

# LION



Lions Clubs International

LIONMAGAZINE.ORG OCTOBER 2014

## Lions Clubs Nears 100 Years of Service...

So How Will We Celebrate  
Our Centennial?



Doctor *Designed.* Audiologist *Tested.* FDA *Registered.*

# Affordable *New* Digital Hearing Aid *Outperforms* Expensive Competitors Delivers *Crystal -Clear* Natural Sound

Reported by J. Page

Chicago: Board-certified physician Dr. S. Cherukuri has done it once again with his newest invention of a medical grade ALL DIGITAL affordable hearing aid.

This new digital hearing aid is packed with all the features of \$3,000 competitors at a mere fraction of the cost. Now, most people with hearing loss are able to enjoy crystal clear, natural sound—in a crowd, on the phone, in the wind—without suffering through “whistling” and annoying background noise.

After years of extensive research, Dr. Cherukuri has now created a ***state-of-the-art*** digital hearing aid that's packed with the features of those expensive \$3,000 competitors — at a ***fraction of the price.***

## New Digital Hearing Aid Outperforms Expensive Competitors

This sleek, lightweight, fully programmed hearing aid is the outgrowth of the digital revolution that is changing our world. While demand for “all things digital” caused most prices to plunge (consider DVD players and computers, which originally sold for thousands of dollars and today can be purchased at a fraction of that price), yet the cost of a digital medical hearing aid remained out of reach.

Dr. Cherukuri knew that many of his patients would benefit but couldn't afford the expense of these new digital hearing aids. Generally they are not covered by Medicare and most private health insurance.

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- ✓ *Outperforms* \$3,000 models
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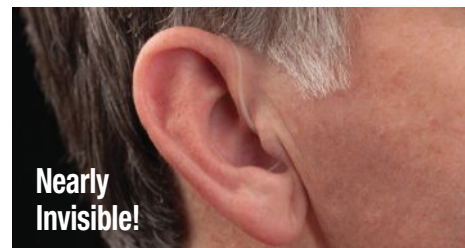
Using advanced digital technology, the **MDHearingAid® AIR** automatically adjusts to your listening environment—prioritizing speech and de-emphasizing background noise. Experience all of the sounds you've been missing at a price you can afford. This doctor designed and approved hearing aid comes with a full year's supply of long-life batteries. It delivers crisp, clear sound all day long and the soft flexible ear buds are so comfortable you won't realize you're wearing them.

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— Dennis

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— Dr. Chang

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— Ned Rubin

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Beep baseball between sighted and non-sighted youths is all about fun and friendship.



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Members of the Homestead-Gallaher Lions Club in Florida start the selling of 8,000 light bulbs in 1963. Named after Ed Gallaher, the club was the only one at the time named for a living Lion.

#### 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

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## Convention Countdown

Honolulu, Hawaii  
June 26-30, 2015

# A Message From Our President



**Joe Preston**  
Lions Clubs  
International President

## Birthday Wishes

Can you remember as a child how large numbers impressed you? A million of anything was hard to fathom. Did you know that the ancient Greeks and Romans did not even have a single-word equivalent for “million”?

What could possibly exist in such a large quantity?

Yet we Lions know that a single act of service, one occasion of kindness, can change the world. We understand that service has a ripple effect. As the famed

aviator Amelia Earhart said, “No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees.”

So how much can we change the world if we serve **100 million** people? We plan to find out by 2017. Our upcoming centennial is not only an occasion to celebrate our history but also to redouble our efforts. Yes, we’ll throw a grand party and eat some cake, but we’ll also set a very ambitious service goal: serve 100 million people (see page 30).

I ask every club to take part in the Centennial Service Challenge. The challenge dovetails with our four Global Service Action

Campaigns: Engaging Our Youth in August, Sharing the Vision in October, Relieving the Hunger in December/January and Protecting Our Environment in April. So the challenge is for Lions to help 25 million youths, provide vision services for 25 million, feed 25 million and benefit 25 million through environmental projects.

