

LION

MAY 2018 LIONMAGAZINE.ORG

THE AFTERMATH

Puerto Rican Lions
Lead Their Own
Recovery Efforts



LION LEADERS INSPIRE AT EVERY LEVEL

District Governors Use
Grit to Grow Clubs

Club Presidents
Overcome Adversity

Leos Herald
Promising Future



Lions Clubs International



Kindness Matters in Promoting

PEACE

IMAGINE

600,000 children sharing their visions of peace

INSPIRE

Youth to showcase their talent

CREATE

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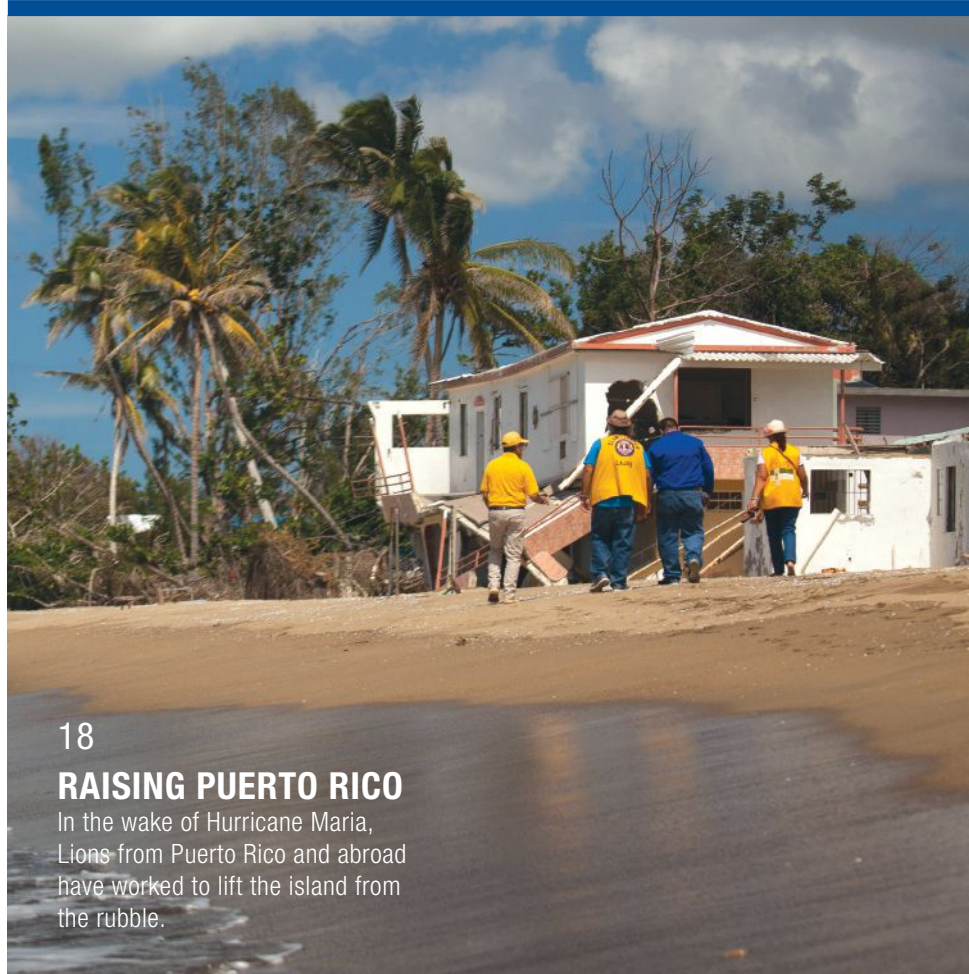
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WARMTH, WIT, AND GRIT

It takes a special combination of skills to nurture new clubs.

HEALING HEALY

This Alaska club was nearly dead when a wave of young members brought it back to life.

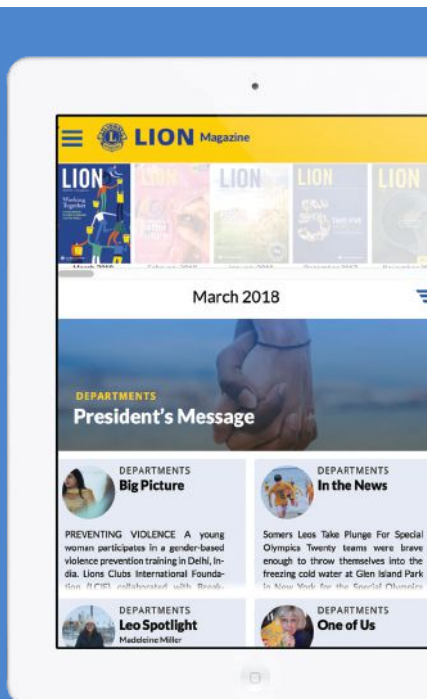
VISION WITHOUT SIGHT

Club President Marty Knight may be blind, but he can see the way forward for his members.

LEOS LEADING

The future of Lions' work is bright with these young people leading the way.

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Does your club have a unique tradition? Write to us at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org and tell us about it. Use "Tradition" in your subject line.



VIDEO

BRINGING RELIEF TO PUERTO RICO

Hear how Lions coordinated the delivery of aid to remote parts of the island after Hurricane Maria.

"PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE SITTING ON THE CURB"

Revisit relief efforts by Lions after Hurricane Harvey.

REFLECTIONS FROM PAST PRESIDENTS

1998-1999 International President Kajit Habanananda reflects on Lions' aid and recovery efforts after a tsunami struck Thailand.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT LIONS

What does it take to be a leader at Lions International?

RETAINING MEMBERSHIP IS KEY TO LIONS' SUCCESS

First Vice President Gudrun Yngvadottir discusses the need to shift focus away from just recruiting to improving the membership experience, including identifying new leaders.



THE VAULT

MAY 1976

BECOMING A LEADER

"The first step towards becoming a leader is raising your hand to volunteer."

APRIL 2001

RIVERSIDE LIONS HELP FEED THE LAMBS

This working "farm" supports developmentally disabled adults and attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

SEPTEMBER 2008

HONORING A LEADER ON AND OFF THE FIELD

Lions of District 2-X1 honored former Dallas Cowboy offensive lineman Rayfield Wright for his long history of community service.

AUGUST 1999

HOW TWO DYING CLUBS WERE RESURRECTED

Twenty years ago, these clubs had the same problem facing some clubs today. And they used the same simple solutions to turn it around.

HIGHER KEY AWARDS

Lions honored for sponsoring members.

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. 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 or at 630-468-6798.

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There is a Leader in Every Lion

Namaste!

When I was young I dreamed of conquering the world. But I wasn't interested in forcing my way to the top. I wanted to lead through kindness. And when I joined Lions I knew I had found an organization that could help me become the leader I had envisioned.

A Lion leader has two hands: one to serve the community and one to serve Lion members. But the way in which each Lion serves varies. In this issue we look at some Lions—and Leos—who have found ways to serve that fit who they are as people and as Lions. As DG Cheryl Wilbur says so aptly, “If you're a Lion, you already are a leader in your community.”

This month, I met Pope Francis in the Vatican in Rome. The word “Pope” is a Latin derivative of “Papa.” While not all of us can become Popes, we can all be fathers to many children and people in need.

We could have profiled any number of our 1.4 million members, as we are all leaders by virtue of what we've chosen to do for our communities. When Lions in Puerto Rico became victims after Hurricane Maria, they never stopped being Lions. They never stopped being leaders.

It doesn't matter what your title is. It doesn't matter if you've ever seen yourself as a leader. Leadership is not about inspiring followers, but about inspiring more leaders. That's why I'm so proud to be the international president—because I lead leaders, not followers.

Here's to the leaders in all of you.



Dr. Naresh Aggarwal
Lions Club International President



We Serve.





Christmas Caravan

The Arima Santa Rosa Lions of District 60A in Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies, spread goodwill and the spirit of Christmas to those who needed some comfort, kindness and caring this winter.

The Lions brought hampers filled with Christmas goodies and assembled care bags with essential toiletries, gifts, and sundry items. One woman's only wish was for a tube of red lipstick, which the Lions happily provided.



Cleanup Crew

Jessica Littlefield from the Lynden Lions Club picks up trash on a Washington coast beach as part of a Washington CoastSavers beach cleanup event. Lions clubs in the Pacific Northwest were founding members of the group, whose signature event, the Washington Coast Cleanup, now draws 1,200-1,400 participants and moves more than 20 tons of debris.

 Read more about CoastSavers in our April issue.



IN THE NEWS

Report Indicates More Going Hungry Since 2015

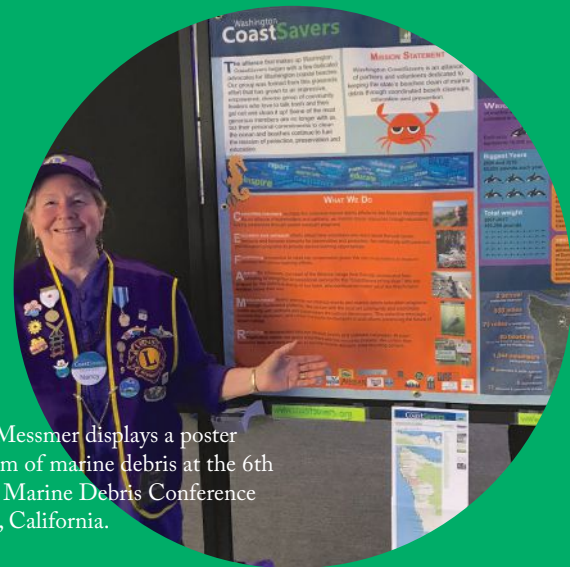
The Global Food Policy 2018 Report released by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) found that, despite recent food policy efforts, the number of undernourished people has increased since 2015. The report attributes this increase to failures in food policy reform due to a lack of international cooperation. Furthermore, the report finds that international cooperation through governance and trade can reform the food system and reduce the number of undernourished people in 2018. The report assembles the research of experts in a collection of essays, focusing on new developments in food policy and new methods to evaluate hunger and malnutrition.

According to the IFPRI, governments focused on eliminating hunger must avoid protectionist and anti-globalization policies pertaining to the flow of goods, investments, people, and information. This would allow the international community to tackle the root causes of hunger and poverty such as price invariability, lack of infrastructure, forced or unstable migration, and lack of data. According to Shenggen Fan, Director General of the IFPRI, “Global cooperation to enact policies that leverage the benefits of globalization while minimizing its risks will be key to achieving food security.”

According to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), hunger affects 11 percent of the global population.

The 2018 Global Food Policy Report is the IFPRI's seventh such report. As part of an annual series, the report expands upon IFPRI's mission to provide research-based policy solutions to end hunger and sustainably reduce poverty.

Edited from FoodTank



Lion Nancy Messmer displays a poster on the problem of marine debris at the 6th International Marine Debris Conference in San Diego, California.


Lions Represent at International Environmental Conference

Lions Nancy Messmer and Roy Morris attended the 6th International Marine Debris Conference in San Diego, California where they spent five intense days working on the global issues of marine debris, healthy oceans, and healthy lives.

Messmer and Morris, of the Clallam Bay Sekiu Lions Club, attended as representatives of Washington CoastSavers, an alliance of partners and volunteers dedicated to keeping the state's beaches clean of marine debris through coordinated beach cleanups, education, and prevention. They were also, as always, representing Lions. The international crowd was interested in the work of Lions International and wanted to know more about mobilizing the broad reach of Lions.

