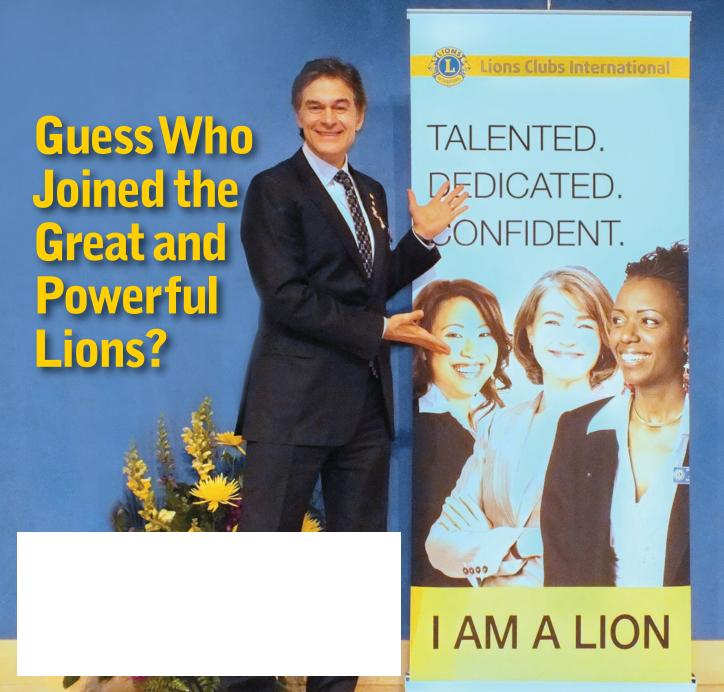


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to Games- you name

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to use you won't have

to ask your children or

grandchildren for help.

people who could

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- Johnnie E., Ellijay, Ga

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LION

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- WE SERVE ----

MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:

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



SERVING TOGETHER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



International President Tam greets Lions while visiting India.

Time Passes; Our Service Endures

Our Lions year is drawing to a close, and I hope to see many of you later this month at the international convention in Busan. We expect to have one of the largest, if not the largest, conventions ever.

It's been a tremendous privilege and great joy to serve as your president. Lions have served with incredible passion this year. Our service soared to new levels. Each Lion in every club deserves credit.

This year Lions also enjoyed themselves and felt at home within their clubs. Lions responded to my understanding of a club as family. As a result, our retention of members has been strong this year, and overall membership is positive.

Lions also embraced our tree planting campaign. So far, we've planted more than 8.3 million trees. The trees not only beautify our communities but they also help preserve them. The trees we planted may absorb as much as 1.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, more than a ton for each Lion. We are helping to save the planet.

My year in office demonstrated beyond all argument that when we believe we are able to summon the courage, commitment and action to change the world and make it the kind of place all of us want and deserve. My final thoughts as president are focused on you—the regular member in a routine club that quietly does superlative service. You have my admiration and very best wishes. You believe in Lions, and your belief has given hope to people where none existed and uplifted them from want and need. I Believe became We Believe during the course of the year. The power of our belief will continue to enrich the world and continue to make us the world's greatest service organization.

. Wing-Kun Tam

Lions Clubs International President



LIONS NEWS BRIFFS

ACCLAIMED FILM HAS LIONS' LINK

The critics say "Pretty Old" is pretty terrific. The documentary about a senior beauty pageant in Massachusetts is making the rounds at film festivals; Sarah Jessica Parker is one of its executive producers. The Ms. Senior Sweetheart Beauty Pageant actually began as a Lions fundraiser. Len "Low Price" Kaplan, a merchant, started the pageant in 1978 as a fundraiser for Fall River Lions. The pageant is now a nonprofit, and Kaplan is its president.

A LION AT 17

Nick Naylor, 17, has sung at the governor's inauguration in West Virginia, at the state's high school basketball tournament and in churches and halls statewide as part of a gospel ministry. So even at that tender age he broke another barrier-becoming one of the nation's youngest Lions. He joined the Charleston West Lions Club in February, about a month after his mother died from an illness and two years after his father died. Technically, he is a year too young to be a Lion but the rule was waived considering his family circumstances. "When I told my mother I was joining she just laughed. 'You're just like your father. You want to help people," recalls Naylor, who works after school at a funeral home and plans to be a funeral director. Naylor first attended a Lions meeting as a guest of Billy Surratt, who manages a funeral home. "I love being with people and helping people. I knew Lions was the right choice for me," says Naylor.

TAM RECEIVES MAJOR AWARD

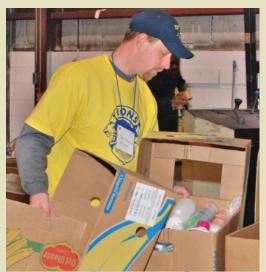
International President Wing-Kun Tam was honored in March in Beijing by Chinese media for his contributions to society as a Lion. Tam received his honor at the 5th annual "The World is Beautiful Because of You" festival at Beijing University. The festival is organized by China News Agency, Beijing Youth Daily, North America World Journal, Phoenix Satellite TV and other media outlets. The award noted Tam's role in providing 5.4 million cataract surgeries through Lions' SightFirst China Action project and in expanding Lions clubs in China. Chinese media hailed Tam as the "father of the Chinese Lions club movement."

SERVICE REPLACES SEMINARS IN VIRGINIA

In lieu of a traditional district conference with seminars and sessions, Lions in northern Virginia opted to disperse into the community to do service. More than 200 Lions in yellow shirts in District 24 A recently spent a Saturday at a food bank, a shelter, an assisted living facility, a hospice, a center for the blind, a Head Start site and other venues. Lions who stayed at the conference center crocheted blankets for those who lost loved ones to sudden tragedy, recycled eyeglasses or sorted stamps to be used for therapy for wounded soldiers. Friday evening was devoted to district updates and karaoke. The service day was the idea of District Governor Dennis Kelly. "I said to my wife, What idiot came up with this dumb idea?"

says Past Council Chair Bill Bartlett. "Now that I have spent four hours working in a food bank, my feet hurt, my back hurts and I'm starving. But I had a great time and I think it was sheer genius on the part of the district governor to think outside the box."

Dan Shegogue of the Dahlgren Lions Club serves at a food bank during the weekend of the 24 A district conference.



WATCH LIONS QUARTERLY

In the current edition of LQ-Lions Quarterly video magazine, Lions share a unique partnership with specially trained inmates at Folsom Prison in California, support a maternal milk bank in Uruguay, champion sight and education by providing free vision screenings to children and their parents in Arizona, foster international peace and understanding through our International Peace Poster and Essay contests and provide resources for a disabled vocational and respite center in Japan. Watch LQ online at lionsclubs.org and share it through YouTube with friends. LQ can also be downloaded from iTunes.

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

ONE OF US

Rose Kamma-Sarkany, an Alberni Valley, British Columbia, Lion, is no stranger to challenges—she's completed 10 marathons and is preparing to do her first triathlon. Those are impressive accomplishments for anyone, but Kamma-Sarkany has powered through more obstacles than most people. Born with the genetic disorder Usher's Syndrome, she has had lifelong severe hearing impairment and her vision has deteriorated since age 16 due to retinitis pigmentosa. Never letting her impairments slow her down, she loves watercolor painting, skiing, rock climbing and kayaking. Along with her friend and guide runner, Lion Chris Morrison, Kamma-Sarkany is opening up opportunities for visually impaired athletes through her Running for Change campaign, which aims to add the visually impaired category to races in Canada.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO RUNNING? I grew up with an active family, but my mother was very protective. Eight years ago she passed away and I found myself asking, what do I do now? I thought, I've got to stop feeling sorry for myself. I was overweight and decided to start leading a healthier lifestyle. I started walking, and then I thought I would try running.

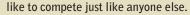
AND MARATHONS? My first running goals were literally telephone pole to telephone pole. Then my goals were minutes, then a half-hour, then a few hours. First I ran a half marathon, and then I tried a marathon. It's been like that ever since—one challenge after the other.

WHAT IS IT LIKE RUNNING WITH A GUIDE? Before I started running with a guide, I was a very stressed runner. I have no peripheral vision—it's like looking through a tunnel. Having a guide makes a huge difference. It's a lot of hard work for guides: they're watching both for themselves and the person they're guiding.

IT SOUNDS LIKE A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE. It takes a special person to be a guide; it's truly a selfless act. And trained guides are hard to find.

WHY DID YOU START THE RUNNING FOR CHANGE CAMPAIGN? I competed in the visually impaired category for the first time in the Boston Marathon. When I came home to Canada, I couldn't find any races with that category, and I thought, it's time to change that. So far, five races have added the category.

WHY IS A VISUALLY IMPAIRED CATEGORY NEEDED? It raises awareness for race directors about safety issues like providing specially-labeled bibs and guides. But it also brings awareness that visually impaired athletes are just as able and





WHAT SHOULD THEY DO? They can start by visiting my Facebook page, Running for Change. Lions can also visit Chris' Facebook page, Running Eyes, to find out more about becoming a guide.

Rose Kamma-Sarkany runs a marathon in British Columbia, Canada, with her guide Chris Morrison. Tethered together, they communicate continuously to ensure a safe and successful race.

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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.

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

CLUB OF THE MONTH

SHELBYVILLE LIONS CLUB, TENNESSEE

YEAR FOUNDED: 1922

MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS: Twice a month the 40 Lions kick off their meetings by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and thanking the veterans who have made freedoms, such as participating in a Lions club, possible. This year the club celebrates its 90th anniversary.

HORSING AROUND: Each summer as Labor Day approaches, the Lions know where they'll be for 11 days: the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, an event the Lions helped make a reality for Shelbyville in 1939. The show features horses from around the United States and the world that compete in events in hopes of becoming the World Champion. The historic event draws nearly 200,000 spectators; Lions greet attendees and sell programs at the front gates. The funds raised from program sales are used for vision care and eyeglasses.

NURTURING YOUNG LIONS: The Lions have a great partner in the Shelbyville Leo Club. Leos sell programs at the horse celebration and help with the Lions' Veterans Day and Christmas parade floats. The Leos participate in the Lions Quest program; the Lions make an annual donation to the program.

REACHING OUT: The Lions hold a "coffee" (networking get-together) at the Chamber of Commerce each year to connect with the community. The event gives Lions a chance to inform community leaders about the club's work as well as thank those who support their efforts.

PROTECTING CHILDREN'S VISION: What's the Lions' favorite service project? Each year they complete vision screenings for all 3,000 elementary and middle school children in the community. They also conduct 900 screenings at day care centers and preschools.

WHY BE A LION? "To know that even one child is helped through our eye screening program makes all we do as Lions worthwhile. To see a child smile when clear vision is theirs touches your heart deep down inside." –Lion Katie Guthrie



Bucker Huffman sells programs to attendees at Shelbyville's annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.

Photo courtesy of the Shelbyville Times-Gazette

OVERHEARD

"This is something that will outlive me and all our members, I hope. People will be able to look at the red maples and maybe remember the hope we tried to give to the community."

-Chris Howard, president of the Joplin Host Lions Club in Missouri, on the 200 trees Lions planted in Duquesne, damaged by the tornado that struck in 2011 but often overlooked by the destruction to nearby Joplin. From the *Joplin Globe*.

"Paul loved God, family, country and the Lions club."

-Newspaper correspondent and Lion Noel Hardwick on the passing of Madisonville Lion Paul Hinton. From the Madisonville Messenger in Kentucky.

"There aren't too many sitting around loafing."

-Larry Bemis of the Newport Lions in Indiana on the busyness of club members in preparing for the Newport Antique Auto Hill Climb. From the *Commercial-News*.

ONTHEWEB

If you can't make the trip to Korea for the International Convention this month, you don't have to miss out on everything. Follow along with the online convention on the LCI website, and find election and contest results, view parade photos and even see what the weather is like in Busan. Search for "online convention" and visit the website from June 22 – 26 for updates.

LIONS NEWS BRIEFS

BY THE NUMBERS

50

Points spotted to a team of teachers put together by Mattapoisett and Rochester Lions in Massachusetts in a basketball game fundraiser against the Harlem Ambassadors, who still won easily.

Length in feet of a box truck filled with food, bedding, cleaning supplies and other goods for tornado victims in East Bernstadt, Kentucky, thanks to the efforts of Nicholasville and Wilmore Lions.

Vendors who took part in the Whitefield Lions Club Model Railroad and Doll House Show in Maine.

Stalls let at the 50th Annual Lions Charity Horse Show in Marshall, Texas.

