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LION

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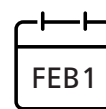
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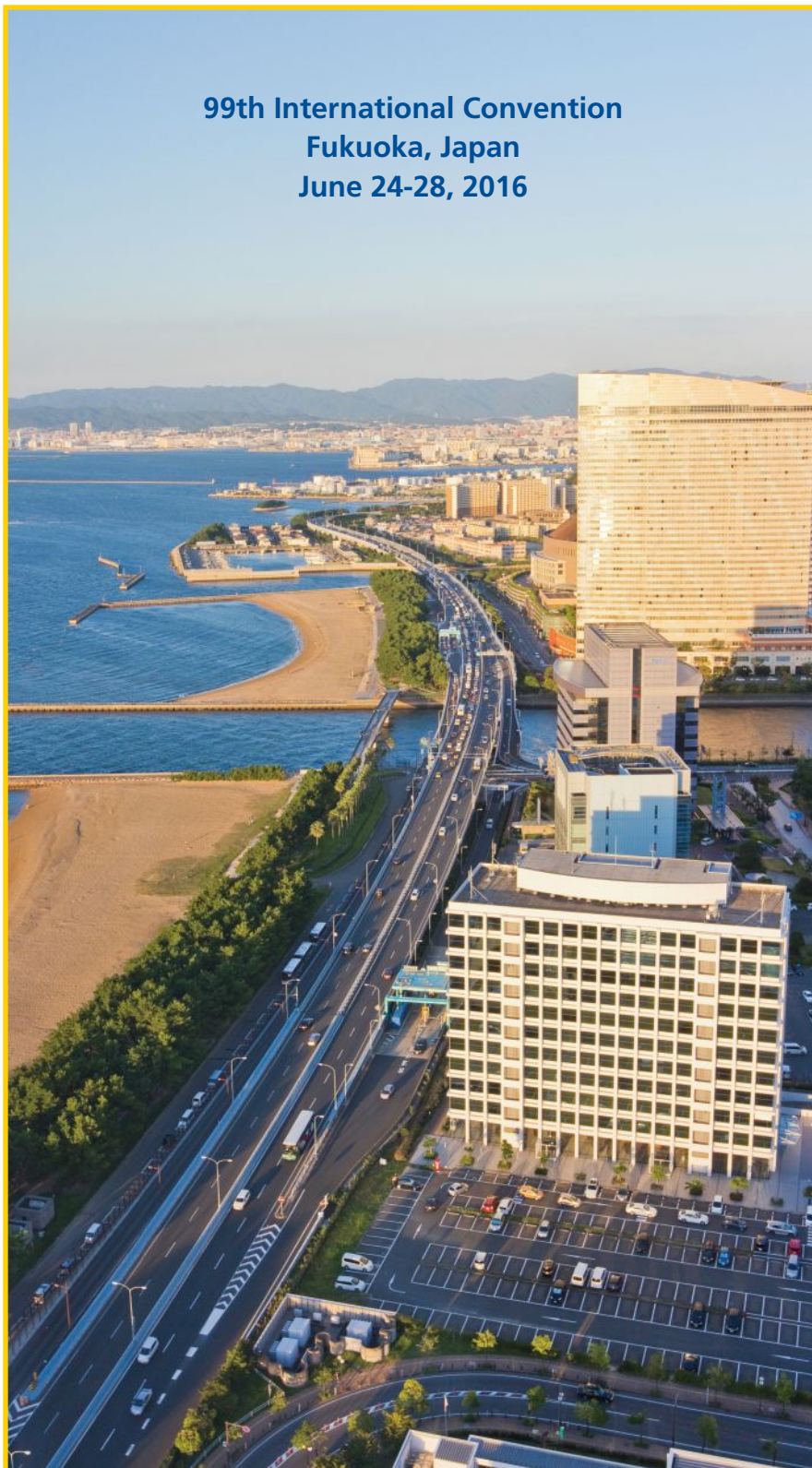


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POSTMASTERS

Periodicals postage paid at Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 and additional mailing offices. Subscription price, US\$6.00 year, US\$12.00 year mailed outside North America; Single copies, US\$1.00.

Send notices of undeliverable copies on form 3579 to LION, 300 W 22nd St Oak Brook IL 60523-8842. “Canada Post Publications Mail No. 40029736 Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: LIONS 2835 Kew Drive, Windsor, ON N8T 3B7.”

[President's Message



Refugees from Syria and Iraq in Turkey near the border with Greece are getting aid from Lions.

Lions Go Full Bore in Helping Refugees

Lions clubs work like this: they see a need in their community and they fill that need. Lions Clubs International works much the same way: we become aware of a pressing large-scale problem or crisis and then address it. Other Lions leaders and I are horrified at the appalling refugee crisis in Europe, the largest since the end of World War II. The refugees have abandoned their homes, risked their lives and fled Syria and Iraq typically with little more than the clothes on their backs. Mothers and fathers cannot feed their children, shelter them from the elements or adequately protect them from disease.

At headquarters we immediately saw the opportunity for a cross-border collaboration and quickly assembled a LCIF/LCIF Refugee Steering Committee to funnel aid to refugees without delay. LCIF already has approved a US\$200,000 grant to assist refugees, and our foundation has received from Lions more than another \$312,000 for refugees. That amount will surely grow. The committee will provide guidance to Lions on developing impactful projects and seek out partnerships with other groups to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of our aid. Chaired by the very capable International Director Helmut Marhauer of Ger-

many and Lion Claudia Balduzzi of Italy, the committee also includes Lions from Greece, Turkey and other European nations involved in the crisis.

Lions in Europe have been on the scene heroically helping refugees in Turkey and Greece, even to the point of great personal risk (see story on page 8). However much we are moved and want to help, few of us can take time from work or family to be like these Lions and personally deliver aid. But all of us can support the work of Lions in the crisis zones or financially contribute to fundraisers and projects conceived by clubs and districts. Please be generous. Working together, Lions worldwide can help countless families obtain food, safety and the precious opportunity to restart their troubled lives.



山田 實純

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada
Lions Clubs International President

[The Big Picture

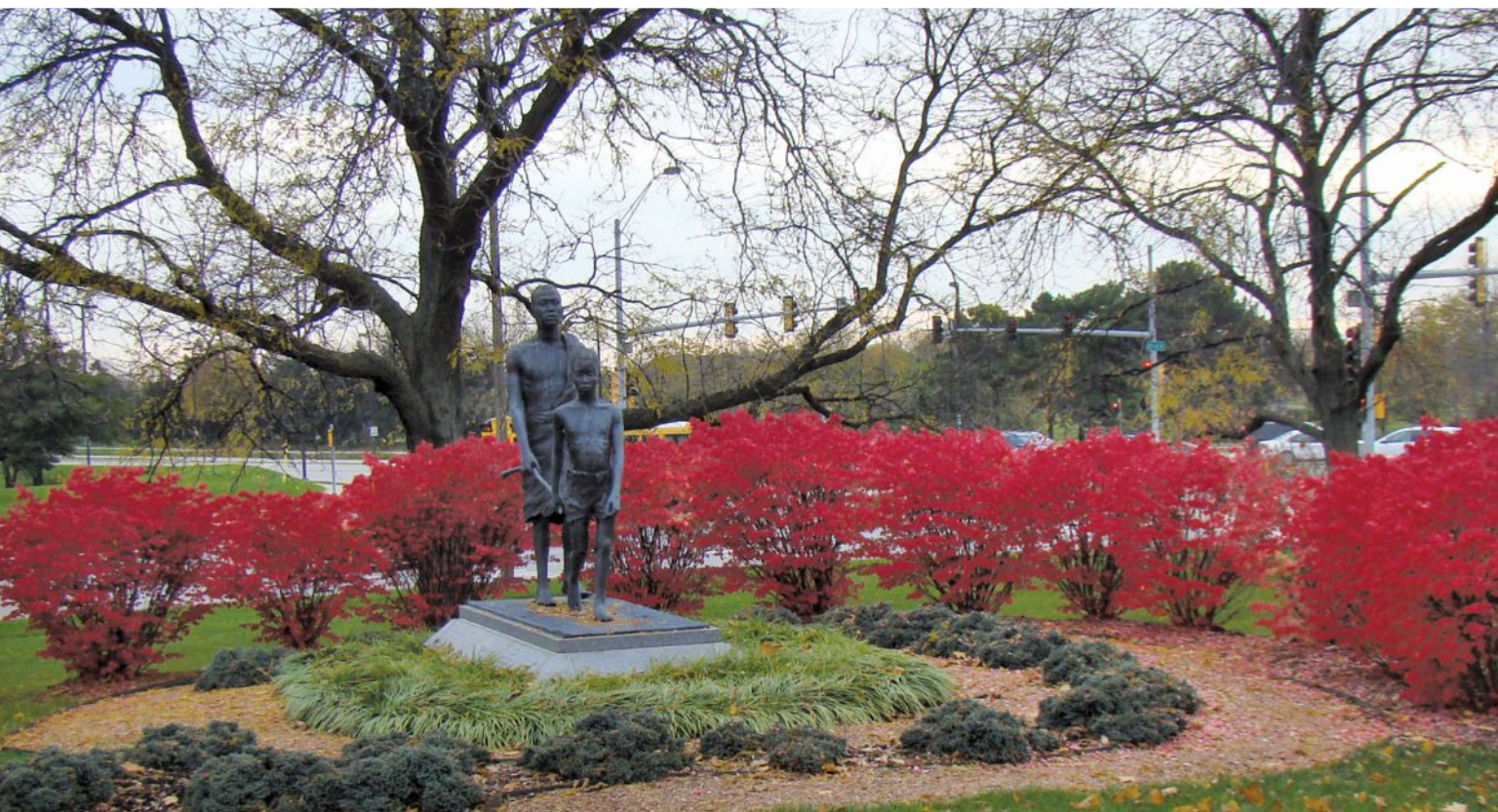


A Ritual Frozen in Time



The Port Edwards Lions Club Fisheriee in Wisconsin recalls the more primitive times of the late 1800s when the sale of ice was a major U.S. industry. Using authentic antique equipment, the club oversees the cutting of ice blocks at Nepco Lake. Packed in sawdust at a rebuilt ice house, the ice cools drinks in the months ahead and helps make ice cream for summer events.

[The Big Picture



A Cause for All Seasons



Year after year, month after month, Lions battle river blindness in Africa and South America. Dedicated in 2007, the Gift of Sight statue outside the headquarters of Lions Clubs International in Oak Brook, Illinois, symbolizes Lions' perennial commitment to curtail blindness. The statue was a gift from The Carter Center, Lions' partner in blindness prevention. Since 1996, Lions, The Carter Center and partners have provided more than 167 million treatments to protect people from river blindness. Nearly 443,000 people in Latin America and 120,000 in Africa now are no longer at risk of the disease.

LIONS RISK LIVES FOR REFUGEES

Lions Leif and Nilgün Erdem Niord traveled to the southeast tip of Turkey with a truckload of food for 500 trapped Yazidis, a religious minority in Iraq who fled the persecution of ISIS. But fighting between the police and Kurdish nationalists forced them to flee. “It was tear gas all around,” says Niord, a peace activist who lives in both Turkey and Sweden. Sympathetic Turks later distributed the Lions’ aid. Three times previously Niord, her husband Leif, and Turkish Lion Fadime Demirci traveled to small villages in Turkey near the Syria border to bring food, beds, blankets and toys to 1,000 refugee families. Swedish and Turkish Lions supported the aid. Lions worldwide have been raising funds and donating supplies for the Syrian and Iraqi refugees. LCIF approved a US\$200,000 grant to assist refugees, and our foundation has received from Lions more than another \$312,000



Refugees in Turkey near the Syrian border carry food donated by Lions.

for refugees. An LCI/LCIF Refugee Steering Committee was formed to coordinate assistance. The refugees are in dire need, says Nilgun Niord. “The refugees escaped with nothing. They carried the elderly on their backs and babies in their arms,” she says. “Many children look traumatized. The mothers looked desperate and helpless.”



PEACH BOWL AND LIONS UNITE ONCE MORE

Ready for some college football? Lions Club International is sponsoring the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Parade, restoring Lions’ association with the Peach Bowl. The Peach Bowl is noon (EST) on Dec. 31 in Atlanta. Part of the national championship playoff, the Peach Bowl will host a national semifinal in 2016 and the national championship in 2017-18. Founded in 1968 by the late Past International Director George Crumbley as the nation’s first charity bowl, the Peach Bowl raised more than \$1 million for the visually impaired in Georgia for Lions until 1985. For the sponsorship fee of



TCU routed Ole Miss 42-3 in the 2014 Peach Bowl.

\$50,000, Lions will receive publicity in numerous ways: pregame events, advertising, the parade, the game day program, websites and social media campaigns. Lions also will be highlighted in a video board feature during the game. Lions will be in the Georgia Dome promoting Lions, and fans will be encouraged to donate eyeglasses. Lions also will do eye screenings for children at the FanFest the morning of the game and vision screenings at schools in partnership with Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl's Play it Smart Program.

SURVEY SAYS ...

This month Lions Clubs International is emailing a survey to Lions to gather input on the future direction of the association. Occasioned in part by the impending centennial of Lions, the survey will allow Lions to help direct the future goals, focus and service impact of Lions. The survey will be sent to all Lions whose email is known to LCI. LCI has also solicited feedback from Lions, partners and other global opinion leaders through focus groups, in-person and phone interviews and webinars worldwide. The LCI board recently approved a five-year strategic plan called LCI Forward. The primary goal is to dramatically improve service by 2020-21. LCI also aims to become the world's best-known brand for voluntary service, achieve best-in-class services to members, clubs and districts, develop innovative ways to engage more people in Lions' humanitarian service and enhance the value of being a Lion by expanding member benefits, leadership training and member services.



Overheard

"I always tell my audience—one day I will reach the stars I can't see."

—Khodr Farhat, 21, who was born blind in Lebanon and received a college scholarship in Michigan, where he now lives, from the Birmingham Lions Club. From the Macomb Daily.

"I'm not going to let one or two incidents change 24 years of our lovefest between the Lions club and this community."

—Joe Gaffigan, a past international director and member of the Suburban Lions Club in Maryland, after a generator used to power the lights on the Lions' Christmas tree lot was stolen. From WJLA.com.

"It was the most fun I've had in an outhouse in three months."

—Kevin Laidler of the Lake Orion Lions Club in Michigan after his team finished second in the Outhouse Races at the Lake Orion Winter Carnival. From the Clarkston News.

[First Roar

SERVICE WEEK TO FIGHT HUNGER NEARS

More than 800 million people in the world don't have enough to eat. Lions are called to do something about it: Jan. 10-16 is our Worldwide Week of Service to Fight Hunger and Poverty. The service both honors the birthday of Lions' founder Melvin Jones (Jan. 13) and contributes to the "Relieving the Hunger" component of the Centennial Service Challenge to serve 100 million people. Lions are asked to complete a small project such as organizing a food drive or volunteering at a soup kitchen. Or Lions can do a medium-sized project such as developing a weekend backpack meal program for schoolchildren or starting a community garden. Clubs also are encouraged to undertake a major project such as establishing a food bank. Clubs need to report the service on the online MyLCI Service Activity Report for the project to count toward the Centennial Service Challenge and to earn a Centennial Banner Patch.

- Watch a short video of Japanese Lions wishing a Happy Birthday to Melvin Jones.
- Watch a short video of LCI staff wishing a Happy Birthday to Melvin Jones.

