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101st International Convention  
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA  
June 29-July 3



## WE SERVE

### MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs.

#### CONTACTING THE LION

For change of address, non-receipt of the magazine and other subscription issues, contact **630-468-6982** or [MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org). For all other inquiries call **630-571-5466**. Have a story idea or photo? Want to comment on a story or make a suggestion for LION editors? Contact the LION at [lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org) or at **630-468-6798**.

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Lions attending the convention chat at "the Bean" at Millennium Park in Chicago.

## WE NEED LIONISM FROM EVERY LION

### → NAMASTE!



Have you ever been on a great vacation where you did a lot and saw a lot? When you get back home, you are eager to tell family

and friends all about it. But it's hard not only to recount specifics but also to convey just how exciting it was or how you almost felt like a different person. Words can't capture what you experienced and how remarkable it all was.

The same inadequacy of words confronts me now. I want to tell you about the centennial convention and how wonderful it was. But you needed to be there to appreciate it. It was a party, a celebration, a gathering of Lions from Alabama to Zimbabwe. That's the main takeaway: the universality of Lions. We are nearly everywhere. And for a week we are in one place.

Believe me, it's exhilarating just to walk down a hallway or get into an elevator

to find yourself surrounded by Lions worldwide. And the beauty of that is that strangers quickly become friends. The bond of service we share enables Lions to look past obvious differences in cultures, customs and languages and to find instant camaraderie.

Lions who attend convention also find affirmation. It is great to be a Lion. It's great to be part of a worldwide service association that makes the world a better place. It's great to play a role in reversing blindness, feeding the hungry and improving the environment.

In Chicago we celebrated 100 years of service and charted our course for the next few years. We'll do our traditional service regarding vision, but we also will focus on hunger, the environment, pediatric cancer and diabetes. Your contribution, however big or small, is appreciated. More importantly, it's needed.

Thank you for embracing We Serve. Thank you for attending meetings, flipping pancakes and collecting eyeglasses. What you do as a Lion is invaluable. As Mother Teresa said, "I can do things you cannot. You can do

things I cannot. Together we can do great things."

So if you were not able to make it to Chicago let me affirm what you do as a Lion. Together, "We Serve" over 100 million people each year. While this number is amazing, I want to focus on another number. This year, my deepest wish is that each of our 1.4 million Lions must serve. We need some Lionism from every Lion.

DR. NARESH AGGARWAL  
LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

The international convention has long been a cornerstone of Lions: the international president in 1937 urged Lions "to attend every convention." Read his column.

# SWEET CELEBRATION



**What's better than a birthday cake?** Birthday cupcakes. Lions at the centennial convention in Chicago this summer enjoyed great music, riveting speakers and a centennial cupcake.



# OUT OF AFRICA



**The African Children's Choir** sang and danced their way into the hearts of Lions at the centennial convention in Chicago.



## Shining Our Light on New York for One Night



The Lions' colors were part of the New York skyline on July 10.

**A tribute** to Lions' centennial, the iconic Empire State Building was lit up in Lions' colors for one night in July. The top spire and antenna of the 102-story skyscraper in Manhattan were illuminated in gold and 25 floors were lit in blue.

"Since the 1930s the Empire State Building has stood for progress and a view of the future. Lighting it up with our colors helps Lions appreciate our proud past and our bright future," says 2016-17 International Director Robert Libin of New York. Libin and International President Naresh Aggarwal spoke at a ceremony before the lighting. The lighting was sponsored by the Long Island City-Astoria Lions Club, one of the oldest in New York and home of 1939-40 International President Alexander Wells, and the Queens Centennial Lions Club with coordination by Lion Pablo Romano.

### THE WUNDER YEARS

Born on a farm in rural Kansas, William Wunder helped transform lives and reverse or prevent blindness in far-flung nations such as China and Sudan. Past International President Wunder, 87, died Aug. 10.

A Lion since 1982, Wunder belonged to the Wichita Northwest Lions Club. He was elected international president at the association's 78th International Convention in Seoul, Korea, in July 1995.



The people he served as a Lion always remained vivid and consequential to him. He never forgot the mother in Kansas whose 7-year-old son received glasses from his club and wrote the club to explain how it turned his life around. "The mother's letter ended with this sentence, and I'll never forget it as long as I live: 'Thank God for the Lions,'" Wunder told the LION in 1995.

His presidency was full of accomplishment. He helped form a partnership between the Peoples Republic of China and Lions Clubs International Foundation that resulted in 1.75 million cataract surgeries in China and paved the way for establishing Lions clubs in China. He also worked with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center to significantly reduce river blindness in Sudan.

His presidential theme was Leadership, and Wunder championed leadership during his travels to 84 nations. He also helped develop the Leadership Division at headquarters as well as introduced the Lioness Conversion Program to encourage Lionesses to become Lions.

Leadership was central to his working life. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army and then president of Marymount College in Kansas.

# Lions Clubs Adds Another Nation



Lion Sheikh Tariq Al Qassimi (center) of the United Arab Emirates gathers with 2016-17 International President Chancellor Bob Corlew (right) of Tennessee and Italian Lion Augusto Di Pietro, the Coordinating Lion to the Middle East.

The United Arab Emirates has become the 210th country or territory with a Lions club. The UAE Premier Lions Club was recognized just prior to the flag ceremony at the 100th International Convention in Chicago on July 2. Charter President Sheikh Tariq Al Qassimi told Lions that having a family member with a serious eye disease makes his membership especially meaningful. He also noted that Lions will serve at the 2019 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Abu Dhabi, the capital.

## A LION CONQUERS EVEREST—AGAIN

Lions were on top of the world: a Nepalese mountaineer summited Everest on May 27 and unfurled a Lions flag. Dorji Sonam Gyalgen of the Kathmandu Aviyan Lions Club carried a Lions flag with the New Mountains to Climb theme of 2016-17 International President Chancellor Bob Corlew of the United States. A Sherpa who has summited Everest more than a dozen times, Gyalgen was part of a 13-member expedition. Summitting Everest is a Lions' tradition: Lion Edmund Hillary was the first to reach the peak in 1953 along with Sherpa Tenzing Norgay.



Dorji Sonam Gyalgen shows his membership pride.

## LIONS STAMPEDE HEADQUARTERS

During the 100th International Convention this summer Lions' headquarters was not only a regular workplace but also a packed tourist destination for Lions. More than 10,000 Lions and family members took a 30-minute tour of the building in suburban Oak Brook, near Chicago. Visitors used audio wands in the 13 official Lions' languages to explain the operations of headquarters. On display, a loan from Ivy Green, Helen Keller's birthplace in Alabama, were an alarm clock for the blind with a buzzer that is placed under a mattress, and "The Story of My Life," Keller's autobiography and the actual book used by William Gibson to write "The Miracle Worker." Other attractions that drew crowds were the Melvin Jones Memorial Room and its lion rug, a gift to Melvin Jones from Winston Churchill; the international president's office and the numerous gifts from Lions and world leaders; and the Peace Poster Wall, featuring the winning posters since the contest began in 1988.

## OVERHEARD

“When I retired, I thought, ‘What am I going to do with 24 hours and nothing to do?’ You can see now that I carry an appointment book.”

—BUSY LION FRANCIS “BUCKY” NAUGLE, 80, after receiving the Melvin Jones Fellowship from his club, the Conemaugh Valley Lions Club in Pennsylvania. From The Tribune-Democrat.

“Whether or not Jimmy Dean wins or not, it’s not important. Well, it’s kind of important. But being part of the mission of Lions club is really cool.”

—AUSTIN TELEVISION REPORTER RUDY KOSKI on his family’s dachshund competing in the Wiener Dog Race held by Buda Lions in Texas. From the Hays Free Press.

“She sat there in the chair and she said, ‘I think this is just what Mamaw needs.’ She read this little prayer in there, and she said, ‘I think this will help her from being so sad.’”

—DONNA FRITZ, a Pershing Township Lion in Indiana, on a nine-year-old girl who found a devotional book in her club’s Little Free Library located across the street from Fritz’s ice cream shop. Mamaw is the girl’s grandmother, whose husband had just died. From the Seymour Tribune.

## BY THE NUMBERS

4

Roaming hay wagons, as well as three stationary ones, selling flower baskets for the Batavia Lions’ 35th annual Plant Day sale in Illinois.



Lions and Rotarians in Massachusetts.

2

Price in dollars of the protective glasses sold by Brevard Lions in North Carolina to safely view the solar eclipse on Aug. 21.

8,000

Hygiene kits donated by Americus and Albany Lions in Georgia to residents through the YMCA and other groups after tornadoes struck the area.



170

Participants in the polar bear plunge of the New Baltimore Lions in Michigan. A team dedicated to the memory of Lion John “Jack” Hayman (“Everybody in town knew him,” says Lion Judy Gable) raised the most money—\$4,000.



822

Pairs of socks collected for senior citizens by Lexington High School Leos in Ohio.

88

Cultures represented on pole banners celebrating the town’s diversity in a project of the Sharon

17,294

Pairs of shoes collected by Alexandria Evening Lions in Minnesota for Soles4Souls, which provides shoes for the poor in the United States and overseas.



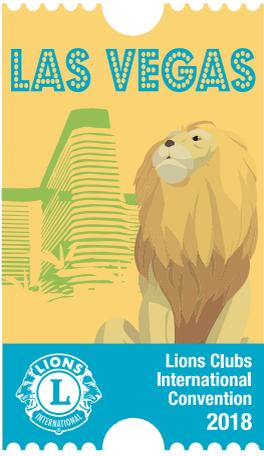
## 60 YEARS AGO IN THE LION

⇨ OCTOBER 1957

In a time when paper was king and computers were practically nonexistent, two staffers at the International Office in Chicago carefully stack clubs’ monthly service activities reports. The LION presented “the inside story of the nerve center for the world’s largest service club organization” in an issue celebrating the 40th anniversary of Lions Clubs.

Can you predict the future? How about if you are the leader of Lions and are prognosticating about Lions?

- “The Future of Lionism,” written by International President Edward G. Barry of Little Rock, Arkansas (October 1957 LION).
- The complete story on the international office (October 1957 LION).



# LIONS TAKE THE STAGE IN LAS VEGAS

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# // Bernie Lamp Sr., Bernie Lamp Jr., Bernie Lamp III and Andy Lamp

## Alpena Lions, Michigan

Four generations of Lamps have represented the Alpena Lions starting with the late charter member Andy Lamp Sr., who helped form the club in 1926 and always made Lions a part of his family's life.

Andy Lamp, 29, says it was a given that he would become a Lion.

The connection between the Lamp men and the Alpena, Michigan, Lions has always been so strong that it was only a matter of time until he joined and became the fourth-generation link between Lions and Lamps.

That time came in April when Lamp took the Lions oath, and three generations of Lamp men welcomed him into the club: His great-grandfather, Bernie Lamp Sr., there in spirit; his grandfather, Bernie Lamp Jr.; and his father, Bernie Lamp III.

"Dad would be proud, very proud there's a fourth-generation in the Alpena Lions," says Bernie Jr. "I think it's awful neat myself."

The Lamps, who all live within five miles of one another in a town where Lamps have lived since the 1800s, get together often to fish on Thunder Bay and to work on Lions' projects.

"Even if I don't see him one day I know I can count on seeing my dad at Lions," says Bernie III. "We're always saying, 'If I don't see you tomorrow, I'll see you at Lions.'"

The Alpena Lions, who also have two three-generation families (the Murches and the Zellers) among their members, conduct their club meetings over lunch on Tuesdays. The club sells fruit and mints as fundraisers. They build a Fourth of July float and take part in White Cane Days. They collect and recycle about 2,000 eyeglasses annually, support the Michigan Donor Registry and maintain "Lions

Trail," a section of a bike and hiking path that the Lions took on about 20 years ago.

It was on the trail where Andy Lamp got a memorable Lions' dose of physical labor, and the Lions came to appreciate the power of youth. "He's young and strong. He helped us haul the logs," recalls his father.

"I am proud of Andy as he carries on our family legacy of community service."

Andy says he probably should have become a Lion sooner, but he was busy getting his accounting career in gear. Then there was that time at his wedding in October of 2016 that gave him a kickstart. When his dad couldn't attend a Lion meeting because of the wedding, some Lions from the club showed up at the wedding to present Bernie Lamp III with the Melvin Jones Award.

Moved by the moment, Andy officially joined Lions, and now, he says, he's working on "infusing some youth into the club."