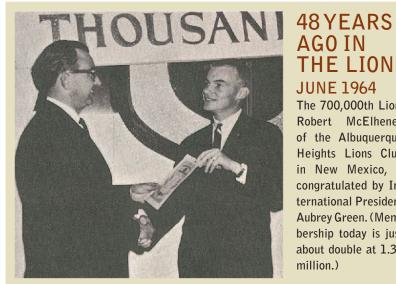
190

Barbecued Boston butts wrapped in aluminum foil and handed out through car windows for \$30 apiece at the annual fundraiser of the Wetumpka Lions in Alabama.

Donation in dollars to the town of Belmont, Massachusetts, by the Belmont Lions after town officials noted that nearly one-third of the land in town is owned by nonprofits, exempt from property taxes.

Boats that raced in the Head of the Connecticut Regatta, co-sponsored by the Middletown Lions.

Anglers who took part in the annual trout derby at the Conococheague Creek held by Chambersburg Lions in Pennsylvania.



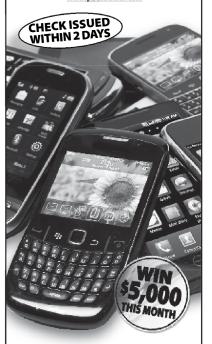
AGO IN THE LION

JUNE 1964

The 700,000th Lion, Robert McElheney of the Albuquerque Heights Lions Club in New Mexico, is congratulated by International President Aubrey Green. (Membership today is just about double at 1.36 million.)

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IDEASTHAT ROAR

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Learning about Lions

Children who attended story time at the public library in Bennington, Nebraska, were in for a treat when Lions Dee Micheel and Ken Dirksen, club president, came to visit.

Micheel, a past District 38 O governor, read the book "If I Were a Lion" by Sarah Weeks. "We visited with the purpose of reading and sharing stories about lions and how these animals differ from human Lions," she says. A librarian also read other books about lions to the kids, who had plenty of questions for the human Lions after the reading. Using kidfriendly paper plates and construction paper, the preschoolers made lion masks to top off their learning experience.

Lions plan to continue educating Bennington's youngsters about four-footed lions. Two weeks before Micheel and Dirksen visited, Lion Julie Dunn read the same book to another group at the library. The club voted to sponsor story time at the library for another year at a cost of \$500 for materials. "The kids were excellent listeners," Micheel says.



Wearing their lion masks, kids roar their approval of story time.

They fielded several questions from curious youngsters. Several wanted to know where Micheel and Dirksen's tails were hidden. Micheel easily explained that one. "We told them since we're not animals, we don't have tails." Mystery solved.

Flower Power

SERVICE IDEA BRIGHTEN LIVES

When daffodils pop up in a valley on Maryland's Eastern Shore each spring, Lions aren't far behind. For the last 48 years, members of the Cecilton Lions Club have harvested the valley's yellow field of flowers to create cheerful bouquets for residents of nursing and retirement homes, hospitals and others who might need a thoughtful pick-me-up.

Among other volunteers are members of the nearby Galena Lions Club, local 4-H Club and Scout troops. "As they're picking daffodils down in the valley, others are in the barn assembling bouquets," says Sudlersville Lion David Taylor, who is also a member of the American Daffodil Society. "They put sand, vermiculite and water in 32-ounce plastic delicups, and add from 25 to 50 stems of daffodils along with floral filler. Anywhere from 775 to 1,000 bouquets are assembled in only four or five hours. We probably pick around 20,000 daffodils. Most organizations would use such a treasure for monetary gains, but not the Cecilton Lions Club."

Taylor says, "No one seems to know where the daffodils originated, but it's believed that in the mid-1800s they were planted around a cemetery on the hill overlooking the valley. The entire floor of the forested valley is completely covered with yellow daffodils."



Volunteers use assembly-line precision to create bouquets of freshly-cut daffodils.

Photo by David Taylor

The daffodil-picking tradition started with the owner of a farm in the valley who was a Lion. "He enjoyed this golden treasure so much that he wanted to share what he had with others. The farm has since been sold but as part of the change of ownership, he requested that the new owner continue the tradition," says Taylor. When the daffodils bloom, Lions and troops of volunteers are ready, wielding their shears to harvest a virtual field of sunshine. "After a long, cold winter, the daffodil rejuvenates the soul," believes Taylor. When it comes to spreading cheer, "I can't think of any better flower to give out."

WEAR YOUR PIN PROUDLY

Wear a lapel pin to show others that you're proud to be a Lion. If people ask about it, invite them to learn more by attending a club meeting with you.

KEEP ROAD SIGNS IN TOP SHAPE

If your club has erected promotional road signs, make sure they're in good repair since they represent your club's connection to the community.

PHOTOS RECORD YOUR SERVICE

Take photos of Lions "in action." Show your community what Lions do by recording service activities and send these photos with project information to local media.

Dirty Hands, Big Hearts

The oldest building in Meriden, Connecticut, is the Solomon Goffe House, dating back to 1711 and now a museum. Meriden, a city of 60,000, is a place where tradition is cultivated. Lions, too, have their own traditions. Each year since the

1950s, the outgoing Meriden Lions Club president has chosen a project that benefits the community to mark his year in office. Projects have ranged from rehabbing parks and pools to creating walking trails.

Two past presidents, Art Forcier and Ed Haberli, wanted to combine their \$10,000 project stipends to maximize results. At the suggestion of Lion Mike Roberts, they chose to turn an old bathhouse belonging to the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA) into a community education center. Located on the shores of the river and a pond, the QRWA provides educational, hands- on and recreational programs to promote conservation and cleanliness of local waterways.

The prospect of rehabbing a 1,200-foot area in a

rundown building that was currently being used to store watercraft didn't faze any of the club's 81 members. After all, explains Dave Swedock, "The Lions are renowned in Meriden for their 'Dirty Hands' projects. Many members are skilled tradesmen and contractors and offer their collective talents to complete projects."

Forcier, a Realtor, and Haberli, an electrical contractor, also had plenty of contacts to call upon for donated goods and services. Some grants were also made to the QRWA to help

with costs. Had contractors been hired to do the job, Swedock says the cost would have been \$100,000.

"We had at least 15 full work parties, usually on Saturday mornings," says Swedock. "Average work parties had a mini-

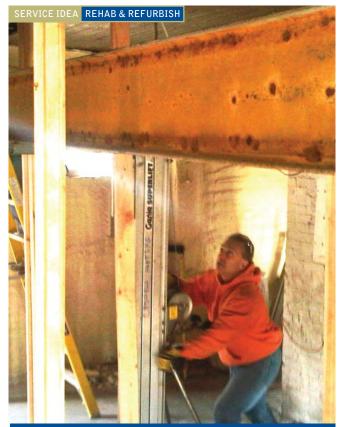
mum of four to a maximum of 25 Lions and non-Lion volunteers with specific skills who volunteered their time. There were also some weeknight parties needed to complete tasks for the weekend crew. One night the power went out in the area, so Lions worked by generator until it ran out of gas and they were 'forced' to go home.

"The camaraderie that existed between members was overwhelming at times. Long-lost Lions came out of the woodwork to get involved. Both young and old worked side-by-side. It made the Meriden Lions Club stronger and tighter."

QRWA President Ginny Chirsky says she was shocked when she first learned of Lions' proposed scope for renovation. "This was far more than we could have hoped for, but I didn't

have hoped for, but I didn't process any of it until the day I walked in the building and saw Lions everywhere—some were digging trenches in the floor, others were putting in duct work," she recalls.

Less than six months after Lions started, the project was completed. Community groups meet at the Lions Club Learning Center in the evening while programs are held during the day. "We probably serve at least 100 people a month," estimates Executive Director Mary Mushinsky. "We thank Lions every day as we use this beautiful building."



Lion Jim Bartolotta raises the new I-beam into place.

LIONS ON LOCATION

THE IASI LIONS CLUB IN ROMANIA PLANTED 400 TREES.

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

1 SOUTH ASIA PHILIPPINES

Medical Team Marches In,

Makes a Difference

Many residents in a neighborhood of the City of Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines had never visited a dentist. So a Lion-dentist, as well as a doctor, optometrist and a nurse/pharmacist who are Lions, spent a half day in Barangay Camaman-an providing medical and dental care.

The team put together by the Cagayan de Oro Makahambus Lions Club conducted eye screenings, distributed medications for diabetes and also extracted 175 teeth. The Lions attended to more than 300 patients. On the team were dentist Thelma Sarmineto, Dr. Polygino Valmores, optometrist Dr. Luzminda Abarrientos and Vivian Tagapulot, a nurse and pharmacist. "We do this every year. Serving people, especially those who have less in life, makes us happy," says Sarah Bais, a Lion since 1995. "It gives us a sense of responsibility and makes us aware how blessed we are."



Seedlings Improve Water Supply

2 AFRICA MALAWI

The catchment area that fed the Lilongwe River, the water source for Lilongwe, Malawi, was degraded. The quality and quantity of water for the city's residents was adversely affected. So Lilongwe Lions led a project to plant more than 2,500 trees there.

"It was a quest to fulfill the international president's dream to plant at least 1 million trees and an attempt to mitigate the effects of climate change," says Clara Malunga, club secretary.

Lions pulled together the support of students from two schools, a ministry of natural resources and the Lilongwe Water Board. Lions are considering encouraging students to adopt seedlings and then rewarding them with school materials if the trees survive.











Walkathon Gets Wild in Germany

The walk turned into a outlandish parade.

German Lions encouraged participants in their walkathon to get a little crazy. The walkers complied. They came carrying skis, Alpine ropes and fire hoses. They wore traditional Bavarian outfits, surgical masks or colorful sportswear. One walker blared a portable siren.

The Oberstaufen-Westallgäu Lions Club sponsored the walk to mark the start of Lindenberg's market days. Led by Mayor Johann Zeh and Meckatzer Brewery owner Michael Weiss, beer stein in hand, the walkers waltzed through downtown Lindenberg.

Each participant either paid 50 euros (US\$66) or found a sponsor, raising 10,750 euros (US\$14,200). The city of Lindenberg purchased a defibrillator for the Westallgäu medical group with the money raised. Another portion of the proceeds went to an animal shelter and an aid organization that provides disaster relief.



Lofty Fundraiser in Spain

Andrea Aitchison had a happy landing. But for a dreadful moment or two as she fell through the sky she had her doubts. "I pulled right [on the parachute's straps] and immediately went into a spin. It was sheer terror," says Aitchison, who organized the skydiving fundraiser on behalf of the Jalon and Orba Lions Club in Spain.

Aitchison righted herself and landed safely, as did her husband Stuart, also a Lion, and 18 others jumping for 15 charities. The temporary terror was worth it. The jump raised US\$16,500.

The plane carried the skydivers up to 12,000 feet, and they enjoyed a 5,000-foot free fall. The El Pinar Aerodrome in Castellon hosted the event.

Most members of the Aitchisons' Lions club are English expatriates. For these Lions, thrills are part of the Lions' experience. The club previously sponsored a rappel off a steep cliff. (November 2001 LION).



LIONS ON LOCATION

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





Serving Youths in India



More than half of India's 1.2 billion people are under the age of 25, and Lions in India are tireless champions of youth. Demonstrating that Lions are Knights of the Blind in Asia, too, Mysore Kuvempunagar Lions conduct an eye screening for schoolchildren (top). The Washim Lions Club holds a school dance competition to celebrate India's Independence Day (center). Encouraged by the Gohana Dynamic Lions Club, students and staff at a local school take a pledge of peace on World Peace Day on Sept. 21 (left).



Inclusive playgrounds must meet the needs of all children. Landscape Structures focuses on three components—physical accessibility, age and developmental appropriateness, and sensory-stimulating activity—to bring children together and make them equals through play. Learn more about bringing inclusive play to your community at playIsi.com/ad/inclusive-play-service.



Doctointhe Den

by Anne Ford

Dr. Oz speaks at the health symposium of District 4 C4.

Maybe you saw him on *Oprah* back in the day, giving tips on how to fight fatigue or lose weight. Or maybe you watch him now on his own Emmy Award-winning television program, discussing cancer-fighting breakfast foods, inexpensive treatments for pain or strategies to supercharge your immune system.

Possibly you own one or more of his *New York Times* best-selling books such as "YOU The Owner's Manual: An Insider's Guide to the Body that Will Make You Healthier and Younger." Or you've seen him popping up on the "Today Show," "Good Morning America," "The View" or "Larry King Live" (or on the pages of *O*, *Esquire* or *Time* magazines).

Wherever you've encountered that smiling, dark-haired man in the surgical scrubs, you know his name: Dr. Oz. He's

everywhere. And now he's a Lion.

Dr. Mehmet C. Oz—vice-chair and professor of surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, attending surgeon at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center, and one of the most trusted and familiar health-care figures in America—now has another credential to add to his name: membership in

the world's largest service club organization.