“The panelist and many others have talked to me then and since about Lions in their countries,” says Messmer, who is environmental co-chair for Multiple District 19. “Amazing collection here of activists, volunteer organizers, government folks, scientists, and more.”

 Read more about the marine debris problem.

 Watch a video about CoastSavers and the Lions behind it.

Uncorrected Farsightedness in Children Connected to Attention Problems

Farsighted preschoolers and kindergartners have a harder time paying attention and that could put them at risk of slipping behind in school, a new study suggests.

An estimated 4 to 14 percent of preschoolers have moderate farsightedness, but glasses aren't always recommended because there's disagreement about whether vision correction is appropriate for these children.

But an increasing body of evidence is showing that moderately farsighted 4- and 5-year-olds are at risk of struggling with the building blocks of learning, says Marjean Taylor Kulp, professor of optometry at The Ohio State University.

"We knew from our previous work that preschool and kindergarten children with uncorrected farsightedness have decreased early literacy, and this new study shows that there are even more deficits in these children early on," she says.

In the study, which appeared in the journal *Optometry and Vision Science* in October 2017, Kulp and her collaborators tested children with and without farsightedness to evaluate their attention and visual perception, as well as the ability to integrate visual perception and motor skills.

Tests for visual attention (the ability to focus on some visual stimuli and ignore others) included looking at a picture, such as a butterfly, and finding the matching pictures in an array of images.

Overall, the children who were moderately farsighted based on results of eye exams performed at the start of the study were significantly more likely to have poorer scores on the attention-related tests.

The researchers have applied for funding to do a follow-up study to determine the effect of glasses to correct farsightedness on these deficits. Until that work is complete, it remains unclear whether prescribing glasses to children in this age group will help with the setbacks the researchers have discovered, Kulp says.

In the meantime, Kulp says it's important to recognize that moderate farsightedness has the potential to create hurdles to learning and literacy.

"It's important for us to identify these children and especially identify those who are having learning difficulties because of their vision," she says.

Edited from ScienceDaily



L IN THE NEWS

OVERHEARD

“If you just want to visit, then go to lunch with some friends. But if you’re a Lion, you have to do more than that.”



—**District Governor Cory Bellows**,
Fairbanks Offroad Lion’s Club (See story p. 33)

“I really enjoyed the opportunity to show my kids that we can help others in need.”

—**Monique R., Anthem Associate**,
on participating in one of the nationwide
Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days events.
(See story p. 40)

“I told my Lions that supplies were coming. It was time to put some sweat into our vests.”



—**District Governor Félix Camacho Ayala**,
on getting food and water distributed after
hurricane Maria. *(See story p. 18)*

“We kind of are behind the scenes and no one really knows. Like, they know, ‘Oh that project is something that’s been done for years,’ but they don’t know that the Lions are behind it.”

—**Lion Jessica Littlefield**, *Lynden Lions Club*

BY THE NUMBERS



320

Length in feet of the longest hole in the 9-hole, par 3 disc golf course funded by Basehor Lions Club in Kansas.

3

Number of people at a time who can cross the hanging bridge built by Bandung Raya Lions Club connecting the villages of Nangklok and Tarikolot in Indonesia.

Minutes it took for a group of 15 Lions club members in central Massachusetts to collect 120,000 new single-vision lenses.

180



7

Pots of water brought to bathe a sacred tree in celebration of the newly installed water pipe system funded by Lions Club of Colombo (Host) in Sri Lanka.

10

Width in miles of the eye of Hurricane Maria, which devastated Puerto Rico in 2017.

LCI Forward

UPDATE



Lions are innovators. For more than one hundred years, Lions have found creative solutions to some of the most pressing needs in their communities. And the world. We are continuing to innovate our second century of service through LCI Forward.

Innovation requires vision, inspiration and strategy. That's why Lions developed a five-year plan called LCI Forward. We're now in the middle of that plan and want to keep you updated on the progress we—and you—are making.

What is LCI Forward?

LCI Forward is a road map for Lions to plan, implement, and achieve our vision for a better future. It's designed to help Lions triple our humanitarian impact and serve 200 million people a year by 2021.

To accomplish this incredible feat, LCI Forward focuses on:

- Enhancing our service impact and focus.
- Reshaping public opinion and improving visibility.
- Pursuing club, district, and organizational excellence.
- Improving membership value and reaching new markets.

We're going to start updating you regularly on how we're doing in these areas by highlighting stories that showcase clubs doing one or more of these things well.



This month we're featuring a club in Healy, Alaska.

They were down and almost out, with membership at an all-time low. But rather than give up, they doubled down. The district governors took action, turning to the community to see what was needed.

By reaching out to the community and listening to their needs, the Healy Valley Lions Club accomplished two of our main goals: 1) They reshaped public opinion and improved visibility and 2) they improved the value of membership and reached new markets by adding 23 new members, many of whom are young women.

But as you'll see in their story, they didn't do anything fancy. No special tricks. Just simple, straightforward engagement with the community. They reached out, listened, and then, most importantly, they followed up.

Take a look at their inspiring story on page 33, and then share yours. Write to us at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org and tell us how your club has been moving LCI forward.



Retired But Not Tired of Serving

The Horseheads Southern Tier Retired Lions in New York are living proof that what we've been told is true: Retirees are happier and healthier when they're active. And maybe they are extra happy when they serve.

"We're retired, but we're never too old to serve," says 81-year-old Lion Lewis Van Duzer, a member of the club that believes to be the only retired Lions club in the world. "We're all on the downhill side. But we do quite a bit of service for other people, and we have a good time."

The average age in the club: "Eighty-three," according to 83-year-old Lion Richard Brigger.

While other clubs are struggling to add young Lions to the roster, this club is not. These Lions welcome new members, but not young ones. Prospective members have to be older than 55 and retired from

their professional life, but not from life itself, says President Brian O'Donnell, who at age 70 is a bit of a whippersnapper as the youngest in the club.

"We are not a large club. We are not a long-established club," O'Donnell says. "But we would pit our enthusiasm and community spirit with any club throughout the world."

Lion Van Duzer joined the club in 2008 after his wife passed away, and he was looking for activities to get him out of the house. He also serves on so many community boards that his calendar is full.

Age does not slow him or his fellow Lions. Charter members Dick McAtee, 92, and Fred Morgan, 94, contribute a great amount to the club, says Brigger. "These guys are fantastic. They are good, active Lions who work hard."

The Horseheads Southern Tier Lions are a small club of about 25 members, and they've lost a

lot of their good people. That's a problem with being a retirees' club, says Brigger. But the good news is that five women joined them over the last six months, and they are a welcome addition.

While age is a matter of pride for this group, it has also had some effect on club decisions. Meetings are conducted over lunch twice a month because many members prefer to not drive at night. And Van Duzer admits that he has no interest in projects that require going door to door. "I'm beyond knocking on doors and selling things," he says.

He does, however, appreciate the club fellowship that keeps them all going.

"It's like a family," says Van Duzer. "We look out for each other. When we know somebody has a problem, we're there for them."

The close-knit club has two big fundraisers a year: a grocery raffle right before Thanksgiving and a raffle for a lawn glider in June.

"Timing is critical," Brigger says. People appreciate free food at Thanksgiving, and they enjoy sitting outside in the spring.

The club also collects eyeglasses, takes donated canned goods to the food bank, and contributes to many local charities and organizations.

"The big thing is that we're not sitting idle," Brigger says. "We're spending our time doing something for the community."

Unique Legacy Project Looks At What it Means to Serve

We chatted with PID Robert Littlefield about his new book, “Stories from the Heart.”

Has there been a role model in your life who showed you the value of service?

My grandma Olga Berg was a role model of service for me. In addition to raising her children and nurturing her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, she sewed hundreds of quilts for Lutheran World Relief, sewing some even up to her last year of life at 92. She put hours of time into making sure the quilts were unique and beautiful. At Christmas she would invite strangers to share dinner, making sure there was a gift under the tree for them to open. She had a big garden and shared the harvest with those in need. She knitted, sewed, and stitched clothes, slippers, scarves, and mittens. She demonstrated the power of service through the way she lived her life.

What do you hope others take away from these stories?

There is a difference between joining a club and becoming a Lion. That difference is what I hope readers will take away from these stories.

When did you become a Lion?

I became a Lion before I joined a club. I volunteered to be the high school debate partner of a blind student who wanted to join the debate team. Later, when I was invited to join the Fargo Lions Club, I already knew in my heart that I was in the right organization for life.

Do you have a favorite story or particular person who has affected you?

To be honest, all of the stories I included are my favorites. They were chosen from over 900 submissions. But, if I were to pick a favorite story or two, one would be told by PID Douglas Alexander. His was the story of a young businessman who joined a Lions Club without really thinking very much about what his membership meant. One day, he was paired up with another Lion to deliver food baskets at Christmas; and he went up to a door to find a young mother with her two children peeking around her to see what he had in the basket. The family clearly had nothing and the mother's expression of gratitude over being able to make the holiday season special for her children melted his heart in such a way that he understood the true meaning of providing service to someone in need.

Another story was shared by PID Karla Harris about when she was on a mission trip to Mexico and placed a pair of eyeglasses on the face of a man who had not been able to see for 18 years. Accompanying the man was his 18-year old son whom he had never seen clearly. The joy on the father's face upon being able to see his son had an impact on her that she never forgot.

Why did you choose to donate the profits to LCIF?

I have always felt that celebrating milestone events is a gift. I wasn't around when the organization was founded, but I am a Lion now. I thought, “Why can't I do a personal legacy project?” We all serve in different ways. One of the ways I can serve is through my ability to research and write. Since the book is about Lions and their stories, donating all the profits to LCIF only seemed like the right thing to do.

“Stories from the Heart” will be available through Club Supplies for US\$23.99. From the sale of each book, US\$13.85 will go directly to Lions ClubSW International Foundation (LCIF).



SRI LANKA

Lions of Colombo (Host) Donate Clean Water to Entire Village

Many villages in Sri Lanka still do not have piped water systems and rely on wells for drinking water. Some households have no wells and rely on the generosity of their neighbors. With the recent extreme drought, many wells can't provide enough water.

In October 2017 the Lions Club of Colombo (Host) in Sri Lanka commissioned the Water Project to provide pipe-borne drinking water to more than 2,500 people (55 households) in the village of Tudugala, Sobithagama.

They partnered with the Clifford Howarth Charity Trust, water board officials, and Tudugala villagers to build a well, pump house, water tower, and lay pipes to the 55 houses in the village. Though not originally included in the plans, the Lions also provided necessary water meters to each household. The project was primarily funded by the Clifford Howarth Trust in the UK, with the Lions Club of Colombo (Host) and the villagers of Tudugala contributing with additional funds, raw material, and labor.

The Water Project was formally inaugurated with an unveiling of a commemorative plaque by District Governor Wilson Wijegunaratne and Paul Tinning from Clifford Howarth Charity Trust. The



(Above) Seven pots of water are taken in procession to the village temple to bathe the Bo Tree.

(Right) Lion Srimal Gallage bathing the Bo Tree.

system was then switched on, opening the tap of the water tower to begin the flow of water to the households.

Water was also collected in seven pots and taken in procession to the village temple to bathe the Bo Tree—a sacred fig tree in Buddhism that represents the tree in Bodh Gaya under which Siddhartha Gautama, the spiritual leader who later became known as the Buddha, is said to have attained enlightenment. After a blessing by the Head Priest, the contingent continued to the school hall to celebrate.

The Water Project in Tudugala is the second such joint project of the Lions Club of Colombo (Host) and the Clifford Howard Charity Trust in the UK. The first project was commissioned in Pannila in August 2014. Together the two projects provide pipe-borne drinking water to more than 5,000 people.

