

LION

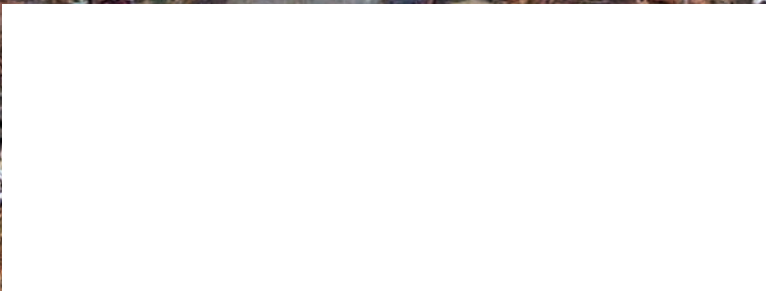


Lions Clubs International

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Tornado Town

A Club, A City, A Rebirth



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SERVING TOGETHER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Leos have fun at a recent international convention.

Serve by Modeling Service for Youths

In an Indiana town two sisters who are Amish and blind have become Leos. They've found new friends, discovered the joy of service and altogether expanded their sense of who they are and what they can accomplish in life. (See story on page 38). So it goes with Lions and youths. Whether it's in Indiana, India or in your community, Lions steer the energy and enthusiasm of youths toward service and success.

One of my goals this year was to engage young people in service and fellowship as well as help grow them into potential Lions. Lions clubs have had a lot of success here. Lions Quest has expanded into four additional nations and soon will be started in two others. The Lions International Youth Camp and Exchange Program is flourishing: Lions lead 123 camps in 40 nations. The Leo program is as popular as ever: there are nearly 145,000 Leos and we've rebranded the program to make it even more appealing.

Youths love to compete and test their talents. Hence, we created the Global Youth Music Competition. At the convention in Sydney Lions will be thrilled at the high level of skill and intensity as the finalists compete for the top prize.

As an international association, the future is now regarding youths. Half of the billion people in India are younger than 25. The percentage of young people is also high in China and in Africa, places besides India where our membership is growing impressively. We must continue to grow Leos and grow Lions among younger people. They bring fresh ideas, boundless energy and hearts full of good will toward others. To quote a younger Lion who was a Leo: we older Lions must "MOVE TO GROW younger."

We know that connecting with young people early on builds a bond not easily broken. Study after study shows young people engaged in community service carry that passion into adulthood. It's analogous to the old saying about teaching a man to fish instead of giving him a fish. We must teach young people the value of service instead of merely looking for ways to make them happy in the moment. Lions always will reach out to disadvantaged youths and youths in crisis after disasters. But we also must be eager to encourage a service mentality in youths able to contribute to the community.

Move to Grow can inspire Lions of all ages to progress in service. Youths especially move forward and grow when Lions take them under their wing and point them in the right direction. We are a great association that will prosper for decades to come. Yet we can reach our full potential by tapping into the potential of youths now.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Eberhard J. Wirfs".

Eberhard J. Wirfs
Lions Clubs International President



New 50 State \$2 bill Program™ now underway

Restricted release gives just 1 out of every 1,291 households an opportunity to get the entire State \$2 Bill Collection™



■ **NEVER BEFORE SEEN:** This is the new New York state overlaid \$2 bill that few have ever seen and everyone is scrambling to get. The World Reserve Monetary Exchange has restricted the release of its exclusive State \$2 Bill Collection™, so getting one would make you as happy as hitting the lottery.

By Joan Tedeschi
Universal Media Syndicate

Most Americans have never even seen a government issued \$2 bill, let alone the new never before seen state \$2 bills being overlaid and released exclusively by the World Reserve

Monetary Exchange.

According to Thomas C. Harris, former Deputy Director of the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing and consultant for the privately held World Reserve, "Less than 1% of all U.S. Government notes currently

produced are \$2 bills."

And finding one of the exclusive 50 state \$2 bills will be even more difficult. That's because it has just been announced that the release of the entire new State \$2 Bill Collection™ has been restricted. That means only 1 out of

every 1,291 U.S. households will even have a chance to get them all.

With this new State \$2 Bill Collection™ now underway, U.S. residents are expected to snatch up all they can while they can still get their hands on them. ■

Just 7 days left for U.S. residents to get the only existing state \$2 bills

Private hoard of never before seen state \$2 bills being released for the next 7 days, only in 4 packs of protective estate wallets each loaded with its own state \$2 bill for just \$12 per wallet

By R.K. Berry
Universal Media Syndicate

UMS - It's like a run on the banks. The phones just keep ringing off the hook.

That's because U.S. residents can only get the World Reserve's never before seen state overlaid \$2 bills for the next 7 days.

All residents have to do is call 1-888-485-8214 or one of the five Overflow Hotlines to get their new state bills.

These special Toll Free Hotlines have been set up because you can't get these exclusive bills at local banks, credit unions or even the

Federal Reserve. They're being banded in packs of four and released directly to U.S. residents exclusively by the World Reserve.

These crisp U.S. \$2 bills featuring the exclusively designed state overlaid printing are so precious you would never even dream of carrying them around in an ordinary leather wallet.

That's why they are being released in individually loaded rich protective estate wallets. They are so impressive, everyone will swear they must have been taken right from the President's

desk.

"Everything in our vault may soon be gone. So residents who want to get them now had better hurry and call," said Jefferson Marshall, Executive Director of the World Reserve Monetary Exchange.

Some collectors are always trying to snatch up all the \$2 bills issued by the Government they can get their hands on. They know that \$2 bills are almost impossible to find in your pocket change these days.

Originally issued in 1928, the currently designed \$2 bills have largely been locked

away in the bowels of the U.S. Federal Reserve vaults, rarely distributed by banks and almost never seen in circulation.

The \$2 bills issued by the Treasury Department's Bureau of Engraving and Printing, makers of all of the nation's paper currency, make up less than 1% of the \$670 billion in genuine U.S. currency that circulates worldwide, according to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

"That's why I've authorized a limited number of genuine Government issued \$2 bills to be overlaid with each state's

ADVERTISEMENT

■ **LIMITED RELEASE BEGINS:** To the right is the never before seen entire 50 State \$2 Bill Collection™ shown off by the World Reserve. You can't get these exclusive state \$2 bills from local banks, credit unions or even the Federal Reserve. Dealers and collectors who are lucky enough to find them are sure to be charging a hefty premium to let them go. But getting the entire 50 State \$2 Bill Collection™ may be hard, since the release is being restricted. That's why the World Reserve Monetary Exchange has also decided to release all 50 states together in one complete collection to U.S. residents who beat the deadline by calling 1-888-485-8214 in the next 7 days.

restricted printing and released from our private vault reserve to all U.S. residents who beat the 7-day deadline. For now dealers can't get the vault packs of the state \$2 bills to make sure residents can get what they need," Marshall said.

"These exclusive state \$2 bills will be highly sought after and are extremely popular to hand out as gifts for friends and family. They are the perfect gift for any occasion," he said.

"That's why this announcement is being so widely advertised, to make sure every U.S. resident has a chance to get their own state \$2 bill," said Marshall.

They are sure to impress

because most people have never even seen one of these newly enhanced state \$2 bills featuring their state's skyline and significant state symbol with President Thomas Jefferson on the front.

"Since these are the only existing state \$2 bills, anyone who wants more than 10 sealed vault packs of 4 bills in protective estate wallets must submit requests in writing so there will be no hoarding by dealers," said Marshall.

"You better believe we will be strictly enforcing the limits so that we can guarantee there will be at least 10 vault packs for U.S. residents who call in the next 7 days," Marshall said. ■



■ **GET THEM WHILE YOU CAN:** Shown above inside the maximum security vault of the World Reserve Monetary Exchange is their entire 50 State \$2 Bill Collection™ that only 1 out of every 1,291 households will have an opportunity to get. Also shown are the new state \$2 bills in the protective estate wallets, only released banded together in packs of 4, that everyone is trying to get for themselves and to give as gifts. They are so impressive that those lucky enough to get them may feel like they were handed a million dollars.

HOW U.S. RESIDENTS CAN GET THEIR STATE \$2 BILLS

U.S. RESIDENTS ONLY

The special Toll Free Hotlines are open to U.S. residents only. Residents have just 7 days to get their states \$2 bills beginning at 8:00am today. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any.

The World Reserve Monetary Exchange is only releasing the never before seen state overlaid \$2 bills banded together in packs of 4, each in its own protective estate wallet, for just \$12 per wallet and shipping to U.S. residents only. There is a strict limit of 10 state \$2 bill vault packs per household. To claim yours call the special Toll Free Hotline numbers below.

SPECIAL TOLL FREE HOTLINE:

1-888-485-8214

CODE: NL133

OVERFLOW HOTLINES

1-888-485-8215

1-888-495-2292

1-888-495-2295

1-888-485-8216

CODE: NL133

1-888-495-2297

WHAT TO DO IF ALL LINES ARE BUSY

If you are a U.S. resident trying to get the new state \$2 bills within the 7 day deadline and have not been able to reach an operator by calling the special Toll Free Hotline or any of the five Overflow Hotline numbers, follow the steps below.

- 1) Immediately call the Toll Free Hotline number below.
- 2) You will then be connected to a special operator who will ask you for the code number below and arrange delivery of your state \$2 bills.

Call Toll Free: 1-888-509-2680 Code: NL133

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

FOUR STARS FOR LCIF

Charity Navigator, an independent charity evaluator, recently awarded LCIF four stars, the highest ranking a charity can receive. More than 5,400 of America's largest charities are ranked on the Web site. LCIF received higher rankings than both the Red Cross and Feeding America. Charity Navigator assesses a charity's financial health, regarding both its day-to-day operations and its ability to sustain its programs over time. More than four million donors last year used the site that TIME Magazine called "one of America's 50 coolest Web sites." Said LCIF Chairperson Al Brandel, "The



rating confirms what many Lions already know—LCIF is a great way to make a difference in the lives of people. Our foundation is adept at maximizing the value of the donations it receives from Lions."

LIONS DISMANTLE LOG CABIN

Lions in Michigan dismantled a log cabin discovered hidden beneath the siding and drywall of an outbuilding in a homeowner's backyard. Negaunee Lions also will help reconstruct the cabin in a park adjacent to the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. The cabin may date back to 1867. The chinking between the red pine and cedar logs included red underwear with buttons. Negaunee Lions help preserve and showcase the area's heritage. They maintain a key attraction of the Heritage Trail—the first iron ore pit in the Lake Superior region. Lion Jim Thomas, a Negaunee



councilman, is president of the Heritage Trail Authority. The cabin was discovered in the backyard of Anna Dompierre, the granddaughter of Lion Dave Dompierre. The 48-mile Heritage Trail runs from Republic to Marquette.

LCIF PARTNERS WITH CLINTON GROUP

Lions Clubs International Foundation established a partnership with The Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) to carry out 7,000 cataract surgeries in or near Lima, Peru. CGI was established by former U.S. President Bill Clinton to unite NGOs, the private sector and other global leaders to tackle pressing needs including blindness. A pilot program, the Peru initiative is expected to lead to additional cataract programs as well as economic development opportunities in Latin America in partnership with CGI.

HEISMAN FINALIST AIDED LIONS

One of the 12 national finalists for Wendy's High School Heisman collected eyeglasses for Lions. The Wendy's Heisman award, held in conjunction with college football's Heisman award, honors exceptional students for excellence in academics, athletics and service. William Sievern, a senior at Reitz Memorial High School in Evansville, Indiana, created an eyeglass collection contest for elementary school students for an Eagle Scout project. The contest generated 1,500 eyeglasses for the Evansville Eastside Lions Club, and the winning class received a pizza party from an optometrist group. Sievern was one of nearly 55,000 applicants for the Heisman. The two winners were from Louisiana and Colorado.



William Sievern with football great Archie Griffin and David Karam, Wendy's president.

LCIF AIDS CHILE

LCIF provided each of the four districts in Chile \$10,000 in emergency funds after the Feb. 27 earthquake. One of the largest on record, the earthquake killed more than 800 people and displaced more than 2 million. Lions worldwide donated to LCIF to aid disaster victims including Finnish Lions, who pledged \$25,000. LCIF awards approximately US\$2 million each year in emergency grant funding, in addition to grants for larger disasters. Online donations can be made at www.lcif.org/donate.

LIONS AND THE VANCOUVER OLYMPICS

The son of a Canadian Lion competed in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Julien Cousineau, son of Alain Cousineau of the Lachute Lions Club in Quebec, finished eighth in the men's slalom. His combined time was one minute and forty seconds, just 1.34 seconds behind the gold medal winner.