Bernie Lamp III says his family witnessed firsthand the importance of the Lion focus on vision when his father lost sight in one eye due to glaucoma. Bernie Jr. remembers back a generation further.

When his father, Bernie Lamp Sr., had a stroke in 1956, 10 years before he died, he used a wheelchair but still wanted to attend Lion meetings. It was Bernie Jr.'s job to pick him up and take him there.

"And I caught hell if I didn't take him," recalls Bernie Jr. "Lions were always very important to him."



Bernie Lamp III (from left), Bernie Lamp Jr. and Andy Lamp enjoy working together on the Lions Trail.

# Chain of Goodwill Ends with Good Vision

// BY MERRILYNN KESSLER

My ritual on the first and third Tuesday of every month is to drive seven miles to the Grove Family Library in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. I make sure I have “the Key,” brass with an oval top. Without exaggeration, it’s the key to a better life for thousands.

From my SUV I unload a large cloth tote, a half dozen plastic grocery bags and a padded mailing envelope. I’m 74, so it’s a handful. But I walk a few steps to a large, retired USPS mailbox that has been painted yellow. For more than a decade it has served as one of the collection boxes for eyeglasses and hearing aids for the Chambersburg Evening Lions Club.

fortunate to tour the New Jersey Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center to see how vast Lions’ recycling efforts are.

The collection box is not the only evidence of Lions at the library. My club helped plant the trees and shrubs there when it was built in 2006. Every time I come I enjoy noticing the trees’ growth.

Placing the padded mailer on the sidewalk as cushioning, I kneel down to unlock the knee-high door, wondering what treasures await. I extend my arms into the box, and my fingers dust the corners for errant spectacles. Library patrons pass me and say hello. My



Merrilynn Kessler uses a spare room at her home in Pennsylvania to sort the eyeglasses she collects.

“ I make sure I have ‘the Key,’ brass with an oval top. Without exaggeration, it’s the key to a better life for thousands. ”

I personally witnessed how important these eyeglasses are. A decade ago I went on a Lions’ vision mission to Belize. I will always remember two Belizeans. Alphonso, 87, thanked me for the glasses and told me to tell my district, “God bless you, Lions.” A fearful young woman, confident in her new glasses, confessed, “I wanted to come early this morning, but no one would come with me. So I gathered all my courage because I knew you Lions could help me.”

My club began its recycling program in 1996. Since then, we’ve recycled 77,395 eyeglasses. We’ve helped people read the newspaper and Bible, prepare meals, use a computer or cash register, knit a baby blanket, drive an automobile, play music, vote and see their loved ones.

Reading and eyeglasses are particularly important to me. I was a librarian before retiring. In 2016 I became my club’s Eyeglasses Recycling Coordinator. I was

positioning is kind of comical. I often wonder if I remind them of Gretel at the Witch’s cottage: “Climb into the oven, my dear, and see if it is hot enough.”

I stuff the tote and the grocery bags with the contents. First I may have to go inside and return an armload of now-overdue children’s library books placed by mistake in the box.

In a spare room at home, I open all the hard and soft cases. I count and sort the plastic frames, metal frames, readers and sunglasses. The cases sometimes contain surprises such as jelly beans, Bible verses, phone numbers, rosaries and even \$5 or \$10 bills folded many times to miniature sizes. Or the cases had been put to use as a sewing or hygiene case, first aid or teeth cleaning kit, or coin keeper.

The glasses come in many styles: square, round, butterfly, octagon, oval, cats-eye, aviator, half-frame and more.

There are small glasses from school-children, men’s thick trifocals, dainty women’s glasses, safety shop glasses and glasses probably from great aunts and grandmothers that still have a faint aura of rich powders and perfumes. How fortunate we are to live in a society with such material abundance.

Donors often exercise great care. They wrap their eyeglasses in paper towels or tissue paper or place them in sealed baggies. Some are quite new or barely worn. Others are aged and dusty. It’s not hard to imagine the progression of their usefulness. The owner relied on them for so much, and then one day decided to replace them. But they realized it was wasteful to throw them out. Don’t Lions help people see and isn’t there a collection box at the library?

So twice monthly, thanks to their generosity and my club, I’m the one who takes what they give and hurry along the glasses to others who need them.

## Parkinson's Walk Held

Vickie Smith, wife of Past International Director Bob Smith, says she expected about 100 people to turn out for the Parkinson's walk she and others were planning.

But more than 450 walkers joined Sacramento Embarcadero Lions in California for their first "Robert G. Smith Cancel Out Parkinson's" walk, and the Lions are already stepping up to sponsor the walk again next April.

When the club discovered that one of their members, Bob Smith, had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, they immediately felt compelled to help and started planning the event. Past District Governor Susanne Royce accepted the chairperson position, and Lions followed her lead.

Lions from all over the state and Nevada as well as friends from across the country and many from Smith's years in law enforcement came to walk, honoring the Smiths and supporting efforts to fight Parkinson's disease.

"It was an amazing day. I wish I could express what Bob was feeling," says Vickie. "Seeing all those people and feeling the love of all those Lions. We serve. But we also serve each other. Suzanne put her heart and soul into this walk, and it took on a life of its own."

The 5K walk-a-thon at Rusch Park in Citrus Heights netted \$25,000 for the Parkinson Association of Northern California plus enough money to support next year's walk on April 7. Club members also arranged for entertainment and a health fair with the help of the Northern California Lions Sight Association. In addition to the NCLSA vision van, the Lions Project for Canine Companions for Independence



Past International Director Robert G. Smith walks with longtime friends Sylvia and David Darnell.

Photo by Tony Santos

participated, and a variety of senior service providers were on hand.

Past District Governor Carl Burson says the walk will have to be moved to a new location next spring as they anticipate 800 to 1,000 walkers to take part.

"We anticipate a much larger turnout," says Burson. "Bob is one of the most gracious men you'll ever meet."

Smith, a 32-year veteran of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department and a 35-year Lion, served as international director from 2010 to 2012.

"When Bob was first diagnosed we said, 'Well, we are just not going to give up,'" says Vickie. "We got to the walk, and we saw all those faces. And Bob was smiling. Being with Lions is some of the best therapy he can have."

## Creating a Greater Cat Habitat in New Mexico

Lions in Edgewood, New Mexico, are looking out for the other "big cats" around town. They are making sure the cougars have a good place to live in a family-oriented nature park that not only entertains but educates visitors about the state's native animals, plants and habitat.

Wildlife West Nature Park, a 122-acre nonprofit outside Albuquerque, is a combination zoo and wildlife refuge, home to a variety of animals that have suffered trauma and are unable to be released into the wild.

The Edgewood Lions came forward when the park received two young cougars that had been left motherless in the wild, one of which had been caught in a trap and injured its foot. Space at the park was not large enough to keep both comfortably.

The club donated more than \$1,000 to help expand the cat habitat, enabling the young cougars—True and Zia—to have more room to roam as they grow. A new gate joins the two cat habitats. The Lions' donation also allowed members of the New Mexico Youth Conservation Corps to build a cat tree, giving the cougars a place to relax and people watch.

Wildlife West Nature Park works with volunteers providing educational programs, chuck wagon dinners and entertainment.



With Lions' support, the cougars have more space and a place to relax in New Mexico's Wildlife West Nature Park. Photo courtesy of Roger Holden Photography.

# 60 Years of Going Round and Around

Modern-day social media has been good for encouraging traditional old-fashioned fun in Alabama, says Tim Carter, president of the Athens Lions, who host the Athens Kiddie Carnival every summer.

The carnival has always been a popular event with the locals, but since word got out on social media, people have been traveling more than an hour from Tennessee and other parts of Alabama to enjoy the vintage rides.

“It’s nothing to see four generations of family enjoying the night,” Carter says.

The carnival is fast-moving fun for toddlers to 10-year-olds, but it’s also a spot for parents and grandparents to play “remember when.”

Athens Lions hosted their first Kiddie Carnival in 1957, and 60 years later it’s in the same location, offering some of the same rides, now entertaining the grandchildren of some of the first kids to attend. Gates are open on Friday and Saturday nights from June through the first weekend in August. But the work of the Lions begins early in the spring when the rides are hauled from the storage shed, which is also the bingo hall during the carnival. And it ends when it’s all cleaned up and put away.

The Lions own and operate all 10 rides including the small Ferris wheel, cars, rockets ships, carousel and big swings. But the “life blood” of the carnival is the small train that runs on its own tracks.



Children get in the swing of things every summer at the Athens Kiddie Carnival put on by the Alabama Lions. (Right) Pink or blue, cotton candy is always worth the wait.

Photos courtesy of Jeronimo Nisa/Decatur Daily.

Some of the rides are so vintage that the club has had trouble getting parts for them. But, says Carter, “Any time there’s a discussion about replacing the rides, the public gets upset.”

People also like the vintage prices—free admission and 50 cents a ride.

Every night at the carnival requires at least 30 Lions to operate the rides safely, and 30 other volunteers take care of concession like snow cones and cotton candy, where there is sure to be a long line. The Leo club from Limestone County Career Technical Center helps, as well as the Athens Rotary Club, church groups and others.

Hundreds of people will come to the park which is about the size of a football field, and on a good night, they may draw a crowd of 1,000 or more.

I’m 70, and I’m there every night we’re open. We just enjoy seeing the kids have a good time, and we’re able to support a lot of good causes. And that makes everybody feel good,” says Carter.

In a good summer without many rainouts, Kiddie Carnival can gross \$60,000 for the Lions, according to Carter. That means a lot of support for many organizations including Alabama Lions Sight, Camp Seale Harris, Special Olympics, local charities and the police department.

# Lions Fight a Clubhouse Catastrophe

Lions are accustomed to helping strangers in dire circumstances.

But the Lions in Clinton, Indiana, have been fortunate to be helped by their own in tough times.

Fire broke out in the kitchen of their clubhouse during a lightning storm about 30 minutes before a club meeting was to begin. With high winds and thunderstorms in the area, the fire spread rapidly throughout the structure.

Lion Chris Strohm, the Clinton fire chief, was the first fireman on the scene. Lions Chris Laws, Tom Sims and Mike Curry, all firefighters, responded to the call. Club members say it was the swift action of these Lions that helped save their photo history, plaques, banners, club charter and vision screening equipment.

Although they feel blessed to have saved some of the irreplaceable items, the building will have to be remodeled or completely rebuilt due to heavy smoke and water damage, says Lion Dean Strohm. Fellow Lion and farmer Tim Foltz is letting the club use one of his buildings for regular monthly meetings. And president Jerry Spurr is making his winery available for monthly board meetings.

Strohm says the Clinton Lioness Club is working with other nonprofit groups planning a dinner dance with a silent auction to support the Lions as they rebuild.

## ENGLAND

### Sense of Humor, Not Athleticism, Needed Most



The sponge toss requires balance and coordination.

If you are adept at running fast on slippery mats, tossing and catching wet sponges while standing on an overturned bucket or knocking over a fellow competitor clad in an inflatable costume, then “It’s a Knockout” is for you.

Or maybe you just don’t mind looking silly while hundreds of others do likewise.

Since 2007, Humberston North Sea Lions in England have hosted the popular “It’s a Knockout” competition. Dozens of teams engage in zany games that typically involve water, falling and outrageous costumes, provoking belly laughs from spectators.

The event is inspired by a British comedy game show of the same name

that first ran in 1966. The short-lived American version, titled “Almost Anything Goes,” aired on ABC in 1975.

“The falls and spills are very funny,” says Lion Tim Donovan, a coordinator of Knockout. “It’s a great fundraiser. The teams and spectators have a great day together.”

For the Lions’ event, teams of 10 secure sponsors before competing. The hilarity has generated some serious funds. To date, the event has raised 160,000 pounds (US\$200,000).

The funds mostly help youths. Beneficiaries include the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, a children’s hospice and a nurses’ group.

## ITALY

### Veteran Honored Lions-style

Giovanni Cattapan knew his co-worker had lost an arm and both feet while serving in the Italian army in World War II. When he learned more about his extraordinary survival, made possible by the kindness of strangers even though he was an enemy soldier, he wrote a 158-page biography of him a decade ago.

Cattapan, 76, a member of the Gemona Celti Lions Club, will further honor Pietro Romano when the veteran turns 100 on Nov. 17. Cattapan will present him with the Lions centennial commemorative coin.