"I've known the Lions since I was a little kid," says Dr. Oz. "I love their energy. I've always admired the fact that they are involved with health in a way that is uplifting and celebratory. My interactions with them have always been so pleasurable, and that's contagious."

So how and where did Dr. Oz catch Lion fever? It all began with a phone call.

Several months ago, Lion Esther Lee (the governor of District 4 C4, which encompasses the San Francisco

Peninsula) found herself scrambling. One of the speakers for the district's daylong health symposium, "Body Mind Spirit," had canceled, and she was under the gun to locate a replacement.

In stepped Lion Eleanor Lindquist-Britter, membership chair of the Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club. She told Lee, "Maybe I can get someone for you." She called Dr. Oz's office, and, to everyone's delight, the doctor agreed to deliver the symposium's keynote address at the Oracle Auditorium in Redwood City, California, on March 10.

On the day of the symposium, the attendees were thrilled to hear a speaker of Dr. Oz's caliber—and Lee and the other Lions in attendance were just as thrilled that the doctor seemed keen to learn more about the organization. "I found him to be very interested in the Lions," remem-

bers Lee. "Every time he had a break, he would ask about the Lions. I think the more he heard, the more he liked it."

Dr. Oz says he was especially intrigued by what he heard about the newly chartered Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club. Founded earlier this year by Lindquist-Britter and her husband, Bill Britter, the club is still in its early stages but plans to focus primarily on health care

initiatives. A little more than half its 39 members are medical professionals.

"I was intrigued that they [the Peninsula club] saw the creation of wellness clinics as part of their mission," the doctor says. For example, in April, the club worked with a local medical clinic to conduct blood pressure and glucose screenings at an Earth Day fair in Foster City. Similar, larger events are in the works, Lindquist-Britter says.

Talk of initiatives such as those seemed to align with Dr. Oz's own belief in the importance of community



health-care efforts-including his own HealthCorps, a nonprofit organization that brings health education to schools.

So when asked if he'd like to join the Lions, Dr. Oz accepted with enthusiasm. (A short video clip of his induction by District Governor Lee is available online at www.lions4c4.org.)

Of course, the Peninsula club is equally enthusiastic about having him join their ranks. "He's a very down-toearth kind of person, with no false airs about him whatsoever, and he really lives and believes what he promotes," says Audrey Ng, club president. "It's very exciting."

Now that he's been inducted as a Lion, "I'm able to roar with pride," Dr. Oz says with a smile in his voice. And roar he plans to, in conjunction with his fellow Lions.

At the time the LION went to press, plans were afoot to have Lions volunteer at a Dr. Oz-organized health fair in Philadelphia in May. District Governor Lee, along with Lindquist-Britter and her husband, were planning to visit the fair in order to learn more about the logistics of large events such as these and to spark ideas for their own health initiatives back in the San Francisco area.

And after that? The possibilities for partnership are huge, Dr. Oz says.

"If we want to do some charitable mission for health—

you want to improve the health care of the community, the Lions are a logical partner."

It's the sheer ubiquity of Lions clubs that makes them such a powerful force for positive change, he adds. "I'm proud of what our show has done, but we're a TV show at 30 Rockefeller Plaza in New York City," he says. "Lions are in every community in America. A show like mine is good as a bullhorn, getting the word out. Whereas the Lions can drive change in the community, because they have been around for so long and are so embedded."

Still, considering that he receives thousands of requests from charitable organizations, what brought him to choose to join the Lions in particular? "There's only one Lions," he says firmly. "You're a unique organization."

"What you're doing in health care is what I want to do," he finishes. "We both see that the betterment of society is integrally woven into the betterment of the health of the people."



Chicago Doctor Invents Affordable Hearing Aid Outperforms Many Higher Priced Hearing Aids

Reported by J. Page

CHICAGO: A local board-certified Ear, Nose, Throat (ENT) physician, Dr. S. Cherukuri, has just shaken up the hearing aid industry with the invention of a medical-grade, affordable hearing aid. This revolutionary hearing aid is designed to help millions of people with hearing loss who cannot afford—or do not wish to pay—the much higher cost of traditional hearing aids.

"Perhaps the best quality-to-price ratio in the hearing aid industry" – Dr. Babu, M.D. Board Certified ENT Physician

Dr. Cherukuri knew that hearing loss could lead to depression, social isolation, anxiety, and symptoms consistent with Alzheimer's dementia. He could not understand why the cost for hearing aids was so high when the prices on so many consumer electronics like TVs, DVD players, cell phones and digital cameras had fallen.

Since Medicare and most private insurance do not cover the costs of hearing aids, which traditionally run between \$2000-\$6000 for a pair, many of the doctor's patients could not afford the expense. Dr. Cherukuri's goal was to find a reasonable solution that would help with the most common types of hearing loss at an affordable price, not unlike the "one-size-fits-most" reading glasses available at drug stores.

- Designed By A Board Certified Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Doctor
- Doctor-Recommended, Audiologist-Tested
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- FDA-Registered
- Save Up To 90%
- Free Shipping Available
- Batteries Included! Comes Ready To Use
- 100% Money Back Guarantee

He evaluated numerous hearing devices and sound amplifiers, including those seen on television. Without fail, almost all of these were found to amplify bass/low frequencies (below 1000 Hz) and not useful in amplifying the frequencies related to the human voice.

Inspiration from a Surprising Source

The doctor's inspiration to defeat the powers-that-be that kept inexpensive hearing aids out of the hands of the public actually came from a new cell phone he had just purchased. "I felt that if someone could devise an affordable device like an iPhone® for about \$200 that could do all sorts of things, I could create a hearing aid at a similar price."

Affordable Hearing Aid With Superb Performance

The high cost of hearing aids is a result of layers of middlemen and expensive unnecessary features. Dr. Cherukuri concluded that it would be possible to develop a medical grade hearing aid without sacrificing the quality of components. The result is the MDHearingAid PRO®, starting well under \$200. It has been declared to be the best low-cost hearing aid that amplifies the range of sounds associated with the human voice without overly amplifying background noise.

Tested By Leading Doctors and Audiologists

The MDHearingAid PRO® has been rigorously tested by leading ENT physicians and audiologists who have unanimously agreed that the **sound quality and output in many cases exceeds more expensive hearing aids.**

DOCTORS AND PATIENTS AGREE: "BEST QUALITY SOUND" "LOWEST AFFORDABLE PRICE"

"I have been wearing hearing aids for over 25 years and these are the best behind-the-ear aids I have tried. Their sound quality rivals that of my \$3,000 custom pair of Phonak Xtra digital ITE"—Gerald Levy

"I have a \$2,000 Resound Live hearing aid in my left ear and the MD HearingAid PRO in the right ear. I am not able to notice a significant difference in sound quality between the two hearing aids."

- Dr. May, ENT physician

"We ordered two hearing aids for my mother on Sunday, and the following Wednesday they were in our mailbox! Unbelievable! Now for the best part—they work so great, my mother says she hasn't heard so good for many years, even with her \$2,000 digital! It was so great to see the joy on her face. She is 90 years young again."—Al Peterson

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My Father, the Lion

Dads Who Were Lions Often Pass on a Special Legacy to Their Children

by Nancy Shepherdson

Barbara Cathey

Washington

Raised near Seattle, Barbara Cathey was 12 in 1943. At the family Christmas party that year, her father proved to Barbara and her two sisters that he was still young and vibrant, even at age 40. First, an also not-so-young aunt showed off her vigor by standing on her head. Then it was her dad's turn. He did the "wrestlers' bridge"—he arched his back and, flinging his head and body back, exultantly slapped his palms on the ground. "My father was an extrovert. He liked to sing. He danced. He taught me the fox trot," says Cathey, 81, of Colville, Washington.

Cathey's father, Bruce Wallace, was always crazy busy, first with his diner, which was open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, then with a roadhouse he built from Quonset huts and at hotels he later managed. But he wasn't too busy for Lions. His Lions club met in the back room of his restaurant. "I think he put that room on just so the Lions could meet," says Cathey, who worked at the diner as a girl and served food to the Lions. When Lions went bowling, she tagged along. "I don't think my dad missed going to many things. I didn't miss many things, either."

A hard worker with three daughters to feed, her father especially enjoyed the social aspect of Lions. "I think he was interested in the kind of person who gets involved in Lions. They want to get something out of life. They're active people. They enjoy life," says Cathey, a former physical education teacher.



Barbara Cathey (left) and sisters Bonnie and Rosemary pose with their dad, Bruce Wallace.



"I think he was interested in the kind of person who gets involved in Lions. They want to get something out of life. They're active people. They enjoy life."

The Lions club was a perfect outlet for her father's high spirits. He regularly served as tailtwister and handed out gifts as Santa at Christmas time. He peppered Lions with his sleight-of-hand tricks and corny jokes.

His cheerful demeanor masked a terrible hurt. When he was at school as a boy, his little brother accidentally drowned. He rarely talked about it. But that tragedy surely drove him to connect with others, Cathey surmises.

In 1971, Wallace traveled to his treasured small cabin to celebrate Thanksgiving, as he always did. He unexpectedly passed away.

His legacy as a Lion lives on with Cathey. Her son, Warren, is a Lion in North Carolina. Her own husband became a Lion, through which she befriended Lions in Australia. That friendship led to an indelible Lions-type moment for her in which borders are erased and the world shrinks to a friendlier, more compact place. The club of an Australian Lion she knows is famous for its bread pudding sale and Cathey heard the club's prized product advertised on a Canadian radio station.

Cathey has great respect for Lions. "They've lasted a long time. They look at what the need is and they fill it," she says.

Cathey herself has been a dedicated fundraiser and volunteer. She has volunteered at food banks alongside Seattle Lions, collected money for cancer prevention, served as a den mother and a political organizer, and even coached Little League. "I was very aware of what I learned through watching my dad be a Lion: service makes your own life better and so does having a good time," she says.

He was so dedicated that he was staffing a Lions club concession stand at a local ball game when his wife went into labor with Seitel in 1955.

Becky Seitel

Alabama

Becky Seitel grew up in the small town of Carbon Hill, Alabama. Her father, Carl Barker, served as a Lion from 1941 to 1975. Barker died in 1991. Now living in Birmingham, Seitel still has his Lions jacket, tie and pins.

Service was part of her father's identity. He was mayor and also was on the school board and town council. He was so dedicated that he was staffing a Lions club concession stand at a local ball game when his wife went into labor with Seitel in 1955.

Her father learned to give back from his own mother. As a youth during the Depression, hobos came to their back door and his mother served them a meal and a kind word.

Illness and premature death clouded Barker's life. His mother and three of his siblings passed away while he was still young. Barker served his community despite battling illness himself. A rheumatic heart condition caused by a childhood illness slowed him down.

Perhaps it was his own ordeals that sensitized him to the needs of others. "One thing he often said was that you need to be courteous and kind to everyone because you don't know what they have been through that day or in their lives," says Seitel.

When Barker died of multiple ailments two decades ago, it was discovered that he had signed an organ donor card. Because of his health, the only thing he could give was his corneas. That was so fitting, says Seitel, because he loved to read. He gave the gift of sight to two people.

Her father's ideals made an impact on Seitel long after he died.

Seitel didn't know a single Jewish person until she went to college. She ended up marrying a Jewish man and once attended a Yom HaShoah service commemorating the Holocaust. Deeply moved, she and her husband created a



Becky Seitel's father saved newspaper stories on the liberation of the concentration camps. Brought together by her exhibit on the Holocaust, Joe Sacco (left), who helped liberate Dachau, chats with Max Steinmetz, who was imprisoned there.

photographic and art exhibit that told the story of 20 Holocaust survivors living in Alabama. She wondered what her father would have thought of that. She soon found out.

"One Veteran's Day, we were watching a war movie and I recalled that Daddy had a collection of *Stars & Stripes* newspapers, which I had stored in our cedar chest," Seitel remembers. She had never really looked at them and had nearly forgotten about them but felt drawn to take them out that evening.

"The stories in them were all about the liberation of the concentration camps—many beautifully written by Andy Rooney—and I felt he had led me to them," she says.

Somehow, she believed, her father was reaching out to her and delivering a smile of approval. The sense of his presence overwhelmed her. She wept.

"He was such a happy, positive person," she says. "He was always saying 'things are going to be all right.'"

"He considered the Lions club an extension of his business and community activities," recalls Vande Poel. "His business, his community, and the people he met were his fun."

Mary Vande Poel

In the 1940s Mary Vande Poel and her two siblings walked home from school for lunch and ate with their father, who walked home from his business.

Except on Tuesday. "That was the day the Lions met. He never missed that," says Vande Poel, 75.

