

LION



Lions Clubs International

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Measles, Mothers and Miracles

Can Lions help save
700 million children?



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A Message From Our President



Barry J. Palmer
Lions Clubs
International President

History Teaches That We Sell Ourselves Short

Roger Bannister, a 25-year-old, little-known medical student in England, made history in 1954 when he ran the mile in under 4 minutes. Elite runners had been trying for years to crack the 4-minute barrier. **Some observers speculated that such a feat was impossible.** People could run only so fast. They believed we had reached the limits of speed. When Bannister broke the tape about half a second under 4 minutes, spectators erupted in pandemonium. The improbable had happened. Yet here is something ever more astonishing: within five years of his feat, more than 100 people had done it. *Today it's done almost routinely.*

What we think is nearly impossible often can be quite achievable. This applies to Lions.

It always has. It especially does now that Lions are partnering with the GAVI Alliance (story on page 20) to protect tens of millions of children from measles, which kills 120,000 people every year. Most of them are under the age of 5. How incredibly sad. That has been the reality—but not any longer. **We will speed ahead, break the tape and make sure children and adults do not die needlessly.**

I tell Lions to Follow Your Dream. Bannister did. Every great person and group does. Lions are great, and perhaps the most consequential actions we take are through the Lions Clubs International Foundation, which is spearheading the measles campaign. *Our service is multiplied exponentially through LCIF.* Our foundation is how we pool our resources and channel our good will.

Please continue to support LCIF. Your service in your own community is invaluable. **Your support of LCIF lifts Lions into a whole new realm of possibilities.** Let's dream big, reach for the stars and stamp out measles.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Palmer'.

Barry J. Palmer
Your Lions Clubs International President



More than 11,000 Lions in Nepal helped mobilize communities in the measles campaign there.

Contents

April 2014 • Volume 96 • Number 9

Features

20

Safeguarding a Nation

Lions in Botswana mobilize against measles.

24

Ace in the Hole

For a blind golfer and his coach, the relationship is anything but one-sided.

32

I Say Brian, You Say Lion

With 1.35 million members, names of Lions can be startlingly appropriate.

36

Starry, Starry Nights

Our Toronto convention will feature Olivia Newton-John, David Foster, Neil Sedaka and much more.

38

Mission Critical

A Kentucky optometrist has taken vision care around the world.

20



24



36



Also Featured

28 Sight Restored

42 USA/Canada Forum Beckons

On the cover:

Catherine Ncube's 11-month-old son, Tshepo Isaac, was immunized against measles at a clinic in Francistown, Botswana, where Lions have promoted immunizations.

Photo by Mike Pflanz

38



WE SERVE

MISSION STATEMENT OF
LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:

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

CONTACTING THE LION

For change of address, non-receipt of the magazine and other subscription issues, contact 630-468-6982 or stats@lionsclubs.org. For all other inquiries call 630-571-5466. Have a story idea or photo? Want to comment on a story or make a suggestion for LION editors? Contact the LION at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org or at 630-468-6909 or 630-468-7023.

POSTMASTERS

Periodicals postage paid at Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 and additional mailing offices. Subscription price, US\$6.00 year, US\$12.00 year mailed outside North America; Single copies, US\$1.00.

Send notices of undeliverable copies on form 3579 to LION, 300 W 22nd St Oak Brook IL 60523-8842. "Canada Post Publications Mail No. 40029736 Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: LIONS 2835 Kew Drive, Windsor, ON N8T 3B7."



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What's In This Issue

1 President's Message

Departments

8 News

14 Service that Roars

16 Lions on Location

50 Thank You



46

News You Can Use

44 Recruiting Members

45 Club Improvement

46 Raising Funds

Miscellaneous

47 The Wonder of Webinars

48 Club Briefings

49 Roar of Approval

52 Delegate Form

54 Anniversaries/Key Awards

56 Last Roar

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada
July 4-8, 2014







THE BIG PICTURE

Land of Oz

What do you get when you put together two celebrity health experts? A packed house. The Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club staged a sold-out, all-day health and wellness symposium at a conference center in Redwood City, California. Speaking were Dr. Mehmet Oz (trying on Google Glass), a Peninsula Lion, and best-selling author Deepak Chopra (Opposite, top right). Taking part in a panel discussion were (from left) Eleanor Britter of the Peninsula Lions, author Naomi Tickle, Oz, alternative medicine expert Dr. Paul Lynn, Chopra and motivational speaker Tom Sullivan. Half the members of the Peninsula club, dedicated to health care, are medical professionals.

Photos courtesy of Hiromi Motojima

Hear Dr. Oz and
Deepak Chopra speak
on wellness in a video.





THE BIG PICTURE

School Exams

Trachoma is a preventable blinding disease, and through SightFirst Lions in China are intensifying efforts to stamp out the disease. Multitudes of schoolchildren in the Inner Mongolia Province were screened for trachoma, and ophthalmologists from 14 provinces received training on detecting the malady. Through SightFirst, Lions have made great progress in reducing blindness in the world's most populous nation. Lions have supported more than 5.1 million cataract surgeries, established the first surgical eye units in 104 rural counties and created secondary eye care units at hospitals in 200 poor regions.

Photos by Phil Albano



First Roar



A child in Peru enjoys his PET.

MOBILITY CARTS GAIN FOOTHOLD

More Lions are adopting PETs. The Personal Energy Transportation Vehicles, handcranked carts for people who can't use their legs, are made by PET International, a nonprofit group based in Columbia, Missouri. Since December of 2007, Lions have partnered with PET to build and deliver an estimated 3,000 carts for children and adults in a dozen nations. Altogether, PET has delivered 44,000 carts to 100 nations since 1996.

[Watch a moving video on PET.](#)

A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CHANCE ENCOUNTER

Lions often meet other Lions while traveling, but a Lions couple from Maryland hit the jackpot while on a bus tour of Turkey. Amy and Salvatore Capuccio, members of the Perryville Lions Club since 1997, saw a large gathering in a room at their hotel restaurant. "A first we thought it was a wedding, but then my husband saw Lions name tags," says Amy. The Capuccios soon found themselves talking with International President Barry Palmer, who was helping Turkish Lions celebrate their country's independence day while also honoring the sacrifice of Australian soldiers who fought in Turkey in World War I. "What a terrific organization—we can go halfway around the world and meet Lions friends," says Amy.

31 DIE IN INDIA AT LIONS' OUTING

A Lions club outing in India turned into a horrible tragedy when a boat capsized and 31 people died. The accident happened on Feb. 9 in the state of Odisha, located on the east coast, as Sambalpur Lions and family members returned from a picnic near a dam. Eight Lions, eight spouses of Lions and 15 children of Lions died. On the boat were 124 Lions and family. Scuba divers recovered the remains of many of the dead. International President Barry Palmer said in a blog post the day after the tragedy: "I ask you to join me in prayer for those who lost their lives and their surviving family members, as well as all the Lions throughout India who are only now coming to grips with the reality of what has happened." Lions leaders in India traveled to Sambalpur to offer comfort.

DAVID FOSTER GETS TOP AWARD

Sixteen-time Grammy winner David Foster will receive the 2014 Lions Humanitarian Award at the international convention in July in Toronto. Foster has created hit songs and best-selling albums for such artists as Earth, Wind & Fire, Natalie Cole, Michael Bolton, Seal, Dolly Parton, Chicago, Hall & Oates, 'N Sync, and Gloria Estefan. A native of Canada, he created The David Foster Foundation in 1985 to aid Canadian families with children in need of life-saving organ transplants. He has volunteered his time and talent to more than 400 charities. The Humanitarian Award is given for "substantial humanitarian accomplishment." A \$250,000 grant from LCIF accompanies the award. (See related story on page 36.)

OVERHEARD

"I noticed the credit card Smith used had a Lions Club of Michigan logo on it. So Smith, who just happened to be the Lions Club state secretary, asked if there was a club in town and I replied, 'No, but maybe we should start one.'"

—Charter member Emery Bennett of the Goodrich Lions Club in Michigan on the founding of his club after his chance encounter in 1962 when he worked at a gas station. From the Clarkston News.

"We want to pull heartstrings a little bit to take care of the guys who took care of us. These guys are dying off fast; we have to make sure they know how we feel about them."

—Tom Kryger, 2012-13 president of the Itasca Lions Club in Illinois, on his club's promotion of a traveling World War II memorial that stopped in town. From the Daily Herald.

"Since forever"—how long Kyler Cabebe, 8, has been riding a bike.

—From a story on the bicycle safety clinic of the East Kauai Lions Club in Hawaii in The Garden Island.

"I can keep it?"

—Kiera Osborn, 9, upon receiving a dictionary, one of 78 given to third-graders at Pioneer Elementary by Lucerne Lions in Indiana. From the Pharos-Tribune.

BY THE NUMBERS

741

Square inches (19" by 39") of a custom-designed stained glass panel titled "The Essence of Windham" and featuring seven images of local places and things that was raffled off by Windham Lions in New Hampshire.

300

Reflective armbands donated to police for the public by Nanaimo Lions in British Columbia, Canada, after an elderly man was struck by a car and killed.

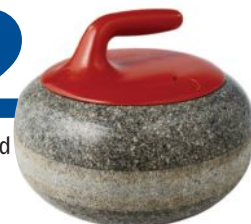


100+

Craft beers from 36 breweries available for sampling at the Brewfest of Monticello Lions in Minnesota.

32

Teams that competed in the 2013 Lions Bonspiel (curling) in Wisconsin.



7,000+

Envelopes stuffed by Colchester Lions in Connecticut and sent to residents for the club's annual appeal.



264

Cases of fruit sold in the last five years by charter member Herb Lidtke of the Beaver Dam Lions Club in Wisconsin, chartered in 1953.

15 YEARS AGO IN THE LION

APRIL 1999

Hailed as "a warrior against diabetes," Lion Bob Scheidt, 44, of the Kutztown Lions Club in Pennsylvania walks across the United States to raise funds to fight the disease that he has had for more than 20 years.



Read the full story on Bob Scheidt.



Carrying everything he needs to restore sight, Dr. Ali Haider embarks on one of his many vision missions.

DR. ALI HAIDER

Dr. Ali Haider will never forget what he was once told by someone in Ghana: that being blind is a fate worse than death. That's what drives this ophthalmologist and Louisville Downtown Lion to travel away from his wife, three children and busy practice in Kentucky several times a year to help people in some of the most remote parts of the world regain their sight. Haider has had malaria in Africa, been "shown off" around town against his will by a tribal chief in Iraq and crossed a river in his homeland of Pakistan using a makeshift pulley, all in the name of reaching those who need him. With his new nonprofit World Sight, Haider is bringing vision—and a chance at life—to more people than ever.

Do you know a Lion who you think has a great story or deserves a bit of recognition? Email us a brief description of the Lion and the reason you're making the nomination to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "One of Us" in the subject line.

Why do you think people believe blindness is worse than death in some parts of the world?

In a country like Ghana, when a blind person cannot help support his family he becomes a burden in a place where people are already starving. The fact that I can go into a country with a briefcase and a few tools and help people avoid that fate is my passion. It's often a simple cataract surgery that only costs about \$15 per eye.

How did you develop such a passion for helping those in need?

As a child in Pakistan, my father was the only physician in our entire region. My earliest memories are watching my dad help people. I knew I wanted to make the biggest difference I could using the least resources. My first trip as an eye surgeon—with help from the Louisville Downtown Lions—was back to Pakistan. In several days I restored sight for 120 people. It's the most gratifying feeling to be able to do that.

You've been in some dangerous situations. Why do you keep going back?

There is just so much need. In most of the villages where I work, there's no doctor for hundreds of miles. In all of northern Ghana there's only one ophthalmologist. When I was there, a 10-year-old girl walked with her blind grandfather for two days to reach me. They slept on the ground, had little to eat and waited in a long line for his cataract surgery. Twenty minutes after meeting me, the grandfather could see his granddaughter for the first time.

What does World Sight do?

With World Sight my partners and I are training physicians in the developing world to perform eye exams and cataract surgeries. Along with volunteers and local Lions, we've set up clinics using existing infrastructure in Pakistan, Ghana, Iraq and Madagascar, and soon we'll be in Tanzania, Ethiopia and Kenya. The best part is knowing that even when I'm not there, people are being helped. This brings me peace.

Learn more about World Sight at www.worldsightnow.org.



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CLUB of the MONTH



During the annual Cruise Nights event, Lion Olga Papp helps kindergartners take their places at the starting line of the "Kindy 500" race.

WHITING, INDIANA

YEAR FOUNDED: 1929

MEMBERS AND MEETINGS: On the first and third Thursday evenings, the Lions gather in a church meeting room. Once a month a Lion sponsors dinner for all to enjoy while discussing club business. The club, with members from 28 to 81 years old, is proud to have three optometrists among its ranks.

REMEMBERING VETERANS: The Lions took an aging veteran's memorial under their care two years ago, making improvements such as installing flag poles and lighting and initiating a memorial brick program.

BBQ BEFORE BATTLE: The Lions show their support for two local high schools with a more than 80-year football rivalry. Before the big game, they bring the players, coaches and cheerleaders together for a barbecue and camaraderie. The Lions present a trophy to the victorious school as well as a \$500 college scholarship to one standout student.

ELEVATED ANNIVERSARY: To celebrate their club's 75th anniversary, the Lions brought Serena's Song, the world's first wheelchair-accessible hot air balloon, to their community for two days. Thirty disabled children and their families enjoyed

the once-in-a-lifetime experience of soaring over Whiting in the big blue balloon.

FIRST RESPONDERS: When an apartment building suffered a terrible fire last year, the Lions were among those helping the victims find comfort in a temporary home at the community center. After reaching out to District 25 A, the Lions donated more than \$4,000 to the 10 families who lost everything.

OUT AND ABOUT: The small club makes their presence known in the community by having a booth at Oktoberfest, walking in the July 4th parade, selling raffle tickets at Cruise Nights, participating in the Pierogi Festival and holding a Christmas party for children with special needs.

WHY SERVE? "To me, being a Whiting Lion isn't just wearing a purple shirt or a cool Lions pin. It's a commitment to help others and at the same time have the camaraderie of other Lions who have the same goals." –Lion Linda Miklusak

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Fishing for Fun

A little boy proudly shows off his catch.

