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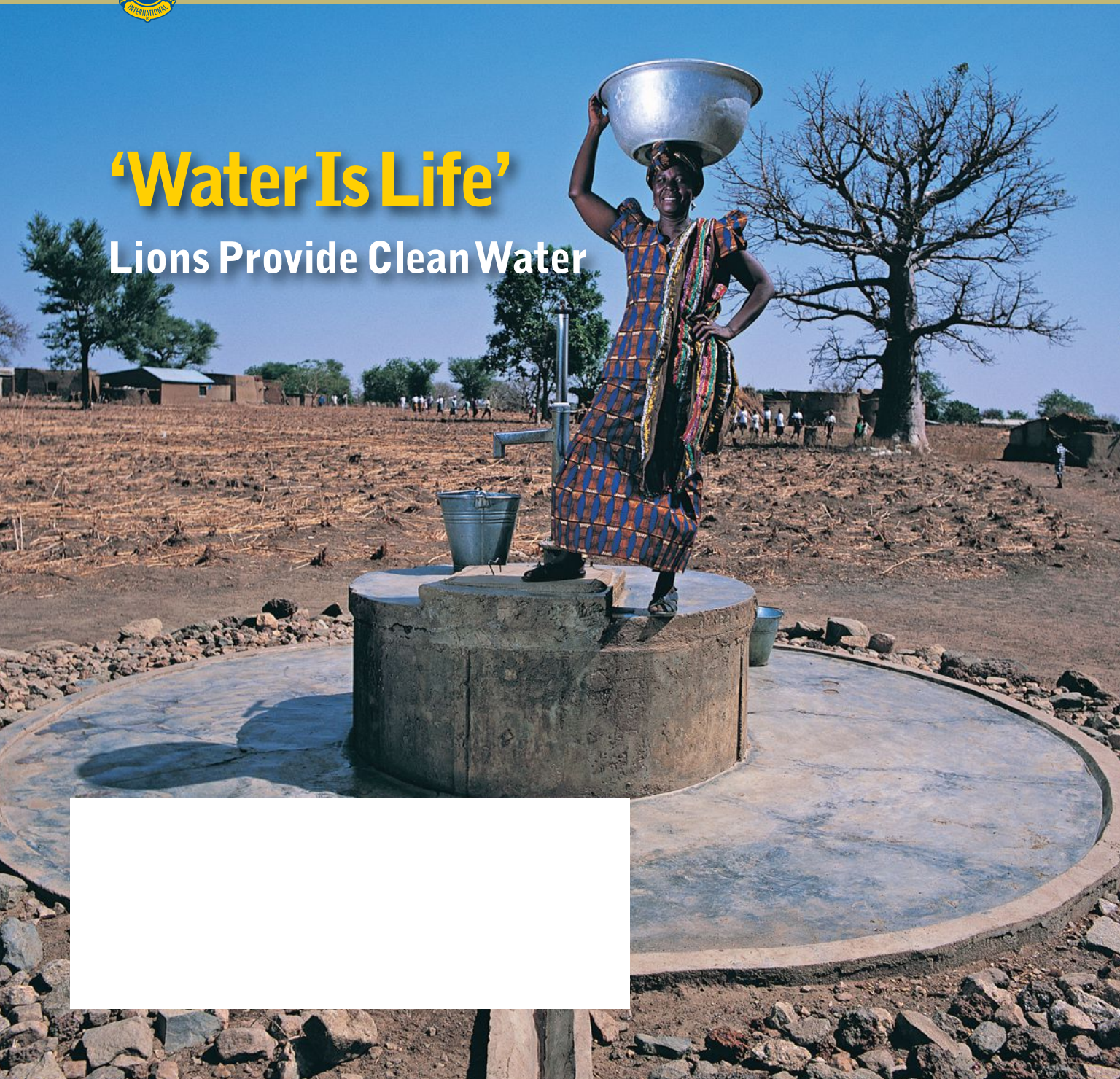


Lions Clubs International

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Lions Provide Clean Water



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

SERVING TOGETHER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



International President Wing-Kun Tam helps distribute backpacks to schoolchildren in southern India.

Lions Demonstrate the Awesome Power of Belief

One of my goals as international president is to meet club presidents. To date, I've been privileged to meet with 7,000 of them from dozens of nations. Are you impressed? Well, as I like to joke, I have only 38,000 more to go!

Those numbers attest to the size and scope of our association. But numbers can't match what is in the heart. The heart of a Lion is what makes us special. We believe we can make a difference in people's lives. Our belief in We Serve is enabling us to bring happiness and opportunity to others.

The power of our belief is why I decided against revising my goal to plant 1 million trees. Since we smashed that goal long ago, good-hearted Lions ask me, "Should a new target be set?" I've been telling Lions they've not only planted trees but planted a seed in their heart. Lions believe as never before, and the new target is hidden in their hearts. Lions will decide how far we go with the tree planting. Let's continue to plant trees and demonstrate to one another and the entire world the power of belief and the power of we.

In these next few months until the end of this Lions year, please also continue to invite people to be Lions, to partner with Leos on projects and to nurture young people, our most precious resource. Most of all, resolve to care for fellow Lions like family members. At club meetings ask them how they and their family are. Visit or call when they are sick. Look for job leads if they are unemployed. The strength of our association is a result of the warm relationships among Lions. The more we care for one another the more we will retain our members and serve together effectively. If Lions can help others, we definitely can help Lions, too. That's what being a family is all about.

I invite you to witness and enjoy the Lions' family when we gather in great numbers in June at the international convention in Busan, Korea. We will reveal the final tally of trees planted as well as engage in all the wonderful traditional events such as the flag ceremony, the parade and the swearing-in of the new president. Lions will show one another the power of belief and the power of "we."

Wing-Kun Tam
Lions Clubs International President

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

PEACE POSTER MARKS 25TH YEAR

Celebrate the 25th year of the Lions International Peace Poster Contest by participating in the 2012-2013 competition. Kits are now on sale at Lions Clubs International. Lions clubs can sponsor the art contest for children ages 11 to 13 as of Nov. 15 in local schools and youth groups. The art contest encourages youths to express their visions of peace. More than 4 million children from nearly 100 countries have participated. The grand prize winner will receive a trip to Lions Day with the United Nations and a cash prize of \$5,000. Each of the 23 merit award winners will receive \$500. For information, visit www.lionsclubs.org (search: Peace Poster), call 630-571-5466 or e-mail peaceposter@lionsclubs.org.

WATCH LIONS QUARTERLY

In the current edition of LQ-Lions Quarterly video magazine, Lions alleviate hunger in the United States and elsewhere; promote water conservation through rain barrels in Bowie, Maryland; foster sons of prisoners in India; provide mammograms and raise awareness of breast cancer in Beirut, Lebanon; and prepare for the 95th international convention in Busan, South Korea. Watch LQ online at lionsclubs.org and share it through YouTube with friends. Or download LQ from iTunes.

SERVICE CAMPAIGNS DRAW LARGE NUMBERS

Lions embraced the first two service campaigns for 2011-12. The Engaging our Youth Campaign in August served 1.7 million youths and Lions put in 802,726 service hours. The Sharing the Vision Campaign in October served 2.2 million people and Lions tallied 534,519 service hours. In April, Lions are encouraged to complete an environmental project. The results for the Feeding the Hungry Campaign in December/January are not compiled yet.

2012 ROSE PARADE FEATURES LIONS

Two Lions floats took part in the 2012 Rose Parade, viewed by an estimated 400 million people in 85 countries. The Heartland Lions Eye Banks in Missouri sponsored a float that honored the lives of two women. The float carried a floral portrait of Mariah West, an eye, organ and tissue donor. Also remembered was Darian Vanderhoofven, an eye bank staffer who died in the Joplin tornado. The float featured six floral clocks and 72 floral portraits of deceased donors. For the 20th consecutive year, Lions Clubs International also presented a float in the Jan. 2 parade in Pasadena, California. International President Wing-Kun Tam rode the float, whose theme was the Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contest.

The Heartland Lions Eye Banks float takes part in the 2012 Rose Parade.

Photo by Scott Weersing



FLICKR PHOTOS SHOOT PAST 4,000

Lions have submitted more than 4,000 photos since 2009 to Lions Clubs International for its photostream on Flickr. The photo collection provides a snapshot in time of Lions in service: Lions in Venezuela screening for diabetes, Lions in India providing food for the needy and Lions in Los Angeles hosting a student speaker contest. The photos can be viewed at www.flickr.com/photos/lionsclubsorg/. To submit photos, search for "submit a photo" on the LCI Web site.

In a photo on Flickr, Lions in District 324 E1 in India hold a Diabetes Awareness and Detection Camp.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

ONE OF US

Palmdale, California, Lions Club President Kathy Schroeder knows better than most that one's life can change in an instant. In 2002, a driver talking on a cell phone ran a red light and hit Schroeder's car. Car battery acid came through her broken window and caused chemical burns in both eyes. She was told to prepare to go blind. Although she was highly visually impaired, Schroeder never gave up hope that her sight would be regained. A few years later, Schroeder was the recipient of a Boston Keratoprosthesis (Boston KPro)—a transplant in which an artificial plastic cornea is used along with donor tissue—in her left eye. The next day she could read the big E on the eye chart. Later, she received the same transplant in her right eye with tissue donated from the Heartland Lions Eye Banks (HLEB) in Missouri. Schroeder has had complications and fluctuations in her vision, but today she is thankful to do the things she loves like drawing and reading. Along her journey she also discovered some new ways to make a difference, including joining the Lions.

WHY DIDN'T YOU EVER LOSE HOPE THAT YOUR SIGHT WOULD BE REGAINED? I think it's part of my personality. I don't stay down long. The first three years were the hardest because I couldn't see at all. But then the Boston KPro opportunity happened. My left eye, which I was told was hopeless, is now my best eye because of the KPro. I ended up losing my right eye to glaucoma (a side effect of the transplant) last summer, so I'm very fortunate that they were able to restore vision in my left.

HOW HAS BEING A LION BECOME A PART OF YOUR LIFE? I first learned about Lions after receiving donor tissue from the HLEB. I thought it would be a good fit for me because I could volunteer and know that the Lions would understand my vision limitations. I'm so proud of my club; we conduct more than 300 vision screenings each year for children, veterans and seniors. Screening for glaucoma is one of the most important things Lions do. Being a Lion has also enabled me to share my story publicly and inspire others. After I speak to a group, when someone tells me they became an organ, eye and tissue donor or they stopped using a cell phone while driving, it makes it all worth it.

WHAT LESSONS HAVE YOU LEARNED THROUGH YOUR JOURNEY? The most important message is that even when you're told something is hopeless, don't give up hope because you never know what is right around the corner. Also, I always tell people that my vision impairment created a wonderful opportunity for me to see things differently. For instance, I was a pencil portrait artist before the accident, but with my vision loss I couldn't get the details right. So I decided to try drawing cartoons because they don't have to be perfect. I actually love cartooning more than portraits.

WHAT SHOULD LIONS KNOW ABOUT ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION? Of my 14 surgeries, nine have involved donor corneas or other tissue. My own daughter was even a living donor of eye tissue. I think that the last act of Lionism should be to become an organ, eye and tissue donor. It's one last way to serve.



One of Kathy Schroeder's favorite hobbies is reading—something she was unable to do for more than three years. Thanks to the Boston KPro and with the help of an e-reader, she is able to enjoy this nightly pastime again.

Know a Lion who you think deserves a bit of recognition? E-mail us a brief description of your Lion and the reason you're nominating him or her at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "One of Us" in the subject line.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

CLUB OF THE MONTH

LIVINGSTON LIONS CLUB, TEXAS

YEAR FOUNDED: 1941

MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS: The 125-member club has Lions as young as 25, but also boasts a charter member who is 97. Humor is an integral part of the weekly meetings; meetings start with the Tail Twister giving an entertaining monologue and conclude with the president sharing a funny thought for the day.

EVERYONE'S A WINNER: An annual highlight is Phil Bennett Day, a fun competition event for disabled youth, similar to the Special Olympics. Games include wheelchair races, balloon throws and sack races; Lions serve as competition judges and cheer on the athletes. All contestants receive recognition ribbons and the reward of happy memories of a great day.

SOLEMN TRADITION: The club holds an annual Memorial Luncheon to honor Lions lost during the year. This moving gathering includes spouses and family members of the deceased and gives Lions a chance to eulogize and thank them for their club contributions.

BRINGING HIGHER LEARNING HOME: The Lions are proudly supporting the creation of a new junior college and commerce center in Livingston with a donation of \$50,000. The school will enable local students to receive a college education without having to travel or pay high tuition elsewhere. The rate of local graduating high school seniors going to college is expected to double.

WOULD YOU LIKE FRIES WITH THAT? Livingston Lions can regularly be found working behind a concession counter at events like the Youth Rodeo, Relay for Life and the high school homecoming game, where they serve thousands of burgers, fries and other snacks.

SIGHT COMES FIRST: Ultimately, the club is best known in the community for what LCI is best known for: preserving and restoring vision. With an annual

budget of \$7,500 for sight-related service, they help approximately 100 people receive eye care and eyeglasses each year.

WHY BE A LION? "What a wonderful feeling I have when I tell people I am a member of our local Lions club. It is truly a great accomplishment that we do so much for so many." —Dr. Michael Shukan, club president

President Mike Shukan works the french fry station at the club's homecoming game concession stand.



OVERHEARD

"I don't want to wear a rubber band around my head forever. It gives me a headache."

—Sheri Colbert of Newport News, Virginia, a 51-year-old former school bus driver who lost her right eye to cancer. The Newport News Denbigh Lions and the Lions Charity Foundation of District 24-D helped her obtain an artificial eye. From the [dailypress.com](#).

"I just happened to see on the back of the shirt that it had something to do with 'blind,' so I immediately struck up a conversation with her."

—Pete Stamsen, past president of the Lawrenceville Lions Club in Georgia, on his chance encounter at Wal-Mart with Nancy Jones, whose 17-year-old son, Timothy, is blind. Stamsen's club and Lions in Buford, Dacula, Loganville, Norcross and Snellville eventually gave Timothy a talking scientific calculator and an upgrade for his special computer. From the [Gwinnett Daily Post](#).

"Those are some expensive peaches!"

—A Lion at his club's roadside fruit stand teasing Amy Thielen, a food writer for the Star Tribune in Minneapolis, about her car being rear-ended when she had slowed suddenly to pull over to buy peaches. From the [Star Tribune](#).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

BY THE NUMBERS

60

Celebrity chefs who cooked for 1,000 guests at 60 Men Who Cook, a fundraiser co-sponsored by the Geneva Lions in Illinois.