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY FOR SICK BOY

In late October residents of St. George in Ontario strung up Christmas lights on their houses, marveled at the snow created by a special effects company at the home of a terminally ill 7-year-old boy and then turned out by the thousands to cheer the boy as he rode with Santa in a special holiday parade. The small Canadian town gave Evan Leversage, battling an inoperable brain tumor, the gift of a final Christmas. Evan's cousin, Shelly Wellwood, got the idea to celebrate Christmas early, and the St. George Lions Club helped get the word out. "Our emotions kicked in, and our members got excited about it," says President Wayne Branchaud. "[Lion] Ross Ilett got on the phone with the local volunteer fire department, and the parade was born." Lions had one of the 25 floats in the parade. "It was a great moment for our community. It shows that a community can come together when it counts," adds Branchaud. After extensive media coverage, Evan received messages from around the world. "Many times I have told people [that] Evan is my inspiration," his mother, Nicole Wellwood, told CBC News. "The whole wide world became my inspiration last night."



Dub Deavor (from left) and Lions John Haskell, Joyce Canada and Bob Canada of the Selma Lions Club sort some of the 1,000 cans of food collected at the club's annual Central Alabama Fair for a local food pantry.



Evan Leversage rides on the Santa float.

Photo by The Canadian Press/Chris Young

By the Numbers



Photo courtesy of the Selma Times-Journal

\$1,000

Dollars given for each year of its existence to local groups by the Mystic Lions Club in Connecticut in celebration of its 65th anniversary.



Students at Ocean Crest Elementary School given prizes in the monthly "Caught You Being Good" program supported by Bandon Lions in Oregon.



Students at Hooverville Elementary School entertained by a magician, thanks to Rouzerville Lions in Pennsylvania.

HUGS AND KISSES—IN BRAILLE

If it's the thought that counts, the line of greeting cards from the Chicago Lighthouse—including a Valentine's Day card—richly exemplifies care and concern for the blind. The messages of the colorful cards are in Braille as well as in regular text. Participants in the Lighthouse's programs package the cards, and proceeds from card sales benefit other people like them who are blind or visually impaired. Besides Valentine's Day, the cards are for birthdays, the holidays, all occasions (a package of Thinking of You, Happy Birthday, Congratulations, Thank You and Sympathy) and "Tikkun Olam" (Repair the World). Artist Alisa Singer, a retired corporate attorney, designed the cards last year for the Lighthouse, a fixture in Chicago for 109 years.

Available online and in the Lighthouse store, a package of five cards (the all-occasion set) sells for \$22.



The Chicago Lighthouse card uses Braille to wish a Happy Birthday.

0 Tagged fish that were caught in the 30th annual Freeland Walleye Festival held by Freeland Lions in Michigan. One of the 10 tagged fish, if one of the first three tagged fish caught, was worth \$10,000 and the others would have brought \$250.

3

Service clubs in an Ohio town—the Port Clinton Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs—that are collaborating on a playground for all ages and abilities.

100+

Homeless men and women given a hot meal at Father Bill's homeless shelter, thanks to Sharon Lions in Pennsylvania.

35

Cases of turkey legs that Rockport Lions in Texas grilled and sold as a fundraiser.





THE FUTURE STILL BELONGS TO LIONS

Great Scott! “Back to the Future” day—Oct. 21, 2015—has come and gone. That’s the date Marty McFly and Doc Brown time-travel to in “Back to the Future Part II.” No, the Cubs did not win the World Series that year, as the movie predicted. But other futuristic technologies presented in the film have come to fruition: personal drones, video chats (Skype) and video glasses (Google Glass). Lions will especially appreciate the filmmakers’ depiction of the enduring presence of service clubs such as Lions. When Marty jumps forward to 2015 he sees a futuristic hovering town welcome sign that includes the Lions logo. Yet, as Marty surely realizes, the more things change, the more they remain the same. In the first “Back to the Future” Marty time travels to 1955 and ambles past a welcome sign with the familiar Lions emblem.

“Hey, McFly, why not stop wasting so much time on your skateboard and do something productive by joining the Lions?” Michael J. Fox discovers that Lions thrive in Hill Valley in 1955 and in the space-age distant future—2015.

45 Years Ago in the LION



JANUARY 1971

International President Dr. Robert McCullough (second from right) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, gathers with other Lions to dedicate a plaque at the burial place of humorist Will Rogers in Claremore, Oklahoma. The plaque reads: “A man who possessed a great depth of human understanding and helped a troubled world smile.” The dedication was held on Oct. 8, 1970, as part of World Lions Service Day.

Read about the many ways clubs marked World Lions Service Day in 1971.

[One of Us

Phil Hamric

Abington Lions Club, Massachusetts

Some thought bowling alley owner Phil Hamric was crazy to take on an unusual fundraising project, but he was sold on it. What Hamric didn't realize was what a surprising and memorable experience he would have.

Most valued coin in collection is from ancient Egypt, 330 B.C.

Dressed as a leprechaun to collect pennies at the St. Patrick's Day parade

Fabricates replacement parts for 59-year-old candlepin equipment himself



Photo by Brian Winger/Mark Trendel

Hamric lounges on a "sofa" made of pennies on display at the public library after the million penny goal was met.

An Intriguing Idea

I'm a coin collector, so the idea of collecting a million pennies (\$10,000) as a Lions fundraiser for our public library caught my attention. I figured I could handle it, that it would take a couple of years. Other people weren't so sure, but I knew it would work.

Reality Sets In

When the Million Penny Project pretty quickly hit 150,000, I started wondering what I had gotten myself into. I started asking, how will we store them? Transport them? Fortunately a lot of people helped, and a local bank had an armored car take them away when we reached our goal.

An Easy Sell

The most surprising thing to me was how willing people were to give up their pennies. They didn't see them as real money. One guy dropped off 7,600. But I bet if I had asked him for \$76 in bills, he wouldn't have given it to me.

A Million Memories

It only took 10 months to reach 1 million. There were so many great moments. A WWII vet who walked with a cane brought me pennies that he had collected door-to-door. Kids would hand me three pennies. A retired IRS officer gave us 8,000 pennies she had in a closet.

Good News

You read the news, and it's all bad. You forget that there are more good people than bad. Bags of pennies would show up anonymously every day. That part I miss. What I won't miss: the lifting.

Labor of Love

Now I can focus on my little kingdom full-time again. I've owned Timber Lanes bowling center for 29 years. We play candlepin in New England, not 10-pin. It's a smaller, lighter ball with no holes. I wear a lot of hats, but my favorite part is the people.

A Spectator Sport

I haven't bowled in 10 years. I'm terrible. Plus, it's like if you work in a chocolate factory, the last thing you want is chocolate.

Watch a video about the Million Penny Project.

The Mighty Penny

- July 1936 LION: "Penny barrel" draws donations.
- November 1936 LION: Penny campaign in Michigan works wonders.
- April 1951 LION: Pennsylvania club raises a "mile" of pennies.

Do you know a Lion who you think has a great story or deserves a bit of recognition? Email us a brief description of the Lion and the reason you're making the nomination to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "One of Us" in the subject line.

New Club Spins its Wheels

Carol McCague, a Toronto Beaches Lion in Canada, is more comfortable in sales helping clients buy new condos in luxury high-rises, but she put on a pair of heavy gloves anyway to help Lions raise money for Spinal Cord Injury Ontario (SCI) as part of the Wheelin' Lions relay team. "It was a lot harder than I thought it would be," she explains about navigating the chair around a track. "I'm fit, but I'm no spring chicken," McCague adds with a laugh.

Carol Minnich, president of the just-chartered Leaside Centennial Lions Club, organized a Lions team for SCI's Wheelchair Race Challenge and Stroll. McCague, who served as a Guiding Lion for the new club, volunteered immediately. "There's strength in numbers," she says. Twelve Lions participated, eight on the relay team and four as volunteers. Other clubs participating were the Toronto Netrayla, Toronto Bangladesh and Toronto Central clubs. The Lions' team was among 30 that together raised CAD\$105,000 (nearly US\$80,000). The Toronto Doctors and Toronto Cathay Lions clubs pledged donations to the team, which raised \$1,160.

About half of the relay team members routinely use wheelchairs for mobility. "Their wheelchair quality and experience and capabilities were far beyond our Lions, which is why our team was dead last in the overall rankings. It took an average of 5.25 minutes for each of our Lions to do a quarter-mile lap. The fastest team averaged well under half that time," Mike Minnich, Carol's husband, points out.

Lions chose among an assortment of wheelchairs made available for teams. They went for new and shiny. That was a mistake. "We were told that because it was so new, the wheels were tight," says McCague. "They just didn't spin the way they should have. Let's just say we scored a lot higher in enthusiasm than we did in the final standings."



Toronto Beaches Lion Carol McCague heads for the finish line as another club member, Lion Nolly Haverhoek (background), cheers her on.



Lions fish out golf balls.

Lions Hit a Hole in One

Many members of the River Hills/Lake Wylie Lions Club in South Carolina live on or close to the River Hills Country Club. So the club set a goal of collecting 1,000 gently used balls for Bunkers in Baghdad, which ships donated golf clubs and balls to American troops stationed overseas.

A 34-gallon plastic barrel in the pro shop filled up. Lion Bill Holleman, whose home is on the 15th fairway, found 800 errant shots in his backyard. Other Lions fished balls from the golf course's lake. Lions quickly filled 22 boxes with 8,000 used and even new balls.

The club, which donates \$100,000 yearly to 35 groups, saved 800 pounds of waste from going into a landfill. It cost the club only \$600 to ship the boxes.

Len Fleet, a retired judge who discovered the Bunkers initiative for his club, says he has been known as "the Judge." Until now. He now answers to "the Golf Ball Man."

Helping the Blind Touch History

Christopher Leffingwell, who died in 1810, was a patriot and merchant. His home in Norwich, Connecticut, now a museum, is a treasure trove of colonial America. Artifacts include a colonial sword, pistol, kitchen implements, lanterns, tobacco pipes and candles.

It's a place friendly to the visually impaired. Its periodic Touch of History tours allow the blind to get close to history.



A little girl touches a candle snuffer at Leffingwell House Museum.

"Most museums are out of reach of the blind. Like most sightless people, I've been dragged off by family members or accompanied friends to museums. I can't 'ooh and ah' at all these things because they're behind glass," says Kevin Harkins of the Norwich Lions Club who advised the museum on the tour.

The president of the Society of the Founders, which owns and operates Leffingwell House Museum, is Greg Farlow; he and his wife, Cam, are Norwich Lions. Lions such as Art Mueller volunteer at the museum. The tours for the blind include narration by volunteers. "Each time we do a tour, we get suggestions and are constantly making

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AUSTRALIA

Teenager Comes Out Swinging

Aidan Barry, 17, has golfed long enough and has reached a certain level of expertise that he has a handicap. It's his other handicaps that distinguish him from the average golfer.

Aidan suffers from vision and hearing problems. He has a lung condition that he describes as "asthma-like." His arms are only a few inches long. His medical ordeal began when he had open heart surgery two weeks after he was born, the first of six heart operations.

He took up golf when he was 7. He plays as part of the Disability Recreation and Sport South Australia, of which his mother, Bernadette, is a board member. The family lives in Marion, a suburb of Adelaide, Australia's fifth-largest city.

Adelaide Lions admire his pluck. Using computer game terminology, he says, "Having a physical disability is like playing life in Hard Mode."

Aidan Barry golfs despite arms six inches long.

He is a straight A student. His goal is to study law—and to win a gold medal at the Paralympics. Meanwhile, everyday life has become easier for him thanks to the assistance dog

Lions provided after raising \$45,000 (US\$32,000). The dog helps him carry items, press pedestrian crossing buttons and even pull laundry from the washing machine.



AUSTRIA

Austrians Mimic New York Event

Celebrating Lions Day at the United Nations, Lions in Austria held their own version of the day at the Parliament Building in Vienna. Lion Karlheinz Kopf, president of the Austrian National Council (one of the two houses in the Austrian Parliament), hosted the event.

Ambassadors, U.N. officials and Lions such as Kopf and Past International Director Ernst Musil talked about the longstanding relationship between the United Nations and Lions and the importance of nonprofit organizations in alleviating social ills. The keynoter was Prelate Mag. Fürnsinn, abbot of the Herzogenburg Monastery. Classical musicians played songs by Mozart, Bach and Handel. The Peace Poster Contest finalists from the western, central and eastern districts of Austria were introduced to the crowd of 200.

Held in early spring in New York, Lions Day at the United Nations is a 37-year tradition.

ENGLAND

Lions Target Dementia

Santa brought the gift of memory—or at least care and support for those with dementia. For nine nights before Christmas Santa took to the streets with Mildenhall & District Lions in southeast England to collect funds for the Forget-Me-Not Campaign of West Suffolk Hospital.

Nary a Scrooge was found. The Santa Sleigh raised 3,751 euros (US\$4,200) to raise awareness of dementia and provide care for patients.

For Eric and Pat Nixon, longtime members of the Cosham Lions, dementia has hit home. Eric, 87, who served in the RAF for 43 years, has Alzheimer's. Pat, a retired special education teacher, speaks at Lions meetings about becoming a "Dementia Friend." The nonprofit encourages people to stay in touch with people with dementia, to be patient with them and to wear a badge publicizing Dementia Friends. "I don't think people understand what dementia is and what happens," Pat told the Portsmouth News.



Veijo Oinonen carved a Santa Claus.

FINLAND

Lion Carves Out His Niche

Finns joke that cold weather for other Europeans means their cars don't start while Finns are still driving with the tops down on their convertibles. Lion Veijo Oinonen is one Finn in particular for whom winter is a pleasure: he's won 18 ice sculpting championships.

A member of the Kuusankoski Lions Club since 2005, Oinonen has taken home gold medals in the Finnish championships and earned medals in foreign competitions such as in Sapporo, Japan. The competitions are for teams. "You have to have one leader who has the main idea and who can manage the team," says Oinonen. "At the national level the time is restricted, so it definitely takes teamwork with good leadership."

Ice sculpting is a ticket into the larger world of ice and winter festivals. In Harbin, China, an entire town is constructed from ice. "Some of the buildings are very tall, up to 30 meters [98 feet] and with flashing LED lights. It's an unbelievable experience," says Oinonen, who spends part of the winter in Lapland in Northern Finland where weeks go by without daylight.

His interests made him a good fit for Lions, he says. "I've done a lot of volunteer work in sports organizations, and maybe that was the reason I wanted to join," he says. "We work together in my club and share responsibilities."

JAPAN

Snow Festival Brightens the Season

It snows almost constantly from November to March in Otaru, a port city. The sun rarely shines. In February, the city thumbs its nose at the wintry weather with a radiant Snow Lantern Festival. The city glitters with paths lined with small snow huts lit by candles, fields of snow sculptures, and, running adjacent to the canal that is central to the city, rows of small snow statues holding candles. The canal itself is filled with floating glass spheres made bright by candles.

The effect is cinematic, otherworldly, life-affirming in the face of a long, dreary winter.

The Otaru Lions have run the festival for 13 years. It coincides with the nearby Sapporo Snow Festival, so travelers can visit both events.

Sapporo hosted the 1972 Winter Olympics, and its more famous snow festival features massive snow sculptures made by artists. Residents in Otaru make the snow art. It's a more approachable festival, exemplified by

the conscious effort last year to create snow objects close to the ground, making them accessible to children.

The candles in the snow huts cast a warm, orange glow over the snow. Lions divide into teams to tend to the candles around the clock to keep them lit.

The Lions have their own snow pavilion with snowmen of various

shapes and sizes. Permanently displayed there is a beloved bronze statue of a flute-playing boy.