The popular annual fish derby for children in Centralia, Washington, is a community effort, and Lions lead the way. The club first took charge in the 1970s when Centralia Jaycees stopped sponsoring the event.

The derby features a freshly-stocked lake. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife “plant” 6,000 trout, 2,000 jumbo hatchery “broodstock” trout and nearly 400 triploid trout that measure more than 18 inches long.

Lions donate food and prizes and coordinate the support of businesses, says Lion Joe Dolezal. Lions cook about 600 hot dogs and provide 300 cartons of milk for the youngsters and free coffee for adults.

Regardless of their fishing luck, all participants are part of a drawing for new fishing gear, water flotation tubes, caps and backpacks provided by merchants and Lions. Firefighters last year provided three new bicycles along with helmets that they fitted correctly for the excited winners. Additionally, the state’s fish and wildlife department awards fishing gear to the young angler catching the largest fish. “The total value of the food and prizes is well over \$1,500,” says Dolezal.

Communities Unite Amid Tragedy

Last June a wildfire swept through Yarnell, a wooded community in Arizona. Nineteen young firefighters lost their lives, and 115 homes were destroyed. “Although few of us directly knew one of the firefighters or Yarnell residents, all of us in Lions clubs in the Prescott area [40 miles away] felt a great loss and really came together quickly to help,” says Kenneth Gantz of the Prescott Noon Lions Club.

Prescott Noon Lions established six food collection drop-off sites. Also pitching in were the Prescott Sunrise and Evening and Chino Valley Noon Lions clubs and the Prescott Noon Lionesses as well as community volunteers. In one day, more than 30,000 pounds of food was collected along with \$4,500 in cash donations. The Yavapi Food Bank received 15 tons of food from Lions. “I was overwhelmed at the amount of food that came in,” says Ann Wilson, the food bank’s director. “It’s great to live in an area where people care about each other with such a demonstration of love.”

Lions also sold T-shirts, raising an additional several thousand dollars for Yarnell’s recovery, and two LCIF Emergency grants of \$10,000 provided for medications, clothing, food and blankets for Yarnell residents.

Gantz says, “Whenever we hold events like this quite often we get people asking about our club. Case in point: myself.” He transferred to the Prescott Noon Lions Club after visiting with Lion Paul Chastain at the club’s cotton candy booth during Prescott’s Frontier Days celebration. Lions are also well known in Prescott and beyond for their successful newspaper recycling business begun in the 1970s (April 2012 LION).



Prospective member Gene Roberti (from left) joins Prescott Noon Lions Mike Hayden and Jim Swenson in collecting food for the Yarnell, Arizona, community.

Nests Welcome Bluebirds

Seen a bluebird lately? Its population drastically declined in the last 60 years, especially in suburbia, as land was cleared for subdivisions, according to the North American Bluebird Society (NABS). The beautiful bird with a voracious appetite for bugs has flown the coop, so to speak.

Greater Falls Run Lions in Stafford County, Virginia, are doing their part to make them feel at home again.

Lions build bluebird boxes with rough sawn cedar from online design plans and instructions from NABS. The materials cost the club \$7, but they sell a box for \$20, a bargain compared to the \$45 retail price. The club charges an additional \$10 for installation, which includes a steel fencepost and screws to attach the box to the post.

"This is more of an environmental effort. We don't make a heap of money," says Lion Jim Purton. The winged creatures are the primary beneficiary. The bluebirds are "beautiful, beneficial and very entertaining to watch and listen to as they fly about and feed in backyards," he says.



Greater Falls Run Lions Bill Spring and Reinhard Ortmann install a bluebird box.

Lions Do Hands-on Preservation

Weeds and debris marred a large stone memorial in eastern Pennsylvania that honored Moravian missionaries who worked with Native Americans in the 1700s. The Western Pocono Lions Club had the perfect volunteer to oversee its repair: Lion Jon Evans, a Native American history buff who joined the club in 2009. Evans saw to it that the monument was cleaned and beautified. He and others removed debris, planted flowers and trimmed bushes.

Evans grew up on the edge of the great American plains in Iowa and read about the Plains Indians. His work in the Midwest and West exposed him to wrongs inflicted on tribes by the U.S. government, he says.



Western Pocono Lions (from left) Jon Evans, club secretary, and Charles Rush, president, beautify a monument honoring missionaries' work with Native Americans.

The Moravians, a Protestant religious group that originated in central Europe in the 1400s, established several 18th-century missions in the colonial era, one of them called Wechequetank, where the monument stands today. Moravian missionaries were very often the first settlers that Native American people encountered.

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Winner Grazvydas Sidiniauskas of Lithuania sings at the song festival for those with blindness.



Song Contest for the Blind Is A Winner

POLAND: Dressed stylishly in crisp white pants and a striped, black-and-white shirt, young Grazvydas Sidiniauskas of Lithuania sang plaintively of a girl he loves afraid to love him back. The up-tempo ballad, which he wrote himself, won over the crowd in Krakow—and the jury. The Lithuanian captured the first prize at the First Lions World Song Festival for the Blind last November.

The four Lions clubs in Poland's second-largest city sponsored the contest. Twenty-six singers from 10 nations including the United States performed original songs backed by the renowned Sinfonietta Cracovia, the city orchestra.

Many of the performers, though amateurs, had solid musical credentials, having rigorously studied music in school or played in local festivals or even national competitions. Lions held the event not to uncover a hidden talent and propel an unknown into a musical career but to provide them with an unforgettable experience as well as to remind people of the capabilities and needs of those with vision impairments.

The contestants visited a salt mine and Schindler's Factory Museum (of "Schindler's List" fame). Krakow in the last few years has "made some investments to be more friendly for disabled tourists," says Lidia Jankowska of the Krakow Bona Sforza Lions Club. "The participants I talked to told me they felt like winners just because they came, met

new people and exchanged thoughts and experiences. That was the real value for them."

Hometown Lions clubs sponsored the competitors. A jury selected the final 26 to come to Krakow out of a pool of 50 applicants. Performers ranged in age from 12 to the 50s. Among them were Anna Rossa of Poland, a music school graduate now working as a psychotherapist; Haraldur Hjalmarsson of Iceland, who fronts a band; and Hedlund Natalia of Sweden, a translator and published poet.

The songs, written by the performers or for them for the contest, covered topics found on a typical CD—unrequited love, true love and the wonder of nature, friendship and God. Stepan Goncharenko of Ukraine sang "What is Love?" and Gigi Yanez-Hamberger of Bridgeport, Connecticut, belted out "Leap of Faith," a stirring testament to "having faith even when you don't know what the right choice is," she says.

The festival, which will be held again in November 2015, was the first time the clubs in Krakow had worked together on a major event. "It was confirmation that Lions can make really big things happen—much bigger than an individual club can do," says Jankowski. For performers, the event forged lifetime memories. "I heard the orchestra playing my song. ... This to me is the greatest reward," says second-place winner Rossa.

Getting a Grip on Icy Streets

FINLAND: On the frozen streets of Finland people take a shine to shoes with ice grips, so Lions accommodate folks by setting up shop in a city market. Twenty-two members of the Turku Kupittaa Lions Club fit more than 100 pairs of shoes, most often boots, with grips.

Walking actually grows more perilous in late winter as the snow and ice become less firm, so the club provided the service in mid-February. Several customers, eager to take advantage of the opportunity to improve their traction, purchased new shoes at the market before seeing the Lions.

At times the lines were lengthy. But Finns don't grouse much about the wintry weather or needing to overcome it. "Everyone was in a good mood, so it didn't matter that people had to wait," according to the Finland LION.



Lions fasten ice grips to shoes.



A child with a guide approaches a dolphin in Ito Harbor.

Days of the Dolphin in Japan

JAPAN: The dolphins may have appeared to be smiling, but the smiles on the faces of the children swimming with them were definitely real. A Lions club in Japan reserved a popular seaside dolphin attraction for a weekend so children with intellectual disabilities could interact with the friendly ocean mammal.

A dozen children increasingly interacted with the dolphins for two days at Ito Harbor in Ito City. They began by learning how to communicate with the creatures. They listened to

their distinctive whistles and squeaks while feeding them fish and "shaking hands" with them. On the second day, the children, many of whom normally are afraid of the water, donned wetsuits, plunged into the pool and held onto the dolphins' fins as they sped around.

The aptly named Chigasaki Ocean Lions Club sponsored the project. The 24-member club, chartered in 2006, was adhering to the theme of its then-president Makoto Hanada: "work together in services and have fun."

Party in Peru Is Worth the Walk



A mother and her child enjoy the Christmas party.

PERU: Christmas meant an eager march of children for gifts and a festive, funny show in Trujillo, a coastal city of 800,000 in Peru. About 1,500 children from several villages, some walking for two hours, attended a Christmas party hosted by the Trujillo La Merced Lions Club.

Lions gave the children clothes, shoes, sweet bread, chocolate milk, and, of course, toys. The mayor of the Sausal District worked with the Lions on publicizing the event.

"For us it was an achievement to bring joy to these little ones living so far from the city," says Lion Hugo Fernández Muñoz. "We wondered where did all these children come from? It was crazy. The appreciation they and their moms had was indescribable."

An ancient city known for its writers, Trujillo also is a hotbed of Lionism. It has 19 clubs with 495 members.

Venezuelan Lions Improve Vision

VENEZUELA: Many students at Andrés Bello School in Cagua, Venezuela, have never had an eye exam. So the 64-member Cagua Lions Club made a five-year commitment to hold screenings there and to provide glasses and surgical care, if needed.

Last fall ophthalmologists and other eye care professionals screened 68 children in first and sixth grade. Lions partnered with the Aragua Regional Eye Center, the Aragua Eye Clinic and health workers in nearby La Victoria. Founded in 1620, Cagua is an industrial city with 130,000 people.



An eye care professional screens a student at Andrés Bello School.

After the Rains, Lions Assist Indonesians



Lions comforted children affected by the flooding by singing, dancing and coloring with them.

INDONESIA: Known as the Venice of the East, Jakarta in Indonesia suffers some of the same water woes as its Italian counterpart. Flooding is frequent for the coastal city because of poor drainage systems and deforestation. Monsoons can wreak havoc. Torrential rains in January killed 10 people and forced 100,000 from their homes.

Lion in Jakarta carried out 15 humanitarian relief efforts over a two-week span. They provided food and assisted government workers in administering medical treatments. About 150 Lions helped 2,400 people, says Past District Governor Eveline N. Chandra.

LCIF'S MILLION DOLLAR CHALLENGE

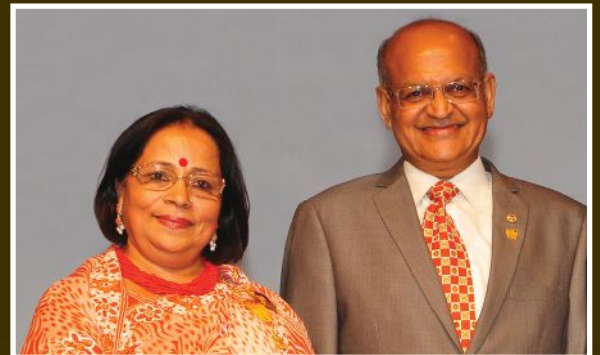


In celebration of World Immunization Week from April 24 – 30, LCIF has launched a **30 day challenge** to raise US\$1 million for the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative.

When you make a donation for measles during the month of April, it will be matched on a 1:1 basis by the family of Abhey and Aruna Oswal, up to US\$500,000.

DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL:

- Lions and friends donate funds to LCIF in support of measles activities
- Funds received by LCIF within the 30 days are matched by the Oswal family, up to US\$500,000
- All funds collected by LCIF will also be matched by the GAVI Alliance, doubling the number of children vaccinated



"Abhey and I, along with the entire Oswal family, believe strongly in LCIF and our work in measles. During the month of April, we challenge all Lions to join us in financially supporting the Lions Measles Initiative. Every dollar makes a difference in the life of a child."

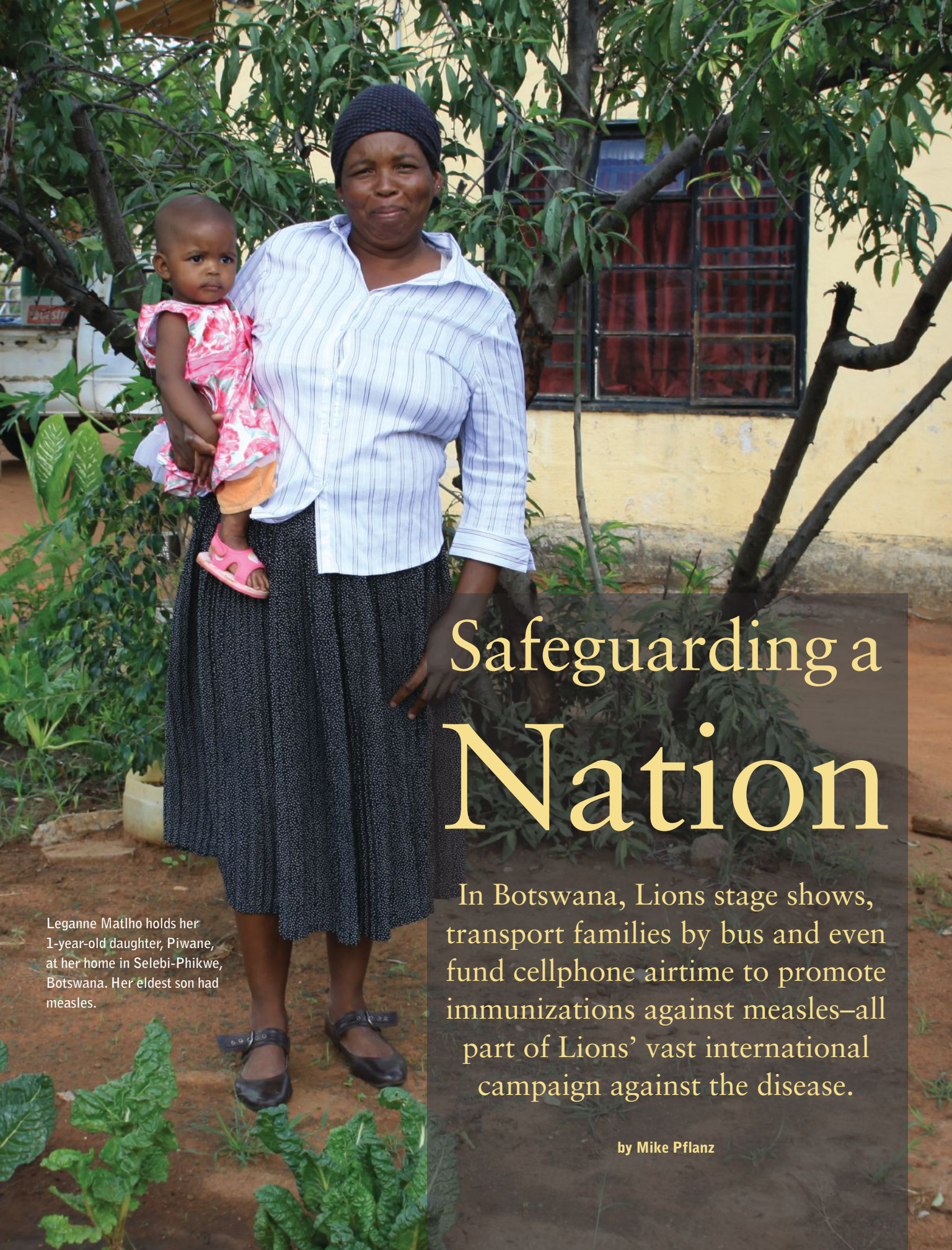
- Aruna Oswal, Board Appointee and Past District Governor



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Visit www.lcif.org/donate to make your contribution.