5

Cost in dollars of the car tags sold by the Albertville Lions Club after Alabama beat LSU in the BCS national championship. The tags feature a crimson helmet with the number 14, signifying the number of national football titles won by the university.

5,641

Miles between Columbus, Mississippi, and Sofia, Bulgaria, where Tsventanka Nacheva received eyeglasses thanks to the Columbus East Columbus Lions and Past International Director Howard Jenkins. Mariana Nacheva, a student in Columbus, asked friend Andy Kalinowski of the Columbus Lions to help secure glasses for her mother.

1,000

Friends the Foxboro and District Lions Club in Ontario, Canada, sought in raising funds for a new van for Susan Hooper, a quadriplegic, in A

Thousand Friends Campaign. The campaign was successful in purchasing a \$79,000 van.

61

Years between the initial dedication of a plaque near the Canada/United States border celebrating friendly relations and an unfortified border and a new plaque dedication after the first one was lost, then discovered in a garage and restored. Both the 1950 and 2011 dedications were Lions' events involving the Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club in Ontario, Canada, and the Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club in Michigan.

750

Five-inch walleyes trucked from Minnesota and dumped into a lake by the Lake Zurich Lions and a property association in Illinois for the benefit of fishermen.

2,600

Kilometers (1,650 miles) biked in one month by Wayne McGuinnes of Brantford, Ontario, to raise \$7,600 (US\$7,471) for diabetes research. Lions clubs from Ottawa to Newfoundland helped arrange accommodations and donated.



35 YEARS AGO IN THE LION MARCH 1977

"The Man from Plains," newly sworn-in U.S. President Jimmy Carter, is profiled. Carter progressed from club bulletin editor, club president and 18 C district governor in Georgia while also gradually and then meteorically climbing the political ladder.

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IDEAS THAT ROAR

BIG IMPACT WITH LIONS CLUB SERVICE PROJECTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE CAN BE FUN

When other people see how much fun Lions have in pursuit of service, they'll want to join, too.

SERVICE IDEA RECOGNIZE VETERANS



Ride2Recovery participants rode at their own pace to reach the finish line of each race comprising the Boll Weevil 100.

Wounded Warriors Ride with Lions

Enterprise, Alabama, Lions have sponsored the Boll Weevil 100 bicycle ride to not only raise funds but also awareness of Lions clubs for nine years. In 2011, participants included 26 injured military veterans who were invited by Lions to participate as part of the Wounded Warriors Ride2Recovery.

Some rode specialized bikes adapted for their use. "I believe all but one completed the ride, including several who finished the 100-mile ride," says Sue Baum, club secretary. Cycling is a core activity for the fitness program that aids in rehabilitation of wounded servicemen and women.

Enterprise Lions provided meals, housing and ride expenses for the Wounded Warriors. The City of Enterprise and Lions hosted the group at a pre-ride banquet the night before the event, paid for by community donations.

Master Sgt. Chuck Ward told enterprisenow.com that his bike had a "catastrophic tire failure," causing his ride to end about 40 miles short of the finish line. It was still an "outstanding" adventure, he emphasized. "Just enough hills to keep you loose and limber. The more you ride, the more your body expects a challenge," he said.

Baum says 185 participants registered for the various events: a 5K run and a 7.5, 25, 62 and 100-mile bike ride. "The club made approximately \$5,000, which will be donated to our annual charities, including eyesight projects, a diabetes camp and youth leadership. We'll also be able to donate \$900 to the Wounded Warrior Ride2Recovery program," she says. Lions plan to host another group of military participants at this year's Boll Weevil 100.

LCIF NEEDS YOU

Remaining strong is key to LCIF's successful humanitarian agenda. Donating a percentage of your profits to the foundation keeps it working for others around the world.

SUPPORT YOUTH

Sponsoring a Leo club gives young people an opportunity to serve and shows them how they may continue their humanitarian actions in the future as Lions.

PARTNER WITH OTHERS

Community partnerships work. The more hands extended in service, the further the reach of your assistance to people in need.

Teaching Kids to Think 'Green'

Helping young adults learn how to be good stewards of the earth is the goal of the "Envirothon" in Carbon County, Pennsylvania. For the last 16 years, Lions in Region II of District 14 U have sponsored the nationwide environmental awareness program in their area. Lions rescued the local program when West Penn Township Lion Ed Dudley, then serving as district governor, learned that it was in danger of being discontinued after losing its corporate sponsor.

The clubs now provide nearly \$2,000 annually to keep the competition active. Students test their knowledge and creativity to come up with solutions to global environmental issues. In 2011, 700 students representing 26 schools were invited by Lions to participate.

Several projects involving teamwork and decision-making lead to the final challenge of the Envirothon, a four-day competition during which different age groups learn and compete. Teams are composed of students who listen to a program together and then collaborate to answer questions on a test. Each team moves through five stations before the final competition.

A naturalist from the Carbon County Education Center organizes the event. The Lions' donation is used to pay for mailings, prizes and colorful T-shirts for the top teams in each of the four age groups.

SERVICE IDEA ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS



With the clock ticking, an Envirothon team puts their heads together to find real solutions to help the environment.

Military Salute Honors Those Who Serve

Members of the Gaines Area Lions Club in Michigan have either served in the military or have had family members who have served. "Many of our members are in their 70s, 80s and even 90s," says Doug Palmer. "We know the sacrifices our military men and women make." Lions organized the club's second three-day Military Salute and intend to make it an annual event coinciding with Armed Forces Day, held the third Saturday in May. "Our feeling is that there is only one thing we owe to our military—those who are active as well as veterans—and that is everything," he emphasizes.

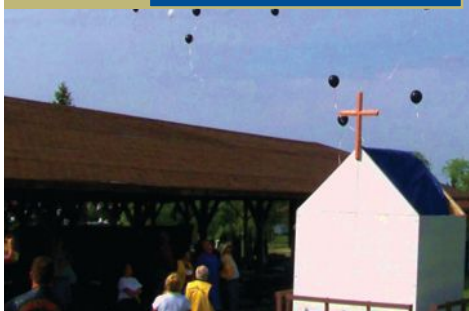
In addition to the opening day parade, the event also featured resources and outreach services available to help veterans. Included was a health screening and representatives of the Salvation Army, Red Cross and a Veterans Affairs suicide prevention hotline. The Michigan Vietnam Moving Wall and the Desert Storm Moving Wall of Modern Warfare were also displayed along with antique and modern military equipment. There were tributes to fallen soldiers, salutes to veterans of wars and conflicts, music, poetry readings, speakers and prayer services.

Several members of the Mid-Michigan chapter of the Gold Star Mothers participated in the project to raise awareness of their group. Barbara Kincaid, whose son died in 1990 in the beginning of Operation Desert Storm, told *The Flint Journal*, "We can let the public know we are there for these grieving mothers to support them and comfort them. [We're] one organization that doesn't want its membership to grow."

There was no charge for attendees, who were welcome to donate to organizations dedicated to helping servicemen and women. Lions raise funds to purchase phone cards for soldiers in local Michigan units who have been deployed so they can communicate with loved ones.

It was a significant event for all involved, Palmer says. For

SERVICE IDEA RECOGNIZE HOMETOWN HEROES



many who visited the walls engraved with the names of fallen soldiers, it was also tearful, he adds. "We had one Gold Star Mother who was just soaked in tears. It was emotional for everybody."

Participants in the Gaines Area Lions Club's Military Salute release balloons into the sky in remembrance of those who lost their lives in service to their country.



1 SOUTH ASIA INDIA

Bull's-Eye on Diabetes

Diabetes is now a scourge in developing nations as fast food replaces traditional meals, and Lions in India, Malaysia and elsewhere are holding diabetes screenings and raising awareness of the disease.

Lions in eastern India marked World Diabetes Day (Nov. 14) by partnering with a diabetes center on screenings for diabetes and educational seminars. "Simple Indian food is the need of the hour," A. Swetha, a dietician with the Diabetes Specialty Center, told attendees. "Parents also have a responsibility to see their children don't overeat, exercise properly and avoid junk food."

Swetha advised attendees to "eat traditional food items like jawar, bajra, bananas and dried fruits and nuts like cashews, raisins and almonds so that insulin levels decrease. Western fast food is affecting the health of not only urbanites but also rural folks who are eating chips and burgers."

An estimated 285 million people, or 6.4 percent of the world's adult population, have diabetes, according to the International Diabetes Federation. The number is expected to grow to 438 million by 2030. Four out of every five people with diabetes now live in developing countries with most of them being of working age.



Malaysians celebrate World Diabetes Day in an event organized by the Kuala Lumpur North Lions Club.



People in eastern India form a human blue circle, the universal symbol for diabetes, to mark World Diabetes Day. A diabetes center in India that Lions partner with organized the demonstration.



IN ENGLAND, THE HUNTINGDON GRAHAM WATER LIONS CLUB HELD ITS 32ND ANNUAL "SAFARI" WALK AROUND TOWN. THE CLUB HAS RAISED NEARLY £127,000 (\$270,000) SINCE THE FIRST WALK.



IN MOROCCO, THE MARRAKECH ATLAS LIONS CLUB IS TEACHING ORAL HYGIENE AND BRINGING DENTAL CARE TO CHILDREN IN NEED.



AS PART OF DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH, DISTRICT 118 T LIONS IN TURKEY TOOK PART IN A DIABETES AWARENESS WALK.

2 SOUTH ASIA INDIA



Religious devotees soak their feet after a long journey.

Weary Pilgrims Find Succor

The annual Ramdevra Fair in India celebrates the life of Baba Ramdev, a 15th-century saint respected by both Hindus and Muslims. Thousands of devotees walk barefoot, some for hundreds of miles, to the temple built in his honor.

The arduous journey leads to foot ulcers, leg and joint pains, intestinal ailments and other medical problems. That's where Lions come in. The Jodhpur Marudhara Lions Club set up a medical tent, and Lions who are medical doctors treat their illnesses. The doctors include specialists in surgery, orthopedics and gynecology.

This past year the doctors rushed to aid a 35-year-old

woman suffering from acute diarrhea. "Her pulse was very feeble, and she had cold, clammy skin. She was in complete peripheral shock," says Dr. Sanjeev Jain, a pediatrician and club president. "We felt a sense of utter satisfaction in saving her life."

To provide instant, soothing relief, the club also sets up saline water tubs that fit 50 people. A Lion who is a mechanical engineer constructs the tubs. Also, a Lion who is an electrical engineer oversees a charging board that can serve 80 cell phones at a time. Lions also provide safe drinking water, free medicines and even a band that plays folk songs.



3 SOUTH ASIA NEPAL

Police Give Blood

The Biratnager Central Lions Club in Nepal collected 58 pints of blood from Armed Police Force officers last fall. Police Superintendent Gopal Mishra was among those donating blood. Chartered in 1996, the club has 38 members.



THE NAGOYA HORIKAWA LIONS CLUB IN JAPAN BROUGHT TOGETHER MORE THAN 2,000 PEOPLE TO CLEAN UP THE HORIKAWA RIVER.

4 EUROPE FINLAND

Hammering Away for Others

If I had a hammer ... chances are I might be a Lion in Finland. Members of the Luumäki Lions Club built a log playhouse for a daycare center and repaired the roof of a sauna used by veterans.

Ten members took care of the sauna roof. "They were able to work fast—half of the crew was on the roof and half on the ground," says Juhani Partanen, a Lion since 2004.

The log playhouse was more involved. It took 200 volunteer hours over several days and 3,000 euros (US\$3,900) for the wood, two thirds of which came from the club and the rest from a Lions' foundation. "The end result was well worth the work. The children and teachers were very enthusiastic when they saw the finished playhouse," says Partanen.

Both projects were done during the warm summer months. The club ended the summer by harvesting 50 bundles of grain, to be sold at a Christmas market to benefit the poor.



Luumäki Lions build a log playhouse for children.

5 SOUTH AMERICA PERU

Beauty queens are a staple of the International Spring Festival in Peru.



Lions in Peru Get Festive

Each spring in Trujillo, Peru's third-largest city, streets and homes fill with decorations. Bullfights, surfing contests and dance competitions occur. Troupes of schoolchildren dance in the street, and beauty queens from around the world, flanked by colorful drum majorettes, parade before a crowd of 200,000 people.

It's the International Spring Festival, created by Lions in Trujillo in 1950. The city of 810,000 has 17 Lions clubs, and Lions stage the festival to raise funds for their charitable work.

The 10-day festival offers more than 100 civic, cultural, artistic, sports and social events. It's held in late September (the beginning of spring in Peru).

Beauty queens from two dozen nations are a main attraction of the festival. They are featured in the mammoth festival parade, a loud, lengthy procession of spirited bands, serpentine conga lines and spectacular floats.

The festival highlights the marinera nortena, a romantic couples' dance with handkerchiefs that is the national dance of Peru.

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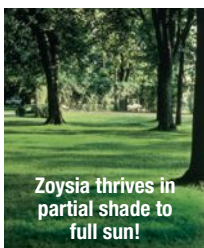
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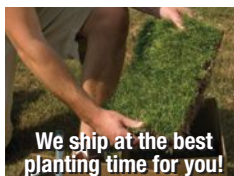
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THE NAIROBI PEPONI AND BEIRUT QUEST LIONS PACKED AND DISTRIBUTED 220 FOOD PACKAGES FOR TWO VILLAGES IN KENYA.

Can You Dig It?

6 OCEANIA NEW ZEALAND



Participants dig for prizes at Midway Beach.

Perched on the ocean in northeastern New Zealand, Gisborne is the first city in the world to see the sun each morning. As 1999 ticked away, thousands flocked to Midway Beach to see the millennium sunrise.

Once a year thousands continue to gather at the beach to take part in a man-made spectacle: the frenetic beach dig run by the Wainui Lions Club. Last year 4,000 people dug furiously in the sand searching for small yellow tags to be redeemed for prizes.

"The countdown is the fun part: three, two, one, go," says Ken Huberts, who took over running the event from his

father a decade ago. Gerry Huberts ran the first beach dig in 1982 in Gisborne, which has 35,000 residents.

The dig is held in January—summer in New Zealand. Clouds of sand fill the air as participants dig with their hands for the 1,200 tags, buried a couple of inches deep in an area less than a half-acre. The yellow tags are sheep ear tags, normally used to track sheep and cattle. The fee per tag is \$2.