The festival is not a fundraiser. "To the Otaru Lions, this service activity is about good, old-fashioned volunteer work, not cash donations," according to the Japanese LION. The nine-day festival drew 498,000 people last year.



Children gaze at a snow hut at the Snow Lantern Festival.

INDIA

Schoolchildren Now Sail to School

Shikha Kumari's school stands across the Durgawati River, 115 feet wide and 50 feet deep. For months the 13-year-old girl did not attend school in the Kaimur District in eastern India: she cannot swim and the nearest bridge is nearly three miles away.

Nearly 100 other students took the plunge day after day. Boys typically placed their school clothes and books in plastic bags in an urn before swimming across. Not able to change clothes on the river bank, girls had to wait until they reached school before



Schoolchildren who once swam to school now ride a boat.

getting out of their wet clothes.

The river became especially perilous during the monsoon season when the water level rose. At least seven students have drowned.

Today a boat safely ferries 25 students at a time across the river. Some two dozen Lions from Multiple District 322 personally paid for the

boat. "It was a gesture to show how we have learned fellowship and the spirit of Lionism," says Sanjay Awasthi of the Patna Takshila Lions Club.

The Lions' largess was extended to the community. Elderly village women also use the boat to cross the river.

GERMANY

Quick Response After Nepal Earthquake



A worker packs PAULS to purify water in Nepal after the earthquake.

German Lions responded almost immediately to the devastating earthquake last April in Nepal. Within just four days of the disaster, German Lions donated more than 100,000 euros (US\$112,000) for relief.

German Lions' nonprofit partner, Help, sent a six-person rescue team to search for survivors and recover bodies. The earthquake killed more than 9,000 people, injured more than 23,000 and left nearly 3 million without a home. Among the dead was Dr. Matthias Kuhle, a Göttingen professor with his students on an excursion. A rockslide killed him.

German Lions also enabled Help to use its creative disaster response—a "cash for work" method. Residents are paid to assist with relief and reconstruction, providing a boost to the damaged economy.

As with other disasters, German Lions also sent pallets full of PAULS—portable aqua units for lifesaving—to purify contaminated water.

29th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest

A Celebration of Peace



Sponsor a Lions International Peace Poster Contest and join clubs worldwide in sharing children's visions of peace with your community.

How the Contest Works

Only a Lions club can sponsor the contest in a local school or organized youth group. The contest is open to students 11-13 on November 15, 2016. Participating students are asked to create posters visually depicting the contest theme, "A Celebration of Peace."

One winner for each contest sponsored by a club is chosen to advance to the district governor for judging. On the district level, one winner is selected to go on to the multiple district competition and from there one winner is forwarded to International Headquarters for the final judging. Entries are judged at all levels on originality, artistic merit and portrayal of theme.

During the final judging, 23 merit award winners and one grand prize winner are chosen to represent the many entries submitted from around the world.

Awards

Artists of posters advancing to the final international judging are recognized as follows:

- **International Grand Prize Winner** receives a trip to an award ceremony where he/she will receive a cash award of US\$5,000 (or local equivalent) and an engraved plaque. Two family members (one being the winner's parent or legal guardian) and the sponsoring Lions club president or a club member (as designated by the club president) will accompany the winner to the award ceremony.
- **23 Merit Award Winners** each receive a cash award of US\$500 (or local equivalent) and a certificate of achievement.

How to Enter

Lions clubs must order a Peace Poster Contest kit from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters. Available in all 11 official languages, it costs US\$11.95, plus shipping, handling and applicable taxes. Each kit contains everything your club needs to sponsor one* school or organized, sponsored youth group:

- **Official Club Contest Guide & Rules**
- **Official School or Youth Group Contest Guide & Rules**
- **Participant Flyer** may be duplicated and given to each participating student to take home
- **Sticker** to place on back of winning poster
- **Certificates** for contest winner and school or youth group

**Clubs can sponsor more than one contest in either the same or multiple school(s) and/or youth group(s) by purchasing more than one kit. Clubs will send one poster per each contest sponsored to the next level of judging.*

The Lions International Essay Contest entry form is also included in this kit and on the LCI website.

Kits are available January 15 – October 1, 2016.

Purchase your kit early to allow adequate time for shipment and contest planning.



To order Peace Poster Contest kits (PPK 1), submit this form to the Club Supplies Sales Department at Lions Clubs International at clubsupplies@lionsclubs.org; call (630) 571-5466 or 1-800-710-7822 (U.S., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Canada only) or fax this form to (630) 571-0964. Note: All credit card orders must be placed online.

Visit www.lionsclubs.org [search: Peace Poster]. For more contest information, deadlines, to download a video and view past finalists' posters.

Peace Poster Contest Kit (PPK-1) _____ Qty. @ US\$11.95/each \$ _____

Language Required _____ Tax \$ _____

(Available in all official languages.) Postage & Handling \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Method of payment

Club/District Acct. # _____

Lions Club Name _____

Officer's Signature (Required) _____

The protection of your payment data is important to us. Your credit card* purchases of Lions merchandise must be made directly online at www.lcistore.org. Please do not include your credit card number in any written communication or correspondence. *Visa, MasterCard, Discover.

Ship order to:

Name _____

Address (No P.O. Boxes) _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Zip Code _____ Country _____

Daytime Phone # (Required) _____

E-mail Address _____

Postage/handling Charges:

United States/Canada - Postage/handling charges will be added at the time of processing your order. An additional charge will be added if second day service is required.

Overseas - Postage/handling charges will be added at the time of processing your order.

Duty/taxes may be required upon receipt of your order. Lions Clubs International is not responsible for payment of these duties or taxes.

Sales Tax:

We are obligated to charge sales tax in Illinois and Canada.

How Lionistic are You?

BY JAY COPP | PHOTOS MICHAEL CANDEE/FIRSTLIGHT CREATIVE

OK, so you're a Lion. But are you a king of the jungle? Do you bleed Lions' yellow? Do your neighbors, dentist and mail carrier know you're a Lion? Maybe the giveaway is your Lions license plate, your Lions umbrella or Lions stationery and pen. There are Lions, and then there are Lions—folks who not only attend meetings and serve in the community but also are steeped in the lore, traditions and practices of the association. Just for fun, here is our first-ever Lion quiz. Will you score as a newbie or a Monarch? Give yourself a point if you can check off a box by correctly answering the question. The answers—and your rating as a Lion—are on page 54.

- ☐ **1. What is the Lions motto?**
- ☐ **2. I wear my pin regularly.**
- ☐ **3. I maintain perfect attendance.**

Lions actually don't have to be perfect when it comes to perfect attendance. If you miss a meeting, you can make it up by attending a club board meeting, a club committee meeting, a region or zone meeting or the meeting of another club. This just goes to show Lions are practical and flexible in terms of membership.

Watch a short, clever public service announcement that wryly captures what it means to be a Lion.



☐ **4. I wear a Lions vest.**

Ah, the yellow vest. Some wear it; some don't. However a Lion may feel about the vest, it's iconic. Lions Clubs International sells about 10,000 annually. It was introduced with no fanfare as a new apparel item in the 1951 club supplies catalogue, and the wool gabardine vest that initially sold for \$1.75 quickly became de rigueur for Lions. The original vest was a short-waisted, bolero-style garment designed to be worn with a dress shirt and necktie. In 1960, satin replaced wool as the fabric. The standard vest was redesigned in 1973 to extend below the beltline, and two handy coin pockets were added. A specially-tailored women's vest debuted in 1997. Added in 2011 was a line of emergency vests in bright yellow or orange, some with reflective stripes—ideal for disaster relief efforts and potentially hazardous projects such as cleaning up roadsides.

☐ **5. I've attended an international convention.**

☐ **6. I've visited international headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois.**

They come by car. They come by bus. Lions from the U.S. and abroad are frequent visitors at headquarters. Staff escort them on tours that include the international president's office (he's usually traveling) and a re-creation of Melvin Jones' office. The latter contains dozens of historical items such as his passport, his leather briefcase, an agenda from one of his club meetings and an all-too-realistic lion rug that was a gift from Winston Churchill. Visitors snap selfies at the regal stone lions or flags of member nations in front of the building. Most also make their way to Club Supplies and go home with a bag of purchased Lions paraphernalia.

☐ **7. I've visited a Lions club while on vacation.**

Membership has its privileges: Lions gain access to people and places closed to ordinary travelers. Lions who travel often attend a local Lions meeting.

☐ **9. Who was our founder?**

☐ **10. What famous woman challenged Lions to be Knights of the Blind?**

☐ **11. What does L-I-O-N-S stand for?**

☐ **12. You know what a Leo is. But what does L-E-O represent?**

☐ **13. Years ago, Lions knew their place in town. Do you? Correctly fill in the blanks using "Lions," "Kiwanians" and "Rotarians":**
We Lions say that the ____ own the town, the ____ run the town and the ____ make it work.

☐ **14. Identify the correct logo:**



☐ **8. I'm able to deliver a brief "elevator speech" to pitch someone on the value of membership.**

Don't have an elevator speech? Tip: don't make it sound like a speech. Be informal, friendly and modest—as Lions are. You'll be able to get this out in the time it takes to ride from one floor to another: "Well, Lions are men and women kind of like me—people who want to make a difference in their community. Clubs pick and plan their own projects. Some help the blind. Others help youth. We plant trees, help kids to stay away from drugs and protect them from bullying, keep children from dying from measles. There are a lot of us: about 1.4 million Lions in 210 nations."





15. I'm a Melvin Jones Fellow.

If you are, you are in good company. There are 385,052 Melvin Jones Fellow recipients and 75,544 Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow recipients. The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) recognizes donations of \$1,000 to LCIF. MJF's provide 75 percent of the foundation's revenue.

As recognition of humanitarian work, an MJF is given to those who donate \$1,000 to LCIF or to someone for whom a donation was made by others. Contributions can be made by individuals (including non-Lions), clubs or districts. Melvin Jones Fellows receive an attractive lapel pin, a plaque and a congratulatory letter.



16. I can sing "Roar, Lions, Roar."

The hallmark of Lions is service, but singing is our trademark. Singing has been part of club meetings since the earliest days. The Lions Clubs Magazine weighed in on the matter in 1921: "Singing should be part of every meeting. Nothing can stimulate life in a club, temporarily at least, like good, healthy, enthusiastic singing." Melvin Jones had this to say six years later: "Sometimes I think we all underestimate the good that is wrought in the lives of men through the songs they sing around the luncheon table and in their evening meetings. Music, both vocal and instrumental, has a wonderful effect for good. If there is harmony, and whether we realize it or not, harmony winds itself into our very soul. You cannot have discord in souls filled with harmony." Not that long ago various Lions songbooks circulated widely (some are still around, of course), and a special edition of the LION in 2008 that published three dozen Lions songs including "Roar, Lions, Roar," "Don't You Hear Those Lions Roar" and "The Fighting Lion" was one of the most popular issues.

10
E.C.

Roar, Lions, Roar ED. CHENETTE

Not too fast

1. There's an-i-mals live in the zoo, The el-e-phant and the kangaroo, And
2. St. Pet-er said, "A zoo I'll make, To which the best from this earth I'll take," And

li-on cubs, but that's not all, Those cubs they grew to be some tall: And it's
when that view it was un-fur'd, The Lions were sittin' on top of the world: And it's

CHORUS (with pep)

Roar Lions Roar oh it's Roar Lions Roar; The den is big, the
(his roar)

pack is strong, You tell the world we're get-tin' on, So Roar Lions Roar, oh it's

Roar Lions Roar, The world's our meat and we are eat-in' Roar Lions Roar.
(his roar)

Published by courtesy of Lion Ed. Chenette, Eveleth, Minn.



- ☐ **17. I regularly read the LION Magazine.**
On average, Lions spend an hour reading the magazine, according to our last survey.

☐ **18. I save the LION Magazine.**

About one in seven Lions saves their issues, according to our latest survey. The first LION was published in November 1918. "Who is a Lion?" was the 32-page magazine's very first story: "He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much. ... who has always looked for the best in others and given the best he has; whose life was an inspiration, whose memory was a benediction." Today, 33 editions of the magazine are printed in 20 languages. All editions have a local focus, but each contains the president's column, the LCIF story and certain major stories from the headquarters edition. The headquarters edition (the one you are reading) has the largest circulation—360,000. It's circulated in the United States, Canada and other nations where English is understood but lack enough Lions for their own edition. The LION is printed 11 times a year with a combined July/August issue. December is a special edition, typically photo-heavy. The December 2011 issue was a comic book titled "It's a Wonderful Lion's Life," a parody of the classic holiday movie with Jimmy Stewart. It's available online along with other issues (lionmagazine.org).

☐ 19. I've volunteered at an eye screening.

☐ 20. I've served on a Lions' mission.

☐ 21. I'm a pin trader.

For many, being a Lion is more than just showing up for meetings or service. It's identifying with other Lions from far and wide and engaging with them—as pin traders do. Swapping pins is surely about the pins. But don't call them collectors. They are traders. The fun comes from meeting other Lions and in negotiating fair and friendly trades. Pin traders are especially active at periodic swaps and at conventions. The Lions International Trading Pin Club counts about 850 members, but many more Lions trade pins. The first pins were "friendship pins" that emerged in the late 1940s as trinkets to be tossed from floats. Within a decade, pins had become more permanent, sophisticated and even artistic, and by 1970 most every state and multiple district in the United States and Canada issued annual pins in anticipation of the international convention. Other nations followed suit.



- ☐ **23. What former U.S. president is a Lion?**

- ☐ **24. Identify at least eight of these 10 acronyms: DG, DGE, ID, IP, LCI, LCIF, MD, PDG, LEHP, LQ.**

- ☐ **25. What happened on July 4, 1987, at the international convention in Taipei?**

President Sten Akestam of Sweden did present the Humanitarian Award to two scientists for their research on AIDS. But something else monumental for Lions occurred on that day.

- ☐ **26. What happened on June 30, 1925, at the international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio?**

An amusement park now stands on the site of the 1925 convention, which sent Lions on a roller coaster ride for the ages.

☐ **22. I've flipped or served a pancake.**

There was a time when Lions and pancakes were a novelty. That time lasted five years. In 1922, just five years after Lions Clubs began, the Ames Lions in Iowa held a festive "flapjack supper." They told LION Magazine that they "took our wives and Rotarians out into the woods by a circuitous route, where they found we had prepared to serve them flapjacks cooked on the open fire." Since then, from Connecticut to California, pancake breakfasts have been reliable fundraisers for clubs, boosting club coffers, raising the visibility of Lions and enhancing camaraderie among members. But what's in it for patrons? Pancake breakfasts tighten community bonds. Lions who flip pancakes are more than cooks; they're whipping up bonds of friendship.

- ☐ **27. This former baseball player and U.S. Senator also served as a Lion:**

a.) Dave Kingman
b.) Ralph Kiner
c.) Tom Seaver
d.) Jim Bunning

- ☐ **28. U.S. Navy Corpsman John Bradley, a longtime Lion from Appleton, Wisconsin, earned fame in 1945 for**

a.) Giving a fiery convention speech that was noted by the New York Times
b.) Throwing out the first ball at the World Series
c.) Raising the American flag at Iwo Jima
d.) Attending the inauguration of Harry Truman

- ☐ **29. I've recruited a new member.**

- ☐ **30. I've earned a Key Award.**

Membership Key Awards recognize Lions who invite new members. Inviting two new members earns a Lion the first membership key; 17 can be earned. Key Award recipients are listed in the digital LION. The reigning Key kingpin is Annaparedy Kotireddy of Bezwada, India. He gained a Supreme Key for inviting 500 new Lions.