Romano, a shepherd and woodcutter, served in the Alpino unit, skilled at mountain fighting. In 1943, the soldiers marched through a frigid snowstorm in Russia without proper winter clothing. A villager took pity on him and gave him a hat. Not long after Russian partisans captured Romano, who handed him over to Russian soldiers. His nightmare was about to begin.

Angered at seeing dead comrades lying in the snow, a soldier aimed his rifle at Romano. He lifted his arms to protect himself and took the shots in the arm, then played dead alongside a second shot soldier, who was dead. The temperature dropped well below zero, but Romano maintained his ruse even as a soldier poked him to see if he were alive and then a large dog sniffed at him and barked repeatedly.

Romano’s feet froze during the long night. After the soldiers moved on, two villagers loaded Romano on a truck and took care of him at a home. After he partly recovered, they told him the best route to take to avoid Russian soldiers. But he was eventually captured and sent to an internment camp, where an Italian doctor used a gardening tool to amputate infected fingers and toes. Russian medical personnel later amputated his infected arm.



Lion Giovanni Cattapan’s book sold 4,500 copies.

Romano says he will never forget the kind urgency in the voices of the villagers as he left their home: “Do not cry out! Go this way!” Cattapan, who can faintly remember seeing an Allied bombing raid near his boyhood home, says he wrote the book because “our sincere friendship” as well as his respect for Romano’s “longtime commitment to work and family.”

## WALES

# Remembering the Sacrifice of Veterans

After two minutes of a solemn silence, the Lions club president and the town's mayor laid wreaths at the memorial obelisk within the church cemetery. For Lions in Llandudno, a small town in Wales that overlooks the Irish Sea, remembering veterans has become an annual tradition.

Before the wreath laying, Lions joined other residents inside the ancient church of St. Tudno for a service honoring local volunteers who fought in the South African (Boer) War between 1900 and 1902. Five years ago, Llandudno Lions refurbished the memorial obelisk outside the church.



Gordon Woodyat, president of the Llandudno Lions Club, takes part in the Remembrance Sunday parade.

Club members also march in the town's parade on Remembrance Sunday, which honors the men and women who took part in the two world wars of the 20th century and later conflicts. The day is celebrated on the second Sunday in November.

Honoring veterans is "what Lionism is all about," a club member told the LION, British and Irish edition. "It's a group coming together and doing something for the community."

Grateful for Lions' repair of the obelisk, the town council made a donation to the club. In turn, the club fixed the roof of St. Tudno.



The statues of an admired historical figure in Germany were embraced.

## GERMANY

# Art for Children's Sake

Avant-garde artist Ottmar Hörl caused a stir in Germany when he created 500 identical colored statues of Karl Marx and then garnered a lot of attention with another 500 statues of a beloved Kaiser from long ago. So Lions in the Ruhr Valley did the same with a local hero: they commissioned Hörl to produce 125 blue, purple and gray statues of Friedrich Harkort, known as the "Father of the Ruhr."

Lions sold the blue and red statues for 350 euros (\$400) and the 50 blue ones, handsigned by the artist, went for 700 euros (\$800). The 15,000 euros (\$17,200) that Lions netted was donated to a non-profit that assists children.

Harkort, who lived from 1793 to 1880, was a pioneer industrialist who founded a seminal industrial workshop and developed railroads. He also was admired for treating his employees well and promoting education.



Lions gathered in Chicago, where it all began.



# One Hundred Years in the Making

**The Centennial Convention in Chicago returns 30,000 Lions to their roots.**

// BY JAY COPP

It was a performance that for thousands of Lions captured not only the splendor of convention but also its significance. Grinning widely and clearly enjoying themselves, the 19 boys and girls of the African Children's Choir pounded the stage floor with handheld metallic percussion cans. Then swaying in a charming unison, they sang. Their high-pitched voices reached the farthest corners of the crowded convention hall at the plenary session.

Joining the choir on stage for their finale was opera tenor Edward Lee, an Englander who lives in Germany.

After Lee and the choir performed the inspirational "You Raise Me Up," the young performers quickly encircled him for a tight group hug. The message was unmistakable: it's a small world, we're in this together and let's take care of one another. "It was so fitting, so beautiful," said Sylvia Hain, the 2017-18 president of the Lone Tree Lions Club in Iowa.

No one was actually counting, but there had to be at least 100 such inspiring moments at the centennial convention of Lions Clubs International (LCI) in Chicago June 30 to July 4.

An international convention is inevitably a grand affair with its lengthy parade, star-studded entertainment and renowned speakers, not to mention important Lions' business such as electing a new international president. But in the city of Lions' birthplace the 100th convention played out as a five-day party, a celebration of a century of service.

Lions mingled with old friends, met new ones, marveled at the parade, applauded the exhortations of speakers and enjoyed bands such as Chicago and the Beach Boys. Most of all, they



The exhibit hall was a place not just to wander through but to stop and enjoy or learn. Campfire Sessions (above photo) hosted Lions or other speakers who talked about topics of interest to Lions. (Below) Lions appreciate a display that focuses on donating eyeglasses.

soaked it all up, happy to be part of the historic occasion. “It’s just joy. There’s just so much emotion and energy,” said parade spectator Jessie Duvall of the Topeka Sunflower Lions Club in Kansas. The convention was proof of the value of Lions in a world

booth to enjoy the sitar played by a cross-legged musician.

The centennial was front and center at McCormick. Mounted on lighted columns, multitudes of black-and-white photos told stories of a century of worldwide service from Australia

to Zimbabwe. In another spot, the faces and names of 100 international presidents filled a towering wall. McCormick Place, which typically showcases glittering new products such as cars or houseware gadgets, stood as a sprawling testament to humble service—10 decades worth.

Assisted by past international presidents and other Lions representing the seven Constitutional Areas of Lions, 2016-17 President Chancellor Bob Corlew lights the centennial torch; to the right is Past International President J. Frank Moore III, centennial chairperson. (Opposite) 2017-18 President Naresh Aggarwal displays the president’s ring, given to him by Corlew.



in need of service. “There is so much negative news. You see the good in humanity here,” said Elaine Uhlman of the Meadville Lions Club in Pennsylvania.

More than 30,000 Lions and guests from 151 nations attended the convention at McCormick Place, the largest convention center in North America. Clusters of Lions drew up chairs at the Campfire Stage to hear Lions talk about a project or passion. Crowds flocked to the MyLion booth to learn about the new app for Lions. Many waited in line to pose for photos on a pedestal flanked by statues of lions. Others paused at the Lions of India

to Zimbabwe. In another spot, the faces and names of 100 international presidents filled a towering wall. McCormick Place, which typically showcases glittering new products such as cars or houseware gadgets, stood as a sprawling testament to humble service—10 decades worth.

Displays were interactive. Lions could press a touchscreen and, presto, a projected cartoon image of Melvin Jones, the garrulous Lions’ founder, cheerfully answered a set of predetermined historical questions.

Lions revel in the pomp and pageantry of a convention but especially appreciate the moments of quieter, sudden soli-

arity. “It’s right here,” said Tim Wilson of the Fort Dodge Evening Lions Club in Iowa, gesturing at the Lions seated at tables near him in the café at the exhibit hall when asked why convention is worthwhile. “You meet so many people from other countries and states.”

Moments of connection and coincidence invariably occur at convention. “You hear stories from other Lions about what they do, and you take those ideas back home,” said Wilson. For many Lions, new technology unveiled at the convention brought far-flung Lions closer together. Wendy Hartmann downloaded the MyLion app and delightfully discovered that when she sent a message to a Lions overseas it was translated for her and the Lion’s message back to her was translated into English. “This [convention] is leading us toward the next 100 years. All this technology will help us into the next century,” said Hartmann of the St. Nazianz Lions Club in Wisconsin.

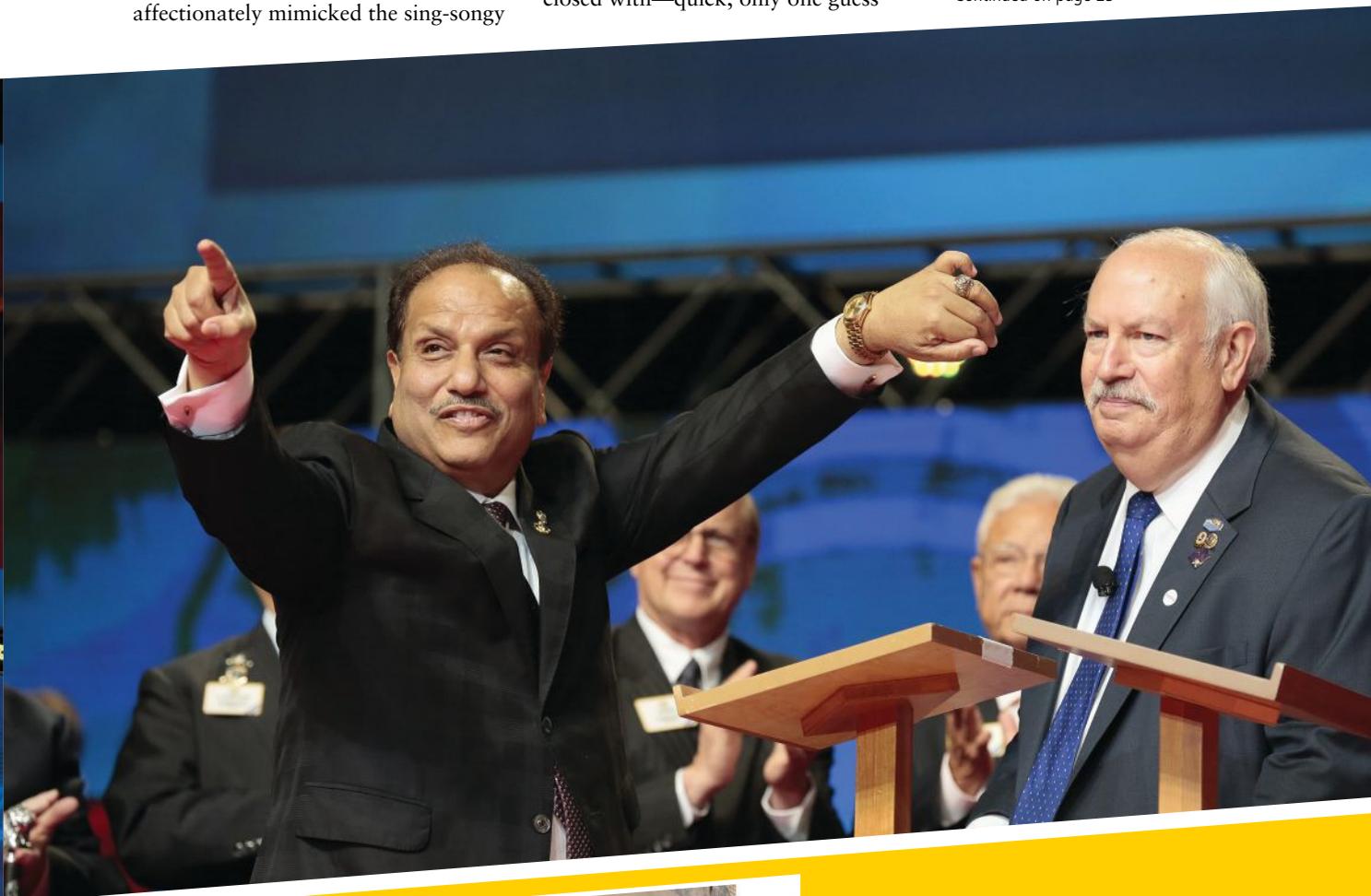
Convention also is a matter of Lions just being Lions. There was the unknown Lion who saw the long lines at registration and volunteered on the spot to help LCI staff—and stayed half a day. A Lion in a purple shirt who stood along the parade route high-fived marcher after marcher and affectionately mimicked the sing-songy

chants of delegations—“Nay-paul,” “Pay-rue” and “Eck-waa-door.”

The centerpieces of the convention are the three plenary sessions. The pre-show of the first of the three plenary sessions featured American English, a Beatles tribute band, and the quartet closed with—quick, only one guess

allowed—“Birthday.” President Chancellor Bob Corlew of Tennessee, who led the plenary, quickly noted the appropriateness of the host city for the convention. “Just a few blocks from where we are now, Melvin Jones and the first Lions pioneered a new

Continued on page 23



Lions and Leos paint a mural on healthy eating in a Chicago neighborhood.