Each tag has a serial number, and at the end of the dig an announcer reveals whether participants won a big prize such as a TV, camera or cell phone, or settle for a minor prize such as movie tickets, pool passes or snacks.

7 EUROPE FRANCE



A Green Gift

Members of the Auxois-Morvan Lions Club in France gave residents of Semur a gift that looks good and smells good. Lions planted flowers on an 8,000-square-foot plot, and villagers could pick the flowers and take them home. Chartered in 1960, the club has 32 members.

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‘Water is Life’

Lions Prevent Death and Disease
by Providing Clean Water

by Jay Copp



A crew digs the new well for Dissan, Mali.

Photo by Dan Morris

The wind howls and sand swirls in Dissan, a rural village in Mali. Scattered huts dot the dry, forbidding land. Each morning, hundreds of women fight the wind to trudge as much as four miles under a searing sun. Temperatures often soar well beyond 100 degrees. The women determinedly make their way to the heart of village life—a crude, uncovered water well.



Retrieving water from the old well in Dissan was laborious, and the water was often unsafe.

Photos by Dan Morris



Using a donkey and a pulley system, the women hoist murky brown water from an aged pit. It takes an arduous hour to fill a rusted 42-gallon barrel. The women dip their pots into the communal barrel and slowly trek home with the water their families need for drinking, cooking, cleaning and bathing. The wearying water mission is repeated day after day without fail.

One of the women of Dissan who frequented the well for decades was Miriam, a mother of six. Like the other 1,000 villagers, she and her husband cultivate corn, raise chickens, live in a simple thatched hut and fear the day they may have to bury one or more of their children. Like many other water sources in Mali, Dissan's 90-foot open well was easily contaminated. Twenty percent of children in Mali do not reach the age of five. As elsewhere in impoverished nations, water-related disease proves deadly for

many. Diarrhea is the second leading cause of death among children under five globally. It kills more young children than AIDS, malaria and measles combined.

Miriam and her husband labor hour after hour in the fields and at home to stave off hunger, disease and death. "She told me she can't go to sleep at night because her whole body hurts. It's a harsh life—the physical things they do to take care of their family," says Dan Morris of Chicago, who was in Dissan last year. "I kept thinking to myself, what if this were my mother, my grandmother?"

Morris graciously shared the local food villagers cooked for him but prudently stuck with bottled water instead of imbibing the discolored well water. Despite precautions, the water can become contaminated with human and animal excretions.



A well in Mali provided by Lions delivers the goods.

Photo by Dan Morris

LQ Showcases Water Projects

LQ-Lions Quarterly video magazine ran a segment on Lions' clean water projects in its January 2011 edition. The nearly four-minute segment is posted at www.lionsclubs.org.

The 2010-11 president of the Chicago Windy City Lions Club, Morris traveled to Dissan to oversee the drilling of a borehole. With help from LCIF, his club worked with Mali Lions to hire workers to drill a more sanitary, more centrally located covered well operated with a pump. A harsh life for 1,000 people got considerably less burdensome. The threat of life-threatening water-related disease diminished. With more improvements, the villagers can irrigate their crops and prevent hunger and malnutrition.

Villagers cried in joy when the water flowed from the new well. Morris, a 42-year-old cameraman who shot the BP oil spill and has covered other serious and dramatic events, wiped away tears, too. "It was a life-changing experience for me as well as for them. They have a hard life and it starts with water. They told me, 'If there is no water, there is no life,'" says Morris.

The well in Mali was one of the first projects for the Windy City Lions, chartered in 2008. Members wanted to

make a big impact right away. Many other clubs, often aided by LCIF, also have chosen projects related to clean water or sanitation. Clubs drill boreholes, install water purifying systems, upgrade sanitation and provide water storage. Raising monies through typical fundraisers, Lions are saving lives in impoverished villages and improving the quality of life.

Global Crisis

Abundant clean water is a given in countries such as the United States and Canada. All it takes to quench thirst, cook dinner or wash one's hands is a twist of a knob. The situation is much more problematic for people in developing nations. Nearly 1 billion people—almost one in eight people on earth—lack access to clean water. The scarcity of clean water results in an unfathomable disparity in lifestyle. An American uses more water in a five-minute shower than

a typical person in a developing nation uses in a whole day. While Americans and others can take water for granted, those in developing nations must spend untold hours and exertion to secure water.

The toll of dirty water goes far beyond inconvenience, of course. More than 3.5 million people die each year from water-related diseases, according to Water.org, a nonprofit group founded by actor Matt Damon and Gary White and based in Kansas City, Missouri. Half of the world's hospital beds are normally occupied by patients suffering from diseases associated with lack of access to safe drinking water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene.

Every day, robbing families of precious time in school or labor in fields, millions of women and children spend several hours collecting water, which is often polluted and unsafe. The diarrhea and other diseases caused by the dirty water, if not lethal, can nevertheless lead to malnutrition and stunt growth and development in children.

The situation could very well grow worse before it gets better. Adil Najam, the keynote speaker at the 2008 International Convention and a professor at Boston University, shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 with Al Gore for their

work on climate change. But Najam argues that most people don't realize the growing problem of access to clean water. "We talk about climate as an energy issue but climate will become a water issue," he told Lions. "The issue of the future is water. ... When we think of climate we think of energy and cars and how much oil they use. But when you think of the impact of climate change most of the issues in the immediate term will be about water."

Most civil conflicts and wars between nations kill far less than dirty water. "As a professor of international relations, I do not know what to do about the gun," he said. "As a professor of the environment, I know what I can do about the tap. I know there are Lions in the world who can do something about the water that comes out of that tap. That tap can save lives—today right now, right here."

Lions Act

Jan Hult and Mats Bucht traveled from Sweden to Melela Village in Tanzania to be there the day the new water well was dedicated. Local authorities decided to make that day last March a holiday. The schools closed.

People in developing nations rely on water that often is contaminated. A boy relieves himself through a walkway 30 feet above a river in Dhaka, Bangladesh (left). A girl collects water from a river (right).

Photos courtesy of Water.org



WATER DOWN

The Embarrassing Lack of Clean Water Access in the World

According to the United Nations, unsanitary water kills more people worldwide than war. As the precious water supply dwindles, it may prove to be more than just a crisis for developing countries.

SOURCES:
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
CLEANWATERFORHUMANITY.ORG
WATER.ORG | WATERINFO.ORG
WORLDWATER.ORG | UNICEF.ORG
UNICEF

WHERE IS ALL THE WATER?

SALTWATER DOMINATES EARTH'S SUPPLY:

97.5%
SALTWATER

2.5%
FRESHWATER

MOST FRESHWATER IS UNATTAINABLE:

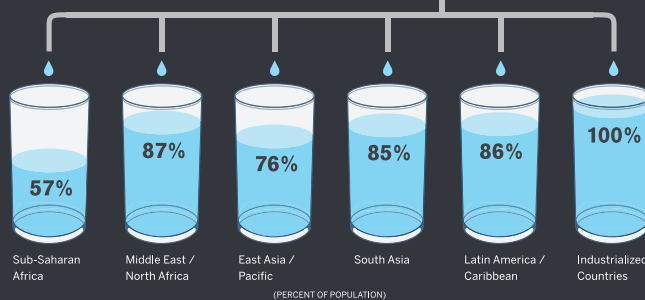
70%
IS FROZEN IN
POLAR ICECAPS

30%
LIES UNDERGROUND
(most of which is too expensive
to tap into and filter)

LESS THAN 1%
of the world's freshwater is
available for human consumption

ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER BY REGION

Only a little more than half of the Sub-Saharan African population has access to safe drinking water. The United Nations estimates that in close to 15 years, approximately 48 nations—like those in Africa—will face freshwater scarcity.



ACCORDING TO THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION:

That leaves 1.1 billion people without access to clean water.



THAT'S ABOUT ONE IN SIX PEOPLE IN THE WORLD.

HOW DOES WATER GET CONTAMINATED?

Lack of sanitation is the world's biggest culprit of infection. Water-related diseases are most commonly caused by harmful micro-organisms and chemicals that get into the drinking water supply.

EVERY DAY **2 MILLION TONS** of industrial and agricultural waste are poured into the earth's waters.



APPROXIMATELY **10%** of the global population is ingesting food grown using unsanitary irrigation and fertilization wastewater.

CHILDREN ARE MOST AFFECTED

Every 20 seconds a child dies from a water-borne illness.

Worldwide, 88 percent of diarrhea cases can be blamed on unsanitary water. And children under the age of five comprise 90 percent of deaths from diarrhea-related diseases. It's the leading cause of death in this age group.

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN GOOD AND COLUMN FIVE

Villagers sang and danced as part of a fiesta. Commissioner Fatma Mwassa (“a woman with power, elegance and authority,” said Hult) cut the ceremonial ribbon and started the pump. Giddy villagers sprayed the water over the Swedish Lions and fellow residents of the village of 8,000.

The project of Lions in District 101-S in Sweden took two years and cost US\$60,000. The 253-foot well pumps 2,650 gallons of water per hour. The water is “in compliance with the regulations of drinking water—also according to Swedish standards,” says Hult. Before the Lions arrived, the nearest well was a shallow one a half-mile from the village that used a balky hand pump.

More than 50 percent of all water projects fail within a few years, according to Water.org. Villagers are rarely trained in running and maintaining a water system. A repair that’s needed cripples the system. Swedish Lions formed the 11-person (10 are women) Melala Water Committee and trained them to operate the new system. To increase the villagers’ pride and investment in the well, Lions had them clear the land, dig trenches and help build the system.

Lions also understood the potential undermining effect of poverty. Desperation sometimes leads to theft of metal and cables, sabotaging a water system, so Lions fenced in the well area, protected the well with concrete, placed the electrical system behind locked steel doors and even installed alarms and floodlights.

Hundreds of Lions clubs globally are improving access to clean water and bettering sanitation:

- The Lagos Ikorodu Lions Club in Nigeria drilled a borehole for 10,000 people in Oju Agemo.
- The Durbanville Lions Club in South Africa installed a tank at a school to correct a sewage problem.
- The signature project of Lions in District 324 E4 in India is “Dew Drops for Life,” installing bio-sand filters and water purifying systems at schools and orphanages.
- The Chiangmai Wiangping and Chiangmai Sriwichai Lions in Thailand collaborated to provide underground water for people at Bann Nambowluang.
- Bella Vista Lions in Argentina built and repaired wells in scores of rural communities.
- Santo Domingo El Millon Lions in the Dominican Republic raised awareness about sanitation by distributing materials door-to-door and putting up posters on good hygiene practices in schools, churches and grocery stores.

For the Durham City Lions Club in England, a recent project in Tanzania was a way to honor a beloved neighbor and prevent schoolchildren and villagers from getting sick by unsanitary water. The club provided thousands of dollars to help finance four wells and latrines in Kivulini. The village’s shallow wells had dried up. Women were forced to walk three hours every day to wells shared by



Lions in Malaysia teamed up with Lions from Japan and LCIF to produce clean water for Toboon, a remote village. Lions built piping to fill water storage barrels (right photo). A woman in Toboon washes dishes with clean water, and a mother cleans her baby.

Photos by Dan Morris





Lions supported a clean water project for Kivulini, Tanzania.



cattle and wild animals and likely contaminated. The new wells and latrines especially protected two nearby schools with 400 children each.

Mary Pearce, the secretary of the Durham Lions Club, also served as secretary of Dorothy's Well Project. Dorothy, her neighbor, had died of breast cancer in 2006, and her husband, Jim, initiated the well project in honor of his late wife after he was shocked by the primitive water conditions while visiting Tanzania.

Pearce visited the village to check on the wells and scout sites for new wells. Schoolchildren and parents erupted in song when she entered their village in a minibus and jubilantly waved banana leaves. The women whisked her away to dance with them. "I had to be rescued by the school headmaster from these exuberant ladies," Pearce says.

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

Alaska Cruise

Plus...Amtrak Coast Starlight Train Tour & San Francisco

13 Days *Join other Lions departing July 13 & August 31, 2012* from **\$1998***

Start in Seattle with a city tour. Board the **NCL Jewel** for a 7-night Alaska cruise to Ketchikan, "The Salmon Capital of the World;" Juneau, Sawyer Glacier, with incredible colors; Skagway, where you can stroll the weathered boardwalks; and Victoria, BC on Vancouver Island. Next board the Coast Starlight train to San Francisco. Travel by day through Washington and Oregon's spectacular scenic vistas. Enjoy your Amtrak sleeper-roomette at night (includes VIP lounge). Arrive in Napa and visit two of the area's premier wineries. Spend two nights in San Francisco (stay near Fisherman's Wharf) with a city tour including the Golden Gate Bridge and Pier 39. *Add \$300 for July departure date.

Ireland Tour

Visit the best of both Northern and The Republic of Ireland!

12 Days *Travel with other Lions departing August 2, 2012* from **\$1598***

Start in historic Dublin with a city tour including The Bank of Ireland and St. Patrick's Cathedral (the largest church in Ireland). Travel to Cork, stopping at the Rock of Cashel and Cobh along the way. Then visit Blarney Castle and perhaps kiss the Blarney Stone, Woollen Mill and Muckross House & Gardens en route to Killarney. Drive the "Ring of Kerry" offering spectacular scenery of lakes and rivers, tour Bunratty Castle & Folk Park, built in 1425. Visit the Cliffs of Moher, Galway, the Connemara region, Kylemore Abbey and the Bundoran area. Enjoy a guided tour of Belleek Pottery, visit Ulster American Folk Park, view Dunluce Castle & explore "The Giant's Causeway" with remarkable rock formations. Finally take a sightseeing tour of Belfast plus the Titanic Quarter and the impressive Parliament buildings. Includes 16 meals.

Save on this Repositioning Cruise

Tour Northern Europe ~ Cruise to Miami

22 Days *Join other Lions departing September 23, 2012* from **\$2198***

Start in beautiful Amsterdam, The Netherlands for 3 days and nights. See the Dam Square with the Royal Palace and New Church, plus a guided tour of an Amsterdam Diamond Factory and a visit to an outdoor museum showcasing Dutch Windmills, culture and architecture. Stop in historic Bremen & Hamburg, Germany; and enjoy a ferry trip across the Baltic Sea to Copenhagen, Denmark; all with included sightseeing. Then board **NCL's Sun** for a 14-day cruise. Ports include Lisbon, Portugal; a legendary city filled with cobblestone streets and Funchal, Madeira; "The Flower Isle" with beautiful beaches and lush, green forests. Then relax and unwind on your Freestyle cruise featuring 14 different restaurants where you can dine where and when you would like. **A cruise-lovers delight!** Arrive in Miami on October 14.

