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Welcome to the October/November/Decemter Edition of the LION.

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

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Cover Photo: The gray jay (or whiskey jack) was chosen as Canada's national bird photo by Barbara MacDonald

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

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



Agreement Number is: 41805020*

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First Vice President Judge Haynes H. Townsend, United States;

Second Vice President Brian E. Sheehan, United States:

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Kindness Brings Warmth to the Giver and Receiver



Greetings Lions! What is kindness?

It is all the things Lions do: It's serving. In our communities and beyond.

But kindness is one of those words that can get

overused, and the real meaning sometimes becomes lost. Kindness is any act that makes life better for any living thing, even for just a moment. Isn't that what we're really doing when we serve food or donate our time? Aren't we trying to give people a moment in

which they feel important; a moment in which they are not alone?

Kindness can be something small: A tree planted on a city street. Or it can be grand: An entire Lions district pooling its resources to build a community center focused on gender equality education.

When done right, an act of kindness also feels good to the person performing it. This is true for all acts of kindness. And it's important to remember, especially at this time of year, that donating money is also an act of kindness. By donating, you are recognizing that there are some things that are beyond your ability to immediately fix. You are saying, "This is bigger than

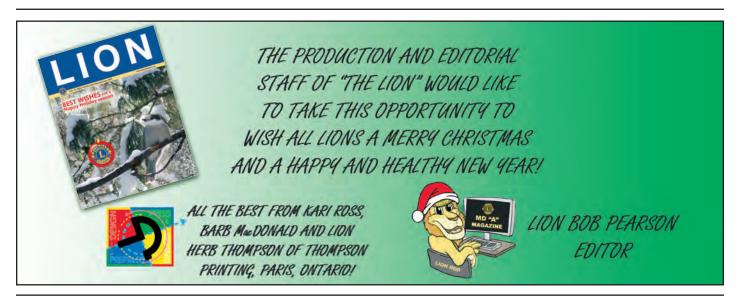
me, and I want to help." And one of the best ways to give is to your foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

As your International President, I want to wish all of you the bounty that comes from giving. May your acts of kindness as Lions bring you warmth this season.

Sincerely,

Jung-Yul Choi

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi International President, Lions Clubs International





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Milan, Italy – June 30-July 4, 2019



AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

- Denied a district governor election complaint filed in District 112-C (Belgium) and declared a vacancy in the office of district governor for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- 2. Upheld a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 300-C1 (MD 300 Taiwan), declared the second vice district governor election in District 300-C1 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-

- Laws, and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainant.
- 3. Upheld a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 316-A (India), declared the second vice district governor election in District 316-A for the 2019-2020 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and that the position of second vice district governor shall remain vacant for the year and shall not be filled and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainants.
- 4. Removed District Governor J. Mohan Rao from the office of district governor in District 316-A (India) for breach of duty and failure to comply with the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors. Declared that J. Mohan Rao shall not be recognized in the future as a past district governor
- by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be entitled to any privileges of such title. Declared the vacancy created in the office of district governor in District 316-A shall not be filled and that the district governor elect of District 316-A will serve as the acting district governor until the 2019 International Convention.
- Denied a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 321-A3 (India) and declared Lion Radha Krishna Shah second vice district governor in District 321-A3 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- Denied a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 321-B1 (India) and declared Lion Jagdish C. Agarwal second vice district governor in District 321-B1 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- Denied a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 3233-E2 (India) and declared Lion Sudhir Kumar Goyal second vice

- 2020 fiscal year.
- 8. Upheld a second vice district governor election complaint filed in 3233-G1 (India), declared the second vice district governor election in 3233-G1 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainant.
- 9. Upheld the prior decision of the International Board of Directors in June 2018 and confirmed the international director endorsement of Lion R. Sampath issued during the Multiple District 324 convention in May 2017.
- 10. Revised the Ethical Conduct Code in Chapter XII, Exhibit C. of the Board Policy Manual for organizational purposes, to remove and update language that has become obsolete and to better align with current practices.
- 11. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph A.4.b. of the Board Policy Manual to make it consistent with previously adopted changes.
- 12. Revised Chapter XVIII, Paragraph A. of the Board Policy Manual to update an inaccurate reference to the order of administrative officers.
- 13. Revised the District Governor and First and Second Vice District Governor Election Complaints Procedure in the Board Policy Manual to include complaints related to endorsement elections for international third vice president and international director.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Declined to add GST (Goods and Services Tax) to registration fees for Singapore. Provided documentation for the elections operations at convention.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

- 1. Granted the Palu Maleo Lions Club of District 307-B2 (Indonesia) protective status through October 31, 2019 and a waiver of the June 2019 Semi-Annual Dues Billing.
- 2. Recognized the undistricted area within the Republic of Bulgaria as a provisional region at the close of the 2019 International Convention.
- 3. Appointed Praveen Agarwal to serve as the District Governor for District 322 D (India) for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- 4. Directed District 112 C (Belgium) to conduct a meeting for the purpose of selecting a qualified Lion leader for the position of district governor for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- 5. Amended the charter for the District and Club Service Committee.
- Deleted the board policy reference to the Lioness program.

- to recognize the zone chairperson and the region chairperson as members of the Global Action Team.
- 8. Revised the position descriptions for the club vice president, club membership chairperson and club service chairperson as outlined in the Standard Form Club By-Laws.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

- 1. Amended the Investment Policy Statement for the International Association of Lions Clubs General Fund.
- 2. Approved the FY 2018-2019 4th Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
- Approved the FY 2019-2020 budget, reflecting a deficit.
- 4. Amended the Investment Policy Statement for the Retirement Income Plan for the Employees of the International Association of Lions Clubs.
- 5. Revised Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual related to the expense reimbursement policy.
- Revised Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual 4. Modified language, including simplification of related to air transportation.
- 7. Revised the B.2. Executive Officer Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy.
- Added Jayne Kill, Manager, Accounting Department as a check signatory on association bank accounts

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Amended Board Policy Manual to document the changes to the Leadership Development Committee charter.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- 1. Reviewed progress on LCI Forward initiatives and discussed the reasons for decline in service activity and reporting. Provided suggestions on improving service impact numbers by involving GAT and providing incentives for reporting.
- 2. Discussed and concurred on the creation of a LCI Forward project team to help guide the creation of the next iteration of our strategic plan.
- Reviewed proposed revisions to the goals of the district governor and instructed staff to further reduce the number of goals to no more than four annual goals.
- Reviewed a proposed approach to study the role of the district governor so it is relevant in today's context and asked staff to begin the study.
- Discussed the association's current management of a multi-currency environment, including managing numerous bank accounts and foreign exchange fluctuations, and decided to make no changes at this time.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Revised Chapter XIX, in Exhibit A, of the Board Policy Manual to add a clarifying sentence to the introduction for Official Protocol, effective July 1,2019.

- district governor in District 3233-E2 for the 2019- 7. Amended the Standard Form District By-Laws 2. Revised Chapter XIX, Paragraph A., in Exhibit A, of the Board Policy Manual to add revise GAT roles in order to align more perfectly with GAT structure at the Constitutional and Area levels, effective July 1, 2019.
 - 3. Revised Chapter XVI of the Board Policy Manual to remove outdated information on LION Magazine.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- 1. Added language to Chapter XVII of the Board Policy Manual which ensures that the previous decision to allow students over age 30 and who are joining a Campus Lions Club will be eligible to pay a discounted entrance/charter fee of \$10USD.
- 2. Separated African countries from Constitutional Area VI list to reflect the pending passage of vote at Convention for Africa to become Constitutional Area VIII.
- 3. Removed Leo Clubs awards from Chapter XXII of the Board Policy Manual.
- the criteria, for the New LCI Country Process found in Chapter X.
- 5. Amended the name of LCI country FYROM Macedonia to Republic of North Macedonia.
- Applied the sunset policy to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste and removed that country from official LCI countries in Chapter X.
- 7. Extended the sunset policy for the Republic of Azerbaijan to December 31, 2019.
- 8. Moved the LCI country of the Republic of Kazakhstan from its presenting listing under Constitutional Area VI to Constitutional Area IV in Chapter X.
- 9. Modified language, including GAT leadership position changes, appointments and operational changes to chapter XXIV.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- 1. Revised the Service Activities Committee Charter in Chapter II, Paragraph K of the Board Policy Manual in order to better align it with current practices.
- Revised Chapter I of the Board Policy Manual in order to better align it with LCI's current global causes and service programs.
- 3. Discussed an enhanced model for service engagement that includes advocacy, direct service, giving and service support activities.
- 4. Received updates on active service partnerships including LCI's work with the International Diabetes Federation, the Wellness Initiative, the Anthem Foundation and the American Association of Diabetes Educators.
- 5. Reviewed the recently launched LCI Advocacy Toolkit and discussed the plan for additional resources, particularly related to global cause advocacy and country level advocacy.
- Discussed potential revisions to the service awards structure, which will encourage service

reporting, align with the global causes, and reward excellence in service at the club level.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- 1. The committee reviewed the Information Technology Division's 2018-2019 budget, forecast and actuals. The division had forecasted to end the year about \$155K less than the first quarter forecast that was approved at the October 2018 board meeting.
- 2. The committee reviewed the 2019-2020 proposed budget for the Information Technology Division. The presented operating budget was forecasted to be \$722K less than the budget that was proposed at the April 2019 board meeting.
- 3. The committee discussed various topics related
- to General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The committee reviewed the existing policy around access to data for candidates running for third vice president or international director and the committee's recommended revisions to this 7. The committee received an update on the procedure was approved. The committee was pleased to learn that staff had selected a new DPO - one offering coverage for all of Europe. All the individuals selected to serve on the Privacy working group accepted the nomination. The committee reviewed a proposed high-level process to address GDPR specific disputes.
- The committee received an update on existing products and roadmaps. SAP SE's software "By Design" was selected by staff as the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

- 5. The committee received an update on existing infrastructure projects and roadmap.
- 6. The committee received an update on the Information Technology Division organization.
- communication strategies and training for the service reporting changes, including the transition from MyLCI to MyLion.
- The committee saw some interesting uses of technology - especially in the area of natural language processing and machine learning.