Lions in Vancouver capitalized on the Olympics. Last year the Vancouver Chinatown Lions and the Vancouver Arbutus Lions held a Medal of Merit dinner honoring Jack Poole, the chairman of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics. The event raised \$75,000 for the BC Cancer Foundation. Poole died of cancer in October, just one day after the flame for the Games was lit.

Lions in Vancouver also scheduled in May a Medal of Merit fundraising banquet honoring Diane and Doug Clement. Diane was a sprinter on the 1956 Canadian Olympic team in Melbourne and Doug competed in track at the 1952 Olympics at Helsinki.



Julien Cousineau

WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

AARON VALLEJO, 38, wanted to join a service organization, but hadn't found one that fit his needs. After his wife joined the El Paso Five Points Lions Club in Texas about a year ago, Vallejo attended a few activities with his wife to get the flavor of the club. He joined the Lions in December because of the camaraderie he felt with the other members.

"I got to know some of the people and had a good time doing it," Vallejo said.

As an admissions counselor for an automotive training school and a father with two children and another on the way, Vallejo travels often and appreciates the family feeling his club offers. His 12-year-old daughter's Girl Scout troop recently attended an event with Vallejo and his wife.

"The Girl Scouts volunteered to help serve the chili dinner," Vallejo said. "It's great that we get to spend time on the weekends with each other. We have lunch once a week and I get to spend a little time with my wife. Any time here and there that we can spend as a family makes a big difference."

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR CLUB: Friendly, fun and energetic.

FAVORITE FOOD: Green chicken enchiladas. I like the rich southwest taste. It's a tortilla that's rolled up with a green sauce with chicken and cheese. It's just a good, spicy dish that we make here in El Paso.

FAVORITE TELEVISION

PROGRAM: "ER" — I like the drama and suspense.

THE LAST GREAT BOOK YOU READ: *How to Get Your Children to Live, Love and Leave* by Wilson Wayne Grant

FAVORITE PLACE TO VISIT: We honeymooned in Clearwater, Florida, in 2006 and it was beautiful.

WHY YOU BECAME A LION: My wife, Rocio Vallejo, is Lion and she convinced me. I saw her excitement for helping people. She was a Leo when she was in high school so she knew all about it and now was a good time for her to join.

WHAT YOUR CLUB DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT YOU: I am a die-hard Dallas Star hockey fan! They came down from Minnesota and used to be the Minnesota North Stars. We have a minor league hockey team here in town, too.

PROJECTS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR CLUB TAKE ON: A Leo club. I'm in high schools all the time and I think that this would be something that's pretty interesting. I see a lot of kids in difficult situations. I think this is something that could give them some guidance and structure.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

CLUB OF THE MONTH

HAMPDEN LIONS CLUB, MASSACHUSETTS

FOUNDED: May 2, 1948

MEMBERSHIP: 57

COMMUNITY SERVED: Town of Hampden, population 5,000. It's a suburb of Springfield, Massachusetts, that's mostly a farming community.

MEETING MATTERS: The group meets every first and third Wednesday of the month September through June. The first meeting each September is a steak roast at the local VFW.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS: Hampden Lions have three major fundraisers each year. They publish the local telephone directory and hold a golf outing. Their most famous fundraiser is the annual Brown Gold Sale. They shovel horse manure and sell it, which raises \$3,000 to \$4,000.

SERVICE PROJECTS: The club has purchased items for the police department, highway department, town library and local schools. Hampden Lions have also sponsored a street clean.

MEMBERS: The club membership includes a truck driver, nurse, chef, sales representative, retired judge and business owner. The diverse group of men and women also include couples with young children.



The Minnachaug High School wrestling team lends a hand shoveling horse manure along with Hampden Lions for the Lions annual Brown Gold fundraiser.

CLAIM TO FAME: In 1964, after the death of children's author Thornton Burgess, the club made a down payment to save his birthplace from being sold to developers. The home was eventually purchased by the Audubon Society and is now a nature sanctuary.

The club is known mostly for its Brown Gold Sale, which started in 1976 by then-club President Ted Crowley. It began as a community service project to clean up the small town, which has a number of families with horses. The first profits went to build a gazebo that still stands today at the Thornton Burgess Middle School. Crowley was interviewed by several radio stations across the country about the success of the project.

PROUDEST MOMENT AS A CLUB: Rebuilding the club from a low of 38 members 10 years ago to close to 60 excited and active members today.

OVERHEARD

"Somebody was talking about our youth today, how they weren't what they used to be. A little voice said, 'You can talk about it or you can do something about the situation.'"

—**Sam McCord Sr.** of the Moultrie Lions Club in Georgia about a successful program he started a dozen years ago honoring the most improved student at a middle school. From *The Moultrie Observer*.

"It's so much fun to help others and expect nothing in return. The best part is knowing that we are changing lives, one pair of glasses at a time."

—**Leah Throckmorton**, 16, a junior at Hart High School in Santa Clarita, California, who took part in the school's annual eyeglass drive for Lions clubs. From *The Signal*.

10 YEARS AGO IN THE LION

MAY 2000

Singer Stevie Wonder took part in a promotional video for the Lions-supported *A Life Worth Living* video series for people who suddenly lost their vision.



BY THE NUMBERS

3

Finish place of the Toronto Beaches Lions Club in Ontario, Canada, for its mini-festival along the route of the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon. Community groups are judged based on the number of spectators, costumes, noise level and entertainment. In conjunction with the race the club raised \$3,542 for guide dogs.



6,000

Weight in pounds of the 12 pallets of used eyeglasses collected by the Horton-Brockway Area Lions in Pennsylvania.

3,000

Hits on the Mattituck Lions Club's Web site prior to its 55th annual strawberry festival in New York.



14

Weight in ounces of the black Angus Ribeye steaks, along with 10- to 12-ounce lobster tails, served at the annual fundraiser of the Fontana Big Foot Lions Club in Wisconsin.

13,000,000

Estimated dollar value (if new) of the 130,000 pairs of eyeglasses recently sorted for recycling by the South Elgin Lions in Illinois.



1929

Year of a petition signed by Carrollton Lions in Missouri discovered in a time capsule unearthed from Root Elementary, built that year. The Lions had beseeched the school board to erect a new school. Charter member John Finlayson signed the petition; his son, Bruce, is a club member as is his grandson, Keith.



250,000

Amount in Canadian dollars of a federal grant to the Malcolm Island Lions Club to improve and expand Malcolm Island Harbour. Grants have been made to coastal communities in British Columbia hurt by changes in the salmon industry.



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IDEAS THAT ROAR

BIG IMPACT WITH LIONS CLUB SERVICE PROJECTS

Lions Bring Family Together in Spirit

Naperville Noon Lions in Illinois like to think creatively when planning projects. That's why when they sponsored their 12th annual Turkey Trot, one of the participating runners was actually 7,000 miles away. Afghanistan-based Maj. Anne Brophy wrote to Lions asking about the possibility of displaying a banner for members of her family, for whom the Turkey Trot had become an annual tradition. Since she couldn't be with them for the 2009 run, she wanted to show her support. Lions agreed that Brophy could register but run the race in Afghanistan.

Brophy, a lawyer in the Army's JAG Corps, registered herself. Ten Brophy family members participated in the Naperville run on Thanksgiving Day while the major ran in Kandahar with other military personnel. As soon as she finished her run, Brophy sent her time to Lions, who then entered it in the Naperville race's results. She placed 126th out of 252 in her age group. Event coordinator Bill McManus says running the race has become customary for many families. "Anne said she missed her family and the Turkey Trot," he explains. "We wanted to keep that tradition going for all of them. It was important."

More than 5,000 participants ran or walked in the 5K event with registration fees that ranged from \$25 to \$40 apiece. "We've really taken off the past four years," McManus points out. "The Turkey Trot kicks off many other holiday events in Naperville, so we have a lot of people come out for it." Lions raised \$124,000, much of which will provide supplies for diabetics and sight and hearing screenings.



Runners cross the finish line after running and walking the Turkey Trot's 3.1-mile path.



Maj. Anne Brophy and two other soldiers relax after completing the Kandahar Turkey Trot.

CHANGE IT UP

Try meeting in a new location to attract new Lions.

EXTEND INVITATIONS

Remember to invite local Leos to join the Lions.

STAY ACTIVE

When you reach a recruiting goal, keep growing your numbers with consistent recruiting.

HAND IT OVER

Let a new Lion take the reins in a tried-and-true project for a fresh look at a favorite.

Clubs Partner for Kids



Clark Lion Desi Lamb shows a young fisherman how to tie a lure before setting off to reel in some fish.

Kids love to fish and Lions love to serve. A recent fishing derby sponsored by the Clark and Willow Lake Lions Clubs in South Dakota brought the two together in a day of fun for 63 children and their parents and guardians.

Lions and their guests first gathered in a high school gymnasium, where Lions showed the kids, who ranged in age from first graders to sixth graders, several important fishing tips. “The groups went through breakout stations where they learned lure tying, about fishing gear and fish ecology,” Clark Lion Brad Lamb explains. Each participant received a new rod and reel to keep. Lions also supplied tackle and bait and served lunch after the derby.

The children were bused to Two Dam Slough, where “they were soon on the shore fishing away,” Lamb says. “Shortly after, the small mouth bass and several other species were beginning to bite.” The air was thick with excitement as the kids began catching fish. “The happy squeal of an angler yelling to let everyone know he or she just caught a fish was all the thanks Lions needed to hear,” he points out. The cost for the day’s outing was \$1,300 and Lions intend to make the derby an annual event shared by the two clubs.

‘Hands On’ Service is Up in the Air

Lions in St. Charles, Minnesota, not only built two pavilions for a community park, they also maintain them. When new shingles were needed for a deteriorating roof, Lions got to work immediately. Materials were donated by the city, but Lions spent three Saturdays doing the work themselves. They plan next to build a dog run park.



Lions handily tackle the re-shingling project.

LIONS ON LOCATION

YOUR GUIDE TO THE GREAT WORK WE'RE DOING AROUND THE WORLD

1 EUROPE ENGLAND

Sailing Into History

Lions showered Hilary Lister with champagne and presented her with a Melvin Jones Fellowship plaque when she finished her three-month journey. Lister wasn't bothered by being doused with bubbly: she had just become the first paraplegic woman to sail solo around the coast of Great Britain.

Lister sailed into Dover last August at the control of Me Too, a 20-foot carbon fiber boat. Lister, who can move only her head, navigated rough seas on 40 day trips by sipping and puffing on three straws to control the boat.

"I'm just a bit on the tired side. I've seen everything from whales in the Irish Sea to basking sharks, seals, puffins and gannets," she told reporters at her final stop.

Lister, 37, made the epic journey to raise awareness of disabled sailing and to raise funds to support the sport. An athlete as a child, she slowly lost the use of her body from a degenerative disease. Plunged into despair, she had considered suicide until she discovered sailing. In 2005, she became the first quadriplegic to sail solo across the English Channel.

A Lion, Lister was greeted by Lions of the British Isles and Ireland at ports. They helped her with accommodations and meals and donated to her cause. Lister raised nearly \$47,000.

"Hilary is an inspiration, a beautiful person on the inside as well as out," said Bob Prebble, who with fellow members of the Thanet Lions club met Lister in the port of Ramsgate. Said Yvonne Medlen, her sponsor for the Whitstable and Herne Bay Lions Club, "She really is an amazing woman. She has inspired people with similar health problems not to give up but take on new challenges."

Lister lives near Canterbury with her husband and Lottie, her chocolate Labrador.

Lister had to call off her sail in August 2008 two months



Photo from Press Association



At the end of her arduous journey Lister was as bubbly as the champagne.



The **AUSTRALIAN LIONS FOUNDATION** donated \$15,000 to New England Volunteer Air Transport.



The **ABBEYLEIX AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB** in **IRELAND** raised enough money for the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary to purchase two cars.



Four members of the **HARPENDEN LIONS CLUB** in **ENGLAND** will climb Mount Snowdon to raise money for cancer research.



Lister's series of 40-day sails took her along the coasts of Ireland, Scotland and England.

into it because of terrible weather and technical problems with her boat. But she resumed it in May 2009 and finished the trip. She sailed clockwise along the coasts of Cornwall, Wales, the east coast of Ireland, Scotland, the Caledonian Canal and then the east coast of England. Four people in a boat crew and three on land supported her.

Lions were with her at nearly every port, too. One of her last stops was in Grimsby. "I was absolutely overwhelmed by the turnout. I think there were members of every club in the district as well as district governors past and present," Lister wrote in her blog. "Not only had every club given us money but they passed a bucket round at the end of the night and collected even more. As people who had already put their hands in their pockets once they were also incredibly personally generous."