INDONESIA

Bridging Communities in Indonesia

Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago. Home to 13,466 islands, the number of rivers that crisscross the remote interior is vast, and fording these many rivers can be hard for those who live in rural areas. Children going to school, the sick traveling to community health centers, and mothers trying to make it to the market all have to navigate river crossings that can be difficult and dangerous.

Vertical Rescue Indonesia is a group dedicated to constructing 1,000 hanging bridges throughout Indonesia, helping to connect villages and villagers who would otherwise be unable to reach one another. The Bandung Raya Lions Club sponsored one such project through Vertical Rescue, connecting the villages of Nangklok and Tarikolot in the Regency of Pangandaran.

It took rock climbers and local workers five days and cost US\$5,000 to construct the 50-meter hanging bridge located just off a main road. The original team will return periodically to examine the condition of the steel frame and the local residents have also been trained to do simple repairs as needed or contact the construction crew when serious damage occurs.

(Photo) A villager crosses the newly constructed hanging bridge.



UNITED STATES

Will The Real Chief Smith Please Stand Up?

A police chief can't be everywhere, especially in a city the size of Green Bay, Wisconsin. But having a life-size cardboard cutout of the chief in a busy store might give shoplifters reason to pause and think before they commit a crime, says Police Chief Andrew Smith. The Green Bay West Lions agree.

It's not like Green Bay—population 105,000—is a hotbed of shoplifting compared to other cities, says Smith. However, it's a problem the city's been fighting for many years. There have been community meetings about it, and the department stiffened their arrest policy.

Police officers once issued a municipal ticket for shoplifting. Now shoplifters get fingerprinted and photographed, and a physical arrest is made. Their fine depends on how many times they've been caught.

Still struggling to combat the problem, one of the police captains suggested positioning a clone of the chief in retail stores. Luckily, at about the same time, the Green Bay West Lions asked the chief how they might help him out.



Will cardboard clones of Police Chief Andrew Smith help deter shoplifters in Green Bay, Wisconsin? The Green Bay West Lions hope so.

“Would you be willing to pay for a couple of the cardboard cutouts?” he asked. The Lions enthusiastically said they would, says Lion Gloria De Beck.

Now the chief can be in 11 places at once, on duty 24-7 like the giant owls put in gardens to deter thieving critters.

It will take more time before the department can tell if the cutouts are helping, but current shoplifting numbers are down 5 percent, says Smith.

“I can't say it's the magic bullet, but it sure is a reminder when they walk in a store that the Green Bay Police Department is paying attention.”

Surprisingly, he says, some of the hardest hit stores wouldn't cooperate with his plan, but other store owners have welcomed him, willing to try just about anything to reduce their problem. And residents really are paying attention. Some have even stopped to pose for a selfie with the cardboard version of the top cop.

Those who look closely will also see the Lions Clubs International logo down by the chief's feet.

UNITED STATES

Lions Throw a Hole in One

“A basketball player plays basketball all year. A soccer player plays soccer. But what about the kid who hasn’t found a hook? A way to be active? A way to be involved?” asks Scott Russell, a physical education and health teacher at Basehor-Linwood Middle School in Kansas.

That’s why Russell says he is big on offering alternative activities for students, and why he wanted to add a disc golf course to the school grounds.

And that’s why the Basehor Lions Club got behind him and helped him get it built.

“Something like this gives the entire population an outlet for being active, as well as an opportunity to be social,” says Russell, who believes that students involved in activities at the school will also be more involved in their learning.

Russell tried three years in a row to get funding for the course from the school’s Education Foundation, which provides student scholarships and supports the exceptional educational needs of the district, says Lion Doug Bittel, who is on the foundation board. But funds are tight and the needs are many, so when a persistent Russell put in his third request to build the course, Bittel suggested the project to Lions. He and his wife would put up half the funding (US\$1500) if the Lions would match it, he said, and the Lions were happy to help.

Russell and his students planned the course that wraps around the school—a traditional 9-hole, par 3 course with distances that range from 130 to 320

feet. On a Saturday morning, Lions and students worked together assembling and cementing the baskets into the ground.

Disc golf, much cheaper than golf but with similar rules, gives students and community members of all ages and abilities the chance to participate, to be outdoors walking and having fun, says Russell.

Basehor-Linwood Middle School has a weekly club team that plays in the fall, and the course is used for physical education classes once or twice a week, weather permitting. “But it’s also nice to see that it is not just a school thing,” says Russell. “When I first proposed it, I saw it being a community thing. All you need are a few discs, and if there’s a basket, you can play.”

He and his wife like to play the sport on weekends, and once, he says, he took his young son to the course just to give it a try. “Was he good at it? No,” says Russell. “But we were having that fun family interaction on the course. And that’s what you hope for. We’re very blessed to have the support of the Lions.”







RAISING

PUERTO RICO

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, Lions from Puerto Rico and abroad have worked to lift the island from the rubble.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RYAN BELL



MARILYN LUCIANO HANGS THE FLAG OF PUERTO RICO FROM WHAT'S LEFT OF A DECK AT HER HOME NEAR THE TOWN OF UTUADO. WHEN THE GOVERNMENT WAS SLOW TO FIX A BRIDGE WASHED AWAY BY FLOODING FROM HURRICANE MARIA, LUCIANO LED A GRASSROOTS PROTEST MOVEMENT CALLED *CAMPAMENTO DE LOS OLVIDADOS*, "ENCAMPMENT OF THE FORGOTTEN ONES." HER ACTIVISM SPURRED THE GOVERNMENT INTO ACTION. A NEW BRIDGE IS SEEN BEING CONSTRUCTED IN THE DISTANCE.

On the windblown island of Puerto Rico, it is rare to see palm trees standing perpendicular to the ground. Their trunks arc across the sky like fireworks igniting into flurries of palm fronds. They've adapted over millennia to bend and sway in the breeze. But nature will test the limit of how far something can bend before it breaks.

With Hurricane Maria bearing down on Puerto Rico, a number of thoughts were on Lion Miriam Vázquez's mind. As executive director of the Lions Eye Bank in San Juan, she knew the clinic's supply of corneas needed to be packed on ice and delivered to a hospital equipped with backup power generators. The Lions Eye Bank had only a small generator and if Hurricane Maria proved to be as powerful as the weather report predicted, it couldn't be relied on for a prolonged power outage. The delicate eye tissue, generous gifts from organ donors, needed to be kept refrigerated at a temperature between 34 and 46 degrees Fahrenheit.

There was also the checklist of pre-disaster errands that are routine for people living in the Bermuda Triangle. Fill cars with gas. Withdraw money from the ATM. Stock up on dry goods, water, and batteries at the grocery store. Storm-proof homes and apartments by securing flower pots and loose patio furniture, latching the shutters, and stuffing towels around leaky windows and door seams.

All the while, Vázquez kept thinking about her daughter, Maria, who was eight months pregnant. Had she made the right decision to stay in Puerto Rico? They had extended family in Chicago, Illinois, who had invited her to ride out the storm from the safety of the mainland. But Maria doubted her health insurance would cover the bill if she went into labor in a hospital located off the island. She could stare down a natural disaster, but the possibility of amassing considerable financial debt wasn't worth the risk.

Knowing her mother would worry, Maria offered that Vázquez and her husband could stay with them the night of the storm. "That way you can be relaxed knowing that I'm okay," she said. Vázquez and her husband packed a bag and enacted a scene being played out in homes across Puerto Rico, as family and friends came together to cook dinner, watch the weather report, and try to get some sleep.

• • • • •





"AT ITS PEAK, MARIA PRODUCED WIND GUSTS OF 175 MPH, WELL ABOVE THE THRESHOLD OF A CATEGORY 5 HURRICANE."



THE EFFECTS OF HURRICANE MARIA HAVE BEEN DESCRIBED AS THAT OF A BUZZ SAW. SOMEONE HAS WRITTEN BIBLE VERSES ON THE ONE WALL LEFT STANDING OF A HOME IN COMERÍO, PUERTO RICO.

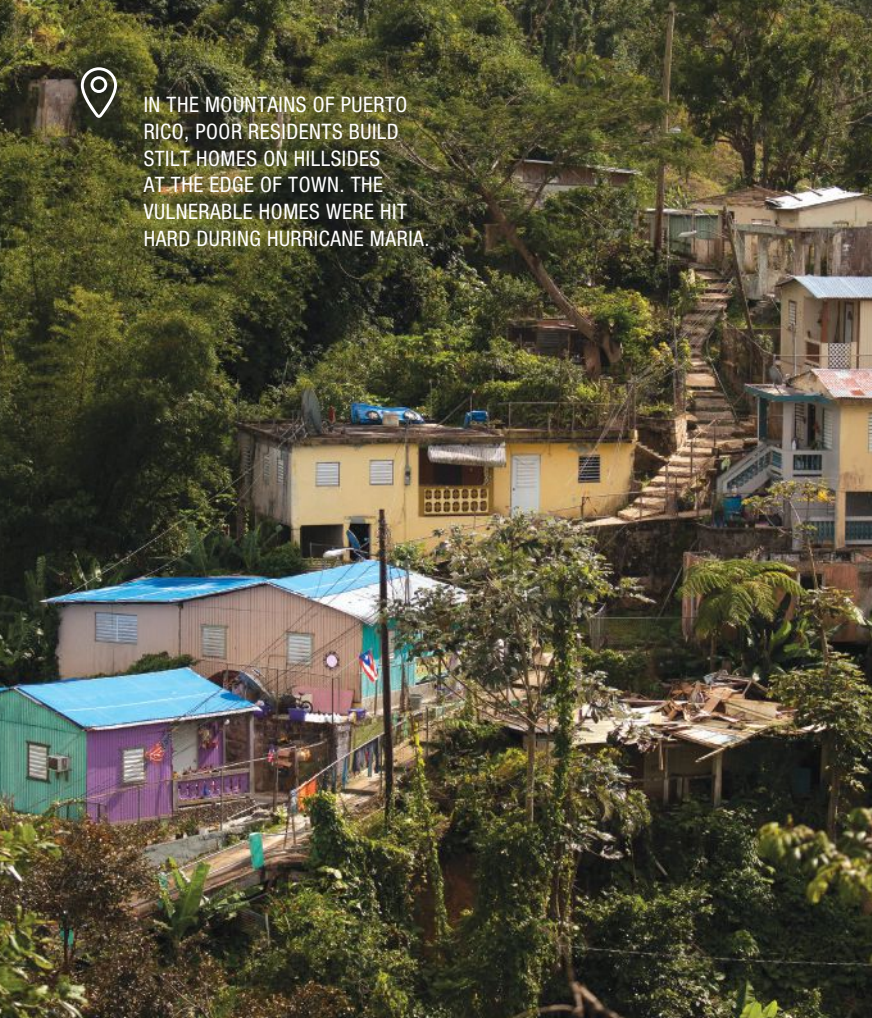


A FISHING BOAT SITS MAROONED ON A BEACH IN PUNTA SANTIAGO, A TOWN THAT EXPERIENCED 4 FEET OF FLOODING WHEN THE EYE OF HURRICANE MARIA HIT LAND.

At a glance, meteorologists could tell Hurricane Maria packed a punch. It had a "pinhole" eye measuring 10 miles wide, as opposed to the 30-mile wide eye of a typical hurricane, meaning the storm rotated incredibly fast. At its peak, Maria produced wind gusts of 175 mph, well above the threshold of a Category 5 hurricane. The storm's rainbands spiraled out in a 250-mile wide swath of destruction, and the storm churned forward at 35 mph on a northwesterly baring.