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



Minutes of the Council of Governors' Meeting September 14 2019 – Park Inn by Radisson



SECRETARY'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

CS Mills reported that all assigned duties had been completed and outlined correspondence received.

He noted that 1st International Vice President Townsend would not be able to attend the MDA 2020 Convention and that he had reached out to International President Choi.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CT Hewitt reported that the Administration Committee had drafted a budget for the Lions Year 2019-2020 which would require no funds from surplus. The required audit for 2018-2019 is in progress.

It was noted that switching from GoToMeeting to ZOOM.US would provide considerable savings while, at the same time, deliver similar services.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

PCC Whyte reported on the budget process. He reminded those who had taken Patti Hill framed coins that they were required to either return the same or, if sold, submit \$300 per frame.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM

PDG Wilura presented current membership stats for each district and reminded District Governors that it was the responsibility of the Governor and the District GAT Team to boost membership. The MD'A' team is there to help.

PDG Diane Smith reported on the Women and Family Membership. She reported on the success of the New Voices initiative and noted that overall growth is largely the result of the increased number of women in Lions.

DG Dawson presented New Voices Certificates to A3 DG Susan Taylor (Service) and A1 VCC Barb Tuxford (Marketing).

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Lion Lougheed and PDG Colwell reported on the plans for leadership training for this current Lions Year. Special note is made of the November training for 1st and 2nd VDG's along with district GAT teams. Districts are asked to promote Leadership Institutes.

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM

Lion Piggott and PDG Johnston promoted the new GAT Field Guide, provided information about available Impact Grants and outlined valuable service resources.

THE LION MAGAZINE

Lion Pearson reported on the challenges being faced because of LCI cutbacks due to be implemented July 2020. Ways to reduce mailing costs are being explored. Digital copies only are not well-received by a significant number of Lions. Increased revenue through advertising would be of help. More information will come when he presents information from the Editors' Meeting in Ireland.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

PDG Spiering welcomed the new subcommittee chairs and thanked them for stepping up. MDA Effective Speaking finals are in April 17-19 in Sarnia. Please keep promoting the Peace Essay Contest. Youth exchange continues to find host families to be a challenge. IPDG McLellan provided up to date stats on Leo Clubs. This year's Peace Poster/Peace Essay theme is 'Journey for Peace'

The MDA Effective Speaking Finals will be held the Holiday Inn Port Edwards, April 17-19 2020, hosted by the Petrolia Lions Club.

LIONS QUEST

PCC Tanner reported that the number of workshops is increasing and that there is much interest from Big Brothers/Big Sisters for Train the Trainer Workshops. PID Tom Gordon has joined the Board. Cash flow is a challenge so please consider supporting the program financially. A GoToMeeting with District Chairpersons is being planned. LCI is planning a Lions Quest Information session for 1st VDG's and District Chairs in January in Toronto.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

IPDG Hewitt gave an extensive report on this valuable program and the great impact it has on all who are involved. He emphasized the opportunities for partnerships as well as increased Lions membership though inclusion. More information sharing with District Chairpersons is ongoing.

LITERACY

Lion Stewart reported on the advertised low standard of adult literacy test rates. Five strategies were provided. Each district is asked to report the name of their Literacy Chairperson.

ENVIRONMENT

PDG Hargrave will once again run the photo contest as it was well-received last year. Tree planting should become a focus for clubs as it is one of our Centennial Projects. When reporting, please include the number of trees planted. Metrics for the current year were provided.

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY

PID Gordon prepared a very extensive report on many initiatives from LCI. He was effusive with his praise for all the work that was done on the successful Patti Hill campaign.

Focus needs to be on recruitment, retention and development as there has been a significant drop in membership. Updates were given to NAMI as well as leadership institutes and funding opportunities. Reporting on MyLion is a challenge but LCI is working on improvements. Please include planning and travel time in your reports. Details of the Young Lions Retreat in Newmarket (A16), March 20-22 were given. District Governors are urged to give speaker requests as soon as possible.

LIONS OF CANADA FOR LCIF/LIONS2020

PID Woods outlined the purpose and scope of the fund and reported that the current balance stood at \$924,253.06. Since its inception, it has awarded grants totaling \$440,892.18. Lions are reminded to send personal and club donations to PDG Stan Durward so that they can receive income tax receipts.

Lions 2020 was launched July 1, 2019 and ends June 30, 2021. Some funding has been received from LCI. Planting 100,000 trees is one project and clubs are asked to perform at least one tangible project in their community. Lion Elizabeth Young has helped produce an information form and PID Art Woods created a form for reporting projects and requesting matching grants funds. Pop up banners may be borrowed. PID Carl reported that LCI funds for this initiative is a first and that LCI needs to be assured that matching funds do exist.

PID Woods presented each member of Council with a white spruce tree.

It was reported that Lion Lioness Janet Dawson-Brock had received, from the Governor-General's Office, the Sovereign Medal of Honour for Volunteers. PID Woods led the assembly in a rousing Lion's Roar.

CENTENNIAL

Details of the Windsor Lions 100th Charter Anniversary celebration, March 21, 2020 were outlined. They are hoping for a large crowd to celebrate 100 years together.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

\$110 million (US) has been raised in the first year of Campaign 100. Personal donations from Canadian Lions is low. Please promote the campaign in MD'A'.

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

PDG Dwyer outlined the huge success of the many Walk for Dog Guides with \$1,328,560.03 raised last year with \$692,385 coming from MD'A'. Executive Director Sandy Turney is stepping down and the search for her replacement is ongoing. A new facility in Breslau is in the planning stages. Open House is on October 5.

HEARING PRESERVATION

IPDG Dohar reported that the home in Peterborough is now complete with five people living there. A directory of Hearing Chairs is complete and will be distributed. The yearend report has been extensively distributed.

SIGHT CONSERVATION

New arrangements for Vision Screening are ongoing. The company Essilor is willing to provide free glasses to children who are identifies through our screening program. More investigation is being done.

The new boat house at Lake Joe is up and functional. Funds are still required to help finance the project. There have been many improvements to the camp. Investigation is being done as to how to recognize annual donors. Plans are underway to insure there is signage at the entrance to recognize Lions

DIABETES AWARENESS

Each district has a Diabetes Chairperson and they had their first meeting via Zoom on September 8. The Kickin' it for Cabins campaign is well underway and the efforts of the Lions is really appreciated by Camp Huronda. Three motions are requested to finalize leadership and financial transparency for the LCIF Grant:

- i That the Council of Governors of Multiple District 'A' hereby agrees to appoint A12 PDG Jim Hilt as Project Coordinator of record on the project and on the LCIF Grant Application.
- ii That the Council of Governors of Multiple District 'A' hereby agrees to maintain a separate accounting of all funds and disbursements related to said project.
- iii That the Council of Governors of Multiple District 'A'hereby agrees to assign signatories to this account from each of District A12 and District A16 in addition to the Council Treasurer and Council Chairperson.

Lion Denis is working on succession plans for this committee for next year. A workshop is in the planning stages and it is hoped that Districts will consider helping to cover the costs of their representative to attend. A 'Guardian of Camp Huronda' certificate and pins is available for a \$100 donation.

GIFT OF LIFE

Six of the ten districts have Gift of Life Chairpersons. Social media is being effectively used. District A711 had a booth at the CNE.

PROMOTION

Planning for the 103rd International Convention in Singapore is well underway. The assigned hotels for MD'A' are Holiday Inn Singapore Atrium and Marine Bay Sands. Arrangements have been made to have our flags shipped there by LCI. Early bird registration will commence before January 10 2020.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

A review is being done to insure that our MD'A' Constitution fully lines up with that of LCI. A further review will guarantee that all changes emanating from LCI have been included. Lion Larry Bell has joined the team as mentor. Any proposed amendments should be forwarded following the November Council Meeting.

CONVENTION ADVISORY

PDG Al Snider presented a brief recap of the 2019 MD'A' Convention and thanked all for their support with special thanks to PID Tom and Lion Gillian Gordon as International Guests.

PCC Patterson asked for the following motion:

That the Council of Governors hereby authorizes the Council Treasurer to forward the Multiple District'A' Convention Fund of \$6311.00 to the host 2019 Convention Club - St. Davids Lions Club.

Plans are well underway for Convention 2020 and all are encouraged to register. Hopefully there will be more than one candidate for the position of International Director for Canada as this will generate increased interest and participation.

PDG Barb Ennis presented more details of the amenities at the JW Marriott.