Donations to the Lions Measles Initiative are Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) eligible. MJF credits are not given for the additional funds matched by the Oswal Family and GAVI Alliance.



Leganne Matlho holds her 1-year-old daughter, Piwane, at her home in Selebi-Phikwe, Botswana. Her eldest son had measles.

Safeguarding a Nation

In Botswana, Lions stage shows, transport families by bus and even fund cellphone airtime to promote immunizations against measles—all part of Lions' vast international campaign against the disease.

by Mike Pflanz

When Leganne Matlho's eldest son fell sick at the age of 10 with a high temperature and "sores all over his body," his mother did not at first realize how serious the situation could become.

She had heard of measles—children in her town in northern Botswana had died from it in the past. But for a day or two she waited before taking Titoga to a clinic, where doctors prescribed immediate treatment and told her that she had been lucky he had not deteriorated faster.

"I was so frightened that some illness he can catch without me knowing could have caused him to be blind, or even to die, very quickly," Matlho says, sitting in the shade in her swept yard where tomatoes, kale and lettuce grow in neat lines in the sandy soil. "It was only after that I came to realize that there is a protection against this disease in the form of an injection, something Titoga did not get. Since that day that my son was sick, all of my children have been vaccinated."

Piwane, Matlho's 15-month-old daughter, was the latest to be given the shot, at a health center here in Selebi-Phikwe, a mining town set in flat land in Botswana's east, 250 miles north of the capital, Gaborone.

She was one of close to 200,000 children aged between 9 months and 5 years immunized during a five-day nationwide campaign in November in which Botswana's Lions played a key role.

Today, measles has been almost eliminated in developed countries but the virus still kills 330 people a day in other parts of the world, equivalent to one every four minutes. Most are children yet to reach their fifth birthday.

This is despite a highly effective, safe and inexpensive vaccine, which has helped cut the number of measles deaths globally by 78 percent between 2000 and 2012, according to the World Health Organization.

Through the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative, Lions worldwide are increasingly central to international efforts to ensure that the vaccine now reaches as many of those children still not inoculated as possible. With partners including the GAVI Alliance, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, Lions have already helped to immunize 20 million children.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has committed to raising \$30 million for vaccinations by 2017, a sum that partners will match, effectively meaning the initiative will have covered the costs of vaccine shots for 114 million more children. The GAVI-Lions Clubs partnership

focuses on support of routine immunization and strengthening health systems to help prevent serious outbreaks of disease. By 2020, more than 700 million children in 49 countries are expected to be immunized against measles and rubella thanks to the GAVI Alliance and its partners including Lions.

One of the most recent national immunization campaigns was held in Botswana in southern Africa, a country of 2 million people spread over largely flat territory between South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

At the beginning of November, Botswana's Lions helped the country's Ministry of Health with a five-day campaign to reach at least 95 percent of children under 5 with measles vaccinations, Vitamin A supplements and deworming pills. As with all Lions' activities, help came not only in the form of charitable donations. In the weeks before the campaign, and all the way through it, Lions across the country pitched in with their time.

LCIF helped fund 3,500 bright orange hats for campaign volunteers, 10,000 posters and 100,000 information flyers to be given out in schools and clinics, training workshops, and ID badges for those helping out on the actual vaccination days. Across the country, Lions helped to hire public address systems, truck trailers and even arrange motorcades of vehicles to take messages about the looming immunization drive directly to the people.

Lions handled even the smallest details. Cellphone airtime for health officials working on the campaign enabling them to talk directly with the health ministry in Gaborone was funded thanks to arrangements made by Lions.

In Selebi-Phikwe, two teams of Lions including Leo Obakeng Kanthaga went from house to house knocking on doors—including Matlho's—reminding families they should take their children to be immunized. "We Lions are known for coming around with a PA system and discussing health messages," Kanthaga says. "We wanted to go one step further and actually speak one-on-one with mothers on their doorsteps to make sure they understood the importance of the vaccinations."

Lions took creative measures to get the word out. In nearby Francistown, 275 miles north of Gaborone, Lion Dilip Nunes, president of one of the town's four Lions clubs, and Lions Prem Madhoo and Jen Madhoo helped arrange short drama performances from the back of a truck to explain vaccinations to passers-by at the city's main bus and taxi hub.



Lions in Africa work tirelessly to prevent measles. (Clockwise from above) The Lobatse Lions in Botswana publicize the dangers of measles among youths. Lion Leo Obakeng Kanthaga speaks to residents about the importance of measles immunizations. Lions in Uganda hold rallies, meetings and parades to spread awareness of the immunizations. A Lion in Zambia hands information about measles to a motorist. Kenyan Lions take a break from their 12-day "road show" against measles in which they visited nearly all the major cities in the nation.

Safeguarding a Nation

Dozens of Lions volunteered to hand out flyers and answer questions. Despite early difficulties with official permissions for some activities, Nunes says the buildup ahead of the vaccinations went well. “There were dozens of people who saw the theater shows and asked questions, and I’m sure then told their friends all about the immunization campaign,” he says. “The point was to get the message out, and I think we did that the best we could.”

To the west, in Maun, the gateway city to Botswana’s famed Kalahari Desert and its wildlife-filled Okavango Delta, Lions invited community elders for lunch to ask them to urge their people to bring their children for immunizations. In Tonota in Botswana’s east, Lions helped pay for a bus to bring families from remote areas to the village so that they did not miss the chance to be vaccinated.

In Kanye, set amid bush-covered hills south of the capital, Lion Peter Mayondi and Past District Governor (PDG) Tekemanangathe Ramkumar led volunteers who formed a convoy of more than 20 cars and pickups draped in banners that toured the town publicizing the message of the campaign. “There were horses ahead, then the cars, all their lights on, honking their horns,” Mayondi remembers, smiling. “I know that personally when there was a measles vaccination campaign some years ago, I knew nothing about it. This time, there was no way anyone who saw that motorcade could say they did not know about this campaign.”

Josephine Mosimanewakgosi, head of the Kanye district health team, agrees. With her nursing colleagues Kelebogile Wapitso and Matron Rachel Tsebekgale, she was in charge of the campaign in the town. “The Lions really came in at the right time,” she says. “We were getting the message out, but I think that the way the Lions helped us we reached even more people, which means even more children vaccinated.”

That was a message repeated by senior figures in Botswana’s Ministry of Health. Ndibo Monyatsi, chief health officer of the child health division, points to the provision of free cellphone airtime as a key contributor to the success of the campaign nationally. “It may not seem so significant, but it was a real problem the last time we had a similar health campaign for staff in the field not to be able to communicate in real time with us at headquarters,” she says.

For Dr. H. B. Jibril, Botswana’s acting director of public health, the increase in Lions clubs’ memberships meant that they were able to reach people all across the country in a way that, he says, “few other organizations can.”

This is a crucial point. Botswana already has a successful routine immunization program for its children, and

the majority will be vaccinated at clinics during normal health checkups. November’s campaign was a “catch-all” vaccination to be sure as many children as possible were included and to provide a second dose to better ensure life-long protection.

The contributions of Lions were needed because some towns are remote, or roads are poor or flooded for long stretches of the year. Some religions with growing congregations prefer children not to be given modern medicine. These “hard-to-reach” communities need specific approaches to ensure that their children are immunized. Lions worked with priests, for example, to make the procedure acceptable.

Shenaaz El Halabii, the deputy permanent secretary at the Ministry of Health, says simply: “Thank you, thank you, thank you,” to the Lions.

“The team here was absolutely great,” she says. “They really took ownership of mobilizing people for the campaign, and as a government with resource limitations, the extra mile that we were able to go with the vaccinations was really a lot to do with the Lions Clubs.”

There were challenges, says PDG James D. Honold, LCIF coordinator for District 412, who everyone involved with the measles campaign credits as the driving force keeping up momentum to ensure success. “What we have learned is that we as Lions Clubs should be involved from the very beginning of any campaign in the future, and that we would really focus on coordinating the various people involved,” he says. “There were a few ideas we had which we were just not able to put into practice because they were perhaps a little ambitious for this first campaign. We’ll be sure to be trying them next time, though.”

Back in Selebi-Phikwe, Matlho’s daughter, Piwane, played at her mother’s feet as she continued to talk of how her son almost died of measles those years ago. “Nowadays people do not know how dangerous the illness can be, because no one has seen it for so long,” she says. “I am one of the few, and I make sure that I tell everyone I see that they need to vaccinate their children.

“It is something easy to do, but it can mean the difference between life and death.”

Watch a video on LCIF Chairperson Wayne Madden’s visit to a clinic in Ethiopia doing immunizations.

Also learn more about how Lions have been curtailling measles:

- Putting the Hurt on Measles (March 2013 LION)
- Trust in Lions Spurs Measles Campaign (July/August 2012)
- One Shot, One Life Saved: Measles Initiative Saves a Child for \$1 (January 2012)



Ace in the Hole

For a blind golfer and his coach,
the relationship is anything but one-sided.

by Eric Goldscheider

Sullivan advises McMahon on how
the ball may break on the green.



The two work as a team throughout a round of golf.

One of the many memorable moments in Bill McMahon's golfing life was when he birdied a par four during a tournament in New Jersey. It wasn't so much that he sunk an 18-foot putt that set this moment apart. It was the response he got from a member of his foursome who just happened to be Baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra. "He just kept banging his head on the cart," recalls McMahon, because he was incredulous at what he had just witnessed.

How does McMahon know what Berra was doing with his head at that moment? That would be Kevin Sullivan's doing. McMahon is as blind as blind can be. "You could shine a spotlight in my face and I wouldn't know if it was on or off," he explains. So the image of a sports icon not usually known for being at a loss for words banging his head on a golf cart made its way to McMahon's brain by way of Sullivan sharing the observation. Sullivan is also the one who talked McMahon through the drive and then the attention-getting putt.

"I can't believe it, I just saw a blind guy make a birdie," were Berra's words as McMahon remembers them, "I never saw anything like it and I'll never see it again, that guy can't see anything."

As it happens, "the blind guy" is how Sullivan often refers to the man he as come to think of as a younger brother. They have been a team on the golf course for more than two decades. Technically, when they are competing

together Sullivan is McMahon's coach. Important as that is, the word doesn't capture the depth of the relationship.

They met in 1989 when McMahon joined the Framingham Lions Club in Massachusetts of which Sullivan was president at the time. By then McMahon, 55, who lost his eyesight to complications of diabetes at the age of 24, had already been competing in the US Blind Golf Association (USBGA)—an organization that has been organizing tournaments since 1953. He had a string of different coaches over three years. "Kevin said, if you ever need some help doing this, I'd really like to try," according to McMahon. It turned out to be the beginning of a life-changing bond for both of them.

Teeing off recently on the 10th hole of the Millwood Farms Golf Course, a manicured and verdant swath of turf in Boston's outer suburbs, for a few late-season holes of the game they both love, the pair displayed both the enjoyment they derive from each other's company as well as the seriousness with which they approach the sport. At 6'4" with a full head of hair, a slightly lumbering gait, shades and a cigar, Sullivan's jovial presence is a contrast to McMahon's more crisp and buttoned-down demeanor. "It's a slight dogleg left. It's hilly. We're going to aim down the left side and deal with what we've got," says Sullivan, 59, as he holds out a club parallel to the ground pointing in the direction he wants McMahon to hit the ball. McMahon

grasps the shaft of the club with both hands to orient himself as he positions his stance, making sure his shoulders, hips and feet are in line before taking the grip to get ready for a swing. Sullivan plants the tee at the end of the club, steps back, and says “clear,” the signal for McMahon to take his stroke.