- ☐ **31. I've visited Leader Dogs in Rochester, Michigan.**

☐ **32. I've stood on a street corner and sold Lions mints.**

The Lion mint is the No. 1 candy product used by clubs worldwide. Clubs often can purchase a roll for about a quarter, but the average Candy Day donation is \$2. That's a sweet deal for Lions.



- ☐ **33. I can tell a story about the "day I became a Lion."**

Many Lions eventually realize the day they are inducted is not the same day they genuinely understand or appreciate what it means to be a Lion. For some, it's the first time they are thanked or the smile on a child's face when he or she puts on a pair of new glasses. The poet T.S. Eliot once lamented that "we had the experience but missed the meaning." Lions grasp that service changes them as surely as it changes the lives of others.



■ 34. My home is a Lions den.

Some Lions are content to wear a vest or polo shirt; others display their pride more vigorously. Club Supplies sells a wide range of Lions items: hats, coats, ties, scarves, jewelry, wallets, stationery, pens, mugs, water bottles, coffee cups, clocks, watches, thumb drives, bags, satchels, totes, aprons, oven mitts, cutlery, napkins, table covers, picnic blankets, golf balls and much more.

- ☐ **35. I belong to the Lions stamp club.**
Lions stamp collectors may not be as conspicuous as pin traders, but they are similarly passionate about their hobby. The Lions International Stamp Club (LISC) dates back to 1951. “Because of the stamp club, I have friends all over the world. It allows you to really see Lions as international,” Douglas Schembs Jr. of the Westfield Lions Club in New Jersey told the LION in 2013. The LISC has 14 chapters around the world and more than 600 members. Its booth at the international convention is crowded with collectors and the curious. The LISC wants member nations to issue commemorative stamps for the Lions’ centennial; more than 130 countries have been approached so far.
- ☐ **36. I post on the Lions Facebook page.**
- ☐ **37. I’ve staffed a food booth or ticket booth at a community festival.**
- ☐ **38. I’ve attended Lions UN Day in New York.**
- ☐ **39. I’ve given old eyeglasses to Lions.**
- ☐ **40. I’ve met an international president.**
There is a decent chance you have as our presidents circle the globe to be part of Lions’ conventions, club meetings and service projects.
- ☐ **41. I plan to attend the 100th anniversary convention in Chicago.**
- ☐ **42. True or false: a Lion is free to further his business interests at club meetings.**
- ☐ **43. Name our international president in 2017-18.**
- ☐ **44. My club has ordered a Peace Poster Contest kit.**
More than 400,000 students worldwide, ages 11 to 13, submitted posters for the 27th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest in 2014-15. But before each child drew a poster a local club ordered a kit from Lions Clubs International. (Find out how to order a kit for the 29th annual contest on page 48.)
- ☐ **45. The centennial slogan is: “Where there’s a need, there’s a ____.”**
- ☐ **46. What is the centennial service goal?**
- ☐ **47. I’ve earned a centennial membership pin.**
A Lion who sponsors a new member before June 30, 2018, receives a special pin and certificate as a centennial sponsor. A Lion who assists in chartering a new club also will receive a pin and certificate. The awards program includes progressive recognition.
- ☐ **48. I’m a Contributing Member.**
Nearly 46,000 Lions each year become Contributing Members by donating at least \$20 to LCIF. The Con-

tributing Membership program recognizes three levels of support: \$20, \$50 and \$100.

- ☐ **49. I’ve attended a state convention.**
- ☐ **50. Name the host city for the next international convention.**
- ☐ **51. I’ve been recognized as “Lion of the Year.”**
- ☐ **52. I’ve seen “The Lion King.”**
You saw it—at least snippets of it—if you were at the first plenary session at last year’s international convention in Honolulu. Entertainment at conventions often has a Lions slant. “The Lion King” segment at convention was tweaked for the audience. The young Simba sang, “I’m gonna be a mighty king, so everyone beware!” A cast member reminded Lions why it’s good to be king, Lions-style. “We want to be the king at what we do, and there is no better feeling in the world than the pride that comes from serving others.”
- ☐ **53. What Lions program teaches life skills to schoolchildren?**
- ☐ **54. Was it sugar cane or the white cane for the visually impaired that a Lion developed in the 1930s?**
- ☐ **55. I became a Lion in ...**

Editor’s note: the Lions’ items shown in the photos are available for purchase from Club Supplies at international headquarters. Go to lcistore.org. Thanks to Chris and Meghan Williams of the Naperville Noon Lions Club in Illinois, the Lions married couple in our photos.

Lions leaders through the years have come up with their own twist on what it means to be Lionistic.

- 1926-27 International President Benjamin Jones of New Jersey explains the “purpose of Lionism” at lionmagazine.org (January 1926 LION).
- 1957-58 International President Edward Barry of Arkansas urges members to devote themselves to “the four services” (July-August 1957 LION).
- 1984-85 International President Bert Mason of Northern Ireland emphasizes that Lions “serve the family of mankind” (May 1985 LION).
- What do you know about Lionism? The LION asked this question in 1937 in a story with 10 multiple-choice questions (April 1937 LION).

CANCER WARRIORS

Begun in 1947, Indiana Lions' cancer project saves lives through cutting-edge equipment and soothes the worries of patients thanks to a kindly patient advocate.

BY MIKE LEONARD

In the months after William Schoolar of Indiana was diagnosed with benign colorectal polyps, he accepted the opinion of his local doctors. But his mom, dad and brother had died of cancer, and he became alarmed about continuing irregularities he experienced.

Schoolar recalled a talk at his club by Dottie Flack about the Lions' Indiana Cancer Control program. "She told us how good it was and how she always recommends a second opinion," says Schoolar, a Lion and a retired school administrator who lives in Delphi, a small city about 80 miles northwest of downtown Indianapolis. "So I didn't think I should be taking any chances. I called Dottie and told her what was going on with me, and she said, 'Would you mind coming down to Indianapolis for some further testing?'"

"She lined up the exact right doctors and literally met us at the door when we went to the Indiana Cancer Pavilion," says Schoolar's wife, Jean.

"She took care of my wife like she was a kindergarten student—anticipating her questions, her needs," Bill explains. "Turned out, those polyps were malignant and I was a 2.76 on the four-point scale. If it weren't for Dottie and the treatment I got, I seriously doubt that I'd be here today."

Flack is the Lions liaison and patient advocate for the Lions Cancer Care Control Fund of Indiana, Inc. She is the public face of the initiative, traveling the state to publicize and explain it to clubs. Flack also provides the initiative's personal touch, navigating anxious patients through the healthcare maze. A soothing presence, she meets with them and their families to walk with them through their strange, frightening journey.

Yet the Cancer Control Fund encompasses much more than counseling. Beginning with the first equipment purchase of a megavolt cobalt unit from U.S. Army surplus in 1947, the Cancer Care Control Fund has donated more than \$6 million to fund the purchase of the latest cancer treatment equipment. In 1973, for example, Lions contributed \$750,000 toward the acquisition of a million electron volt Linear Accelerator Sagittaire machine—at the time, the most powerful such machine in the world.

The Cancer Care Control Fund assists the Indiana University School of Medicine, which is the second largest

medical school in the country, the school's Department of Radiation Oncology and the Indiana University Mel & Bren Simon Cancer Center in downtown Indianapolis.

Through the fund the Lions of Indiana are able to make possible cutting-edge treatment, saving many lives. In 1997, the fund helped purchase Indiana's first Gamma Knife, the most precise and powerful high dose radiation treatment delivery system to treat brain and base-of-the-skull tumors. The original Gamma Knife was located in the Indiana Cancer Pavilion within the Simon Center, where a bronze plaque on the pavilion wall recognizes the ongoing contributions that Indiana Lions have made to cancer care.

"We're literally part of the brick and mortar here," says Flack.

The Gamma Knife showed great promise for its power and accuracy, but the key to its further success, clinicians learned, was negotiating with the manufacturer, Elekta, to acquire some of the various molds and devices used to stabilize or decrease movement in patients being treated. "It turned out that was a critical component," Flack says. With the stereotactic body frame provided by Elekta and other immobilizing components, doctors could make the best use of the power and accuracy of the linear accelerators that have become "the workhorse" of the department, capable of treating lung, liver and other cancers.

The accelerators produce "120 individual fingers that come out and mark the exact tumor very precisely," Flack says, "and reproducing the exact image every treatment is one of the basic rules of radiation oncology. Before, with lung cancer, a patient went through 35 to 41 treatments, one every day. Now we can treat some patients with just three treatments total, one every other day. Each [radiation] dose is not only much higher, but more effective and with fewer side effects. It's been very effective with lung and liver cancers."

Flack, 60, is the fund's only paid employee. A 21-person board, three Lions from each of the state's seven districts, allocates funds that support not only equipment but also education and training for oncology residents, researchers, technicians and radiation therapy students. Lions clubs statewide donate to the fund.

The Indiana Cancer Pavilion and Simon Cancer Center are located on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue



The patient advocate for the Lions' Indiana Cancer Control program, Lion Dottie Flack accompanies a patient as he receives a diagnostic scan from Dr. Neil Estabrook III.

(Below) Flack observes Marc Mendonca, director of the Radiobiology and Cancer Research Laboratories at the Indiana University School of Medicine. She stays abreast of research at the school in her role as liaison for the Lions cancer project.



University Indianapolis. Combined with the nearby Indiana University Health Methodist Hospital and IU Health North Hospital, the hospitals and clinics comprise a cancer care hub that treats about 120 patients a day. Those who find their way to Indianapolis through the Lions and patient liaison Flack get the benefit of guidance and advice they wouldn't get otherwise.

"I try to make sure that within this vast facility with hundreds of acres and thousands of physicians, I can steer them to exactly where they need to go," Flack says. "You can cut to two days what might take five to six months in the outside world."

Flack requires that patients—not friends or relatives—call her first, to ensure they are sincerely interested in the program. She then asks for their medical records so she can study them and get the patients to the appropriate specialists. If she isn't sure, she says, she knows how to find someone who is.

"If they want me to sit in on their consultation, I'll do that," Flack says. "There have been so many times when I've sat there and heard the doctor say, 'They were going to do what?' I've seen a few times when physicians have literally come up out of their chairs when someone has been prescribed some archaic treatment. They've been outraged."

Flack says she and the staff at the IU School of Medicine are in complete agreement that patients deserve an honest and forthright assessment of their situation. "So many times when patients come here they haven't been told the truth. Or at least, not all of the truth. We tell them the whole truth," she says.

The truth is leavened with compassion, however. One signature component of the Lions Cancer Care program that Flack is proud of is an agreement she negotiated with a nearby hotel to provide overnight lodging, when appropriate, at a very reduced rate that the Lions will cover in hardship cases. "For people from rural areas, coming to Indianapolis, coming to a place like the medical center, is like going to Mars. I encourage them to get here, to get settled, so they have a chance to get their feet under them for the next day.

"You have to support the caregiver as much as the cancer patient," she says. "Patients always have a certain resolve. 'I'll do what I need to do.' But the caregivers are always wondering what else they can do."

Flack knows this from experience. Her mother, Barbara Legan, waged a 9-year battle with breast cancer—treatments, remission and more treatments—beginning in 1979 and ending with her death. Flack would spend as much time as possible visiting and keeping her mother company during hospitalizations, and admits that she'd often be so tired of working a full day and then making the trip from her home 30 miles south of Indianapolis to the hospital and back that she'd drive past her Interstate exit—dazed—on her trip home.

"I vowed—it was midnight one night and I'd gone away from mom's bedside—I sort of made a pledge to myself then and there to always remember that the little things matter, and I put that away," she says.

Still, it didn't quite kick in when the first Lions patient liaison, Ira Barker, started mentioning that he would have to retire at some point and he thought Flack would be an excellent candidate to take his place. Flack, a sales manager for an air compressor manufacturer, didn't think she had the emotional makeup to do the job.

"He said anybody in this position needs to be a Lion, and I agreed with that," she says. "But it took a while to convince me. It was going to be a complete upheaval in my life. He started it in '86 and I didn't come on until '99."

Patients don't have to be Lions to get help from Flack and the Cancer Care program. They don't even have to be cancer patients. "I referred people to Dottie for cancer several times," says Tom Slattery of Indianapolis. "But when my wife's pulmonary problems got out of hand, I called Dottie and we got right to the right doctors. Turned out we never got the proper diagnosis to start with. Then we got the best care a person could get but it was too late. My wife died two years later, but at least the mystery was gone. We knew what we were facing, thanks to Dottie."

Slattery has other, happier stories to tell as well—referrals to the Lions Cancer Control program and then treatment and recovery. "Dottie Flack is the hero of anything that goes on," he says enthusiastically. "She's worked her magic for so many people."

Flack protests that it's the efforts of Indiana Lions that makes the whole program possible, and she's just doing her job. But she acknowledges that dealing with the realities of cancer and the fear and anguish of patients takes a toll, as does the practical challenge of outreach to an entire state. She is often on the road, traveling the highways and back roads of the Hoosier State to give talks to clubs. "It really is a positive place and good things do happen here," she says. "But success is measured differently here as well. Maybe small rays of hope can create as much excitement as a curative ray of hope. Sometimes people are so desperate to know there is a tomorrow."

Flack has her coping mechanisms. "I need to seek out joy to keep myself balanced," she says with a smile. "I recently started taking banjo lessons. People say nobody who plays a banjo can play a sad song. It's such a happy-sounding instrument."

Being the Lions liaison and patient advocate has rewards the native Hoosier can't measure. "It makes me so proud to be a Lion and do the work we do," she says. "I had no idea how fulfilling this could be. There is a certain solace knowing that at the end of the day, you gave people information to have a better life, to live a better life. It's just me bringing people to science that does it."

The Hoosier state makes great strides against cancer thanks to Lions. Read the story from the January 1972 LION.



‘I CAN SEE LIKE AN EAGLE’

BY ANNE FORD



Meet Fran Grabowski of Michigan and you'd never know that the effervescent former teacher and pastor came close to completely losing his sight. Grabowski's journey not only took him from near-blindness to extraordinary vision—it also brought him to Lions. Grabowski and others tell the tale of how the Lions of Michigan helped bring glorious light where there was terrible darkness.

FRAN GRABOWSKI: When I turned 40, I had to get bifocals. As depressed as I was about getting older, I was excited that I was going to be able to see better. We're talking 20/800, 20/900 vision without glasses.

TAMMIE GRABOWSKI, WIFE: His eyesight was terrible. It was to the point where he could drive if he had to—but if I was there, I was the driver, because it was safer.

GRABOWSKI: I got these new bifocals, and I'm playing golf with my son, and I can't see the flag. I'm asking him, "Where's the flag?" To be funny, he says, "On the green." I'm like, "No, seriously, where?" He says, "You really can't see the flag?" It was pretty much that way the whole way around the golf course.

I thought they had made a mistake in grinding my lenses. I took 'em back in, and a young technician said, "Hold on a second." She took a pen light out of her pocket and shined it in the sides of my eyes, and she said, "I'm going to go get the doctor." I'm like, "That's not good."

Turns out, the technician had seen, just with her naked eye, that my corneas were misshapen. The doctor ran some tests and found I had a hereditary disease called keratoconus. It's a thinning and a warping of the cornea. That warping means that glasses won't work, because by the time the light is refracted by the glasses and hits the eyeball, it's all screwed up.