RESEARCH AND LONG RANGE PLANNING

The proposal of creating a Public Relations Committee has been on the books for several years with no action having been taken. Background material has been presented to all and a positive spin needs to be applied. Probably a job description will be posted to see a level of interest. This item will be resolved in this current Lions year.

WEBMASTER

It has been a real learning curve taking over as webmaster as the language was unfamiliar. The website certainly needs a refresh. As webmaster he will, at next Council Meeting, provide stats as to how often the website is viewed or utilized.

NEW BUSINESS

PID Carl Young announced a gathering to celebrate the fantastic job done by PID Tom and Lion Gillian Gordon. Details are as follows:

Date: November 3 2019

Location: Mount Albert Lions Community Centre (A16), 5057 Mount Albert Road, Mount Albert, LOG 1M0

Format: Gather at 12 noon, dinner served at 1:00 pm - business casual

Cost: \$40.00 per person

Tickets: Contact PDG Fred Sheehy (A16) (905) 294-2763 @ fsheehy@bell.net

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

CC Banfield thanked all for attending and sharing vital information.

As VCC Barb Tuxford had taken ill in Milan, she was not able to participate in the official ribbon pulling.

VCC Barb's and PDG Mike's ribbons were officially pulled by PCC Bob Tanner

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

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

Friendship is Blind

Miami preschool puts sighted and visually impaired toddlers together for a lesson in inclusion by Joan Cary

A young boy had just finished watching a movie about Helen Keller with his parents when his mother asked him if he knew anyone who is blind.

He said, "No."

"But you go to school with blind children," she reminded him.

"No I don't," he said. "We are all the same."

Miami Lion Virginia Jacko loves to share this story about one of their pre-kindergarten students at the Learning Center for Children in the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

"When it comes down to it," says Jacko, "that's what it's all about. We are all the same."

Jacko, the president and CEO of the Lion-supported Lighthouse in Miami's Little Havana neighborhood, spearheaded the school, the country's first known toddler and pre-kindergarten program that is a 50-50 mix of sighted and visually impaired students.

The Learning Center is now halfway through its third academic year and three years into a four-year study being conducted by the University of Miami to evaluate the impact of inclusion on the very young.

"The goal is for total immersion," says Jacko.
"For me as a newly blind adult, I found that too often
the blind only hung around the blind, and often the
sighted did not know how to interact with the blind."

She hopes their school will help to change that.

In these classrooms for toddlers and prekindergarteners, Florida-certified early childhood teachers work alongside Florida-certified teachers for the visually impaired. Sighted and visually impaired children play and learn side-by-side, every toy, book, cubby, desk, and chair labelled in both print and braille.

"There's environmental print all around for children who are sighted," says Isabel Chica, director of children's programs. "Here we have also created a braille environment."

While all of the children are exposed to braille, more direct instruction in braille depends on the child, she says. Any child, sighted or visually impaired, who wants to explore braille, can, but the focus is not on

teaching everyone braille. It's on giving the children what they need to be successful.

"We want to develop relationships early on for children," says Chica. "We want the visually impaired to be able to be mainstreamed so they grow, and we want their sighted peers to work comfortably alongside them, and not only have an understanding of what visually impaired means, but to know that they [the visually impaired] are just as capable.

"We want to level the playing field."

"If we're telling a story, the children can access that in braille, in regular print, and in large print," explains Jacko.

Anel Achemendia's daughter, Mia Pena, was in the center's blind babies program at age 1, and now at age 3 she attends the 50-50 toddler program Monday through Friday.

Mia was born blind in her right eye and with low vision in her left. "The doctor recommended we visit the Lighthouse, and honestly it was life changing," says Achemendia. "I cannot put into words how much I appreciate that this place exists, or how thankful I am for what they do for our daughter.

"The 50-50 program, for me that's as close to reality as you can get. That's just how real life is. Mia is not going to be in an environment of all visually impaired people forever. She is going to be in the real world with people who are sighted."

In school, Mia has made friends with both visually impaired and sighted children, and her mother expects that in a few years she will attend a Miami-Dade County public school in the neighborhood, just like her older sister, Delilah Arias, who is 7.

Delilah is sighted and her parents chose to enroll her in the center for pre-kindergarten on the first year it was open, not knowing she would someday have a visually impaired sister.

Achemendia says the experience has made Delilah more empathetic and understanding of the differences in people. "It also opened her eyes to the fact that you can do so much, even when you have a visual impairment. She is more kind, more patient with her sister," she says. "She goes to the Lighthouse





for summer programs, and it's good because when you are mainstream you don't see a lot of visually impaired children."

According to the University of Miami, many parents report that the 50-50 component has helped their child feel comfortable in diverse social situations at school and with their families outside of school. Visually impaired children who avoided peers began enjoying their peer interaction, holding hands, and playing with others.

Parents of sighted children have thanked the school for helping them to raise an empathetic child.

"We have a society without much empathy," says Jacko. "Our children score very high on empathy."



The Downtown Miami Lions Club and the Rotary Club of Miami jointly founded the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind in 1930. Three years later the Lions Club bought a small bungalow in the Little Havana neighborhood to permanently house the Lighthouse, and in 1946 the club built a large two-story addition onto the bungalow at a cost of US\$480,000 [current dollars]. Over the years, further additions were built as a result of community fundraising so that now the Lighthouse occupies almost a full city block. A parking garage was also added, and in August of 2017 the Learning Center for Children opened with a Matching grant of US\$30,000 from LCIF and US\$30,000 from the Miami Lions for the construction of an inclusive playground.

KidSight Program Expands to Change Lives in Colombia

by Jamie Konigsfeld

Esteban had never had his vison screened before. He had never seen those strange devices, but the Lions who brought them made him feel safe. He and his schoolmates lined up for vision testing, then followed the simple instructions: look straight ahead and find the little bunny on the front of the machine.

Esteban's world was about to change.

Many children are unaware they have a vision problem. With their impairment undetected, these children may struggle to develop life skills and learn in school. In addition, when certain eye conditions go untreated, they can result in permanent vision loss.

This is common in many areas of Colombia, where eye care is non-existent. But Lions are determined to change this reality with Lions KidSight Colombia, a program that has succeeded in the United States called Lions KidSight USA - and is supported by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). The program screens children between the ages of six months and six years, though Lions are encouraged to screen children through grade 12 when possible. Lions test for risk factors that may indicate a problem, then refer children to an eye doctor for further evaluation if needed.

Now, Lions are implementing this program throughout Colombia, aiming to screen the vision of six million children.

The Lions secured a US\$69,022 grant from LCIF to purchase 10 vison screening devices. Past International Director Dr. Ed Cordes, a retired optometrist and chairperson of Lions KidSight USA Foundation, traveled to Colombia to help with training, including visits to an elementary school and a daycare. Of 118 children screened, 20 were referred to eve doctors. Esteban was one of them.

Doctors discovered Esteban has strabismus, a condition where misaligned eyes cause double vision. Uncorrected, this can lead to amblyopia, a disorder in which an eye fails to develop proper vision and can possibly lead to permanent vision loss. Now that Esteban is receiving treatment, he can see more clearly and is no longer at risk of losing his vision.

"It was an excellent experience to have professionals of all different backgrounds at our school," says

Inmaculada Solano de Hernández, principal of Normal Superior La Hacienda. "They have good hearts and are dedicated to what they do. On behalf of our community, I give the most sincere thanks."

The Lions also want to establish satellite clinics in rural areas - an enormous challenge Dr. Cordes is certain they can manage. "There were Lions who were so enthused about the program that it became contagious and others became strong supporters, as well," says Dr. Cordes.



Within weeks, Lions with KidSight Colombia screened more than 16,000 children. More than 1,600 were referred for treatment, with the costs covered by Fundación Oftalmológica del Caribe (Caribbean Ophthalmologic Foundation) and Colombia's national health service.

With support from LCIF, Colombia's Lions have made a strong stand against vision impairment, and their impact will only grow. To learn how such projects receive LCIF funding - and how you can contribute through Campaign 100 — visit lionsclubs. org/campaign100.

T'was the Morning Before Christmas...

There's a right way to do things in Nova Scotia, Canada, on Christmas Eve day.

Before the house is cleaned for company, before the last shopping is complete, the baking's begun, or the presents are quickly wrapped, you have breakfast. And you can thank the Kingston Lions for that.

While their community sleeps, the Lions are at the Kingston Lions Hall with the lights on, ovens hot, griddles warming up, and the smell of coffee wafting through the cold December air, because at 6 a.m., the doors will open.

Pancakes, sausages, and ham, scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, coffee, tea, and juice await early risers at the Kingston Lions Christmas Eve Breakfast. In 1993, the first year of the breakfast, 100 people were served. By 2015, attendance had grown to 1,003 served in just over three hours, says Lion Pat Nixon. Now they average 825 each

Employees from local businesses beat the rush and come early, heading off to face a last day of frenzied customers. And families follow tradition and gather.

"At the Kingston Lions we recognize that the work we do could not be done without the generous and ongoing support of the surrounding community and businesses, and for this we are truly grateful," says Lion Rick Hiplik. "The breakfast is a way for the Kingston Lions to thank the local community for their generous support."