Russell Vande Poel was a charter member of the Holland Lions Club. He joined in 1926 and had perfect attendance for more than 50 years. Lions were part of the Vande Poel home. Young Mary flipped through the LION Magazine, curious about the photos. Her mother, though afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis, cheerfully made calls to gather volunteers for Lions' projects and the famous Tulip Festival, which her husband chaired for several seasons. "He considered the Lions club an extension of his business and community activities," recalls Vande Poel. "His business, his community, and the people he met were his fun. The hard work of making things happen was what he liked best."

Russell ran the Superior Sports Store. Knowing that few people could afford a radio at home, he regularly dashed across the street to the phone company and posted the sports scores he gathered on a big board at his store. Men also hung out at the store playing a pinball machine for a nickel. The store once had sold cigars. The building still seemed to emanate a male-only atmosphere and women stayed away. Yet as a girl Mary and her sister were free to roam the aisles.

"We were always welcome," she says. "My dad was a soft touch. If mom said no to something, we'd go to him."

Vande Poel was a driving force behind the sports scene in Holland including the semi-pro Flying Dutchmen base-



The Vande Poels march in the Tulip Time Festival in Holland, Michigan, in 1941. Mary is on the right.

ball team, city leagues, Little League and Rocket football. He was outgoing and approachable. But he took his job seriously. He wore a suit and tie to work. Even as the world became less formal, he never wore anything more casual than dress pants and a sweater to sell basketballs and fishing poles.

Mary Vande Poel taught school for 42 years overseas for the Department of Defense. In Ankara, Turkey, she soon learned where the Lions met. When her dad visited, she encouraged him to attend a meeting. "He didn't go. I think he was worried they didn't speak English," she says.

Vande Poel died in 1978, a Lion to the end. Son Jim runs the sports store.

Back in the States now, Mary owns the land and visits the store almost daily. The store has lots of good memories of a happy childhood and a father fulfilled by his family, business and community service.



Russell Vande Poel receives an award in 1961.

Rick Trenary

West Virginia

Fall meant the end of the hot sticky summers, the humdrum routine of school days and then the burst of color among the trees for Rick Trenary, who grew up in far eastern West Virginia. It also meant working next to his dad and brother making apple cider. The annual cider fundraiser of the Bunker Hill/Inwood Lions Club was a fall ritual of Trenary's boyhood. The Lions made it themselves and poured it into jugs. By the time they got done, Trenary and his brother, Randy, were always covered in sticky cider residue. Their dad, Richard, would then pile with them in the back of a pickup truck and drop them off in a neighborhood to sell the cider door-to-door alongside him and other Lions.

"Nearly every house we stopped at in Inwood bought some," remembers Trenary, "and then we'd go to a local restaurant for burgers and fries with the Lions. We felt like we were part of the group—we grew up in the Lions club."

The Trenary brothers spent many days side-by-side with their dad as he raised money for Lions' charities, manning the concession stand at athletic events and even selling brooms door-to-door.

Trenary is certain his Lions' upbringing greatly influenced his later life, although he and his brother took very different career paths than their dad. His father, a "whiz with numbers," ran a local finance company that made personal loans. Trenary and his brother decided they'd rather work with their hands: Trenary became a construction contractor and his brother an ironworker. But being involved in Lions left its mark. "We were in the public eye in our small town from a very early age and my dad made sure we minded our manners and learned how to sell," he says.

The brothers also decided that being a Lion was a way of life that "felt right," says Trenary. Not all Lions kids become Lions themselves but the two brothers (and Rick's wife Cindy) found it a natural step to take.

The senior Trenary, a past district governor, was a Lion from 1964 until he died in 2010. He was sight chairman of his club for 23 years and now Rick has held the same position for the past six years. Randy runs the club's monthly Antique Car Cruise fundraiser. "In a way, it's just an extension of selling cider door-to-door," says Randy. Now that Bunker Hill/Inwood is a Washington, D.C. bedroom community, they've just changed the way they raise money. "But we're still reaching out to our community in every way we can, just like Dad did," Randy says.

"But we're still reaching out to our community in every way we can, just like Dad did."

Kathy Kolling

Children often think of their father as a larger-than-life figure, a leader, a hero, a man as respected and admired outside the home as he is at home. For Kathy Kolling and her three siblings, the image matched reality.

All his life, Eugene Kolling built community and brought people together. He even started a town. In 1969, he was one of the incorporators of Darien, a Chicago suburb. Farmlands sprouted into subdivisions. Early residents self-mockingly wore T-shirts that read: "Where the heck is Darien?" Kolling helped put it on the map.

He served on Darien's first planning commission and as its first police commissioner. "If you see something that needs doing, just do it," was his philosophy, says Kathy Kolling.

Kolling started Darien Bank (now West Suburban Bank) in 1973 to help finance the building boom that the town's incorporation set off. He was the bank's first president. He made it his mission to get to the bank first every day and greet employees and customers as they came in. "His goal was to make sure the community always knew there was a local, friendly banker in town," says Greg Ruffalo, a former teller.

Kolling wanted Darien to be a place where kids would be able to afford to stay and raise their own kids. He saw the town grow and fulfill his dream. The population shot past 20,000. Couples with young children flock to the suburb and its good schools, safe neighborhoods and active civic life.

Kolling enjoyed being busy. He worked two jobs when starting out and then went to school to get an education in banking. He taught himself the guitar and the organ. "But he always found time to toss a ball to us in the backyard," says Robert, his son. His favorite place in the evenings, though, was his recliner. To rest? Hardly. Until precisely one in the morning, day after day, he devoured westerns,

thrillers, spy novels and war stories. "He was a man of action, even in his recliner," laughs Robert.

In 1971, because he saw unfilled needs in his new community, Kolling became the charter president of the Darien Lions Club. "He said he only did what any Darien Lion would do, which was serve his community in any way he could," says Kolling. She remembers him constantly saying he had to go out and "rattle his can" for Lions Candy Day. He served on 34 major committees as a Lion and made it his priority to help the club leadership improve club practices and policies. Over his 40 years with the club, he sponsored and mentored 11 new members and helped build the Darien Fourth of July parade and Halloween party into huge community events.

The Darien Lions started with 45 members in 1971 and has more than 150 now. Kolling liked to say he wanted to make the Darien Lions into a "social club with a purpose" and he was rewarded with many Lions' awards. Still, says his daughter, the pressure of leading all those enterprises never seemed to frazzle him. "He was always home for dinner and always had time for us," she says. Then he'd just go work on something new, like it was the most natural thing in the world.

Kolling's beloved wife, Mary, died in 1995. Every single day, he visited her grave. Then own his health declined last fall. He died in November. "Gene Kolling simply was a civic treasure," Lion Ralph "Cash" Beardsley posted online to the local newspaper. "He really put the lie to the saying that 'nice guys finish last.' His many positive impacts on daily life here in Darien will last for as long as Darien does."

Now it's time for Kolling's children to trek to the local cemetery. The quiet plot is just a few minutes away from their former home, the bank he founded and the restaurant where Darien Lions met.

Engage Young People: All It Takes Is (PIZZA!)

Step 1: Throw a pizza party.

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they are interested in.

Step 3: Sponsor a Campus Lions club.

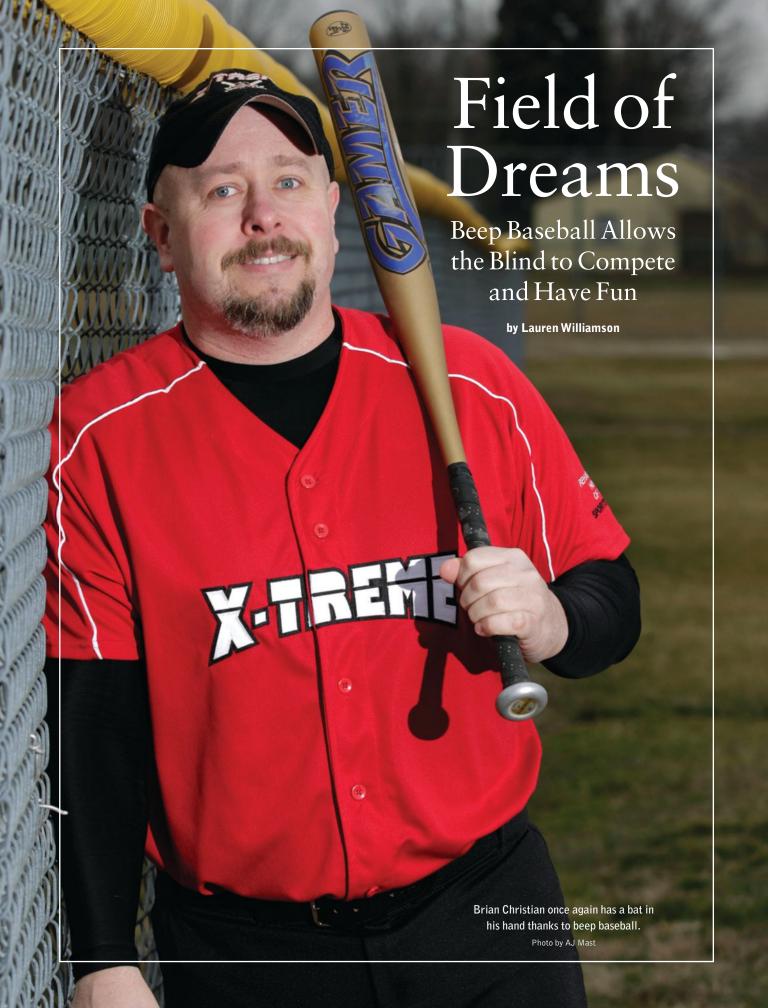
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To get started, request a campus kit from campusclubs@lionsclubs.org.

Need help? Contact your district governor about holding an Extension Workshop to learn key strategies to charter a Campus Lions club.





Field of Dreams

The baseball once rocketed off the bat of Brian Christian, 38. The cracking sound ripped through the air, impressing big league scouts. These days he still puts on a uniform, still swings fiercely and makes solid contact, but it's a beeping noise that sounds after he pummels the ball.

A veteran of the first Gulf War, Christian lost his sight five years ago. He now plays for the Indianapolis RHI X-Treme baseball squad, part of the 23-team National Beep Baseball Association (NBAA). Like hundreds of other league players, blindness has not prevented Christian from playing the game he loves. He relishes the competition and the camaraderie.

Three Lions clubs-Carmel, Indianapolis Washington Township and Indianapolis Franklin Township-support Christian's team with volunteers, funding or both. Lions across the country similarly support other NBBA teams.

Thanks to Lions, the NBBA allows blind athletes of varying abilities to enjoy a game while building their confidence. Playing "makes you think, I belong out here. I can do things," Christian says.

Beep Basics

Lion Kevin Barrett of North Olmsted, Ohio, is the second vice president of the NBBA. He was born legally blind and first played beep baseball in the 1980s. He became a Lion in 1998. His club did fundraisers, collected glasses and performed other service projects to support the blind. "But they never interacted with those who are visually impaired personally," he says.

That changed. Today the Broadview Heights Lions serve as volunteers at the annual tournament of the NBBA's Cleveland Scrappers. They've also played a large role in the 2001 and 2006 NBBA World Series, both of which were held in the Cleveland suburbs. Lions raised money so teams could travel to the series. They helped players purchase uniforms and equipment. They also donned uniforms and gamely served as pitchers and catchers, roles filled by sighted players in beep baseball.

Since its origins in the 1960s, Beep baseball has evolved from a slow-moving game during which players were coddled to an intensely competitive sport that's just as fierce—if not more so—than traditional baseball.



Field of Dreams

The "beep" in Beep baseball is literal. The balls emit a high-pitched, rhythmic squeal, creating a Doppler effect that lets players track the ball from pitch to bat. The pitcher plays for the same team as the batter. Both share the goal of connecting ball with bat. The pitcher aims precisely and calls out two commands, "ready" and "pitch," to help the batter make contact with the ball.

It's baseball with some necessary modifications. When the batter connects, either first base or third base buzzes. Whatever base buzzes is entirely random. The batter must quickly determine the correct base and run there.

A sighted spotter calls out a zone that alerts the out-

fielders to the ball's general location. If an outfielder grabs the ball, either by catching it or collecting it from the ground, the batter is out. If the batter successfully makes it to the base, however, he scores a run.

The game is not for the timid. Fielding balls is a whole-body sport. Bumps, bruises and scrapes are routine, as defensive players often stop a drive by blocking it with their body so they can easily pick up the ball from the ground in front of them.

Beep baseball is a collaborative sport, requiring the participation of both visually impaired and sighted people. It's a sport that appeals to Lions, eager to not only help the blind but also interact with them.

The NBBA is mostly in the Midwest and South but also fields teams on both coasts and even one in Taiwan. Among its cities are Boston, Chicago, Austin, Texas, and Stockton, California. It takes a lot of volunteers and financial support to keep the league running, and Lions have been a critical component of the NBBA's success.