## Chicago Enjoys World-Class Service from Lions and Leos

Lions came to Chicago to celebrate the centennial, see the sights—and to serve. The dozen service projects coordinated by headquarters sold out. More than 450 Lions, Leos and friends packed 11,000 school meals, cleaned up 40 pounds of garbage from the Chicago River banks and fed 75 homeless guests.

Lions also packed 15,000 pounds of food for a food bank, assembled 1,700 hygiene kits and, in a partnership to beautify a neighborhood with the Heartland Alliance, planted flowers, hosted a bingo party and worked with a graffiti artist to paint a colorful mural on the side of a drab building. Lions paid \$25 for the privilege of serving others (the fee paid for transportation, food, host organization fees and a T-shirt).



## World Leaders Take the Stage at Convention



Al Gore, former U.S. Vice President

A recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his environmental efforts, Gore focused on the climate crisis. “There are only three questions remaining. Must we change? Can we change? Will we change?” he asked. “Must we change? For a long time the scientific community told us the answer is yes. Now Mother Nature is telling us in no uncertain terms.”

Gore cited a long list of woes resulting from climate change: soaring temperatures, more powerful storms and fires, deadly air pollution, drought, raised sea levels—threatening coastal cities and leading to crop failures and food shortages—and millions of climate refugees, leading to political instability.

Can we change? Gore pointed to the substantial gains in wind and solar power. “We have the solutions to the climate crisis. We can solve the crisis,” he said.

Will we change? People worldwide are determined to do what’s needed, he said. “Nobody can stop the sustainability revolution. We will solve the climate crisis,” he said. “All the great moral movements in human history have met with a series of no’s—ferocious resistance: the abolition of slavery, the women’s movement, the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. The late Nelson Mandela said it’s only impossible until it’s done. ... We do have the will to change. Always remember, Lions and Leos, the will to change is a renewable resource.”



Ban Ki-moon, former U.N. Secretary General

Moon praised Lions. “More than 65 million people are refugees, fleeing disasters, wars and abuses of their human rights. These are the largest number since the end of the Second World War. Xenophobia, terrorism and other man-made catastrophes are destabilizing our world. In this dangerous environment, we need people who care. I have been urging world political leaders not to erect walls but build bridges among people. We need Lions International, which is breaking down barriers and building bridges of trust and friendship.”

He also urged Lions to work against climate change. “The science is real and plainly clear. Climate change is approaching much faster than we know. The threat is growing. And we have the power to stop it. ... Climate action means more jobs, not fewer. It means greater opportunities and potentially unlimited advances. It means a cleaner environment and healthier people. ... We cannot negotiate with nature. Nature goes its own way. We have to have wisdom to live harmoniously with nature. I ask and urge Lions International to be champions of climate action.”



Continued from page 21

idea: clubs dedicated to service,” he told Lions. Then he and seven Lions, representing each of the constitutional areas of the Lions’ world, helped light the centennial torch, ceremoniously lowered from the ceiling.

In his farewell address, Corlew gratefully cited the accomplishments of Leos and women and revealed that a few weeks before convention an all-time membership high of 1,449,987 Lions was achieved. Keeping and adding members is critical, he noted. “Because for every Lion who joins us, on average we serve the needs of 70 more people. That’s 70 people who won’t go hungry today, 70 children who will receive an eye screening at school, 70 people who will regain their sight through a Lions’ sponsored cataract surgery,” Corlew said.

The second plenary session featured the rollicking Blue Brother Revue, who played the preshow, and boyishly handsome pop star David Archuleta, who took the stage twice. He sang the invocation with Lee (the son of Past International Director Howard), later performed John Lennon’s gentle peace anthem “Imagine,” and, to the delight of the many Lions from Latino nations, sang a lovely traditional Spanish love song.

The second session also detailed Lions’ accomplishments through their foundation, LCIF, and throughout the three-year centennial celebration. LCIF recently reached the \$1 billion grant mark since it began in 1968, declared LCIF Chairperson Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Japan. In the past year LCIF and Lions particularly made strides in helping refugees, halting measles and beating childhood cancer.

Joining Yamada on the stage was six-year-old Ava Marilyn Bell of Sydney, Australia, whose cancer is in remission. Ava provided a light moment in a segment highlighting a deadly serious matter. Her father asked what she

**“Just a few blocks from where we are now, Melvin Jones and the first Lions pioneered a new idea: clubs dedicated to service.”**

liked best about Chicago. “My daddy wanted me to say, ‘Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls,’” she told Lions. “But I like the pizza, the ice cream and the museum with the dinosaurs.”

Past President J. Frank Moore III of Alabama, the centennial chairperson, announced that Lions easily surpassed the goal to serve 100 million people for the Centennial Service Challenge. “You did that two years ahead of schedule,” Moore told roaring Lions. The current number of people served is 166,294,782—and counting.

The final plenary session kicked off with a playful announcement: “Lions and Leos, we went with the devil down to Georgia and came back with the Charlie Daniels Band.” After the band fiddled its way into the heart of Lions, the Lions Humanitarian Award was presented to Stan Brock, who founded Remote Area Medical, which provides medical care to the underserved.

Next up was Patti LaBelle, who sang and then chatted amiably with Corlew about her struggles with diabetes, a core concern of Lions going forward. Years ago, LaBelle collapsed on stage

in Albany, New York. “I assumed it was because I was tired. The doctor said, ‘Did you know you had diabetes?’ I said, ‘No way.’ I knew I had to change my way of living,” said LaBelle, whose mother had her legs amputated because of diabetes and whose aunt lost her sight due to the disease.

The third session also featured the traditional transition of leadership: the 2017-18 district governors took the oath of office, as did 2017-18 International President Naresh Aggarwal of India, the third Lion from that nation to lead LCI. Aggarwal’s speech was highlighted by crowd interaction. “What are the two most important words for Lions?” he asked. “What is the most important first word? What is the second most important word?” Right on cue each time, the thousands of Lions in the hall loudly shouted “We Serve,” “We” and “Serve.”

The plenary—and convention—ended with the extinguishing of the centennial torch. The torch was passed to several Leos, symbolic of how the impulse to serve surely will live on after the centennial party fades into history.

Couldn’t make it to Chicago for the convention? Watching five short videos is the next best thing.

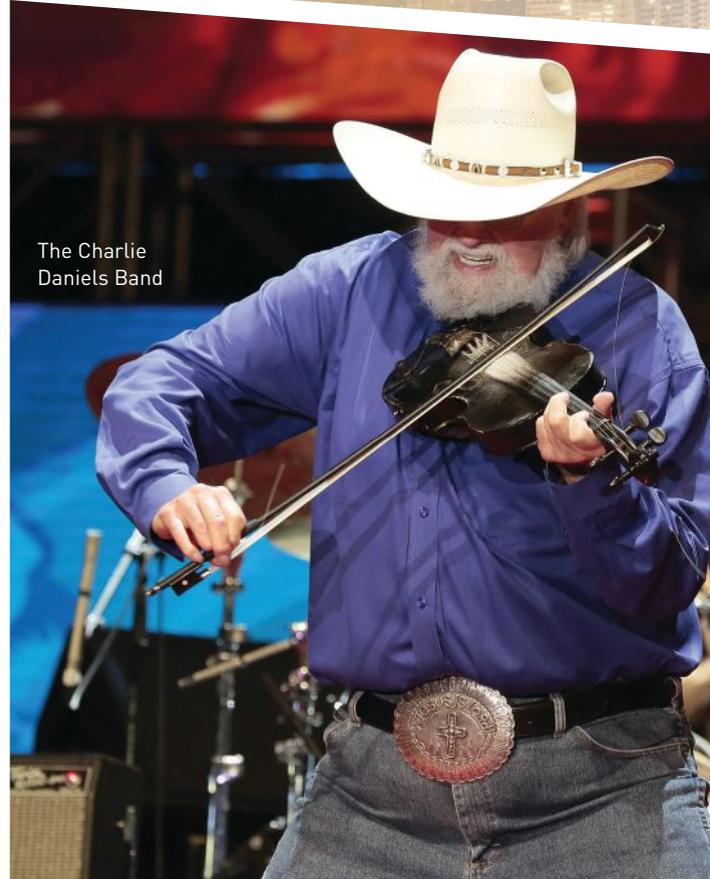
- the dazzling parade
- convention highlights
- the exhibit hall
- the African Children’s Choir and Edward Lee
- a 60-second tour of headquarters

# The Stars Align to Rock Convention

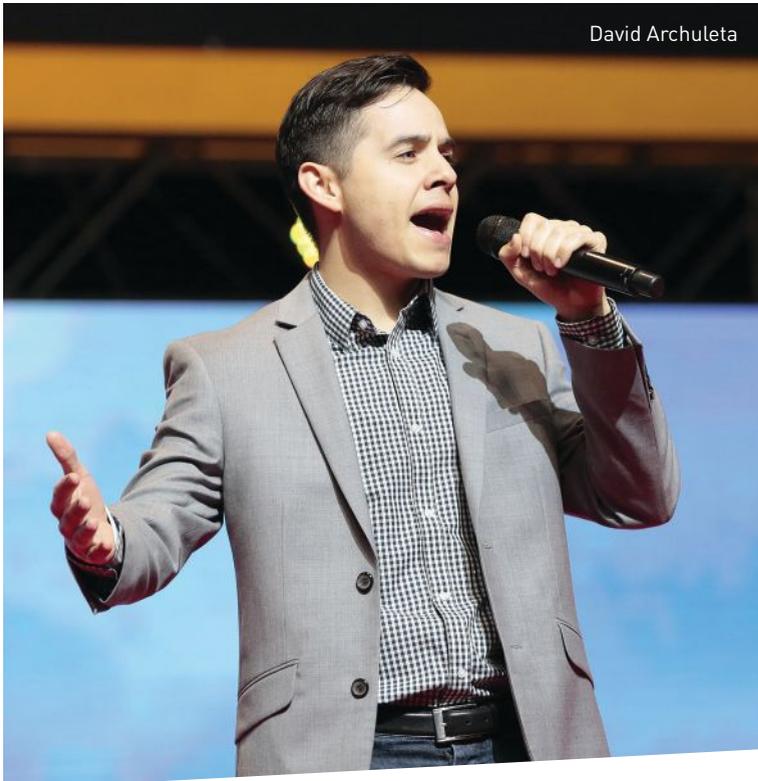
The Chicago convention featured star after star.



Blues Brothers Revue



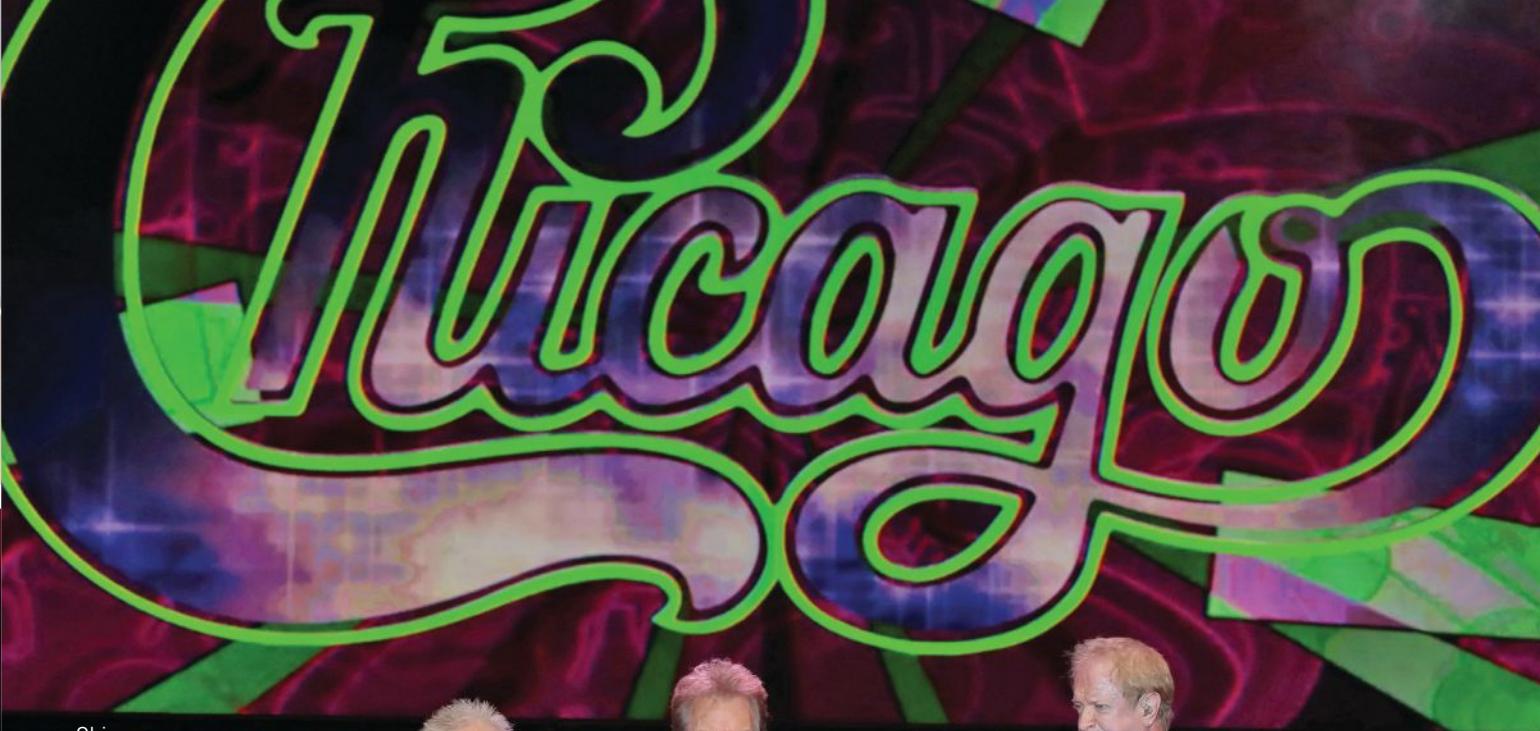
The Charlie Daniels Band



David Archuleta



The Beach Boys



Chicago



American English (a Beatles tribute band)



Patti LaBelle



## International Unity on Display in Parade

Iowa Lions know how to balance fun and service.