The club tried to provide the breakfast at no charge, but generous community members would have nothing to do with it. They wanted to give money for others less fortunate, so in 2001 the Lions' breakfast became a breakfast with a freewill offering that's averaging a total of about US\$6,000 a year.

Santa and his elves always make time for a visit, but the real help outside the club comes from local Scouts, community leaders, clergy, and Lions' family members, all willing to serve generous portions and to wash dishes.

Lions purchase the food at Sobeys, the local grocery store, and since 2015, Sobeys has partnered with Lions, subsidizing the cost of supplies.

When the last people are fed at 10 a.m., cleanup begins, and usually by noon it's lights out again in Kingston Lions Hall. Seventy-five Kingston Lions are free to finish their own Christmas preparations, or to



Convention Recap – Fashioned for Service

and served. The another new In

It was time to gather, and even a record-setting heat wave couldn't wilt the Lion spirit. For five days Lions convened, met new friends and old, shared ideas, and served. They listened to speakers with inspiring stories and watched as another new International President took the reins.



PIP Yngvadottir arrives in Lion style

Lions share the love in front of Milan's iconic Duomo

The parade of nations showcases the incredible diversity of Lions around the world



At convention, you never quite know when a dance line will break out

At convention, a selfie almost always turns into a "usie"

Lions step out in Milan for the 102nd International Convention



Gloucester Lions

In June 2019, Gloucester Lion Theresa Whalen had the privilege of going to the Philippines as a Volunteer Advisor for CESO - Canadian Executive Services Organization - to do some development work. Her assignment was to assist with organizational and marketing development of the Santos Women Weavers Association (SWWA). In support of this initiative, the Gloucester Lions made a donation to the SWWA for the purchase of equipment and supplies.

The surprise gift would be presented at the end of the assignment. To the delight of everyone, several members of the Cagayan North Lions Club, District 301-C, Philippines, joined in the celebration as 'on the ground' representatives of the Lions Club network.

Our fellow Lions from Cagayan North, Philippines, were well aware that Canada will be hosting the International Convention in Montreal and plan to have



a delegation there and hope to meet with some Gloucester Lions to thank them in person for carrying out the Lion motto, "We Serve" in their communities.

Horse Power

For Lion Diane Besson, saving an old horse was just the beginning

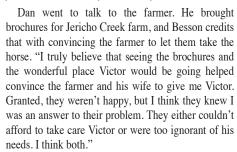
by Erin Kasdin – photos by Lauren Justice

It was 2018 and Diane Besson was off to Muskego, Wisconsin, to pick up her eggs from the local CSA (community-sponsored agriculture) she'd joined. As she pulled up to the farm, she noticed a couple of horses in a nearby pen. The only shelter was a small fabric Quonset. One of the horses looked incredibly malnourished. "I couldn't believe he had survived our last winter living in that hut," she wrote in an article for WisconsinLion. She found out the horse's name was Victor, and when she asked the farmer what was wrong with him, he told her, "That's what an old horse looks like."

She wasn't convinced.

She began to research horse care after watching his decline over several weeks. "It was apparent to me, but not his owners, that he was malnourished and would not survive another Wisconsin winter," she says. Other people must have been commenting too, because the owners had put a sign in front of his pen, saying "This is what an old horse looks like."

Besson decided she would save him.



Long in the tooth

On July 25, 2018, Victor arrived at Jericho Creek Farm. All 30 horses whinnied a greeting to the tiny horse when the trailer pulled in.

Diane began coming to the farm three to four days a week to help with barn chores and see Victor, who she learned was actually a Welsh pony. It turns out, he had a dental condition that is common in older horses. The term "long in the tooth" comes from the propensity of older horses to grow long, irregularly shaped teeth. Those teeth then make it impossible

to chew properly, and the horse can't



The rescue

Besson had never owned a horse before, so she went to her friend, Lion Robin Salerno, for help. She let Besson groom her horses so she could begin to understand horse care. Besson also need to find a place to keep Victor. Salerno suggested they drive down the road to Jericho Creek Farm to meet Wendy Konichek. Besson instantly felt at home at Jericho Creek. "It had a calm, quiet energy to it, and I instantly liked Wendy," she says.

Besson showed Konichek the photo of Victor.

"You get him here and I'll make room for him." said Konichek.

Besson hadn't exactly made friends with Victor's current owner, so she sought help from her husband, Lion Dan Besson. "I needed his political expertise and negotiation skills to convince the farmer to give us Victor," she says.

Once his long tooth was addressed, Victor was able to start putting weight back on. And Besson, spending more and more time at the farm, began to see exactly what it was Konichek was up to at Jericho Creek.





Horse power healing

Wendy Konichek was already a well-known name in show-horse circles when she saw a demonstration by SMILES, a nonprofit offering equine therapy to those with special needs. "That planted the seed," says Konichek. She had been looking for a way to give back to the community and it was a nice way to give purpose the older horses on the farm.

Already working in the home healthcare field, Konichek was one of just 25 people to win a spot in the PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) International certified riding instructor program. She went on to get a mental health certificate and one for working specifically with veterans, all through PATH.

She now offers several programs geared toward helping people through the power of horses: the Equine-Assisted Therapeutic program for children and adults with special needs; Horses for Hope, which is for people diagnosed with terminal illnesses; Horses for Heroes, which introduces veterans to horseback riding; and Healing for Horses, which rescues horses who are maltreated or neglected, all through the nonprofit Horse Power Healing Center (HPHC).

The great equalizer

"She really opens up when she's on the horse," says Judy, whose daughter, Emma, comes once a week to ride. "I can tell that it's making her feel more

confident."

Emma, 23, has a condition called delayed myelination, which affects her complex and critical thinking. She has a warm, easy-going personality and a great sense of humor. Today she's wearing a tye-dyed tee-shirt with an image of a cat attacking a pirate ship. When she's not riding or working at a local auto parts warehouse, Emma loves dressing up and creates elaborate costumes, all on her own.

She's only been riding since July, but, Emma says, "Riding makes me feel good about myself."



Brittany, mom to Haley, 12, who also comes once a week to ride, agrees. "She gets a lot of physical benefits that Wendy could tell you about, but honestly, the social aspect of it is even better. She goes to school and she tells all of her friends about riding horses and it helps her interact with her peers," she tells The Morning Blend, after the center had been nominated as a top nonprofit in the area.

Hailey was born with schizencephaly, a birth defect in which clefts form in the brain. The condition causes her to have high muscle tone and low muscle mass – a painful combination. Walking is difficult and she often uses an assistive device. But the motion of the horse helps her walk better.



"On Saturdays, she wakes up with a big smile and says, 'Horseback riding!" says Brittany.

Allie Chase is the local librarian and an Army veteran who participates in the Horses for Heroes program. She's also a Lion. And she has a lot of good things to say about Konichek and the HPHC programs. "Wendy has been a Lion long before she became a Lion," she says. "I've seen a lot of things she's gone out of her way to do." Like making sure all of her students have show clothes if they're participating in an event, or buying boots for one man who needed them but couldn't afford them."

Chase has gained a lot of confidence by learning to ride. "It's the great equalizer," she says, of being on a horse. "It's very freeing to be on top of a horse."

There's one drawback, though

Lessons are seasonal and weather dependent. There's no indoor riding arena. So, between midOctober and mid-March, students go about their non-horseback riding lives. For most, the difference is noticeable.



"It's so blatant," says Brittany. While she does swim in the winter to keep physically active, Hailey's walking is "so much better" over the summer when's she's riding, and regresses over the long winter months, she says.

That's where Lions are hoping to step in.

Besson, who had been a Lion for just a year when she found HPHC, and husband, Dan, who is a long-time Lion and Zone Chair, saw an opportunity to create a specialty branch club that could focus on supporting the needs of HPHC, including raising the funds for the new indoor facility.

Besson approached Konichek with the idea. "The only thing I knew about Lions was that they had the corn stand," says Konichek. But she soon learned they were a lot more than corn. "What impressed me most was that all the

money donated went right back into the community."

They've got the horse, they need the cart

The Kettle Moraine Equine Lions Club is now in its second year and is focused on several goals. "We have the horse, now we need the cart," says Besson, who is still a Hales Corner Lion, but acts as the liaison between the two clubs. While a big focus of their fundraising efforts is for an indoor area (with the later goal of building an entire indoor complex, complete with housing facilities for overnights or weekend camps), there are some smaller items on their plate as well

One benefactor donated a Norwegian Fjord horse for pulling a cart. But the club still needs US\$7,700 of its US\$8,700 goal to purchase a wheelchair accessible harness and cart.

"We're still learning," says Besson, of fundraising. But she's confident that accomplishing their goals as Lions will be far easier than trying to do it alone. "The

Lions name holds credibility," she says. "The strength and name recognition of Lions is already helping with networking and potential fundraising while approaching businesses for help and donations."

"I see the possibilities"

In Horse Power Healing Center, Besson sees a place that epitomizes what it means to be a Lion. "There was a need, and Wendy stepped forward to serve and to help. That included horse care and rehabilitation, but it also included the needs of our fellow men and women -- those veterans who served this country and those men, women, and children

born with special needs."

Besson strokes the nose of a white horse she helped Konichek rescue. Konichek calls him "Diane's horse." Her manner around all the horses is calm and confident. It's hard to imagine she knew nothing about them just a year and a half ago. But she is clearly at home here now.