Comfortable on the Diamond

Christian played baseball growing up. He hit close to .500 in high school. He was good enough to merit a tryout with the Cincinnati Reds. Athletic and eager to continue with sports, he played on baseball and basketball teams while in the military. He served in the Navy from 1989-92 with active duty in Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf.

After his discharge, Christian worked as a landscape

surveyor, a job that required the same precise vision as baseball. Then one day, at age 35, things started to change.

Like a sinister fog, cloudiness began to creep across Christian's line of vision, starting in his left eye and within months spreading to his right. He had developed Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy, a genetic disorder that causes rapid and permanent vision loss.

"When it comes into effect, it really starts quickly," Christian says.

Within months, he was legally blind. "I am not totally blind but it's like seeing through a fog," he says.

After learning he was losing his vision but before he

began rehabilitation, he received more devastating news. One of his two daughters had bone cancer. Hannah, now 10, eventually lost her right leg but has been cancer-free for two years.

Baseball has been an outlet for Christian. He can again play the game of his youth. Some of it has come easily while other parts of the game have been more difficult. Batting was relatively easy.

"You really develop a bond with the pitcher," he says. "As long as your swing is consistent, you're going to do really well."

Learning new defensive strategies has been a greater challenge for Christian than batting.

"My first reaction is to move, but you really have to focus with your hearing," he says.



Role of Lions

Beep baseball games present a multitude of opportunities for Lion involvement. Some sighted Lions have even joined the teams, Barrett said, since spotters and pitchers must all be able to see. Many of the Beep umpires are Lions.

"It brings the sighted and the blind together to make this all possible," Barrett says.

One of the biggest hurdles for players is funding travel for games. Since the 23 teams are spread across the country, most competitive play requires financial support for transportation and lodging.

Without the Lions' assistance, Christian said much of what the NBBA does wouldn't be possible. "We are

Field of Dreams

indebted to all the men and women who take the time and effort to support us," Christian says. "We can never thank them enough, so we'll keep saying it."

In many cases, the relationship between Lions and the Beep teams becomes symbiotic: as Lions clubs volunteer with Beep baseball teams, they frequently gain new members from among the players.

The Broadview Heights Lions and Cleveland Scrappers players have also joined together in service projects that raise awareness of visual impairments. In 2010, the groups participated in a disability awareness week at a school in Bay Village, Ohio.

The NBBA demonstrated Beep baseball in the gym, giving kids the opportunity to try the game themselves by putting on blindfolds.

A mother of two children with disabilities organized the week, and Barrett said seeing the Scrappers in action gave her tremendous hope for the future of her own children.

"Parents of special needs youths worry about what they're going to do when they're gone," he says. "To see these guys functioning and working as productive citizens is itself a big boost."

Christian said the RHI X-Treme prioritize similar service projects that raise awareness for visual impairment and other disabilities.

"It's the best thing we can do in life-we've got to volunteer and help wherever we can," he says.

Barrett went to the Lions' International Convention in Seattle in 2011 to begin educating a wider swath of Lions about the opportunities for service within the NBBA.

"As we network, more Lions are becoming involved, and we're trying to pitch in every way we can," Barrett says. "It can be very rewarding."

Another goal is to expand Beep into more parts of the country, as well as abroad.

Perhaps the greatest gift of the NBBA is the way it changes ideas about blindness, both within the sighted community and among the visually impaired players themselves.

"It's opening up a whole new world of possibilities,"



Barrett says. "Who would have dreamt that attitudes would have changed so that [the visually impaired] would dive on a ball and bruise their body, maybe skin their knees? People have started to see we shouldn't limit their potential and their choices to enjoy life."

Christian and his team competed intensely in the NBBA World Series in August 2011 in his hometown of Indianapolis.

The RHI X-Treme were downtrodden, he said, after being knocked out in the second game. The series wasn't over for them, though. They had to rally and play again in a game that would determine their seeding in the 2012 World Series in Ames, Iowa.

"We knew deep down we had to win that game," Christian says.

And they did, beating the Colorado Storm 16-15 and earning the top seed for the 2012 World Series.

It's those types of the victories, along with the camaraderie the teams build throughout the season, that give NBBA players a special confidence in their lives.

Barrett said one member of the Cleveland Scrappers was initially so devastated by the loss of his sight as an adult that he refused to leave his apartment. Another player convinced him to come to a game by promising to meet him in his building's lobby and escort him to the field. Eventually he started getting as far as the bus stop on his own.

"Within a couple of years he was able to get to the field all by himself," Barrett says. "Baseball got him to do that."

'There's Still Hope'

Camp in Kentucky Caters to Kids Affected by HIV/AIDS

by Katya Cengel

Nehemiah Santiago was doing fine his first day at overnight camp—until his mother left. Then the five-year-old bolted for the door. Devon Boxx blocked his exit. A huge bear of a man with a booming voice, Boxx spoke quietly to Nehemiah and convinced him to stick around. As they headed to lunch a few minutes later, Boxx, a 22-year-old counselor at Camp Heart to Heart, presented Nehemiah with a whistle.



"I need a right hand man," said Boxx.

Nehemiah agreed he could be that, and the pair headed to the cafeteria together.

It won't always be so easy. Nehemiah is at Camp Heart to Heart because his mother's roommate has HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The camp, located on 185 acres about 25 miles south of Louisville, Kentucky, serves children between the ages of 5 and 12 from Kentucky and nearby states who are infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS. It is one of three free camps run by Lions Camp Crescendo, Inc., a nonprofit founded by a group of Kentucky Lions who purchased the camp facility, also called Lions Camp Crescendo, in 1996.

Nehemiah may be too young to understand all this, but Boxx isn't. Tattooed across his stomach are the words "Fight AIDS" and the name of his mother. Boxx was 15 when he got his first tattoo, a memorial to his father, who died of AIDS and cancer in



1993. His mother died three years ago. Boxx was 8 when she told him she had HIV and 12 when he attended Camp Heart to Heart for the first time. His journey into adulthood hasn't been easy, but he hopes the campers can learn from his example.

"Just because you go through something that's bigger, there's still hope. You can still be who you are, who you want to be," says Boxx, who is studying social work at Kentucky State University.

The majority of the campers, about 90 percent, are like Boxx, affected by HIV/AIDS. The others are infected. Camp Director Daniel Coe

falls in the second category. He got involved with Camp Heart to Heart so parents wouldn't feel as alone as he did as an HIV-positive parent in the 1990s. Only a few staff members know which campers are infected and which are affected. Even those campers who are infected don't always know why they are at camp. There is still a stigma attached to the disease and families often prefer to keep their status secret, says Billie Flannery, administrator of Lions Camp Crescendo.

Flannery acknowledged people can sometimes be closed-minded. But she'll have none of that. When a cook at the complex tried to convince her not to hold Camp Heart to Heart, Flannery told the cook she didn't have to work the camp. The cook quit, and Flannery held the camp.

"I just don't see anything wrong with having a disability," she says.

When she was young her father lost a leg and four fingers in a distillery accident but he still managed to raise seven children and run a radio and television repair business. Flannery seems to have inherited his per-



severance. Decades ago when she wasn't welcomed at her husband Don's all-male Lions club, she found another club that would take her. She has been a member of the Frankfort Lions Club ever since.

In 1996 when a group of Kentucky Lions bought the camp facility to house a blind and deaf camp, Flannery agreed to administer it for the summer–and never left. In 1999 she helped Beth Eberenz found Camp Heart to Heart.

Eberenz's father, Tom Welker, had been an active Lion. He served as president of Fern Creek Lions Club in 1974, governor of District 43-N in 1982 and was inducted into the Kentucky Lions Hall of Fame in 1992. He also volunteered at a Kentucky summer camp. When he died, Eberenz, who worked for Louisville AIDS Walk, decided founding Camp Heart to Heart would be the perfect way to honor him.

"I just wanted to continue his name at Crescendo, and I thought by dedicating this camp to him that would kind of keep his spirit alive there. I think it has," Eberenz says.

The first year there were 14 children. This past year there were 68 children and 67 counselors and support staff including a full-time nurse. Most of the children come from families that live below the poverty level and would otherwise be unable to afford camp, says Coe. The entire one-week camp costs only about \$13,000. The counselors and most staff are volunteers. Expenses such as food, insurance and electricity are paid for by grants and donations, many of the latter coming from individual Lions.

But Lions and their younger counterparts provide more than just monetary contributions. This year two local Leos served as counselors and Lexington South Lions Club member John Picklesimer and his wife, Mary Ann, gave handmade quilts to first-time campers. John has been a part of Lions Camp Crescendo since day one so it was only natural that when his wife started making quilts for children with HIV/AIDS in Africa she ended up delivering them closer to home.

This year the Picklesimers brought 54 quilts for 30 new campers so that each child would have plenty of options. Niasha Sawyers, 17, was positive her little brother, Nehemiah Ouldelhadj, would choose a quilt with cars on it. But the 6-year-old was drawn to a red quilt covered with dogs, not unlike the canine quilt his sister chose six years ago when she began attending camp. Niasha, who is now a counselor, learned her mother had HIV when she was 11.

"At first I didn't know what to think," she says. "I still love her just the same."

That night her brother lost his first tooth, and the counselors spread the word to put money under his pillow. In the morning he found \$16. The staff do all they can to make up for









what campers may lack in material goods and childhood experiences.

"They're having to grow up faster than they should have to," says Coe, the camp director. "So we've given them a chance to just be a child for a week."

It's a chance to have what Audra Grogg, assistant camp director, calls a "normal" camp experience with arts and crafts, fishing, swimming, a talent show and dance.

Like most of the kids, 12-year-old Shane Soto's favorite activity is swimming. His father, Jose, who is HIV positive, considers camp a chance for Shane "to get away from the inner city" of Louisville and get to know other children who have affected family members. Shane said he doesn't talk about his father's illness or even notice it.

But at Camp Heart to Heart the reality of HIV/AIDS is hard to avoid. This summer Coe missed camp after becoming ill and ending up in the hospital. In 13 years at least two former campers have died of AIDS-related illnesses.

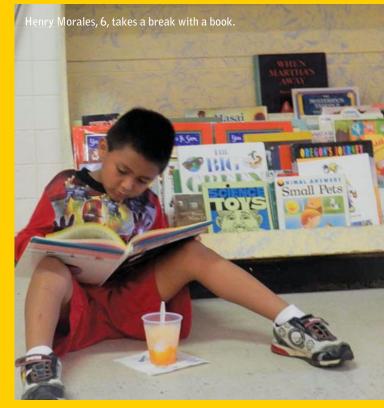
It scares counselor Haleigh Dawson to think some of the campers she is close with may also be at risk.

"We don't know which kids here have the virus, and so you know it could be any of them. It could be any of their moms, their dads," says Dawson.

For 16-year-old Dawson it was a great uncle. For counselor Colleen, 18, it is her parents—and herself. Colleen has been coming to camp from her home in Nashville, Tennessee, since she was 11. It is the one place where she feels normal. When she heads to college, she plans to pack the quilt she was given her first summer at camp. If anyone asks about it she will tell them about Camp Heart to Heart. She probably won't tell them about her family. Outside of camp and her family she has told only one person.

"I don't want people to judge me or feel sorry for me or anything like that," Colleen says, "because it's just something I have to live with."











Brothers equally relish a sucker.

Pushed in strollers, walking proudly side by side or striding fondly hand in hand, hundreds of twins paraded down the main street in Carrickmacross. The pairs looked alike and mostly dressed alike. Sponsored by Lions, the second annual Twins Festival in Ireland last summer brought together 252 sets of twins, triplets and even a set of quadruplets.

"I'm a twin myself, so I said let's go with a twin's parade. They thought I was mad in the head," said Paddy Gollogly, who was president of the Carrickmacross Lions Club in 2009 when he proposed the festival.

Bringing together hundreds of twins in a quiet, quaint Irish town of 2,500 for a day made for a memorable spectacle. Up and down the aisles of stores were twins. Seated in restaurants were twins. Walking down streets were more identical siblings.

"It's magical seeing so many twins in one place. It brings a lump to your throat. All day in the town at every corner you'd see someone pushing a double pram [stroller]," says Gollogly.



One cow is bigger than two twins.





Paddy and Jimmy, his twin, rode a tandem bike in the parade. That was just one of many of the festival's takes on twindom. The parade included a double decker bus and the twinning of pipe and brass bands. Merchants offered buy one, get one free discounts. For once, non-twins stood out. "Yes!" said Andrew Spare, club president, when asked if he felt like a minority. "Everywhere you looked there were twins."