LISA LANGLEY, AN ANN ARBOR HOST LION AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ANN ARBOR-BASED NONPROFIT EYE BANK AND RESEARCH CENTER, EVER-SIGHT MICHIGAN: The cornea is the size of a dime. It's a clear window in the very front of the eye, over the iris. When we look out of our eye, we just take it for granted that there's a window there and it's clean. When that cornea becomes clouded, your world changes. It's as

if you were trying to look out of a windshield during a rainstorm and your wipers aren't working, or someone placed five layers of waxed paper over your eye.

Grabowski's ophthalmologist recommended a corneal transplant, an outpatient procedure in which a diseased or damaged cornea is removed and replaced with a healthy cornea from a deceased donor. Grabowski underwent a cornea transplant in his right eye on Aug. 31, 2011. Ever-sight Michigan provided the cornea, and Dr. Stephen Higgins of Kalamazoo Ophthalmology performed the surgery.

TAMMIE: We were pretty scared that he would go blind if something went wrong. There was not a lot of sleeping going on the night before.

GRABOWSKI: They used local anesthetic and put me into a twilight sleep. I don't remember anything about the surgery. They had told me they'd use a thing called an optical speculum to keep my eye open. I was like, "Okay, I don't want to know any more about that." Afterward, my eye looked like I got hit by a baseball bat. I had colors around my eye that I did not know could exist in the flesh—greens and purples and blues.

TAMMIE: He went home with a shield over his eye. We had to go back the next morning, and as soon as they took that shield off, he said, "I can already see better than I could before." They said, "It's only going to get better from here." We were excited. If it's this good after 24 hours, and you're telling us it's going to take a year to heal, how much better is it going to get? That's one day—what's 364 more going to show us?

Over the next year, while they waited for the transplant to finish healing, the Grabowskis grew curious about Ever-sight Michigan and its mission.

(Opposite) Fran Grabowski now can look at Tammie, his wife, with stellar vision.

GRABOWSKI: Tammie and I decided to go to Eversight and take a tour. And it wasn't just the nickel tour—we got the deluxe package. We found out that the Lions started Eversight [then called the Michigan Eye Bank] back in 1957.

LANGLEY: Lion Dr. John W. Henderson was our founder. A man's dying wish was to donate his eyes, but there was no eye bank in Michigan, even though the first cornea transplant had been done back in 1905. So Dr. Henderson joined the Lions and went to virtually every Lions club in the state, rallying them to help him form an eye bank, helping him tell people that they could be eye donors. That was a pretty bold and brave thing to do. I mean, kidneys weren't transplanted until 1971. This was brand-new stuff.

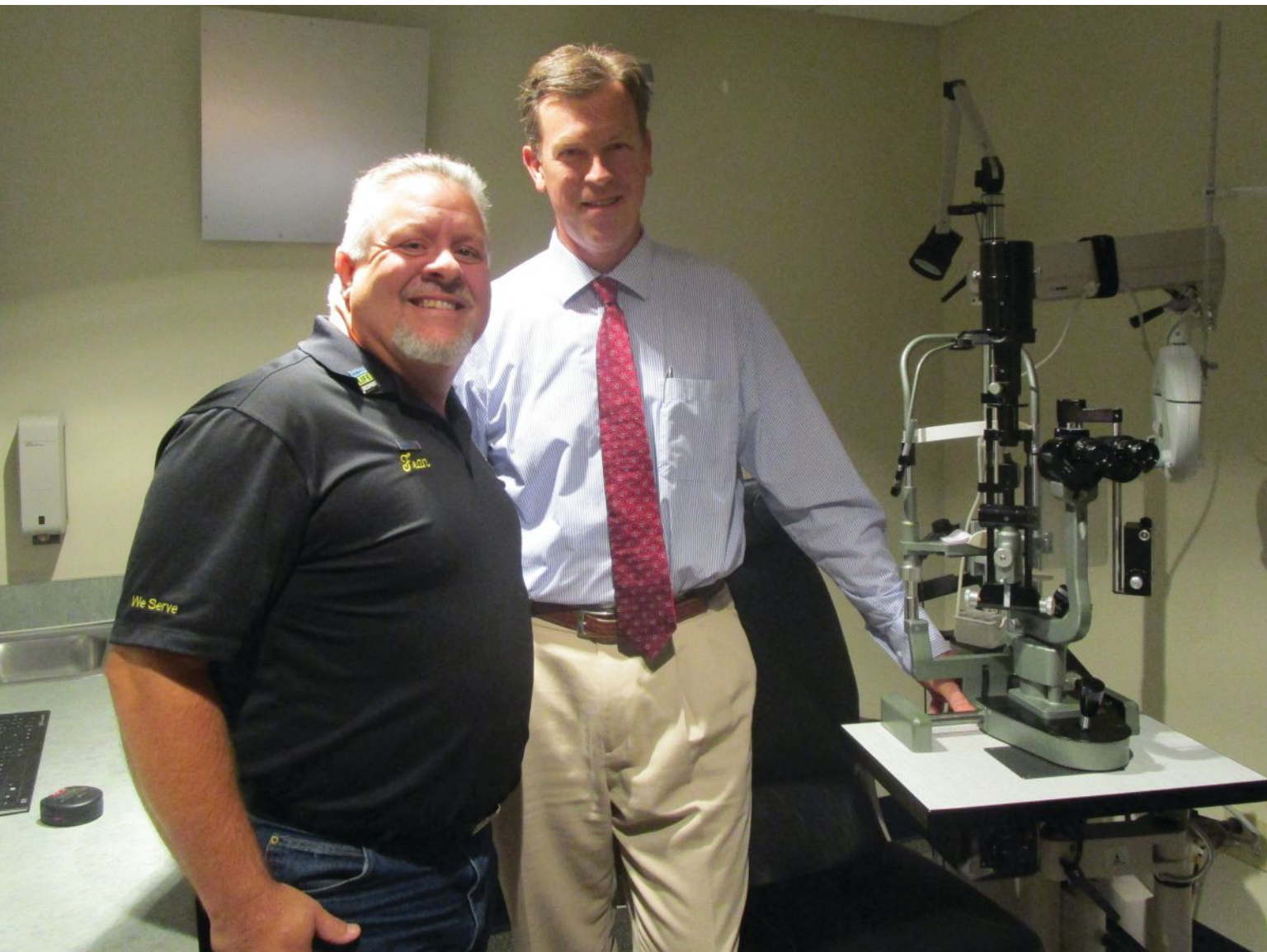
Our youngest cornea recipient was 3 days old, and our oldest was 100 years old. We've helped nearly 90,000 people see again since our inception. We are a state project of the

Lions of Michigan, and we are truly very proud to be affiliated with and founded by them. We rely on Lions.

GRABOWSKI: On the tour, we got to go in the laboratory and hold an actual cornea in a shipping container. There was a doctor in there, practicing separating the layers of a cornea, which is only as thick as a piece of Saran wrap. In the last room of the tour was where the counselors were, the people who speak with the donors' families. I stepped in that room, and that was a life-changing moment, because it became real to me as to why I have this gift. This gift came with a big price. Because on the other end of the phone are people who are going through the gut-wrenching pain of grief, but who are selfless enough to donate eye tissue, to give people the gift of sight.

TAMMIE: That's the only reason my husband can see right now, because somebody died and gave him that tissue.

Dr. Stephen Higgins gave Grabowski his sight back.



GRABOWSKI: After that day, I told the Eversight folks: “Have eyes, will travel. You need a spokesperson, and God has given me the gift of gab.” They said, “We’ll sure use you.”

But Grabowski had another surgery to undergo. On Dec. 19, 2012, he went in for a second cornea transplant, this time in his left eye. Again, Dr. Higgins did the surgery.

GRABOWSKI: I woke up saying, “Well, I’m glad I won’t have to go through that again.” And one of the nurses said, “We didn’t get to do the transplant.” I was like, “Excuse me? What?”

TAMMIE: I should have been clued in when they took me into a back room. When Dr. Higgins came in, he just looked exhausted. He said, “Well, things did not go as planned. I did my best, but there is the chance that we’ve lost his eye.” They got about halfway around the incision to remove Fran’s cornea, and basically the whole inside of his eye started to swell and come out through the incision.

Grabowski made good on his promise to Eversight. As an Eversight Ambassador, he’s on the road constantly, speaking about his experience to groups such as the Lions.

GRABOWSKI: I was going to events that Eversight was having, and I’d notice all these Lions. In the car afterward, either my wife or myself would say, “Why aren’t we Lions?” And the other person would go, “I don’t know. I don’t even know how you become a Lion.” Then I met Lion Don Brown, who is a member of the Eversight Board of Trustees and a member of the Paw Paw Lions.

DON BROWN: Fran said to me, “I want to thank you for giving me back my sight.” I said, “Don’t thank me, thank the Lions of Michigan; it’s they who gave you back your sight, along with Eversight.”

GRABOWSKI: Then he said, “Come to my club and tell your story.” So I went and spoke to his club in Paw Paw, and afterward he thanked me. He was holding two applications to the Lions, one for me and one for my wife. As

‘Now I go to Lions clubs all over the state, letting them see how their money’s being spent. I thank them on behalf of people like me, who were blind but now can see.’

GRABOWSKI: As it turned out, we went in the next morning, and they took off the shield, and I did have vision. Dr. Higgins gave a big sigh and said, “Now I can tell you things are OK.” He saved my eye. Had I had a less skilled surgeon, I’d now have one eye and one prosthetic eye. I was ready to try the transplant again, but we had to wait at least six months.

Finally, on March 19, 2013, Grabowski underwent a successful cornea transplant in his left eye.

GRABOWSKI: This time, at Dr. Higgins’ recommendation, we went to the Kellogg Eye Center at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, because there they could have a retina surgeon standing right next to the cornea surgeon. This time there was no hemorrhaging, no nothing.

My results have been phenomenal. I see 20/15 out of my right eye and 20/20 out of my left eye. I can see like an eagle. I don’t need corrective lenses. The folks at the DMV didn’t believe me. I had to tell ’em, “Corneal transplants.” They were like, “Holy mackerel!”

TAMMIE: It used to be that he would always say: “What does that sign say? What does the TV say?” And now I’m the one saying, “What’s the scoreboard say?” and he’s telling me. He always says, “I can almost see into the future!”

soon as he invited us, it was like, “Yes, we’re in, we’re joining.” I’ve become super-active in the club, and now I’m president of it, and my wife is the membership chair. I tease people that I’m going to be the first international president with two corneal transplants.

And now I go to Lions clubs all over the state, letting them see how their money’s being spent. I thank them on behalf of people like me, who were blind but now can see. I talk about how I’ve gone from what would have been a life of indistinguishable colors, not being able to see my wife’s face, not being able to drive or read or play golf . . . My life would be so much different. And these transplants have given me another shot.

I get asked all the time if I know anything about my donors. Their names are known only to God, but I think about them every day, and I’m thankful that they and their families were forward-thinking enough to leave a little something behind. These people live on through me. They continue to see through me. I see through the eyes of angels.

The list of Lions eye banks can be found by searching for “eye banks” at lionsclubs.org.

The pioneering Buffalo Eye Bank celebrates its silver anniversary. Read the story from the January 1971 LION.

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'



The Seal Beach Lions Club has 310 members, and 200 youths belong to its three Leo clubs.

One of the nation's largest, the Seal Beach Lions Club in California is the get-'er-done group in its picturesque oceanside town.

BY PAIGE AUSTIN



Five years ago, urged on by a friend, Camille Romano, an oil company manager, joined the Seal Beach Lions Club. She had misgivings.

"I wasn't raised to be part of a group, so this was a real departure for me," says Romano. It didn't help that the Lions had a reputation for being an old man's club, she adds with a laugh. Yet Romano fit in so well that she ended up serving as 2014-15 president.

Located a couple dozen miles south of Los Angeles, Seal Beach is a touristy, seaside village with 24,000 people. It's a low-crime community with a neighborly vibe. Locals fondly refer to it as "Mayberry by the Sea."

Lions meet in the Khoury's restaurant hall overlooking the Long Beach Marina. Speakers have to compete with a gorgeous view of the sun setting over the Pacific. Meetings have the feel of a beach-party family reunion. Flip flops and surf T-shirts are the unofficial uniform in the bi-monthly gathering of about 100 to 150 members.

That kind of informality appealed to Romano. And it's appealed to a lot of other residents. The Seal Beach Lions Club is one of the largest and fastest-growing clubs in the nation. It has the most women, family members and Leos of any club nationwide. Of the club's 310 members, 49 percent are women. It's a club that reaches out to young people with about 200 youths in three Leo clubs.

The club was never exactly small: it had 100 members five years ago. So how did it triple its membership? What is the secret to its growth? There really is no secret or even a brilliant or unorthodox strategy. The club has focused on serving and on being visible, a strategy meant to attract members. And they focused on Leos, sponsoring them and including them in everything they do. "We saw results much earlier than expected. People heard about us, saw us serving and came to one of our happy hours or bimonthly orientations," says Scott Newton, a past president.

Careful not to lose his footing, Ryan Rodriguez, 18, picks his way along the rock jetty jutting out into the Pacific Ocean.

It's a perfect day. Distant Catalina

Island looks almost close enough to swim to. The sun shines down on Rodriguez, and a gentle ocean breeze cools him off as he works. Around him, about 20 other teens, Seal Beach Leos, paint over a riotous rainbow of graffiti smattered over the jetty separating Seal Beach's coastline from Long Beach in California.

The teens work mostly in pairs, leapfrogging along the jetty as one spots graffiti, and the other paints over it. They talk and joke as they work. Even a stranger can see this is a tight-knit group.

Rodriguez is all business. With uncanny focus, he spurns efforts at small talk and works methodically to make sure no graffiti in his pathway will survive undetected. It seems like nothing can distract him until a plane flies overhead.

Suddenly, Ryan is transfixed. He rattles off the plane's make and model. At a glance, he knows when it was built and what it was used for. "Ryan is autistic," explains his mother Lori Yoshida. "He loves planes."

Yoshida enrolled her son in the Leos four years ago, and the experience has been life-changing for him. "It's really been a positive thing," says Yoshida. "The kids have been great with him. It's meant so much for him to be around them just doing regular activities and hanging out. The Lions have been really supportive."

"I like feeling supported," Ryan chimes in.

While Yoshida was looking for a low-pressure environment for her son to socialize with other kids, Rodriguez turned out to be an important member of the club, helping out with cleanups and volunteering to work the annual Lions Fish Fry at the Seal Beach pier. The Lions made it clear: they needed Ryan.

His story is a common one among Leos and among Seal Beach Lions. They joined looking for a chance to give back to their community only to discover that the club had changed their lives. Or, conversely, they joined in hopes of making new friends only to discover they had it in them to make a true difference in the community.

The club's monthly calendar is jammed with almost daily events

ranging from meetings, donation drives and graffiti cleanups to blind-folded dinners and softball games to help those with sight understand what it is like to be blind. Two of Seal Beach's largest events, the festive Christmas Parade and the cherished 70-year-old annual Fish Fry at the pier, are both hosted by the Lions.

For locals, the Lions are known as the go-to foot soldiers when there is a big job to be done on short notice.

"When I need the project to get done, it's the Lions I turn to for help. They never flake. They never say, 'No. We've already done enough for you,'" says Lina Lumme, executive director



of The Youth Center in Los Alamitos.

Lumme relies on the Lions and Leos for manpower setting up graduation ceremonies, the center's annual Christmas Tree lot and the "Every 15 Minutes" drunk-driving education program at the local high school.

"When you think you can't possibly ask them to do anything more, they surprise you," says Lumme. "They just never say, 'No.'"