After at first being reluctant to join Lions too soon after retiring, she also now seems right at home in the yellow vest. It was the Welsh pony named Victor, who had been written off as too old for a good life, that brought her here. And now, it's the students and their families at HPHC, who refuse to be written off, who keep her coming back.

"I watch as a mom or dad are able to let down their guard while their child is in Wendy's care. I see the joy in the faces of all the riders while enjoying their independence and freedom, sitting atop their horse. I look and I see the possibilities."

"This is when I truly became a Lion," she says.



SightFirst Gives New Life to People in Burkina Faso

by Jamie Konigsfeld

LCIF's SightFirst program has been restoring and protecting sight for almost 30 years and is now present in 102 countries. This extraordinary program develops comprehensive eye care systems providing aid to underserved populations by developing comprehensive eye care systems.

Projects include training eye care professionals and management personnel, upgrading the infrastructure of existing eye care systems, improving access to education and rehabilitation for people who are blind or visually impaired, and increasing public awareness of the importance of eye health. Through the support of LCIF, Lions, and partners, SightFirst focuses on eye care challenges as simple as an uncorrected refractive error to something as complex as a bacterial infection, such as trachoma. They make it possible for Lions to put a stop to avoidable blindness.

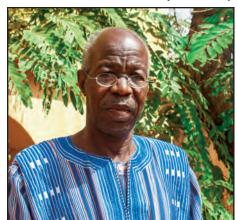
Lions Create Change

Approximately 80 percent of global vision impairment can be prevented. As Knights of the Blind, Lions take this statistic to heart, and work to improve the lives of people across the world who are in danger of losing their vision. In Burkina Faso, a two-year SightFirst project is providing eye care access in areas where eye care is unaffordable. Supported by a US\$110,746 LCIF SightFirst grant, Lions and a local organization, One Dollar Glasses, are establishing four clinics where patients will have their vision screened at no cost. In addition, eyeglasses will be for sale at a much lower rate than at local markets, or free for those who cannot afford it. The project, which began in 2018, is expected to screen 124,000 people and will distribute 26,400 pairs of eyeglasses.

Meet some of the lives this project has changed throughout its first year:

François

François couldn't see clearly more then 10 inches (25 cm) ahead. Yet, the 65-year-old man left his village at four o' clock in the morning to travel on his motorbike 29 miles (45 km). The trip was not easy.



François, wearing his new eyeglasses

The road was rocky and in dangerous condition. He had a few mishaps along the way and followed other motorists closely so he knew where to go. He hoped the trip would be worth it.

Though François needed eye care badly, it was unaffordable in his village. Then one day, François' friend mentioned one of the new clinics helping locals who could not afford eye care. François made the long and arduous trek and arrived at the clinic where an optician screened his vision and determined the correct prescription for his eyeglasses. François was able to purchase the eyeglasses for 5,000 CFA (just US\$10). When he put them on, he smiled. He told the optician he could see everything perfectly.

François left on his motorbike and headed home. This time, he didn't need to follow anyone.

Idrissa

Every morning, Idrissa wakes and heads out to his bistro. His specialty is avocado sandwiches, made with tomatoes, onions, and avocados on a fresh baguette; it is how many people in his neighborhood start their day. Idrissa loves what he does. There is just one problem – a big problem. Idrissa has very poor eyesight. Even as the owner of a successful business, the 30-year-old could not afford eyeglasses.

Once involved in all aspects of his bistro, Idrissa can no longer use a motorbike to deliver sandwiches, so he relies on his brother to make the deliveries. He misses the interactions with his customers. He misses looking for new opportunities to grow his bistro.

Meanwhile, word of a new clinic was making



] Idrissa, smiling as he prepares his specialty, an avocado sandwich

its way to Idrissa's neighborhood. His brother heard about the clinic and told Idrissa about the opportunity for free vision testing and affordable eyeglasses. Longing to end his daily frustrations, Idrissa made his way to the clinic where he had the first eye examination of his life. Afterword, he put on the eyeglasses he purchased and his life changed in an instant. He started delivering sandwiches again, visiting with his customers, winning new customers, and growing the business. He smiles as customers come through the door.

At the age of 30, Idrissa feels like a new person, and he wants others to have the same experience. On a wall in his bistro hangs a poster promoting the clinic, so others struggling with poor vision can have a chance at a new life, too.

Constan

Four years ago, Constan completely lost his vision. He was suffering with glaucoma, an eye disease that often doesn't show any symptoms until it's in an advanced stage. After some unfortunate mishandling of the condition, he became irreversibly blind. In 2019, at the age of 29, Constan didn't have a job and could not support himself. That is, until SightFirst established a nearby eye clinic. The clinic needed someone who could produce eyeglasses and Constan was fit for the role. Newly trained, Constan is now employed as a producer, earning a living and creating eyeglasses that will change the lives of thousands of people.

Thanks to support from LCIF's SightFirst program, local Lions, and One Dollar Glasses, people in less fortunate circumstances are gaining their independence, including François, Idrissa, and Constan.



Constan, concentrating as he creates eyeglasses

Visit lcif.org/campaign100 to learn how Campaign 100 is empowering Lions leading the charge to rid the world of infectious blindness, reduce avoidable blindness and visual impairment, and improve overall quality of life of those with blindness or visual impairment.

All-Woman Climbing Expedition Raises Funds for School

On August 6, 2019, seven women Lions from a tenwoman team reached the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, in Tanzania. They have so far raised US\$42,000 for their efforts, and all donations will go directly to fund a school for children in Kenya.

The Kilimanjaro for Children project ("Kili for Kids") was inspired by the first woman International President, Gudrun Yngvadottir. The creator and coordinator of the project, Inna Flag, came up with the idea to prove that women can reach every summit.

The team of ten women represented Italy, England, Denmark, Russia, Poland, Kenya, Romania, Nepal, the United Arab Emirates, and Switzerland.

The women pledged to climb Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 meters), the highest mountain in the African continent, with the goal of raising US\$58,950 - US\$1 per woman per meter climbed – to build a school for children.

The women spent six days climbing, battling rain, ice, and altitude sickness. They hiked 11 to 13 hours each day. "To say that climbing to the summit of Kilimanjaro was a really difficult experience is putting it lightly," says Armine Oganesyan, of the St Petersburg Golden Pelican Lions Club in Russia. "It was a challenge exceeding the limits of our imagination."

But the women followed the advice of one of their experienced guides: "Do not look up, but down to see what has been done so far. Always follow only the footsteps of the person standing in front of you. The summit will come soon."

The school will be built at the Amrita Center, near the capital of Nairobi, which educates orphans and children from poor families. The goal is to expand the capacity of the center from 200 to 600 children.



Lions Clubs of Sudbury, Capreol, Valley East, Onaping Falls, Minnow Lake, and Azilda



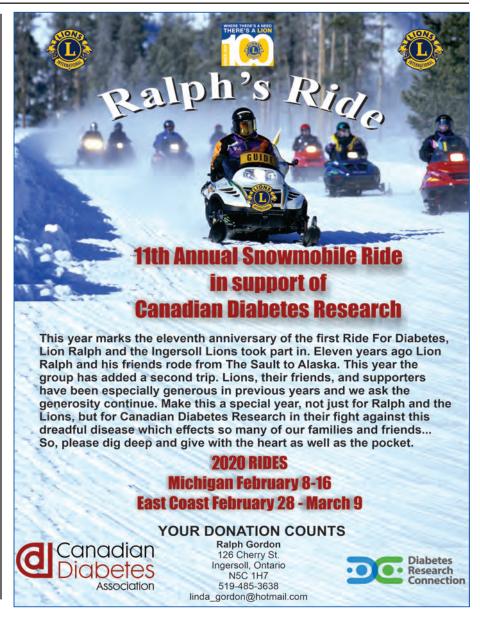
Lions from clubs in Capreol, Valley East, Onaping Falls, Minnow Lake, Azilda, Sudbury and (in jackets from left to right) our DG Lion Debbra Christiansen, Telethon Chair Lion Sam Khoury, 1st VDG Lion Anne Dechaine and 2nd VDG Lion Carmen Portelance

Once again the Lions Clubs of Sudbury Capreol, Valley East, Onaping Falls, Minnow Lake, and Azilda helped to kick off the Tim Horton's "Smile Cookie Campaign". This fundraiser provides 100% of the sales of Smile Cookies to various charities across

Canada. In Sudbury and area, approimatley 50% of the monies raised go to the CTV Lions Children's Christmas Telethon to help provide children with gifts and food for Christmas. Thanks to everyone who came out and supported this great fundraiser.

> Lion Sam Khoury, Sudbury Lions





Lions Foundation of Canada is excited to announce a new Executive Director, Beverly Crandell. She graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Commerce from the School of Hotel and Food





Administration, and earned a Certificate in Leadership from the Hangard Rusiness

from the Harvard Business School, Executive Education Program. She has over 25 years' experience in the not-for-profit sector with a focus on resource development, strategic



planning and member engagement. She is currently the V. P., Integration and Shared Services at

Parkinson Canada. She also served on the Health Partners board and held various officer positions including Treasurer and Chair of the Board. Beverly will be starting her new role in December of 2019.