Your club can help us reach the goal through your service actions and then reporting them via the Service Activities Report on the online MyLCI system. We’ll recognize clubs and districts with banner patches. Donations to LCIF earmarked for sight, youth, the measles initiative and disaster relief will qualify for recognition.

Our centennial celebration will be grounded in service. But we also want Lions to understand and celebrate their heritage. Birthdays are like that—an occasion for looking back at where we came from and who we are and looking ahead at future growth and achievement. So let’s start lighting our birthday candles, truly lighting candles instead of cursing the darkness. When we finally blow out the candles at the end of our centennial celebration at the 2017 international convention in Chicago, I have no doubt our birthday wish to substantially improve the world will have come true.

A stylized, handwritten signature of Joe Preston in black ink.

Joe Preston  
Lions Clubs International President





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## THE BIG PICTURE

### Drum Line

Accompanying Lions from India, a drummer and dancers step lively down the streets of downtown Toronto during the festive parade at the 97th International Convention in July.









## THE BIG PICTURE

### Dream Weaver

Follow Your Dream was the theme of 2013-14 International President Barry J. Palmer of Australia, and this participant in the parade at the international convention seems to pay tribute to that sentiment.



## THE BIG PICTURE

# The Strength of the Pride

The theme of 2014-15 International President Joe Preston of Arizona is Strengthen the Pride, and the participants in the Leo Lion Summit at the international convention in July are not shy about their allegiance to Lions.









# First Roar

## LIONS TARGET TECHNOLOGY USE

LCIF is partnering with the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) to close the computer technology gap for those with vision loss. People with visual impairments lag significantly behind sighted people in acquiring and using computers and digital technology. LCIF recently awarded AFB \$125,000 to understand the steps needed to bridge the technology divide. Lions and AFB envision eventually working on the problem with university programs for the teachers of the visually impaired, occupational therapists, orientation and mobility specialists, schools for the blind, the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired and others. Helen Keller was a longtime AFB employee, and Lions and AFB enjoy of a long history of working together.

## HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?

Service dog badges and vests are easily obtained online with no verification, making it likely people without disabilities are gaining access to public places with untrained pets, according to a Chicago TV station. CBS 2 investigative reporter Pam Zekman purchased a service dog vest and identification badge online for her pet collie and took Sophie with her to two stores without being questioned. A retired police officer working undercover with Zekman used phony dog credentials to enter a movie theater and restaurant. The Canine Companions for Independence is urging the federal government to outlaw the sale of fake service dog credentials.

## STRANDED MAN AIDED AFTER FLASH FLOOD

After a flash flood basically stranded in his home a man who uses a wheelchair, Fayetteville Lions in Tennessee helped end his isolation. The club paid a contractor to repair a damaged culvert that isolated Bobby Hazelwood. From his house on the night of the storm, Hazelwood watched as a large log floating down the flooded stream hit a vehicle crossing over the culvert. Marshall Arney, a Lion since 1969, coordinated the repair work.



New members are inducted in Multiple District 300 Taiwan.

## FEMALE MEMBERSHIP INCREASES TO 26 PERCENT

The recent fiscal year was a banner one for female membership. Forty percent of all new Lions in the year that ended June 30, 2014, were women. That brings female membership up to 26 percent. The percentage of female Lions was 28 percent in the United States and 28.2 percent in Canada. The constitutional area with the most women was South America/Central America/the Caribbean and Mexico with 43.5 percent. Last was Europe with 20.7 percent. The board of directors approved in July the continuation of the Family and Women task force to increase female membership and leadership as part of a longstanding effort toward those goals.

## HONOR WWII HOMEFRONT HEROES

Gold Dome Lions in Charleston, West Virginia, are supporting a national effort to recognize women who served on the homefront during World War II by working defense factory jobs. Under the "Rosie the Riveter" moniker, these women became a symbol of strength during wartime. Lion Anne Montague, the daughter of a "Rosie," is executive director of Thanks! Plain and Simple ([thanksplainandsimple.org](http://thanksplainandsimple.org)), dedicated to recognizing these women for their work. "Through Thanks! Plain and Simple, our club became acquainted with several Rosie the Riveters," says Lion Jim McMillon. "We are proud to have two 'Rosies' in their 90s who are now members of our club."