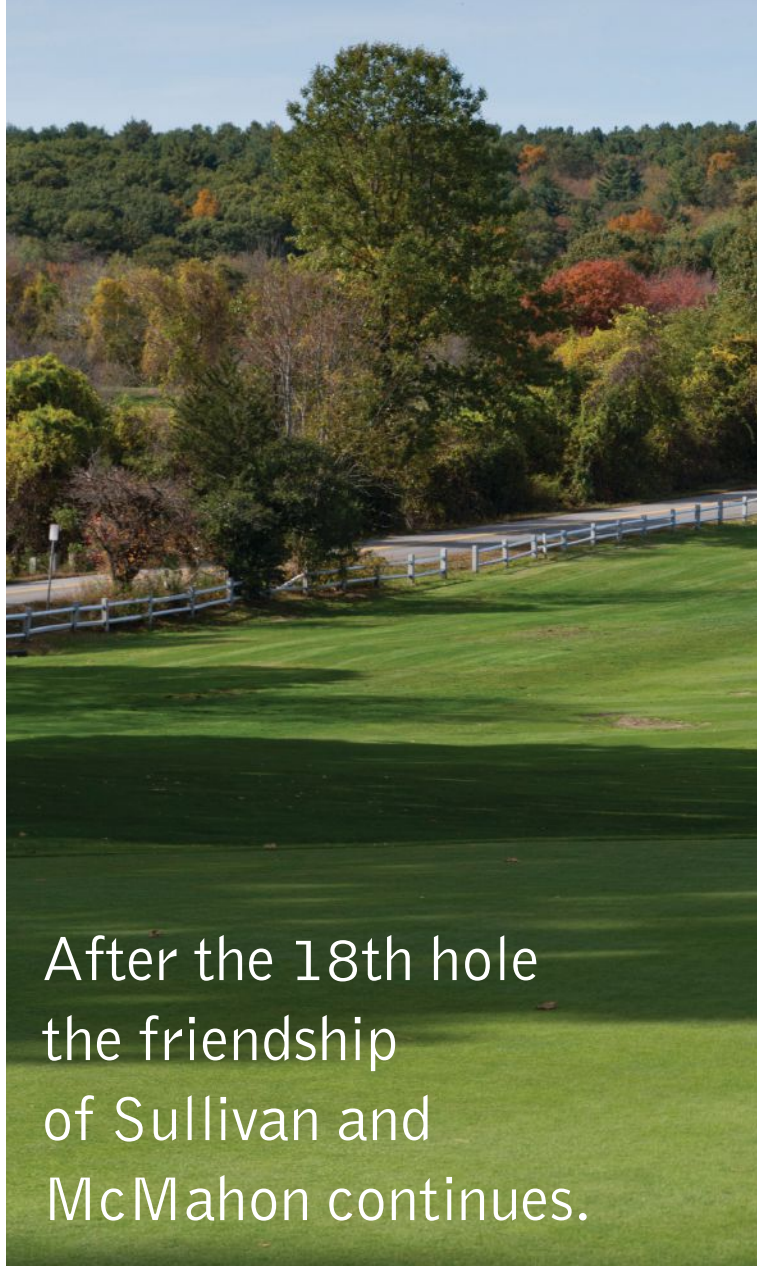
Only when they get to the green does one of the two modifications to the rules of the game become evident. In sighted golf, the caddie is not allowed to stand in a line with the ball and the flag. In blind golf, this is precisely the area the coach occupies so as to gauge the contour of the ground the ball will traverse. “I play all the breaks,” says Sullivan. “Bill putts everything straight.” In other words, the coach does the mental calculations involved in deciding whether his teammate should aim a few degrees to the left or the right of the hole. He also must give a precise distance to let the blind partner know what kind of an arc to give the swing and how much juice to put on the ball.

The only other way the rules of blind golf differ from the standard regulations is that a player can touch the club to the ground in a hazard without being penalized a stroke. “Other than that I play by the same rules as Tiger Woods or Jack Nicklaus,” says McMahon. “Name me another sport where there are no gimmicks [to make it accessible to blind people].”

Golf has been a constant through a life of great adversity for McMahon. He developed diabetes when he was 8 years old and was barred from playing Little League baseball because of the disease. “That is when my grandfather introduced me to golf,” says McMahon. “He figured it would be a great game for me to play for the rest of my life. I needed the exercise. I caddied all the way through high school, college and even after college.”

Then he went blind. “Every day I would look in the mirror and I could see less and less. It was extremely frustrating. It was the hardest 18 months of my life,” says McMahon. He was selling golf equipment at the time and he switched to selling insurance. In 1996 he needed a kidney transplant and his youngest brother stepped up to give him one of his. Given the time that has elapsed, his doctors say he will need a new kidney soon. “I’m living on borrowed time,” says McMahon. Then in 2007 McMahon had a major accident. “I had a diabetic reaction. I didn’t know where I was. I went to walk into what I thought was my office. It turned out to be the stairwell and I just tumbled down a flight of stairs.” He broke three vertebrae, his rotator cuff and his right wrist.

He not only beat the prognosis that he would never walk again, but McMahon returned to the links. “I didn’t have much of a swing. I competed in a lot of pain,” he says.



After the 18th hole the friendship of Sullivan and McMahon continues.

“Kevin stuck with me even though I was half crippled.” They missed the national championship that year but they returned the next. McMahon has never won a championship. But, his competitive spirit shining through, he quickly adds, “I never once came in last.”

The stories McMahon and Sullivan can tell keep piling up. He reckons they have been to at least 30 states together and several foreign countries including two trips to Scotland and Ireland. And they are constantly rubbing shoulders with celebrities. “One of Bill’s favorite lines,” says Sullivan, “is that his blindness has taken him places his sight never would have.”

Besides lining up McMahon’s shots and being a trusted companion who is constantly vigilant about steering him away from danger as they go to new places, Sullivan’s eyes have become a lens through which both see the wondrousness of the world. “I’ll never forget a par four in Hawaii that was straight up a hill. The fog was so bad we



couldn't see 100 yards in front of us," says Sullivan. When the fog lifted it revealed a black beach below with whales gliding up and down in the distance. "Everything I could tell him about I told him about," says Sullivan, giving both of them a richer perspective than they would have had as individuals.

Sullivan worked as an automobile mechanic when he met McMahon. Sullivan's father had owned a gas station. The trajectory of his life was clear—until he met McMahon. He switched to making a living teaching golf as a direct result of their relationship.

"When Bill and I started working together we got a PGA pro who helped us become a team," says Sullivan. "He showed me a lot of things about the game." Today they view their mission as more than trying to win tournaments. "I think what Bill and I are doing is growing the game of golf for the handicapped person," says Sullivan. "He's showing everyday people that a blind person can play golf."

McMahon is the cofounder of Golf for All, an organization dedicated to making the game accessible to people with disabilities. He also sits on the USBGA board of directors. Sullivan was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2010.

Seeing McMahon succeed, such as during their Yogi Berra encounter, gives Sullivan an almost surreal sense of well-being. "I remember setting up a 45-foot putt, and he made it. It was cool. He got all the congratulations, which is fine. It took me to an out-of-body experience," says Sullivan. "Bill is the player; I'm the guy behind the scenes. He's like the singer in the band."

Blind golfers have inspired Lions for many years.

- Champions Before They Tee Off (November 1975 LION)
- More Than A Game (November 1985)





A Vanishing World Returns

Corneal Transplant
for Mother of Five
Gives Her Life Back

by Barbara Brotman

Look around.

What would you miss seeing most if you went blind?

The sunrise. The lake. The spot in your living room where the morning sun pours in.

Your spouse. Your child. Your friends.

All the sights your eyes drink in—words on a page, expressions on a face, the center line down a road—what if they started to fade before your eyes?

For Sarah Mittler, it began with her clock.

"I looked up at the clock and was like, 'Holy cow,'" says Mittler, a mother of five in Tinley Park, a Chicago suburb. "I thought it must be dirty."

She took the clock off the wall and cleaned it.

It still looked dirty.

Everything was starting to become blurry. Her kitchen, the stairs, her children's faces, utensils in the drawer—they all ran together like mud. It was as if her eyes were coated with petroleum jelly.

She thought there was something wrong with the lights at the grocery store. She asked her husband why he had installed dimmers at home. While driving, she groused at all the motorists crossing the lane into hers.

But there was nothing wrong with the lights. And she was the one crossing the lane lines.

A Vanishing World Returns

Mittler had Fuchs' endothelial dystrophy, in which cells inside the cornea deteriorate. Fluid builds inside the cornea, causing vision problems and potentially blindness.

It usually proceeds slowly, over years. In Mittler's case, it was galloping.

Within months, she could barely see in the mornings when the fluid buildup was greatest. Her children had to guide her down the stairs. Her teenage daughter, Grace, had to drive the younger kids to school.

Mittler used a hair dryer on her eyes, which dries out the blisters caused by the condition, and about which she says, "You think your hair is bad in the morning? Blow-dry your eyes."

It helped, but only temporarily. She couldn't see her children's faces, read their moods, sense the time for a quiet after-school conversation. "Slowly, things were being taken away," she says.

After a terrifying drive where she couldn't see the traffic signal at a major intersection, "I put my keys on the counter and told my husband, 'I cannot do this anymore. I am going to kill them or someone else,'" she says.

The next week she saw her doctor at Loyola University Health System. She was going blind, she told him. But please, could he just slow down the process long enough for her to see a few last things?

Her daughter Amine graduating eighth grade. Her son Tommy playing on the baseball travel team. Grace picking out her dress for homecoming.

Just one more moment with each of her children, she pleaded; just one more time seeing her grandson in her arms.

But she wouldn't need one more moment, the doctor told her. She would have many moments, for years to come. She was an ideal candidate for a corneal transplant.

More than 1,160 people in Illinois received corneal transplants last year. Mittler had hers at Loyola.

The morning after the transplant on her left eye, her husband, Tom, lifted the eye patch to put in drops. He told her to keep her eye shut to protect it against the light.

She opened the eye anyway. There were four of her five children, gathered to watch the unveiling. She could see them.

It turned out that her post-surgical eye wept as well as it saw.

And it saw very well. She could see the mortar between the bricks in the house across the street, she excitedly told the community engagement coordinator at the Illinois Eye-Bank, which Lions support, by phone the next day.

The petunias the neighbors had planted. Lights on the Christmas tree. Cracks in the wall.

"She was, like, 'The house is so dusty,'" says Grace, 19. "We're like, 'Can you get the doctor to redo the surgery?'"

Five days later, at a farmer's market, "I was running around like a crazy person. The sunflowers, the peppers, the vibrancy of the colors ... I was (saying), 'Oh, my gosh, look at this! Look at this! Look at this!'"

She had the surgery on her right eye a few months later.

She now sees so well that she no longer wears glasses.

Mittler wrote letters of thanks to the families of both donors. Such letters are delivered anonymously by the Illinois Eye-Bank, leaving further contact up to those involved.

Her first donor was a 10-year-old whose cause of death the family did not specify. The family of her second donor chose not to respond.

Mittler is well aware of the sadness irrevocably attached to her joy. Before her second surgery, "I thought, 'Oh, gosh, this is between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Somebody is going to be really grieving,'" she says.

"To see that somebody in that depth of grief could still turn around and want to do good for someone else ... In my world, they're a hero," she says.

Mittler is now an ambassador for the Illinois Eye-Bank, telling her story at public events and urging people to become donors. She recently took part in Loyola's annual candle lighting ceremony honoring donors and families who have donated organs or tissue through the state's Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Network.

"The hardest part of being a cornea recipient is when I share my story to donor families," she says. "It's a very humbling experience. They come up and look into my eyes."

A year after her surgeries, the Eye-Bank coordinator teasingly asked if Mittler still saw dirt in her house.

She still saw the dirt, Mittler told her, but she didn't care; there was too much else to see. And thanks to two people she will never meet, she can see it all.

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But she wouldn't need one more moment, the doctor told her. She would have many moments, for years to come. She was an ideal candidate for a corneal transplant.

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April is LEO CLUB AWARENESS MONTH!



April marks the annual observance of Leo Club Awareness Month. Lions are encouraged to raise awareness of Leo clubs and share information about this important youth development program.

Get involved by sponsoring an Alpha Leo club, organizing a joint service project with Leos, or including Leos in any special events planned for Family and Friends Month.

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You Say Brian, I Say Lion

by Jay Copp

Names often are appropriate to a person. Sports are a prime example. Baseball has Matt Batts and Bob Walk. Football includes Takeo Spikes and Mac Speedie. Don't forget golfer Chip Beck, high jumper Nathan Leeper and sprinter Usain Bolt. So what are the best names of Lions? With 1.35 million Lions, there are plenty of aptronyms, names suitable to their owners.

There also are plenty of names, period! The membership database at Lions Clubs International lists no less than 11,057 Smiths*. John Smith is the most common name with 216 listings. William Smith is right behind with 214. But Lions take pride in being informal and casual. So it's no surprise another 64 Lions identify themselves plainly as Bill Smith.

The Smiths of the world must tire of being confused for someone else. But their name problems pale in comparison to the Kims. That's the most common Korean surname, comprising about 20 percent of the population in Korea. The Lions' database counts exactly 55,237 Kims. Most but hardly all are from Korea. You can go ask Alice: Alice Kim of Zion Township in Illinois.

If you're a Lion, it's not easy to keep up with the Joneses: all 5,441 of them. Start with Aaron Jones of the Daleville Lions in Alabama and finish with Zelda Jones of the Vera and District Lions in Spain. Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs, died in 1961. But Melvin Jones Jr. (no relation) is alive and well in Georgia. In fact, he's the president of the Camilla Lions. Definitely related to him is his father, Melvin Jones Sr., also a member. True to the leadership skills of his famous namesake, Melvin Sr. once served as club president.

Speaking of service leaders, nine Lions are named Paul Harris. Mr. Harris founded Rotary. We've haven't heard if these Lions are regarded a little coolly at their clubs but maybe that's just because the taitwisters, asleep at the switch, aren't up to speed on Rotary history (nor should they be!)

Famous names are shared by Lions. You name it, and a Lion probably has that name. John Wayne rides the range as a Durbin Lion in West Virginia. Charles Dickens may or may not write the club bulletin, but he presides as president of the Lower Valley Lions in New Mexico. Lions can wax poetic about volunteering. It's a good bet a few of the 11 Robert Frosts are willing to do just that. At least one U.S. club holds a madcap chariot race as a fundraiser. The Sacramento Sierra Lions in California don't. But maybe they should: one of its members is—no kidding—Ben Hur.

Sing, Lions, sing. Lions love to belt out a tune or two. So it's no wonder there are 12 George Harrisons, two John Lennons and even a Bruce Springsteen of the Dowagiac Lions in Michigan. Rock n' roll Bruce famously sings of escaping down Thunder Road, but the musical Bruce was tooling around the Jersey Shore on his Schwinn when our Bruce took the pledge in 1964.

The name game can get kind of crazy. The Lions claim almost as many as Elizabeth Taylors—six—as the actress had husbands (seven). You can also say Taylor was far more than Richard Burton can handle because there are only three of his name in the Lion kingdom.