The Lions Club of Toronto Central Presents

Centennial Dinner Cruise

Saturday June 13th, 2020



\$100.00 ticket includes a \$20.00 tax receipt Buffet, Entertainment, Cash Bar, Raffle, Door Prize Business Casual, Heated

Boarding at 6:30 pm returning at 10 pm Spadina Quay Marina

Proceeds to support the Lionscore services
Vision, Diabetes, Pediatric Cancer, Environment, Hunger

For information contact Ray Charbonneau razart@rogers.com or 416-261-8037



E-Transfer Payment at centennialcruise@gmail.com
Cheques Payable to Lions Club of Toronto Central
157 Adelaide Street West, Suite 423, Toronto ON M5H 4E7

Madoc Lions



appropriate that on "Pitts Hopkins Awareness Day" in September, our little Lion King Bentley Bird, who has the rare disease, received his new Activity Chair purchased for him by Madoc Lions Club. The Little Club with the BIG Heart. Pitt Hopkins is a debilitating disease, more info can be found at:

www.pitthopkins.org.

Beachburg Lions

In May of this year, because of serious flooding issues in the Renfrew area, a state of emergency was in place in the township as flood waters in areas along the Ottawa River continued to rise. Mayor Mike Moore, in consultation with the township's emergency control group, declared an emergency due to flooding under the Emergency Management and Protection Act. The Lions of Beachburg did their part with a \$5,000.00 donation to the Flood Relief Fund.





Beachburg Lions President Bill Siebarth presented a cheque to Brenda Grady President of the Westmeath Recreation Association in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Flood Relief

Elliot Lake Lions

The managers of the Foodland in Elliot Lake hosted a Pet Valu Dog Walk with the Elliot Lake Lions. Maple Leaf Foods was on hand with their BBQ truck and gave out hot dogs to those in attendance. A donation pail was on site along with a display, and Foodland supplied gifts that could be won by those making a donation. At the end of the day they raised almost \$1,000.00. The Elliot Lake Lions thank Joanne and Steve, owners of Foodland, for their generosity.



Madoc Lions A Great Community Effort!

Hits for Hospice - a ball tournament to fund raise for the Heart of Hastings Hospice House.

Madoc Lions were on site on site with BBQs and deep fryer in support of the tournament.

Lions **Deb Boyle**, **Karen Jones** and **Janet McCoy** on BBQs and Lion **Tom Simpson** looked after the french fries. Congratulations to Matt and committee who will hopefully be making this an annual event.



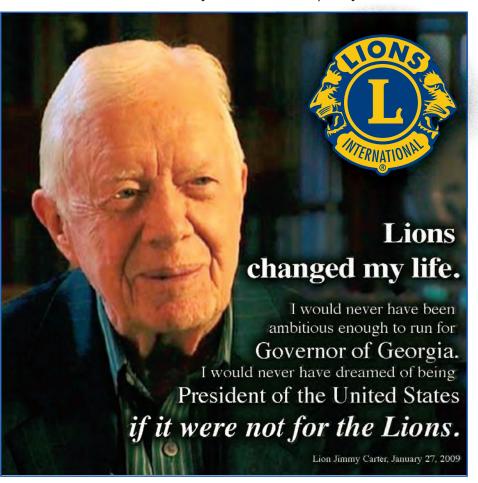
Wasaga Beach Lions

In 1987, Wasaga Beach Lions built a play park in the only school in town, Oxbow School, which has since been named Worsley School. This playpark lasted for 30 years and it was taken down due to safety reasons. In 2017, the club donated \$10,000 to

build a new playpark. On June 21, 2019, the park was officially opened and the students thanked the Lions and enjoyed giving a "Lions Roar" as shown in the photo.



L-R Staff hiding at the rear of the picture: Principal Darrel Bax, Past President Bill Frieday, Past President Martin Campbell, Past President Suzanne Lacombe, President John Tindale, Service Director Graham Margison and Past President Janice Campbell, along with all the wonderful students



South Mountain Lions

What a great South Mountain Fair weekend this past August, the Lions spent time to promote our club within the community and sell tickets for our 50/50 draw being held before the Fair closing on Sunday. The winner was Rich Wiman of South Mountain to the tune of \$2,212.50. As our commitment to the South Mountain Fair Board, the club also looked after the Fair gates on Sunday. Karin **Ceelan** deserves a big thank you for chairing the 50/50 fundraiser for this event and arranging work schedule at fair gates. The proceeds will be directed to the many worthwhile community project the club sponsors.



L-R: Tim Haas, Rich Wiman, Tony Fraser

Knowlton Lions

support the Book to Belly program of the Yamaska Literacy Council

At a recent meeting, the members of the Knowlton Lions Club agreed to give a contribution of \$2,500 to the Yamaska Literacy Council (YLC). This contribution will permit YLC to offer families in the Knowlton area access to an early-literary initiative program, Books to Belly, for parents and children 3-5 years. The goal of this program, developed by Literacy in Action of Sherbrooke, is to stimulate reading as part of a family routine, and to help prepare children for the transition to kindergarten. It consists of a series of five workshops for families that use stories and cooking to stimulate learning and promote

Le Club Lions de Knowlton

appuie le programme Book to Belly du Yamaska Literacy Council.

Lors d'une récente réunion, les membres du Lions club de Knowlton ont accepté de verser une contribution de 2,500 \$ au Yamaska Literacy Council (YLC). Cette contribution permettra à l'YLC d'offrir aux familles de la région de Knowlton l'accès à un programme d'initiative littéraire précoce, Books to Belly, pour les parents et les enfants de 3 à 5 ans.

L'objectif du programme, développé par Literacy in Action de Sherbrooke, est de stimuler la lecture dans le cadre d'une routine familiale et d'aider à préparer les enfants à la transition à la maternelle. Il consiste en une série de cinq ateliers pour les familles qui utilisent healthy behaviours. At each workshop, a different book will inspire a child-friendly recipe that families will create together.

The local Lions Club has been a regular supporter of the different youth organizations over its' sixty years of service to the community.

At the cheque presentation from left to right Knowlton Lions member Eileen Mason and Wendy Seys, executive director YLC



À la présentation du chèque, de gauche à droite, Eileen Mason, du Club Lions de Knowlton et Wendy Seys, directrice générale de YLC

les histoires et la cuisine pour stimuler l'apprentissage et promouvoir des comportements sains. A chaque atelier, un livre différent inspirera une recette adaptée aux enfants que les familles cuisineront ensemble.

Le Club Lions a appuyé régulièrement les différentes organisations de jeunesse locales pendant ses plus de soixante années au service à la communauté.

Merriton Lions Dog Bowl

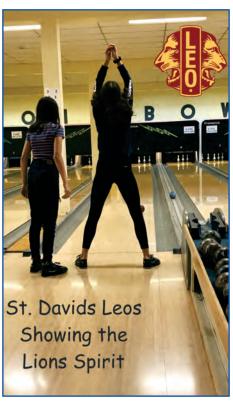
Merritton Lions **Bill** and **Linda Sowrey** celebrate the completion of another fundraising event that raised over \$8,000.

Since 2009, the Merritton Lions under the guidance of Lions Bill and Linda have raised approximately \$75,000 to support and sponsor our Lions Foundation Dog Guides Programs.

During the event, participants use eyewear that simulate various sight and vision issues including a night mask to simulate total blindness.



Lions Bill Sowrey, 'Dunc' Tolley and Linda Sowrey with assistants Carole Tolley and Hugh Mountford (seated) celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Merritton Lions Sight Awareness Bowl-A-Thon



Markham Lions 'Tame the Mane' Fundraiser

Members of the Markham Lions Club amused local spectators in June during their whimsical "Tame The Mane" fundraising event which took place on the front lawn of Gentleman's Barber Shop in Markham. This fun "shorn n' shave" attraction occurred during the Markham Village Music Festival to help raise money for two worthwhile charities, Lions Clubs Camp Kirk Foundation and Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

According to organizer Lion **Kelly Ludlow** of the Markham Lions Club, "Besides myself, we had two other bewhiskered Markham Lions who agreed to a clean shave courtesy of master, traditional barber Kia Rasnian from the Barber Shop. In return for



our fallen whiskers, we reached out to the community for donations to support both these Lions Club charities. People were very generous and much fun was had by all."

"Our Lion President, *Jim Doak* had his beard shaved off which he's had for 30 years!" said Lion Kelly. "Then for another sizable donation Lion *Charles Herriot* agreed to not only have his beard shaved off but also most of the hair on his head down to nothing more than peach fuzz!"

This is the second such fundraising event the Markham Lions Club has done to raise money for the good of Lionism.

Hanover Lions

The Hanover Lions hosted a Dog Walk in Hanover on October 6th 2019. Twenty-seven dogs and fifteen walkers participated, the event raised \$2500.00 destined for the LFC Dog Guide Program.



Freelton Lions

Freelton Lions were the lead in the completion of the Lions Ice Pad in the village which occured in 2016. It continues to be a focal point in the community and is a multi-use facility. This past September the Lions served hotdogs, potato chips and soft drinks to the Freelton Minor Ball teams and their families at their



awards night. It is an annual event hosted by the Lions at the rink.



Tillsonburg Lions

Expect the Unexpected – A Surprise Baby Shower

A-2 District Governor **Steve Burrows** was taken aback when he arrived for his official visit at the Tillsonburg Lions Club in November.