Past Council Chairperson Chris Iles and his wife, Yvonne, wave to Lister.



Past District Governors Bill Blake (from left) and Robin Blake and Past International Director Howard Lee welcome Lister in Dover.

LIONS ON LOCATION

YOUR GUIDE TO THE GREAT WORK WE'RE DOING AROUND THE WORLD

2 ASIA KOREA

Korean Lions Do Hands-on Service

Lions in Korea aren't hesitant to put on their work boots and gloves. Members of the Sae Suncheon Lions Club (bottom photo) did home improvement projects for poor families in Soonchun City. Lions repaired roofs, cleaned homes and even did the laundry. They also dropped off groceries. Not to be outdone, members of the Daegu Young Won Lions Club (right photo) renovated a center for the mentally challenged and seniors living alone.



3 OCEANIA AUSTRALIA

A Heap of Sheep

The sheep got a free haircut, and the Lions received a hefty donation.

The Collie Lions Club in Australia held a community shearing day at Lion Peter Piavanini's farm. About 200 shaggy sheep were trimmed of their wool. (Shearing doesn't hurt a sheep.)

Shearers, who donated their time, came from far and wide to assist the Lions. Shearer Bruce Jackson, a Collie Lion, came from just down the road.

The sale of the wool bales benefited the club.

Lions and their children enjoyed the farm ritual. "The sounds and smells of the shearing shed are far removed from the normal life of most members of Lions, who are struck behind a desk," Peter Blurton, club president, told the *Collie Mail*. Something else riveted their attention. One of the ewes, quite unexpectedly, gave birth to a lamb.



A shearer gets to work.

Photo courtesy of the *Collie Mail*



THE SIDMOUTH LIONS CLUB in **ENGLAND** donated a vital signs monitor valued at more than \$2,500 to a local hospital.



THE KEMPSEY LIONS CLUB in **AUSTRALIA** donated at FrontRow sound system, which amplifies a teacher's voice so each kindergarten student can hear the lesson.



Lions, Lioness and Leo clubs in **MANGALORE, INDIA**, hosted a health fair.

4 ASIA INDIA

Papers, Pencils, and Treats, Too

Banga City Smile Lions in India gave new meaning to Candy Day. They distributed treats to 120 schoolchildren. But the Lions nourished their minds as well by passing out school supplies.



5 EURASIA RUSSIA

Days of Fun and Learning

It's impossible to find a van with a wheelchair lift in St. Petersburg, Russia. So the St. Petersburg Great Bear Lions Club enlists military academy students when driving children with disabilities around the

city. Lions take the children to museums, parks, movies and the theater.

Founded in 2003, the club has 20 members. It also supports sports programs for

children, assists families of soldiers killed on duty and advocates for disabled children to government officials. Russia has 17 Lions clubs with 268 members.



As Seen On TV!

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LIONS ON LOCATION

YOUR GUIDE TO THE GREAT WORK WE'RE DOING AROUND THE WORLD

6 OCEANIA NEW ZEALAND

Kids with Cancer Forget Troubles

Families in New Zealand rocked by cancer steel themselves by saying that while you may not be able to increase the quantity of a sufferer's life you can improve the quality. Hence the name of Camp Quality, held in five locations each year around the country.

Supported by Lions, Camp Quality is for children ages five to 16. Often grappling with pain and isolation, the children are treated to loads of fun and companionship. Activities include visits to water parks and zoos, go-carting, jet skiing, and even helicopter and tank rides.

The campers have a healthy companion to assist them with basic tasks if needed and simply to be a friend. "Basically you take over the role of a guardian and look after them 24/7," says Rachel Wharry, 23, who learned of the camp when she helped create a keepsake book for campers at her printers' job. Her colleague, Hannah George, 21, who lost her older brother and cousin to cancer, also signed on as a companion. Camp Quality gives a child a week away, says George, "from hospital visits and the realities of living with cancer."





Camp Quality campers and companions have a blast.



Comeback in Kansas

Lions Help Town Recover from Devastating Tornado

by Jay Copp

Stephen Kirk saw the storm chasers on the highway as he returned to Greensburg that Friday night. He flipped on the TV. Meteorologists grimly pointed to the ugly swirl on the Kansas map and warned that the monstrous twister was bearing down on the town of 1,400. So Kirk took refuge in his basement with his wife. “Our ears popped and the windows exploded. The air was filled with smoke and dust and I don’t know what,” he recalls.

When the deafening roar became still, Kirk climbed his basement stairs and gaped at what he saw. His neighbor’s house was a pile of rubble. His own home was not much better. “I yelled down to my wife, ‘We lost the front end of our house,’ ” he recalls.

The county seat, Greensburg had a prosperous Main Street that stretched for three blocks. The landmark was Hunter Drugs with its old-fashioned soda fountain complete with red leatherette and chrome stools. The wheat and milo farms encircling the town provided jobs and stability. On Sun-

days, the town’s 11 churches welcomed pew after pew of congregants, many from families here for generations.

That Greensburg ended in minutes. Three years ago this May, a ferocious F-5 tornado, one of the largest in Kansas history, leveled 95 percent of the town. Gone were its hospital, schools and Main Street businesses. Only one church survived. Residents clambered out of their storm shelters and basements to find a strange, denuded landscape. Rubble ruled. In an instant, lives were irrevocably altered. “I knew that night my identity had changed. I was a tornado survivor,” says Kirk, a banker and a Lion.

During the past three years residents have embarked on a journey of recovery. They’ve embraced a plan to rebuild as a green city, erected hundreds of new homes and businesses and hosted a president and professional athletes, a TV documentary crew and thousands of volunteers, all inspired or intrigued by the town’s resolve to endure



Before and after: one block is filled on Main Street (top photo) compared to its previous three-block length (bottom photo).





despite the destruction.

Greensburg residents, close-knit but also stubbornly self-reliant, quickly realized their individual fates were intertwined. Serving the common good was essential to preserving the town. That held true for Lions, too. The aims of the club merged with the needs of the town. Lions lost their homes and their town was in crisis. Flipping pancakes, serving on the chain gang at football games and providing eyeglasses gave way to a new universe of need and service.

Modern Pioneers

Greensburg today is a patchwork of new frame homes and empty lots. Crews of denim-clad construction workers are visible from most vantage points. Solitary trees, stripped of branches and foliage, stand like lonely sentries. Left with one salvageable building, Main Street is filled in for one block on both sides. "This certainly looks like no other small town in America right now," says Joah Bussert of GreenTown, a non-profit group helping to rebuild the town.

Adds Ruth Ann Wedel, a longtime Greensburg resident now serving as an office coordinator for GreenTown, "Welcome to our world of dirt and mud. You have to be a kind of pioneer to live here."





Behind her is a pre-twister detailed map of Greensburg. “All the trees on our map served a purpose. They stopped the wind. There’s always construction material blowing around.”

The tornado killed 11 people. Nearly 1,000 single-family dwellings were destroyed and 110 businesses suffered heavy damage. Before the twister, more than a quarter of Greensburg residents were 65 or older; the town had been steadily losing population

as young adults moved away in search of better jobs. Shortly after the tornado, one newspaper speculated that the disaster may have constituted a “mercy killing” for a town with its best days behind it.

Hundreds of Greensburg residents moved away, disheartened at losing their livelihood or home or deeming themselves too old to start over here. Hundreds others, uncertain of their ultimate plans, bided their time in “Femaville,” the trailer park made possible by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Today the population stands near 900. Greensburg has issued 192 permits for new homes. The new hospital opened in March. The new school will open in August. Up and running are a new John Deere dealership, a Dillons grocery store and a 10-tenant business incubator building. On the edge of town is the new 14,000-square-foot pavilion of the 4-H county fairground. Also operating are the city hall, an arts center and the courthouse, refurbished for \$5 million.

“We’re building back better and stronger. I still want to see us come back much more. We’ll get there in five or 10 years,” says Steve Hewitt, city administrator. “Some young families have moved in. There are quality of life opportunities. There are business opportunities.”



Greensburg is living up to its name. The city hall (left, top photo) is a LEED-platinum building. The eco-homes (top), one of which will open as a bed and breakfast, showcase energy efficiency. The wind farm (left, bottom) three miles outside town generates power for dozens of communities.

Hewitt says the recovery would have happened without its decision to go green but that strategy was helpful. Early on, the city approved a plan drawn up by an architectural firm in Kansas City, Missouri, to be a sustainable community and a laboratory for research on a sustainable lifestyle. An ordinance requires large municipal buildings to follow LEED-platinum standards, a designation certifying the structure meets the highest energy conservation standards. City leaders and GreenTown encourage residents to build energy efficient homes.

Greensburg now lives up to its name. The courthouse, built in 1914, includes highly insulated walls and geothermal pumps for heating and cooling. The Arts Center, the first LEED-platinum building in Kansas and designed and built by architectural students from the University of Kansas, features windmills and solar panels. The \$25 million Kiowa County Memorial Hospital, became the first LEED-platinum critical-access facility in the country. Altogether, eight major buildings have received or are expected to receive LEED-platinum status, putting the town far ahead of most large cities. (New York City has five LEED-platinum buildings, for instance.)

Some of the sustainability is obvious, such as the 12.5 megawatt wind farm three miles outside of town. The 10 turbines provide power to dozens of towns. Other evidence of the green infrastructure is less visible such as the insulated concrete foam (ICF) many residents have used in their new homes. Close to earth as farmers or employed in a farm-related business, Greensburg residents broadened their understanding of what green means. "Before we turned up our nose at recycling as a tree-hugging, liberal thing," says Kirk, who notes that his household fills

one garbage can per week instead of four or five now that his family recycles.

Lions Labor

Pointing out what had been, Steve Dawson, a Lion, slowly steers his red pick-up through the bumpy streets of Greensburg. The losses are palpable. In this empty lot



stood his sister's doughnut shop. She survived the twister but died four months later in a car accident. On another block was a home he rented out. The twister knocked that down, another home he rented and the home he lived in with his wife, Connie, a Lion, and two grandchildren.

The twister also damaged the long-term care facility he managed. That night, with his family hunkered down in the basement, Dawson rushed to his workplace. It was no longer safe to make his way to the basement of the facility, so he rode it out in a hallway. "I think I was shaking more than the walls," he says.

The facility was not far from his home but the roads

were impassable and cell phones were inoperable. He didn't find out for three and a half hours that his family survived. They consoled one another but also counted their blessings. "We all agreed that as long as the family was safe the rest didn't mean squat," he says.

He knew about half the people who died that night including a neighbor a half block away. "He took some strong medications. He might have gone to sleep and never heard a thing," he speculates. There also was "an older girl I knew since I was a pup. She told her kids she'd ride it out in the tub. It killed her."

The widely reported devastation touched a nerve in America. Volunteers arrived in droves: church and school groups, teenagers and retirees, bikers with long hair and moms and dads with kids in tow. FEMA set up a "volunteer village" complete with beds in refurbished shipping containers and showers and kitchens in trailers. The Lions paid for the utilities for the two years the camp ran. Some volunteers arrived in RVs and Lions established a campground on property owned by Dawson's two sisters.

Dawson once drove a semi-truck, ran restaurants and held other jobs to make ends meet. He knew a thing

or two about improvising, so he served as a volunteer coordinator. He was in charge of "where they would work, what they needed to do, places they stayed—everything." In his pocket he kept a list of projects residents needed done, whether it was painting, installing sheet rock or clearing debris.

Dawson also funneled donations to those in need. "When you give to Lions, there is no red tape. We were able to get the money to where it was needed," he says.

The club's meetings had been at the cabin of the Boy Scout troop, sponsored by the club. But the cabin was in shambles and the members were too busy to meet regularly. So the 10 members agreed to let three of them make decisions. Dawson, Kirk and Chris Wirth, a banker, conducted club business via cell phone.

Most Lions wore multiple hats. In addition to meeting urgent family and job needs, they volunteered on city rebuilding committees. Kirk, whose bank eventually relocated to across the street, served on a business sector group and Dawson was part of the health and human services group. Once or twice weekly, the committee volunteers convened in a tent outside the courthouse at

their so-called public square meetings to update residents on their progress and solicit input.

Amid the surge of volunteerism, the Lions club filled in gaps and took on innumerable tasks. The club replaced glasses for 10 residents, helped with funeral expenses for two people and sent flowers to other families, donated to the food bank and provided school supplies. They worked with Lions from nearby towns to dispense LCIF emergency vouchers. They purchased two large troughs to hold drinks and ice for town meetings and when communication proved to be problematic, they purchased a PA system. "We had two meetings where nobody could hear," says Dawson.