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

Northeast Cruise & Tour

15 Days *Travel with other Lions departing September 26, 2012* from **\$1798***

Start in historic Boston with a city tour including Old North Church and Bunker Hill. Travel via to Plymouth and see the Pilgrim's landing site and then on to "Old Cape Cod" with "sand dunes and salty air." You'll also visit Chatham & Provincetown and overnight in the Hyannis area. The following day you will travel to Bridgeport, Connecticut, stopping in Newport, Rhode Island along the way and touring two famous mansions once home to the likes of the Vanderbilts. Then it's on to the "Big Apple," New York City for an exciting tour of Manhattan with a local city guide. You will also see and stop at Ground Zero, view Lady Liberty from Battery Park and much more. The next day you will board the **NCL Gem** for your 10-day cruise. Ports include: Halifax, Nova Scotia and Quebec City, Quebec with its remaining fortified city walls and visit the Château Frontenac or Notre-Dame. Then sail on and stop in Corner Brook, Newfoundland Island; Sydney, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia; with an optional shore excursion to the Fortress of Louisbourg. Disembark in New York City for your flight home.

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

Hawaii Cruise & Tour

12 Days *Join other Lions departing October 12, 2012* from **\$1798***

Start in Honolulu, Hawaii and exciting Waikiki Beach for one night. The following day board **NCL's Pride of America** for the start of your Hawaii Cruise Experience. Sail upon the big, blue, Pacific to ports in Kahului, Maui (2-days), offering beautiful sea vistas; Hilo, the flower capital of Hawaii and Kona, Hawaii, known for its many island coffee plantations. Continue to Nawiliwili, Kauai, nicknamed the 'Garden Island' with glorious stretches of palm-fringed beaches and cruise the Na Pali Coast. Disembark in Honolulu and enjoy a city tour including, the Punch Bowl Crater, Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona Memorial. Spend a final three days and nights in Waikiki with an included city tour of Honolulu and Pearl Harbor.

***Price per person, based on double occupancy. Airfare is extra.**

Lions Clubs International not responsible for losses incurred.



Call for details & itinerary 7 days a week:

1-800-736-7300



Sam Cila says Gillian, his companion dog, has made a big difference in his life.

A True Companion

Service Dog Eases Wounded Veteran's Emotional Pain

by David McKay Wilson

In his kitchen, Sam Cila tells Gillian to open the refrigerator. The Labrador/Golden Retriever trots to the appliance and tugs successfully on a red-braided rope lashed to its door. “You’d think she was like my left hand, but she’s really more my right hand,” says Cila at his home in Riverhead, New York, on the East End of Long Island. “She can really lessen the load.”

Cila has shouldered a heavy burden since the day in 2005 when a roadside bomb in Baghdad nearly killed him and mangled his left arm. The staff sergeant endured grueling surgery after surgery in the futile attempt to save the limb. Three years after the explosion, a surgeon amputated his left arm below the elbow.

His recovery was complicated by the unsettling symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury, which left him depressed and fearful in crowds.

Gillian, who has a deep black coat and a sweet disposition, responds to about 60 commands. But she does much more for Cila than fetch items or carry packages. The service dog is a lifeline to normalcy and purpose. She eases the psychic burden of PTSD by providing companionship that breaks through his walls of loneliness. Cila says Gillian gives him a reason to get out of bed—to care for her, and ultimately, himself.

“When my kids and wife aren’t home, and the house is quiet, it’s easy for me to sneak back into a depressive state,” says Cila. “But now I have to be accountable for Gillian. I have to be at my best to care for her, which forces me to be active.”

The California-based Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) provided the dog. Hundreds of Lions clubs supported Lions Project for Canine Companions for Independence 2010, which in 2010 donated \$175,000 to CCI.

Gillian has been so instrumental to Cila that he serves as a national spokesman for CCI, which breeds and trains service dogs. Cila has traveled across the country to en-

courage more wounded veterans to team up with a service dog to better their lives.

He has also appeared on Capitol Hill to speak before the House Veterans Affairs Committee to urge the U.S. Veterans Administration to cover the cost of travel and lodging for veterans during the two-week training stint with their service dog at CCI.

“I didn’t wake up from combat and go out and do great things,” says Cila. “It was a battle, and lots of people helped me along the way. Now I’m passionate about paying it forward. Coast Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force—I’m a big believer in team—and they are all my teammates. And I’m doing as much as I can to spread the word.”

He was the featured speaker in November 2010 at the Tuckahoe-Eastchester Lions Club’s fundraising spaghetti dinner for CCI in New York City’s northern suburbs. There, with Gillian lying at his feet, Cila told the story of his military journey, which began shortly after the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center when he was working in the Suffolk County Department of Corrections. He enlisted a month later with the U.S. Army National Guard. By 2004, he was deployed to Iraq.

“It’s important to do what we can to support our vets who come back from Afghanistan and Iraq,” says Peter Pergolis of Tuckahoe, New York, who is first vice president of the Lions Project for CCI. “Service dogs can play a role, helping with socialization and everyday activities.”

Cila met Gillian, then a puppy, in February 2010 at CCI’s training center in Medford, New York. After two weeks of training, she came home to join the Cila family, which includes his wife, Anna, and sons, Sammy, 12, and Evan, 7.

It costs \$45,000 to raise and train a dog, says CCI spokesperson John Bentzinger. Gillian was among 43 dogs trained in Medford in 2010.

Anna says Gillian’s arrival in the Cila household brought changes in her husband’s demeanor. When he got

home from the war, she recalls how tense he'd get as he dealt with his war experience.

She says Gillian brings out his softer side and the part of him that likes to play. She recalls how Gillian helped her husband put his life back in motion.

"Sam would be home by himself a lot, and he had a hard time getting motivated," she says. "He'd be hanging out, doing nothing, and I saw a pattern forming. With Gillian, he had to get up, feed her and take her for a walk. She gave him momentum to get going. It gave him a purpose, to get up and care for the dog."

That purpose includes speaking about the benefits of service dogs and encouraging other wounded warriors to consider bringing one into their lives. He was the first disabled veteran in the Northeast to obtain a CCI service dog, and he now heads up CCI's veteran's initiative in the Northeast Region, one of five CCI regions across the country.

"Having Gillian gives me a way to work with other injured personnel, and gives me a great outreach tool," says Cila. "I'm now speaking two or three times a month—to

veterans groups, at elementary schools, high schools and colleges. I want people to see firsthand the benefit of a dog like Gillian."

For Cila, that means helping Lions raise money for CCI, traveling to military hospitals and putting his body on the line for veterans. Cila has developed into an ultra-endurance athlete while recovering from his injuries. He competed in the Ironman race in Hawaii in October 2010, a daylong endurance test that includes 2 miles of swimming, 112 miles on his bike and 26.2 miles of running.

Thirteen months later, he ran 60 miles over a 24-hour period to commemorate Veterans Day and raise money for disabled veterans.

Gillian ran alongside him for a few laps around the 1.8-mile loop along the Peconic River. He was among 130 runners who raised \$7,000 for homeless Suffolk County

veterans that day.

"In my eyes, I was sacrificing for 24 hours for those who sacrificed for our country," says Cila. "That's my way of giving back. Saying 'thank-you' is a very good thing."

**"I want
people
to see
firsthand
the benefit
of a dog
like Gillian."**

Canine Companions for Independence provided Cila's dog.





95th Annual Lions Clubs International Convention
Friday, June 22 – Tuesday, June 26, 2012 • Busan, Republic of Korea
Convention Registration and Hotel Reservation Form

Deadlines

- **May 1, 2012:** Deadline for advance registration and hotel reservation. Registrations after this date will be processed in Busan.
- **May 1, 2012:** Deadline to receive a refund for a registration cancellation. • **May 15, 2012:** Deadline to receive a refund for a hotel room cancellation.

REGISTRANT INFORMATION *Please type or print name as it appears on passport/photo ID.*

First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Badge/Call Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State/Province _____
 Postal Code _____ Country _____
 Daytime Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

☐ **Lion: Club No.** _____ **Membership No.** _____ District _____ Title _____ ☐ Leo ☐ Lioness

COMPANION: First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Badge/Call Name _____

☐ **Lion: Club No.** _____ **Membership No.** _____ District _____ Title _____ ☐ Lioness ☐ Guest

CHILD: First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Age _____

CHILD: First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Age _____

PACKAGE A: *Includes convention registration for each registrant listed above plus one (1) hotel room serviced by shuttle buses during convention.*

☐ Before December 31: Reservation in delegation hotel
☐ After December 31: ☐ I prefer my delegation hotel
☐ Prefer hotel based on: ☐ room rate of _____ ☐ location near convention center

Arrival date _____ Departure date _____ Number of Guests in Room: _____ Number of Beds Needed ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

Special Requirements: ☐ Non-smoking ☐ Wheelchair Accessible ☐ Other _____

• *The Hotel deposit is US\$200 for a standard room and US\$350 for a suite. The hotel deposit is not the rate but reserves the room. Your deposit will be credited to your hotel bill at checkout.*

PACKAGE B: ☐ NO ROOM REQUIRED *(Registration only for each person listed above.)*

OPTIONAL TICKETED EVENTS *I/we plan to attend the following event(s): (Must be registered to attend)*

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>AMOUNT DUE</u>
Leo Lion Summit	June 22/ 10:00-16:00	US \$60	_____	\$ _____
Membership Key Award Ice Cream Social (Key holders only)	June 23/ 14:00-16:00	US \$20	_____	\$ _____
Melvin Jones Fellow Luncheon	June 25/ 13:30-15:00	US \$60	_____	\$ _____
District Governor/Past District Governor Banquet	June 25/ 20:00-22:00	US \$100	_____	\$ _____

Meal Preference: ☐ None ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Indian Vegetarian ☐ Diabetic ☐ Western Cuisine Only

PAYMENT: Full payment is required with this form. • US currency only. Checks and money orders must be drawn on US banks.
 • Only Visa and MasterCard accepted. • Contact LCI for wire transfer instructions.

REGISTRATION FEES

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Child (17 and under)</u>
Early (before 31/Dec/2011)	US\$100	US\$10
Regular (1/January through 31/March/2012)	US\$130	US\$10
Late (1/April/2012 – onsite)	US\$150	US\$10

Package A:

Registrations: US\$ _____
 Ticketed Events: US\$ _____
 Hotel Deposit: US\$ 200.00

OR

Package B:

Registrations: US\$ _____
 Ticketed Events: US\$ _____

Total Due: US\$ _____

Total Due: US\$ _____

☐ Check ☐ Bank transfer/deposit (copy must be attached to this form) ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Your name as it appears on the card _____ Credit card **must** be in the name of the registrant.

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ Security code (3 digits) _____

Signature _____

Mail form and payment to: Lions Clubs International Attn: Convention Division • 300 West 22nd Street • Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA

Credit Card and Bank Transfer Payments can be faxed to: (1-630) 571-1689 (If you fax, please do not mail original)

Questions? email us: registration@lionsclubs.org

• Allow 4 weeks for processing and mail delivery of your confirmation.

Please note: Lions Clubs International will be documenting the international convention for promotional purposes. Your participation may be filmed or photographed at this event. Your registration is your consent for use of these images by Lions Clubs International.

CRHF2012.EN 10/11

Study Shows Lions Serve and Give Generously



Lions live up to their “We Serve” motto: they are three times more likely to volunteer and 1.5 times more likely to give to charity than the average person, according to a new comprehensive study of Lions in 12 countries.

The study by the Center of Philanthropy at Indiana University showed that 97 percent of Lions in the United States who were surveyed had volunteered, compared to 26 percent of Americans. Moreover, 97 percent of surveyed U.S. Lions donated to charity, compared to 66 percent of American households, according to the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The study also revealed that women are assuming leadership roles among Lions clubs. More than half of Lions surveyed in the 12 nations said that women and men participate equally in their club’s leadership. Between 60 and 93 percent of Lions in 11 of the 12 nations said men and women were equally considered for leadership roles (the question was not asked in one country), and similar percentages showed that gender did not limit the ability to advance as leaders.

While the majority of giving and volunteering was through the club, about one-third of volunteer hours were done outside the club. Beyond vision care, Lions were most likely to give to meet basic needs and for disaster preparedness and relief, as well as other international causes.

The survey randomly sampled Lions from the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, France, Turkey, Australia, China, India, Japan, the Philippines and Nigeria. About 2,800 of the 24,000 Lions who were surveyed responded.

Key Findings

- Worldwide, 92 percent of Lions surveyed donated to charitable causes and 86 percent volunteered over 12 months.
- Women are leaders in Lions clubs internationally.
- Lions clubs members in most countries surveyed were greatly more trusting of family, people belonging to other religions and people of other nationalities than the general population.

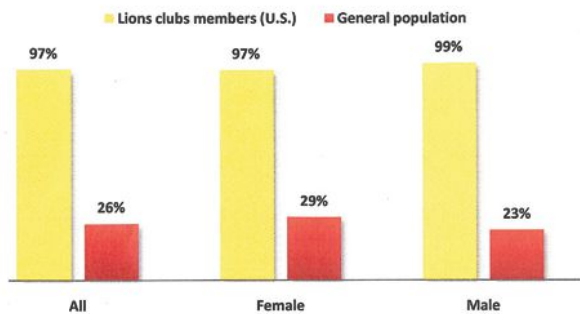
Serving

- **Lions clubs members are highly likely to volunteer:** In all 12 countries, Lions surveyed were more likely to volunteer than the general population. The total number of hours that Lions volunteered ranged from an average of 105 hours a year in Japan to an average of 367 hours a year in India, roughly two-thirds of which was done through organized club activities in most countries. In the United States, Lions volunteered an average of 192 hours over 12 months, compared to the national average of 33.9 hours volunteered per resident in 2010.

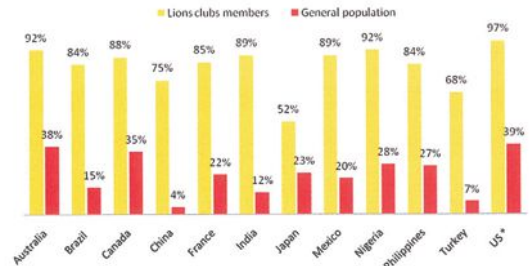


Lions are three times more likely to volunteer and 1.5 times more likely to give to charity than the average person.