The club held a pre-meeting surprise "Lion Cub Baby Shower"!! Lion Cub **Maren**, was recently adopted by his Grandparents and Lion member Lion **Judy Cayford** and **Alan**. The club decided to share the good news by hosting the shower. Lion Cub Maren is now a member of our "Lions Family" — Welcome Maren!



Tillsonburg Lions "Uncle" Dave Beres with Maren and "Aunt" Donna McLarty

Sudbury Teachers Lions Club

For the last 5 years, the Sudbury Teachers Lions have been involved with the program "Keeping Seniors Warm". In partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury's Seniors' Advisory Panel, the Greater Sudbury Community Action Networks, the Lockerby Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Home Instead, St-Joseph's Foundation, Sudbury and District Health Unit, Giant Tiger and many volunteers, this project provides \$150.00 for each senior towards the purchase of warm items to assist those older adults 55+ within the City of Greater Sudbury community that are isolated or in need of winter clothing. These items include warm clothing, shoes, slippers, winter coats, boots, mitts and hats.

The seniors meet for a light lunch where the senior is served by their personal volunteer, then it's on to shopping at Giant Tiger. The buses are loaded and return to the Legion for 'High Tea' and a chance to "shop" again from the many other items donated by volunteers, which included gently used clothes, hygiene products, calendars, etc. Each senior also leaves with a handmade blanket and goody bags that have been donated. This event provides an opportunity for our older adults to get out and meet new friends. It helps towards alleviating social isolation and helps build community.



MPP Jamie West, city councillors Bill Leduc and Geoff McCausland

The Teachers Lions and 3 members from the **Minnow Lake** Lions volunteered to spend the

day with seniors. It was a wonderful event and very much enjoyed by everyone, senior and volunteer who attended.



High Tea at the Legion

MDA Effective Speaking – September, 2019



Teachers Lions

Time has gone all too quickly with Lions- related events. I'm sure many of you will agree. Now, on to our yearly projects!

MDA Effective Speaking is our only fully-funded MDA Youth project. We can see why, as most of us had trouble when we started speaking in public! Personally, I would like to see all youth learn to

speak freely and easily, as it is such an essential skill when applying for jobs, or for college and university entrance. Unfortunately it's no longer part of most curricula.

The youth that enter our Effective Speaking contests are "the cream of the crop" These are the youth who will become our leaders in society, and hopefully, also, our next Leos and Lions, and Youth Exchange candidates. If you haven't attended any of our Club, Region or District Effective Speaking contests, you should, these youth are clever and great speakers!

We are encouraging all clubs to support our effective speaking chairs at the Club, Region, District and Multiple District level. They need your support, including financially, as it's necessary to assist the youth to compete at more than the Club level. Let's all support this very worthwhile program! Don't forget to check with your neighbours, home schoolers, as well as public and private schools, when looking for worthwhile speakers.

> Joyce Harvey, PDG MDA Effective Speaking

Hanover Lions Club

Hosted by the Hanover Lions Club, their fundraiser, a Taste of Grey is held annually at Ground Effects Landscapes Centre, Hanover. A great opportunity to focus on the art of craft beer, ciders, wines and spirits with samples from local breweries, ciders, wineries or distilleries. Paired with your beverage choices will be food from local restaurants and caterers. Come find a new favourite while enjoying local musical talent and a beautiful facility. Funds raised go to support the many community events.





Marmora Crowe Valley Lions

In September, Marmora Crowe Valley Lions donated \$5000.00 of a four year committment of \$20,000.00 which is committed to the Marmora Public School Playground Committee for new playground equipment. Marmora Area Recreational Supporters also donated \$10,000.00 for two years to same project. Great effort by the Lions and the Community, a total of \$40,000.00 overall.

Lion Jeannette Goodchild, Corrina Massey, Lions Bill Deline, Leo Provost, Mary Jane Goodchild, Charlie Murchison, President Wilson White, Al Fluke. and Jason Carmen, Christa Maloney and Brian Hayes from Marmora Public School Playground Equipment Committee

Minnow Lake Lions

The Minnow Lake Lions in conjunction with Our Children Our Future had their annual family fun day. This is a free event that is held every year for the residents of Minnow Lake and area. Kids and parents alike had a great time bouncing, eating, colouring and just having fun. Based on these pictures WE have to wonder if the little kids or the BIG kids had more fun at this event?

Even the local firemen got involved for the day. Looking forward to even more fun next year.

Either way it looks like there was a lot of activities and some LIONing around!!







March 21, 2020



Join Us in Celebrating our 100th anniversary! That's 100 Years of Community Service!

Windsor Lions

Caboto Club 2175 Parent Ave, Windsor

"The Club That Made Lions International"



Tickets \$55.00 Pins \$6.00 Plaques \$100.00

Tables of 10 available for reservation with payment

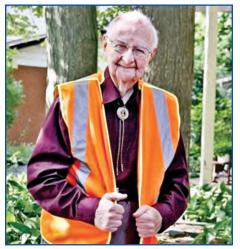
For more info contact:

Lion Dave Balmos <u>davecarol@sympatico.ca</u> Lion Denise Poisson <u>denisepoisson55@gmail.com</u>

Galt-Cambridge Lions

Excerpts from article from Cambridge Times article by Bill Doucet

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Lion **Don Gamble** can be seen at the Cambridge Terry Fox Run every year with his marshal's vest.

Meeting Terry inspired Don, it was as simple as that. For a man who admits he's "not a runner" and that his greatest athletic feat was cycling 32 miles from Manotick to Ottawa, the 93-year-old Cambridge resident has participated in every single Cambridge Terry Fox Run in the best way he knows how — coordinating the marshals.

It all started on a July day in 1980, when Gamble and other Lions Club members presented Fox with a \$500 cheque in Riverside Park for cancer research at the Cambridge Terry Fox Run for Cancer Research. Less than two months later and after 5,373 kilometres, Fox would announce in Thunder Bay that his cancer

had returned and had spread to his lungs, and he would halt his Marathon of Hope until he was healthy. He passed away June 28, 1981.

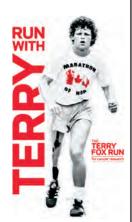
That year, the Cambridge Terry Fox Run began, and Gamble was there. This past Sepember 15th he made his 39th appearance at the annual run. During his tenure, the Terry Fox Foundation has raised more than \$750 million, with Cambridge's portion at \$687,000. Last year in the city, there were 290 participants and \$30,229 was raised.

"They started to want to make some money to get \$400 or \$500 for using their facility for that day and up to that time they had volunteered the use of their hall. So, to save money they ended up in Riverside Park," said Gamble about the current location.

While directing people doesn't seem like a taxing

job, Gamble said it can make for a long day, especially with some runners who like to get a lap of the park in before the run officially begins. Gamble said he tries to get a sense of when runners are going out and making sure his "guys and gals" are at their posts.

A big Lions ROAR to Lion Don.



FOSTERING



Fostering a puppy for Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides is a rewarding experience!



As a foster family, you can help an adorable puppy become a life changing Dog Guide!

At approximately eight weeks old, puppies are placed with foster families.

Foster families are responsible for...

- house-training
- teaching basic manners and obedience
- attending puppy classes every 4-6 weeks in Oakville or Breslau
- socializing the puppy in different settings (Note: puppies cannot be left alone for more than 3 hours)

Food is generously donated by Nestlé Purina PetCare and veterinary care is provided at Lions Foundation's in-house veterinary clinic.



Dundas Lions

The Dundas Lions Club hosted their 5th Annual Motorcycle Ride for Autism on Sunday, August 25th, with proceeds going to Autism Ontario. The great turnout of riders and passengers made their way through the winding roads of Dundas. The event culminated in a cheque presentation for \$7165.00.

A big Lion ROAR to all who came out and supported the event and to the **Dundas**

Lionesses who helped with the registration, the raffles and the 50/50 raffle.





North Oshawa Lions

The North Oshawa Lions honoured two of their members recently to recognize their contribution to Lionism, Lion President Lyle Hargrove and Lion Secretary, Peter Stephenson each received a Melvin Jones Fellowship.



L-R: Lion Lyle Hargrove and Lion Peter Stephenson

New Liskeard Lions

Keeping patients and their families in the North is vital for their well being and recovery. Services in Northern Ontario communities are often overlooked and underfunded, but the Lions Temiskaming Hospital Foundation received a boost from the New Liskeard Lions on October 24th. The Lions presented a cheque that represents a semi-annual commitment by the Lions. The Lions donate \$12,000 each year to the Temiskaming Hospital Foundation and have pledged a donation of \$60,000 within 5 years. This commitment to their local hospital and their community is worthy of a giant ROAR!! Well done New Liskeard Lions.



L-R: Lion Manju Dangalle, Lion Richard Males, Eric Campsall , Lion Mike Baker, Ron Sutton and Lion Alf O'Reilly. Eric and Ron Sutton represented the Temiskaming Hospital Foundation



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May 1-3, 2020

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Forward registration to: Marjorie Lewis, 571 David Street, Gravenhurst ON P1P 1M1 E-mail: 2020registration@A12Lions.org











PLANT 100 TREES FOR 100 YEARS!





21 Members of the Elmira Lions Club gathered along one of our Recreational Trails recently to plant 100 8' tall maple trees. With the 16" diameter holes prebored and the trees predelivered, planting started at 2:00 p.m. Under the supervision of Richard Beisel, Andy Heal and Art Woods all 100 trees were planted, staked and wired by 6:00 p.m. – just in time to retire for wings, pizza and pepsi at Lions Hall.