Lions from across

Lions Don Richards (left) and Steve and Connie Dawson bought the first two homes after the tornado.





Lions designed the leaf symbol, which Greensburg has adopted.

Kansas rallied behind Greensburg. Sixty Lions wearing Alert team shirts converged on the town to cook dinner for residents and volunteers at a town hall meeting. For three days after the tornado, Past District Governor David Orr parked his mobile home on an empty lot and brought out two grills. “The line of people stood there until they quit each night,” says Dawson.

The outside help from Lions continues. In March the hospital dedicated its helipad, funded by the district, LCIF and the Foothills Lions in California, who donated proceeds from its blues festival.

Hardheaded Kansans

Don Richards, 81, joined a Lions club in 1960 and has been a member of the Greensburg Lions since 1966. He’s endured a lifetime of tornado warnings and on May 4 told his worried son on the phone he was staying put in his home. His son persisted and so as the wind howled and the night sky seemed to grow ever darker, Richards drove to the school, a designated storm shelter. The doors were locked. So he went to the hospital.

“The storm hit 20 minutes later,” he recalls. “My wife died in 2004. I had four bypass surgeries then. We were married 53 years and 20 days. That wasn’t a good year. 2007 wasn’t a whole lot better.”

His house was gone. And, as county chairman, his work was just beginning. He was 79 then but needed the energy of a 29 year old. “The first six months especially we had meetings 12 hours a day, seven days a week,” he says.

He didn’t have much time for Lions business. He had county business. Bolstered by insurance payments and federal funds, Kiowa County spent \$3 million on roads and bridges, \$5 million on the courthouse, \$3.2 million on the sheriff’s office, \$780,000 on the fairgrounds, \$6.2 million on the commons building (library/



Lions from throughout Kansas feed residents and volunteers.



museum/media center/4 H center) and \$400,000 on storage. Overall, Greensburg has recovered nicely, he says. “We’re where I’d thought we’d be after five years. I think we’re doing really well,” Richards says.

How was Greensburg able to get back on its feet? “We’re a bunch of independent people. We’re hardheaded Kansans,” he says with a laugh. Sticking around was half the battle. Within a week of the storm residents had signed contracts for new homes. “Steve [Dawson] had the first lot. I had the second,” says Richards, sitting upright in an easy chair in his new home.

Transformation

Lumber and dust occupy the sanctuary of the Methodist Church. Methodists broke ground on their building four months after the tornado and the meeting rooms and offices are finished. Sitting in an office is Pastor Terry Mayhew, a Lion since 2003. His superiors had asked him



Richards (front) and Kirk (left in back) attend the dedication of the 4H pavilion.

to accept the position in Greensburg the very day of the tornado.

There was no question of not coming. “I suppose I could have [not come],” says the soft-spoken pastor.

He sees a connection between the service of Lions and ministry. “That’s my ministry. That’s where my heart is—service,” he says. Lions are “an organization you can go to if you need assistance. We keep plugging away. It doesn’t take a whole lot of people to make a difference.”

Mayhew favors the green strategy. The ICF block in his church complex has helped reduce monthly gas bills from \$2,500 or \$3,000 monthly to \$350. The support for recycling will be reflected in the church’s new stained glass windows, partly made from the old, battered stained glass. “Green is important. We need to be good stewards of what we have,” says Mayhew.

Outsiders are drawn to the story of Greensburg. It’s a powerful story that taps into a commonly held belief that people and Americans of the heartland in particular are resolute and capable of overcoming huge obstacles. A year after the tornado, *The Early Show* on CBS came to town and titled their weeklong broadcast “Tragedy to Triumph; Greensburg Rising.” Several weeks later a Planet Green documentary on Greensburg premiered. Produced by Leonardo DiCaprio’s production company, the multi-week, multi-year series painstakingly charts the frustrations and fits-and-starts of a recovering town. But it also shines a bright spotlight on the can-do spirit and resilience of small-town America.

The building blitz and hopes for the future in Greensburg can sometimes mask the underlying feelings people have of loss and sadness, Mayhew says. “People are in grief. There is loss of home, loss of business, loss

of friends, loss of community,” he says. “Everybody deals with it differently. It takes time. People say get over it and deal with it. You have to walk the journey.”

On the other hand, residents need to continue to honor the “transformative” experience of surviving a

Lions are “an organization you can go to if you need assistance. We keep plugging away. It doesn’t take a whole lot of people to make a difference.”

—Pastor Terry Mayhew

catastrophe. “There was some apathy here. Everybody was just going about their lives. People have told me that night changed their lives,” he says. “We don’t want people to go back to where they were.”

Bond of Survival

Foxhole humor is habitual in Greensburg. Residents share the bond of survival. “No matter who you were—banker or ditch digger—the tornado treated you the same,” says Dawson. Kirk nods in agreement and rejoins, “We were all knee deep in rubble.”

Kirk and others speak of how surreal the experience was. Everyday life was altered; nothing was quite ever the same the morning after the disaster. “I think we went into shock. At the time we were not worried about three days from now but three hours from now,” says Kirk.

Yet at the same time the realization dawned that a new resolve was needed, that everyone had to steel themselves for the long grind of rebuilding. “The middle of that night a friend said it would be tough for Greensburg to recover. He knew about

other places. That was the first time that hit me. I took that as a challenge,” says Kirk. “Everybody wanted to rebuild. It was kind of like I’ll do it if you’ll do it. Lots of people saw this as an opportunity. I was already thinking about things I didn’t like about my house. I think everyone thought that way house-wise and town-wise.”

Greensburg was bolstered by the outside help. President George W. Bush visited shortly after the disaster and returned a year later for the high school graduation, where he shook the hand of each graduate. Setbacks and disappointments were balanced by Hollywood-like reprieves and rescues. When the arts center project was in dire straits, DiCaprio phoned Hewitt, the city administrator, and pledged \$400,000. “In a lot of ways we were Seabiscuit,” says Kirk. “That was during the Depression. The underdog horse gave people something to root for.”

Hanging from the back fence of the Dawson home, visible from the highway that passes through Greensburg, is a sign that says “Greensburg says thank you to the world.” Misery loves company—when a crowd comes ready to roll up its sleeves and work. “The morale lift you get from volunteers is incredible. It just lifted our spirits,” says Kirk.

For three years, the Greensburg Lions have been busy in service as never before. The recovery of their town has been testament to the power of community service, manifested in one small club and one small town. Referring both to his club and Greensburg residents, Dawson says, “We better understand the ramifications of helping. We literally gave people hope.” ■

For video on Greensburg, go to www.lionsclub.org and search for Lion Magazine.



Don't Forget About Photo Contest

The LION Magazine photo contest is off and running. We've received some good entries, but we haven't yet received—your photo. You have plenty of time. Mailed entries must be postmarked by June 10 and digital entries must be uploaded to our Web site by June 10. Photos must be taken by a Lion or Leo, and photos must show a Lions service project or fundraiser.

First prize is a first-rate Sony digital camera. Prizes for 10 runners-up are attractive Lions polo shirts.

Even if you don't win, your photo could end up in the magazine, giving your club the recognition it deserves. Entering the contest also is a way to improve your club's photography skills. Tips on good photos were in the May 2009 LION or can be viewed at the LION Magazine page at www.lionsclubs.org. Or e-mail jay.copp@lionsclubs.org for photo tips.

Rules

- Photos must be of a Lions service project or fundraiser that takes place between May 1, 2009, and May 31, 2010. This includes events held in partnership with Lions such as Special Olympics eye screenings or joint projects with other organizations. (LION Magazine may choose to print submitted photos before May 31, 2010. Prior publication will have no effect on contest decisions.)
- Photos must be taken by a Lion or Leo.
- More than one photo may be submitted. Different photos may be submitted at different times.
- LION Magazine staff will judge the entries. Their decisions are final.
- The first-prize winner will receive a Sony Cyber Shot DSC H50 (or comparable camera), hailed by reviewers as one of the best digital cameras. The 10 runner-up winners will receive a Lions polo shirt.
- Submissions must include the photographer's name, address, phone number and club name. An e-mail address is requested. The date of the photographed event must be provided as well as a brief description of the event.
- Mail the color prints or disk with images to LION Magazine, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL, 60523-8842, United States. (Do not write on the front or back of a photo.) Digital images also can be uploaded to <http://portal.lionsclubs.org/publicrelations> (click on Proceed to Upload, click on Upload Files, click on Browse, go to your file with the photo and click on it, click open and click on Upload). A message will appear: "file upload completed successfully." If you e-mail the image, send an e-mail to jay.copp@lionsclubs.org to let the LION know the name of the photo, the photographer's name, address, phone number, club name, date of the photographed event and a brief description of the event.
- Digital images must have a resolution of 300 dpi or higher.
- Mailed entries must be postmarked by June 10, 2010. Digital entries must be uploaded by June 10, 2010. All entries must be identified as "photo contest entry."
- All participating photographers grant LION Magazine permission to use their images in the LION, on its Web site or in other materials or publications of Lions Clubs International.
- Entries cannot be acknowledged or returned.
- See the complete list of rules at www.lionsclubs.org.

Lions Focus on Restoring Hope to Haiti

by Pamela Mohr

As Lions and LCIF work together to bring hope to the people of Haiti, Chairperson Al Brandel says that he's become aware of a new regard for Lions Clubs International's standing in the global community. While in Haiti in late February, he met with representatives of aid agencies, Port-au-Prince Vice Mayor Nadege Joachin Augustin and the United States Ambassador to Haiti, Kenneth Merten. "Our reputation as a major NGO is growing," he states with pride. Lions hit the ground running in Haiti and they're still there working to provide relief, housing and a sense of security to those who lost so much.

With hundreds of thousands of people sleeping in the streets of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital, families living in the three tent cities created by Lions have built a community of sorts. "We're bringing in tanks of fresh drinking water and our goal is to keep improving the quality of life for these people," says Brandel. "Each tent city has an unofficial mayor and we meet with them to find out what needs to be done. They provide their own security forces. They're creating their own communities—it just so happens they don't have houses. These are smart, resourceful people."

Brandel points out, "Wherever you look, people are trying to build something. They put sticks together and put a tablecloth on top to try to create a home in the streets." Lions are working to provide more sanitation as a growing number of

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A Haitian takes care of a child.



The Lions tent city provides shelter and a sense of community.



A baby gets a bath.



Haitians gather water at the tent city.

“pigs, chickens, goats, dogs and wild animals” rove throughout Port-au-Prince, he says. “The rainy season is about to start and that’s going to be a real problem.”

Brandel says Lions are trying to find a way to provide eyeglasses for those who lost them and meet urgent medical needs. “We hope to set up eye clinics in the camps and are working to get a medical clinic up and running soon,” he says. At least 200 more tents are expected to arrive soon to alleviate crowding and provide additional shelter.

“We’re trying to get people back into their homes, but it’s going to be a long, long time,” Brandel declares. “Government officials are marking homes for safe occupancy. A green checkmark means it safe for habitation; yellow means homes can be used again as long as some things are fixed and red means it’s a total loss.” Most structures bear red checkmarks on what’s left of the exterior.

It’s estimated that about 80 percent of homes in the Haitian capital were slapped together of adobe or poorly made concrete blocks. With no municipal building codes established, these structures quickly tumbled when the

7.0 quake struck. Lumber is in short supply and expensive in Haiti. Lions trucked lumber and other building materials into the country to help rebuilding efforts. The capital city’s seaport and airport were closed in the critical first few weeks after the quake struck, so Dominican Republic Lions helped facilitate deliveries into this ravaged city.

“We don’t want these people to be in tents two years from now. We want to help them get back home. We’re not in the tent business—we’re trying to help rebuild lives,” emphasizes Brandel. Post disaster needs assessments are still being done by Lions and other agencies since there is such widespread need.

International Director Eugenio Roman Jr. of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, says nothing prepared him for the destruction he witnessed when he went to Haiti days after the earthquake with Brandel and Past International Director Carlos Justiniano, of the Dominican Republic. “To be honest, I never saw destruction of this magnitude before—only in war films. What did I see? I saw more than devas-



The tent cities offer an alternative to living on the street.



(Top) Past International President Al Brandel fist-bumps a boy. Zone Chair William Eliacin looks on.

(Right) Dr. Maureen Murphy, Brandel's wife, makes a friend.



tation,” he reveals. “I saw a poor country that needs our help. But I also saw Lions from Haiti show us their determination and loyalty to our association and the spirit of service.”