Percentage of U.S. Lions Volunteering



Incidence of Volunteering, by Country

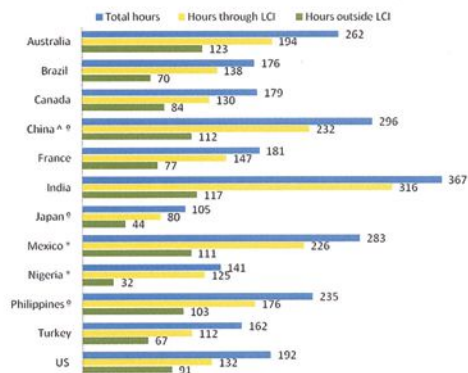


Sources: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study; General population data from CAF World Giving Index 2010
* Gender difference was found to be statistically significant.

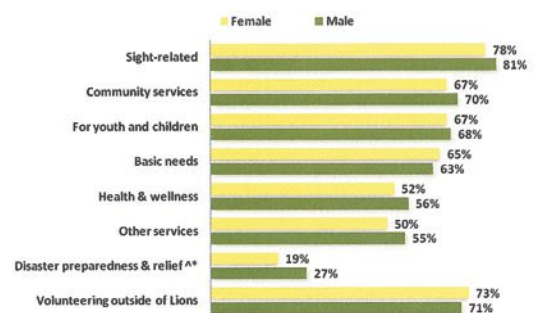
Volunteering for "community and environmental services" was among the top three causes for which Lions volunteered in all 12 countries surveyed except France.



Average Hours Volunteered Over 12 Months



Incidence of U.S. Lions Volunteering, By Cause



Source: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study

^a Gender difference was found to be statistically significant.

^a Sample size for Female less than 50.

Study Shows Lions Serve and Give Generously

- **Volunteering for charitable causes:** Volunteering for “community and environmental services” was among the top three causes for which Lions volunteered in all 12 countries surveyed except France. “Health and wellness,” “opportunities for youth and children” and “sight-related or blindness prevention” were also commonly cited volunteer activities.
- **Motivations for participating in LCI:** “making a difference in my local community,” “making the world a better place” and “concern about those less fortunate” were among the top three motivations for participation in LCI identified by Lions surveyed in most countries.

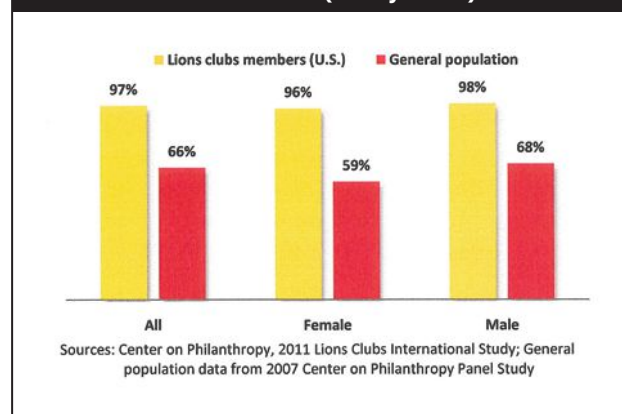
Giving

- **Lions are highly likely to donate to charity:** Lions surveyed were more likely to give to charitable causes than the general public in all 12 countries. Overall, women and men were equally likely to make charitable donations in almost all countries.
- **Lions donated to all types of charitable causes:** Lions surveyed in countries including Australia, Brazil, China, Japan and the Philippines were most likely to support “disaster preparedness and relief.” Meeting basic needs, such as food, housing and shelter, was the cause most likely to be supported by Lions surveyed in France, Mexico, Nigeria and the United States.
- **Giving to disaster relief and other international causes by U.S. Lions:** About 35 percent of U.S. members donated for “disaster preparedness and relief,” and they gave \$118 on average. Around 16 percent of U.S. members reported charitable giving to other international causes, and the average gift size was \$212. By comparison, 6 percent of American households donated for international causes and the average amount given was \$272.
- **Lions supported charitable causes both through LCI and outside Lions initiatives.** Between 33 and 60 percent of survey respondents in each country made all or most of their charitable giving through their Lions club involvement. About one-third of members in most countries donated primarily through other channels outside of their Lions clubs.
- **Motivations for charitable giving:** In most countries, “giving back to the community” was the leading motivation for donating to charity. “Helping individuals meet their basic needs” was another strong motivation behind charitable giving.

Gender Roles

- **Gender composition of Lions club leaders:** Overall, more than half of Lions surveyed reported that they belonged to clubs where women and men participate equally in club leadership.
- **Women in leadership positions:** In eight of the 12 countries surveyed, more than 80 percent of respondents indicated that women previously held leadership positions in their clubs, including serving on a club board or committee.
- **Perceptions of leadership opportunities** (questions not fielded in one country): More than 60 percent (ranging from 60 percent to 93 percent) of Lions clubs members in 11 of the 12 countries agreed that men and women were equally considered for leadership roles. More than half (between 58 percent and 91 percent) of members surveyed agreed that gender did not limit their ability to advance as leaders.

Incidence of U.S. Lions Charitable Giving Over 12 Months (To Any Cause)



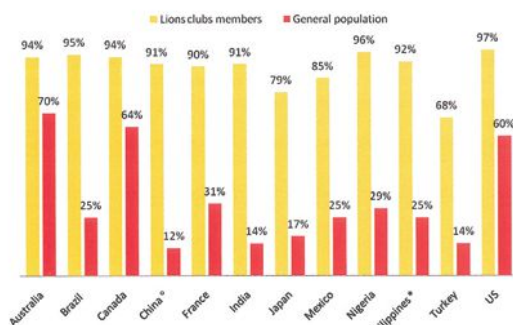
Study Shows Lions Serve and Give Generously

Social Trust

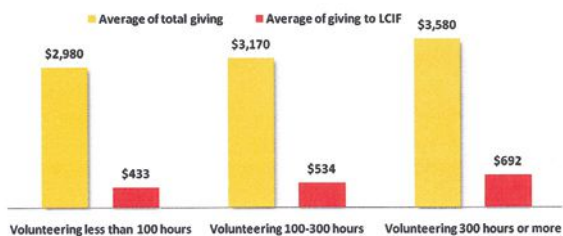
- Lions surveyed reported higher levels of social trust than the general population: Lions in most countries surveyed were greatly more trusting of family, people belonging to other religions, and people of other nationalities when compared to the general population.
- In the United States, 93 percent of Lions surveyed reported that they trust in their family completely, while 73 percent of Americans said so, according to a 2006 U.S./World Values Survey.
- Moreover, 26 percent and 23 percent of U.S. Lions indicated that they completely trust people of another religion and those of another nationality, respectively. In comparison, in the 2006 U.S./World Values Survey, only 6 percent and 4 percent of U.S. general population reported so, respectively.

The two reports generated from the study, *Serving, Giving, and Leading Globally* and *Serving, Giving, and Leading in the U.S.* can be found at www.lionsclubs.org.

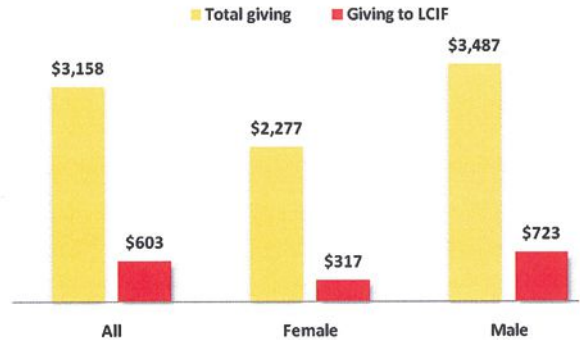
Incidence of Giving Over 12 Months



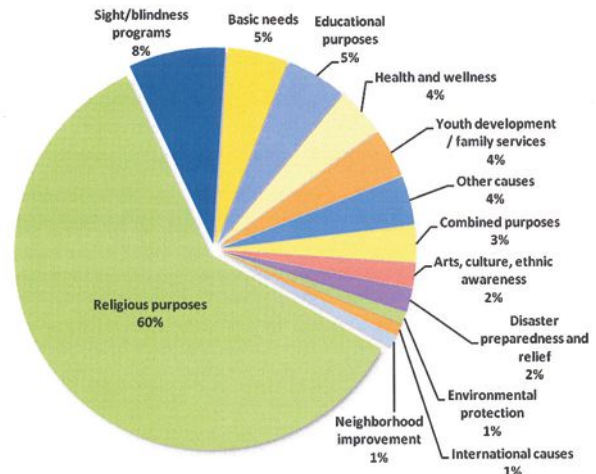
Giving of U.S. Lions, by Volunteer Hours



Average Amount Donated by U.S. Lions Over 12 Months



Giving Amount to Causes by U.S. Lions

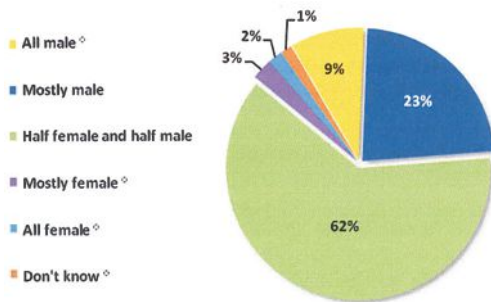


Average Amount Donated Over 12 Months (In U.S. Dollars)



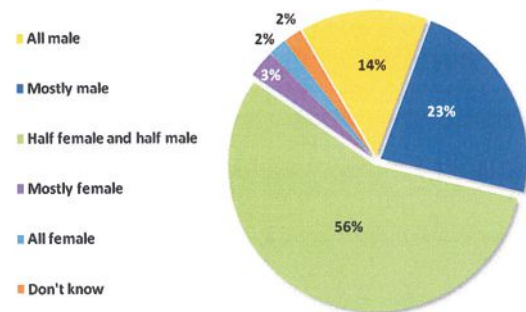
Source: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study
 *Gender difference was found to be statistically significant in total giving.
 **Sample size less than 50 in total giving. *Sample size less than 50 in giving to LCIF.

Gender of U.S. Lions Club Leaders

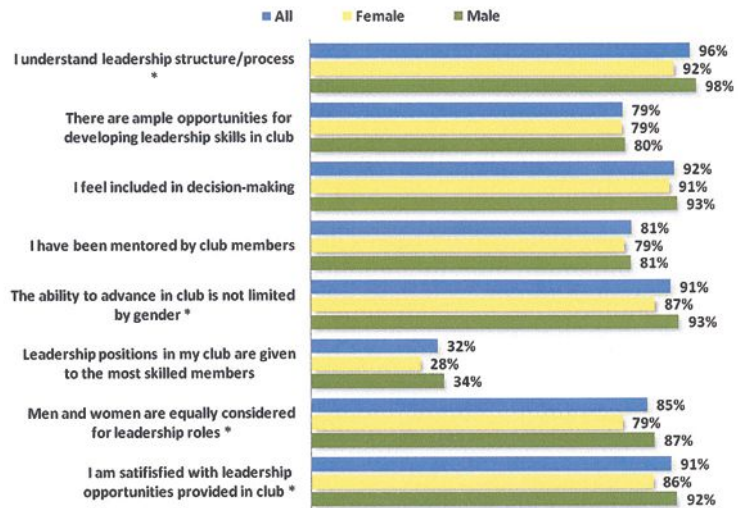


Note: ^ Sample size less than 50.

Gender of Lions Leaders (in 12 Countries Surveyed)

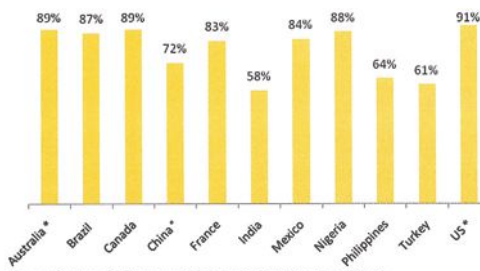


Perception of Leadership Opportunities, U.S. Lions



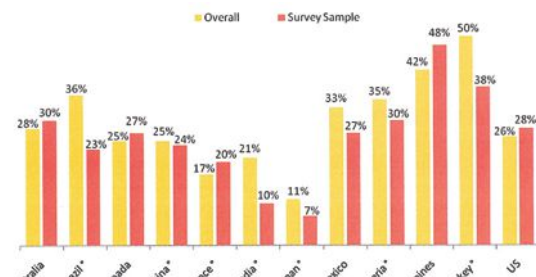
Source: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study
*Gender difference was found to be statistically significant.

"I Agree That The Ability To Advance In My Club Is Not Limited By Gender"



Source: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study
* Gender difference was found to be statistically significant. ^ Sample size less than 50.
^ Question not fielded in Japan survey.

Percentage of Lions Who are Female



Source: Center on Philanthropy, 2011 Lions Clubs International Study
* Sample size of female Lions clubs members in the survey less than 50.



Lions quietly mitigate the effects of the massive fire.

Fire and Faith

Texas Disaster Ignites Service

by Mary O. Parker

Smithville, with its deep Czech roots, is a tight-knit community located at the edge of the Lost Pines region of central Texas. There, I'd raised a family, led Cub Scouts, and once owned a bookstore. And there during a long, brutal September the second worst wildfire in U.S. history turned lives upside down.

Sparked by downed power lines and propelled by a perfect storm of drought, wind and heat, the Bastrop Complex Fires raged for 26 days. The blazes tore through dozens of rural neighborhoods and destroyed miles of rare loblolly pine ecosystem. The fire ultimately consumed 1,664 structures and 34,068 acres. The blaze came within four miles of the city limits, and nearly 40 of my friends lost homes.

Burnt towers meant days of no cell service and mounting anxiety. To stem the worry, residents combed the Smithville Recreation Center to seek information about friends and loved ones. At the fire's peak, 500 evacuees and countless pets found refuge here.

I helped oversee the Smithville Distribution Center, a couple of blocks from the rec center. Evacuees, and later, those who'd lost everything, came for necessities. In a three-week period, our center served over 4,200 fire-affected folks. To put that into perspective, that's more than the entire population of Smithville.

As the weeks went by and the separate fires raged ever greater, eventually drawn toward one another, we residents too, drew together emotionally. At the same time, we also breathlessly raced from one dire need to the next.

With all that breathless racing, I didn't realize until later just how many "racers" belonged to Lions clubs. Once I connected the dots, the picture formed made this non-Lion's jaw drop. In a crisis heavy with volunteerism, Lion activity consistently outweighed it all.