Folks in Seal Beach and neighboring Los Alamitos take it for granted that the Lions will be there to donate the manpower for community

causes. When McGaugh Elementary opts for a food booth at the school fair, it's the Lions who donate the food and staff the booth. When a beloved activist who organized beach cleanups in Seal Beach passed away in 2014, it was the Lions who set up her beachside memorial service. When mobs descend on Seal Beach's pub-lined Main Street every St. Patrick's Day, it's the Lions who provide sober drivers and vans to get revelers home safely.

And when a mass murderer walked into a Seal Beach salon in

2011 and shot nine people, killing eight, the Lions organized a silent auction and fundraiser on Main Street to raise funds for the victims' families. For a community in the throes of mourning and post traumatic shock, the event was a rallying point for residents and businesses. The fundraiser brought in more than \$36,000. More importantly, it was how one town showed heart in the face of evil.

Seal Beach Lions take pride in being ubiquitous around Seal Beach. "We are not a knife and fork club. We have projects going on every week,"

Lucy, a Leo, paints over graffiti at a beach.



says Ellen Liebherr, 2012-13 president and a past district governor. "I have never heard anybody say 'no' to a call for help."

And that is what Chardy Lang was hoping for when she approached the club with an idea for a Leo club comprised of home-schooled kids. She had already been turned down at the district level and didn't know what to expect when she approached the Seal Beach Lions at their annual fish fry. "They said come on over to Seal Beach, and that was that," recalls Lang. "Just like that, there were 40 new Leos."

In the 18 months since they joined the club, the home-schooled Leos have been among the most consistent volunteers. In their first year, they were honored as the Leo Club of the Year by Lions Clubs International, and their president was named International Leo of the Year.

The club took a gamble with something new, and it paid off, says Liebherr, the membership chair. "We are not afraid of change. You could put 'change' in our name," she says. "You just have to step out of your comfort zone. It makes you see who you really are."

Newton can remember the exact moment the Seal Beach Lions first stepped out of their comfort zone. It was five years ago. As with so many other clubs, membership was stagnant. The Seal Beach Lions needed to try something new. "There was a definite sense in our club that we really didn't have enough to do, and I think there was this pent-up demand to do service," says Newton.

So the Lions went looking for ways to help. The local newspaper printed a letter from a reader complaining about the state of disrepair a local park bench had fallen into. So the Lions volunteered to refurbish it and ended up repairing 26 public benches battered by the salty sea air.

But it was with graffiti removal that the Lions met a need that no one else could. Despite its calm and peaceful vibe, Seal Beach is hardly immune from the Southern California graffiti scourge. About four years ago, there was a prominent business right in the heart of town with graffiti scrawled all over its wall.

"The city had a problem because the owner wouldn't clean it up, and the city can't do it for legal reasons," says Newton. "So the city called the Lions because they know we are the get-'er-done group. We went down and painted over it—problem solved."

"That led us to wonder who is cleaning up graffiti around town, and we told the city we are taking over," Newton says. "And we went after it with a vengeance. Two thousand tags and five months later, we had every single tag cleaned, and graffiti just kind of disappeared around town."

Ray Longoria, the club's graffiti guru, maintains a hotline and a standing army ready, at moment's notice, to do battle with graffiti. Tooling around town in a golf cart with a license plate that reads 'I ♥ SLBCH,' Longoria keeps paint and supplies ever at-the-ready in his cart. From gang tagging spread across walls to initials penned onto a payphone, Longoria and his crew usually have it cleaned up within 24 hours of discovery. It's hard work ridding an entire city of graffiti, but Longoria, a consummate joker, has a way of making each cleanup feel more like a party.

"Our graffiti program has actually become a great recruitment tool," says Newton. Residents and business owners see the Lions in their bright yellow shirts making a difference and want to join or donate supplies, he says.

In a laid-back beach town where city council members and staff don Hawaiian shirts for public meetings, Newton fits right in. Tall, tan and typically clad in Lions' yellow, Newton's laid-back vibe belies a passion for his club and a shrewd approach to growing membership.

"We needed to be everywhere," says Newton. "Not just at meetings. Not just at Lions events. Everywhere. And branding? It's key. We ordered tons of T-

shirts and banners. We wanted to be sure people knew who we were."

It's worked.

In the five years since the Lions decided to do something about their stagnant numbers, the club spurted from about 100 members to 310. The branding and the constant service projects may have helped draw in new members, but it's something else that keeps them, says Newton. The club goes out of its way to be inclusive. Women were elected as club presidents for three years in a row, and unusually low dues help encourage members to bring their families.

"Family is a big part of our club," says Newton. "That's why I joined. With the Lions, you can still serve without having to put your kids on the shelf. You bring them right along with you."

He and his wife, Cathy, are the unofficial patriarch and matriarch of the club. They seem to attend every event together, and they know each Leo by name.

For the Newtons, family and the Lions go hand-in-hand. A Lion for 27 years, Scott Newton brought his wife and two children, parents, grandfather and his brothers and their children into the Lions. In September, in a ceremony on the beach, his son, Grant, married Diana Brunjes, a Lion he met through the club, naturally.



Ray Longoria is the club's graffiti guru.



Build Your Lion Legacy!

Build your Lion legacy and make a lasting impact in your local community through a Centennial Community Legacy Project. Your club's Centennial Community Legacy Project will serve as a reminder of just how vital your club is to your community. From a new sign at your city's entrance to an eye clinic, there's an opportunity for every club to be involved.

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Raise Your Community Visibility

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- Donate a park bench
- Install a bike rack



2 level

Provide a Community Gift

- Refurbish a park
- Establish a community garden
- Provide medical equipment



3 level

Make a Community Impact

- Build a clinic
- Expand a library
- Develop a training center



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Visit Lions100.org to learn more.



2015-16 CLUB PRESIDENT AWARD

SEVEN KEYS TO SUCCESS



Just like the demoiselle cranes that inspire International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada by flying thousands of miles together using teamwork to give loft to their wings, club presidents can find inspiration, too, by working with their membership to achieve club success. The Seven Keys to Success are designed to bring about positive change in clubs by motivating members through strong leadership. Current club presidents are eligible for the 2015-16 Club President Award by adapting the “Seven Keys” strategy to encourage and guide Lions.

These keys are crucial to club achievement as a whole. By visiting lionsclubs.org and searching for “Seven Keys,” club presidents will be able to find the tools to not only receive Dr. Yamada’s specially-designed award, but also to increase both membership and member satisfaction. In addition to finding guidelines for accessing each of the seven keys, club presidents will also find an online application for the award for submission to their district governors.

Dr. Yamada’s theme is rooted in dignity, harmony and humanity. “Peace, hope, determination, teamwork and uniting people through service are central elements of my presidential theme,” he says. In order to find success, “the demoiselle crane depends upon the cooperation and harmony of every other member of the flock.” Club presidents, too, can use teamwork and vision to reach their goals. The Seven Keys to Success are:

1. *To increase the value of being a member, host a **New Member Orientation**.* This is a club’s foremost opportunity to welcome a new Lion. Introduce new members, help explain club traditions and explore fun ways to incorporate a new Lion’s ideas into club activities and projects. New members may know little about the history of Lions Clubs International, but they do know that they want to serve their communities in meaningful ways.
2. *To be a club of which members can be proud, conduct a “**How are your Ratings?**” survey.* Self-awareness is as critical for clubs as it is for individuals. Evaluating how your club is doing is an essential part of growth. If members don’t feel like they’re part of a valuable resource, they’ll leave. Things change, but every club needs to know what it’s getting right—and what could be improved—to move forward as a unified group of Lions who are committed to their community.
3. *To hold high quality service projects, conduct a **Community Needs Assessment** in order to evaluate how Lions can best serve their communities.* A service assessment will lead the way to finding projects that will best suit your community. There’s often a gap between what could be done and what should be done—and Lions very often step in to fill that gap. Rely on members of the community who also work there. Firefighters, police officers, social workers, teachers, nurses, library and church personnel often work in tangent with Lions to identify those who need help.
4. *To serve with family members, host a **service project that includes them**.* Children love to help—and families working together for the benefit of others is a teachable moment for kids of all ages. Make it fun. Encourage children, parents, spouses, cousins, friends and neighbors to join you in an activity that will show how Lions help others—make sandwiches for the homeless, sponsor a food pantry collection, clean up a park or rehab a playground.
5. *To increase the number of female and/or younger members, sponsor them or consider **chartering a new Lions club that includes women and younger members**.* Several Lions clubs have hosted high tea parties to encourage women to learn what Lions do and how they have fun serving their communities. Being creative pays off. Women attendees joined afterward.
6. *To be a leader in your community and club, take two or more courses or seminars offered online from the **Lions Learning Center** or offered by your district, multiple district and constitutional areas, or those available at international conventions and forums.* Participation in webinars or in-

person learning sessions equally qualify as learning opportunities. Either way a club president learns new skills, leadership thrives.

7. *To think in dynamic new ways, conduct Your Club, Your Way, Blueprint for a Stronger Club or the Club Quality Initiative focusing on the Club Excellence Process (CEP) to identify and implement positive new changes in your Lions club.*

The Initiative is a fun and interactive way to understand how your club comes together as a whole to work together as a community resource. If club presidents develop new strategies to serve membership or their communities, let us know on the award application form. Do a little “blue sky thinking.” The sky—where the demoiselle cranes soar in “V” formation—is also the limit when it comes to ideas on how to achieve club success.

Upon completion of the “Seven Keys” criteria, club presidents may submit the completed application form available from the LCI website to their district governor or zone chairperson. A district governor who determines that each of the seven criteria is met then orders the award. Applications should be submitted to the District and Club Administration Division at headquarters no later than June 30, 2016, to qualify for this attractive award that recognizes a club president’s leadership excellence.

There’s no mystery to unlocking the Seven Keys to Success. Each club president has an opportunity to embrace positive change to better their clubs and communities by using these free online tools. The award criteria is structured to encourage greater leadership skills and to promote club growth and member satisfaction. Visit lionsclubs.org to learn more and find the application form.

One of the Seven Keys to Success is hosting service projects that include family members. In Minnesota, District 5M 6 Lions, Lionesses and Leos gathered together 250 volunteers, including members of their own families, to pack nonperishables for Feed My Starving Children, a nonprofit organization that delivers meals around the world.





Shambhu Bahadur Bhandari, 76, gratefully receives food from Lions.

Lions Critical to Relief in Nepal After Earthquake

BY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR SANJAY KHETAN AND CASSANDRA ROTOLO

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake rocked Nepal last April 25. Two weeks later, another 7.4 magnitude earthquake struck the country, and thousands of aftershocks continued to rattle the region in the following months. This devastating series of earthquakes shook the country's infrastructure and the spirit of the Nepalese people.

Known locally as the "Gorkha" earthquake, it killed more than 9,000 people and injured 23,000. Entire villages were leveled, historic sites were damaged or demolished, and nearly 8 million people were left homeless. Compounding the disaster, landslides and avalanches soon followed, including an avalanche on Mt. Everest. This was the worst natural disaster to hit Nepal in nearly a century. Though

experts had warned for decades that Nepal was vulnerable to a deadly earthquake, the country was woefully unprepared.

Right after the first earthquake, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) awarded a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe grant to the Lions of Nepal. Major Catastrophe grants provide significant funds for disasters with major international impact and can be used to address both immediate and long-term needs.

More than 1,500 Nepalese Lions were at a district conference when the initial tremors started. These local Lion leaders formed a committee to organize relief efforts, collecting whatever materials they could find. Lions were

able to quickly assemble relief kits, which included rice, salt and mattresses. European Lions sent water purification tools, and Indian Lions sent tarps and solar lights. The Lions of Bangladesh sent 7,000 blankets, and the Lions of Gujrat in Pakistan provided 5,000 relief kits. Packing centers were established in Gorkha, Dhading and Nuwakot so the kits could be distributed.

Though many of them were victims themselves, the Lions of Nepal immediately went to work. The Lions quickly realized that the community blood supply was insufficient to keep up with the increasing demand. They organized blood drives, collecting more than 4,000 pints of blood in a single day. The collection quickly surpassed storage capacity at many blood banks.

Within three days, clubs throughout Nepal were engaged in relief operations. Just as materials were running low, more began to arrive. Working together, Lions established additional packing centers at Kathmandu, Nepalgunj, Butwal, Narayanghat, Pokhara, Birganj, Janakpur and Biratnagar. In addition to the rice, salt and mattresses, these centers packed tarps, noodles, blankets and other materials. Teams of Lions distributed more than 17,000 relief kits in the affected areas, serving individuals, families, schools and health centers.

Heavy rains poured down in the days following the earthquake, so the tarps included in the relief kits provided much-needed shelter. Lions built shelters in several communities and even served meals there. Many people were reluctant to re-enter their homes, afraid another earthquake or aftershock could destroy any building that might still be standing; they slept outside in tents and makeshift camps.

With the funds from LCIF and the concentration of Lions in Nepal, gathering supplies was not the most difficult part of the relief operations. The difficulty came in getting the supplies from the packing centers to the victims. Nepal is a mountainous country with many isolated communities, so moving supplies through the rugged terrain presented a serious challenge. Many of the residents had to come down from the mountains to collect their kits. Lions also used helicopters to deliver supplies to the most remote areas. On the way back to the packing centers, those helicopters transported people who needed medical attention.

"When we reached the places others had not yet reached, the people welcomed us with open arms. It looked like they were smiling for the first time since the quake," says Lion Pankaj Pradhan, a past council chairperson of Multiple District 325. "All of them shared their hardship stories with us. Through their heartbreaking stories, we could see their resilience. They were extremely grateful for our support."

Getting people to load, unload and carry relief supplies proved problematic, so local Lions did most of the work themselves. Lions carried materials on foot to areas that were not accessible to automobiles, working amidst the



Villagers carry relief materials from Lions to their homes.

tremors and aftershocks to ensure that critical supplies made it to the people who needed them. Lions were even working in the area of the second earthquake's epicenter, but the Nepalese Lions continued on, undeterred by the risks to their own safety.

Ten days after the initial tremors, local Lions reached Danuar Basti in the Sidhupalchowk district. Until then, no other relief agencies had reached this remote area.

The Lions saw utter destruction when they arrived, with many people wearing the white garments traditionally worn by those mourning the loss of family members. People were huddled under improvised shelters and in dire need of assistance. Lions provided relief kits with tents and blankets, and victims received medical attention at a nearby health camp.

Amidst the ruins, life went on. For some, life was just beginning. Phool Maya Tamang gave birth to a healthy baby girl in the Lions camp. Understanding this precious gift of life, the Lions helped Phool and her baby move to a sturdy shelter where they could safely await a more permanent home.

Shambhu Bahadur Bhandari, 76, had watched helicopters fly over his village, but none came to help. The local Lions club was the first to offer any assistance to his village. He approached the Lions with tears in his eyes, a bag of food in one hand and blanket and tent in the other. He hugged the Lions and expressed his gratitude that his two young grandchildren could eat while he continued searching for food and shelter.

Lions also established health camps, donated medicine to area hospitals and helped with sanitation efforts. They are working closely with the government on plans for reconstruction, which currently include building 1,000 houses and 50 schools, all of which are now required to be resistant to an earthquake.

In total, LCIF mobilized more than US\$5 million for both immediate relief needs and long-term reconstruction efforts. The Lions of Nepal, alongside LCIF, are committed to rebuilding the country and will continue working until the job is done.

Want to Hang Out?

Where can Lions convene to plan an upcoming event, broadcast a press conference, hold a volunteer training or chat with donors, all without leaving home or work?