He continues, “I saw what Carlos Justiniano did every week to be with them and bring containers of food, water, medicines and goods. I saw the generosity of the Lions of Puerto Rico, who continued collecting materials and money for Haiti, over US\$33,000 so far. I saw my own doctor and his son, also an M.D., go to Haiti and save lives. Both are members of my Arecibo Capitan Correa Lions Club and went there two more times.”

Roman says that by personally meeting and helping so many Haitians in need, his connection to them is stronger. “They thanked me many times for what the Lions of the world are doing to help them. I will never forget these numbers—more than 200,000 deaths, 10,000 amputations and more than one million homeless. But we are there to help. That’s what Lions clubs and LCIF do. It’s impossible to describe how this has changed my life.” ■

Service Man

WWII Hero Served His Nation, Then His Community

by Maria Blackburn

A few days before March 24, 1944, Arch Carpenter lay in a hospital in Northern France not far from the front lines of World War II. The U.S. Army paratrooper was recovering from malaria and he watched closely as the chief medical officer for his division, the 17th Airborne, made his way down the rows of beds, deciding who was well enough to return to duty and who needed further care. The officer was a paratrooper and wore shiny black jump boots just like the ones Carpenter had stashed under his bed. When he came to Carpenter, he reviewed his chart and told him to stay put.

That's when the 19-year-old soldier realized what was happening: The Allied forces were about to make a major airborne assault into Germany and he had just been passed over. Carpenter jumped out of bed, laced up his boots and hustled down to the motor pool where he stole some coveralls. He hitchhiked to where his unit was getting ready for the jump. There he discovered one slight problem: There was lots of combat gear lying about, but no underwear.

So he improvised. Carpenter grabbed a pair of scissors and cut the arms and legs off of his flannel hospital pajamas to make his own set of undergarments. A few days later he boarded a plane and he "jumped into Germany in my jammies."

It's a story that shows Carpenter's commitment to his division and his country, as well as his wry sense of

humor and his skill at storytelling. It also gives some insight into the character of the retired colonel who is one of less than 200 people in the history of the U.S. Army to be awarded the Combat Infantry Badge with two stars for serving in combat in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. But you probably won't hear this story from Carpenter.

"You wouldn't know squat about Arch from Arch," says Bill McMonnies, past president of the New Beginnings Gig Harbor Lions Club and a club member for the last 25 years. "Like most heroes he won't tell you his history. That's just the way he is."

Carpenter would rather talk about his work with the Gig Harbor Lions. After he retired from the U.S. Army in 1980, he moved his family to Gig Harbor, Washington, a former fishing village just outside of Tacoma. For the last 30 years he's served his community as a Lion. He's a past president and past zone chairman. And through the years he's painted houses and picked up trash, collected and sorted eyeglasses, built baseball fields and scenic overlooks, and otherwise devoted himself to making his jewel of a small town a better place to live.

"I've had a good life," says Carpenter, who is 84. "It's time now that I can do things for other people. I'm happy to do that. It's wonderful to work with a group of guys and gals that share the same objective of serving the community and having fun together."



"He's the consummate Lion," says Bob Wagers, a Gig Harbor Lion for 28 years and a past district governor. "He's a leader. A doer. He's always the first person to step forward and take a leadership role, no matter the task. Arch is well-known not only in our club but throughout our district and our community. He doesn't have to brag. The rest of us do it for him."

'Suitably Decorated'

"Please don't overplay me as a war hero, because I'm not," Carpenter insists. "I spent more than 12,000 days in the Army. You're bound to have a good day once in a while."

Before he was 20, Carpenter was an infantry combat veteran of two combat jumps and five major European campaigns including the Battle of the Bulge. He served in combat in three wars and during his career he rose from private to colonel and earned such honors as two Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars, four Legions of Merit medals, five Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart.

But he doesn't want to talk about his medals, either. "I'm not highly decorated, I'm only suitably decorated," he jokes in a deep, raspy voice that conveys gravitas and wit. He's a serious guy and doesn't say much, but his blue eyes sparkle with warmth.

He joined the Army right out of high school in 1943. World War II was already in full swing and he had been itching to go since he was 16. "I'm from a generation that was vastly, vastly insulted by the [attack on] Pearl Harbor," says Carpenter. "Really, I was afraid it was going to be over before I could go. That's how many of the boys my age felt at the time."

After serving with distinction in World War II he married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Ellen, in 1946 and went to architecture school on the GI Bill. They started a family. "I

majored in architecture and minored in reproduction," quips the father of five, grandfather of eight and great grandfather of two. When the Korean War started, Carpenter, who was in the Army Reserve, couldn't stand idly by and returned to service as a second lieutenant.

On Oct. 8, 1951, in an area known as Hill 347 in Korea, a soldier named John Goodner was gravely injured by mortar and left on the battlefield. Carpenter, who had taken two bullets in the leg, stumbled onto the battlefield, risking his own life to walk Goodner to safety. Goodner insists the Chinese held their fire

'Our motto is "We serve." Our job in the Lions Club is to make sure we keep what we do current and not rest on our laurels. We are always looking for new ideas.'

because they respected Carpenter's bravery. Carpenter disagrees. "I didn't have any choice," Carpenter told *Dateline NBC* in a 1992 television interview in which he and Goodner were reunited after 52 years. "I could not crawl away or walk away and leave a wounded man who belonged to me."

The men escaped with their lives and Carpenter was awarded the Silver Star for bravery. But instead of feeling like a hero, he felt like a failure. Too many mistakes had been made in that mission, too many men had died. "I was disappointed in some of the things that happened on that mission. I felt that I could see what they were and I wanted to do it bet-

ter," he explains. After conferring with his wife, he decided to accept the commission he had been offered some months earlier and become a career Army man.

He was never disappointed with his choice. One of his most rewarding duties was serving as a company commander in Europe during the Cold War, training soldiers to become the smartest and the strongest that they could be and ultimately preventing combat from occurring. "I really wanted to be a soldier and a leader of men and this was an important part of it," he says. Between and after wars, Carpenter attended the Army War College, served on the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and commanded companies, a battalion and a brigade.

"The Army taught me a great sense of responsibility," he says. "There is no career path that I could imagine that is more demanding and therefore more developmental than this because of the sense of responsibility that you have for others. Being a soldier doesn't mean you are walking around all day with a rifle. You get to be a leader. You are the one who takes care of your troop day and night."

'Double-crossed Him'

Carpenter joined the Lions Club in 1978 when he was stationed in San Francisco's Presidio. When he retired as assistant chief of staff to the 6th U.S. Army in 1980 and moved to Gig Harbor, he threw himself into being a Lion. "It's time to serve the community when you get to retirement," he says. "Your kids are here. Your grandkids are here. You want what's best for the whole community."

His contributions to the club, which was founded in 1931, have been big and small. Carpenter started the club newsletter and was its editor for many years. A talented artist who likes to cartoon during meetings, he





Carpenter is one of a select few to be awarded the Combat Infantry Badge with two stars for serving in combat in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

designed the club logo of a sailboat tied up at a pier on a sunny day.

He was part of the team of Lions and community members who helped his son, Brad, a former Gig Harbor Lion, build three Little League baseball fields in Gig Harbor in 1996, fields used by nearly 1,000 boys and girls every season. One of the fields is even named in his honor. It's a distinction that Carpenter downplays, just like his medals. "I was ill at the time Brad was getting the fields built," he explains. "He probably thought I wouldn't last



Carpenter in France in 1944.

Gig Harbor Lions built this scenic overlook of the Puget Sound.



very long, so he had a memorial field named after me. I double-crossed him."

And Carpenter was instrumental in the planning, early design, and fundraising for the Finholm View Climb, a 100-stair path to a scenic overlook of the Puget Sound that the Gig Harbor Lions built in 1999. The climb has welcomed a steady stream of visitors during the last decade, people who enjoy leaning out over the railings, looking out at the pleasure boats in the harbor and resting their eyes on Mount Rainier. "The whole community is proud of this," he says.

He's also proud of the Lions' ongoing projects. Whether he's talking about the Living with Low Vision clinic and support group the club sponsors, detailing the group's new effort to recruit students at the local community college as members, or discussing the creative "menu" of volunteer opportunities he is currently designing to place on tables during meetings (one column shows the type of service activity and another column shows the time commitment needed), Carpenter is enthusiastic about all of the group's efforts, past, present and future. "Our motto is 'We serve.' Our job in the Lions

Club is to make sure we keep what we do current and not rest on our laurels. We are always looking for new ideas," he says.

What he brings to the group, says John Kirry, is leadership. People don't listen to Arch because he's a retired colonel. The Gig Harbor Lions Club has three of those. They listen because he inspires others to pitch in and do their best. "Arch has a sense of certainty about him," says Kirry, club president. "He knows what should be done and what's right to do and he does those things. People are drawn to that."

"Arch is a man of stature and leadership and history, yet if you asked him to pick up trash on the street, he's right there," agrees McMonnies. "When I was president I called on Arch many times for things because I knew he would always help."

Carpenter is such an important part of the Gig Har-

bor Lions Club that just more than a year ago when the group wanted to hold a fundraiser to help them support their work in the community, they decided to roast and toast him. He wasn't thrilled about the idea at first, but his desire to help his club won out. "Just sit over there and be quiet," Kirry would joke to Carpenter at meetings where they discussed plans for the dinner. "The Lions club needs you for this project. We need the money!"

The event was held in October and drew 150 friends and family members who paid tribute to Carpenter by telling stories about his service in the Army and as a Lion and testifying about how much he means to them. Dressed in his "mess dress" and wearing his miniature medals, he sat on a throne decorated with flags from the two U.S. Army divisions in which he served.

The roast raised \$12,700 and was a big success. "It was much more of a toast than a roast," Kirry says.

Carpenter, who presented a \$2,000 donation from the Gig Harbor Lions to the USO at the event, is glad to have been of service. But really, he's most happy that the roast is done. Now he can return to being just another Lion. "Medals, I have a few," he says. "But other people in this life contribute to many things that are worthwhile. The country is made up of more things than soldiers. My life is no more important than anyone else's." ■

Simple Service

Two young Amish women joined the ranks of the Leos and are giving back.

by Kelly Janowski

The Leos who helped the Salvation Army bell ringers in a small town in Indiana bundled up against the cold. But two of them stood out. Emma Miller, 19, and her sister, Naomi, 18, wore long, plain dresses and white cotton bonnets and they moved about with the help of white canes. The Millers are Amish and they are blind.

The Millers wanted to be Leos and wanted to provide service and socialize with their peers, even if that means braving the cold and drawing some second looks, according to Pat Ehle, the adviser for the Students Helping Others Leo Club in Harlan. “They wanted to work the whole four hours and it got cold that night but they were determined and said ‘We want to meet a whole lot of people.’ They stuck it out the whole time,” Ehle said. “We beat every other group in the amount we collected. We collected more in that one day than some of the Lions collected in two days.”

The inclusion of the Millers as Leos represents a pushing of boundaries in Harlan and probably nationwide. Residents of this small community outside of Fort Wayne, Indiana, frequently interact with the Amish. But it is unusual for the Amish to join organizations outside the church.

“The traditional Amish way of looking at this is you shouldn’t be a member of anything other than the church,” said Steven M. Nolt, an expert on Amish culture and a professor of history at Goshen College in Indiana. “They defer to one another and try to maintain fellowship with each other so that no one is doing anything too radical to break that fellowship.”

But the Millers are not just another Amish family. Emma has been blind since age 4. Naomi never had sight. Both women have detached retinas. Most of their Amish peers attend Amish school and cease formal classes after the eighth grade. The Miller sisters both go to public high school. Emma graduated high school in the fall of 2009, and Naomi is on track to finish soon.

Allowing the girls to be Leos was not a tough choice for the Millers’ parents.

“[My parents] think it’s fine,” said Emma. “But when I talk to my grandpa and grandma, they don’t know what to think sometimes. But they excuse me because I’m blind. That’s just how they are. I don’t think of it that way, I don’t see why it’s so wrong to join.”

Naomi became interested in the Leos first and Emma joined later.

“I went to the blind school, I have short course there, and they have a Leos club there,” Naomi said. “I wanted to join because I just like helping people and helping others.”

The sisters do walk a fine line. The Amish do not drive cars, so Ehle picks them up for meetings. The Amish discourage displays of pride, which prevent Emma and Naomi from posing in photographs or wearing the insignia such as vests that commonly identifies the Leos.

“I kind of feel shy about doing that, I don’t want to get in trouble and have Amish people seeing me wearing that,” Emma said. “I carry it right with me.”

The girls have found other ways to bond with their Leo counterparts. The sisters volunteered at a benefit for the Harlan Christian Youth Center, where the Leos meet,



Naomi Miller collects money for the Salvation Army at Wal-Mart in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

and also helped judge a Christmas lights contest. The girls had to be bused around the community and other Leos helped describe the scene.