Shortly after midnight, the storm's leading edge reached Puerto Rico, bringing with it torrential rains and heavy winds capable of snapping concrete power poles. Tangled power lines sparked and ignited in the rain, as Puerto Rico's electrical grid ground its way to complete failure.

A mountaintop weather tower overlooking the island's east coast captured a radar image of the hurricane's eye making landfall over the coastal village of Yabucoa. The radar dish had been designed to withstand 130 mph winds so it could provide real-time weather data during major storms. A moment after sending that radar scan, the dish was blown from its tower like a dandelion. Puerto Rico's other weather station was at the San Juan airport, but it too was bumped offline when the airport's power went out.



IN THE MOUNTAINS OF PUERTO RICO, POOR RESIDENTS BUILD STILT HOMES ON HILLSIDES AT THE EDGE OF TOWN. THE VULNERABLE HOMES WERE HIT HARD DURING HURRICANE MARIA.

The lone reporting tool was a weather satellite orbiting 22,000 miles above the earth. The GOES-16 satellite, a state-of-the-art weather satellite operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), captured high-resolution images of the storm's eye. The mesmerizing cauldron of white clouds circled around what looked like a giant tornado. To help orient viewers, NOAA overlayed the video with an outline of Puerto Rico. It was staggering to think that 3.3 million people were holding on for their lives down below.



KaSondra Byrd was waiting for the phone to ring at Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) headquarters in Oak Brook, Illinois. As manager of LCIF's Humanitarian Programs, Byrd is often the first person Lions call when a natural disaster strikes.

"I know more about disasters than I ever thought I would," Byrd says. "I know when the rainy season starts in India. I had Lions report the earthquakes in Tibet and Japan. Anywhere in the world there might be a disaster, Lions are on the ground to be our eyes and ears."

When disaster strikes anywhere in the world, Lions can apply for emergency grants through LCIF. Most emergency grants are for US\$10,000 and are intended to meet the immediate needs of the victims and to help the transition afterward, but in some cases LCIF will issue a major catastrophe grant of up to US\$250,000. While Byrd hadn't yet heard from Lions in Puerto Rico, the news reports about Hurricane Maria made it clear this was a situation deserving of a major catastrophe grant. Lions around the world were already donating to the LCIF fund in the name of Puerto Rico, knowing it was a sure way to help what was bound to be a daunting recovery.



"WHEN THE STORM HIT, I KNEW I NEEDED TO CALL THE OTHER LIONS," SAYS LION ADELA RODRÍGUEZ. "WE HAD WORK TO DO."

“After a disaster,” Byrd says, “there’s a waiting period while the Lions dig themselves out, collect themselves, and figure out how best to help their communities. Maria was different than other disasters because an entire island was wiped out. More typically, a disaster will hit just a region or area and Lions living somewhere nearby can render support. But in Puerto Rico, the entire island was wiped out. Hurricane Maria was a disaster of a scale and scope like we hadn’t seen before.”

When Lions in Puerto Rico finally made contact, transferring the US\$100,000 in funds was easier said than done.

“We had to wait until there was a bank open where the Lions could receive it,” Byrd says. “Then they had to find stores where they could spend the money, otherwise it’s nothing better than beautiful wallpaper.

“When Costco and Walmart opened, there was a run on the stores and the Lions had to wait in long lines. The same thing happened at gas stations where they had to wait for hours just to fill up a tank of gas. They would clear one obstacle and another waited for them around the corner.”

• • • • •

“THEY WOULD CLEAR ONE
OBSTACLE AND ANOTHER
WAITED FOR THEM
AROUND THE CORNER.”

A BOY BAILS WATER FROM A TARP COLLAPSING UNDER THE WEIGHT OF RAINWATER. THIS HOME IS PART OF OPERATION BLUE ROOF, A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FEMA AND THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO INSTALL WEATHERPROOF TARPS ON THE ROOFS OF 68,000 STORM-DAMAGED HOMES.





"AFTER THE HURRICANE, I TOLD MY LIONS TO GO INTO THE COMMUNITY AND MAKE A LIST OF THE MOST AT-RISK PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEED OF HELP."



LION ADOLFO GARCÍA VISITS AN ELDERLY RESIDENT OF A HILLSIDE COMMUNITY IN UTUADO, PUERTO RICO.

The roof on Lion Raúl Perez's house was torn off when Hurricane Maria passed over the mountain town of Utuado. High winds pried corrugated metal panels and wadded them up like tin foil. Perez and his wife made a run for it, darting 100 yards down their winding road to his father's house, which was built of stacked cinder blocks. Perez's roof would be easy enough to replace; what really bothered him was the damage to his homemade radio tower.

"My father gave me my first transceiver at age 13," Perez says. "I now hold the highest license from the FCC. With that antennae, I've talked with people around the world."

Perez's skill as a radio operator was helpful during Hurricane Georges, a Category 4 hurricane that hit Puerto Rico in 1998. The U.S. National Guard had stopped in Utuado to ask for help delivering relief supplies to the neighboring town of Jayuya. The road was destroyed by landslides and their delivery mission was made further difficult by the region's mountainous terrain, which cut off the convoy's ability to communicate between trucks. Perez patched them through using the town's radio antenna, located atop a 3,000-foot peak.

"We saved the day," Perez says.

The experience gave him an idea for how the Lions Club of Utuado could help their community in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. First, Perez built a makeshift radio antenna, then connected it and a transceiver unit to the battery in his car. The radio warbled and crackled as he scanned the channels looking for signs of life. At a frequency of 14.284 megahertz, he came across an emergency channel operated by volunteers with the Salvation Army. He spoke to a volunteer radio operator in California who told Perez he wasn't the only islander making contact on radio.

Having established a rare line of communication, Perez walked the long winding road into town and met at the house of Adolfo García, president of the Utuado Lions Club. They spread word that anyone needing to communicate with friends and family on the U.S. mainland should write a message, along with the name and number of the desired person to contact, and leave it with García. Perez would walk into town every day to retrieve the messages and take them back to his ad hoc command center. Perez read the messages over the radio to a Salvation Army volunteer, who then called perfect strangers with news that their friends and family in Puerto Rico had survived the storm.



When the sun came up on the day after the hurricane, District Governor Félix Camacho Ayala's impression was that Puerto Rico looked fire-scorched. The normally verdant island had turned brown, leaves stripped from branches, ground vegetation uprooted, even the moss had been wind-blasted from trees and rocks. And the tropical island's wildlife had seemingly disappeared. Mornings that had once echoed with bird song were now cathedral quiet. At night, the chirping chorus of coqui frogs, an emblem of Puerto Rico, was silent.

"Everything looked dead," he says.

After two days, he got a call from Miriam Vázquez. She had already been to the emergency command center at the San Juan convention center where she met with representatives from Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA).

"I told them that our communities needed food and water," Vázquez says. "Without power, a lot of people couldn't cook."

The outpouring of support to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria was immediate. At the convention center, there were pallet-loads of water and the prepackaged meals known as "FEMA packs," hand-crank radios from the Red Cross, plus water purification devices, camp cook stoves, and solar-powered lanterns donated by a number of international organizations. But the distribution network was at a near-standstill, not knowing where or to whom the supplies should go. For Vázquez, that sounded like a good job for Lions. She called the three district governors—Ayala in the east, Emilio Colón Rodríguez in the central mountains, and Cristino Hernández on the west coast—to organize the shipment of supplies for regional distribution.

"I told my Lions that supplies were coming," Ayala says. "It was time to put some sweat into our vests."

Funds from the LCIF emergency grant had arrived and were divided equally between the three districts. They used the money to pay for things like gas, warehouse space, and miscellaneous supplies they knew their community needed, such as bed sheets, toiletries, and even pet food. But the task of sorting and delivering supplies was time-consuming and arduous work. Roads had to be cleared of downed trees and power lines, and detours made around landslides and bridges washed out by flooding rivers.



LIONS DAGMAR COLÓN AND LUIS RODRÍGUEZ UNLOAD A BAG OF SUPPLIES. SOME OF THE BAG'S CONTENTS HAD TRAVELED FROM CONNECTICUT AS PART OF A DONATION DRIVE ORGANIZED BY LION JUAN "J.R." RODRIGUEZ.



THE HURRICANE'S POWERFUL WINDS KNOCKED OUT THE ISLAND'S POWER SUPPLY. WORK CREWS LIKE THIS ONE ARE JUST NOW REACHING TOWNS IN THE CENTRAL MOUNTAINS.



From top left: Cristino Hernández, Félix Camacho Ayala, Carmen Figueroa Torres, Jay Patel, Ana Vialis, Egda Roldan, Aileen Crespo, José "Cheo" Rodríguez, Luis Diaz, José H. Meaux, Luis Rodríguez, Víctor Karel, Jendiel de León, Carmen Fonseca, Louis Mathew, Gloria Rosario, Elizabeth Gomez, Edna Rivera, Jose Rodríguez, Jorge Morales, Father José Colón, Celeste Cuevas, Emilio Colón Rodríguez, Petra Santiago, Elba Schulman, Sydney Schulman, Elliott Pacheco, Adela Rodríguez, Gloria R. Mirabal-Rivera, Dagmar Colón, Pablo Juarbe Machado, Reinaldo Figueroa, Alex Acevedo, Arnaldo de León, Anthony Lopez, Miriam Vázquez, Juan "J.R." Rodriguez, and Adolfo García.



COLÓN AND RODRÍGUEZ NAVIGATE WASHED-OUT ROADS AND DOWNED TREES TO DELIVER FOOD, WATER AND DRY BEDDING TO A REMOTE COMMUNITY.

As the days went by, Ayala would return home and watch at night as lights came on in new parts of the city. They were signs of progress, yet all he had to do was notice the dark swaths of the city still without electricity to remember there was much work yet to be done.



Officially, Hurricane Maria inflicted US\$91.61 billion in damage and resulted in 64 fatalities, although independent investigations suggest the death toll is closer to 500. For the Lions of Puerto Rico, these figures struck close to home. Two weeks after the storm had subsided, Vázquez daughter Maria went into labor, but experienced severe hemorrhaging. The baby, a boy named Juquin, was successfully revived and would spend the next six weeks in intensive care. Maria, however, could not be saved.

Lions traveled from across the island to attend Maria's memorial service in San Juan. The church was filled to standing room only.

"Maria was a Lion," Vázquez says, "and people told me stories about how she'd helped them. It was part of her character to put the community before herself. It made me feel good to at least know that I had raised her right."

The best way Vázquez could think of to honor Maria was to channel her grief into community service as a Lion and raise her country from the rubble.




Four months later, a convoy drives up a winding road in the central mountains of Puerto Rico. Speckled

among the hillsides are storm-damaged homes, the roofs draped with the blue tarps installed by FEMA that have become the unofficial symbol of the Hurricane Maria relief effort. The vehicles stop at a bend in the road and the yellow-vested occupants get out to deliver packages of food, clothing, water, and towels from door to door.

One of the volunteers is Lion Juan "J.R." Rodriguez, a man of Puerto Rican descent who has lived most of his life in Connecticut. From his home in Hartford, Connecticut, he watched Hurricane Maria devastate his native island and was determined to help. Rodriguez worked tirelessly to raise money and donations in Connecticut, filling three shipping containers with 215 tons of supplies. Now, he's chaperoning the supplies to where they're finally reaching people in need.

"If you're a true Puerto Rican," says Rodriguez, "you care about what happens to the people of your island. And it's the same way we feel about the community wherever we live—Chicago, Hartford, New York, San Juan. Like Lionism, it comes from the heart."