My connect-the-dots drawing begins with Joe Franks, president of Giddings Lions Club. On Labor Day,

Franks headed to Paige, a tiny community at the fire's northeastern edge. There, he immediately spearheaded efforts to feed evacuees and firefighters. "We got to Paige on Monday. Red Cross got there on Thursday," Franks says.

Twenty miles away, Charley Baugh, Giddings Lions Club treasurer, checked out the scene back in Smithville, now four miles from the fire's southeastern edge, where he discovered 120 evacuees needing meals. Baugh recalls, "I'd just walked out of the rec center in Smithville and called Joe. He'd just walked out of the community center in Paige. We each had a frog in our throat, but we got it to-



Lisa Gonzales co-manages the Smithville Distribution Center.

Photos by Mary Parker

gether and went on. I told him, 'We need this and this,' and he said, 'Go. Get it.' He didn't question me."

Behind the scenes, Andy Rodriguez, Governor of District 2-S5 and a member of the Gonzales Noon Lions Club, worked at rounding up funding. Ultimately, he says, thanks to grants and generous club contributions, approximately \$25,000 went toward relief efforts. That figure includes \$10,000 from Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF).

Rodriguez says, "With LCIF 100 percent of your dollar goes into relief efforts, no administration costs. Well, I put in for the grant at 9:45 and by 10:43, 58 minutes later, it was approved. Now that's cutting out bureaucracy!"

Those of us volunteering at the Smithville Distribution Center came to appreciate that lack of bureaucracy. While donations poured in, no one knew exact needs until the moment arrived. To wit: by week two we had plenty of pillows—a shortage the first week—but folks desperate to sort through ashes and uncover what the fire had left behind lacked trash cans, gloves, rakes, shovels and hoses needed to do the job. For those who still had homes but

with smoke damage, we needed vinegar. So we made a wish list.

Now to my connect-the-dots picture add Amberley Palmer of the Smithville Noon Lions Club. Palmer asked us, "What do you need?" We gave her our list, not really believing she meant to go out and buy all that stuff. Who actually does that? Well, we soon found out: Lions, that's who. And not just once. Not twice. Every single day for nearly three weeks, Palmer posed her question and Lions delivered.

Palmer's involvement began with a call to Rodriguez, who told her to check in with Joe Franks. "When I talked to Joe, he said, 'Go buy what you need. It doesn't matter how much you spend, just let me know if it goes over \$500. Do you understand?' I said, 'Yes,' not really understanding." She laughs, remembering. "I think he asked me that three or four times in the course of our short conversation. I had to get a check from Charley [Baugh] and even though we'd never even met before, Charley just handed me a blank check."

Franks explains, "I think 'faith' is a good word here." With faith in Rodriguez, who assured him the district



Among the Lions who led relief efforts were (front from left) Lisa Gonzales and Amberley Palmer and (back from left) Meredith and Joe Franks, Andy and Cindy Rodriguez, and Charley Baugh.

Fire and Faith



Amberley Palmer (left) and Lisa Gonzales secured necessities for fire victims.

would reimburse the club, he says, “I was telling [Baugh and Palmer] to spend money and I didn’t have the money to spend.”

“Those of us volunteering at the Smithville Distribution Center came to appreciate that lack of bureaucracy.”

On Sept. 6, just two days after sparks ignited, the Texas Lions Foundation awarded the Giddings Lions Club \$2,000, thanks, in part, to efforts of Charles Vileneuve, a 2 S5 past district governor.

“But that went really quickly,” states Baugh, who ultimately wrote 24 fire-related checks totaling nearly \$9,000. “We were the front lines.” Items purchased included mattresses, eyeglasses, food, cleaning supplies, school supplies and, of course, those items on our lists.

Lisa Gonzales of the Smithville Noon Lions accompanied Palmer as she shopped with our first list. Before I knew she belonged to Lions, I’d seen Gonzales, an insurance agent with fire-related claims tripling her workload, come in regularly collecting necessities for dazed clients.

“Some just couldn’t do it, so I’d do it for them,” she shrugs. When the City of Smithville insisted center volunteers take a Sunday off, Gonzales co-managed the center for a day so the doors would remain open.

Week two, volunteer Meredith Franks joined us, her spunky personality engendering easy rapport. After connecting with a woman who talked of returning to work but having lost her make-up to fire, Franks showed up the next day with a basket full of make-up. Another day, a set of cookware came with her but left “with a woman who likes to cook and who’d lost everything,” says Franks.

Chatting one day, I shared my amazement at how the Lions kept fulfilling our wish lists. Franks’ response? “Oh, yeah, I know. I’m a Lion.” She’d been in on it from day one! In fact, she’s not only president of the Giddings New Horizons Lions Club but also Joe Franks’ wife.

After I’d worked days with Cherrie Pullium, a key player in the Smithville Distribution Center, I discovered she’s not only a Lion but also Leo adviser for the Smithville club. Pullium housed evacuees, solicited donations, organized warehouses and assisted fire victims. “I did what needed to be done,” she states, simply.

Ironically, the last Lion I uncovered I had “raced” with the most. Sheila Tamble of the Smithville Noon Lions coordinated all aspects of Smithville’s fire-related efforts including working with FEMA. Not only that, but Tamble’s Facebook post suggesting they create a distribution center lured Pullium to Main Street at 4 a.m. on Sept. 5 to get the whole thing started.

I suspect, as the smoke continues dissipating, I’ll discover more Lions who “raced” beside me during those crazy times since it’s clear to me now that when disaster strikes, Lions do, too. What’s also clear is how many parts they play. As Joe Franks notes, “Our role changed over time from relief to taking food and medicine to taking trash cans.”

What doesn’t change, stresses DG Rodriguez, whom I met when he delivered a load of those trash cans, is the role Lions can and should play in situations like the Bastrop Complex Fires. “We found out where we fit through this. It’s in that short-period time between when disaster strikes and when the long-term recovery organizations like Salvation Army and Red Cross come in.”

Or as my connect-the-dots would read if it formed words: “A Lion helps those in need and helps them right now.”



Children who moved into Fukui Prefecture from the affected regions including Fukushima enjoy food provided by the Fukui Aoi Lions Club.

Office buildings in Minami Sanriku are ruined.





Recovery in Japan

A Year After the Tsunami, Devastation and Deprivation Remain But Lions Help Speed Rebuilding

From the Japanese LION Magazine

It was a chilly day. Some towns even had snowstorms when the huge, terrifying tsunami hit the coast of the Tohoku region a year ago on March 11. The survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami are pressing forward to rebuild the devastated communities, bearing up under the harsh winter climate.

About 116,000 people from 48,000 households are still residing in temporary housing as of December. That number soars to as many as 330,000 when evacuees who live in rented accommodation or in their relatives' homes are included. The evacuees live anxiously, not knowing when their ordeal will end.

The tsunami caused catastrophic damage to the region's main industries, including commercial fishing, and left many people jobless. Some left their hometowns to find work, raising concern that the disaster-afflicted communities will eventually crumble.

Three international directors from Japan, together with council chairpersons of the eight multiple districts in Japan and six district governors from Multiple District 332, formed a central committee to coordinate Lions' relief efforts. Supported by LCIF,

the team has provided relief for those affected and begun to rebuild communities.

"Although we may have a long and rough way ahead of us, we will do our best to identify needs of the devastated and make the most out of the generous support we have received from across the world," says International Director Seiki Yamaura, the committee leader.

In December, heated carpets and warm, thick blankets were distributed to about 1,500 households in Minami Sanriku, Miyagi Prefecture. The Minami Sanriku Shizugawa Lions Club, including Mayor Jin Sato, organized the project with LCIF support. Town officials sent out announcements with application forms to all households not located in the temporary housing. On the distribution day, grateful people stood in line from early in the morning to receive the supplies.

The supplies were for evacuees living in rented accommodations and those affected by the tsunami but still in their own homes. Unlike evacuees living in government-owned temporary housing, these residents are not tracked by the government and have often been overlooked by the government and nonprofit groups.



"Our mission is to light up rayless Ofunato with the food mall, where community members can casually drop in and communicate with each other, bringing the city back to life."

President Katsumi Kosaka, who participated in the distribution, says, "Relief efforts like supply distribution and soup kitchens are usually organized for evacuation centers or for temporary housing complexes where they moved into from the centers. Those who stay in their own homes tend to be excluded from all the services and left underserved. The government is falling behind in action too. Many complain that they receive hardly any information, let alone supplies. For our relief project, we used postal services to reach these people. I believe this enabled the town to get a large picture of the residency situation, which hopefully will help further assistance in the future."

Other Lions clubs in the affected area are delivering heating equipment to temporary houses and at-home evacuees.

Supported by an LCIF grant, Lions in Ishinomaki are building a community center equipped with coin-operated laundries. Even before the disaster, many of the affected communities were aging and depopulated. The elderly who live alone can easily become isolated. By providing a common place for people to gather, Lions hope to prevent this isolation and help neighbors stay connected.

In Miyagi Prefecture, Kesennuma is a leading port of Japan. The tsunami swallowed its streets and cast large fishing boats ashore. Oil leaking from the boats caused massive fires. About 70 percent of the city's restaurants and almost all of the restaurants

in the Minami-machi area were washed away.

Fukko Yataimura is a project to reopen restaurants in makeshift premises in Minami-machi. City officials hope to create a hub where residents, fishery workers, tourists and visiting volunteer workers can come together to help revitalize the port city. Funded by an LCIF grant, Lions of District 332-C provided cooking appliances, and the Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation erected the prefab structures. In November, 22 businesses opened including restaurants that serve sushi, tuna, ramen and udon noodles, fish dealers and groceries.

The tsunami flattened the downtown area of Ofunato in Iwate Prefecture; 57 out of 60 restaurants of the Ofunato Eateries Union were swept away. The members of the union wanted to start an extensive food mall but they had no resources. The business owners received advice from District 332-A Governor Masahiro Nakai, who had organized a food mall in Aomori Prefecture, and met with District 332-B Governor Haruhiko Takahashi to ask for help. Thanks to LCIF funds, Lions provided burners, sinks, ice machines, refrigerators, freezers and workbenches, and the union finally opened their food district.



President Katsumi Kosaka delivers heated carpets for the victims of the tsunami.



Members of the Ishidoriya Lions Club in Iwate deliver rice to residents of temporary homes.

“Opening is not our final goal,” says Yusuke Oikawa, executive director of Ofunato Yataimura Limited Liability Partnership. “Our mission is to light up ray-less Ofunato with the food mall, where community members can casually drop in and communicate with each other, bringing the city back to life. It has only begun.” Oikawa and the restaurant owners decided to form a branch club of Ofunato Lions Club.

Similar projects are under way in another part of Kesennuma, where 50 stores are forming a temporary shopping district, as well as in other cities such as Kamaishi and Rikuzentakata. Japanese Lions are developing additional projects to help disaster victims restart their lives and revive their communities.

While tsunami-struck communities are moving forward to recovery, people in Fukushima Prefecture still live in fear and dread of the radiation hazard from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. More than 83,000 residents reportedly were evacuated from near the plant. In the surrounding towns, decontamination work is an urgent priority. Municipalities are conducting decontamination operations starting with schools and parks for children, but it is a slow process. In Koriyama, a major city near the evacuation zone, 110,000 of 130,000 households in the city are subject to decontamination, which will take an estimated five years to finish.

Given the situation, many people are attempting to do the decontamination themselves. To support them, LCIF provided funds to purchase 200 high pressure washers. These washers are being distributed to clubs to loan to individuals or install them in public facilities.

Lions donated \$20 million to LCIF to support relief and recovery in Japan. As of January, \$11 million had been disbursed to Lions in Japan to assist people there.

An LCIF grant made possible this restaurant equipment.



Changing Lives

THROUGH OUR FOUNDATION

LCIF's 2010-2011 Annual Report



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Last year, thanks to the widespread generosity and caring from 1.35 million Lions worldwide and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), millions of people were helped across the globe. The following are just a few examples of the good work accomplished and lives changed.

Changing Lives in Japan

When the earthquake and tsunami struck Japan last March, many lives were devastated. But with an outpouring of donations to LCIF totaling more than \$21 million, Lions responded quickly.

One year later, the people of Japan have made great strides, but are still coping with one of their nation's worst disasters. Having Lions Quest in place in Japan allowed LCIF to immediately help more than **1,000** students in the Sendai region in coping with the tragedy. Eight Lions Quest workshops were held for 160 participants to help develop social and emotional skills.



"In the middle of the devastation, the Lions were ready to help people in the worst condition," said Lion Eigo Motohiro Oono of District 330-C, Japan.

Changing Lives Through Lions Quest

All over the world, LCIF is helping Lions create a brighter future for 12 million young people and counting through Lions Quest. A research-based program, Lions Quest has drawn rave reviews from educational organizations and governments. The curriculum helps foster important life skills, healthy attitudes, strong character, positive relationships and active citizenship. **Seventy countries** around the world are now implementing the Lions Quest program with 500,000 teachers trained. Growth was a key focus of the program last year, and, as a result, the program expanded to six new countries and regions worldwide.

70

Our Impact:

- **14** percent overall increase in grade point average of students in Lions Quest programs
- **47** states in the United States are teaching life skills through Lions Quest; Montana and Alabama began the program this year
- **25** countries participated in regional trainings on four continents in 2010-2011
- **50** percent increase in graduation rates at Tilden High School in the Chicago Public Schools, Illinois, in the first year of using Lions Quest



"I love helping kids, because when I was a young kid, I used to always look for help, and I'm returning the favor. That I'm a role model to them, it just feels great," said Charles Jackson, a high school senior in Memphis, Tennessee, who learned the value of tutoring through the Lions Quest service learning program.

Changing Lives Through Rebuilding Communities

From Japan to New Zealand and beyond, many regions of the world experienced tragedy this past year. Lions rose to the challenge with an enormous outpouring of generosity to those in need.

Some examples of Lions' work after an earthquake hit Christchurch, New Zealand, in February 2011 include:

- Providing support through social services
- Counseling and providing therapeutic activities for victims, especially for children
- Operating water stations and relief centers, delivering hot meals, bottled water, groceries and fuel vouchers, and delivering supplies door-to-door

In Haiti, relief continues two years after the earthquake. Examples of projects include:

- Homes for **600** Haitian families are being built as part of an initiative between LCIF, the Lions of MD 111 Germany and HELP, an international non-governmental organization; the families moving into the homes were initially sheltered in Lions' three tent cities
- **400** additional homes are being built, along with a community center to provide vocational training, in partnership with Food for the Poor
- **350** students annually will be able to study in the new National Nursing School of Port-au-Prince, a construction project in partnership with HumaniTerra International

"The Lions helped us regain our hope." –Immacula Simeon, a grandmother in Haiti.