A white dress shirt with a colorful patterned tie. The tie has a red base with small, multi-colored geometric shapes. The shirt is laid flat on a light-colored wooden surface. The collar is open, and the tie is draped over it. The shirt has a small 'PFS' tag on the cuff.

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# ONE OF US



Photo by Chase Henderson Photography

Helped by her soon-to-be husband, Dean, Amanda Ross steps off of a covered wagon on her way to her wedding at Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park. Half of those who attended the intimate wedding, including the officiant, were fellow Lions.

## AMANDA ROSS

Amanda Ross claims a lot of firsts. She was a first-generation college student, the first female president of the Alum Creek Lions in West Virginia, the youngest-ever district 290 governor and possibly the first person to receive a marriage proposal at the Eiffel Tower directly following an international convention. Ross, a 32-year-old newlywed and elementary school counselor in the tight-knit community of Tornado, takes in all in stride, figuring someone was bound to be first, so why not her?

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](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org). Please include "One of Us" in the subject line.

### Did you set out to be so groundbreaking?

No, I think I'm just outgoing, and I like to jump in and try things. When I became president of my club, I was 28. Most of the club was older men, but it was great. If you show your dedication, no one cares about gender or age. I did dress professionally and made the position dignified. Now I'm back to wearing jeans!

### You became district governor at the Hamburg International Convention last year, a trip that turned out to be quite memorable.

My boyfriend, Dean Ross Jr., also a Lion, went to the convention with me, and we had an amazing time. Afterward we took the train to Paris. That night we were sitting on the lawn at the Eiffel Tower—which happens to be my all-time favorite thing. When Dean said he wanted to give me something, I thought it was going to be an Eiffel Tower key chain. But he proposed and I was so surprised!

### You two go way back.

We met and became best friends during college at Marshall University where I was studying criminal justice and sociology.

### Did you know then that you wanted to be a school counselor?

I actually wanted to be a correctional counselor. But I had an epiphany one day when I realized that I would rather counsel kids to help them not end up in prison in the first place.

### How do you know when you've really helped a student?

I can watch a student's progression throughout the year. One second-grader was an outsider at the beginning of the year, but he had a complete turnaround by the end of the year. It's amazing how when a child knows they are safe and cared for how he will grow and blossom.

### How do you help students through especially tough times?

When something traumatic happens, the most important thing is to be present and listen. I've had students who have lost parents or fellow classmates. Too often we want to talk to children and tell them what to do or feel, when all they really need is for someone to listen. I'm honored to be able to do that for them.



# Join the Centennial Service Challenge!

The Centennial Service Challenge encourages Lions around the world to serve 100 million people to celebrate our Centennial in 2017. Your club can play a part in reaching our goal.



- **Host service projects** that impact Youth, Vision, Hunger or the Environment
- **Report your service activities** through the Service Activity Report
- **Earn a Centennial Banner Patch** each year you participate

Share the Centennial Service Challenge with your club, and start planning your next service project today!

There's never been a better time to serve than now!

Host a sight-related project in October for our Sharing the Vision campaign!



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[lions100.org](http://lions100.org)

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## OVERHEARD

**"Shoot, yeah, I'm excited about it. It's the biggest game of the year in Alabama football."**

—M.J. Humphries, the winner of the Warrior Lions Club raffle for two tickets to the Alabama vs. Auburn game. From Al.com.

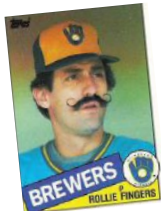
**"You hardly ever see a tractor like that. It was there, and I was there."**

—Chuck McCormick, who successfully bid \$22,000 in an auction of a "parade-ready" 1966 John Deere tractor donated by the Bocker family, longtime members of the Polo Lions in Illinois. Seventy-five percent of the \$22,000 went to the club, and the rest to the bidder's charity of choice—research to prevent pancreatic cancer. From the Ogle County News.