Most of the twins were from Ireland, but on hand were siblings from England and Spain. The youngest twins at the festival were five-month-olds from Carrickmacross. The oldest were Frank and Jimmy O'Byrne, 84year-olds from County Mayo, who, at their age, had perfected the art of being twins. "They seemed to answer in unison," marveled Spare.

Like other twins at the festival, the O'Byrnes confessed to fooling girlfriends or teachers as to who was who. "I had my face slapped a time or two," said Frank (or perhaps it was Jimmy). "Vice versa," said his brother.

Twins also revealed their strategy for when friends mistake one for the other. "We respond to the other name. It's just too much trouble," said Vincent, a young man from London. Brother Jason agreed it's best to spare friends "the embarrassment."

Leading the parade, riding in a horse-drawn carriage, were two famous twins: Hassan and Hussein Benhaffaf. The 17-month-olds were conjoined until separated at a London hospital. To rousing cheers, their mother, Angie, promised to return when her boys learned to walk.

Angie also slyly downplayed her family's well-known medical ordeal: "I used to think I had double trouble. Until I came here," she said.

The club raised about \$14,000 from the festival for an Alzheimer's day care center.

The Carrickmacross area has about 30 sets of twins. A few weeks after the festival ended, that number climbed by one. "My daughter gave birth to a set of twins!" gushed Spare.





Brothers pause for a photo.

Paddy (right) and Jimmy Gollogly ride a bicycle built for two.



The oldest twins at the festival hold the youngest.

After all these years, brothers have no qualms about dressing alike.



Twins from the Carrickmacross area pose for publicity photos prior to the festival.



Steps to Success with Lions Quest

by Christopher Bunch

The world is changing. So is the way schools educate children.

Instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic remains pivotal. But educators also are increasingly recognizing the importance of creating a safe, supportive learning environment where students are taught critical life skills and positive, healthy behaviors are encouraged.

Lions Quest has been doing just that for nearly 30 years. The school-based youth development program reinforces positive behaviors and teaches life skills related to character education, service-learning, bullying and substance-abuse prevention. The curriculum is divided into three levels: Skills for Growing for elementary students, Skills for Adolescence for middle school students and Skills for Action for high school students. Lions Quest is currently taught in 72 countries, with curriculum translated into 35 languages.

"The Lions Quest program gives students self-confidence. They learn how to appreciate each other's differences, self-respect and listening skills," says Anne Marie Francis, character education coordinator for Cranford Public Schools in New Jersey.

Learn about Lions Quest

The first and most important step a Lion can take is to learn about the program. The Lions Quest website (www.lions-quest.org) offers program overviews, videos and downloadable brochures to help introduce the program to Lions.

"You can't do it alone," says Jim Johnke, Lions Quest chair of District 37-S in Montana. Gaining the support of fellow Lions is essential to imple-



menting Lions Quest. Lions youth advocates, educators or professionals with connections to the education community are great partners who can help organize and promote the program.

Reach Out to Schools

The program can't help young people if schools aren't using it—or even aware of it. Lions Quest relies on Lions to connect with schools. Clubs can invite educators to attend a meeting to introduce Lions and Lions Quest, or Lions can contact schools to request time for a presentation. The Lions Quest website offers resources to help with program presentations.

When approaching schools, some Lions think globally: Arkansas Lions received a \$100,000 LCIF grant and partnered with the Arkansas Service Commission to expand Lions Quest statewide. Other Lions think locally: Lions Quest Chair Lisa Jenkins knocked on the door of the school she knew best—her own. Murphy Elementary-Middle School in Detroit is now benefiting from the program

Support Workshops

Before educators can implement Lions Quest, they must attend a one- or two-day training workshop. Training helps educators implement Lions Quest effectively to ensure students receive the maximum benefits of the program. Attending educators receive Lions Quest curricula, which is used in classrooms. Workshops and curricula represent the primary costs associated with Lions Quest.

Secure Funding

Funding is often a barrier for schools. To help overcome this, LCIF offers matching and non-matching grants to help fund Lions Quest activities around the world.

Many Lions conduct their own fundraising for Lions Quest. Lions in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, hosted a barbecue. Other clubs seek funding through district foundations. In Norway, fundraising has truly blossomed. Lions of Norway have an annual tulip campaign to raise funds for their youth programs. All clubs take to the streets to sell tulips in support of the one-day campaign, which sold 884,650 tulips and raised 3.5 million NOK (more than US\$600,000) last year.

Provide Ongoing Support

Finally, maintaining relationships with schools is essential. Lions can provide ongoing support by generating publicity; recognizing teachers, students and Lions; and providing funding assistance to train new teachers, purchase student materials and expand Lions Quest to new schools. Also, increasing the visibility of Lions among educators and in the community can help increase membership.

"Remember it's a marathon, not a sprint," says Hilary Kumnick, Lions Quest chair of District 23 C in Connecticut. Implementing Lions Quest is a process. So is changing the world.



Students in the Philippines learn life skills through Lions Quest.

SightFirst Has New Focus in China

Ge Sang sobbed when her eye bandages were removed. "Thanks for curing my eyes," she said. The 77-year-old Chinese woman became blind from cataract five years ago, and an eight-year-old relative was forced to look after her. Sang now is one of the millions of people who have had their vision restored through SightFirst China Action (SFCA).

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is a world leader in preventing avoidable blindness and restoring sight. The need for sight programs in China is particularly urgent. It's believed that more than 20 percent of people blind from cataract live in China, and every year 400,000 more people become blind there. The lack of eye care infrastructure, adequately trained personnel and proper equipment are at the root of the crisis.

Launched in 1999, SFCA is a partnership between LCIF and the People's Republic of China to address the blindness prevention needs of mainland China. It has become one of LCIF's largest and most successful programs. The first two phases of SFCA exceeded expectations. Since 1997, bolstered by \$200 million in matching funds from the Chinese government, the Foundation has provided more than \$30.8 million to make possible 5.4 million cataract surgeries, the training of more than 50,000 eye care personnel and the strengthening of more than 300 eye care institutions.

Lions are now helping even more people. Launched during the 2011 World Sight Day in Shenzhen, China, SFCA III is focusing on the elimination of blinding trachoma, strengthening eye care linkages and improving low vision services.

Two SightFirst grants totaling \$3.35 million will help the Chinese government eliminate blinding trachoma.

Trachoma is the world's leading cause of preventable blindness. In China, millions are at risk of contracting trachoma or are already suffering from it. With the help of SFCA III, the goal is to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem in China by 2016.

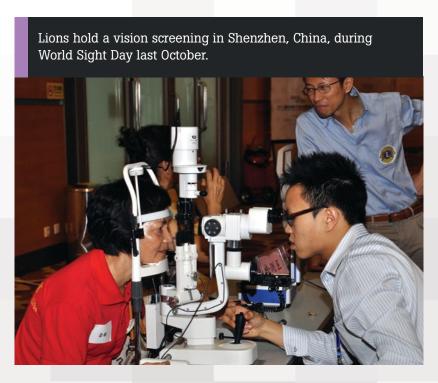
SightFirst also awarded \$1.38 million to the Chinese Ministry of Health to develop a model program in Liaoning Province that will link tertiary eye care centers to peripheral centers. This program will give patients greater opportunities for referrals across regions as well as the best delivery of services available. This project should demonstrate that linking eye care facilities can result in high quality eye care for rural areas and not only urban areas.

Finally, two model low vision clinics in Liaoning and Guangdong Provinces are being developed through a \$250,000 SightFirst grant. Low vision, which by definition cannot be

completely corrected with glasses or surgery, is caused by age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma or even diabetic retinopathy. About 40 million Chinese suffer from low vision, according to the World Health Organization. SightFirst will staff the two model low vision clinics and provide a variety of vision equipment.

"We are excited to continue and expand our vision and humanitarian services throughout China," says LCIF Chairperson Sid L. Scruggs III. "Lions in China have a great record of reducing blindness, and we are now looking to reach even more people in need through several new initiatives."

These projects are possible through funds raised from Campaign SightFirst II. Lions continue to target the leading causes of the blindness but are also beginning innovative projects that address new and emerging threats to sight.



Lions' University

Nurture Future Lions by Sponsoring a Campus Club

Like many incoming freshmen at the University of Georgia, Erik Krumins was excited to get involved in campus activities. After growing up with Lions in his family Krumins was ready to be a Lion, but he discovered the Lions weren't on campus—yet. "I was at an event where all of the clubs were promoting themselves, and I asked about a Lions club. I found out there wasn't one, so I thought it would be perfect to start one up myself," says Krumins.

Krumins got to work and within a few months the Athens Campus Club was chartered with 45 members. They didn't do this on their own; their sponsor, the Athens Classic City Lions Club, provided guidance. "The Lions were so helpful in getting us started. It's great that they've been excited to work with us," says Krumins.

Sponsors play a vital role in helping Campus clubs get off the ground and providing ongoing Lion wisdom. By designating a "go-to" Guiding Lion or two, sponsor clubs can ensure easy flow of communication. Athens Classic City Guiding Lion Paulina Bounds enjoys her role: "The most fun part is participating in what the club is doing, from their meetings to events to talking to them about their ideas and helping them problem-solve."

After Lion Paul Baker helped launch a Campus club at the University of Toronto in 2008, he was hooked. Baker explains, "Going to their meetings ignited something inside me and I thought, we need this everywhere." Now an extension consultant, Baker has helped start a dozen Campus clubs, primarily in Canada. He believes the younger generation has a lot to teach Lions. "They show us a new, faster way of doing things. For instance, before one club was even chartered, a student posted a volunteer recruitment announcement for an event on Facebook. Within an hour 25 volunteers had signed up and they decided to make T-shirts. They're 'doers,' just like Melvin Jones and the other young Lions were in 1917," says Baker.

Lions and Campus Lions develop mutually rewarding partnerships. Lions provide essential assistance, and students infuse spirit and enthusiasm into their sponsor clubs. Says Bounds, "The students' energy is contagious—it rubs off on us." That energy may make its way into Lions clubs once students graduate. "Some members have already told me they plan on looking for a Lions club wherever they end up after college," says Krumins.

Both Bounds and Krumins recommend that Lions clubs connect with college students, even if there isn't a formal Campus club. Baker strongly advocates also focusing on future college students: "I call it the 'Circle of Lions.' It all starts with a Leo club. Just about every successful Campus club that I've helped launch started with former Leos. And then after college, they'll seek out Lions clubs or even start their own, bringing in younger members—if we work with them."

-Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt



Athens Campus Club members work together on one of their first service projects—planting trees.

Did you know?

- The Campus club program began in 1999.
- Nearly 10,000 students, faculty, staff and community members have been involved in 400 Campus clubs in 54 countries.
- LCI offers certification training for Guiding Lions.
- The LCI website Member Center has many Campus club resources.
- Lions with questions may e-mail: campusclubs@lionsclubs.org.

Get Connected

Social Media and Web Tools Bring Members Together

Does your club have its own website that you actively update? How about a Facebook page full of pictures of smiling Lions at service projects? Do you regularly "Tweet" club announcements? If you're not on board with web and social media tools, Austin Founder Lion Vicki Flaugher in Texas thinks you need to act fast. "An online presence has become a must-have to remain relevant in today's culture. I believe that Lions must come into the future, without fail and without delay. Lions have much work to do, and being online helps magnify our efforts," she stresses.

Selected by Forbes as one of 10 Women Social Media Influencers in 2011, Flaugher believes that online tools are key to building a more efficient, cost-effective, connected—and fun—club. In Ohio, Downtown Columbus Lions Club President Tyler Schleich agrees. When his club chartered in 2009, they formed a technology committee and created a website and blog (http://downtowncolumbuslions.org). "The blog is like an online newsletter, so we don't need to do a formal paper newsletter," says Schleich. They save time and money with this format and easily share the same information and photos on Facebook and Twitter for a broader reach.

Through online avenues, the Downtown Columbus Lions are keeping members informed and making it easy for them to be active. The club uses web-based services for all meeting and event RSVPs, surveys and dues collection. "It's a great way to keep members in the loop. Having the meeting minutes, officer contact information and an events calendar on our website goes a long way," says Schleich.

Carol Musser, who manages the Los Gatos Lions Club website (www.lglions.org), is amazed by the difference being online makes for coordinating events. "You can publicize your event, make donation contacts, obtain permits and Lions can communicate with each other more easily. Also, since we've offered tickets online sales have grown," she says.

Musser stresses the importance of providing training to members so they can join in with confidence and ease. "At a meeting we presented on the website and Facebook using a big screen. We demonstrated how to navigate the pages and where to find the information they need," she explains. Lions can also find video trainings on Facebook and Twitter among other resources on the LCI website (search for "Lions on the web").