New Zealand



Haiti



Joplin

Lions demonstrated their commitment to rebuilding communities and lives this year. From an outpouring of generosity to continuing rebuilding efforts, Lions are giving their hearts and hands to improving the local and global communities.

41 million

Changing Lives Through Meeting Humanitarian Needs

Lions expanded upon their longstanding commitment to improving health and lives of youth by launching the Lions-Measles Initiative. The disease kills **450** children each day. This highly contagious, deadly disease can be prevented through a vaccination that costs less than \$1 per dose.

As part of a successful pilot program, Lions and LCIF, with a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and support from local ministries of health and other Measles Initiative partners, provided immunizations and a chance at life for more than **41 million** children in Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mali and Nigeria. Since 2001, the Measles Initiative—an international partnership to end measles worldwide—has vaccinated 1 billion children, preventing more than 5 million deaths.

In the next year, the program and partnership will expand to help millions more children worldwide through One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative. As our efforts expand, Lions have the opportunity to help children in all countries where measles remains a heavy public health burden. LCIF and its partnership with the Measles Initiative aim to vaccinate **157 million** more children in the upcoming year.

Lions continue to change the world through many humanitarian efforts. These are just a few of the many examples of this commitment to improving lives:

- **768** people provided hearing aids through the Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project (AHAP)
- **200,000** athletes helped through 10 years of Opening Eyes, a partnership program with Special Olympics providing free vision screenings and eyeglasses to athletes around the world



Pascaline Rasoanjanahary, a mother in Madagascar, heard of a vaccination campaign and knew that she needed to get her nine-month-old son Patrick vaccinated. "I've witnessed a child with measles. I do not want this for my son. This vaccination is very important," said Rasoanjanahary.

Changing Lives Through Saving Sight

Preventing vision loss and restoring sight has been at the core of Lions' service since the organization was founded. Lions have mobilized \$415 million through two fundraising campaigns in support of the global SightFirst program, launched in 1991. This year, the program celebrates 20 years of saving sight and preventing blindness in underserved areas worldwide.



Brazil



Ghana

Lions' efforts are having a great impact. Lions and SightFirst have helped to eliminate onchocerciasis (river blindness) from Colombia, reduce the backlog of cataract in India and China, halt the spread of

trachoma in Ethiopia and improve access to eye care around the world. With funds raised through Campaign SightFirst II, Lions are increasing programs to fight new and emerging threats to sight, while funding new projects aimed at research and rehabilitation.



Piyadasa Hewavithana, a 63-year-old temporary worker in Sri Lanka, had his life changed by Lions. "Before I was almost blind; no one wanted to employ me," said Hewavithana. "The Lions arranged for me to be taken to a Lions Hospital. I do not have the words to thank everyone. I can now see. Lions' timely intervention saved my sight."

Some of SightFirst's many successes include:

- **30 million** people with improved vision through screenings, eye-glasses and follow-up care or surgery for those who need it
- 9 percent reduction in blindness and visual impairment globally, or **26 million** people, since 2004, according to a 2010 study by the World Health Organization
- **121 million** children protected from blindness through the childhood blindness prevention program in partnership with the World Health Organization

Changing Lives Worldwide

As the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, LCIF supports Lions' great work through numerous grants for projects focused on serving youth, providing disaster relief, combating diseases and preserving sight.

Last year, LCIF had a great impact on lives around the world through numerous grants. Some examples include:

- **2,064,829** people with saved or restored sight through 45 SightFirst grants totaling \$12.39 million
- **1,141,837** people have a brighter tomorrow through 136 Standard grants totaling \$6.17 million
- **250,000** youth learning valuable life skills through 38 Lions Quest grants totaling \$1.67 million
- More than **75,777** people have clean water and access to health care through 28 International Assistance grants totaling \$377,026

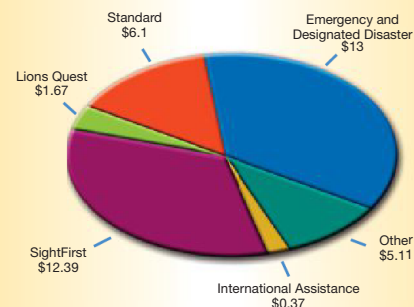
- **70,850** people were provided with blankets, clothing, water, food and medicine through 200 Emergency grants totaling \$1.69 million
- Lions worldwide volunteered an estimated 35 million hours, helping more than **350 million** people

In fiscal year 2010-2011, LCIF received a record **\$48 million** in donations, a \$13 million or 40 percent increase in donations from the previous year! These funds enabled LCIF to award \$38.6 million for 519 grant projects in fiscal year 2010-2011.

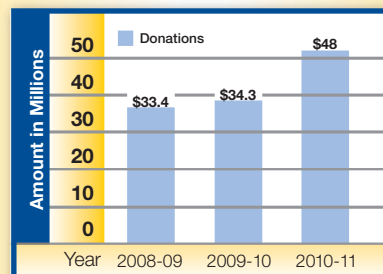
These projects would not be possible without your help. The ones highlighted in this magazine are just a few examples of the work done all over the world last year.

**Thank you, Lions,
for your support!**

TYPES OF GRANTS AWARDED (Amount in Millions)



DONATION COMPARISON CHART



Malaysia



Read the complete annual report and more stories online at www.lcif.org. You can help change lives with a donation at www.lcif.org/donate.

Bridging *Our Helping Hands* with Those in Need

Dear Lions,

I hope as you read the stories and examples of LCIF in action, you were inspired and honored to be a Lion, as I was. Remember that these are just a few examples of our work; our impact affects millions of people worldwide!

If you had asked me in July 2010 how I felt about being chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, I would have said I am proud and grateful. Our Foundation is at the heart of Lions Clubs International, the largest service organization in the world. We are giving happiness, and we are giving the opportunity for improved lives in every part of the world.

While all of that is true, a year later, my answer is more complex and filled with the sensations of experiencing our Foundation through the eyes and souls of those we have helped.

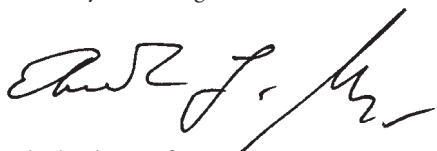
Margit and I are forever thankful for the many touching moments we experienced last year. The smiles on all these faces we have touched will forever remain with us. One of these touching moments was in November when I was in Madagascar for our Lions-Measles Initiative pilot program and met Marie. She smiled and thanked me for this life-saving vaccine for her son! Another was in New Zealand in February when I went door-to-door with Lions to deliver water, which the people were so grateful for that they wanted to pay us!

Our partnerships are also a key to our success. You've read about some of our work with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to prevent measles, but that is just one of many important partners.

None of this would be possible without your continued support.

Think of those around the world you've impacted, and remember that you are bridging our helping hands to those in need. I know I can count on you to help us as we continue to grow. Ours is a bright future, full of hope and smiling faces. Together, we can meet even more needs and change even more lives.

With my cordial regards,



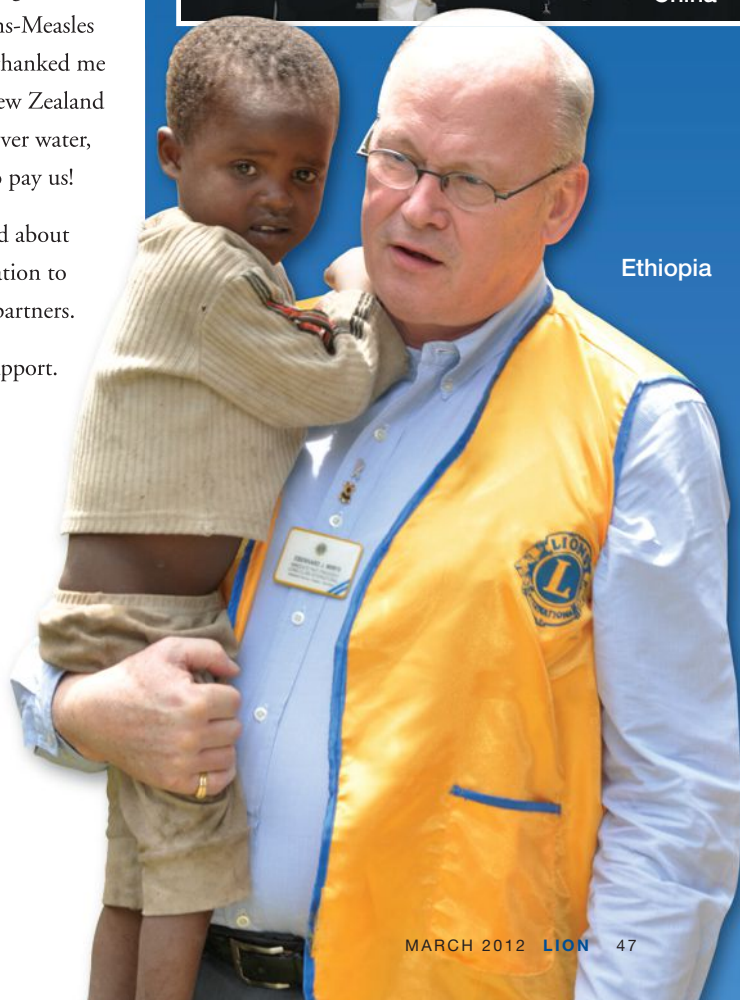
Eberhard J. Wirfs
Chairperson 2010-2011



Korea



China



Ethiopia

Secret Admirers

Today's Children Are Tomorrow's Lions

Blayr Barnard was 6 years old when her mother, Meg Garland, joined the Waco Founder Lions Club in 1988. She was instantly smitten. Barnard recalls, "I enjoyed going to meetings so much that my mom would let me get out of school once a month at lunchtime so I could go to them. How many businessmen would welcome a 6-year-old as their lunch partner? Only the Lions!"

Barnard's experiences tagging along to deliver Thanksgiving meals, attending service events and proudly watching her mom become the club's first female president led to a lifetime love of all things Lion. Young people look up to Lions, and their memories stick with them until, hopefully, the day they become Lions. For Barnard, that day couldn't come too soon: "When I was 8, I asked my mom if I could become a Lion. She found out that you had to be 18. I checked a calendar and found that my 18th birthday fell on the day of a Lions meeting. I looked forward to that day for 10 years!"

Adena, Ohio, Lion R.J. Konkoleski has childhood memories that include decorating the Lions' float in his grandfather's garage and helping his dad build bus shelters. "Being in a Lions family had a great impact on me. I credit Lions with giving me a deep sense of community pride. Also, the Lions taught me the value of people working together for a common cause," Konkoleski says.

By simply being Lions, you are serving youth by helping them aspire to represent all that is good about Lionism. "Other than my mother, the Lions were the single most important thing that shaped me. I saw hardworking, successful people who had a great sense of giving back. I wanted to be like them," says Barnard, now a New Albany Lion in Indiana.

The young people wanting to be like you are not limited to your own children. Growing up in Rushsylvania, Ohio, Micheal Gibbs looked up to many Lions, even though none of them were his family members. As he watched Lions improve playground equipment and sweat over hot barbecue grills, he realized that what they were doing was solely for the betterment of his community. "As a kid, I found that to be an odd concept. But I admired that they would give of themselves and not expect anything in return," says Gibbs. As a new Rushsylvania Lion, Gibbs is still thinking of those Lions: "I hope to be able to live up to the example that they set, and that one day someone will look up to me the way I do to them."

Those who have warm childhood memories of Lions are also likely to continue the legacy. For Konkoleski, he gets a kick out of reliving cherished times through his children. "I enjoy seeing them experience things I remember doing, like riding on the Lions' floats and dressing up for the Lions' Halloween Cakewalk," he says.

It's never too early to start recruiting future Lions. Barnard offers a few tips for successfully bringing kids into the Lions family: "First, make sure the club is open to involving children. Provide hands-on service opportunities that they can experience alongside you. And have fun!"

Look around—do you see tomorrow's Lions? Barnard does—in her infant son Conor. "Oh, he'll definitely be a Lion," she says.

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Newborn Conor (son of Lions Blayr Barnard and Douglas Landrum) is already on his way to becoming a Lion.



Every Picture Tells a Story

Taking photographs is easier than ever. With point-and-shoot digital cameras and a built-in camera in nearly every cell phone, any picture-worthy moment can be captured. For Lions, getting those shots can mean media coverage, Facebook posts, Web site material and newsletter items—maybe even new members and donations. By keeping a few key tips in mind, your photos can go beyond being just records of your club's activities to becoming assets that will keep paying off for years to come.

Move Closer

"If your photo isn't interesting, 90 percent of the time it's because you're too far away. Getting personal, emotional shots comes from being close," says Nicole Franco, a freelance documentary photographer based in San Francisco (www.nicolefranco.com). Pictures with too many people or too much distance lack focus and fail to convey an idea or tell a story. Although you may want to fit as many people as possible into a photo of your pancake breakfast, it won't give viewers a real sense of the event. But capture a close-up picture of a child digging into a big stack of flapjacks, and you've caught a delightful moment that may be memorable enough to draw more people to the next event.

Show, Don't Tell

Lions are known for service, so capturing that in a unique way will create truly meaningful photos. For instance, rather than taking a picture of a Lion receiving an award, shoot a photo of that Lion "in action" doing what earned the award. Or instead of taking a posed photo of Lions handing a check to a hospital official, take a picture of patients using the equipment that the donation provided. Action photos tell a story, convey feelings and show a moment in time—these are all qualities that will draw a viewer in and effectively share the Lions' message.

Strategize

Even the most spontaneous-looking successful photos probably involved some careful planning, maybe even staging. Before an event or photography opportunity, brainstorm what the goal of your pictures will be. The key is to remember that pictures should complement and add to a written story. "If you're trying to share an experience with viewers, think about what would make that story clear and what you want viewers to see and care about. Once you define that, you



By moving in close, getting a great angle and snapping the photo at the perfect moment, the Great Yarmouth Lions in England captured the energy, excitement and fun of this carnival game.

can map out how you'll go about capturing those images," says Franco.

Also think about technical aspects like lighting and angle. One of the easiest ways to improve lighting is to take photos outside. But be aware of shadows and backlight—early morning or late afternoon are the best times to capture ideal light.

Consider the perspective and composition of your photos. "Play with angles. Your subject doesn't always have to be in the center of the photo," says Franco. A picture can go from blah to "wow" by taking a creative approach, adding an interesting prop or using an appealing background.