As the convoy crests the next hill, there is a hand-painted sign on the side of the road, pleading for help. It reads, "The Forgotten Street: Where Help Never Arrives." The Lions park their cars, unload bundles of supplies, and go meet the families living in the houses nearby. 



DG Félix Camacho Ayala narrates the story of the relief effort in District 51E.



The Way We Lead

Lions Find Their Own Ways To Inspire

Cheryl Wilbur

District Governor, 14G

District Governors Use Charm and Grit to Sprout New Clubs

By Jay Copp

Not so long ago a rank-and-file Lion herself, District Governor Cheryl Wilbur of Pennsylvania stations herself at the door when visiting clubs in her district. She greets arriving Lions and gets to know something about each one. Later, during the formal meeting, she takes out a small, store-bought box that reads “Blessed.” Then she reaches in, announcing, “This bud’s for you.”

She passes out a Wilbur chocolate bud, a Hershey Kiss-like nub of chocolate. (Wilbur is an iconic candy in Pennsylvania; the district governor shares the name but has no other connection to the company.) The gift is a small token of her gratitude for Lions’ service, indicative of her personable, affable leadership style.

“It’s not about the green jacket,” says Wilbur of District 14G in North-Central Pennsylvania. “I’m just a Lion. So many Lions are burned out from all they do. They help people, and my job is to help them.”

Wilbur has helped set a new tone in her district. “It’s more lighthearted, more casual, less formalistic,” says Past District Governor Jim Crawley. “You can pay attention to what’s really important better than when you wear a suit and tie.”

“ Wilbur has helped set a new tone in her district. “It’s more lighthearted, more casual, less formalistic,” says Past District Governor Jim Crawley. ”

With a new approach has come new clubs, a rarity in the district. Also new during Wilbur’s year are an enthused crew of 12 Guiding Lions, membership chairs for each of the district’s 59 clubs, and even a family and women’s specialist to raise awareness of their needs among clubs and to form new clubs catering to them.

The progress in the district is remarkable. Mirroring that positive arc is Wilbur’s own story—doggedly crafting a life of service after personal heartache.

District 14G sprawls across 12 counties and covers 6,400 square miles. Small towns dot the edges and inroads of the Appalachian Mountains. Working-class people scratch out a decent living while the occasional abrupt closings of grocery stores, gas stations, and banks can cause sudden poverty and distress in the tightly interconnected economy of small towns.

A Lion for 19 years, Wilbur bought a hefty Chevy Traverse in anticipation of her many club visits. On the road three or four nights a week, she sometimes drives 2.5 hours one way. Remote clubhouses can be challenging to find even with a GPS. “They’re on back streets, dirt streets. It’s unbelievable,” says Wilbur, who lives in Millerton, a quiet hamlet of 600, with her husband, Second Vice District Governor Jim.

Wilbur has an upbeat personality. “Once a cheerleader [back in high school], always a cheerleader,” she explains. Image is reality. “My name is Cheryl; my nickname is Share. My motto is Sharing is Caring,” she says with a wink and a smile.

Wilbur enjoys mixing with both Lions she knows and Lions she meets for the first time. When she meets a Lion, she assumes she’s in the presence of a leader. “We say we need leaders. But if you’re a Lion, you already are a leader in your community,” she says.

Her presence is appreciated. “She knows how to lead. She knows how to learn, how to listen,” says Doreen Burnside, a new Lion thanks to Wilbur. “She’s not into the power.”

Wilbur focuses on informing clubs about what the rest of their district

is doing. She says clubs are grateful for the insight and happy she isn’t just telling them what they already know.

Wilbur’s cheerfulness and commitment to service were hard-earned. A defining moment in her life was what happened to her father, whose own father died in his arms. “He didn’t know what to do,” she says. “It broke him. He went down the wrong road. Lots of hard drinking.”

So, Wilbur prepared herself. She would know what to do. She took CPR classes. She became a firefighter and an EMT. She worked for the Red Cross. She taught countless children to swim at the local pool, which she ran. Never content, she earned a college degree at age 50, attending college alongside her son.

Her new job as a special education teacher led her to Lions. The principal asked her to speak to the Lions about long-distance learning in her school. When she got home, she had a pointed question for Jim: “Have you ever done any volunteering? We need to be Lions.”

Once again diligent about being prepared, Wilbur took nearly 100 classes from Lions University, online courses offered by the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. She earned her bachelor’s and master’s. “Now I’m working on my doctorate,” she says.

She understands the value of planning. Before she became district governor, she mapped the district and determined where clubs could be formed. She learned that less than half of the 59 clubs had a membership chair. Once she became district governor she was determined to charter new clubs.

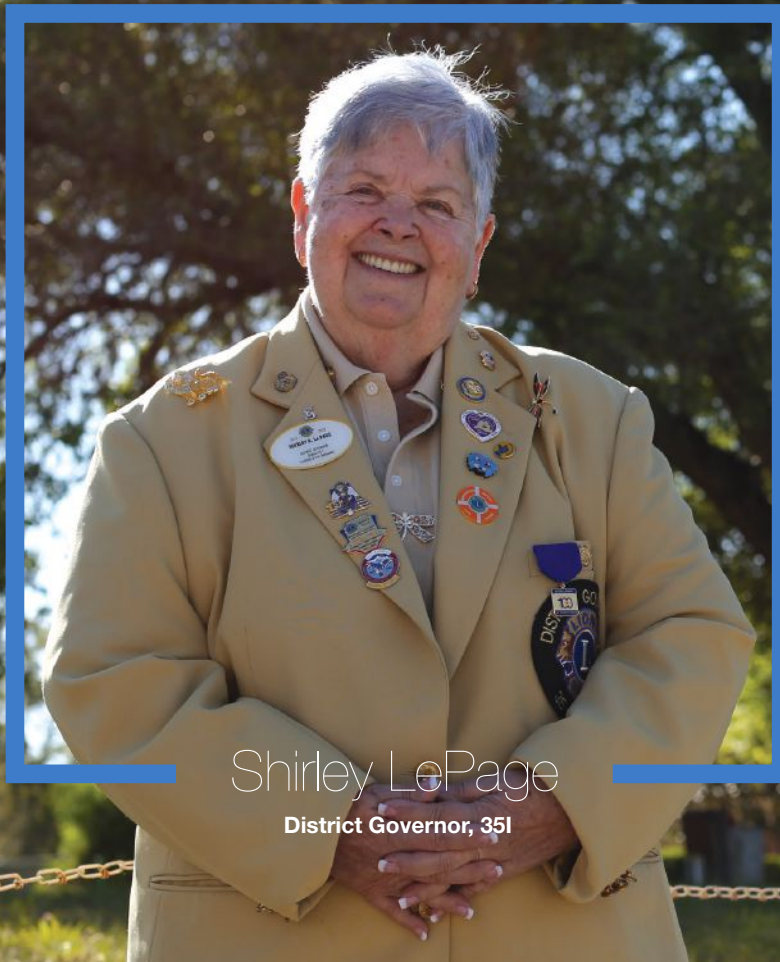
She invited herself to community gatherings to stake out potential candidates. It turns out, good things come to those who persist.

It was at a meeting for the Grange, a fraternal group in Tioga, that she hit pay dirt. “It was the same old, same old—yada yada yada. Then this lady stood up and said let’s start a Lions club right now,” says Wilbur.

Now Wilbur expects a fourth new club in her district to charter this spring, an impressive feat given the imposing forces that work against chartering new clubs. “There are just so many different ways to serve. And young parents are so busy with their kids,” says Crawley. “It’s not just our district. Society has changed; no one knows why.”

Crawley is the Guiding Lion for the new Danville Centennial Lions Club, one of the new clubs in Wilbur’s district that was formed with old-fashioned grit. Wilbur brought in new club consultant and Past District Governor Ronnie Martin of Texas and, along with the vice district governors, strolled through the town on a weekend to meet with merchants. “We’d say, ‘See that playground? Do you want equipment for the disabled? Lions can do that,’” recounts Wilbur. An informational meeting mid-week resulted in a Danville Centennial Lions Club.

The club will raise funds for luggage for foster kids. Other clubs in her district are scheduling a polar plunge and a spaghetti dinner to show appreciation for volunteers: Boy and Girl Scouts, Grange folks, EMTs and others. Looks like that old volunteer spirit has made a grand comeback in North-Central Pennsylvania.



Shirley LePage

District Governor, 351

📷 ANDREW DRYER

Chartering New Clubs in the Sunshine State

When a new club is formed in in southern Florida, the district publishes a “birth announcement” that proudly tells Lions “We’re pregnant,” says District Governor Shirley LePage. That spirit fits LePage’s exuberant personality. Stiff formalities are not her style. “I’m known as Granny,” says LePage, who would’ve been the third “Shirley” in her club.

“Granny” works fine for the mother of six with 29 grandchildren. She’s 75, but age is just a number. “I’m really 57. I’m dyslexic,” she jokes.

Don’t let the humor obscure the very real and innovative service that’s happening in District 35 I, which stretches from Dade City to Everglades City and includes Tampa. Her club, the Dade City Hispanic American Lions Club, which LePage helped charter, focuses in part on the needs of migrant workers. That’s an issue close to its heart. Very close. Two dozen of its 32 members are migrant workers, some of them undocumented.

One member is the renowned Rev. Margarita Romo, 80, who has spent nearly 50 years assisting migrant farmworkers and immigrants in Florida. She is the founder and executive director of Farmworkers Self-Help, based in Dade City.

Though farmworkers protect themselves with hats when out in the sun, many develop pterygium, a growth on the eye that can lead to vision impairment and even blindness. Optometrist Bradley Smurr, a Dade City Lion, provides eye exams, and the Florida Lions Eye Clinic, sponsored by Bonita Lions, offers care. Members of the Dade City Hispanic American Lions Club themselves have had their vision corrected thanks to Lions.

Starting the club for the migrant workers was a no-brainer, says LePage. “They already were helping the community, already doing the work of Lions,” she says.

As governor, LePage has seen the chartering of two clubs, and two more are in the works. The first, chartered in September, was a campus club at Florida Gulf Coast University. The second, the Tampa East Centennial Lions Club, chartered in November.

Yet to be chartered include another club of migrant farmworkers and a campus club at the University of South Florida, which is being organized by Karen Crumley and other Plant City Lions who also sponsor three Leo clubs. “She [LePage] knows we really have to reach out to young people,” says Crumley. “They’re our future. But we’re also keeping them off the streets. And they’re finding out about service. You find rewarding what is close to your heart.”

LePage became a Lion a few years after moving to Florida from Newton, Massachusetts in 1995 when her husband retired. “I didn’t know Lions existed,” says LePage, who had been a nurse. But then she played bingo, sponsored by the Zephyrhills Lions. “They said, ‘Thank you for donating to the blind fund.’ I said, ‘What’s a blind fund?’ Then they gave out grants

to Meals on Wheels and other groups. I said, ‘I want to be part of this.’”

So she kept playing bingo and building clubs from the connections she made there.

She quickly became more and more involved with Lions and was to be the district governor in 2008. Then her son died suddenly and she took a step back. She threw her

her husband, 85, had cancer, now in remission. She broke her jaw, a consequence of her own onetime battle with cancer. Then there was Hurricane Irma in September. Her district was hit hard. As much as she tried, she was initially unable to coordinate a response. Her power was out for a week. “I spent the first five days sitting in my van in the carport ... with the cell plugged into the car charger trying to get hold of someone.”