Sports are an especially fertile ground for Lions to make their mark name-wise. We count 19 Michael Jordans, just a few more than the hits he accumulated in his inept baseball career. There are only two Mike Jordans, calling into the question the slogan to “be like Mike.” Five Larry Birds turn up in the database including the actual Boston Celtic legend. The so-called Hick from French Lick was once a proud member of the French Lick West Baden Lions in Indiana. He retired from basketball prematurely because of back problems, so we can cut him some slack for quitting Lions.

We are getting off course here on names. What counts are not famous names but names suggestive of what Lions do and who we are. So it's nice to know 34 Lions are named Nice. It's also no surprise that Nice, France, contains 17 clubs, whose members surely are uniformly nice, *relatively*

speaking (Nice, of course, is pronounced as “niece”). To get back to indicative names, 15 Lions are named Kind and another 15 answer to Mr. or Mrs. Mercy.

Here’s a good one: 342 Lions are named Good. Well done, Lions. Of course, the descriptive power of that word goes further. Alex Goodman of the Mamakating Lions in New York is one of 10 with that suggestive last name. Another Lion whose reputation precedes him is David Goodfellow of the Montgomery Lions in Minnesota. Jo Ann Goodfellow of the Dupu East Carondelet Lions in Illinois, on the other hand, surely has already heard all the jokes that can possibly be generated by a gender-specific name.

Names are good, bad and ugly. But it’s good to know the good seem to outnumber the others when it comes to Lions. Consider Jim Goodheart of California and Anthony Goodheart of the Springfield Franconia Host Lions in Virginia. Yes, those are just names, but there may be something to the notion that a name is destiny. We suspect Jim, for one, is true to his name: he not only is a district governor but he also belongs to the San Jose Scales of Justice Lions Club. For his part, Anthony has given his life to service as he became a Lion way back in 1954. Heck, that’s so far back that the Detroit Lions were good then, too.

Lions’ names are downright Biblical, and we don’t mean Abraham, Job or Isaac (though there are 410



Jones Lion Good Dickens Abraham Serve

Lions with the first name of Abraham, 531 with that last name and exactly one Abraham Abraham of India). The Bible speaks of faith, hope and charity, three virtues prized by any religion. There are 207 Lions with Faith as a first or last name, 231 with Hope as a name and, coming out on top, 321 Lions named Love—15 with that as a given name. So Lions are proof of the truth of the Biblical passage that there are faith, hope and charity and the greatest of these is Love.

Speaking of Charity, 13 Lions bear that surname and 17 more have it as given name. Among the giving crowd is Charity Good of the Tri City Professional Lions in Florida. She joined Lions in 2010, and we're happy indeed Charity Good serves.

We can go on almost forever with aptronyms. Three Lions—Alan of Australia and Clifford and Gerald of Canada—not only aid their community but can also be properly greeted as “Mr. Helps.” Lions light up the world, and 64 members are completely correct in saying they are among the Lights of the world. We have legions of Knights as well. Yep, we ride into towns on our white horses and screen kids for sight. So the most memorable Knight is David Knight of the Yukon Territory in Canada. He's from—no kidding—Whitehorse.

Sometimes names invoke meetings and Lions' practices. These names can ring a Bell—1,257 spell their name thusly. Singing trumps roaring, at least in terms of monikers. Ninety-nine Lions are Sing, but the only Roar is Jesper of Denmark.

Lions focus on eyes. H. Luke Eye has focused on the Franklin Lions since 1988. The secretary for the Franklin club, Jane has an eye for detail and one as a last name. That gives the club a set of Eyes. And, surely, we're not joking about this: Shirley Eye is a proud member of the Fredericksburg Lions in Virginia.

Lions are no different than anyone else. We hear athletes praise a teammate or a competitor as a “pro's pro” and men salute a buddy as a “man's man.” In turn, Lions boast that a colleague is a “Lions' Lion.” Well, that is sometimes literally true. There are Lions from Lyons in Colorado, Georgia, Illinois and Wisconsin. Yep, Lyons Lions clubs. Add to that list the Lyons Muir club in Michigan and the 18 clubs in Lyon, France.

So there you have it—or them, actually. But we saved the best for last. Our database shows 137 members with the

last name of Lion. Alas, it's unproven if any of these members are real people. Lions are notorious jokesters. Clubs file membership lists with names such as “Joe Lion.” A quick check of the handful of U.S. entries show these are tongue-in-cheek. Nearly all of the other “Lion” last names are from clubs in Indonesia, India and Pakistan. A check of the address list for these entries or membership dates reveals these also are most likely spirited gestures of Lions' solidarity, not real people. So we think it's mean-spirited to conclude that the Lions are lying about their inauthentic Lions.

We did find a member with a bona fide Lion name: Robert Lion, past president of the Waldwick Lions Club in New Jersey. He served as a Lion for 17 years before “retiring my number,” as he puts it, last August. But he's still president of the Waldwick Volunteer Ambulance Corp., so he's not only still a Lion in name but a Lion in spirit.

But even if we can't put our finger on a Lion among Lions we can find the fundamental spirit of Lions in names. Go west to Delta, Colorado, and head to the homes of Lions' first family of service: Nick and Dana Serve. She's a past district governor, and he's the club president. Oldest son Chris Serve also serves as a Delta Lion, as does his wife, Dana Serve, and second son Nathan Serve. A grandson, Nicholas Michael “Scooter” Serve, also attends meetings.

As district governor, Dana “got teased a lot” about her name. She was fine with that. “That's right. That's our name. We serve,” she good-naturedly responded to Lions. A name like that has its advantages, says Nick. “It screens out the salesmen,” he says. Yep, the actual pronunciation of the German name is “sir-vee.” So even among those named Serve what really counts is not a name but the spirit of service that Lions embrace.

Harris Frost
Smith Knight
Jordan

*The membership database records we accessed included Lions who left the association in recent years. So some summary numbers cited in this story may be higher than actual totals of current members. But for comparison purposes the larger numbers cited are revealing, and any Lions listed by full name are current members as of press time. Note: LCI membership totals are accurate. There are 1.35 million Lions with active membership.



97th Annual Lions Clubs International Convention
Friday, July 4 – Tuesday, July 8, 2014 • Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Convention Registration and Hotel Reservation Form

Deadlines

- **May 1, 2014:** Deadline for advance registration and hotel reservation. Registrations after this date will be processed in Toronto.
- **May 1, 2014:** Deadline to receive a refund for a registration cancellation. • **May 16, 2014:** Deadline to receive a refund for a hotel room cancellation.

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

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

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

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

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

CHILD: First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Age _____ ☐ Alpha Leo

CHILD: First Name _____ Family (Last) Name _____ Age _____ ☐ Alpha Leo

☐ This is my/our first LCI convention. ☐ Not my first convention, I've attended _____

☐ Letter of Invitation (If a visa is required for your country of origin) [Club number must be provided above to verify membership]

The plenary sessions are presented in English with simultaneous translation Will you require a headset? ☐ No ☐ Yes

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

☐ Before January 10, 2014: Reservation in delegation hotel

☐ After January 10, 2014: ☐ I prefer my delegation hotel

☐ Prefer hotel based on: ☐ room rate of _____ ☐ location near convention center

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

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

• The Hotel deposit is US\$225 for a standard room and US\$350 for a suite. The hotel deposit is not the rate but reserves the room. Your deposit will be credited to your hotel bill at checkout.

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

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

EVENT	DATE/TIME	FEE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT DUE
Membership Key Award Ice Cream Social (Key holders only)	July 6/ 15:00-17:00	US \$25	_____	\$ _____
Melvin Jones Fellow Luncheon	July 7/ 13:30-15:00	US \$60	_____	\$ _____
District Governor/Past District Governor Banquet	July 7/ 20:00-22:00	US \$100	_____	\$ _____

PAYMENT: Full payment is required with this form. • US currency only. Checks and money orders must be drawn on US banks.

- Only Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover cards accepted. • Contact LCI for wire transfer instructions.

REGISTRATION FEES

	Adult	Child (17 and under)
Early (before 10 January, 2014)	US\$110	US\$10
Regular (11 January through 31 March, 2014)	US\$150	US\$10
Late (1 April, 2014 – onsite)	US\$170	US\$10

Package A:

Registrations: US\$ _____
 Ticketed Events: US\$ _____
 Hotel Deposit: US\$ 225.00

OR

Package B:

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

Total Due: US\$ _____

Total Due: US\$ _____

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

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

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

Signature _____

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

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

Questions? Email us: registration@lionsclubs.org

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

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

Toronto Convention Packed With Star Power

Aussie Olivia Newton-John topped the charts with “Have You Never Been Mellow,” “You’re the One I Want” and “Physical,” starred in the most successful movie musical of all time, “Grease,” and graced countless magazine covers and talk show couches as a top-tier celebrity. But she also publicly shared her battle with breast cancer and zealously promoted the importance of early detection, earning her the sympathy, attention and respect that transcend pop stardom.

Newton-John will be the keynoter July 8 at the 97th International Convention in Toronto. She’ll sing, of course, as well as talk, entertaining and edifying, an apt representation of what’s in store for the thousands of Lions worldwide who will descend on Canada’s largest city.

The convention will be chock-full with top-flight entertainers, prestigious speakers and memorable moments. The three plenary sessions include Ruchira Gupta, an Indian woman who has crusaded against sex trafficking for a quarter of a century; and a group of Nepalese women who scaled Mt. Everest and plan to climb the highest peak on each continent. The fearless mountaineers encapsulate the “Follow Your Dream” ethos of International President Barry Palmer of Australia.

Also appearing during a plenary will be 16-time Grammy winner David Foster, who will receive the 2014 Lions Humanitarian Award. Foster has created hit songs and best-selling albums for a wide range of entertainers. His eponymous foundation helps Canadian families with children in need of live-saving organ transplants. Prior winners include Andrea Bocelli, Muhammad Yunus, Mother Teresa, Jimmy Carter and Danny Thomas. (See story on Foster on page 8.)

The quality of the entertainment will match the star power of the speakers. The first plenary session will open with singers and dancers performing to a medley of “dream” songs. Catapult Entertainment, shadow dancers whose silhouettes conjure iconic places and common human experiences, begins the second plenary. Appearing at a plenary, too, is the riveting China Disabled People’s Performing Art Troupe, hailed as “messengers of beauty and humanity.”

Hitmaker Neil Sedaka will headline the International Show. Sedaka has been a star for 50 years: a pop sensation in the ‘50s, a songwriter in the ‘60s who helped usher in the “Brill Building” sound, a superstar in the ‘70s and a musical icon since then who tours worldwide. His hits include “Breaking Up Is Hard To Do,” “Laughter in the Rain” and “Bad Blood.”

However mesmerizing, the entertainment is an appetizer of sorts for the main course of convention—Lions in action and at ease in fellowship. Lions mingle and meet at lunches, the exhibit hall and impromptu, never-forgotten encounters at hotels, restaurants and on the street. Attendees vote on the association’s future, pick up valuable tips and pointers on service, recruiting and leadership at seminars, and, in a glorious show of the reach of Lions, march together by the thousands in the Parade of Nations.

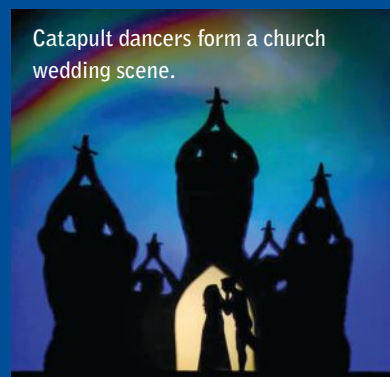
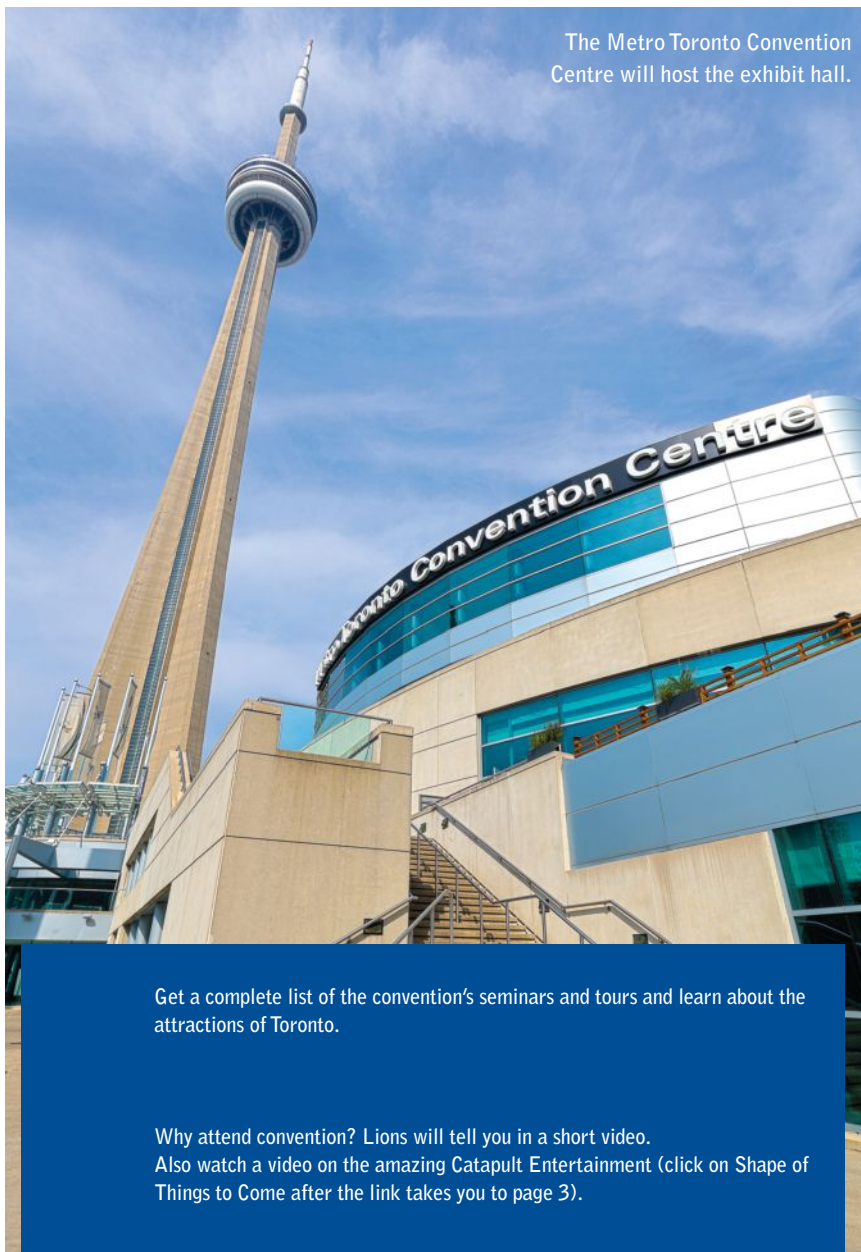
The mammoth yet attractive Metro Toronto Convention Centre, the site of LCI’s exhibit hall, is an attraction by itself. The Centre’s South Building includes enticing underground halls. At the exhibit hall Lions can chat with LCI staff and obtain information and strategies on membership, public relations and more.