The power of a great photograph is undeniable. By using some imagination and implementing simple strategies, through pictures you can build awareness, understanding and support for Lions' great service work. It might take some practice, but as Franco says, "The most important things are to have confidence and fun!"

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

No Rest for Bed Racers

With a population of 1,800, McCrory, Arkansas, may be considered small but it's home to a Lions club that thinks big. Chartered just two years ago, the 25-member McCrory Lions Club wanted to sponsor a unique project to raise funds to help improve a local youth baseball field.

In conjunction with the annual Mosquito Festival held by the McCrory Chamber of Commerce, the club sponsored its second annual bed race that attracted plenty of fun-loving competitors pushing decorated beds—complete with a “sleeper.” Betty Payne explains, “A bed team consists of five members—one rider and four pushers. Teams were sponsored by local businesses and churches, with each paying \$50 to enter the race.” In 2010, eight teams competed and six teams competed in 2011. Payne expects as many as 10 teams to participate this year as publicity picks up for the race.

While some racers supply their own beds, a local business reconfigured beds for teams to rent for an additional \$10. A bank provided prize money. The winning team won \$100, second place took home \$50 and third place won \$25. “There is also a People’s Choice Award and a trophy. Lions place a jar on a table with each team’s name and spectators can give a donation,” says Payne. The team with the most change wins the award.

“The rider begins the race wearing a pair of pajamas. At the quarter mark, the pushers do a fire drill [running around the bed]. At the halfway point, the rider and a pusher exchange the pajamas and position on the bed before the race can continue,” she explains. The challenge continues when at the three-quarter mark, the pushers once again run around the bed and then speed up to cross the finish line. “The bed race is the talk of the town,” Payne points out. Held on a downtown street, spectators line up early to catch all the action and vote for their favorites.

The Cornelious family shows their top racing form that won first prize.



Lake Silkworth Area Lion Mike Sikora takes a turn at the Strikes for Sight bowling event.

‘Strikes for Sight’ Scores

Members of the Lake Silkworth Area Lions Club in Pennsylvania scored a perfect 300 for enthusiasm with their first bowling project in the Wilkes-Barre area.

Calling the event “Strikes for Sight,” bowlers raised \$600 for community projects and provided a day of fun for area kids and adults. Bowlers registered and paid \$30 for two hours of bowling, soda, shoe rental and a T-shirt. Among the bowlers were a team of Dupont Lions.

Lake Silkworth Area Lions came in third, but they’re dusting off their bowling balls for 2012. “We’re definitely considering doing another tournament,” Janet Swanger said shortly after the event. “We learned a lot. We did not make a huge amount of money, but more importantly, our bowlers had fun and we had fun.”

The contributions will be used to fund scholarships, help support two local ambulance and fire companies and provide eyeglasses to those in need.

CLUB BRIEFINGS

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Lions Eye Bank for Long Island in New York** held a gala to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The eye bank has provided the gift of sight to more than 11,500 people in need of corneal transplants.

In **Michigan**, the **Garden City Lions** joined forces with the Rotary club to purchase a carbon monoxide oximeter for the fire department.

The **Lansing Lions Club in Illinois** held its fourth annual Lansing Lions Golf Outing, raising close to \$6,000.

Twenty-two **District 5M 5 Lions clubs in Minnesota** donated \$22,000 for upgrades to the children's hospital audiology booth. Also, District 5M 5 Lions and LCIF helped purchase an accessible van for Minnesota's Camp Courage, a camp for youth and adults with disabilities.

The **Wheaton Lions Club in Illinois** raised \$16,000 through its Golf Outing and Steak Dinner with 119 golfers participating.

Members of the **Nashua Lions Club in New Hampshire** joined with police, fire and elected officials to observe Sept. 11 with a tree planting ceremony.

The **Concordia Lions Club in Kansas** kicked off the first phase of a five-year tree planting project to replace many trees destroyed over the years in a cemetery.

The **Appleton Noon Lions Club in Wisconsin** held its 14th annual Senior Living EXPO with more than 500 attendees participating in seminars, exhibit booths and free health screenings.

The **East Dubuque Lions Club in Illinois** raised more than \$2,000 through its Candy Day drive with 60 percent of the funds raised going to the Lions of Illinois Foundation.

The **Spokane Central Lions in Washington** sponsored a free day of swimming at a city pool for neighborhood residents.

In **Texas**, the **McAllen, Palm City and McAllen Evening Lions Clubs**, along with other partners, joined together to plant 650 native tree seedlings at a compost facility.

The **Glen Ellyn Lions Club in Illinois** provided free hearing screenings to 118 community members on a mobile hearing bus during the Annual Festival of the Arts.

Lions from **District 16C in New Jersey** assisted the staff of the South Jersey Eye Center with serving customers at a diner to raise funds for community eye care programs for those in need.

The **Alexander Lions and Leo Clubs in Ohio** made donations to help a family receive a service dog.

In **Florida**, the **Alachua Lions Club** hosted a visit from the past president of the **Kampala Central Lions Club in Uganda**.

The **Long Beach Lions Club in New York** held a food drive for two weekends at four grocery stores to provide Thanksgiving food baskets to families in need.

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THANK YOU

THE LIONS CHANGED MY LIFE

A Chance to Be Independent

When 33-year-old Nathan Sweet moved from his rural lifelong home to the village of Kingston, Michigan, he was excited to have conveniences like nearby restaurants, the library and a new job at a diner. Blind since birth, Sweet was able to get around with a cane, but needed the assistance of others. When he learned about the availability of GPS devices for those who are blind, he knew this could be the key to becoming more independent, but the cost was prohibitive. A friend contacted the Mayville Lions, and they were happy to help. They got in touch with their friends in the Kingston Lions Club and partnered to purchase a Kapten PLUS GPS device and make Sweet's dream a reality. This multit talented musician who loves meeting new people is on his way to a more independent life.

Q & A: Nathan Sweet

Lion Magazine: How did it feel when the Lions presented you with the GPS?

Nathan Sweet: It was great. I was so happy, I cried. I'm ecstatic that I'll be able to get around better. I knew I would need help until I got used to it, but I was so thankful. To thank the Lions, I played a couple of original songs for them. One song, called "Ashley," is about a girl who is blind but has a dream. The message is "where there's a will, there's a way."

LM: How has the device changed your life?

NS: It allows me to walk independently to places I like to go. I'm still learning my surroundings since I moved here six months ago, so it'll help a lot. I can also program in addresses so I can get from point A to point B. It'll tell me the street names and which way to turn. I'm still learning to use it, but I'm going to the Leader Dog School for training so I can be more comfortable walking with my cane and using the GPS. Until then, my mobility instructor has told me not to cross any very busy streets!

LM: How will the GPS help you as a musician?

NS: I love playing gigs around town, so it'll help with that. I play at

places like a nursing home and an assisted living home. The elderly people love the music. They get up and dance—they even dance in their wheelchairs! I love playing music because I've touched a lot of people's hearts with it. I play a little bit of everything [guitar, keyboard, drums] and I love writing songs. If the world didn't have music, I think it would be a very boring place to be.

LM: Did the gift inspire you to become a Lion?

NS: Yeah, I'm a proud member of the Kingston Lions! I've been to several meetings and events already. If it wasn't for the Lions, I wouldn't have opportunities like the GPS. It's a great organization, and I wanted to be a part of things.

Nathan Sweet happily wears his new Kapten PLUS GPS device at a Kingston Lions Club event.



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.

INFORMATION

ANNIVERSARIES MARCH 2012

95 Years: Ardmore, Okla.; Abilene Founder, Texas

90 Years: Appleton Noon, Wis.; Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Cisco, Texas; Columbia Host, Mo.; Hazard, Ky.; Huntington Downtown, W. Va.; Laredo Noon Host, Texas; Modesto, Calif.; Roanoke Host, Va.; Rutherford, N.J.; Spokane Central, Wash.; Terre Haute, Ind.; Winston Salem Twin City Host, N.C.

85 Years: Bareville Leola Leaco, Pa.; Brewster, N.Y.; Collegeville, Pa.; Costa Mesa Newport Harbor, Calif.; East Los Angeles, Calif.; Lawrenceville, Va.

80 Years: Hilo, Hawaii; Kiowa, Kan.; Marietta, Pa.; Millersville, Pa.; Soperton, Ga.; Strasburg, Pa.; Sunnyvale Host, Calif.; West Union, Ohio

75 Years: Dundee Township, Ill.; Hyattsville, Md.; Lake Geneva, Wis.; Mayaguez, P.R.; Medford, Mass.; Miami Springs, Fla.; Saskatoon Downtown, SK, CAN; Sedro Woolley, Wash.; Williamston, N.C.; Winchester, Ind.

50 Years: Ajo, Ariz.; Anasco, P.R.; Arcadia, N.C.; Breckenridge, Minn.; Bryce, Utah; Central Elizabeth Township, Pa.; Cheraw, Colo.; Cochrane, ON, CAN; Farmington, Mo.; Fennimore, Wis.; Forestdale, Ala.; Greater Bellevue, Wash.; Hagersville District, ON, CAN; Kennewick, Wash.; Las Americas,

Continued on page 55

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Past District Governors:

Do you want to share your Lions knowledge with someone in your club or in a neighboring club?

Consider participating as a mentor in a Lions Mentoring Program. Learn more by typing "Lions Mentoring Program" into the search box located at the top right hand corner of the LCI Web site.



Build a bond with someone in your club. Invite a newer Lion to participate in the Lions Mentoring Program today!



The Membership Operations Department
memberops@lionsclubs.org | www.lionsclubs.org (Search Lions Mentoring Program)

25th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest

Imagine Peace

Encourage the youth in your community to express their feelings of peace, while gaining exposure for your club. Participate in this year's Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

Start now. Purchase a 2012-13 Peace Poster Contest Kit (PPK-1), which contains all the materials needed to sponsor one contest.

Kits are sold through the Club Supplies Sales Department, January 15 - October 1, 2012, at International Headquarters. A kit must be purchased for each contest sponsored. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery; outside the U.S. may take longer.



CALL 1-800-710-7822

To order online visit the Lions Store (Item Search: Peace Poster Kit) at www.lionsclubs.org or download the order form (PR-785).



APRIL IS LEO CLUB AWARENESS MONTH!



Leo advisors and chairpersons: Spread the word about the Leo Club Program—work with your Leo clubs, districts, or multiple districts to organize a joint Leo-Lion community service project.

- START A TREE PLANTING PROJECT
- REPAIR A PLAYGROUND
- ORGANIZE A RECYCLING PROGRAM

Leo clubs prepare young people for a lifetime of leadership. Visit the [Leo Zone](http://www.lionsclubs.org) for more information at www.lionsclubs.org.

Youth Programs Department
leo@lionsclubs.org • 630-571-5466 • www.facebook.com/leoclubs



INFORMATION

Continued from page 53

P.R.; McKinleyville, Calif.; Pali, Hawaii; Rosenberg Fort Bend, Texas; Rexton, NB, CAN; Rosemount, Minn.; Snoqualmie Valley, Wash.; Sparks Greenbrae, Nev.; Terrytown, La.; Wyoming, Mich.

25 Years: Argusville-Gardner-Grandin Val, N.D.; Broken Arrow, Okla.; Caroline, Wis.; Cedar Park Longhorn, Texas; Egmont, BC, CAN; Highland Village, Texas; Lady Lake Orange Blossom Gardens, Fla.; Miami, Mo.; Milwaukee South Shore Noon, Wis.; Monmouth Noon, Ill.; Mt. Juliet West Wilson, Tenn.; Navasota Noon, Texas; New Orleans Filipino American, La.; Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.; Oswego, Kan.; Ottawa, Ohio; Westbrook, Minn.

Higher Keys Issued During November 2011

International Key (200)

- Lion Suraj Bagla, Calcutta
Park Avenue, India

Key of Nations (100 Members)

- Lion George Sahlberg, Burns, Oregon

Key of State (75 Members)

- Lion Dr. Daya Shankar Jangid, Nawalgarh, India
- Lion Bal Sharma, Jodhpur
Suryanagari, India

Senior Master Key (25 Members)

- Lion Noel Hardwick, Madisonville, Kentucky
- Lion Keith Fontaine, Red Lake Falls, Minnesota
- Lion James Reynolds, Cheyenne Sunrise, Wyoming
- Lion Roderick Niesen, Hudson, New York
- Lion Guy Tiberio, Riverdale, Maryland
- Lion Gary Bilke, Brandon, Wisconsin
- Lion Dr. Rafael Mendez, Jacksonville Hispanic, Florida
- Lion W. Bruce Tibbetts, Border, Vermont
- Lion Girija Dash, Baripada, India
- Lion Ranesh Ch. Roy Talukdar, Falakata, India
- Lion Bhupendra Chahwala, Surat North, India
- Lion Rameshchandra Vardhinal Thakkar, Rander Adajan, India

CONVENTION TRAVEL PARTNERSHIP

Goway Travel Ltd. is again partnering with Lions Clubs International as a preferred North American travel operator for those attending the international convention in Busan, Korea. Pre-and post-travel can be arranged to discover Korea's greatest sights: shopping destination Seoul, the ancient city of Gyeongju with its temples, pagodas and royal tombs, Jeju Island or World Expo 2012 host city, Yeosu.

With 42 years of experience, the travel experts in the Special Events Division at Goway can assist in planning air and land arrangements to the convention in Busan and throughout Korea. To learn more and book travel, including international and domestic air and pre/post touring, contact Special Events by Goway Travel through their dedicated "Lions Only" telephone and e-mail: 877-469-2914; lions@goway.com. Or visit www.goway.com/specialevents/lions-club.

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LAST ROAR



CAT HAT

Keenly aware of the sponsor of an Easter bonnet contest, Helen Carter, 12, sports her entry. Alas, "the standard of entries was very high," says Helen White of the Kidderminster & District Lions Club in England, and Helen Carter did not win.

Photo courtesy of Colin Hill



DON'T LET THEM BECOME A STATISTIC

Each day a quiet disaster kills 450 children. Yet, measles deaths can easily be prevented with a vaccination that costs less than US\$1. By joining with the Measles Initiative, we have the power to help 157 million children this year.

The Gates Foundation is challenging Lions to raise US\$10 million in support of measles. Every US\$2 donated by Lions will be matched with US\$1 from the Gates Foundation to total US\$15 million. Will you help us meet the challenge and stop these children from becoming a statistic?



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