The mammoth Lions parade on State Street in the heart of downtown Chicago took more than five hours. It included 26,868 Lions from 83 nations, 25 marching bands and innumerable moments of levity and camaraderie, as marchers waved, shook hands and gave the thumbs-up sign to throngs of spectators. “I’ve worked parades, but I’ve never seen anything like this,” said a uniformed traffic official stationed near Madison Street.

Indeed, what else in the world can compare to a Lions parade at international convention—what other group can claim such a widespread membership and turnout on the

streets? “I think this is the one organization in the world like this. Maybe the Red Cross? I don’t know,” said Susan Skinner-Roy, a teacher who traveled from Madison, Wisconsin, to watch the parade. She collects school supplies for Lions and contributes to club projects in other ways, but the main reason she came to Chicago was to cheer on her marching parents, Selwyn and Huldah Skinner of the Kissimmee Lions Club in Florida. The noise along the parade route at times was cacophonous, but Skinner was certain her parents would spot her. “I’ll yell. My daddy always hears me,” she said.

Marchers fill State Street downtown.



Lions from China show pride in their nation.



The parade was a spectacle of sights and sounds. Scandinavian Lions, dressed in old-fashioned ethnic garb, marched smartly in neat lines and sang their ear-worm song: “oh-lah-dee, oh-lah-dah/ha, ha, ha.” Iowa Lions wheeled in loops around the Loop on a bicycle-built-for-10. Australian Lions pulled their towering inflatable kangaroo, and row upon row of Chinese Lions strolled behind their pouncing, lurching dragons.

Everyone loved this parade, especially Past District Governor Kevin and Kay Adams of Monticello, Iowa, whose presence demonstrated that Lions’ personal lives often are inextricably tied to their Lions’ identity. The Lions couple marched with the Iowa delegation. A half century ago they paraded down the streets of Chicago with their Monticello high school band at the 50th International Convention.



Always out and about as zone chairperson, Janis Marcinkowski of Alaska does not live in a bubble.



A Peru Lion spreads her wings.

In 1967, parade officials warned the Iowa band not to march in cadence but instead to gently walk over a less-than-solid bridge. “We saw that bridge, off in the distance,” said Kevin.

“Last time we had to pay attention to our music. This time we paid attention to the crowd,” added Kevin. “I’m involved with Lions maybe more so than most. So it meant a lot to me. It was cool, interesting.”

Kay wore on her hat the band parade ribbon from 1967. It was her birthday, too, and the Lions of Iowa sang to her before the parade began. “I’ve marched in other Lions’ parades, and my husband was a DG. So this time the focus was more on me,” said Kay with a smile. Such a moment won’t come again for them. “I don’t think we’ll make the 150th!”



# Lions Leave a Big Legacy

// BY JOAN CARY

Minnesota Lion Paul Drotos had a big idea for his club's Centennial Community Legacy Project, and it involved eyeglasses. Not just any old eyeglasses. BIG eyeglasses.

"I wear eyeglasses. As Lions we collect glasses. We donate glasses, and we're all aware of how important eyeglasses are," says Drotos, a Lion for 33 years. "Go big or stay home."

So the Red Wing Lions went big—big with "Spectacles," 4-foot-tall, 12-foot-high and 12-foot-wide, powder-coated steel eyeglasses designed by a Red Wing artist and created by metal fabricator Justin Neufeldt. Neufeldt, a new member of the club, had won the local

Lions Peace Poster contest as a child and volunteered his labor.

Located in Colville Park near a playground, these eyeglasses will never be misplaced or left behind like others, and hopefully never break. They are made to last 100 years or more and invite children to have a "hands-on" approach to art, says Drotos. They also meet the three conditions LCI suggests for choosing a Legacy project: raise community visibility of Lions, provide a community gift and make an impact on the community.

Since LCI added Centennial Community Legacy Projects in February of 2016, more than 20,000 projects have been reported on MyLCI with 20 percent of clubs participating. Clubs are asked to have the projects completed by June 30, 2018.

"Spectacles" appeared in June, but along with the unveiling of the sculpture came lots of regular eyeglasses. With support from District 5M 1, schoolchildren and many individuals making donations, the Lions also collected 30,200 eyeglasses.

Nearby, Wisconsin Lions in October of 2016 launched their Centennial Eyeglass Challenge, challenging nearly 18,000 Lions in the state to collect 100,000 eyeglasses by the end of the 2017 state convention in May. But by January they had already passed their goal, and the convention was four months away. They upped the goal to 250,000.

The final number of eyeglasses collected: 295,308.

"We refreshed a long-standing project, created a MD 27 Legacy Project and



implemented the first-ever Statewide Eyeglass Tour [a friendly contest between districts],” says Lion Jodi Burmester, the Centennial Celebration co-coordinator. “Most importantly, almost 300,000 people’s lives will be changed when they are fitted with a pair of eyeglasses. That, my friends, is what it means to be a Lion.”

But that was not enough. As Lions enter the final year of the Centennial Celebration, the Wisconsin Lions have taken on another challenge. They want to screen the vision of 100,000 children by June 20, 2018.

Back in Red Wing, “Spectacles” has already become more than art. It’s a magnet—a magnet for kids, a magnet for new members and a magnet for smiles, says Drotos.

“It’s really a masterpiece.”



## Follow the Legacy Trail through Lions Park

What the Jarvis Lions in Ontario, Canada, have long envisioned is now a reality.

The mile-long Jarvis Lions’ Walking Trail, commemorating 100 years of Lions as well as Canada’s 150th birthday, invites residents and visitors to stroll or bicycle through Jarvis Lions Park and on.

The 10-acre park located in the small community of 2,000 has been the pride of the Jarvis Lions since the club was formed in 1948.

Although the \$220,000 trail project was planned for a few years, work was begun and completed over the summer, including the addition of solar lighting, benches and mature shade trees. In August, the Lions celebrated with a grand opening.

The project was developed in partnership with Haldimand County and originally planned to be completed in two stages, says Lion Rick Fess. “Once we figured out the budget, though, and got a sense of the community support for the initiative, we realized it might make more sense to try to do it all at one time.”

And with the support of a generous community that helped the club raise almost two-thirds of the budget, and the hard work of committed Lions, they did.





## Legacy Projects Meet Community Needs

The 20,000 projects clubs have undertaken to commemorate the centennial display ingenuity, enterprise and a servant's heart.

South Philadelphia Lions are donating 100 books to the library, feeding 100 veterans and cleaning 100 city blocks.

Martins Ferry Lions in Ohio built a 37-foot-long stone wall in the city park honoring veterans from the five branches of the U.S. military.

Devon Lions in Alberta, Canada, erected an LED sign to publicize events for nonprofit groups.

The Taylorsville Winfield Lions in Maryland installed a welcoming oak bench near the playground in Krimgold Park where families can enjoy time together.

Michigan Lions led by District 11 E1 Diabetes Chairperson Bill Bradfield raised \$4,300 through their Centennial Motorcycle Ride and \$18,500 through their Snowmobile Centennial Ride for their Defense Against Diabetes program.

Red Deer Central Lions in Alberta, Canada, came roaring through with \$50,000 toward the cost of the Red Deer City Soccer Association's much-needed indoor soccer field that accommodates more than 4,000 soccer players during the winter season as well as sporting events.

Garrison Lions in Minnesota built two giant yellow chairs for visitors to enjoy outside a coffee shop and hosted an ice cream party for the community.

The small but mighty Ellicottville Franklinville Lions Club in New York, with six active members, donated more than 100 hours of labor refurbishing 50 benches throughout the community. They finished by adding a Lions emblem to each bench.

Mount Cheam Lions partnered with the Steller's Jay Lions and raised \$600,000 for cataract surgical equipment for the Eye Centre at Chilliwack General Hospital in Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada.

Three western New York Lions clubs joined forces for a murder mystery dinner, a 1920s adventure that resulted in a \$1,500 donation to the Olmsted Center for Sight.

Streator Lions in Illinois are constructing a 20,000-square-foot fenced dog park that includes a water station and a shelter with benches and tables.

In Hot Springs, Arkansas, the Breakfast Lions and the Evening Lions are coming together to create a community garden including a tool shed, a hoop house, meeting facilities, a gazebo, a butterfly garden, fruit trees and 40 raised bed plots. The garden will provide a place for educational seminars on healthy eating, growing organic produce and more.

Lions in Wainwright, Alberta, Canada, donated a bench to the Wainwright Medical Center and in their local parade had the first-place float, celebrating Lions' and Canada's birthdays.

The Maryville Pride, Maryville Host, Pickering, Hopkins and Graham Lions clubs in Missouri have joined forces to support an Iowa artist who is painting tributes to veterans on large

boulders in all 50 states. His national project follows his efforts to paint "freedom rocks" in each of Iowa's 90 counties. Each mural is inspired by local history, and the Lions of Maryville are also selling commemorative bricks.

Lions in each of the seven Ohio districts sponsored "Steps," a walk or run to support Ohio children's hospitals' pediatric cancer research programs.

With the help of a grant from LCIF, Lions clubs in Brazil will provide the Santa Isabel Maternity Clinic with an updated ultrasound machine and the regional hospital with a cryostat machine that quickly freezes tissue samples from biopsies for immediate analysis. Lions regularly volunteer at the Bauru Association to Combat Cancer and prepare clothing for newborns at the maternity clinic.

About 40 Lions clubs across the Humber district in England placed more than 20,000 cans of food along a mile stretch of the Humber Bridge before donating them to local charities and communities. A soup kitchen was set up at the end of the bridge, and 100 lanterns were lit in memory of Lions who have died.

Gdynia Lions in Poland are building a yacht for those with disabilities. Fundraising is under way, and construction has started on the "STS Melvin Jones" at a shipyard in Gdansk.

Lions clubs of the British Isles and Ireland sponsored 10 runners named "Team Lions" in the 2017 Virgin Money London Marathon, raising money for the Blind Veterans United Kingdom Facility in Llandudno, a seaside community in Wales.

**The Goolwa Lions in Australia (photo on right) celebrated the centennial by donating two sailing boats to the Goolwa Aquatic Club to help local youth learn to sail. Each boat has a new sail that displays the Lions' centennial logo.**

With the assistance of an LCIF grant, five clubs in Brazil furnished and equipped a new hospital wing with cardiac monitors, wheelchairs, oximeters and more. The wing is designed for patients with long hospitalizations, primarily the elderly, lowering their risk of infection during their stay.

In England, Lions in the 45-year-old Redditch Lions Club celebrated by inviting 100 "pensioners" or retirees to a traditional English tea party for tea, sandwiches and cakes enjoyed with music and entertainment.

Mijas Lions in Spain created a monument using handmade Spanish tiles to create a centennial logo that says "Desde 1917" (from 1917) and "100 anos sirviendo a la humanidad," which means "100 years serving humanity."