Photos courtesy of Aneta Rebiszewski Reporter/Photographer Woolwich Observer

Pembrooke-Pettawawa

Petawawa Mayor Bob Sweet presented the members of the Pembroke/Petawawa Lions Club with a Long-Standing Service Recognition Award, which is presented to individuals or organizations in recognition of outstanding contributions to their community, recognizing the group's 37 plus years of organizing the annual Santa Claus Parade as well as contributing to many community events including the Cabin Fever Trivia Night and the Civic Centre Days Lobsterfest.

Receiving the Certificate are Club President Lion *Michael Potvin* and Lion *Verne Stressman*. Following the recognition, Club President Michael Potvin then presented to the Mayor a cheque in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Town of Petawawa to aid with the expenses of the flood relief efforts experienced during the recent flood emergency.



MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting, Radisson Park Inn, Markham September 13-14, 2019
- Council Meeting, Radisson Park Inn, Markham November 15-16, 2019
- Council Meeting, Radisson Park Inn, Markham February 21-22, 2020
 - Council Meeting Convention May 1-2, 2020

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A-1	Best Western Plus, Stonebridge, Lambeth	April 3 - 5, 2020
A-2	Holiday Inn, St. Catharines	March 27 - 29, 2020
A-3	Best Western Plus, Cobourg	April 3 - 5, 2020
A-4	Nav Centre, Cornwall	April 17 - 19, 2020
A-5	Holiday Inn, Sudbury	April 17 - 19, 2020
A-711	Sandman Signature Mississauga Hotel	April 17 - 19, 2020
A-9	Best Western, Walkerton	April 17 - 19, 2020
A-12	Holiday Inn, 20 Fairview Road Barrie	April 3 - 5, 2020
A-15	Quality-Festival Inn, Stratford	April 3 - 5, 2020
A-16	Holiday Inn, Peterborough Waterfront	April 17 - 19, 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2020	Muskoka, Ontario	May 1 -3, 2020
2021	London, Ontario	May 28 - 30, 2021

International Conventions

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
108th	Mexico City, Mexico	July 4 - 8, 2025

USA - Canada Forums

Sept 15 - 16, 2020	Louisville, Kentucky
Sept 9 - 11, 2021	Des Moines, Iowa
Sept 15 - 17, 2022	Calgary, Alberta
Sept 14 - 16, 2023	Reno, Nevada

St. Jacobs Lions

The included text is from a letter received by Lion **Dennis Lougheed** from the then International President.

Dear Global Action Team- GLT District Coordinator Lion Dennis Lougheed,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that you have earned the President's International Leadership Award! This award recognizes your commitment to excellence in leadership development in your district. Our association depends on leaders like you to identify and encourage talented Lions and provide opportunities for them to grow. Together, your dedication will lead our way forward.

Together, we will reach beyond the horizon to strengthen our communities, clubs and ourselves through service. The horizon is ours.

l thank you and wish you many more years of leadership success

In Friendship, Gudrun Yngvadottir Your International President



Lion Dennis is shown being pinned with the award by PID Art Woods

South East Manitoulin Lions

South East Manitoulin celebrated their 40th Anniversary Charter Night in Manitowaning. The South East is a small club of 12 members who put the great event together. The guest speaker was PDG Lion *Kim Groen* who gave a fun motivational speach. There were 45 Lions and guests in attendance including DG Lion *Debbra Christiansen*, ZC Lion *Jeannine Demarais*, members of *Valley East Lions*,

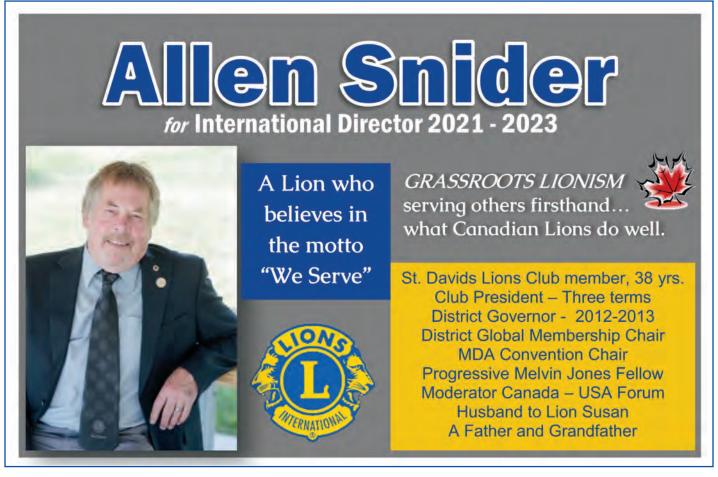
Little Current Lions and the reporter from Minnow Lake Lions. Some very special guests included Marilyn Smith (Lion Bill), Pat Hembruff (Lion Jim) widows of charter members and Harold **Clarke** (a charter member). Last but not least was Councillor Hugh Moggy and his wife Marilyn who attended as special guests. This is a club that started with 38 members, through attrition they are now 12 members strong led by Lion Lisa Hallaert, whose father Bill Moggy was a charter member. A big Lions roar to the members.



Head table includina DG Lion Debbra Christiansen



Guest Speaker PDG Lion Kim Groen



Copetown Lions

The Lions of Copetown sponsored their annual Peace Poster contest at Balaclava Public School in the rural Freelton area. There were over 20 excellent entries and the judging took place at a Copetown Lions meeting in early November.



L-R: Lion Debbie Nelligan, Sarah Kolbasnik (1st place winner), Paige Zimmerman (2nd place winner), Avery Edl (3rd place winner), Teacher - Sarah DeLong

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 Adrian Roes: adroes@bell.net
- 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 Wayne White: wanda.wayne@rogers.com
- A-12 Lion Kierstan Hargrave: pr@a12lions.org
- A-15 Lion Paul Anstett: bulletin@a15lions.org
- A-16 Lion Micheline Lush: governornews@lionsa16.com

Editor Lion Bob Pearson mdathelionmag@hotmail.com

Tamworth and District Lions Club

The inaugural Stone Mills Family Festival was a hit. With the support of local residents and generous sponsors, Tamworth and District Lions Club hosted their first Stone Mills Family Festival in Tamworth on Saturday September 7, 2019. Family friendly activities began midmorning...including local vendor displays, family bingo hosted by Tamworth Legion, agricultural displays, kids crafts and a Stone Quest Scavenger hunt which continued well into the evening. Thankfully the rainstorm held off.

The Lions served a pork roast dinner and the community enjoyed live music with a talent show and band which entertained the crowd. There was lots of generous participation in the silent and pie auctions. One pie sold for \$200.00! All funds raised during the event will assist the Club with ongoing community programs.



Stone Mills Arch



PDG Lion Frank Hewitt

Nobleton Lions

On October 26, the draw to select the winners of this year's Nobleton Lions Annual Community Fundraising Ticket Draw took place at the Nobleton Gazebo. Pictured here are members of the Nobleton Lions Club and friends preparing to draw the winning tickets for prizes totaling

\$5000.00. Once again all tickets were sold and the proceeds in excess of \$12000.00 will support the activities of the numerous community organizations supported by the club.







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J. Brian Stevenson PIP

Co-Chairs:

J. Carl Young PID
J. Arthur Woods PID

Members:

Allan Hunt ID Tom Gordon PID Roderick Wright PID Yves Léveillé PID Marvin ChambersPID Patti Hill PID Terry Graham PID James Sherry PID Ben Ward PID Jack Isaman PID Gilles Melancon PID Leonard Giffen PID Garnet Davis PID Gil Constantini PID W W "Bill" Webber PID Kenneth Green PID Ralph Long PID Bohdan "Bud" Danylchuk PID Judge Virgil P Moshansky PID

LIONS 2020 100 YEARS OF SERVICE IN CANADA

These are truly exciting times for Canadian Lions!

The first club in Canada was charted in 1920 in Windsor Ontario. This made Lionism truly International. We are celebrating our 100 Years of Service during the 2 year period starting July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

We have two (2) main goals - two (2) projects to help us celebrate our Centennial:

- To plant 100,000 Trees across Canada.
- 2. Each Club is encouraged to complete a Centennial Project in its Community. It could be something as easy as placing a bench in a park or a Trail or it could be something very major such as building a new Hall or Arena. It doesn't matter, but what is important is that we do something that is visible and shows Lionism in action. Each Governor has an information brochure, report forms and buttons. Pins are also available for purchase.

For more information contact your District Governor or either of the following:

Canadian Centennial Committee Co-Chairs:

- Lion Carl Young
- Lion Art Woods

LETS ALL CELEBRATE! LIONS 2020!

Lions Club of Bracebridge

Lions Club of Bracebridge Foundation Benefits from Dog Guides Golf Tournament.

A big thank you to Don MacKay and the Highlands Golf course for organizing and hosting the annual Dog Guides Golf Tournament. Many Lions, numerous other organizers/volunteers and the major sponsor, Kobota North, helped raise over \$15,000 for Lions Dog Guides. THANK YOU! A special thank you to RBC

Dominion Security for their extra donation of \$1000 to the day.



Agreement Number is: 41805020*