This year the convention is going green while upping the convenience factor at the same time. Select English-speaking attendees will carry a smart, customized USB stick that can support videos, brochures, seminar handouts and exhibitor information. Newton-John may be singing “let’s get physical,” but Lions will march to a different tune: “let’s get digital.” The pilot program may be expanded to include all languages for the convention in 2015 in Honolulu.

Another convention highlight is the presence of the Peace Poster and Essay Contest winners. The contest winners are recognized during the first plenary, and a presentation and reception is held later. Lions always respond with affectionate gusto when the youthful winners inevitably shyly stride across the stage.

Where Lions gather, service happens, and attendees can take part in the Lions Care 2014 project to benefit YWCA Toronto, which provides shelter for women and children. Lions will be able to donate toiletries, public transportation tokens and gift cards at a designated area in the exhibit

Watch a video of Neil Sedaka performing.



hall. The project fits in with President Palmer's emphasis on serving women and children and enables Lions to give back to the convention city.

Besides the fun and fellowship, convention represents a golden opportunity to improve your club and renew your own enthusiasm for being a Lion. Led by experts and leaders, the convention's seminars run the gamut—from the latest information on popular Lions programs such as Lions Quest and Youth Exchange to tools and strategies to increasing membership and strengthening clubs. The seminars enable Lions to return to their clubs with knowledge and skills to take their club to a new level of service.

Finally, while in Canada, be sure to actually experience it by seeing its sights, tasting its foods and enjoying its

culture. Lions tours are offered on foot, in smooth-moving boats and on comfortable coaches. Lions can visit and learn the history of Toronto's most significant sites including CN Tower, the Art Gallery of Ontario and Eaton Centre, a shopping complex that stretches four blocks. Tour the harbor, wander through the Hockey Hall of Fame or gape at nearby Niagara Falls. The hardest decision will be choosing which tours to take.

Remember that Americans now need a passport to enter Canada. That may be an inconvenience, but it also symbolizes the distinctiveness of Canada, a country with much in common with the United States but yet with its own marvelous culture, attractions and vibe.

Greg Hagedorn examines a mother in Tocoa, Honduras, on one of his 40 mission trips.



Mission Critical

Optometrist Greg Hagedorn of Kentucky has taken vision care around the world for 20 years, and his bags are always waiting to be packed.

by Todd Schwartz

On the Kentucky side of a nearly circular, eyeball-shaped bend in the Ohio River, the town of Henderson sits about where the pupil would, looking southeast toward the Green River Valley. John James Audubon lived here two centuries ago, before he gained renown as a naturalist and painter. W.C. Handy lived here in the 1890s, before he became famous as the “Father of the Blues.”

Today, the town of 29,000 is home to yet-to-be-famous optometrist, drummer and 30-year Lion Greg Hagedorn. While his ability to paint lifelike pictures of birds is limited, the 60-year-old is fairly handy with the Blues, playing in local bands. But he is better known, on four continents no less, for helping thousands of people in need see more clearly. From his tidy practice on 14th and Elm Street,

A successful mission requires many volunteers, who lead eye chart readings in Nicaragua (clockwise), Romania, and Costa Rica.



Hagedorn has traveled to India, Africa, Central and South America—40 mission trips and counting, joining volunteer teams who take vision care to people and places where the things we take for granted in the United States are very hard, if not impossible, to come by.

The taciturn Hagedorn is not one to bang his own cymbal, as it were—this story would surely have been easier to tell were he a lead singer rather than a drummer—but his friend and fellow mission-tripping Lion, Mark Klaver, is happy to make the case.

“Greg is an exceptional individual,” Klaver says. “He’s very humble, very laid-back—a great person to have on these trips. I don’t know anyone who devotes more time to mission trips around the world. Forty trips—so far—is a big thing.”

Ask Hagedorn himself about what led him, two decades ago, to make such a long-term and encompassing commitment to helping people see better, from village to veldt, and he answers, “Oh, I just had an itch to get out of town.”

Hagedorn was some 12,000 miles out of town, in India, when a case he remembers well showed up at the makeshift eye clinic.

“A man came in,” Hagedorn says, “who’d had a cataract removed. In the U.S., he’d have had an implant put in as part of the procedure, of course, but that doesn’t happen for poor people in India. So he had very blurred vision. In our stock of donated glasses we didn’t have anything close to the lens power he needed—people just don’t use those egg-yolk-thick lenses in America anymore. So we had to improvise.”

Hagedorn turned to the bedrock of American ingenuity and can-do spirit: duct tape.

“We found three pairs of glasses,” laughs Hagedorn, “that together would add up to the correction he needed, took out the lenses, grabbed the duct tape and built him a new pair of glasses. They didn’t look very stylish, but he was very happy.”

Making people happy is the reward for Hagedorn and all Lions. “You feel good when you can help someone,” he says, “along with feeling sorrowful that they had to see poorly for so long until we could get to them.”

Tell City, Indiana, about an hour's drive from Henderson, is where Hagedorn grew up and where he started playing the drums.

"In high school, the football team was not calling for me," he remembers, "and all the other guys were out-girling me, so I figured maybe being in a band would add to my stock."

His motivation for attending optometry school at Indiana University wasn't quite as clear-cut. "I wish I had a better answer," Hagedorn admits. "It wasn't like I'd planned it or had a family member as inspiration or anything. I just wanted a decent profession, maybe something involving a license, and I wound up in optometry school. I have to come up with something more inspiring than that—it's embarrassing every time someone asks me that question!"

Inspired start or not, Hagedorn graduated as an optometrist in 1981, then spent a couple years working for a company in California, which "wasn't my dream come true." When the time came to start his own practice, he returned to Indiana. Unfortunately, his hometown didn't need another optometrist. So he looked at the larger city of Evansville, which also was full up. That's when Hagedorn looked just across the river at Henderson, where there might be room for him.

He opened his practice in August 1983. By September, he was a Lion.

"I didn't know a soul in town," Hagedorn remembers. "You can't really go through optometry school without hearing about the work of the Lions Clubs, so I thought that might be a way to meet people. I had hair to my shoulders back then, so I thought all the older guys would probably hate me. Now I *am* one of the older guys."

Hagedorn's practice grew, as did his appreciation for the Lions. "Being a Lion has been good to me for several reasons," he says. "It's just rewarding to be a part of something good, a part of something bigger than yourself. There are actually two Lions clubs in town—when I first joined we used to make fun of the other club as 'the old guys club.' I don't do that any more! We've got about 90 members, including some younger guys. We're doing OK, but these are tough times for service clubs. Not everyone wants to pitch in these days. But there are few better ways to make good memories."

A few of the memories from Hagedorn's two decades of mission trips aren't quite so good. Like the time in Honduras when his group heard nearby gunshots in the middle of night. Or the time in Ecuador when the group's bus was stopped by people of questionable authority, and some money may well have changed hands (Hagedorn isn't sure) before they were allowed to drive on.

And sometimes the memories are simply open-ended, without a satisfying conclusion.

"The downside of these trips," he points out, "is that when the mission is over you go home and there's no follow up. You just don't know what happens to the people you've helped."

Or tried to help. "The worst one I've seen"—and more sensitive readers should be warned that there's a bit of a horror movie scene coming—"was an older woman who walked into our compound with the globe of one of her eyeballs collapsed and laying out on her cheek. She was speaking in the local indigenous language, which was then being translated into Spanish and then into English. A lot was lost in translation, so we couldn't figure out how it had happened. There was no blood, no bruising. But she needed emergency treatment far beyond what we could provide in the field. We were in the middle of Paraguay, hours by road from the main city of Ascension. All we could do was to get her on the next bus that went by—I have no idea what happened to her. The chances of her survival didn't seem very good. Not being able to help her was a kick to the gut for all of us on the mission."

But with those rare exceptions, the mission trips, which are true team efforts involving many Lions, as well as a long list of vision care providers and others, have been joyful experiences. Hagedorn made his first trip in 1994, through an organization called Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH). It was a sort of "trainer mission" to sunny Jamaica.

"My mentor for these mission trips," says Hagedorn, "was a Lion and electrical engineer in Owensboro, Kentucky, named Bob Merriam, who passed away in 2012. He probably did 75 missions over the latter part of his life. He told me about the program, and it sounded kind of adventurous. After a decade of building my practice I was ready to try something. It wasn't completely altruistic—it was Jamaica, after all, so the play part of the trip was pretty good too."

Two years later, Hagedorn made another trip, and the rest is well-stamped passport history. "I really enjoyed it," the never-married Hagedorn says. "After the second trip, I knew I was a little bit hooked. I began doing all the trips that money and time would allow. It just became a part of my life, like working out at the Y." Only with daylong plane rides and more bug spray.

Through VOSH, which has sponsored 25 of his trips, Hagedorn met longtime Lions and mission volunteers including Mark Klaver, with whom he's been on two missions to Africa and one to India. In 2002, Hagedorn also began doing trips through Lions In Sight of California and Nevada, the mission group of Multiple District 4.



Hagedorn chose to attend Indiana University and study optometry almost on a whim, but that decision led him to see the world and bring good vision to multitudes.

A typical mission trip may include 12 to 16 people and as many as 4,000 recycled eyeglasses—many of which come from one of the Lions recycling centers across the United States. The team will be formed around three or four optometrists, along with two or three helpers for each licensed team member. Sometimes interpreters accompany the team, or they are recruited locally. Spouses and other interested volunteers (including at least three members of Hagedorn's own club) occasionally go along. Hagedorn and the other volunteers generally always pay their own expenses.

The goal of these missions is simple to state—less simple to accomplish. “We screen for the best vision we can provide,” Hagedorn explains. Mission volunteers do everything from dispensing and fitting donated eyeglasses to consulting on more serious vision problems or injury.

It takes a lot of Lions, worldwide, to make these mission trips happen. The success of any trip, he has learned, is very dependent upon the organization and commitment of the local hosts, who are either Lions or volunteers from other humanitarian groups. Hagedorn's only failed mission happened when the host couldn't even get the group

through customs. Most of the time, meeting great, caring hosts in the countries he visits is one of the most gratifying parts of the experience.

Today, when he isn't serving the near- and far-sighted of Henderson, or behind a drum kit with local blues bands (and even playing a country dance or two—“They feed you well and you make friends”), Hagedorn is readying for his next trip.

“It's a big world out there,” he says, “and there is need all over. It's still an eye-opener for me that so many people in this world don't see at all well for lack of simple vision care. I'm so happy Lions like me can provide donated glasses and volunteer help. I hope we can help enough to put ourselves out of business, but until then, well, I love going. Most of the people we meet are very gracious and appreciative, and it teaches you to never mistake people who are poor or uneducated for not being people of intelligence and integrity. Being in need doesn't diminish a person's character. It's really good to see people helping people—that's what being a Lion is.”



Lion on the Beach

San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Host USA/Canada Forum

Take your pick: Puerto Rico's lush rain forests, glistening white sand beaches, warm tropical climate and a bevy of historical architectural attractions that draw more than 3.5 million tourists every year. There are so many excellent and exciting adventures awaiting those who visit "the Isle of Enchantment" that it's nearly impossible to name just one reason to visit. In fact, here are 10 reasons Lions should attend the 2014 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in San Juan from Sept. 11 to 13.

1. Sun and beaches
2. Historical Old San Juan and sightseeing
3. Shopping with savings on world famous brands
4. Impressive and relaxing resort hotels
5. Affordable accommodations and great cuisine
6. Awesome venue—the Puerto Rico Convention Center
7. Before- and after-forum cruises (optional)
8. Wonderful people
9. Continued new and improved leadership training, including expanded seminar times
10. Receiving the perfect leadership building blocks for your future

It's appropriate that Lions will hone their leadership skills in Puerto Rico since this idyllic island has attracted great leaders for centuries, beginning with its discovery in 1493 by Christopher Columbus on his second journey to the "New World." Under the leadership of Juan Ponce de León in 1508, Spanish conquistadors arrived and began colonization. Ponce de León became the island's first governor and is entombed in the Cathedral of San Juan Bautista. There is no charge to visit this beautiful example of Old World architecture. You can freely tour this celebrated cathedral first built in 1521, destroyed by a hurricane and rebuilt on an even grander scale in 1540.

Old San Juan is a treasure trove of Puerto Rico's rich history—more than 400 buildings from the 16th and 17th centuries have been restored as shops, restaurants and other attractions. This area is easily walkable, but be sure to bring comfortable shoes to navigate the cobblestone streets. With an average temperature of 80°, the tropical marine climate produces some spectacular scenery. Don't be surprised if you run into a coqui, the island's tiny frog that many consider an unofficial national symbol. They're everywhere and they're harmless.

U. S. citizens who travel directly to Puerto Rico don't need a passport, but it's recommended to carry a government-issued photo ID such as a driver's license and/or a birth certificate. U.S. currency is the standard and electrical outlets are the same as in the States, so there is no need to purchase special adapters.

The forum celebrates its 38th anniversary in style in the Dr. Pedro Rosselló González Puerto Rico Convention Center in Isla Grande, San Juan, the largest such facility in the Caribbean and considered the most technologically advanced in Latin America. There will be more than 75 seminars and 13 simultaneous sessions. One of the most dynamic sessions will focus on how to attract and engage younger members; another will discuss how Leos are the "building blocks" to future club growth.

Past International Director and Forum General Chairman Ron Duffe emphasizes, "There will be three days of learning, beginning on Thursday with a Rally for Leadership and Membership, GLT and GMT meetings and a separate orientation session for first-time attendees."