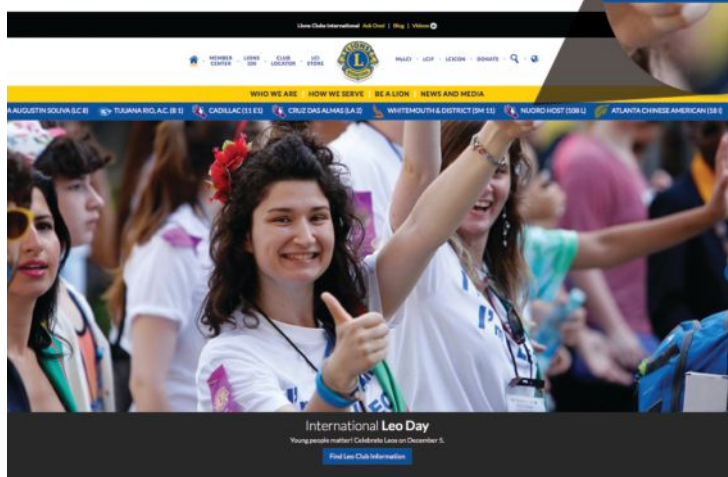
On Google Hangouts! Anyone with a Google account can start using this handy service, which also offers text messaging and video or phone calls. With Lions' increasingly busy lives, using this tech tool can be a useful alternative to meeting in person. Users of Hangouts can also broadcast live from events, record video easily posted to YouTube or host a distant guest speaker at a club meeting. Get started at hangouts.google.com and find help at support.google.com/hangouts.



Facebook Feedback

Follow the LION at facebook.com/lcilionmagazine and watch for the next Facebook question for Lions on January 5. Your comment and photo may appear on this page!

Get Recognized on the Centennial Service Ticker



Visit the LCI website and the first thing that might catch your eye is the ever-scrolling centennial service ticker, highlighting clubs that have completed centennial service projects. See your club on the ticker by reporting your centennial service projects through the online MyLCI service activity report. Each week the ticker is updated with new clubs that have joined the ranks of centennial service goal participants.

Hashtags Unite Lions Online

The next time you post a photo of a vision screening event, the results of the latest pancake breakfast or an update on your club's disaster relief efforts, add an LCI-related hashtag or two. Using hashtags—the “#” symbol followed by one or multiple keywords—links your Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Google+ and Pinterest posts with other posts involving the same topic. Search using a hashtag and see the stream of posts connecting Lions' service. “It's a great way for Lions and the public to easily view Lions activities,” says Athen Grey, manager of Online Communications at LCI. LCI Headquarters staff also use hashtags to search for stories to post to official LCI social media channels. Get started with the most common hashtags:

- #LionsClubs (for LCI or multiple clubs)
- #LionsClub (single club)
- #Lions100 (centennial-related)
- #LCIcon (international convention)
- #LCIF (foundation-related)
- #LeoClubs (Leo club program or multiple clubs)
- #LeoClub (single Leo club)
- #WeServe, #LionsEverywhere (service-related)
- #LionsRelief (disaster relief)



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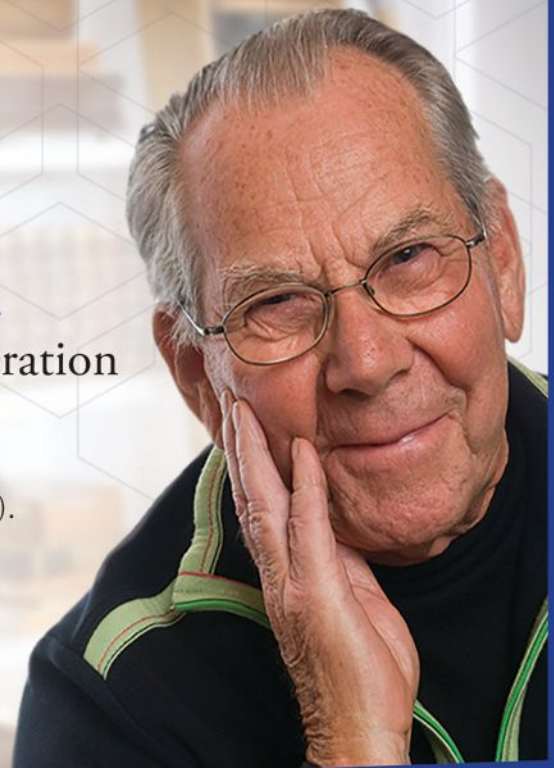
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Give Peace (Posters) a Chance

"If we are to teach real peace in this world ... we shall have to begin with the children," Mahatma Gandhi once said. Since 1988, more than 4 million children in nearly 100 countries have expressed their visions for a world free of war through LCI's Peace Poster Contest. When the 29th annual contest kicks off on Jan. 15 with the theme "A Celebration of Peace," your club can help children ages 11 to 13 share this hopeful message by sponsoring the contest in your community.



Children proudly show their Peace Poster Contest entries with Skudai Lions in Malaysia.

Mixing a Palette for Success

Lion Charlotte Williams is in her fourth year as the Peace Poster chairperson for District 26 M1 in Missouri. By working closely with clubs, the school district and art teachers, the contest has strong participation and support. Williams offers some helpful hints.

- ❑ "I made a checklist up for clubs to use before mailing their entries to me. It includes key reminders about the rules and guidelines for mailing.
- ❑ "Last year I ordered the Peace Poster Tabletop Exhibit [available in the United States only] from headquarters. Each school displayed the exhibit, and the art teachers said that it really helped with student participation.
- ❑ "We decorate our hall and hold a spaghetti dinner recognition event where we display the entries and give out prizes and certificates. It's a fun night, and the students feel important. One tip: we check the school calendar before scheduling our celebration."

Why I'm a Peace Poster Contest Chairperson

"This amazing program gets Lions to connect with schools. When youths can see what Lions do to enhance the community and engage others, maybe they will pay it forward. And Lions are enabling students to unfold their voices through art and be heard. What better way to hear what they have to say!"

—April Young, Bonney Lake Lions, Washington

Get Started: Order a Kit

Order your Peace Poster Contest kit from Jan. 15 to Oct. 1 from Club Supplies Sales at International Headquarters by calling 630-571-5466 or 800-710-7822 (U.S. and Canada only) or at lcistore.org.

Remember the Rules

Following the rules helps ensure a special and fun experience for all who participate. Find the complete list in the kit and at lionsclubs.org. Here are a few reminders from the most frequently asked questions received at headquarters.

- Artwork must be no smaller than 13" by 20" and no larger than 20" by 24."
- Posters must have no letters, numbers or items glued, stapled or attached in any way.
- Artists must be ages 11 to 13 as of Nov. 15.
- One entry of original artwork allowed per student per year.
- Winner sticker on the back of entry must be complete.

Just a Click Away:

LCI Resources

Find a sample press release, a promotional video, a list of key dates and view all of the grand prize-winning posters at lionsclubs.org.

Past Peace Poster Contest winners reflect on how the experience impacted their lives (Sept. 2012 LION).

Watch the 2014-15 Peace Poster video.

[Club News

Gettysburg Lions in **Pennsylvania** gave \$1,000 to the Adams County Historical Society.

Carmel Lions in **Indiana** regularly distribute dictionaries to third-graders. The project grew from a donation of a few hundred dictionaries to third-grade students in two schools to 1,104 books given to those in 11 schools.

More than 100 Lions from **Multiple District 35 O** were hosted by Southeastern Guide Dogs in Palmetto, **Florida**. Lions, who support the facility with donations and as volunteers, learned more about how the dogs are trained and socialized with dog guides and their owners.

The Lions clubs of **Huntington Downtown, Southeast Huntington, Barboursville, Milton** and **Lesage** in **West Virginia** gave more than 1,000 pounds of food to the Cabell Wayne Animal Shelter. The shelter uses approximately 2,600 pounds of pet food each month for the nearly 200 animals housed there until they can find permanent homes.

The **Henryetta Lions Club** in **Oklahoma** sponsors an annual program that provides baskets filled with food to feed as many as 300 families during the holiday season.

Maricopa Lions in **Arizona** packaged 38 boxes (1,824 packages) in less than two hours for the Feed My Starving Children organization. The prepared food containers provide 8,208 meals for children in North Korea.

Stratford and Area Lions on **Prince Edward Island, Canada**, sponsored a pancake breakfast to help fund the breakfast programs at two schools. All 20 Lions participated and served 875 diners in three hours.

The **Lions Club of Katarungan Central** in Quezon City in the

Philippines fed hundreds of street children and gave each one a small gift.

The **Brooklyn Kings County Lions** and **Leos** in **New York** prepared and served more than 100 hot lunches to the homeless and less fortunate during one of the winter's coldest months. Lions used a community room in a church to provide hearty meals that included fresh vegetables, macaroni and cheese, soda and dessert.

Olivet Lions in **Michigan** received a donation of \$700 from a business that sponsored a squirrel hunt during which 134 hunters participated.

The **Calgary Woodcreek Lions** in **Alberta, Canada**, sponsor an annual car rally and barbecue as a fundraiser. Participants navigate a course for approximately 90 minutes into the foothills of Alberta. The event raises about \$4,000 each year. The funds are donated to an organization that helps children with behavioral and mental disabilities.

Chester Lions in **New Jersey** collect approximately 5,000 eyeglasses every year by providing 20 donation drop-off boxes at businesses, optical shops and public institutions.

The **Porbandar Lions Club** in **India** sponsored a "mega" eye camp which drew nearly 1,200 men, women and children. A total of 153 people received free eye surgery, and medicine was distributed to all participants who were found to be in need at no cost.

Ridgely Lions in **Maryland** gave several large boxes of fruit to an elementary school to support its campaign to spur students to eat healthier meals.

Auburn Classic Noon Lions in **Indiana** gave \$800 to Honor Flight, which transports veterans to Washington D.C. to visit memorials built to honor their service during World War II.

Lions in **Sacramento, Kentucky**, gave more than \$500 in cash and \$100 in nonperishable food items to a county agency that helps feed people in need.



Twins Trapper and Sawyer Wawiernia say goodbye to the giant pumpkins grown by their neighbor, **Vermontville Lion** Mark Lawless, on his **Michigan** farm. The center pumpkin weighed in at 460 pounds, and Lawless donated it to his Lions club to raffle off to raise funds for a firefighter who was killed by a truck while collecting money from passing vehicles for charity. "I grow pumpkins for my granddaughters and the neighborhood kids, but this was my first attempt at growing giant pumpkins," says Lawless. The two other pumpkins on the truck weighed 390 and 300 pounds.

The **Chesapeake Southside Lions** in **Virginia** screened the vision of more than 4,000 children in one year. They also collect and recycle eyeglasses and help a league for blind bowlers.

Norfolk Lions in **Nebraska** raised \$25,000 from their annual pancake breakfast. They annually use 85 gallons of syrup, 700 pounds of sausage and a pallet and a half of pancake batter to feed breakfast to hundreds of patrons.

Sutter Lions in **California** sorted eyeglasses at the Lions in Sight Recycling Center in Vallejo.

Club News

Dallas Oak Cliff Lions in **Texas** honored former U. S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison with the club's Bill Melton Humanitarian Award. She was the 37th recipient of the award; the first was given in 1978 to famed Dallas Cowboys coach Tom Landry.



Mourched Hajj Chahine (center), governor of **District 351**, which includes **Lebanon, Jordan** and **Iraq**, visits with children in a refugee camp in Jordan after distributing food and clothing to them. With him are Fuhais Lions Rawda Sweiss and Haya Neiyamat, both of Jordan, who also assisted on the aid mission.

The **Fort Walton Beach Lions Club** in **Florida** supplied 1,000 pairs of eyeglasses for a mission to Guatemala. Past District Governor Pat Hall brought the cleaned, graded and sterilized glasses to club president Shareen Ketchem, who then personally delivered the collection to the mission team before they departed for Guatemala.

The **Edmonds Lions Club** in **Washington** donated \$5,000 to a food pantry. The funds were raised by selling raffles to goods and services donated by community merchants.

Members of the **Hartland Lions Club** and the **Michigan Lions Eye Bank** participated in an indoor Walk for Warmth to raise money for people in need to pay heating bills during frigid winter months. In addition to promoting Lions clubs and the eye bank at an informational

booth, Lions also walked as a team to help organizers raise \$80,000 in pledges to keep the heat on for 1,500 families.

Hollywood Lions in **Oregon** sponsored a food drive that netted 750 pounds of nonperishable food. The donated items will make more than 500 meals for neighbors in need.

The **Langhorne Lions Club** in **Pennsylvania** gave a blind resident a talking bar code scanner that will help with the identification of products including currency. Additionally, Lions donated 500 pairs of collected eyeglasses to Bucks County Associated Services for the Blind.

The 70-year-old **Lineboro-Manchester Lions Club** in **Maryland** was honored with the Hampstead Rotary Club Legacy Award for its many service activities in the community. Given by Rotarians until the club disbanded several years ago, the award is now sponsored by The Northern News. Lions were also given \$100 for their service activities.

Sebastian Lions in **Florida** collected nearly 200,000 pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, which recycles them to raise funds. Donations came from friends and family of Lions in four different states and weighed 115 pounds

In **Pennsylvania**, members of the **Muhlenberg Lions** and Rotary clubs united to donate \$4,000 to fund anti-drug and alcohol education programs for fifth-graders.

The **Alexandria Lions Club** in **Louisiana** sponsored its third annual garage sale to raise more than \$3,400. Last year, the club donated \$36,165 to support the Louisiana Lions Camp and Eye Foundation in addition to other service activities.

The **Aurora Noon Lions Club** in **Illinois** gave \$500 to a food pantry.



In **Virginia**, visitors and residents of a nursing home and care complex have eight new benches along a walkway that were constructed and donated by **Manassas Host, Mason Neck and Lake Jackson/Mid-County Lions clubs** and the **Linton Hall Leo Club**. The pathway is now identified with a prominent sign as "Lions Walk."

Lisbon Lions in **New York** sponsor an annual decorated truck in the "Light up the Night" parade that promotes eyeglass recycling and their club. After the parade, kids visit with Santa.

The **Marystown Lions Club** in **British Columbia, Canada**, sponsored a telethon to help raise money for a new \$125,000 Zamboni to keep the ice maintained at a local arena. Lions raised more than \$85,000.

Massey Hill Lions in **North Carolina** steamed and served oysters to 750 people during their annual oyster roast. The club purchased 300 bushels of oysters for the fundraiser.

Tacoma Downtown Lions in **Washington** helped serve more than 200 meals during a community food program for the poor and homeless.

The **Lions Club of Scotts Hill** in **Tennessee** donated gifts to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), which represents children who have been removed from their homes by child welfare. Lions donated presents for more than 50 children and included colorful handmade bags for children to carry their belongings as they move throughout the foster care system.

[Roar of Approval

The Gloucester Lions in Virginia are mourning the loss of **Warren Bowers**, who passed away at age 93. A Lion for more than 60 years in various clubs, Bowers consistently brought his upbeat attitude to Lions' meetings and events. Bowers served as a navigator in World War II, and during the Gulf War he delivered messages from troops overseas to their families in the U.S. through his ham radio.

Chickamauga Lion **Donna Calhoun** was inducted into the Georgia Lions Hall of Fame in March 2014 after serving for 24 years. Formerly a Dalton Lion, Calhoun moved to the smaller, struggling Chickamauga club 18 years ago to help strengthen it. Calhoun has held every leadership position and is known for motivating and encouraging other Lions.



Since 1996, Burnham Lion **Don Baker** has personally prepared and shipped more than 68,800 donated eyeglasses. A Lion since 1981, 90-year-old Baker also refurbishes and donates used bicycles throughout his community; he has given 126 bicycles to thankful community members so far.