The Hyderabad South Lions Club in India constructed a concrete bus stop at the entry point to the city that will protect thousands of daily commuters from heat and rain for years to come.





# Definitely Not Their First Rodeo

*How about them cowboys! For 69 years Gallup Lions in New Mexico have run a rodeo. Decades ago members were cowboys and farmhands, so it made sense. It still makes sense: "We're part of the West," says President Roxana Yazzie. "There is a lot of interest here in rodeos. Kids and adults really get into it."*

The four-day rodeo is held in iconic Red Rock Park, which seats 5,000. The park is "cradled by spectacular red cliffs formed over 200 million years ago in the age of the dinosaurs," according to the website of the city, the park owner. "The annual Lions club rodeo is ranked with the best in the state," the website adds.



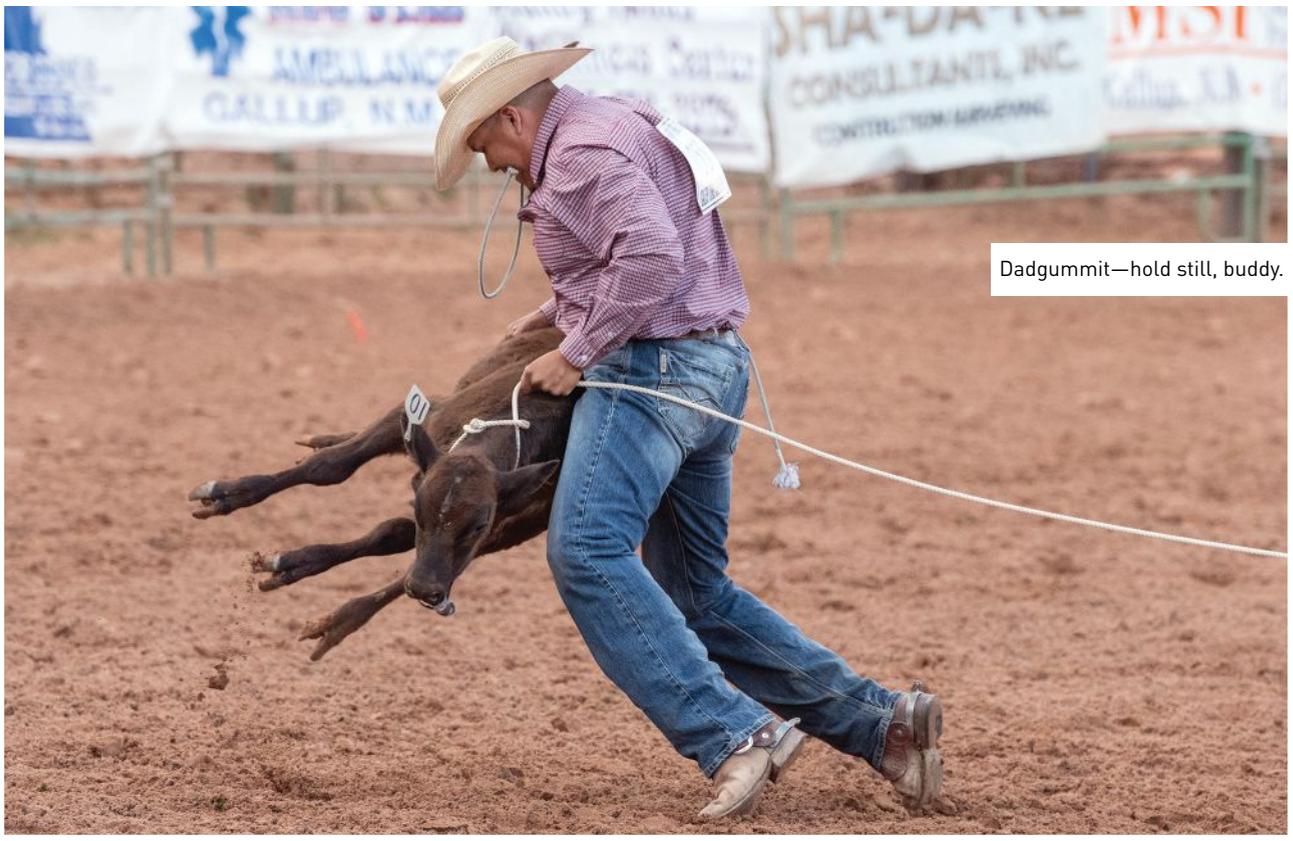


Both professionals and amateurs compete in the Lions' rodeo, not part of the sanctioned rodeo circuit. That independence allows the club to make more of a profit instead of paying fees. Thanks to the rodeo, the club recently provided a new football scoreboard for a high school and helped renovate Lions Hall, the original building of the University of New Mexico in Gallup.

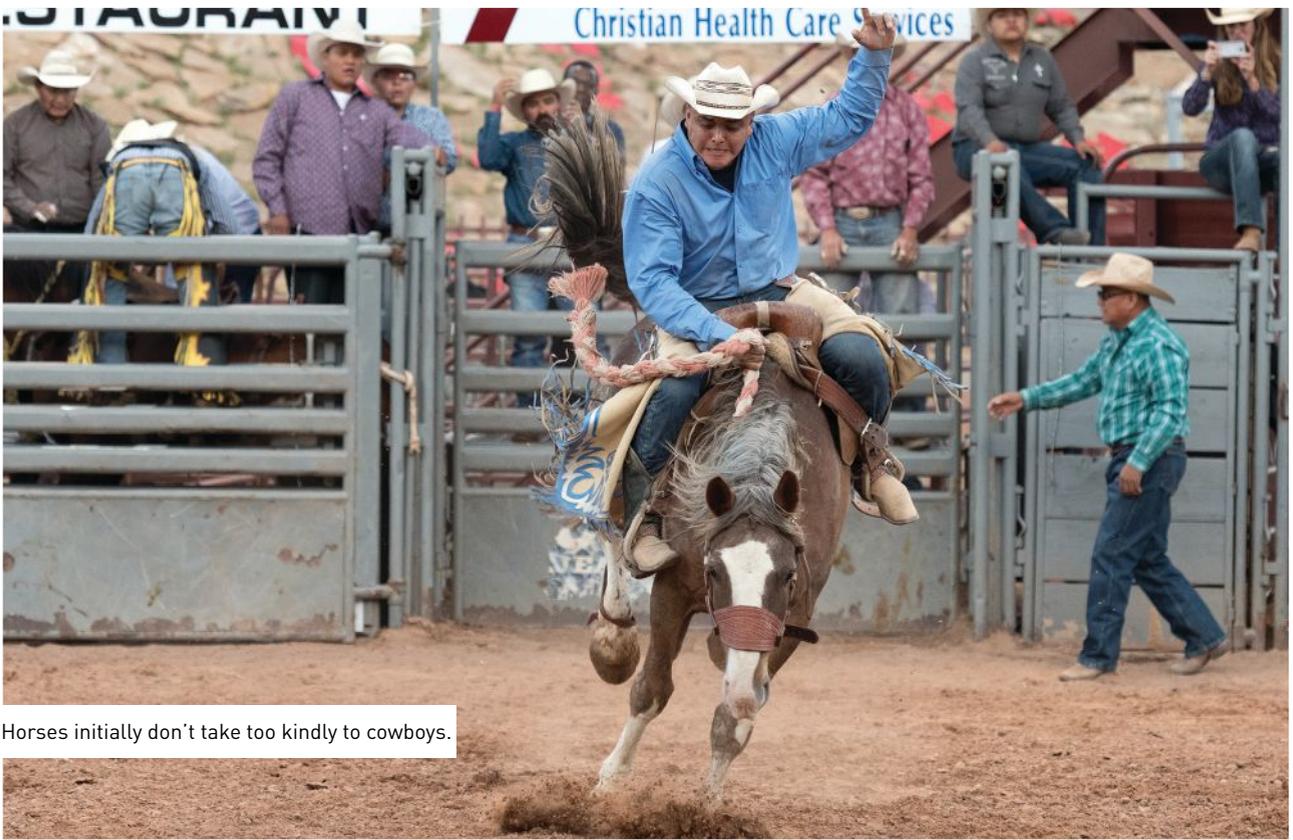
The rodeo is almost a weeklong happening with a parade, a Battle of the Bands and other events. Lions take tickets, work concessions and handle the other chores that come with hosting as many as 40,000 people. "For about 20 members it takes their blood, sweat and tears for five or six days," says Yazzie.



Give a cowboy on a horse a rope and a calf, and the result is inevitable. (Opposite) That's right: grip the horns in the middle, not on the ends.



Dadgummit—hold still, buddy.



Horses initially don't take too kindly to cowboys.



Even an old-fashioned rodeo is not immune to digital technology.



There was no doubt this was a Lions' rodeo.



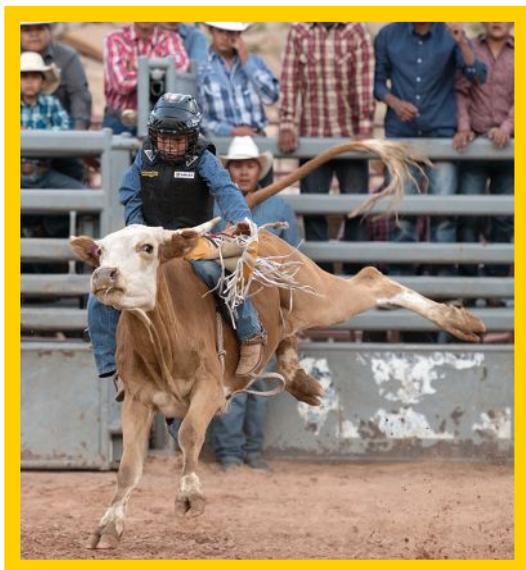
Cutting corners is admirable in the rodeo.



The next generation is ready to earn its spurs.



The exhilaration of the moment is captured by the reaction of the spectators in the background.



"Who has climbed on my back?" this steer seems to be thinking.



Sometime riding a steer means riding air.

# Bigger and Even Better

**Rocky Mountain Lions help expand a Denver vision center, the largest of its kind in a 1,300-mile stretch.**

// BY GREG GLASGOW

It was the Lions Club's commitment to eyesight and vision care that drew John Harper to the organization when he was just a boy.

"It goes back to when I was a child, and the Lions club used to help my grandmother, who was blind," says

Harper, 69, a resident of Cheyenne, Wyoming, a Lion since 1979 and an international director for Lions Clubs from 2012 to 2014. "As a kid, I always knew I wanted to be a Lion."

Harper helped put that commitment to vision into action. He served on the

board of the local Lions' foundation that helped build the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEI) in Denver. The center opened in 2001 after a 10-year fundraising campaign. Lions in Colorado and Wyoming joined forces with the Lions Clubs International



A patient is examined at the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute.

Foundation to raise half of the \$12 million center, located at the campus of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Aurora. (The university raised the other half.)

In 2015, the Lions raised an additional \$1.3 million to expand the building from 48,000 square feet to 135,000 square feet to meet the increasing need for patient services. Specifically, the Lions helped equip 10 of 30 new clinical treatment facilities—cutting-edge, high-tech exam rooms that have greatly expanded the capability of doctors to detect and solve vision problems like retinal damage, glaucoma and macular degeneration.

“We’re very grateful that my colleagues in the Lions have stepped up and have continued to support this place,” says Naresh Mandava, chair of the ophthalmology department at the University of Colorado and director of the eye center. “It’s nice to have friends throughout the region, and they’ve been wonderful ambassadors of the program. This building is always open to the Lions. We think it’s great for them to see what their investment has built.”

What it has built, Mandava says, is one of the finest eye centers in the country for treatment, training and research pertaining to vision and blindness disorders and eyesight problems. The only academic eye center within a 500-mile radius of Denver, the RMLEI is the highest-volume provider of academic vision care between St. Louis and Salt Lake City. It sees more than 95,000 patient visits each year, annually trains 21 ophthalmology residents and fellows, and is home to one of the country’s largest pediatric ophthalmology groups. In 2015, Mandava recruited scientists from Johns Hopkins University for a new project that aims to use adult stem cells to restore vision. “The building is wonderful. It’s a beautiful building, but it’s the people and the activity that happens here that are truly special,” Mandava says. “It’s the physicians, the staff, the researchers, but it’s mostly about the patients. This is where they come to find solutions for their problems. I think the Lions

should feel like they own a piece of that, because that’s what makes it exceptional.”

