The CTV Lions Children's Christmas Telethon has been presented with the 2018 Hall of Fame Award. Congratulations to all of the many many volunteers who make this an amazing event each year which raised \$345,583.16 this past Christmas.



Representatives of the various clubs including District Governor, Lion Steve Olsen, 2nd from the left in the front row. Telethon Chair, Lion Sam Khoury is in the middle of the front row, wearing his Lions vest.

## 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:

- A-1 Lion M.B. Wilson: wagontrains@msn.com
- A-2 Lion Bradd Anderson: b.anderson@a2lions.org
- A-3 Lion Wilma Bush: b2wbrady@gmail.com
- A-4 Lion Bill Vermilyea: b.vermilyea@outlook.com
- A-5 Lion Brenda Lalonde: bmlsudbury@hotmail.com
- A-7/11 Lion Astrid Simola: a.simola@sympatico.ca
- A-9 Lion Mike Murphy: Mmikey45@gmail.com
- A-12 Lion Kierstan Hargrave: pr@a12lions.org
- A-15 Lion Gerry Haliburton: bulletin@a15lions.org
- A-16 Lion Micheline Lush: governornews@lionsa16.com

Editor Lion Bob Pearson  
mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

# Madoc Lions

## A Great Day with Madoc's Leo the Lion!

Late last year Leo was at Madoc Arena with kids and parents enjoying free skate and hot chocolate sponsored by Madoc Lions Club. All the children had their picture taken with Leo and a special little boy went for a skate with Leo and at the end of the day he took Leo home.



Lion Tom Simpson with Leo and friends



One of many photo ops

# Simcoe Lions

Fourteen Simcoe Lions and Lady Lions gathered in Lion **Rick VanDamme's** furniture shop to sort through a collection of used eyewear.

The result (beyond the smiles of satisfaction) were 16 tightly packed boxes of eyeglasses. The boxes will eventually be shipped to CLERC: the Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre in Calgary. After cleaning and grading they will be prepared for distribution by one of 192 humanitarian service agencies who distribute the eyeglasses to over 70 countries worldwide. (Visit [www.clerc.ca](http://www.clerc.ca) for more information on the role of CLERC.)

*submitted by PCC Bradd Anderson*



photo by PDG Don Daley

## MD'A' Lions Resource Centre Website

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

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

## Alexandria and District Lions 65th Anniversary

The Lions of Alexandria celebrated their 65th anniversary on October 27th of last year. Since 1953, the Club has been involved in supporting local initiatives by contributing to the local hospital, town park, sports association, schools and making Alexandria a better place to live.

The event was well attended, including members of the Lions from **Maxville, Cornwall, Chesterville, Morrisburg, Iroquois, Plantagenet, Clarence Creek** and **Vankleek Hill**.



L to R: Lion Pierre Burelle (left) accepting the recognition award from District Governor David Howard (right)

## Ridgeway Lions

Lion **Owen Schweyer** began his career of volunteering with the Ridgeway Lions in March of 1959, 60 years ago, and he hasn't stopped yet!

As a valued member of the Ridgeway Lions, Lion Owen has not only been a member but taken an active part in all aspects of Lionism. Starting with the Lions Scout and Youth Committee and a year later he accepted being its chair. You name a committee or position in the club's executive and yes, Owen has done his share of work, showing his commitment to the Ridgeway Lions. Lion Owen has been involved with: Scout and Youth, Christmas Trees, Membership and Attendance, Carnival Property and Building, Convention, Visitation, Communication, Sight and Hearing, Fellowship, Rental and Bar, and Crystal-Ridge Community Centre Director. A very active and committed Lion would be a great way of describing Owen.

Lion Owen's commitment and dedication has not gone unnoticed. He has received awards over the years to acknowledge his efforts. In

1996 he was presented with the "Judge Brian Stevenson Award", 1996 "Privilege Member" and in 2016 Owen was honoured by receiving his "Lifetime Membership Award".

The Ridgeway Lions would like to thank Lion Owen for his dedication to Lions and inspiration to our club and the community for all his service.



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Lions Club International  
Milan, Italy  
2019**



**P**atti 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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