She finally reached LCI staffer Wesley Gathings at headquarters. “He was very calm, very soothing. He said, ‘We’ve been waiting to hear from you. How can we help you?’”

With emergency grants for US\$20,000, Lions in her district aided those in need. (In keeping with her loosey-goosey attitude, LePage

titled her account in the district newsletter of the disaster relief as “Me, Myself and Irma.”) It was a team effort, says LePage. “When I get an award, I know it does not belong to me. It belongs to everybody,” she says. “You have to get your ducks in a row. You can’t do it alone.” 🐼

“ **He woke me up. He told me to get off my butt and do what I wanted to do. I’m doing this journey in memory of my son.** ”

hat back in the ring a few years ago when she “felt his spirit speaking to me,” she says. “He woke me up. He told me to get off my butt and do what I wanted to do. I’m doing this journey in memory of my son.”

That journey as district governor has not been easy. After returning from the 2017 international convention in Chicago, she learned

DG LePage and 1st V.D.G Claudette Henry discuss district business.



Healing Healy

By Joan Cary

In the small town of Healy, Alaska, on the outskirts of Denali National Park and Preserve where thousands witness the rebirth of the land each spring, the Healy Valley Lions are celebrating a renewal of their own.

Not too long ago, membership in the Healy Valley Lions Club had dwindled to just a few committed individuals. Faced with imminent demise, they reached out to the district for help. District Governor Cory Bellows, a Fairbanks Offroad Lion responded, along with PDG Howard Rixie from the North Pole club, and Robert Marcinkowski, an Interior Baseball Lion in Fairbanks. The three drove two hours to host a spaghetti dinner intended to re-introduce the town to Lionism.

Krista Zappone and a friend attended the dinner along with about 25 others, and it was there where she met Bellows, a man who minces no words when it comes to his love of Lionism—and the commitment it includes.

“Are you a chicken or a hog?” Bellows asks. “When a chicken eats, it eats. When a hog eats, he’s committed.”

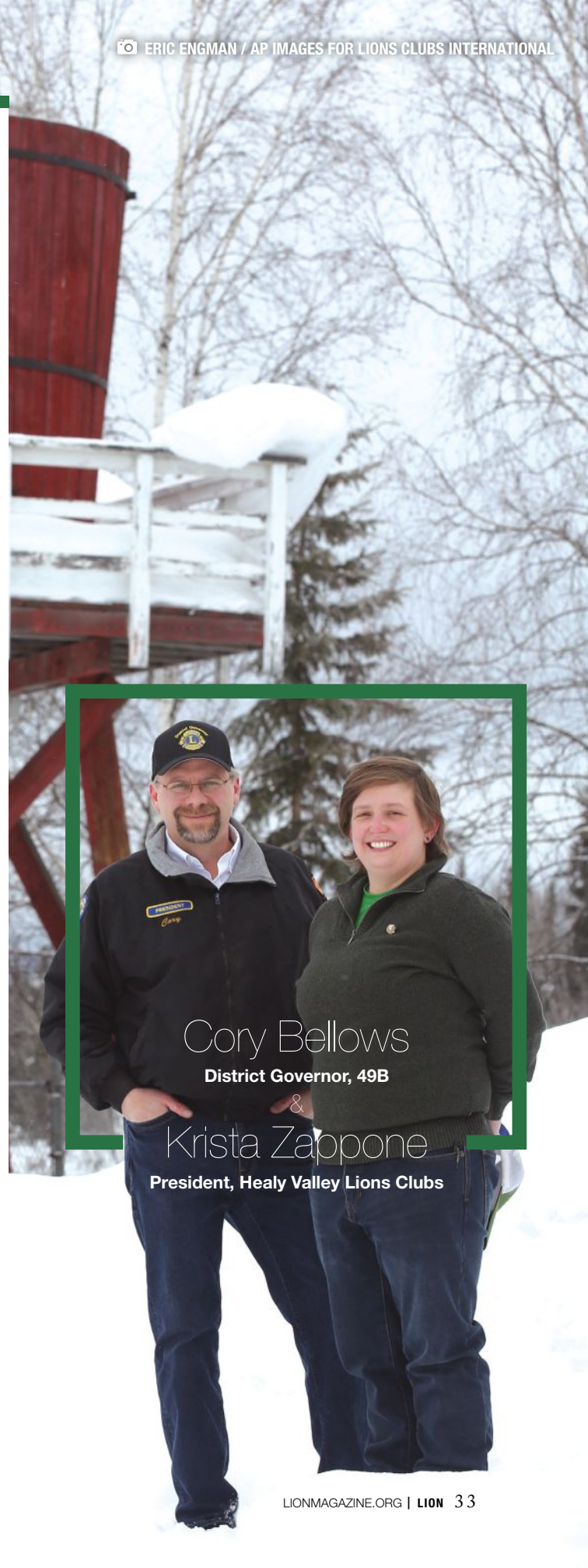
Zappone wasn’t fazed. “We left there thinking we could totally do this,” she says.

With the help of Bellows and others, they knocked on doors, recruited friends, and shared their enthusiasm with the community. And it worked. Eleven new Lions were inducted into the Healy club on Oct. 1, 2016, and in the 18 months since, another 12 have joined.

Adding 23 new members in a year and a half is an impressive feat in its own right, but there’s more. The new club members are young. Zappone is just 29. Most of the new members are in their late 20s and early 30s.

They are young and enthusiastic, but Lionism requires much more than wearing the pin, as Bellows knew and Zappone was quick to learn.

“It was a bit of a struggle to get our heads wrapped around what we signed up for,” she says. Because the Lions had been inactive in Healy for a while, they began by surveying the town to see what was needed.



Cory Bellows

District Governor, 49B

&

Krista Zappone

President, Healy Valley Lions Clubs

To encourage participation, they sponsored a raffle and gave a raffle ticket to anyone who completed their survey.

The community wanted Otto Lake taken care of as the Lions had done in the past. They also asked for Lions to add a hot lunch day for the school children who bring sack lunches to school. And they wanted the club to help another nonprofit take care of the Healy Ice Rink.

Bellows applauds the survey. “She listens,” he says of Zappone. “She’s faced a lot of tribulation and trials, and she’s doing an outstanding job. They know their community well. When you’re a Lion, you have to know that your community depends on you. You have to listen to their needs and wants, not your special interests.”

Zappone didn’t expect to be club president so quickly, but when the previous president had to relocate, she stepped up. “It’s been a challenge,” she says. “As a young leader it takes a lot of determination and grit. You have

to be willing to take the not-so-positive feedback along with the good stuff. That was particularly tough for me. I’ve cried. I’ve yelled. I’ve laughed. I’ve thrown my computer. I’ve done it all. But I felt it was within my power to bring this younger adult group together in a way that was impactful.”

Zappone says the district leaders took turns supporting them by attending multiple club meetings, driving hours each way as they began to breathe life into the dying club. Knowing that many clubs struggle to entice young members, the Healy Lions cater their activities to a new young crowd.

“You have to talk about stuff where they are,” says Zappone. “You have to go and find them, and we’ve tried to incorporate what they are already doing, so it’s convenient for them to be an involved Lion.”

The club meets at a restaurant with a bar attached so Lions can come straight from work and have dinner or a drink if they choose. They keep meetings organized and no longer than an hour, knowing their

members don’t have much time.

“Don’t get stuck doing things the way they used to be just because they used to be,” Zappone suggests. “You have to be excited. You have to be on social media. Facebook is important.”

“Why do people want to join Lions when there are so many volunteer organizations they can join for free?” asks Bellows, who then answers his own question. “Because the community depends on us and we have something to offer.”

He thinks Zappone is on the right track with the club.

“We have to focus on youth and bringing them up. And we have to get the heritage Lions who have been around for 15, 20, or 40 years to accept that things change. This isn’t about you. This is about your community,” Bellows says. “Take the knowledge and use it to empower the up and coming instead of sitting in the corner and saying, ‘We do it this way.’” ❶

Healy Valley Lions President Krista Zappone and DG Cory Bellows have led the resurgence of the Alaska club.





Marty Knight

President, Middletown Lions Club

ANDREW DRYER

Vision Without Sight

by Madeleine Miller

In the summer of 1973, Lion Marty Knight's whole world went dark. At the age of 21 he had become totally blind.

Knight had retinitis pigmentosa, a condition caused by a hereditary disease known as Bardet-Biedl syndrome. Two of his three siblings are also blind. The disease causes progressive visual impairment and can also cause babies to be born with extra fingers or toes. Knight was born with six fingers on each hand and six toes on both feet. By the time he started kindergarten, he had endured a total of nine surgeries.

Today, Knight is the president of the Middletown Lions Club in Connecticut. He's been a Lion for 45 years, but was involved in service well before that, helping his father, who was a past district governor of District 23B, and his mother, who was a member of a Lioness Club.

Knight's passion is helping educate people about those who have disabilities. "My parents wanted us to live as normal a life as possible," he says. "They never wanted us to use our blindness as an excuse for anything."

Knight tells the story about a Sight Saver's Day the club hosted several years ago. The club members were collecting money and held signs that read, "Be thankful you can see."

Knight says, "My fellow Lions later told me that many people who were contributing to our cause were smiling at me because they understood that here I was—a blind person, working to help others with vision-related issues—and yet, was thankful for all that he had. Perhaps this inspired them to think about their own sight, and what it really means to see."

As club president, Knight guides his members, making suggestions, but letting them ultimately decide what projects to do. He says that he's always available if Lions need him.

"Life is more fulfilling when I know that I've helped others," he says. "It also helps other Lions see how a blind person does things. With a few adaptations, I can do just about anything that anyone else does." **L**

Leading Leos

The future of Lions' work is bright with these young people leading the way

By Jay Copp

Olivia Turman, 14

Barboursville Leo Club, West Virginia

Wheelie Good Ideas

Tom Turman provided some fatherly advice to his daughter, Olivia, only 14, when she told him about her Leo club's plan to build a one-mile Braille Trail in a local park. "It's too much. It's a pipe dream," he cautioned. "I'll show you," she told him with a smile.

Olivia took the lead in meeting with park officials, writing two grant applications, gathering the input of a local blind association, and as the project became even more complex and sophisticated than either imagined, gaining the support of college students from three different clubs at Marshall University and planning for an app with audio for the atypical trail. "She did the phone calls. She wrote the grants. I just would sit in the back of the room and let her talk," says her father.

The eighth-grader's service record belies her young age. She's met with legislators at the state capitol to push for the passage of a bill promoting the Shared Table, a program in which students share food for needy students to take home. She and a friend bring their ingenious Wheelie Good Food cart, built in the family barn by the Turmans, to football games and 5K runs as an alternative to the unhealthy food often sold at public events. Pedaling the bike blends a smoothie attached to it.

“ I don't think I'm in the spotlight. What we're doing is in the spotlight. ”

Olivia also played a role in increasing the membership of the Leo club from a handful of youths to 50. She was just 10 when she began attending club meetings. "I asked my friends to join, and my brother asked his. It was a domino effect," says Olivia.

The influx of new Leos also led to two dozen or so new members for the Barboursville Lions Club. Parents followed the lead of their children. "This is the 21st century," says Turman, who works for a communications company. "Guess who comes with the kids to events? They're not just dropping them off and leaving."

Being a leader does not faze her, says Olivia. She is not self-conscious about putting herself out there. "I don't think I'm in the spotlight. What we're doing is in the spotlight," she says.



(Top) West Virginia Leo Olivia Turman looks over the map of the proposed braille trail in Barboursville City Park with Mayor Chris Tatum. (Bottom) Turman serves up healthy food from her Wheelie Good Food cart.