To those who are wary and don't think they'll be able to take the online plunge, Schleich, who has given presentations on social media at district and state conventions, says it's easier than you think. "After I show people the tools, they real-



ize how easy it is," he says. It's important to prioritize, take your time and choose the tools that are right for your club—and that you can keep up-to-date. And if you meet with resistance? Flaugher offers some insight: "Providing training and making it fun are big parts of being successful when there's resistance. Be patient and keep plugging away. Some of the most resistant members end up being the strongest supporters."

-Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Vicki Flaugher is happy to answer questions from Lions about social media. Find her at http://smartwomanguides.com.

Lions featured in this article recommend these services:

Wordpress.com – Create a free and user-friendly website/blog.

Paypal.com – Process club dues, event fees and donations.

Socializr.com – Announce events and meetings and receive RSVPs.

Surveymonkey.com – Easily design and administer club surveys.

Racers on the Cutting Edge



The United States Lawn Mower Racing Association predicts that there will soon be chapters in every state as the sport picks up speed with fans. Modified mowers between seven and 12 horsepower can reach speeds up to 60 mph.

They don't have to be fancy, expensive or sleek. They do, however, have to be able to move in order to compete in the Fairfield, Tennessee, Lions Club's annual lawn mower races.

Riding mowers come in all makes, models and shapes—as do their owners—when it comes to vying for the top spot. Crowds gather early at the Lions Clubhouse where the races are held. Lions charge \$5 admission for adults and \$2 for children 6 to 12, with free admission to those under 6. There is bleacher seating available but families also set up their lawn chairs early for the popular event.

Fairfield Lions point out that all funds raised stay in the community as Lions pay for vision testing and eyeglasses for people in need and support other local projects.

Canine Partnership Raises Funds

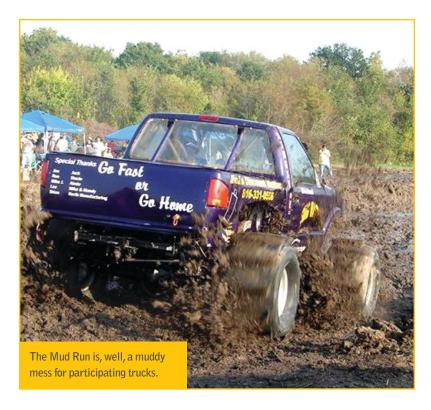
Members of the Hillside and Elizabeth Borinquen Lions Clubs in New Jersey have formed a unique partnership not only with each other—but also with their dogs—to raise money for a number of good causes. Lions were part of a group of 5,000 people and pets who took part in the "Because Your Dog is Worth It, Too" event sponsored by L'Oreal and held on its corporate grounds. All funds go to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for cancer research.

"My dog did a painting with his paws," says Hillside Lion Nancy Jakubczyk. "There are so many activities for the dogs to participate in as well as family fun." In addition to the walk with pets, rescue dogs were available for adoption. The two clubs also unite every year for a "Roar for the Cure Diabetes Dog Walk," during which vision, hearing and blood sugar screenings are offered, and have raised funds together for local K-9 police dogs by sponsoring—appropriately—another dog walk. "We do a lot of walks with the dogs wearing yellow vests with Lion patches on the sides. We keep very busy," Jakubczyk points out.



A group of Brownies cheer on (from left) Hillside Lion Nancy Jakubczyk, holding her dog Cinder, and Linda Rampello of the Elizabeth Borinquen Lions Club, holding her two Yorkies, Honey and Rocky.

Fun in the Mud



Mud means money—at least to the 31 members of the Kearney, Missouri, Lions Club. For several years, they've created a muddy stretch of roadway in a grassy field and charged people to watch as trucks try to make their way through it. As trucks churn up the mud, cheering spectators watch to see if they'll even make it out of the trough. Last year, more than 130 trucks participated.

Two different categories keep the level of excitement up. The first is a 125-foot-long bog, created by Lions who till the ground and add water to keep challenging truck drivers. A second 150-foot "fast track" is just lightly churned to keep trucks moving through.

The event has increased so much in size that Lions now let the local Optimist Club run the concessions, and in return, receive a percentage of the profits. "It grows every year. We have participants from several states," explains Club Secretary Marion Hood, who joined the club with her husband, Gerald, in 2008. In addition to raising money, the Mud Run is a great way to promote Lions. "This past year, one of the drivers from our area decided to become a member of our club," she says. "It's a fun event that involves many months of work and sets up for a very long day for our members."

She points out, "It's one of the biggest money-makers of the year. The funds are used to help with vision screening and glasses for kids in the community as well as supporting youth and youth activities in our schools. We also have a good supply of hospital equipment that's loaned to locals when needed. Money is needed to keep our equipment in good repair and purchase items when needed."



Official Notice 2012 International Convention, Busan, Republic of Korea

The following proposed amendment to the International By-Laws will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2012 International Convention. This amendment requires a majority affirmative vote for adoption.

The following proposed amendment to the International Constitution and By-Laws will be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2010 International Convention. This amendment requires a two-thirds affirmative vote for adoption.

ITEM 1:

A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE THE MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES CHARTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BY-LAWS, AND CONTINGENT ON THE APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION, THESE CHARTS WILL BE MOVED TO THE MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS SECTION OF THE BOARD POLICY MANUAL.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED?

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article XI, Section 7 of the International By-Laws be amended by deleting the second sentence of the first paragraph in its entirety and substituting the following:

Such categories shall have the rights, privileges and obligations as set forth in accordance with the policies of the International Board of Directors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Article XI, Section 7 of the International By-Laws be amended by deleting the Obligations chart on page 47 and the Rights and Privileges chart on page 48.



In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the International By-Laws, I hereby issue the Official Call for the 2012 International Convention. Our 95th International Convention will be held in Busan, Republic of Korea. It begins at 10 a.m. June 22 and ends June 26. The purpose of the convention is to elect a president, first vice president, second vice president and 17 members of the International Board of Directors and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Busan is an exciting, fast-paced, world-class city with a multitude of fine restaurants and tourist attractions. It also is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, surrounded by blue mountains, rivers and lovely beaches. Lions will immensely enjoy its mild temperatures, the unique Korean culture and wonderful cuisine, most notably the fresh seafood.

Convention Week is a splendid, unforgettable experience full of fellowship, fun and learning. Lions will enjoy many enduring traditions such as the stirring flag ceremony, the festive international parade and the lively, multicultural international show. The memorable plenary sessions include a keynote speech by Dr. Margaret Chan, the director-general of the World Health Organization, the presentation of the 2012 Humanitarian Award and the installation of the 2012-2013 international president and district governors.

The Lions of Korea will warmly welcome their visitors and ensure that this convention is absolutely outstanding in every regard. This convention will be a vibrant testimony to the power of We Believe as well as to the enduring value of family bonds of Lions. I strongly encourage you to be a part of this special Lions event.

Signed by me at Oak Brook, Illinois, United States of America, this 7th day of May 2012. Warmest regards,

Permin

Wing-Kun Tam, President
The International Association of Lions Clubs

Candidates for Second Vice President

As of press time, there were eight candidates for International Second Vice President. The election will take place June 26 at the 95th International Convention in Busan, Korea.

HARRI ALA-KULJU

Past International Director Harri Ala-Kulju joined the Espoo Kesku Lions Club in Finland in 1997. An insurance director, he has held many offices within the association including club president, cabinet secretary, zone chairman, region chairman, district governor, vice council chairman, council chairman and leader of the Lions extension team in Finland. He has received numerous awards including the 100% Club President's Award, several District Governor's Appreciation Awards, the 100% District Governor's Award, several International President's Certificates of Appreciation, eight International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Goodwill award.



1

PHIL NATHAN

Past International Director Phil Nathan of Earls Colne, England, served as an international director from 1999-2001. He has been a Lion since 1982 and a charter member of the South Woodham Ferrers Lions Club since 1989. A stockbroker and director of a company, Nathan served as Europa Forum president in 2006, holds trustee status on eight different boards of charitable trusts and is active in many professional, civic and community organizations. In 2001, he was recognized by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with an MBE, a Member of the British Empire.

STEVEN SHERER

Past International Director Steven Sherer, of New Philadelphia, Ohio, is a licensed public accountant and has been a member of the Dover Lions Club since 1980. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, he has attended 19 international conventions and 13 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums. He is a GMT area coordinator and the recipient of several international awards including the Ambassador of Goodwill Award and International Leadership Awards. He was honored with a Distinguished Citizens Award in his community and is active in many professional and community organizations.





SALIM MOUSSAN

Past International Director Salim Moussan, of Beirut, Lebanon, was elected to serve on the International Board of Directors at the association's 80th International Convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1997. The owner of a trading company, he is involved in many professional and community organizations. He is a two-time board appointee and a two-time group leader at international conventions. He has attended 24 international conventions and more than 100 forums and regional conferences. He served as chairman of the 23rd ISAAME Forum. He is the founder of the Lions Eye Center in Lebanon.

G. RAMASWAMY

Past International Director G. Ramaswamy of Coimbatore, India, joined the Annur Town Lions Club in 1985 as a charter president. Serving as an international director from 1996 to 1998, he has been recognized for sponsoring more than 900 new members into Lions clubs. He also spurred membership growth from 30,000 to 105,000 in Multiple District 324. He served as an appointee to the International Board of Directors from 1999 to 2000, 2005 to 2006 and 2006 to 2007. Ramaswamy is an industrialist and the recipient of numerous professional, civic and community awards.





JOE PRESTON

Past International Director Joe Preston of Dewey, Arizona, joined the Mesa Host Lions Club in 1974 and now belongs to the Bradshaw Mountain Lions Club. A fleet sales manager for a Ford dealership, he has served as a Lion in numerous capacities including council chair, district governor, zone chair and MERL chair. He also chaired the 1994 International Convention in Phoenix and the 2003 USA/Canada Forum in Portland. He has received the Ambassador of Goodwill Award and other honors.

FRANCISCO FABRÍCO DE OLIVEIRA NETO

Past International Director Francisco Fabríco De Oliveira Neto Joined the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club in Brazil in 1985. An entrepreneur and business administrator, he has served as a Lion as district governor, council chair, district LCIF chair, SightFirst committee chair and in other capacities. He has received numerous awards including six International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Paradigm Medal, Leadership Medal and two President's Medals.





GIOVANNI RIGONE

Past International Director Giovanni Rigone joined the Pavia Host Lions Club in Italy in 1969. The owner of an engineering firm, he has held many positions within the association including club president, district governor, council chairperson and GLT area leader. He was president of the Europa Forum in 1992. He has received many Lions awards including 21 International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Goodwill Award.

INFORMATION

ANNIVERSARIES JUNE 2012

95 Years: Denver, Colo.; Pueblo Charter, Colo.; Temple, Texas

90 Years: Altoona, Pa.; Anderson, S.C.; Aurora, III.; Birmingham, Ala.; Fort Wayne Central, Ind.; Herrin-Energy, III.; Jamestown, N.Y.; Montgomery, Ala.; Niagra Falls, ON, CAN; Orangeburg, S.C.; Pittsburg, Kan.; Ponca City Noon, Okla.; Sikeston, Mo.; Tulare Host, Calif.

85 Years: Borger Noon, Texas; Wooster Noon, Ohio

80 Years: Chatsworth, Ga.; Cranbury, N.J.; Decatur, Ga.; Murray, Iowa; Rising Sun, Md.; Wellston, Ohio

75 Years: Gallatin, Tenn.; Jackson, Tenn.; Lansing, Ill.; Lewisburg, Tenn.; Malden, Mass.; Marianna, Fla.; Saluda, S.C.; Sandusky, Mich.; Seattle Capitol Hill, Wash.; Seattle Rainier, Wash.; Sto-Ken-Rox, Pa.

50 Years: Bowie, Md.; Daleville, Ala.; Fayetteville Evening, Ark.; Lemont, Ill.

25 Years: Airway Heights, Wash.; Alexandria Rapides Metro, La.; Amarillo Area Law Enforcement, Texas; Apple Valley, Minn.; Asheville Greater, N.C.; Brazosport Breakfast, Texas; Brooklyn Sunset Park, N.Y.; Buckhannon Kesling Mill, W.Va.; Carrollton, Ky.; Chapin, S.C.; Chesterville & District, ON, CAN; Cook, Neb.; Duluth Spirit Valley, Minn.; East Des Moines, Iowa; Flagstaff Sunrise, Ariz.; Hanson Tri Town, Mass.; Lutz-Land O' Lakes, Fla.; Métabetchouan, QC, CAN; Morton, W.Va.; New Hyde Park North, N.Y.; New York All Nations, N.Y.; New York Cosmopolitan, N.Y.; New York Manila, N.Y.; St. Margarets Bay, NS, CAN; Sainte-Julie-de-Verchères, QC, CAN; Stetsonville, Wisc.; Wenatchee Valley, Wash.