According to Debi Knoblauch, the director of the Harlan Christian Youth Center and an adviser to the group, the girls fit in as members of a thriving, active service group. Their participation broadens the horizons of the rest, she said.

“It’s been good for the girls and boys to have a blind student to work with and be able to interact with and understand on a different level what these girls are going through,” Knoblauch said. “These girls are just eager to work and help and give back. I think they understand that they’ve been given special treatment and they want to give back.”

Like their non-Amish peers, the sisters will have to cope with life after graduation.

“I love the teachers and I love my friends and I won’t be used to not having school. It’s just going to be hard on me,” Naomi said.

But the Leos will help the girls with this transition. Ehle said local Lions are working to provide the girls a Leader Dog, which will allow them to maintain some independence after leaving public schools. Both girls hope to become Lions, Ehle said.

“We’re around the Amish all the time and these girls are different. But the only different consideration we’ve had to make is I have to pick them up because they don’t have transportation,” Ehle said. “They’re excited to be able to come to the meetings and they’re excited to be Leos. But they’re goal is to become Lions.”

Courtney Widdifield, 15, recently volunteered with Naomi and Emma at a youth center benefit. She said it’s a positive experience for everyone to have the sisters involved.

“They don’t look at their condition as bad, they just get over it,” Widdifield said. “Amish are such a large part of our community that it’s normal. They’re a part of the community and the youth center is part of our community. We just kind of help each other out.” ■



With the assistance of seventh-grade student Bianca Nicholson, the Miller sisters help judge a Christmas light contest with their fellow Leos.

Radio Roar

Las Vegas Talk Show Tailored to Lions

by Cliff Terry



One Sunday evening, on a Las Vegas-based talk show called Lion's Pride Radio, a representative from a non-profit organization named Spirit Therapies was explaining the purpose of her group. The therapeutic horseback riding center enabled children and adults with physical and mental disabilities to interact with trained "therapy horses" and certified instructors.

"The most amazing thing is when the horses are walking, their movements are the exact movements as when a person's walking," recalls Rex Doty, a Lion who listens to the show and has been a guest on it. "They've never been able to duplicate a machine that would do that. So with these people riding on the horses, it actually exercises the muscles they would use if they were walking. And some of them even start walking again. Things like this are featured on the radio program."

It's those kinds of eye-opening and moving moments that draw listeners to Lion's Pride Radio. It airs for one hour at 7 p.m. on KLAV 1230 AM. Its two components reflect Lions and their mission. The show relates news about the Lions clubs in District 46, which includes the entire state of Nevada. It also is devoted to guests from the plethora of non-profits in the Las Vegas area.

"A couple of weeks ago we talked on the air to a spokesperson from WRRP, which stands for Wellness Redemption Rehabilitation Program," says Ivy Unieski, a co-host of the show. "What they do is help ex-felons reincorporate back into society and get them jobs and proper counseling and help with their education. A man who phoned in had been offered a job but didn't have money to buy tools. When we were talking with him, someone actually called in and offered to supply him with tools. Well, he got the job."

Co-hosts John Williams and Unieski are members of the Las Vegas Breakfasters Club. "Despite the name, we meet in the evening," Williams says with a laugh. "I believe it's the oldest club around. Now, they *used* to meet for breakfast."

Lion's Pride Radio started in 2007. "No club knew what the other ones were doing," remembers Williams, "so I just came up with the idea of having a radio show about Lions. At first, I paid for it myself. Then we realized you can only talk about Lions so much. We started to have guests from non-profits, and one was the CEO of a food bank. Our next major guest was the Make a Wish Foundation. Then we thought, hey, this is a good way Lions can serve the community."

More than 90 organizations have been featured on the show. They've included the Nevada Zoological Foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Street Teens, Catholic Charities, The Colors of Lupus, Disabled American Veterans, Down Syndrome Society, Volunteer Firemen, Blind Center of Nevada and the Heaven Can Wait Animal Society.

"The show has had a *huge* impact," says Ray Pezonella, a member of the Reno Arch Lions Club and past district 46



Lion's Pride Radio instills, well, pride in being a Lion. Broadcasting are (from left) co-host John Williams, co-host Ivy Unieski co-host, District 46 Governor Susan Lydon and Past International Director Phil Ingwell.

governor. “They do a great job. They bring in people who want to get their information out. And it’s great for the Lions because they talk about what we do. It could increase our membership, because people will see we’re doing good things in the community. They hear these stories on the program and say to themselves, ‘I want to be a part of that.’ ”

KLAV is the oldest talk radio station in Las Vegas. Its signal reaches all of Clark County—50 square miles or so. Many listen through the Web (www.klav1230am.com). “We have a lot of listeners from District 50 in Hawaii,” says Williams. “Why, I don’t know. They’re our most dedicated listeners. Eventually, we’d like to hook up with Lion districts in other states. Right now we get a nice grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation. They actually pay for the show. I’m not paying any more, thank God!”

Williams grew up in San Diego (few residents are native Las Vegans, he says with a laugh). He has been involved in volunteer work through the years and now sells classic cars. He had some prior radio experience, but Unieski was a neophyte.

Says Unieski, “John’s my significant other, and one day he said, ‘We’re going to do a radio show to connect all the Lions in Nevada.’ I said, ‘Yeah, OK, whatever.’ You know, I was cooking dinner. Three weeks later, we’re sitting in front of microphones, and I’m like kicking and screaming, going, ‘I can’t do this!’ ”

“People call into the show with questions and requests for the non-profits,” adds the Hawaiian-bred Unieski, a hydrocolon therapist. “We’re all helping each other with things they need like volunteers or support for events. We’re a clearing center. It’s been incredibly rewarding. Awesome. The one thing I find, though, is that with all these groups, their purpose is so heart-touching, that you tend to want to do something for everybody who comes on! One week we’re helping with the zoo, the next week we’re stuffing backpacks for at-risk children to take to school. You know, whatever the case might be.”

The first segment of the show is devoted to Roy Madison giving brief Lions news. There also are guests such as Jimmy Ross and Al Brandel, past international presidents.

“I report on fundraisers, special meetings, an eye screening, whatever,” says Madison, a retired police officer from Rhode Island, a member of the Las Vegas Breakfasters Club and the district’s Leo adviser. “The program is unusual. It gives these organizations a voice. You hear about the big ones, but there are little ones, too.”

Madison says the program showcases positive stories. “A youth group sponsored by the Masons called Order of Pythagorans walked into the studio. They’re young, black kids—I’m black myself—and they all came up and introduced themselves,” he recalls. “They were neatly dressed, had their hats on straight, unlike a lot of kids today. They talked about their plans, what they’re doing to further



Lion Roy Madison takes his turn at the microphone in the presence of (from left) Unieski, Lydon, Ingwell, Past International Director Vince Vinella, Past District Governor (PDG) John Barnett, PDG Audrey Williams and Lion Bill Busst from Canada.



Unieski began as a radio neophyte.

their education. This is the training they're getting from that organization. It was just great.

"Then there was a group, Life Long Dreams, that helps kids who are mentally challenged. They have acting classes, singing, whatever. The Lions had a spaghetti dinner for them, and one mother told us her boy wanted to play the trumpet in a school band, but the director brushed him off. Well, this kid learned to play the trumpet from Life Long Dreams and now plays in the band.

"There are so many things out there that are going on that you don't know about, and the radio show brings all these groups into one pot. Lions can support them, either financially or by volunteering. Ronald McDonald House has an annual food drive and seven or eight clubs pitch in."

Doty manages The Happy Factory in Las Vegas, which makes small wooden toys and gives them away to needy children. An Illinois native who retired early from Caterpillar Tractor, he moved to Las Vegas in 1980. The radio show helped him get the word out about his non-profit.

"My neighbor saw me making toys in my garage and invited me to join the Summerlin Lions Club here in town," he recalls. "In distributing the toys, I tried to get as much exposure as possible so people would know about The Happy Factory. After three different non-profit organizations here told me about Lion's Pride Radio, I thought, 'Maybe I ought to give John and Ivy a call.'

"I love what they do, including connecting with all the Lions clubs. They also hooked me up with probably 30 other non-profits that I would never have known about. You know, these organizations used to kind of hide in their own corners, and now we're all working together. Otherwise, you'd never hear of them. It's been a beautiful thing."

Adds Williams, "The Lions' motto is 'We Serve' and, basically, that's what we do. The thing is, we're just plugging away. We're not professionals. Everyone thinks it's hard. But it's very simple to do. And we're just having a ball." ■

Off the Streets and Into a Classroom

by Alecia Dimar

Virginia Languza, a young mother living with her husband and 5-year-old daughter, is thankful for Lions' support of the learning center in her city in the Philippines. "We can give our daughter a very good center, to learn, to study," said Languza.

Before the learning center was constructed, Virginia's daughter and other children in Pasay City roamed the streets. Shacks lined the broken roads where the children played; there was no sewage system, no electricity and no sense of safety.

"We know for a fact that a lot of young people, ages 3 to 6, are not given the proper daycare education, particularly here in Pasay City," said Bobby Laurel, past district governor of District 301-A2, Philippines. "We felt that this would be a very meaningful project for us to do."

The City of Pasay is located in metro Manila. Nearly 350,000 people live there. Until recently, Languza's neighborhood was filled with squatters. The government demolished this makeshift community and constructed housing for 400 families.

Lions recognized that there was still a need for a safe place for young children. Together, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Lions from District 334-A, Japan, and District 301-A2 funded the construction of the learning center.

"Everyone understands that we Lions are an international organization," said Sadao Kawase, a member of the Nagoya West Lions Club, Japan. "So all members, they are happy to do projects in the Philippines."

The learning center currently serves nearly 100 children and that number is expected to increase as additional classrooms are opened. The three-story building is equipped with books, educational materials, recreational equipment and computers. An outdoor recreation space soon will be improved with playground equipment and toys.

Lions regularly volunteer at the center. They plan to expand it so it serves all children who live in the housing project.

The learning center demonstrates Lions commitment to working with youth in their local community and helping



The Languza family is one of many who have benefited from the learning center.



A Makati Golden Lion tutors a young boy.

provide opportunities to underprivileged children. Supporting positive youth development remains a central mission of LCIF, along with Lions worldwide.



**Lions Clubs International
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‘Temple of the Eye’ Restores Sight

by Joshua Friedman

Dozens of people come to the Udaygiri Lions Eye Hospital in India daily to pray at its temple. Many of them are former patients. They call the site the “temple of the eye.”

The Lions Club of Udgir opened the hospital in Udgir in 2005. The hospital has been phenomenally successful. Since January 2006, the hospital has restored the sight of more than 21,000 cataract patients and screened nearly a quarter of a million outpatients. In its inaugural year, the hospital performed 3,815 cataract surgeries, possibly a Lions record for any start-up hospital.

“The Lions Family of Udgir always felt that something substantial must be done for the people who are not able to receive proper medical care at home. The goals of SightFirst are in our hearts,” said Dr. R. N. Lakhotiya, president of the hospital. “This was an untouched and underdeveloped area with unaffordable care and without availability of services to reach the people most in need.”

The remote area served by the hospital is underdeveloped in health care services. Forty percent of the population lives below the poverty line. By reaching out to this community, the hospital is addressing one of the five goals of the SightFirst program: targeting underserved populations.

The hospital initially served only non-paying patients. Now nearly 40 percent of its patients are paying. This



Revan Siddapps Amboji Kore

was made possible by establishing a strong reputation for excellent care and respect for the patient. Attracting such a sizeable percentage of paying patients addresses another important goal of the SightFirst program: creating sustainable eye care services.

The Lions Club of Udgir has been involved in eye care services for nearly 20 years. District 323-H and the local Lions were awarded three SightFirst grants totaling \$93,252 between 2004 and 2007 for hospital staff training, eye care equipment, an outreach vehicle,

furniture, an electricity generator and clinical laboratory equipment. The most recent grant enabled expansion of the hospital to include a second building.

Lions themselves contributed nearly \$150,000 for the building. Tens of thousands of dollars more have come from the public, the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme and the MLA Local Area Development Scheme. The hospital conducts outreach work. In the Latur district alone, the hospital is responsible for more than 40 percent of the cataract surgeries done annually.

Revan Siddapps Amboji Kore, 79, does not have any relatives to take care of him and was blind for eight months. He attended an outreach screening in his local village and was referred to the hospital, 62 miles away, for free cataract surgery. Lions provided free transportation. Now he can take care of himself.

“I will bring all other blind people like me to the next screening so that they too can once again see and have a better life,” he said.