Three words that best describe me:

Motivated, dedicated, determined.

Historical person I've love to meet:

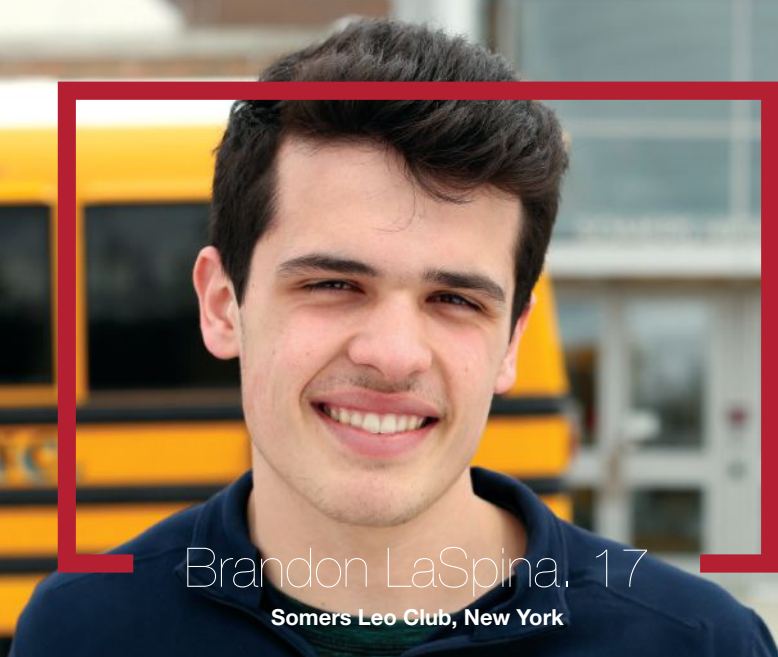
Molly Brown—she had the courage to go back as the Titanic was sinking to help rescue people.

I wish the world would ...

Listen to children more rather than vetoing our ideas because they come from kids.

I like Leos because ...

It gave me my start for everything else I'm doing now. It taught me how to run a meeting, improved my public speaking skills and gave me friends that will last a lifetime.



Brandon LaSpina, 17

Somers Leo Club, New York

📷 ANDREW DRYER

Learning to Lead

Brandon first got acquainted with Special Olympians a few years ago, before he became a Leo. Accompanying his dad to a basketball game sponsored by his Lions club, he dutifully stood in front of the school to greet the arriving players. “The first guy high-fives him. The next guy gives him a hug. He was hooked,” says his father, Paul, president of the Somers Lions Club. “He’s an athlete, and their enthusiasm and competitiveness really resonated with him.” Adds Brandon, “It was just a great experience.”

Last year, as a Leo, he met the U.S. Special Olympics floor hockey team at the U.N. Day for Lions in New York. After learning of the Cool School Challenge to benefit Special Olympics, he took on the role of captain for his club’s Polar Plunge team. Forty Leos plunged into the cold Atlantic on a 30 degree November day, and the 90 Leos who secured pledges raised US\$27,000. “It was cold. A friend pushed me, and I got stuck underwater,” says Brandon.

Brandon got his first taste of volunteering at an early age: his family helped out every year on the Fourth of July at a cancer hospice facility where his uncle lived. “I’ve been helping others since birth,” he says. “I love helping others.”

His club has 230 Leos, about one quarter of the student body at Somers High School. Many of the teenagers triple or even quadruple the 20 service hours required of them. “They’re very competitive about it,” says Paul LaSpina. “They like the visibility. Teachers are always saying, ‘How are you so successful?’”

A great deal of its success is explained by Leos’ firm grasp of their own club. They run the meetings, make and enforce the rules and pick projects that interest them. They’ve replaced the windows of the home of a schoolmate whose father died, adopted a family around the holidays, and provided a therapy dog for a person with autism.

As captain of his hockey and lacrosse teams, Brandon did not shirk from leadership as a Leo. But being a Leo has helped speed his development. “It pushed him to be more assertive,” says his father.

 Watch Brandon’s Polar Plunge teammate talk about why they support Special Olympics.

Three words that best describe me:

Caring, hardworking, passionate

Historical person I’d love to meet:

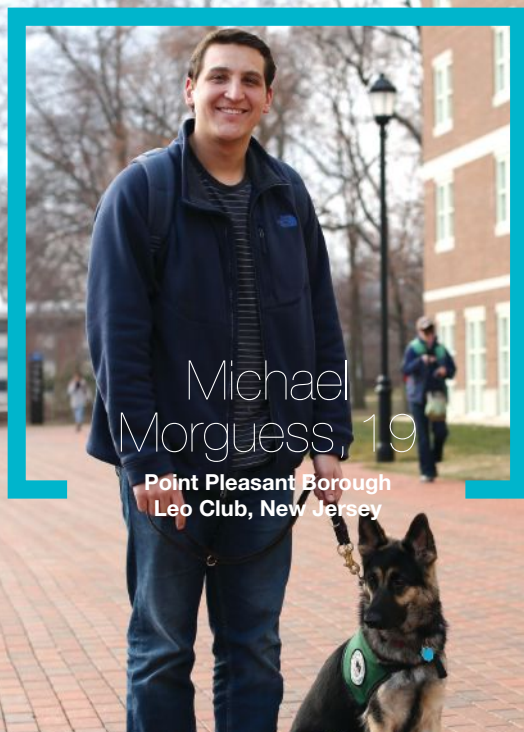
Bill Gates

I admire Lions because ...

They work so hard to make the community a better place. They bring everyone together and make it a fun environment.

I like Leos because ...

It’s a way for me to stay active with the community and meet new friends.



Facing Fear to Make a Difference

“Why me?” That’s the question Michael asked himself two years ago. He was about to be a senior in high school and the Leo advisor asked him to be president. The club was down to two members.

Membership had dwindled since Michael was a freshman. His older cousin, Sabina, had asked him to join. The two were thick as thieves and serving as a Leo had been a great experience, even after a rocky start. His first project was to hand out water bottles to athletes competing in a triathlon in town. He had to report for duty at the ungodly teenage hour of 6 a.m. The weather was wretched and he wasn’t having a good time. But then the waves of determined runners, one after another, inspired him. “I realized that if someone has a passion or goal in mind, nothing can hold them back from reaching those dreams,” Michael later wrote. “I realized that supporting and helping others made me feel good and accomplished.”

So now, as club president, he had to revive the club. He surveyed youths on what meeting time worked best. He set up text reminders for the meetings. He had T-shirts made for everyone.

Before long, membership zoomed to 55. He kept service projects fun and upbeat. The Leos raised nearly enough funds for a guide dog for the blind. His tenure as president was a success.

“I led by hearing people’s opinions. I was right there with them. It was about personal relationships,” he says.

Now a pre-veterinary freshman at Delaware University, Michael is part of Puppy Raisers Of the University of Delaware (PROUD). He’s close to logging the required 50 hours of dog sitting before he can raise a guide dog in his dormitory room. And he will move on from Leos. “I want to spearhead a Lions club at the university,” he says.

Michael made a video about his leadership experience that showcased yet another talent of the young Leo. He spent many hours drawing the 20 detailed illustrations that form the basis of the five-minute video and took four hours of film to capture the drawings. It then took several painstaking days to synchronize the audio with the drawings.

The result is a captivating film about his experience turning around a nearly defunct Leo club. The principles he used could easily be applied to Lions clubs with the same challenges.

It’s never easy to face a daunting task like reviving a dying club. But, as he says in the film, “I’m proud that I looked fear right in the eye and succeeded.” 🎬

🎥 What does it take to be a Lion leader?

🎥 Watch Michael's animated film.

Three words that best describe me:

Outgoing, respectful, creative.

I wish the world would ...

Begin treating all walks of life with respect and dignity. As a nation we need to start seeing each other as people rather than enemies.

I admire Lions because ...

They are always looking for new ways to improve the lives of others through service.

I like Leo clubs because ...

They inspire high schoolers to be involved and get exposed to community service in their local towns.

Annual Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days Support Healthy Communities

BY JAMIE KONIGSFELD



“This is what gets a person’s day started,” said an Anthem associate volunteer, just one of many who met up on an October morning to pack up hygiene kits. Distributed to community members experiencing homelessness, the kits included a new pair of warm socks, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, lip balm, feminine hygiene items for girls and women, as well as a toothbrush and toothpaste. Another volunteer mentioned how good it feels just to wash your face in the morning, empathizing with someone who doesn’t have their own bathroom to start and end their day, and understanding their struggles.

In the Denver metropolitan area, Colorado, USA, there are more than 5,000 men, women, and children without a permanent residence, according to the last year’s Point-in-Time report completed by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative. About 1 in 5 of these individuals are chronically homeless, and nearly eight percent are children under 18 years old. Thanks to volunteers participating in the 2017 Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days, 1,200 of those individuals received consideration and care in the form of hygiene kits.

More than 70 volunteers, including members from Denver Five Points Lions Club, along with Denver-area Anthem associates and their friends and family, gathered to assemble the hygiene kits. The kits were delivered to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, an organization dedicated to creating lasting solutions to homelessness.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and the Anthem Foundation have committed to improving the health and wellness of communities since 2015. Every fall, the Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days kick off a season-long community service program that takes place across the United States with support from an annual grant awarded by the Anthem Foundation. The 2017 partnership brought together Anthem volunteers and Lions in 19 cities across 11 states. More than 400 local Lions club members joined close to 1,200 Anthem volunteers in a total of 43 service projects that promoted happier, healthier communities.

Seemingly small acts of service, conducted over just a few hours, can make a big health and wellness impact on lives across the U.S. Other projects from this year’s Volunteer Days events included making blankets for sick or injured children at the Ronald McDonald House in Indianapolis, Indiana, distributing donated mattresses to families and individuals who do not have a bed of their own, and packing up food donations for those who are all too familiar with the feeling of hunger.

The grant support from the Anthem Foundation to LCIF also spurs year-round Lion- and community-led humanitarian and capacity building initiatives through the “Lions-Anthem Foundation Healthy Heroes” initiative. Aiming to improve the health of communities across the country, the Healthy Heroes initiative awards grants to Lions clubs and districts with programs that support improved health outcomes. The goal is to build up local health and wellness capacities through projects like the establishment of accessible playgrounds or upgrades to critical clinics, hospitals, and community centers.

Since 2015, Lions-Anthem Volunteer Days and Lions-Anthem Healthy Heroes have mobilized more than 20,000 hours of community service, benefitting 1.4 million people with improved health and wellness.

Students in Anchorage Develop Life Skills Through Lions Quest

BY JAMIE KONIGSFELD

In a state often referred to as “the last frontier,” Anchorage, Alaska boasts gorgeous scenery and is home to abundant wildlife. It’s one of the most diverse cities in the nation, with more than 100 languages spoken within the Anchorage School District. It’s also where 7,500 middle school students are eager for education and ready to take steps toward success. Luckily for them, Lions Quest is there to guide the way.

"It makes me think about how other people think or feel." - Priscilla

Lions Quest is Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) social and emotional learning (SEL) program. The program teaches students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 the necessary skills to lead happy, healthy, successful lives. Students learn life skills such as bullying prevention, staying away from drugs and alcohol, making responsible decisions, and establishing positive relationships. Feeling and showing empathy, setting and achieving goals, and managing emotions are all also part of the vital character development Lions Quest promotes. Another

important aspect of the program is something Lions can particularly connect with—service learning.