In addition to 2014-15 International President Joe Preston, several past international presidents and directors will serve as moderators and presenters. Seminars range from A to N, not quite Z, but covering a host of critical topics in between. Beginning with Adjust your Leadership Style to Fit the Situation to New Women & Family Membership Insights & Initiatives, attendees will learn exciting new ideas to invigorate their clubs and leadership styles—numbers nine and ten on the list of reasons to attend the forum. Number eight—wonderful people—is another compelling reason to share the adventure with Lions who have the same motivation and values you do. Toss the remaining reasons into the mix, and the 38th USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is the place to be from Sept. 11 to 13. To learn more or register, visit www.usacanalionsforum.org.

Do Take Wooden Nickels

Sharing Lionism, One Good Deed at a Time

Lions are turning the old adage, “Don’t take any wooden nickels” on its head. In Michigan last fall, 5,000 people were surprised, tickled and moved to receive wooden nickels from Lions. The brainchild of District 11 E1 Governor Tim Anderson, the “5,000 Good Deeds” project built awareness about Lions, served as a feel-good, pay-it-forward campaign and planted the seeds for recruitment through a simple act: do a good deed, hand the recipient a custom-designed Lions wooden nickel and ask him to carry out an act of kindness for someone else.

It’s easy to understand why other states and countries are now reproducing the idea, explains Anderson. “We were able to make lives better even for just a moment. This also gave the average non-Lion insight into what we do—helping one person at a time.”

The Inspiration

When Anderson heard a heartwarming story that happened in his town of Cadillac, something clicked. “A woman paid for a cup of coffee for a stranger in line behind her one morning. When she returned the next day, the cashier told her that her good deed continued for an hour, with each customer paying for the person behind them,” Anderson explains. Amazed, he began thinking about how Lions could use this idea on a larger scale to both spread smiles and share the values of Lions.

The Plan

Anderson decided to use a wooden nickel as a mode for paying good deeds forward. People would be directed to a Facebook page to share their act of kindness stories and learn a little about Lions in the process. District governors distributed 5,000 nickels to clubs, educated Lions about Facebook and promoted the campaign in newsletters.

“The wooden nickel is one of our oldest forms of advertising. Social media is one of our newest, so this program can appeal to people of all ages,” says Anderson. Cadillac Lion Bill Shier noticed that more senior Lions were encouraged to try out Facebook. “It was an eye opener for our members who are older and were unfamiliar with social media,” explains Shier.

The Results

When the campaign launched on Sept. 1, Lions hit the ground running, seizing opportunities to make people’s days. “I helped a gentleman at the post office,” says Shier. Although

Anderson notes that the Facebook tracking of the good deeds proved to be “a little disappointing,” the page has been viewed more than 1 million times and the number of “likes” is 400 and counting.

Press coverage helped spread the word, but personal connections were the big bonus, giving Lions the chance to shine. Shier points out, “When I handed someone a wooden nickel, they would ask ‘What is this?’ It opened up a good discussion right away about Lions.”

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt



Good Deeds Shared on Facebook

“I paid for the breakfast meal for the person behind me at the drive-through.”

“A little boy pushed an elevator button for a Lion. When he gave the boy a wooden nickel and explained what it was, the boy lit up and his mother beamed with pride.”

“I dropped off a full box of nonperishables to help restock the food bank.”

“On a flight I helped an 84-year-old couple remove their luggage from the overhead bin.”

“A friend bought a birthday cake for a 55-year-old man. The man said that no one besides his mother had ever given him a birthday cake.”

“I helped a friend ready his barn and barnyard for the winter.”

“When I see someone do a good deed I’ll hand them a wooden nickel and thank them for their act of kindness.”

Find more good deed stories at www.facebook.com/sassy camel. Email Tim Anderson at dgim11e1@charter.net to find out how to recreate this project.

For the Love of Meetings

Lions Share What Makes Their Gatherings Great

Shari Walker is proud to be the newest member of the Churchville Lions in Maryland. Walker had enjoyed tagging along to projects and events with her husband, John, after they both retired a few years ago. “The club got to feel like family to me. Knowing that I was working with such good people I figured, why not join too?” One of the reasons that swayed her to join might surprise some Lions: she loved the meetings. “Everyone in our club has input. We’re all encouraged to share ideas, and everyone has a vote. And we have fun!” she says.

For many Lions, meetings are indeed a reason to join or stick around. Meetings provide a needed time for clubs to make decisions, solve problems and enjoy fellowship. But former members cite unproductive, uninteresting and overly formal meetings as the reasons they left Lions. Do your club’s meetings need an overhaul, or maybe a tweak here or there, to keep members coming back? Content Lions point out a few key “rules” to making meetings top notch.

Obtain the Floor

As Walker mentioned, every Lion wants to be an active participant in meetings. Rathdrum Lion Patti Patterson admires her club’s attention to inclusion. “We ask for ideas and insight from all members. We all lend our creativity, skills and time,” says Patterson of her Idaho club. The University of Texas at Austin Lions also know that members who aren’t heard will take their talents and time elsewhere. That’s not always easy with a membership of 108. “When members have ideas or complaints, we listen and try to incorporate their feedback. This encouragement to speak up is one of the reasons our club is so successful,” says Vice President Jennifer Chavarria.

Come to Order

Lions want their meetings to be guided with purpose and organized agendas. “A strong leader is essential for keeping things on course,” says Walker. The North Pole Lions in Alaska pride themselves on efficient meetings that keep to

one hour, Lion Dodie Rixie explains. “Having an agenda, upcoming events calendar and minutes at every meeting help keep our meetings efficient and harmonious.” The North Pole Lions also have an organized monthly meeting calendar. “Our first meeting of the month is business, the second is a

service work party and the third is program/training night,” says Rixie.

Take a Recess

While there’s always much work to be done, Lions usually like to lighten the load with a little levity. “There’s joking and good-natured ribbing at our gatherings. We want everyone to enjoy coming to meetings,” says Patterson. The University of Texas Lions go a step further with their sizeable membership

by kicking off meetings with a brief icebreaker game. “It’s a great way to facilitate a sense of community. Having fun is a gateway for both grabbing a hold of everyone’s attention at the start of a meeting and encouraging members to interact in an informal way,” explains Chavarria. The Rathdrum Lions are pros at infusing fun while efficiently accomplishing the tasks at hand. “We have a relaxed, family atmosphere but at the same time we can be serious and professional. We try to create a balance of both,” says Patterson.

Ultimately, meetings should be times when all voices are heard in a welcoming atmosphere and perhaps, most importantly, should feel like time well-spent. Chavarria stresses, “My advice can be summed up in three words: make meetings worthwhile. Don’t make members come out to meetings unless they can walk away with some value.”

Learn more ways to improve meetings in the “Managing Meetings” online course at the Lions Learning Center at www.lionsclubs.org.



A club that works well and has fun together stays together, such as these Cucamonga District Host Lions.

Find additional ideas to enhance meetings in LCI’s “Member Satisfaction Guide.”

Ohio Club Nurtures Scholars

Much mulch grows scholars in northwest Ohio.

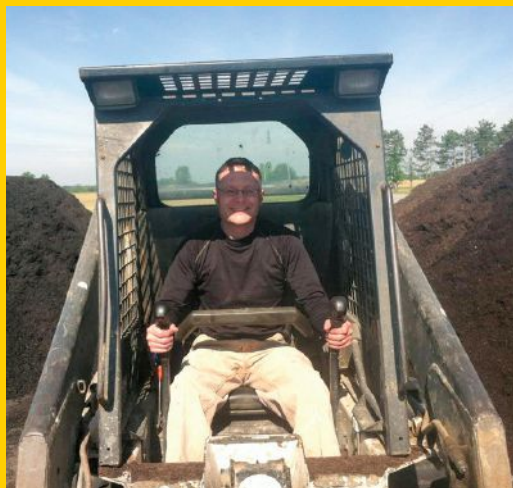
Since 2000, Ada Lions have given 49 \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The club's annual mulch sale makes it possible.

"Our club didn't have a lot of dollars. This was a stretch for us," says Mike Stavenger.

Last year's mulch sale was the club's most successful. It ordered and sold 12 semi-truck loads—more than a half million pounds of mulch.

The scholarships are well-known in the community. Nearly one in six seniors applies. "We look at need, leadership skills, the likely ability to graduate from an institute of higher learning and any other special points, such as if there are multiple siblings, single parents or illness in the family," says Stavenger.

The club has selected applicants well—so far 92 percent of scholarship recipients have graduated. In addition to providing scholarships, Lions also impart some words of wisdom. "One thing we emphasize is that in their future as adults to pay it forward when they graduate and establish themselves in other communities," Stavenger points out.



Lion Chad Hays runs a forklift to scoop up mulch during the annual sale that funds scholarships in Ada, Ohio.



Holding on is only half the battle.

Photo courtesy of Paul Garcia Photography

Wild & Woolly Festival Fun

A small town in Texas, Sabinal is plagued by wild hogs that destroy crops and property and pose a danger to motorists. Sabinal Lions, however, have found a way to put these pests to some good use with a tongue-in-cheek celebration that raises significant money.

Every March for the past 21 years, the club has sponsored a Wild Hog Festival complete with a hog catching contest, a craft fair, food, carnival rides, vendors and even a princess and her court. In 2012, Lions raised more than \$44,000 from the weekend festival. Lions donate to the library, fire department, food pantry and youth activities. Funds are also used to pay for eyeglasses and hearing aids, send kids to camp, award scholarships and donate to local agencies.

Nearly 10,000 people, some from as far away as Australia and Germany, attend the festival, which features a cast of characters. "The 'chicken on a stick guy,' the 'funnel cake guy' and the 'lemonade lady' are just a few favorites—especially mine," says Lion Melissa Smart.

The main event is the Wild Hog Catching World Championships. "The object of the hog catching is just that—catching a hog," says Smart, whose own kids have competed in the children's contest. A team with a burlap sack chases a wild pig in a ring. A team has 3 minutes to get the pig over the finish line. Contestants aren't allowed to go hog wild themselves by kicking, punching or mistreating the animals, which can range from piglets to hogs weighing 150 pounds or more.

Webinars Expand Reach of Leadership Development Training

"Great webinar!" That was the reaction of Sharon Moskowitz to the Leadership Lessons from the Angry Birds webinar offered by the LCI Leadership Development Division. An immediate past district governor from MD 20 K2 in New York, she makes a point of attending LCI webinars. Speaking of the Angry Birds webinar, Moskowitz says, "This one was fun and relatable to today's younger members." She plans on using the webinar with her club, which she'll be able to do because webinar participants receive access to the presentation upon completion of the live sessions.

Established in 2009, Leadership Development webinars are part of the division's mission of providing Lions with training and development opportunities that promote personal growth and leadership excellence, ultimately supporting and enhancing Lions' global service efforts. The exponential growth of technology-based learning has made webinars a primary vehicle of learning in education, the corporate world and any organization that needs to reach a larger number of people in distant locations. Given the worldwide reach of Lions, webinars are a valuable tool.

One of the greatest benefits of webinars is the open and easy access to training. From the comfort of home or office, joining a webinar is a matter of following an email link and having a computer with an Internet connection. However, by no means is the experience passive. As with all effective learning, webinar sessions are interactive with numerous opportunities for the online audience to share ideas, experiences and questions with one another and the presenters. The webinar faculty is comprised of experienced Lions trainers whose role is to facilitate discussion and interaction among Lions. This results in a fun, impactful session in which Lions, who might never have the opportunity to meet, can collaborate.


Like Moskowitz, many webinar participants in turn share the presentation with their local club, zone, region or multiple district. Also speaking of the Angry Birds training, GLT Coordinator and Past District Governor Rob Sherman of MD 27 D1 in Wisconsin says that he plans on using the webinar material in his own presentations. Past District



Governor James Honold of SD 412 in Botswana does not even wait until the webinar is over. He gathers Lions together to watch the webinar, followed with discussion.



It is not only Lions training leaders, however, who take advantage of webinars. New Lion Katy Kastrouni of Greece says she "was excited and very delighted to participate" in the Effective Club Meetings webinar. She adds that she "wishes other Lions friends would attend such webinars. Our club could have more progress and our relationship and cooperation would be more productive and effective." Kastrouni echoes a frequent sentiment from webinar attendees who want their fellow Lions to experience the information, skills and knowledge shared in webinars. Mount Pearl Lion Claudette Coombs in Newfoundland, Canada, serves dual roles as club secretary and District Convention and By-laws chairperson. She feels so strongly that the LCI Ethics and the Role of the Leader webinar material needs to be shared that she included a summary of the presentation in her district newsletter.

During the 2013-14 fiscal year, nearly 2,000 Lions from Canada to Nepal to Venezuela have participated in webinars, making them the fastest-growing LCI Leadership Development training program. Every year several dynamic topics are available for any Lion with access to a computer and a desire to grow in Lionism. Whatever your Lion hopes and dreams, a webinar is sure to positively influence to your knowledge and skills. From officer training to managing service projects to conflict resolution, there is a topic sure to be of interest. Register for a webinar today by searching for "Leadership Development Webinars" at www.lionsclubs.org.



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CLUB BRIEFINGS

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Along with clubs throughout **District 43 K**, the **Madisonville Lions** in **Kentucky** collected approximately 20,000 eyeglasses last year to distribute to communities in need around the world.

The **Kinross Lions** in **Michigan** helped 37 families in need over the holiday season by providing food, clothing and toys valued at \$17,000.

In **Ghana**, the **Accra Diamond Lions** celebrated World Literacy Day by presenting a junior high school with textbooks.

The **Colombo Maitland Lions** in **Sri Lanka** held an annual "mega multi-service project," which included eye screenings, the donation of school books and wheelchairs and a diabetic awareness program.

The **Rockaway** and **Garibaldi Lions** in **Oregon** are providing funds to a school district to support a positive behavior reinforcement program.

A barbershop quartet made up of **Nisswa Lions**, the Sightseekers sing the praises of Lions at events throughout their community in **Minnesota**.

In 51 years the **Marion Lions'** fish derby in **Wisconsin** has raised more than \$1 million for community projects.