The Lions’ ownership of the RMLEI is evident throughout the building. A Lions’ logo decorates the entryway, recognition plaques and banners hang on the walls of every floor and a majestic painting of lions on the savannah sits behind the main reception desk on the first floor. The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Bank board of directors holds its meetings at the facility, which is only too happy to welcome any Lion who wants to drop by for a visit or a tour.

**“Having spent my career in the health field, I’ve found the eye center to be the most rewarding part of my Lions experience.”**

“I’ve taken patients myself, when they’ve needed transportation—they couldn’t see to drive to Denver and needed someone to take them down for an appointment,” Harper says. “When you walk in the building and you identify that you’re a Lion, big smiles come forward and huge thank-yous. Whether it’s somebody who’s working the front desk, a greeter or one of the technicians or one of the doctors, they just fall over themselves to thank you and welcome you.”

Randall Stubbs, a longtime fundraiser for the ophthalmology department, has worked for years with Harper, RMLEI Foundation president Roger Hosea and other Lions in the area to help coordinate philanthropy around the eye

center. It’s been a great relationship, he says—one made all the more special by the commitment the Lions organization as a whole has made to projects designed to prevent blindness, restore eyesight and improve eye health and eye care for hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

“Eyesight and vision is their long-range mission. They’ve always had their eye on what they can do that really makes a difference. I have grown to appreciate and admire guys like Roger and John, who have dedicated years, if not decades, of community service and volunteer work,” Stubbs says. “There are hundreds of thousands of nonprofit organizations, but there are not a ton of them that are dedicated to eyesight. The Lions have created an organizational niche, knowing that they can’t be all things to all people, but they’re going to pick out a mission for the organization and try to do things that have really made a difference over time.”

Before retiring and serving on the RMLEI Foundation board, Harper worked for years for the Wyoming Department of Health, focusing on children with special health care needs. Wyoming doesn’t have a medical school, he says, “so when we had a child who had a vision problem that needed more than what could be provided by a local ophthalmologist, we had to send them to the Wills Eye Institute in Philadelphia. That’s a long way from Wyoming.”

Since the completion of the RMLEI, Harper says, those Wyoming kids with special vision needs now only have to go as far as Denver. “I felt like I actually had skills and knowledge and the ability to make things happen for the children in Wyoming,” he says. “Having spent my career in the health field, I’ve found the eye center to be the most rewarding part of my Lions experience.”

# Lions and Special Olympics Team Up for Beach Games in Brazil

If you were to walk down the sandy shores of Brazil in last November, you would have witnessed a celebration. The Special Olympics Beach Games, a new games model that takes place by the seaside, was held on Santos Beach in São Paulo, Brazil's largest city. Along with 130 Lions and 30 Leos, more than 320 Special Olympics athletes competed for the gold.

Celebrating both differences and similarities, the Beach Games are a part of Special Olympics' Unified Sports program. Unified Sports promotes inclusion through team sports worldwide. The competition includes players both with and without intellectual disabilities. Through playing together and competing, athletes of different backgrounds begin to better understand one another.

The Beach Games began with a stirring opening ceremony. The delegations marched, officials from Special Olympics Brazil, Lions and local authorities gave inspirational speeches and, of course, athletes did a torch run. Competitors and referees then took an oath, and the crowds enjoyed lively music and cultural performances. The flags of Special Olympics International and Lions Clubs International (LCI) waved proudly in the center of it all.

Over a span of three days, athletes took over the beach, competing in bocce, beach soccer, swimming, beach



Two athletes at the Beach Games in Brazil share a moment of camaraderie.

volleyball and other sports. Lions and Leos were partnered with Special Olympics athletes in every sport. Other Leos volunteered at the Beach Games.

Helping athletes stay hydrated, Leo Pedro Almeida da Silva of Itanhaém Praia, Brazil, enjoyed watching the proud athletes. “The best thing of this tournament was to see athletes of different levels of ability competing,” says Almeida da Silva. “It was fantastic to see how proud they were when they received the medals.”

Created by Lions Kester Edwards and Christian Guiralt, members of the Special Olympics International team, the Beach Games in Brazil proved to be a great success. Now being developed in regions around the world, the Games are expected to be part of Mission: Inclusion. A facet of the Special Olympics International–Lions Clubs International partnership, Mission: Inclusion promotes inclusion through sports and service. Some of the other sports that may be included in future events are

// The best thing of this tournament was to see athletes of different levels of ability competing. //

paddle boarding, kayaking, sailing and triathlon. The sports offered will depend on the region in which the Beach Games take place. In some cases, a region's popular sport may be adapted for the beach.

Keep your eyes open for future Beach Games in your area. LCI and Special Olympics International have a strong partnership that is creating positive change for those with intellectual disabilities, and it is only getting stronger.

# SAVING SIGHT

**Celebrate World Sight Day  
on October 12 by making  
a donation to Lions Clubs  
International Foundation.**

With the support of your foundation,  
SightFirst has funded 1,287 grants  
totaling \$342.6 million with activity  
taking place in over 100 countries.

**Make a difference.  
Donate today.**

[www.lcif.org/donate](http://www.lcif.org/donate)



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**

The **Miami Springs Lions** in **Florida** won their city's "Yard of the Month" award generally given to homeowners. The Lions renovated their building and the grounds.

Lion Roger Larabie was presented with the International Life Member award at a meeting of the **Arnrior Lions** in **Ontario, Canada**.

In **Washington**, the Lions of District 19 I stepped up to help the **Sequim Valley Lions** build six memorial benches for the Captain Joseph House, a retreat for Gold Star Families who have lost a loved one in combat since 9/11.

The **Jackson Lions Club** in **California** entertained thousands at their annual Third of July Celebration with bingo, raffles, races, a watermelon eating contest and fireworks. They also purchased radios to improve communication at club events and supported the elementary school's Jog-A-Thon to expand the school's art program.

Assisted by Lions from **District 5M 8**, the **Southside Lions** of **Minnesota** built a playground for children with special needs.

**Selah Valley Lions** in **Washington** put a new spin on an old fundraiser. They hosted a 5K Glow Run with an 8 p.m. start time and handed out T-shirts and glow sticks to participants.

**Ocala Lions** in **Florida** established the Ocala West Port Leo Club. They also used funds from White Cane Day to provide clothing and gifts to needy families.

For the National Letter Carriers Annual Food Drive, the **McKeesport Lions** in **Pennsylvania** assisted letter carriers by picking up bags from residents and delivering the donated items to the post office. The food was given to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

**North Summit Lions** in **Ohio** sponsor the new Safety Town facility where children are taught good safety practices while driving small "cars" through a miniature town.

**District 7 O Lions** in **Arkansas** helped flood victims by distributing personal

health and safety items. They also received an emergency \$10,000 grant from LCIF to provide further assistance.

In **Texas**, the **League Noon Lions** hosted the Texas Music Festival Lions and gave special needs children a field trip that included carnival rides and games, a petting zoo and a free lunch.

**Wild Rose Lions** in **Wisconsin** awarded \$500 grants to four Boy Scouts to help pay for their trip to the National Boy Scout Jamboree.

The **Hampstead Lions** in **North Carolina** collected and donated 288 food items for Share The Table, which provides children a backpack full of food to take home for the weekend throughout the school year. Hampstead Lions also had their first Mother's Day plant sale, and it was so successful that they intend to do it again next spring.

In **Georgia**, the **Oglethorpe County Lions** sold and gave away pastries at the annual Winterville Marigold Festival. More than 100 people stopped by the Lions' booth to buy pastries and inquire about Lions.

With the help of the **Madoc Lions**, the **Stirling and District Lions** in **Ontario, Canada**, performed vision and hearing screenings at the Stirling Public School with equipment shared throughout District A 3.

The **Crossville and Fairfield Glade Lions Clubs** in **Tennessee** sponsored the Second Annual Strides Walk to help fight diabetes, netting \$7,000 to send six students to the Tennessee Camp for Diabetic Children and to support the American Diabetes Association.

In **Arizona**, the **Chandler Lions Club** attended the Si Se Puede Foundation's 17th annual Cesar E. Chavez Educator of the Year Awards. Lions Ruth "Jon" Wick and Ron Wick were given the Community Advocates of the Year award for living the Lion motto: "We Serve."

Six clubs in **District 5M 11—Grunthal, Lac Du Bonnet, West St. Paul, Winnipeg Riverside, Winnipeg West and Winnipeg South**—joined forces to host the Manitoba Walk for Dog Guides.

The **Staunton Lions Club** and **Woodrow Wilson Lions and Lionesses** in **Virginia** worked together to build a gazebo as a resting place along a pathway that connects a rehabilitation center with businesses, neighborhoods and the local hospital.

**Legazpi City Host Lions** in the **Philippines** selected their ninth scholar to take technical courses that will help him find employment. The club pays tuition, room and board, transportation and other expenses until the scholar graduates.

The **Arcadia Centennial Lions Club** in **Florida** joined with the Arcadia Elks to place an entry in the Independence Day Parade, and they are working together in community service. The club was chartered on the 100th anniversary of LCI.

In **Massachusetts**, the **Agawam Lions** celebrated the centennial by building a "Tot Lot" playground that has become the destination for many families in Agawam and surrounding communities.

The **Ramsey Lions Club** in **Illinois** put up a \$25,000 electronic sign to advertise community functions. The first message advertised the club's 54th annual Community Sale.

The **Freedom District Lions** in **Maryland** sold 7,660 pounds of onions during their 24th annual Vidalia Onion Sale.

The **Springfield Lions** in **Pennsylvania** received first place in the used eyeglasses turn-in contest at the District 14 A convention. A total of 41,287 eyeglasses were collected and delivered to the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in New Jersey. The top three clubs submitting glasses were **Springfield, Audubon-Oaks** and **Lansdale**.

In **North Carolina**, the **Rutherford College Lions** netted more than \$8,500 in profit from their annual Ham Day fundraiser. Profits support a scholarship fund, a local cancer victim, the North Carolina Lions, Inc. and Camp Dogwood.



President Guv Anand of the **Highland Park/Highwood Lions Club in Illinois** was chosen as grand marshal for the town's Fourth of July parade. The parade theme was community service.

The **Bellbrook Lions in Ohio** celebrated their 70th year with a dinner and a slide show highlighting the early history of the club. Dick Bryan Fellowship awards were presented to Lion Allan Huffman and Lion Steve Morgan.

**Port Jefferson Lions in New York** collected more than 4,800 eyeglasses to send overseas.

The **Houston Northwest Lions in Texas** celebrated the collection of 1,500 units of blood through its Blood Bounty program. The club awards sponsoring high school organizations \$500 if they hold four or more blood drives each year. They encourage other clubs to do the same.

**Lions in Virginia** dedicated the new pavilion at the Northern Virginia Lions Youth Camp to Past International Director Wayne E. Davis and his wife, Lion Marge Davis, both deceased.

**Laporte-Benedict Lions in Minnesota** donated \$2,400 to the Laporte Public School teachers, giving each teacher \$100 to spend as they deemed fit to help students continue to achieve and succeed.

**Lions Clubs of Fairhaven in Massachusetts** spent National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day with residents at the Atria Assisted Living. Together they made 124 PB & J sandwiches that were donated to Mercy Meals & More, a nonprofit program that provides a nutritious beginning to the day for neighbors in need.

More than 2,000 spectators in **Texas** enjoyed the **Spring Branch-Bulverde Lions Club's** fourth annual car show,

"Roar for Kids," featuring 165-plus vehicles. The proceeds of \$14,000 will send disabled or severely burned youngsters to Texas Lions Camp, support St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Nevada and help fund Bulverde's Day of Service in the community park.

The **Lions Club of Emmaus, Pennsylvania**, donated 5,837 eyeglasses at the District 14 K convention, the most collected in club history. The club also donated \$12,200 to purchase and train a new dog for the Emmaus Police Department. Ronny, a Belgian Malinois, replaces retiring Zandor. Since 1990, the club has raised more than \$70,000 for the K-9 program.

Ten members of the **St. Charles First Capitol Lions in Missouri** completed their certification in Community Emergency Response Training.

**McKinney Morning Pride Lions of Texas** opened a little free pantry outside a local café. The pantry will be filled every month, offering free food staples and personal products.

The **Brookfield Lions in Connecticut** responded well when Lion Cathy Nielson asked them to knit at least 100 hats for the homeless in recognition of the Lions' centennial. Club members gave more than 130 knitted hats, gloves and scarves.