"It has helped me understand some key things in life." - Orion

Anchorage School District has been a nationwide leader in SEL programming for many years, but was searching for one unified program to implement across their middle schools. Lions recognized a unique opportunity; through their own network, they had connections with district leadership, and through LCIF, they had access to both funding and a proven SEL program. The Lions of District 49A secured a grant from LCIF and from Northrim Bank, a local bank, to make Lions Quest possible for the Anchorage School District. Lions also attended the teacher training workshops and are still actively involved, meeting with school officials to discuss the program and Lions' involvement in the school district and broader Anchorage community. The students at 10 middle schools in Anchorage will benefit from the lessons, which began implementation in the fall of their current 2017-2018 school year. In June and September 2017, 184 teachers were trained in workshops that taught them how to implement Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence, the middle school SEL program, into their classrooms and current lesson plans. In the 2018-2019 academic year, at least 120 more teachers will be trained.

"Lions Quest makes you learn about the process of accepting challenges and consequences that come with every situation possible." - Shania

The students in the Anchorage middle schools have already seen success since Lions Quest was implemented. Thomas, an eighth-grade student at Hanshew Middle School, has taken away a particularly important life lesson. “Lions Quest can’t change the things people do or say, but it helps explain how people should handle things when people do or say things [you] don’t like.” Another student, Ji, reflected on how the program is cultivating more positive behavior. “Lions Quest opens up positive options that we sometimes can’t see in ourselves.”

Thanks to the Lions of District 49-A, their local partners, and LCIF, thousands of students in Anchorage are well on their way to a bright future.

"I feel it can really help kids in younger grades. That way when they get older they know what to do in specific situations."

- Stacey

"Lions Quest is a great resource!"

- Jaaron





Sterling Lion Michael Frederick Winthrop and his son, Michael Francis Winthrop, enjoying the ball game last summer.

The **Sterling Lions** in **Virginia** partnered with the Nationals Baseball Team in Washington, D.C., to raise funds for Lions Charities last summer. On August 18 the club will do it again with The Lions Home Run for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Game Day. The Nationals will face the Miami Marlins. Tickets throughout the 2018 season purchased online at nationals.com/VIP with the code "Lions" gives a \$5 per ticket donation to JDRF.

The **Emmitsburg Lions** in **Maryland**, celebrated their 35th charter anniversary, and at the celebration, past member Lion Eugene Rosensteel was presented the Melvin Jones Award. Rosensteel, a 20-year member, was instrumental in starting the Community Day Celebration as well as community projects and the annual health fair.

The **Keats Lions** in **Kansas** hosted their annual Soup, Supper and Cake Walk, and included free vision screenings. Winter Olympics Cake Walk winners displayed their gold, silver, and bronze medals, as well as prizes.

In **Pennsylvania**, the **Mechanicsburg Lions** organized their second annual Give From the Heart program at Upper Allen School. The club donated \$100 to each of the four fifth-grade classrooms and challenged them to find a worthy charity to help. Students worked in teams and voted on where to donate their funds. They chose to support Pink Hands of Hope, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Hope for Paws, and Charity Waters.

The **Jackson Lions** in **California** donated \$1,000 to Meals on Wheels of Amador County to provide low-cost meals to Amador County citizens in upcoming months.

The Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross honored the **Brandywine Lions Club** in **Maryland** for 35 years of sponsoring their blood drives. Since 1999, the Lions, along with the Baden Volunteer Fire Department, supported the collection of more than 3,300 units of blood. Lion Bill Teslik supervises and coordinates the club's blood drives.

The **Summerside Lions** in **Prince Edward Island, Canada**, celebrated a special evening honoring Lions Bernard McKenna and John Woodworth. Both celebrated 50 years as members of the club. Summerside Lion Don Reid was also named Volunteer of the Year at this year's community awards program, and the Lions club was named Service Organization of the Year.



Rockport Lions Barbara Koster, Leslie Klein, president Bonnie Popiwny, Kris Stumph, and Kathy Dauchy meet with 9/11 first responder in Texas.

Retired **New York** Fire Department First Grade Christopher Edwards spoke at the opening ceremony for the traveling Stephen Siller 9/11 Memorial Museum sponsored by the **Rockport Lions Club**. He was a first responder at 9/11 who was off-duty yet came to ground zero where he worked for more than two weeks in the rescue and recovery efforts.

Corrections: The February issue of LION Magazine incorrectly reported a donation made by the Lions Club of Leduc, Alberta, Canada to the local hospital. The Lions donated C\$200,000 for a hospital CT scanner.

The March issue of LION Magazine spelled Kimberly Mae Capuyan's name incorrectly. We apologize for this error.



Lion Richard Stevenson gives kids an inside look at their classmate's eyes.

Social Star

The South Tuscon Lions Club Facebook page has nearly 7,300 followers. If you are still unsure about how social media can help your club, this growing Arizona club and its cyber branch may convince you.

Club President Richard Stevenson started the cyber branch of his Tuscon club because “there were people who wanted to be involved, but who didn’t want to be part of a traditional club.” Many of his new recruits were young and female and had jobs in the health or education fields.

“I sought them out because I knew they could help with what we wanted to do,” says Stevenson. “But they don’t have time to go to lunch.”

They have lower dues than members of a traditional club, and their meetings are almost exclusively service-related. “We go do a screening, and that’s a meeting,” says Stevenson, who manages three Facebook pages

for the club. The two public-facing pages he uses to share stories and invite key members of the community to connect and follow, so they’re in the loop on what Lions are doing. He then uses a private group to discuss club business with the cyber members.

“I’m talking to Lions right now from Scotland and India about how to be better Lions and our only connection is this Facebook page.”

Several community members who first connected with the club via Facebook eventually became members.

Stevenson, who is 70 years old, says his friends who know him are surprised when they find out what he does with social media for the club. They never would have expected him to be so fluent in the digital landscape.

“You don’t have to be 30 to do this. These are skills you can learn. You just have to be open to it,” he says.

FAQ

Q. I want to read LION Magazine online, but I don’t want to download the app. How can I still see what’s happening every month?

A. You don’t have to download the app to read LION magazine. You can simply go to lionmagazine.org, where you will find the most recent issue along with past issues dating back to July 2009.

Trending on Social Media

Chicago Shoe Project Wins Raves on Instagram

Chicago Windy City Lions Club sent 50 pairs of Shoes That Grow to school children in Kenya, which was matched by the Lions Club of Nairobi Greater for a total of 100 pairs of shoes to kids in need.



Voting at 2018 International Convention

Voting for Executive Officers and International Directors

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

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

- Sunday, July 1, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM (13:00 – 17:00)
- Monday, July 2, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (9:00 – 17:00)
- Tuesday, July 3, 7:00 AM – 10:30 AM (7:00 – 10:30)

Assigning Club Delegates

Club Delegates for the 2018 International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned by the club president or secretary, using one of the options below:

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

Clubs using MyLCI can assign their club delegates at any time between January 1 and June 27, 2017.

Clubs using the Club Delegate Form to assign their delegates will need to mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2018. If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2018, bring the signed form to the convention site. The form will also be available online.

For more information on voting at the International Convention go to
<http://lclion.lionsclubs.org/EN/seminars-events/certification-voting.php>

Lions Clubs International
Member Service Center
300 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook IL 60523

email: MemberServiceCenter@LionsClubs.org
fax: 630-571-1687
phone: 630-203-3830

**International Convention
Club Delegate Entitlement Table**

Membership	Delegates Entitled	Membership	Delegates Entitled	Membership	Delegates Entitled
1-37	1	263-287	11	513-537	21
38-62	2	288-312	12	538-562	22
63-87	3	313-337	13	563-587	23
88-112	4	338-362	14	588-612	24
113-137	5	363-387	15	613-637	25
138-162	6	388-412	16	638-662	26
163-187	7	413-437	17	663-687	27
188-212	8	438-462	18	688-712	28
213-237	9	463-487	19	713-737	29
238-262	10	488-512	20	738+	See below*

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

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



Club Delegate Form

Club Delegates for the 2018 International Convention of Lions Clubs can be assigned using one of the options below:

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

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

Club Number: _____

Club Name: _____

Club City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Delegate Member Number: _____

Delegate Name: (first middle last) _____

Delegate Email Address: _____

Delegate Preferred Ballot Language: _____

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

Officer Member Number: _____

Officer Name: (first middle last) _____

Officer Signature: _____

Mail form by May 1, 2018 to:

Member Service Center – Lions Clubs International – 300 W. 22nd St. – Oak Brook, IL USA 60523
MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org Phone 1-630-203-3830 Fax 1-630-571-1687

Clubs using this Club Delegate Form to assign their delegates must mail the form to International Headquarters by May 1, 2018.

If you are not able to mail the form by May 1, 2018, bring signed form, along with your government issued photo I.D. to the convention site.

Clubs using MyLCI must assign their club delegates by June 27, 2018.

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L ANNIVERSARIES

MAY 2018

100 Years: St. Paul Downtown, Minn.

95 Years: El Paso Downtown, Texas; Fayetteville, Ark.; Morgantown, W.V.; Bangor, Maine; The Bronx, N.Y.; Salisbury, Md.; Malad City, Idaho

90 Years: Wharton, Texas; Cherokee, Okla.; Sonora, Texas; Colfax, Calif.; Olney, Texas; Cincinnati-Western Hills, Ohio; Longview, Texas; Eldorado, Texas; Stillwater, Minn.; Auburn, Ind.

85 Years: Helena, Mont.; Kingsville, Ontario, CAN; San Diego Hillcrest-Missin Valley, Calif.; Toccoa, Ga.

80 Years: Fredericktown, Ohio; Mc Comb, Miss.; Noble, Ill.; Cedar Vale, Kan.; Woodburn, Ind. Ferndale, Calif.; Holton, Kan.; Clay County, N.C.; Chillicothe, Mo.; Huntington Beach Host, Calif.; Delavan, Wis.; Fort Bragg Mendocino, Calif.; Randleman, N.C.; Mount Forest, Ontario, CAN; Magrath, Alberta, CAN; East Kauai, Hawaii; Jasper, Texas; Lincoln Bethany, Neb.; Littleton, N.H.; Nashville, Ill.; Lacombe, Alberta, CAN

75 Years: Freeport Host, Texas; Morganfield, Ky.; Francesville, Ind.; Covington, La.; Brookfield, Mass.; Westville, Ind.; Etowah, Tenn.

50 Years: Abbotsfort, Wis.; Tsawwassen-Boundary Bay, British Columbia, CAN; Odessa Grandview, Texas; Redlands, Colo.; Ottumwa Evening, Iowa; Stewartville, Minn.; Mamakating, N.Y.; Clintwood, Va.; Sainte-Therese, Quebec, CAN; Montague, Prince Edward Island, CAN; Dodge Center, Minn.; Saint-Agapit, Quebec, CAN; Holden, Maine; White River, S.D.; Arcadia, La.; Mindoro, Wis.

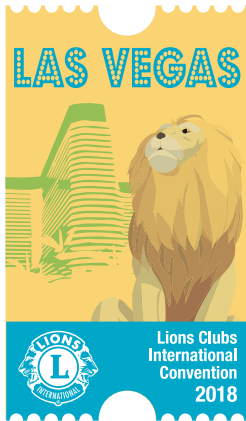
25 Years: Gold Beach, Ore.; Baton Rouge Magnolia, La.; Waldport, Ore.

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



Parading Around

A woman represents Lions Clubs International in Brazil's famous Carnival, a six-day festival marking the beginning of Lent and celebrated with parades featuring vibrant music and dance throughout the country.



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