Norman Hartstone, 94, has served as president of the **Newton Lions Club** in **Massachusetts** on and off for 50 years since joining the club in 1966. A Life Member, Hartstone first served as club president in 1976, with a few other Lions stepping forward to lead the club in between. He delivers Meals on Wheels and also volunteers at a Veterans Administration hospital and a Jewish War Veterans organization.

Ralph Acker, 88, a member of the **Appleton Noon Lions Club** in **Wisconsin**, knows his community well. Before retirement, Acker had been a photographer for 40 years with the Post-Crescent newspaper. He saw how much Lions did in their

community, and now as a Lion Acker collects glasses from the club's 40 collection boxes in the area. In 13 years, he's collected more than 100,000 glasses and delivers boxes of glasses to the Lions Camp in Rosholt for processing.

LIONS

DAY WITH THE UN



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Budapest, Hungary
October 1-4, 2015

AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Amended Chapter II, Paragraph B of the Board Policy Manual removing reference to a joint audit committee, reflecting the establishment of the separate LCIF audit committee.
2. Deleted Chapter XI, Paragraph C.2. of the Board Policy Manual and amended Chapter II, Paragraph B.3. of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the independence of the internal audit function in the proper chapter.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Approved CSC (Corporation Service Company) as the registered agent for the International Association of Lions Clubs.
2. Adopted a resolution to revise board policy to reinstate the office of International Third Vice President.
3. Adopted a resolution to revised Chapter XX, Paragraphs Q.2. of the Board Policy Manual related to the distribution of the Standard Form Constitution and By-Laws.
4. Revised Chapter III, Paragraph E.3. of the Board Policy Manual to make it consistent with other provisions in the Board Policy Manual.
5. Revised the Standard Form Multiple District By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual to be consistent with previous changes to the Standard Form District By-Laws.
6. Revised the Trademark Policies in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to make board policy related to convention trading pins consistent with practice.
7. Revised the Advisory Committee to Review Vice President Candidates in Chapter II, Paragraph A of the Board Policy Manual to further define the objective, composition, duties and term of the Advisory Committee.
8. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2016 International Convention to amend the International Constitution to remove the Emergency Reserve Fund from the Constitution to allow for more flexibility in funding programs and services.
9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2016 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to revise the designation of Administrative Officers and, upon adoption, to revise Chapter XVIII, Paragraph A and B of the Board Policy Manual related to administrative officers.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Revised 2016 Fukuoka convention schedule.
2. Established per diem allowances for appointed Credentials Committee members serving without other reimbursement, District Governors-elect and District Governors-elect faculty and headquarters staff attending the Fukuoka convention.
3. Revised convention bid policy to allow for a designee to attend site inspections for future cities.
4. Revised policy to increase the convention registration and housing cancellation fees.

5. Amended policy to include the reinstatement of the Third Vice President, effective July 1, 2016.
6. Revised Election Procedures to eliminate the certification of alternate delegates.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Granted protective status to the Tabubil Lions Club for a period of six months.
2. Appointed Past District Governor Marina Barsegova to serve as an additional Coordinating Lion for the Republic of Armenia and Past International Director Per Christensen to serve as an additional Coordinating Lion for the Republic of Moldova.
3. Provided new districts, that result from redistricting proposals that consolidate transitional districts and is approved prior to October 2018, a grant in the amount of US\$2.00 per member the first year the new district is formed and US\$1.00 for each member plus US\$10.00 for each net member increase the two years following the year of implementation to help defray the cost of redistricting and support growth.
4. Approved the redistricting proposals from District 316-C (India), Multiple District 3 (Oklahoma), and Multiple District 316 (India) to take place at the adjournment of the 2016 International Convention.
5. Revised the Board Policy Manual to encourage electronic reporting to allow for the collection of email and phone numbers.
6. Revised the Board Policy Manual to further protect member information.
7. Revised the Board Policy Manual to correct a reference to the Executive Administrator.
8. Revised the Board Policy Manual to correct a reference to a paragraph that had changed location.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS

OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved the FY 2016 1st Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
2. Approved requesting Constitution and By-Laws draft an amendment to the Constitution to remove Article IX at the International Convention to be held in Fukuoka, Japan, in June 2016.
3. Approved rescinding Resolution 5 of the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee report approved at the July 2014 board meeting in Toronto which modified the suspension policy. This decision restores the suspension policy effective immediately to its prior version.
4. Approved a change in board policy effective July 1, 2016, regarding travel policy for the third vice president.
5. Approved housekeeping revisions to Chapter XII and Chapter XXI of the Board Policy Manual.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the plan, schedule and group leader team for the 2016 DGE Seminar in Fukuoka, Japan.
2. Revised the Board Policy Manual to accurately

reflect the current nomenclature of the Leadership Development Committee and Leadership Development Division.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Approved the primary goal and supporting goal of the new five-year strategic plan being developed: LCI Forward. The primary goal is to improve the lives of 200 million per year by the end of 2020-21, tripling Lions' service impact. Adopted a plan framework summary.
2. Appointed a strategic planning team for further plan development and approved modest budget support.
3. Authorized formation of an international working group of Lions to explore future service approaches to engage more people in our humanitarian service actions.
4. Added to the composition of the Centennial Action Committee.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Suspended the Join Together pilot program but retained the program's applicability to Lioness Clubs that desire to become Lions clubs in the program's pilot area.
2. Approved a membership grant for US\$25,000 for a special initiative in Multiple District O (Argentina).
3. Revised the new club charting process policy language to include online chartering.
4. Revised the family member policy language in relation to qualifications and reporting to include the verification of residence information, family relationship, and reporting online through MyLCI.
5. Revised the Key Award policy language to include reporting through MyLCI.
6. Updated the Life Membership policy language to better reflect the automated approval process.
7. Revised the Life Membership policy language to remove the International Board of Directors approval requirement.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Replaced current Order of Precedence with Exhibit A to the PR Committee Report.
2. Placed a moratorium on new official editions of LION Magazine until January 1, 2018.
3. Updated several sections of Chapter XX of the Board Policy Manual to reflect current practice.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Selected Leo Club Advisory Panel members and alternates for 2015-2017.
2. Consolidated and clarified Chapter 1 of the Board Policy Manual related to Youth Camp and Youth Exchange Programs.

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

A MESSAGE FROM THE LCI Legal Division

The value of selecting qualified leaders cannot be overstated as it facilitates sound governance and raises the profile of Lions clubs, which inspires the trust of the global community. It is the responsibility of Lions Clubs International (LCI) to provide Lions clubs with an impartial electoral process that yields credible results.

Understanding the need to improve the district election process, the International Board of Directors appointed a task force consisting of past international directors to review district election procedures, discuss prevailing issues and develop recommendations for change. Following its one-year appointment, the task force concluded that varied election procedures led to inconsistent outcomes. To that extent, the task force felt mandatory election rules would support a fair, open and transparent election format.

After careful consideration, the task force issued recommendations for instituting standardized election procedures—requiring substantial change to the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws and board policy. The approved standardized district election procedures include changes to the following areas:

- Selection of district committees involved in the election process
- Certification of delegates and candidates prior to election
- Official call, site change and official report provisions
- District convention rules of procedure
- The standard ballot form

These recommendations were adopted prior to the Hawaii Convention and will be implemented across the organization effective July 1, 2016. The delegates also adopted an amendment to the International By-Laws requiring delinquent dues be paid and good standing acquired no less than 15 days prior to the close of credential certification. This amendment was passed at the international convention in Hawaii and is also effective July 1, 2016.

Therefore, LCI encourages each district to review and amend its constitution and by-laws in accordance with these changes. Please review the annotated Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws available on the Legal Division resource page via the LCI website. Comments or questions can be directed to the LCI's Legal Division at legal@lionsclubs.org.

LCI truly believes these changes will maximize the opportunities available to qualified Lions seeking leadership roles within their district. Please keep an eye out for election-related seminars at area Forums, the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute, the District Governor Elect Seminar as well as the international convention. Material information will be sent to zone, region and district-level leaders and e-learning opportunities will be available to all Lions via the online District Resource Center.

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11 issues published yearly by
Lions Clubs International
300 W 22nd St.
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842
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http://www.lionsclubs.org

(ISSN 0024-4163) (R-124397233)
(PRINTED IN U.S.A.)

Official publication of Lions Clubs International.
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.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Minokamo-shi, Gifu-ken, Japan; Immediate Past President Joseph Preston, Dewey, Arizona, United States; First Vice President Robert E. Corlew, Milton, Tennessee, United States; Second Vice President Naresh Aggarwal, Delhi, India. Contact the officers at Lions Clubs International, 300 W 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523-8842, USA.

DIRECTORS

Second year directors

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Information

In Memoriam

Past International Director **Robert E. "Bob" Maxey**, a member of the Springfield Noon Lions Club in Illinois, has died. He became a Lion in 1956 and served as an international director from 1981 to 1983. A businessman who fought in General George S. Patton's 3rd Army 87th Division, Maxey also received numerous recognitions for his volunteerism.

Past International Director **Richard A. "Dick" Tyler** of Minnesota has died. A Lion since 1977, he served the Forest Lake Lions Club in many capacities including as president. He was elected to serve as an international director from 1990 to 1992, and was on the planning committee for the USA/Canada Leadership Forum, serving as chairman of the 1996 forum held in Milwaukee.

Past International Director **Oscar Elejalde Vargas**, a member of the Surco Integracion Lions Club in Peru, has died. A Lion for 61 years, he served as an appointed international director from 1993 to 1994. In addition to his service as a Lion, he also was active in many civic organizations.

Correction

The Amherst Lions Club in New York gave a \$3,000 desktop magnifier to the library. The club was incorrectly identified in the November issue as being in Massachusetts.

How Lionistic Are You?

Continued from page 27

1.) WE SERVE 9.) Melvin Jones 10.) Helen Keller 11.) Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety 12.) Leadership, Experience, Opportunity 13.) We Lions say that the Rotarians own the town, the Kiwanians run the town and the Lions make it work. 14.) It's the one on the right. 23.) Jimmy Carter 24.) district governor, district governor-elect, international director, international president, Lions Clubs International, Lions Clubs International Foundation, multiple district, past district governor, Lions Eye Health Program, Lions Quarterly (LCI's videos) 25.) Lions approved an amendment at the 70th international convention to allow women as members 26.) Helen Keller challenged Lions to be Knights of the Blind 27.) d (Jim Bunning) 28.) c (raised the flag at Iwo Jima) 42.) False 43.) Naresh Aggarwal of India 45.) Lion 46.) Serve 100 million people 50.) Fukuoka, Japan 53.) Lions Quest 54.) White cane

So how Lionistic are you?

- 51-55: Are you sure your name isn't Melvin Jones?
46-50: Ever consider running for international president?
40-45: We already know the first line of your obituary:
"He was known as 'Mr. Lion.'"
35-39: Interested in serving as club president? Show members your score.
26-34: When the job opens up (we trust it won't be for a while), feel free to apply to be the editor of the LION.
21-25: Your roar is average.
16-20: Did you miss the Lions orientation?
10-15: Are you the one who is always falling asleep in the back row at meetings?
0-9: We heard the Rotarians across town need members.

Anniversaries

DECEMBER 2015

95 Years: Atlanta, Ga.; Camden, N.J.; Iowa City, Iowa; Lexington, Ky.; Reno Host, Nev.

90 Years: Big Timber, Mont.; Camden, Ariz.; Ely, Nev.; Evansville, Wis.; Kendallville, Ind.; Leamington, ON, CAN; Roundup, Mont.; Santa Paula, Calif.; Scottsburg, Ind.

85 Years: Cedar City, Utah; Charles Town, W.V.; Middleboro, Mass.; Pleasantville, N.Y.; Silver City, N.M.; Waldoboro, Maine

80 Years: Black Mountain, N.C.; Marshall, Okla.; Maui, Hawaii; North Augusta, S.C.

75 Years: Albert Lea, Minn.; Argonia, Kan.; Conyers, Ga.; Defiance, Ohio; Frankfort, Ill.; La Salle, Colo.; Maplewood, Mo.; Pleasant Hills, Pa.; Wawa, ON, CAN

50 Years: Bartlett, Neb.; Birmingham, Iowa; Burlington, Okla.; Clayton, Wis.; Cochise Stronghold, Ariz.; Corcoran, Minn.; Halfway, Ore.; Pemberton, BC, CAN; Port Lavaca Noonday, Texas; Saint Romuald, QC, CAN

25 Years: Caldwell Early Evening, Texas; Peck, Mich.; Holland Landing & District, ON, CAN; Morristown Morris Boulevard, Tenn.

JANUARY 2016

100 Years*: Austin Downtown Founder, Texas

95 Years: Joliet Noon, Ill.

90 Years: Bedford, Ohio; Coachella Valley, Calif.; Kemmerer, Wyo.; Perry, Okla.; Sayre Athens, Pa.; Sebring, Fla.; Victorville, Calif.; Westerly, R.I.

85 Years: Birnamwood, Wis.; Cerro Gordo, Ill.; Dundas, ON, CAN; Nampa, Idaho; New Portland, Maine; Parsons, Kan.; Ridgeway, ON, CAN; Wakarusa, Ind.

80 Years: Fostoria, Ohio; Milan, Tenn.; Odessa Downtown, Texas; Roanoke Rapids, N.C.; Warrenton, N.C.; Westmont, Ill.

75 Years: Armada, Mich.; Bridgeton, N.J.; Chatham, Va.; Christiansburg, Va.; Dilley, Texas; East Whittier, Calif.; Elizabethtown, Pa.; Fuquay Varina,

N.C.; Gooding, Idaho; Hebron, Ohio; Holliston, Mass.; Lexington, Va.; Lititz, Pa.; Newport, Ariz.; Quincy, Mass.; Radford Host, Va.; Rockdale Noon, Texas; Troutville, Va.; Vineland, N.J.

50 Years: Caledonia, Minn.; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Jacksonville New River, N.C.; Kenai, Alaska; Moosonee, ON, CAN; Newcomb, N.Y.; Pine City, Minn.; Sturbridge, Mass.; Sun River Valley, Mont.; Tysons Corner, Va.; Union County, Ga.; West Bend, Iowa

25 Years: Barre Co-ed, Wis.; Bentonville Noon, Ariz.; Graeagle, Calif.; Cheat Lake, W.V.

*Lions clubs operated before Lions Clubs held its first convention in Dallas on Oct. 8, 1917. Hence, the centennial of some clubs predates the centennial of Lions Clubs.

Anniversaries are based on the official records of Lions Clubs International. The recorded charter date at LCI sometimes differs from local club records.

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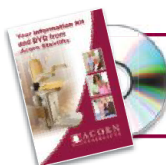
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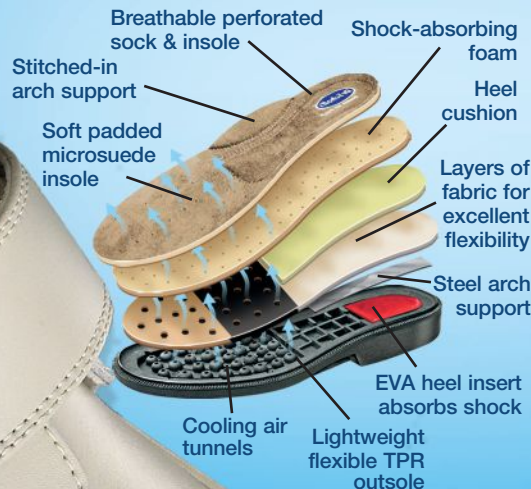
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