**Hawthorn Lions in Pennsylvania** made a surprise visit to one of their own. Members visited with Lion Frank Hilliard, who has been a Lion for 51 years and is no longer able to attend meetings.

In **Florida**, the **Sun City Center Lions** donated to My Warrior's Place to pay for

the cost of a ramp for a new house being built. My Warrior's Place is a retreat center for veterans, members of the U.S. military, first responders and Gold Star, Blue Star and Silver Star families.

The **Howards Grove Lions in Wisconsin** donated \$3,744 to the fire department to purchase a system that will allow firefighters to refill their air tanks efficiently and safely regardless of the size of the tanks.

**South Cobb Lions in Georgia** received the National Community Improvement Award from Keep America Beautiful for their litter cleanup efforts.

**Hudson Lions in New York** went to a Ronald McDonald House and cooked a meal for more than 35 people, using club funds, local donations and a Lion's popular recipe for Honolulu chicken with rice.

**Bensalem Lion Al Minguez in Pennsylvania** donated more than \$12,000 in crafts and sewing notions, sewing machines and handcrafted jewelry to the Bucks County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

**Long Lake Lions in New York** earn money by selling calendars featuring photographs from the area, by serving food at summer events and sponsoring vintage snowmobile races. Proceeds support the purchase of eye exams and glasses, soccer cleats for elementary school students, holiday gifts for children and donations to community cleanup efforts.

In **North Carolina**, the **Shalotte Lions** conducted vision screenings at five Brunswick County schools with the help of the N.C. Lions Mobile Screen unit. Of the 823 students screened, 15 percent were referred for a follow-up appointment.

**Border Lions in Texas** sponsored the Miss Tri City Scholarship Pageant, awarding more than \$1,000 in scholarships to young women.

**Murray Lions in Kentucky** are funding the second phase of Murray Lions Community Skate Park, one of the most used year-round, lighted facilities in Murray's Central Park.

# LION



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**Westborough Lions** in **Massachusetts** hosted a tennis tournament in honor of their town's 300th founding celebration. The club netted more than \$2,400 from sponsorships, entry fees, raffle proceeds and refreshments.

The **Sarasota Lions** in **Florida** formed a Leo club for youth ages 12 to 18: the **Sarasota Auxilias Leo Club**.

The **Willoughby Evening Lions** and **Willoughby Lions** clubs in **Ohio** co-sponsored the GOOD—Going On or Defeated—program at two elementary schools for the 20th year. GOOD, in Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky, shines a spotlight on students who work hard, exhibit good citizenship and good personal and study habits.

The **Royston-Cumberland Lions** and **Comox Valley Lions** in **British Columbia, Canada**, with the help of Cumberland organizations, raised \$6,300 to purchase an insulin pump for a resident with diabetes.

Seventy-seven children registered for the Kids Fishing Derby sponsored by the **Fall Lions** in **Pennsylvania**. Many of the children caught more than 15 fish including bass, crappie, bluegill and perch. One child caught 21.

## // ANNIVERSARIES

### October 2017

**100 Years:** Shreveport Downtown, La.

**95 Years:** Anaheim, Calif.; Mobile, Ala.; Stephenville, Texas; Bellingham Central, Wa.; Clarendon, Texas; Albany, Ga.; West Frankfort, Ill.; Staten Island, N.Y.; Beaver Falls, Pa.; Charlotte Central, N.C.; Tonkawa, Okla.; Woodland Host, Calif.; Flushing, N.Y.

**90 Years:** Hayti, Mo.; Medford, Okla.; Valley Park, Mo.; Champaign, Ill.; Carpinteria, Calif.; Waseca, Minn.

**85 Years:** Pearisburg, Va.; Grand Junction, Iowa; Saugerties, N.Y.; Carson City Host, Nev.; Shippensburg, Pa.; Petrolia, ON, CAN

**80 Years:** Selmer, Tenn.; Apex, N.C.; San Augustine, Texas; Versailles, Mo.; Black River Falls, Wis.; Corrigan, Texas; Park Falls, Wis.; Burrton, Kan.; West Milwaukee, Wis.; Peshtigo, Wis.

**75 Years:** Fitzgerald, Ga.; Eastern Regional, Md.; Carmel Host, Calif.

**50 Years:** Regina 35, SK, CAN; Inter Lakes, Mich.; Cumberland, ON, CAN; Lockhart, Texas; Manhattan Sunflower, Kan.; Blairsburg, Iowa; Port Orchard, Wa.; League City Evening, Texas; Kenosha Greater, Wis.; Chesaning, Mich.; North Salem, N.Y.; Lake Tomahawk, Wis.; New Hamburg, ON, CAN; North Delta, BC, CAN; Eden Valley, Minn.; Ponderosa, Calif.; Alert Bay, BC, CAN; Rice Lake, Wis.

**25 Years:** Albert Lea Lakeview, Minn.

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

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

1. Approved a resolution to hire two internal auditors to perform internal audit for LCI and LCIF and that the auditors will report directly to the international president and the chairperson of the Audit Committee.

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

1. Denied the final decision of the Multiple District 317 (India) Conciliation Committee, upheld the complaint and declared the Multiple District 317 international director endorsement of Past District Governor Valwalker null and void. Deemed all matters raised and relating to the complaint of Bangalore West Lions Club concluded and final and binding on all parties.
2. Denied the Constitutional Complaint filed by District 24 D (Virginia, USA) disputing the approval of the Multiple District 24 redistricting proposal. Deemed all matters raised and relating to the complaint of District 24-D concluded and final and binding on all parties.
3. Removed District Governor Tien Kuei Weng from the office of district governor of District 300-C1 (Multiple District 300 Taiwan) for failure to comply with the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors. Declared that Tien Kuei Weng shall not be recognized in the future as a past district governor by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be entitled to any privileges of such title. Declared that First Vice District Governor Lion Yu-Jien Yeh serve as Acting District Governor for the remainder of the 2016-2017 fiscal year and be eligible to serve as district governor for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
4. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to require prior authorization for the use of the association's trademarks by Lions in mobile applications.
5. Revised Article III of the Standard Form District By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual to correct a typographical error.
6. Revised Article VI of the Standard Form District By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual for clarification purposes.
7. Revised Exhibit D, Exhibit E and Exhibit F of the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual for consistency with previously adopted changes related to when delinquent dues may be paid.
8. Revised Exhibit A of the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws in Chapter VII of the Board Policy Manual for consistency with previously adopted changes related to the composition of the nominating committee.
9. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2017 International Convention to amend Article II, Section 5(c) of the International By-Laws to permit an international director and executive officer from the same district to serve on the International Board of Directors simultaneously.
10. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2017 International Convention to amend Article II, Section 4 of the International By-Laws to change the validity period of an international officer endorsement from two (2) to three (3) succeeding international conventions and to require a three-year waiting period for an international director candidate to seek another endorsement after the initial period and to require a three-year waiting period for an international vice president candidate after two succeeding endorsements.

### **CONVENTION**

1. The following cities were selected for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 International Conventions:
  - 2022 – New Delhi, India
  - 2023 – Boston, Massachusetts, USA
  - 2024 – Melbourne, Australia

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

1. Revised the Club Excellence Award requirements and the District Excellence Award requirements to more closely support LCI Forward.
2. Granted the Juba Host Lions Club of South Sudan protective status.
3. Appointed Lions to serve in the position of district governor for provisional districts for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
4. Appointed Second Vice District Governor Alba Guadalupe Del Duke De Hidalgo to serve as the 2017-2018 district governor for District D-2 (El Salvador).
5. Revised board policy to correct the badge policy for the position of immediate past international president.
6. Revised board policy to require only one Guiding Lion on a new club application and encouraged any club that would benefit from having a Guiding Lion to request the assignment of a Guiding Lion.

7. Revised the Standard Form Club Constitution and By-Laws to introduce new club officer positions, expand the position of club vice president, and modernize the practices of Lions clubs.
8. Revised the Standard Form District By-Laws as it relates to the District Governor's Advisory Committee to include the club vice president and other club officers when appropriate.

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

1. Approved the FY 2017 3rd Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
2. Approved amount not to exceed US\$2.2 million for the combined budget of the October/November and March/April 2018-2019 board meetings.
3. Revised the Executive Officer Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy to permit the total expense budget of the Vice President Board Meeting budget to exceed \$2,000,000 in the event economic and currency factors of the vice president's home country warrants such increase.

### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

1. Approved Past International Director Stephen Glass (West Virginia, USA) to replace Past Council Chairperson Dr. Dato Nagaratnam (Malaysia) as a 2017 District Governors-Elect Seminar group leader facilitating learning for an English-speaking classroom group.
2. Revised Chapter XIV, Paragraph A.1.-3. of the Board Policy Manual so that the mission statement, goals, and program objectives are in alignment with LCI Forward.

### **LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

1. Authorized on a pilot project-basis the formation of an international club related to the two-year Centennial Celebration that will be overseen by the Membership Development Committee.

### **MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

1. Approved the new Global Action Team to be implemented during the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
2. Approved the implementation of a Large Scale Grant Program to support membership growth to be implemented in 2017-18.
3. Approved the New and Emerging Countries Committee to continue in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
4. Approved the continuation of the Family and Women Action Team in Japan.
5. Approved the Specialty Club Program to be implemented in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.
6. Discontinued the requirement for District Governor approval to add 30 plus members to a club.

### **MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

1. Approved all centennial grant applications from multiple and single districts.
2. Approved the redesign of the International Leadership Medal.
3. Amended Chapter XVI of the Board Policy Manual to align with the requirements of the digital LION Magazine initiative.
4. Increased the availability of Presidential Award and Leadership Award designations to 2,500 each for fiscal year 2017-2018 only.

### **SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

1. Approved the Diabetes Strategic Plan.
2. Aligned optional Multiple District and District Programmatic Chairperson positions with the new service framework.
3. Appointed members for the 2017-2019 Leo Club Program Advisory Panel.
4. Appointed alternates for the 2017-2019 Leo Club Program Advisory Panel.
5. Awarded the 2015-2016 Top Ten Youth Camp and Exchange Chairperson Awards.
6. Extended the Youth Ad Hoc Committee term to 2017-2018.
7. Amended the title of Chapter I of the Board Policy Manual from "Activities" to "Service."
8. Updated Chapter I of the Board Policy Manual to align with the new service framework.
9. Added Leo Area Forum policy support to Chapter XXII, Paragraph A of the Board Policy Manual.

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



Photo courtesy of The Tribune

## Unidentified Marching Object

The 50th annual Halloween Parade of the Seymour Lions Club in Indiana last year featured all kinds of ghouls and creatures. Lions weren't sure who this was or even what it was ("Cousin Itt" from the Addams Family?) but agreed it was a great costume.

Photo courtesy of The Tribune

- Things that go bump in the night may be invisible, but they've made regular appearances in the LION.
- "Ghost, Goblins ... and Lions" features the Halloween festivities of Sycamore Lions in Illinois (November 1963 LION).
- "A Haunting We Will Go" details the ghoulish habits of Pomona Lions in California (April 1975 LION).

# When is our next meeting?

No more guessing, when you stay organized with our official Lions calendars - now offering options that are customizable with your club's specific meeting dates!



The 2018 Lions Environmental Photo Contest Calendar is now available! Enjoy 12 months of beautiful photography from around the globe.



**Marietta Lions Club**  
John Smith, President: 555-4444  
John Doe, Secretary/Treasurer: 555-5555

"Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety"  
MEETS 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 12:00 NOON

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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Our Red Circle Magnetic Calendar, customized with your club's meeting dates marked in red, will keep your whole club organized.



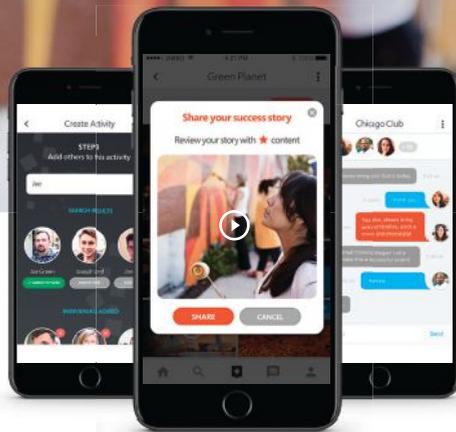
This desktop Red Circle Calendar is customized with your club's meeting dates marked in red. Choose one of these two winter scene cover options, and make it a holiday gift!



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