The Lions of Udgir desire to do even more. They plan to provide diabetic retinopathy care, set up satellite centers and even establish an eye bank. By doing so, the hospital will fulfill yet another goal of the SightFirst program: developing comprehensive eye care systems.



A Win-Win

Use Drawings to Increase Guests



When you get a new person to attend your meeting, you're more than halfway to signing up another Lion.

The Denver Lions Club in Colorado is on a quest to have a membership ledger of 210 Lions in 2010. In this bustling town with almost 600,000 diverse citizens, First Vice President Steven Krebsbach said the group is leaving no stone unturned. Among the many causes the club supports, the group contributes to Savio House, a program for at-risk youth and their families and the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute. They also perform vision screenings for children.

Krebsbach said the group currently has 166 members and is optimistic about its goal. The club has pulled out all the stops to reach this recruiting landmark.

"The more guests you get, the better your chances are that you'll get more members," Krebsbach said.

To get more new people in seats at every meeting, Krebsbach and President Ned Nagle decided to host a raffle; every Lion who brings a guest receives a ticket for each guest during a six-week period.

"[Nagle] has one of the places up in the mountains and

he thought that would be a good idea if he donated a weekend up there," Krebsbach said. "We wanted to really concentrate a certain amount of time, like four to six weeks, that we emphasized the value of bringing a guest to the lunches and give it a lot of attention and give it a highlight with our members."

The club has held raffles twice in the past year. For the first raffle, each winner was able to choose a weekend getaway at three different summer homes. They put out the word that they were looking for prizes for this drawing, and all the getaways were donated by Lions.

"We had some nice prizes, so we had to figure out a way to take advantage of it," Krebsbach said.

For the second raffle, the club offered Denver Broncos tickets, Colorado Rockies tickets and a 15-inch LCD computer monitor, all donated by Lions.

Through this effort, Krebsbach said the club has added six more Lions. In the future, he said they plan to shift the raffle from rewarding Lions who bring guests to rewarding those who sponsor the most new Lions.

Crystal Clear

Increase Transparency with a State of the Club Report

No matter who is in office, the State of the Union is bound to be greeted with applause and fanfare. It also stirs passionate emotions in many viewers.

This is the kind of response Emily Mouser is looking for. As secretary of the McAlester Lions Club in Oklahoma, her quarterly State of the Club report gets her Lions fired up about their accomplishments

and progress. It's also a point of pride for the Lions to be recognized for everything they've achieved. Moreover, each Lion knows exactly what the club is doing with its time and resources on a regular basis.

"It's kind of just a quick celebration of the things we've done," Mouser said.

The club has been preparing the reports for a few years. Mouser said it was initially an annual event.

"I started to think, 'Do we give ourselves enough credit and do the members know what the board does,'" Mouser said. "I just decided maybe it was a good idea to pull together a report and it went over so well that we thought why don't we do this more often and keep that excitement going."

The report takes her about 30 min-



utes to compile. Mouser reviews the board meetings and notes projects the club has been involved with, scholarships that were distributed, fundraising efforts completed and other highlights.

"We look at the number of lives we touch," Mouser said.

Mouser said she hands in a physical report to the board at the State of the Club meeting, then she discusses the report and provides it to the local newspaper.

"[Lions] know what we do besides eating lunch," Mouser said. "For our members, it reminds them why we are a group."

A State of the Club report can make your club enthusiastic about projects and let them know where your group resources are going. Here are Mouser's

tips for a successful State of the Club report:

1. *Make it fun.* If time and resources allow, deliver your report in an interactive manner using a presentation platform like PowerPoint. Incorporate photos and music if you can.

2. *Make the information relevant and relatable.* For example, Mouser said she'll let Lions know that they raised \$3,000 at their carnival, and that

means they can provide 35 pairs of eyeglasses for local residents.

3. *Acknowledge thank-you notes.* Let Lions know if the club received any awards, honors or thank-you letters. It's always great to know your hard work is being recognized and a kind word will stay with Lions for a long time.

4. *Engage the families.* Invite your Lions' spouses, children and other family members. Make sure to highlight the family's contributions to the club's activities as well. You may wish to create certificates or letters of thanks if they pitched in to complete a project or activity.

Walkway Paves the Way to Honor Helen Keller



Children who visit Ivy Green find the lion statue hard to resist.

photo by Janice M. Williams/Colbert County Tourism

Lions in Nevada and Alabama united to give a new walkway to Helen Keller's childhood home, Ivy Green, now a museum in Tuscumbia, Alabama. Called the Knights of the Blind Walk, Lions continue selling bricks to create a paved memorial honoring the strong bond that Lions and Keller shared. Recent additions to the grounds funded by Lions also include a 1,600-pound concrete lion statue and a television with a DVD player that plays a video for visitors about Lions, who previously created a garden honoring Keller at Ivy Green.

The brick project began after Dick Grilz, a West Charleston, Nevada, Lion visited Ivy Green and urged District 46 Lions in Nevada to donate funds to make improvements. Tuscumbia Lion Johnny Tuten worked with

District 34 Lions to sell the engraved, personalized bricks at \$100 each. Nevada Lions sold more than 150 bricks to individuals and 25 personalized with the names of Lions clubs. More than \$55,000 has been raised and fundraising continues.

"Ivy Green is so well-known internationally to Lions that many of them have already contributed something—the gardens feature a gate from New Zealand Lions, a lantern from Japanese Lions, a weather vane from English Lions and even some curling stones are on display from Lions in Scotland."

For information, contact Tuten (djtuten231@bellsouth.net or 256-383-4552).

Going Once ... Going Twice ...!

Lion Ron Johnson of Leland, Illinois, believes strongly in the power of advertising. His club of 30 members in a small northern Illinois community makes about \$70,000 from a single auction of machinery—much of it farm equipment—and advertising is essential to getting the word out. “We’re not bashful about spending on advertising,” he says. “Holy smokes—does it ever pay off!” Leland Lions advertise the sale in the preceding months throughout the Midwest, and consider the \$8,000 to \$10,000 investment critical to the auction’s massive success. Gross sales topped \$2 million last year.

Lions have sponsored the massive consignment auction for 25 years. In 2009, there were more than two miles of machinery and 2,100 registered buyers. Everything from antique farm machinery to lawnmowers, combines, trucks, trailers and tractors is available. There have even been portable toilets mixed into the massive array of consigned equipment as it’s sold off to the crowd of hundreds looking for mechanical bargains.

Leland Lions distribute flyers telling how the funds are distributed locally. “We really mess things up in the village for a few weeks, so it’s important that we keep our residents informed and hopefully happy,” he points out.



People browse the thousands of items offered for sale before the auction gets underway.

The ‘Greatest Generation’ Rewinds USO Memories

The USO began entertaining soldiers overseas in 1942. For a group of senior citizens in Vancouver, Washington, a USO-style show sponsored by Columbia Crest Lions brought back a flood of memories of some tough and dangerous yet awe-inspiring times.

Residents of Fairway Village, a retirement community, had been producing the USO-style show for a decade when two years ago, Lion Mary Van Sandt suggested that Lions sponsor an additional performance. Held the weekend before Veterans Day at the Washington State School for the Blind, the two-hour show raised more than \$3,000 for the Clark County Sight and Hearing Foundation and other community groups.

Many Lions live at the retirement village and welcomed the chance to perform in a fundraiser. Van Sandt says it takes nine months to research and write the script, but they didn’t have to look far for performers. Two Past District 19 G Governors, Lyle Williams and Terry Robertson, took to the stage. Williams played Jimmy Durante and Robertson played Bob Hope. Both portrayed two of the Andrews Sisters as well, although the show’s “sisters” were indeed more like brothers. Lions were hoping for laughs, and that’s what they got. Van Sandt says they started preparing for this year’s show nearly as soon as the curtains closed for the event in 2009.



Volunteer Larry Catt plays Maxine of the famous Andrews Sisters singing trio.

photo by Zachary Kaufman/The Columbian

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DONOR PROFILE

Name: Rachelle Barrett,
zone chair and club president

Profession: Full-time
volunteer, retired nurse.

Member of: Peoria Sunset
Lions Club, Peoria, Arizona

How did you become a Lion?

"I had been a Lioness since
1983. Then in 2000 my entire
Lioness club became a Lions
club. Eight years ago I moved
and joined the Peoria Sunset
Lions Club."

**Why do you and your club
members support LCIF?**

"Our support of LCIF shows
how our small efforts are a critical part of a much larger good. With one candle
we can light the way for a few. With one million candles we become a beacon
to lead many people out of darkness. Also, here in Arizona we have had many
opportunities to see how LCIF funding can help in the case of emergencies: No
red tape, no intermediaries, just a friend reaching out to a friend in a time of
need. We are proud to be a 100% Contributing Member Club and a CSFII
Model Club."

How does your club raise funds for LCIF? "We try to organize fun activities
to raise money. For example, we have a White Elephant Sale three times per
year. I think the same rock has been sold several times already!"

How do club members react to being presented with an MJF? "Each year
my club awards three MJFs and without fail the recipients are surprised and
deeply moved. For us, receiving an MJF shows that someone saw the better
part of ourselves than we knew we ever had."



NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS INCREASES

A recent study showed that approximately 61.8 million Americans volunteered through
an organization in 2008, up one million from the previous year. According to "Volun-
teering in America 2009," a study conducted by the Corporation for National and
Community Service, 37 percent of nonprofit organizations reported increasing the
number of volunteers they use. Forty-eight percent foresee increasing their use of vol-
unteers in the coming year.

CLUB BRIEFINGS

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO,

Lions crowned a Rose Queen and two attendants at a club meeting, who all received a gold-plated rose and scholarship. Also in attendance was the club's first rose queen who was selected for the honor in 1949. The women assist Lions with their annual fundraising rose sale.

The FANWOOD Lions Club in NEW JERSEY

is also recognized by another name in the community for its most successful annual fundraiser. It's known as the "Christmas Tree Club" because the tree sale helps generate funds for many projects including awarding three \$1,500 scholarships yearly.

THE LEO CLUB OF AURANGABAD CITY, INDIA,

is working toward giving a healthier future to 533 young children. All were vaccinated against polio by simply swallowing a dosage of the vaccine during a one day effort by Leos to prevent polio in children younger than 5.

The DENTON Lions Club in TEXAS

collected 7,428 eyeglasses in 2009. Members drove the glasses to the distribution center in Fort Worth, then volunteered their time at the facility.

Since forming in June of 2008, the **GREATER BUTTS COUNTY** Lions Club in **GEORGIA** has helped create a resource center for people who experience losses from fire, created a support group for the Georgia National Guard 48th Infantry Brigade Combat team in Afghanistan and coordinated a central forum for agencies and clubs to help identify the service needs of the community.

The Surfside Leo Club in **PANAMA**

CITY BEACH, FLORIDA,

continued its community service project, Ringing the Bell. The Leos collected for the Salvation Army during the holiday season.

The DELAND Lions Club in FLORIDA

held its first meeting for teens who are deaf and friends of the deaf. The Leo club drew 24 participants.

ANNIVERSARIES MAY 2010

85 Years: Montebello, Calif.; Chinook, Mont.; Jefferson City Host, Mo.; Sandusky, Ohio; and New Holland, Penn.

80 Years: Pleasant Lane and Zionville, Ind.; and Harrisville, W.Va.

75 Years: Red Bud, Ill.; Hickory and Bessemer City, N.C.; Pittsburg North Side and Burgettstown, Penn.; Buena Vista, Va.; Winnsboro, S.C.; and Marlin, Texas.

50 Years: Pinetop, Ariz.; West Fork, Ark.; Sutter and Bloomington, Calif.; Craig Cedar Mountain, Colo.; Byron, Ill.; Lucerne, Ind.; Gladbrook and Hampton, Iowa; Eliot, Maine; Warroad, Minn.; Fremont, Mich.; Tuslaw, Ohio; South Park L C, Bern Township and Middle Paxton, Penn.; Sugar Grove and Craigsville, W. Va.; and Brown Deer and Pigeon Falls, Wis.

25 Years: Gadsden Alabama City, Ala.; Phoenix Phil AM, Ariz.; Monterey Park Dynasty, Calif.; Grandy, Minn.; Southmont Soutmont, N.C.; Chesterfield, N.H.; Beekmantown, Northville Sacandaga and Sunnyside Sur American, N.Y.; Muldrow, Okla.; Vinton Breakfast, Va.; Big Falls, Wis.; Pine Grove Shortline, W. Va.; Stonewall and District, Manitoba, CAN.