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

Continued on page 54

25th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest



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.



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

CLUB BRIEFINGS

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Monroe City Lions in Missouri celebrated their 80th anniversary with a fun-filled event that included children's activities, slow pitch softball and a farm tractor exhibit. The Lions received 300 pairs of donated eyeglasses during the event.

The Lacombe Lions Club in Alberta, Canada, made a donation to The Lending Cupboard, an organization that lends out medical equipment free-of-charge to those in need. Lions also volunteer for the organization.

The West Miami Sunshine, Miami Havana, Miami Five Stars and Miami Buena Vista-Biltmore Lions Clubs from District 35 N participated in the Junior Orange Bowl Parade in Coral Gables, Florida. The West Miami Sunshine Lions also held their annual toy distribution event.

The Cullman Lions Club in Alabama contributed a third of the 108,302 pounds of food collected through a community food drive.

Over its 91-year history, the **Salt Lake City Lions Club** in **Utah** has helped build and repair roads, coordinated a legal aid society and supported prison reform. Each year they provide eye glasses to those in need, volunteer at a food bank and ring bells for the Salvation Army.

In Indiana, the Grass Creek, Twelve Mile and Fulton Liberty Lions Clubs donated 48 dictionaries to third-grade classes.

In Honduras, **District 13 A, 13 B** and **13 G Lions** from **Ohio** presented a personal energy transportation (PET) vehicle to a 14-year-old girl disabled from polio, which will enable her to go to school.

Leos in **Multiple District 23** in **Connecticut** donated 1,000 pairs of socks to the American Legion for shipping to service personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lions in Zone 2 of **District 24 F** in **Virginia** joined other organizations to plant trees to observe both Arbor Day and the first anniversary of a devastating hurricane.

The Rehoboth Beach Lions Club in Delaware served more than 75 gallons of free hot cocoa at the annual Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge. Approximately 3,900 plungers raised more than \$650,000 for the Special Olympics of Delaware.

The Fulton Lions Club in New York sponsored a student to join a volunteer trip to help rebuild New Orleans.

The Cecil County School of Technology Leo Club in Maryland raised more than \$850 to donate to charities last year. The Leos also participated in the Cancer Relay for Life and the Coats for Kids campaign.

For more than 10 years the Westbank Lions Club in British Columbia, Canada, has presented Project Pride to first-grade students. The presentation teaches pride in community, and each student receives a flag and lapel pin.

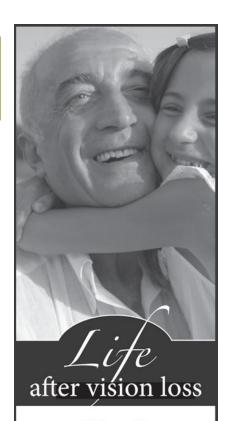
The Killingworth Lions in Connecticut hosted 100 guests at their 15th annual Senior Dinner.

The **South Cobb Lions** in **Georgia** planted 1,500 trees throughout the community.

Members of the Holland Patent Lions Club in New York visited the Bonaire Lions Club of the Caribbean island Bonaire.

The **Centennial Airport Lions Club** in **Colorado** raised more than \$25,000 from their annual golf tournament and divided the money among 14 charities.

Does your club have an accomplishment to share? E-mail your announcement to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "Club Briefings" in the subject line.



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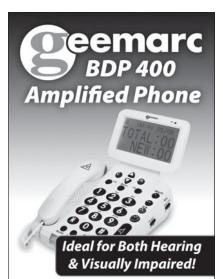
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THANK YOU

THE LIONS CHANGED MY LIFE

A Burden Lifted

Corbin Tingesdal has been through a lot for a three-year-old. Diagnosed with the rare genetic condition aniridia at two months old, Corbin has no irises, suffers from other vision complications and is at risk for conditions such as glaucoma, cataracts and even childhood kidney cancer. Corbin's parents, Lacie and Chris, had a growing burden of worries about how they could financially ensure ongoing medical care and a healthy home environment for Corbin. But word spreads fast in their small community of Stewartville, Minnesota. When the Stewartville Morning Lions heard about the Tingesdal family's plight, they made Corbin the recipient of their annual Taste of Italy benefit in 2010. In this town of just under 6,000, more than 700 people attended and the Lions raised \$46,000 for Corbin. The caring and support felt that night by Corbin's family was enormous. Lacie Tingesdal still carries that in her heart.

Q & A: Lacie Tingesdal

Lion Magazine: How did you feel when you found out the Lions would hold a benefit for Corbin?

Lacie Tingesdal: Overwhelmed to say the least. I felt so truly blessed to be part of this community.

LM: What was that night like for you?

LT: It was extremely emotional. We helped with the setup that day, and I remember my husband and I taking a break to catch our breath—and share a few tears. We were watching strangers drop off donations, and were so taken aback by it. We just wanted to somehow let everyone know how grateful we were.

See next page



Corbin Tingesdal

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.

LM: That's nice that you helped out with your own benefit.

LT: We wanted to help in any way possible. After the event I joined the Lions and was chair of the food committee for the 2011 Taste of Italy. What a job! It makes me even more grateful to those who helped with Corbin's event.

LM: What difference have the funds made for your family?

LT: It was as if a burden was lifted. We were able to make home modifications like installing tinted windows and custom blinds that help with Corbin's light sensitivity. We paid off medical debt that not long before we thought we would just drown in. We have more of a sense of security for Corbin's future.

LM: How does Corbin handle his condition?

LT: I worry constantly, but he never fails to amaze us with how independent and confident he is. He doesn't let his aniridia hold him back at all, so as parents we try to make sure it doesn't. We're teaching him to be a strong advocate for himself and never stop believing what he can achieve.

LM: Corbin probably won't remember the benefit. What will you tell him about it?

LT: I can't even begin to fathom how I'll describe that night to Corbin when he's old enough to understand. How do you put into words the gratitude that was brought forth by so many people?

Autumn Leaves Tour & The Historical East

14 Days <u>Travel with other Lions departing Oct. 5, 2012</u> from \$1548*

Start in **Philadelphia** with a city tour. Then your scenic journey begins offering spectacular and colorful vistas through Amish Country to **Gettysburg** where you will see the most important battlefield of the Civil War. Travel north with a stop at the Corning Museum of Glass into Ontario and awe-inspiring **Niagara Falls** for two nights! Then head back to upstate New York where you will board a cruise through the 1000 Islands. Next, drive through the six-million-acre civilized wilderness of the Adirondack region, with a stop in Lake Placid and then into the forest area of New England: The White Mountains, including Franconia Notch State Park, New Hampshire, then ride the Cannon Aerial Tramway at Flume Gorge. Next drive along the New England coast to **Boston**, with a city tour and visit Cape Cod, exploring Chatham and Provincetown with coastal scenery and village shops. View the gorgeous Mansions of **Newport**, Rhode Island; drive along the Atlantic coast through Mystic Seport and New Haven, Connecticut; and tour **New York City** seeing all the major sights of the "Big Apple."

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 which offers FreeStyle cruising for the start of your Hawaii Cruise Experience. Sail upon the big, blue, beautiful Pacific to ports in Kahului, Maui (2-days), offering beautiful sea vistas, breathtaking waterfalls and golden beaches; 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 which is featured in many movies. Disembark in Honolulu, Oahu and enjoy a city tour including the State Capitol and Iolani Palace, Punchbowl Crater, Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona Memorial. Spend a final three days and nights at your leisure in Waikiki.

Rose Parade, Las Vegas, Grand Canyon & Arizona Tour

Sedona & Red Rocks — Phoenix & Scottsdale

11 Days Travel with other Lions departing Dec. 29, 2012 from \$1548*

Get away from the colder weather during the first week in January and enjoy the best New Year's Eve and New Year's Day you have had in years! Start in Los Angeles (4 nights) with a city tour of L.A., Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and an exclusive, pre-parade, after public hours, float building and viewing at the Rosemont Pavilion with included dinner. Watch the artists put the "finishing touches" on the floats unencumbered by public crowds! On Tuesday, January 1, 2013, enjoy your reserved grandstand seats at the Rose Parade! On Wednesday, January 2, depart for Las Vegas (2 nights). The following day, travel to the Grand Canyon for your overnight stay in the park with an opportunity to marvel at the ever changing colors during the sunset and sunrise, with included breakfast. Then depart to another astonishing landscape - the Red Rocks of Sedona. You will also visit Montezuma's Castle enroute to Phoenix and Scottsdale where you will spend your final two nights with an included city tour.

Rose Parade Tour

5 Days Join other Lions departing December 29, 2012 from \$848*

Spend four nights in Los Angeles as listed above. You may also choose to take optional tours to the Reagan Library and J. Paul Getty Museum. You've seen the parade on TV for years; now see the excitement and hoopla of the most famous parade in America live and up close. The sights, sounds, and even the floats' aromas all make being there truly spectacular.

*Price per person. Based upon double occupancy. Airfare is extra.



For details & itinerary call 7 days a week: 1-800-736-7300

INFORMATION

Continued from page 50

HIGHER KEYS ISSUED DURING FEBRUARY 2012

International Key (200 Members)

• Lion Jagdish Aggarwal, New Delhi Bengali Market, India

Invest in New Signage for Stronger Sales

Signs have real sales power. In fact, the SBA reports that the addition of new signage to a previously unsigned building and/ or the replacement of existing signage resulted in an average revenue increase of 5%. Those are real numbers that can make a positive impact on your bottom line. Below are a few other

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Advertorial

Ambassador Key (150 Members)

 Lion So Seng, Manila Divisoria, Philippines

Key of Nations (100 Members)

 Lion Ajay Sengar, Indore Happy Couple, India

Key of State (75 Members)

- Lion Gene Everette, Dobson, North Carolina
- Lion Anton Wong Lim, Manila Achievers, Philippines
- Lion Nar Hari Dalmia, Delhi Greater Kailash, India
- Lion Ajay Sengar, Indore Happy Couple, India

Grand Master Key (50 Members)

- Lion Shafiqul Bhuiyan, Dhaka Prestige, Rep. of Bangladesh
- Lion Pavan Aggarwal, Palwal City Heart, India
- Lion Brij Sharma, Faridabad, India
- Lion Rajinder Bansal, Rohtak Bright, India
- Lion Manoj Agarwal, Ranaghat West, India
- Lion D. Shanmugan, Erode Central, India
- Lion K. Manikyala Rao, Aalamur, India

Senior Master Key (25 Members)

- Lion Virgil Van Camp, Amarillo Downtown, Texas
- Lion Jerry Pearson, Paw Paw, Michigan
- Lion Robert West, Saddle Brook Main, New Jersey
- Lion Linda Tincher, Riley Township, Indiana
- Lion Ramon Garcia Septien, West Miami Sunshine, Florida

INFORMATION

- Erlinda Lim, Olongapo City Peninsula, Philippines
- · Lion Juanita Dumrique, Marikina Valley, Philippines
- · Lion Malik G. R. Parwaz, Kharian New Kharian, Pakistan
- Lion Pavan Aggarwal, Palwal City Heart, India
- · Lion Rajesh Malhotra, Delhi Brotherhood, India
- · Lion V. B. Saxena, Delhi Pragati, India
- · Lion Prem Aggarwal, Delhi Tri Nagar, India
- · Lion Raj Vadehra, Delhi Pitampura, India
- · Lion Mr. Hardeep Sarkaria, Sirsa Central, India
- Lion Ashok Kumar Gupta, Balrampur, India
- · Lion Asis Salui, Rishra, India
- Lion Tilak Gandhi, Patna, India
- · Lion Nayna Patel, Ahmedabad Central, India
- Lion M. Sivapragasam, Pondicherry Auro City, India
- · Lion Snehalatha Selvamani, Madras Balaji Avenue, India
- · Lion S. Ramalingam, Melur Supreme, India
- · Lion C. R. Srinivasan, Coimbatore Udhayam, India
- · Lion D.R. Nagesha, Hasanamba, India
- · Lion D. S. Sreekumaran, Trivandrum Cotton Hill, India

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

CALENDAR 2012 **UPCOMING EVENTS JUNE** JUNE 1:

Deadline for international convention hotel deposit refunds for cancellations

Leo of the Year Award applications (Leo-LOY) due

Helen Keller Day

JUNE 5:

World Environment Day

JUNE 17-21:

Board of Directors Meeting (Busan, Republic of Korea)

JUNE 20:

Deadline for 2011-2012 Charter **Applications**

JUNE 22-26:

95th International Convention (Busan, Republic of Korea)



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LAST ROAR

IRISH TWINS

Sisters display a double dose of Irish freckles at the Twins Parade of the Carrickmacross Lions Club in Ireland. See page 34 for more photos and a story.

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