The **Etobicoke Queensway Lions Club** in **Ontario, Canada**, has supported Camp Nokomis children's summer camp since 1954 with fundraisers and hands-on work.

The **Midway Greenwood Kettle River Lions** in **British Columbia, Canada**, invite the whole community to an Easter dinner each year. By accepting donations of any amount, much of the cost for those in need is covered by those who are able to afford to give more.

Lions in **District 24 A** in **Virginia** and **District 5M 6** in **Minnesota** went on a two-week medical mission to

Burma where 610 eye exams and 118 cataract surgeries were completed.

Lions of **Zone 6** in **South Dakota** donated a tractor to an organization that provides therapeutic riding to people with physical, emotional and cognitive challenges.

In **Florida**, the **Homosassa Lions** have collected thousands of books for homeless shelters.

District 26 M2 Lions in **Missouri** spoke to students and higher education admissions counselors about Lionism at the Missouri State Student Council Convention.

The **Foothills Lions** in **Alberta, Canada**, sorted through 15,000 pairs of eyeglasses in one day for the Canadian Lions Eyeglasses Recycling Center. **District 37 0 Lions** have shipped approximately 4 million eyeglasses to developing nations since 2003.

In **Maine**, the **Phillips Strong Lions** raised more than \$6,000 from their second annual auction.

The **Chester Lions Club** in **New Jersey** held a "Stuff a Truck" campaign to help victims of the Oklahoma tornadoes, filling a truck with 13 pallets of household supplies, food and tools.

The **Santa Fe Lions** in **Texas** donated 98 English and Spanish children's books to a hospital.

In **Pennsylvania**, the **Coraopolis Moon Township Lions** donated 20 cases of soup to a food pantry.

The **Mayville Lions** in **Michigan** helped out at a school assembly where children learned about Leader Dogs, giving out copies of a book about Leader Dogs and pencils.

The **Sorrento Lions Club** in **British Columbia, Canada**, held an antique appraisal event, flipped pancakes at a Father's Day breakfast and hosted a Christmas party for senior citizens.

ROAR OF APPROVAL

After working together on tornado relief in Joplin, Missouri, Lebanon Host Lion **Debbie Whittlesey** and Marshfield Lion **Kevin Cantrell** discovered they had more than Lions in common. The two were married last year in Niagara Falls and later held a reception at the Marshfield Lions Club den.

Since joining in 1962, **John Rickert** has been a Lion in Wisconsin, Ohio and South Carolina, where he is currently a Sun City Okatie Lion. Rickert has held many leadership positions and has received honors including an International President's Leadership Medal, an International President's Certificate of Appreciation for leadership and a Senior Master Key Award.

In Florida, Marco Island Lions **Tim Kenney** and his wife, **Joan**, are in charge of the club's collection of eye glasses. Each year the two collect approximately 2,000 pairs and devote 85 hours to this project.

Cecil Balderson, a Waynesboro Lion in Virginia, recently celebrated his 102nd birthday. A member since 1963, Balderson has served in a number of leadership positions. He attends meetings, where he sometimes entertains his fellow club members with his harmonica playing.

In California, Buena Park Noon Lion **Louise Adlof** has been active in both Lioness and Lions for more than 30 years. Adlof is known for serving as secretary for 20 years as well as for baking roasts for 150 people at a time for the club's yearly meal after the Silverado Days parade.

Continued on page 52

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THE LIONS CHANGED MY LIFE

A New Perspective on Life

A sophomore studying elementary education at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Pahoua Xiong had never traveled outside of the United States. When Xiong had the chance to join a service trip to Cambodia with the Global Connections Project—a nonprofit that provides meaningful travel opportunities for college students—the former Leo president felt an inner drive to go. But she needed to raise \$3,000 to fund her trip. When her old friends, the Camden Lions, chipped in to cover a quarter of the cost (plus more raised through their Facebook page), this residence hall adviser who loves to sing and play badminton knew she was on her way to a life-changing experience.



Pahoua Xiong sits with one of her special Cambodian students.

Q&A: Pahoua Xiong

LION Magazine: Why did you feel strongly about going on this trip?

Pahoua Xiong: When I attended a Leo leadership conference my junior year in high school and learned about all of the international service Lions do, I thought, 'I want to do that too. One day I'll go to another country and serve.' I felt it was the right time to open my eyes to a different reality and to have the challenge of teaching in such a different place.

LM: What was it like teaching English in Singha Village?

PX: It was challenging because we didn't speak Khmer, and the students didn't speak English. We managed to find ways to communicate without speaking, like body motions and drawing pictures. I was amazed, and it felt really good when their English improved each day.

LM: Did you get to know the children?

PX: Every day after school we would bike home with the children. That was when we really got to connect. Their living conditions were hard to see. One girl lived in a rundown home with her grandmother, who was taking care of five children while the parents were away working. Despite how little they had, the people were so kind, loving and generous.

LM: Did it make you reflect on your own life back home?

PX: I realized how privileged I am to have an education, food on the table, a home, a job that I love and my health. My family came to the U.S. from Laos after I was born, so I thought a lot about how different life could have been. It made me very thankful.

LM: Was it difficult to leave your new friends in Cambodia?

PX: It was so hard. I still look at their pictures every night so I always remember them, and also to not take anything for granted. As soon as I can, I'm going to help sponsor another student to go on this trip and have this amazing experience.

Lions, has your club heard from a recipient of your service or charity? Tell us about the feedback you've received from those whose lives you've changed for the better. Email a brief description to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org. Please include "Thank You" in the subject line.

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ROAR OF APPROVAL

Continued from page 49



Escorted on the field by two Farmers Insurance agents, **Ramona Walhof** of the Boise Capital Lions Club in Idaho was cheered by 35,000 people as she received an award at the Boise State University homecoming game. She was recognized as a "Hometown Hero" by Farmers Insurance for her work on behalf of the blind. Walhof is a past president of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) of Idaho and current co-chair of Cycle for Independence, a fundraising vehicle for the NFB.

President of the Brookfield Lions Club in Connecticut, **Robin Montgomery** is a man who wears many hats in his community. He is also Brookfield's chief of police, a former F.B.I. agent who served for 26 years and a brave but modest man, according to those who know him well. He is one of 10 recent inductees to the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame, an honor that celebrates a member's post-military achievements. Montgomery received two Purple Hearts and the Navy Cross, the U.S. Navy's second highest medal earned for "extreme gallantry and heroism in combat." In addition to Montgomery's Lions activities and his law enforcement career, he is also active in a substance abuse and suicide prevention organization and active in military affairs as a veterans' advocate.



Delegate Form Instructions for the International Convention

Are you serving as the Delegate or Alternate Delegate for your club?

If yes, please complete the attached form and return the top half of the form to Lions Clubs International Headquarters, to the attention of the Club & Officer Record Administration Department before **June 1, 2014**.

Bring the bottom half of the form to the convention and present it when you arrive to certify at the Credentials area in the convention center.

Before sending the form, be sure a club officer (Club President, Secretary or Treasurer) signs both halves as indicated on form.

The address to mail the form is:

Lions Clubs International
300 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842

In order to certify for the election, you will also need to bring:

- Passport, Lions Membership Card, Visa or Master Card (charge card), Driver's License, Social Security Card, National Identification Card or some other acceptable identification showing your signature.
- Please be sure your club number is clearly printed on the delegate form for quicker processing.

If you have any questions regarding this certification request, please contact the Club & Officer Records Administration Department via email at stats@lionsclubs.org or by calling 630-468-6938 or you can fax your form to 630-706-9295.

ALLOWABLE CLUB DELEGATES AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Membership.....delegates allowed

1-37.....1	213-237.....9	413-437.....17	613-637.....25
38-62.....2	238-262.....10	438-462.....18	638-662.....26
63-87.....3	263-287.....11	463-487.....19	663-687.....27
88-112.....4	288-312.....12	488-512.....20	688-712.....28
113-137.....5	313-337.....13	513-537.....21	713-737.....29
138-162.....6	338-362.....14	538-562.....22	738-762.....30
163-187.....7	363-387.....15	563-587.....23	763-780.....31
188-212.....8	388-412.....16	588-612.....24	

Delegate count is based on the club's membership as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding the month in which the convention is held as provided in Article VI, Section 2 of the International constitution and Chapter XVII – Membership, Paragraph B.3., of the board Policy Manual.

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Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

The undersigned hereby authorizes that the above named person is an active member and a duly selected Delegate/Alternate Delegate of said Lions Club to the stated Convention of The International Association of Lions Clubs.



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Mail the above to LCI (Club Officer & Record Admin.) before June 1, 2014. After that date, bring it to the convention.
Lions Clubs International • 300 W 22nd Street • Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA

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DELEGATE/ALTERNATE DELEGATE COPY

(Bring this copy to the Convention)

Lions Clubs International Convention – 2014 Toronto, Ontario, Canada



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11 issues published yearly by
Lions Clubs International
300 W 22nd St.
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842
(630) 571-5466 / Fax: (630) 571-8890
lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org
<http://www.lionsclubs.org>

(ISSN 0024-4163) (R-124397233)
(PRINTED IN U.S.A.)

Official publication of Lions Clubs
International. Published by authority of the
Board of Directors in 20 languages—
English, Spanish, Japanese, French,
Swedish, Italian, German, Finnish, Korean,
Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Chinese,
Norwegian, Icelandic, Turkish, Greek, Hindi,
Indonesian and Thai.

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ANNIVERSARIES APRIL 2014

90 Years: Battle Creek Host, Mich.; Easton, Pa.; Jacksonville, Ill.; Miami, Fla.; Milford, Utah; Nazareth, Pa.; Seattle University, Wash.; Syracuse Host, N.Y.

85 Years: Ann Arbor Host, Mich.; Cartersville, Ga.; Dallas Oak Cliff, Texas; Douglas, Ariz.; Farrell, Pa.; Gaffney, S.C.; Highland Park Highwood, Ill.; New Milford, Conn.; Newport, Ore.; Plant City, Fla.; Ridgefield, Conn.; Rock Hill, S.C.; West Seattle, Wash.; Topeka, Kan.; Winnetka, Ill.; Woodstock, Ill.

80 Years: Cicero, Ill.; Farmland, Ind.; Roselle, Ill.; Sabina, Ohio; The Main Line, Pa.; Union Point, Ga.; Williamsburg Host, Va.

75 Years: Anthony, N.M.; Artesia Downtown, N.M.; Austin, Ind.; Beamsville & District, ON, CAN; Boyertown, Pa.; Bucyrus, Ohio; Coronado, Calif.; Danville, Ohio; Deland, Fla.; Downey, Idaho; Ft. Macleod, AB, CAN; Greenfield, Ill.; Greenway, Minn.; Harrington, Del.; Hertford, N.C.; Lockport, Ill.; Maryville Host, Mo.; Maywood, Calif.; Norwich, Conn.; Oelwein, Iowa; Rochester-Beaver Area, Pa.; Rural Valley, Pa.; Sumter, S.C.; Troy, Pa.; Williamsburg, Pa.; Windber, Pa.

50 Years: Gap Mountain, N.H.; West Valley, Wash.; Plymouth, Wis.; Fort Frances, ON, CAN; Gentry, Ark.; Rio Rancho Host, N.M.; Green Castle, Mo.; Central Butte District, SK, CAN; Hudson, Ill.; Liverpool, NS, CAN; Shawano Lake, Wis.; Elwood, Neb.; Capreol, ON, CAN; Toluca Lake, Calif.; Cosmos, Minn.; Fenton, Mich.; Harrisburg, N.C.; Goodhue, Minn.; Richibucto, NB, CAN; Clinton, BC, CAN; Porter, Okla.; Silver Lake, Kan.; Kelowna Rutland, BC, CAN; Lexington South, Ky.

INFORMATION

25 Years: Green City, Mo.; Lakeville, NB, CAN; Wolcott, Ind.

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

HIGHER KEYS ISSUED DECEMBER 2013

Key of Nations (100 Members)

- Lion Fred Orton, San Diego Host, California
- Lion Jagmohan Kabra, Pune Nagar Road, India
- Lion Vijaykumar Desai, Bilimora Yugma, India

Key of State (75 Members)

- Lion Nuthalapati Rao, Guntur Pattabhipuram, India
- Lion Jagmohan Kabra, Pune Nagar Road, India

Grand Master Key (50 Members)

- Lion Donald Almquist, Greenfield, Wisconsin
- Lion Leo Snyder, South Elgin, Illinois
- Lion Primitivo Chua, Manila Chinatown, Philippines
- Lion Jagmohan Kabra, Pune Nagar Road, India

Senior Master Key (25 Members)

- Lion Lee Gibson, Wimberley, Texas
- Lion Ray Rosenthal, Foster City, California
- Lion Richard Campbell, Minden, Louisiana
- Lion Bill Moore, Merrill, Oregon
- Lion Md. Khan, Dhaka Sonargaon West, Rep. of Bangladesh
- Lion Chabilal Sharma, Rangpo Gateway of Sikkim, India
- Lion Jagmohan Kabra, Pune Nagar Road, India
- Lion S. Sivasubramanian, Tiruvarur Car City, India
- Lion M. M. Ahamed Mohideen, Chennai Crown, India
- Lion S. M. Thiagarajan, Salem Melvin Jones, 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 Key Award Program at www.lionsclubs.org.

CORRECTION

Past District Governor Ray Halterman, then employed at a correctional facility in Iowa, initiated the Leader Dogs puppy raising program in prison and helped gain support for it among Lions by visiting clubs across the state (February 2014 LION). Past District Governor Randy Kirkbride, who now helps lead the program, has never worked for the prison. The LION regrets the errors.

ON THE WEB

If you're looking for the latest news about Lions clubs around the world, stop first at the LCI website home page. The new "Lions in the Headlines" scroll lists television, newspaper and online news stories about Lions' service projects, fundraisers, awards and more. Visit www.lionsclubs.org and click on the headlines that interest you to read the full stories.

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LAST ROAR



Photo by AP Images

EGG WHITEOUT

Children dash through the snow searching for some of the 10,000 plastic eggs that contain candy and prizes such as gift certificates for bicycles during the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Eagle River Lions Club Community Park in Anchorage, Alaska. The Eagle River Lions Club and the Eagle River Sleeping Lady Mountain Lions Club are among the event's sponsors.

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