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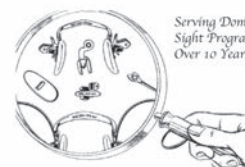
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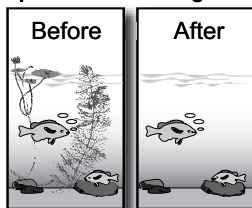


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HIGHER KEYS JANUARY 2010

Universal Key (300 Members)

- Lion Raju Manwani, Mumbai Sol, India

Ambassador Key (150 Members)

- Lion Jagdish Gulati, Allahabad City, India
- Lion Jagdish Aggarwal, New Delhi Bengali Market, India
- Lion Ravinder Sagger, Fazilka Vishwas, India

Key Of Nations (100 Members)

- Lion Jagdish Gulati, Allahabad City, India

Key Of State (75 Members)

- Lion Jagdish Gulati, Allahabad City, India

Grand Master Key (50 Members)

- Lion Jagdish Gulati, Allahabad City, India
- Lion Larry Lindsley, Rockford, Michigan
- Lion Doctor Pai Haradi Ganesh, Manipal, India

Senior Master Key (25 Members)

- Lion Jagdish Gulati, Allahabad City, India
- Lion Bob Hammons, Sallisaw, Oklahoma
- Lion Lawrence Parish, Medaryville Community, Indiana
- Lion David Sievert, Black Creek, Wisconsin
- Lion Laljibhai Patel, Vapi, India
- Lion Mantri Rao, Visakhapatnam Steel City, India
- Lion Sanjay Khetan, Birganj Adarshnagar, Nepal

Because of early publication deadlines, LION Magazine does not include the most current list of Higher Keys. To view the most current list, search for Membership Key Award Program at www.lionsclubs.org.

IN MEMORIAM

Past International Director Dwight E. Stanford, who served on the International Board of Directors during 1960-62, has passed away. He was also appointed to a two-year term as a board committee member in 1975 and had been a member of the Hillcrest Mission Valley Lions Club in California since 1939. A retired attorney, Past Director Stanford was a past president of the San Diego Council of the Boy Scouts of America and had been active in many professional and community organizations.

Past International Director Simon K. Y. Lee, of Hong Kong, China, has passed away. A member of the Hong Kong Host Lions Club since 1957, he was elected to serve on the International Board of Directors from 1987 to 1989. Lee was a businessman who was active in Hong Kong civic and government groups and was a member of The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. He was also a Campaign SightFirst Lead Gift contributor and served as president of the Hong Kong Society for the Deaf.

FOR THE RECORD

As of January 31, 2010, Lions Clubs International had 1,334,734 members in 45,888 clubs and 743 districts in 205 countries and geographic areas.

ON THE WEB (www.lionsclubs.org)

Get the word out about your club. If you're doing something interesting, innovative and visual, the LION wants to know. Submit your story and you could be featured in an issue or online. Go to the Member Center and click on Online Community. Select "Submit Your Story" and fill out the form online.

CALENDAR

2010 UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

MAY 1

Deadline for international convention regular registration fees

Deadline for advance convention registration and hotel room requests to be received

Deadline for International Friendship Banner, Newsletter, Photography, PR Idea, Trading Pin and Web site contest entries to be received at International Headquarters

MAY 3-6

Executive Committee Week Meetings

OAK BROOK, ILLINOIS, USA

MAY 11-17

Application deadline for August 2010 SightFirst grants

MAY 14

White Cane Week

MAY 15

Annual Leo Club Officers and Membership Report Form (Leo-72) due

Deadline for filing Officer Reporting Form (PU101)

MAY 21-24

Faculty Development Institute/South America, Central America, Mexico and Islands of the Caribbean Sea

VERACRUZ, MEXICO

CONVENTION COUNTDOWN

2010	Sydney, Australia June 28-July 2
2011	Seattle, Washington July 4-8
2012	Busan, Korea June 22-26
2013	Hamburg, Germany July 5-9
2014	Toronto, Ontario, Canada July 4-8

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THANK YOU

THE LIONS CHANGED MY LIFE



Lions Ken Steadman and Donna Taylor and leader dog Norman show children what it's like to be blind and how dogs help blind people be independent.

Lions: have you heard from a beneficiary or a recipient of your kindness, service or charity? Tell us about the feedback you receive from those whose lives you've changed for the better. E-mail a brief description of your correspondence to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "Thanks and Appreciation" in the subject line.

Gaining Independence and Giving Back

Lion Donna Taylor of Tennessee has always valued her independence. At age 20, she became a butcher, a profession she loved.

"I had always heard it was a good trade, but it was hard for women to get into," Taylor said. "When I heard it was hard for women to get into, I decided that's what I was going to do."

But when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at age 40, she lost her vision within one month.

"It was shocking; it was extremely difficult to lose. They told me I would never work again. All of the sudden I had to start asking for help and that was hard," Taylor said.

But with the assistance of the Fairfield Glade Lions Club, Taylor would learn a new way of life. Taylor's life has been saved by a Leader Dog named Norman, which the club helped her obtain. Her children, ages 19 and 20, call the loving mutt a "lobster," because he's a Labrador-Boxer mix. Taylor, Norman and Ken Steadman, a Lion who played a large part in Taylor reclaiming her independence, travel throughout the area to show children what it's like to be blind and how Norman helps people like Taylor get around.

Q&A: Donna Taylor

LION Magazine: How did the Lions help you get Norman?

Donna Taylor: I went to Walmart. They had a White Cane Day and we saw the list of things the Lions club works with. My friend said, "Donna that's what you need to get some of your independence back." They set me up with all the interviews and stuff and contacted them and got the application. They flew me up there and flew me home.

LM: What was it like meeting your Leader Dog?

DT: Well, I knew he was mine. When I got him I knew that he was my baby. It was an instant bond. Norman was headstrong, independent and spunky and that's why they gave him to me. I had him three days and I didn't feel good and I went to bed that night and he started barking. These dogs are taught not to bark. When I called the trainers, they told me I didn't look so well and took me to the hospital. If it wasn't for Norman, I could have died from a diabetic attack.

LM: How did you and Norman start volunteering at schools?

DT: I had several incidents of people being very rude to me. I had a lady kick my cane and say, "Watch where you're going" and I said, "I would if I could see." I knew that if I taught children, they would teach their parents. We do our little demonstration and talk to the kids. At the end of it, Norman's pay-off is all the kids pet him and he usually tries to lick them all. So far, we've educated 6,000 kids about blindness and Leader Dogs. The best way to give back is to help the people who helped me get Norman.

23rd Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest

Vision of Peace



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

How the Contest Works

Lions clubs sponsor the contest in a local school or organized youth group. The contest is open to students 11-13 on November 15, 2010. Participating students are asked to create posters visually depicting the contest theme, "Vision of Peace."

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

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

Awards

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

- **International Grand Prize Winner** receives a trip to the award ceremony at Lions Day with the United Nations (subject to change). At the ceremony he/she will receive a cash award of US\$5,000 (or local equivalent) and an engraved plaque. Two family members (one being the winner's parent or legal guardian) and the sponsoring Lions club president or a club member (as designated by the club president) will accompany the winner to the award ceremony. The award ceremony is scheduled for March 2011.
- **23 Merit Award Winners** each receive a cash award of US\$500 (or local equivalent) and a certificate of achievement.

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B. Visa/Mastercard # _____ Exp. Date _____
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How to Enter

Lions clubs must order a Peace Poster Contest kit from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters. Available in all 11 official languages, it costs US\$9.95, plus shipping, handling and applicable taxes. Each kit contains everything your club needs to sponsor one* school or organized, sponsored youth group:

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

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



Kits are available January 15 – October 1, 2010.
Purchase your kit early to allow adequate time for shipment and contest planning.

To order the Peace Poster Contest kit (PPK-1) submit the form below, order through the online Lions Store (Item search: Peace Poster Kit) or call Club Supplies at (630) 571-5466 or (800) 710-7822 (U.S., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and Canada only).

Visit www.lionsclubs.org for more contest information, deadlines, to send a Peace Poster e-card and view past finalists' posters.

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LAST ROAD



KEEPS GOING AND GOING

Since 1987, the Lions Club Balloon Festival and Fair in Highland Village, Texas, has wowed as many as 15,000 people and generated as much as \$25,000 for charities such as the Texas Lions Camp for Crippled Children, SightFirst and Leader Dog. Run by the Highland Village Lions, the event will be held Aug. 20-22 this year.

Join Other Lions Departing September 25, 2010

“Autumn Leaves” Tour Visits Historical East

15 Days from \$1199*

Combine a New England & East Coast historical tour with fall foliage.

Start in Philadelphia; travel on your comfortable motor coach, through the mountains, offering spectacular and colorful vistas. There's included fully escorted sightseeing in Philadelphia (Independence Hall & the Liberty Bell); New York City with city tour; Milford, and New Haven. You'll visit gorgeous mansions of Newport, RI; tour Boston including the Old North Church, The Boston Common, Bunker Hill and USS Constitution. There's even one free day in Boston with an optional tour to historic Concord, Lexington, Gloucester, and "bewitching" Salem. Next, travel through the White and Green Mountains to French Canada: Quebec and Montreal (two nights each, both with city tours) then travel along the St. Lawrence Seaway in "upper NY" to Niagara Falls for a half a day. YMT will also take you to tour Corning Glassworks, Gettysburg, Amish Country, Valley Forge, Hershey World and other attractions before flying home. *Per pers.; dbl. occ.; plus \$149 tax, service, and gov't fees. Airfare is extra.

Join Other Lions Departing October 5, 2010

New Mexico Hot Air Balloon Fiesta + Arizona

14 Days from \$1299*

Start in Phoenix, AZ and take the scenic drive north to Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon and Flagstaff. Tour the Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, and spend three nights in Albuquerque. Witness the famed hot air balloons' "Mass Ascension" opening Albuquerque's Hot Air Balloon Fiesta, plus the evening's "After Glow", and spectacular fireworks. The next morning watch the "Farwell Mass Ascension" and enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Tour more of New Mexico including Madrid; Los Alamos; Santa Fe; Roswell; the International UFO Museum & Research Center; Carlsbad Caverns National Park; Ruidoso; Alamogordo; White Sands National Park, Missile Range and Museum; and Las Cruces, NM. Travel east, back into Arizona, and visit Wyatt Earp's Tombstone (see the OK Corral), and spend two nights in Tucson touring the Mission as part of your city tour. Travel back to Phoenix for your final night and city tour of Phoenix and Scottsdale. *Per pers.; dbl. occ.; plus \$149 tax, service, and gov't fees. Airfare is extra.

Join Other Lions Departing September 29, 2010

Tour the Best of Italy + Vienna

15 Days from \$1999*

Enjoy three days in Rome with an included city tour of Ancient Rome and tour of the Vatican and Sistine Chapel. Two nights in Sorrento allows included sightseeing of the Excavations of famous Pompeii and a tour of the beautiful coastal drive of Amalfi and the cliffs. Your next two nights are in the Tuscany region with included sightseeing in Florence, Pisa and Verona followed by two nights in Venice with sightseeing. Next, Austria with two nights in Mozart's birthplace Salzburg with a *Sound of Music* excursion and two nights in Vienna, Austria with a city tour and Danube River Cruise. Includes 12 breakfasts, 9 dinners & English-speaking escort throughout. *Per pers.; dbl. occ.; plus \$299 tax, service, gov't fees. Airfare is extra.

Join Other Lions Departing December 26, 2010

Mexican Riviera Cruise

Plus... San Francisco – Big Sur Coastline – Hearst Castle – The Rose Parade – San Diego

15 Days from \$1299*

Start in San Francisco for two nights with included sightseeing. Travel south and visit Monterey, the 17 Mile Drive, and take California's scenic Highway One, along Big Sur. Tour the Hearst Castle and spend one night in the San Luis Obispo area. Visit the Danish Village of Solvang in route to Los Angeles. Take a city tour of Hollywood, Beverly Hills and L.A. plus enjoy an exclusive YMT, after public hours, up close, pre-parade float viewing. Talk to the artists and watch the finishing touches put on the floats, unencumbered by public crowds! On 12/31 have a free day or take an optional tour to the J. Paul Getty Museum and Reagan Library. On New Year's Day, you'll be taken to Pasadena for the Rose Parade with reserved grandstand seats. Board Holland's deluxe, state-of-the-art Oosterdam 1/2/10 in San Diego for a 6-night Mexican Riviera cruise to Puerto Vallarta, and Cabo San Lucas! Spend one day and night in San Diego with an included city tour before your flight home January 9. Add only \$100 for windows or \$300 for balcony staterooms! *Per pers.; dbl. occ.; + \$299 tax, service, gov't fees. Airfare is extra. Call for all the details.

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