**"She came into my store weeks after the surgery, and she could pick out her own candy with nobody to lead or help her. ... This little five-year-old girl opened my eyes. You have to see a miracle and the magic in the miracle. Then you want to go to work, promote and raise some money."**

—Lion Bill Teague, the founder of the 37th annual Trumann Lions Club barbecue in Arkansas, on being inspired by a visually impaired girl whose sight was restored in 1974 thanks to his club. All proceeds from the fundraiser go to the blind or visually impaired. From the Democratic Tribune.

## BY THE NUMBERS



# 341

Career saves of Hall of Fame pitcher Rollie Fingers, the star of the 35th annual sports card show of the Ephrata Lions in Pennsylvania.

# 100

Eyeglass frames donated to the Huron Lions Club in South Dakota by retiring optometrist Dr. Robert Johnson.

# 300

Dollar amount in pledges required to gain release from behind bars for participants in the Jail or Bail fundraiser of the Fort Frances Voyageur Lions in Ontario, Canada.

# 3,800

Pieces of chicken, as well as 11,100 ears of corn and 600 pounds of coleslaw, sold at the 50th annual chicken barbecue of the Goodhue Lions in Minnesota.



# 70

Disabled veterans treated to a party and given gifts of fleece blankets and socks by Jurupa District Lions in California.



# 9,000+

Rehoboth Beach Lions Club telephone directories hand-delivered by members to Delaware residents. The directory has been the club's main fundraiser for nearly 70 years.

## 63 YEARS AGO IN THE LION



### OCTOBER 1951

Tulsa Brookside Lions in Oklahoma made a pair of shorts measuring 96 inches at the waist to publicize Shorts Day. The Lions then mailed the shorts to a Paul Bunyan museum in Minnesota. The Lions' partner on the special day was a businessman's group, which wanted to reassure customers it was OK to dress casually while they shopped.



# CLUB of the MONTH



Lions Chrissy Shea (left) and Melinda Kulick are proud of the results of last spring's roadside cleanup.

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## LEECHBURG-GILPIN, PENNSYLVANIA

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### YEAR FOUNDED: 1948

**MEETINGS AND MEMBERS:** The Lions meet on the first and third Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the Coco Coffeehouse. The 20-member club is mostly made up of retirees, but the membership also includes a priest, store manager and college administrator. The club is benefiting from a recent influx of younger members, primarily found through word of mouth.

**ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, SERVE:** Looking to raise both money as well as the club's profile in the community, the Lions held their inaugural annual 5K run/walk last fall. With 48 participants and 22 sponsors, the Lions were pleasantly surprised at the community's support.

**A "PARKED" IMPROVEMENT:** Some of the \$2,100 raised from the 5K was put right to use for the community's park. The Lions helped renovate a pavilion, conduct electrical repairs and improve the park's road.

**NO CHILD LEFT OUT IN THE COLD:** The Lions provide the school district's nurse with a Kmart gift card to purchase items such as coats and shoes for students in need.

**EARLY CLAIMS TO FAME:** In the late 1940s the Lions helped make the community safer by providing the first Leechburg police car radio. In the '60s, they made a splash by helping to build the town's first community pool.

**ON THE ROAD AGAIN:** One day each spring and fall the Lions head out on a two-mile stretch of road for a cleanup. Their adopt-a-highway days always prove to be productive with piles of roadside debris collected.

**RESOURCEFUL FUNDRAISING:** The Lions have held a Pampered Chef sale, sold frozen chocolate-covered bananas at Little League games, raffled a gas card and sold hoagie tickets for a local shop to keep service project funds flowing.

**WHY SERVE?** "Lionism is more than wearing swag, attending a meeting or participating in an event. Being a Lion is serving your community always." –Lion Melinda Kulick



### Indiana Lions Work Together for Sight

Marty Juel, an Elkhart Lion in Indiana and 2014-15 district 25 G governor, says he's had many heart-wrenching moments during his 14 missions to the poorest parts of Mexico to fit people with eyeglasses. District Lions dispense thousands of glasses during each trip, but he recalls one child in particular.

"I work in the fitting area, where we make final adjustments to fit the glasses to the individuals' heads. We can bend and shape them to fit just about anyone. One year, one of the other fitters passed on a young boy, probably 7 or 8 years old, and asked me to handle it. I told him he could do it just as easily, and then I saw that the ear on the other side of his head, away from my view, was severely deformed. There was no exterior part of the ear on his head," Juel reveals. He was only momentarily perplexed. "I finally found a sports-like string that attaches to the glasses and showed his mother how to tighten the glasses on his head." It worked.

"Our group does it all. We collect, clean, read and repair glasses ourselves," he says. "We have 'wash-a-thons' with Lions from several clubs coming together to clean and sort glasses. This is a 12-month program, and involves a lot more Lions than just the 22 or so who participate on the actual mission." Lions own two lensometers and computers that read and print prescriptions on the labels to attach to plastic bags for each pair.

Some Indiana Lions speak articulate Spanish, but Juel admits he's not one of them. "I do speak Spanish," he explains, "but not fluently." He does, however, speak it well enough to promote the eyeglass missions as a frequent guest of Spanish-language television and radio stations in Mexico and has been interviewed by Mexican newspapers. "I'm able to determine most questions, and I usually have standard comments. I don't think I've gotten into trouble yet!" he says.



District 25 G Governor Marty Juel (second from right) is interviewed at a Mexican TV station about a Lions' volunteer mission in Irapuato.



The library is a place to giggle with a friend as well as check out books.

### A Beacon of Literacy

Tiny Protection Island sits in the middle of the Nanaimo Harbour in British Columbia, Canada. Home to about 300 residents, the heavily-forested island can only be reached by water since there's no bridge. It's a 5-minute ferry trip to the island, where golf carts and bikes are the most popular modes of transportation.

While Protection Island may not have a connection to the mainland, it does have a strong connection with Lions. Considered part of the City of Nanaimo, Lions established a club on the island in 1983. Tackling their biggest project yet, the 22-member Protection Island Lions Club created a library by revamping an old storage area in the basement of Beacon House Community Hall.

The Beacon Library now serves residents as more than simply a book repository. "It's become a social hub," says Sharie Biller. "Building the library was an essential part of strengthening our island community."

Residents sponsored their own fundraisers, some selling baked goods and plants. They also worked side by side with Lions to demolish the community center basement space, taking it down to the studs and rebuilding it as a library with enough shelves to stock more than 3,000 books and 650 DVDs, some donated by islanders and the Nanaimo library. Lions bought others at used bookstores and thrift shops at bargain prices, with some even purchased at a Rotary club book sale, says Biller.

"We have a 624-square-foot library space that's bright and open," she adds. Included is a sitting area for adults, one for children, a bathroom and a coffee and tea counter. Volunteers staff the library under the direction of four retired librarians. Lions maintain the building, but the librarians maintain the books and computerized catalog system.



## SERVICE that ROARS



Lions build a concrete "toadstool" along a path.

## Lions Keep Park Promises

With an average age of 66, the members of the Key Peninsula Lions Club in Washington are proving themselves to be anything but average. In 2005, Lions promised to help the Key Peninsula Park District develop one of its properties by building a picnic shelter. They haven't stopped.

George Robison's son, Ed, a licensed civil and structural engineer, prepared plans for a picnic shelter free of charge, and the club was able to use cleared timber from another park area to build it. The younger Robison was, in fact, so enthusiastic about helping Lions develop their first park site that he became a parks commissioner. "The day the roof went up on the picnic shelter, families were using it," points out Hugh McMillan, a charter member of the club established in 1983.

It was just the first of several large park projects Lions embraced. "We became involved in several major projects, including funding and building a retaining wall with 2,500 concrete blocks, building another 800-block wall and providing labor and supervision for a five-tier retaining wall, this one using 5,000 blocks," McMillan says. The biggest wall took a month to complete, and Lions enlisted some paid labor to work with them through a Job Corps program.

Lions built concrete picnic tables and benches and some additional seating along hiking trails in a park used extensively for hiking, bicycling and horseback riding. "We call some of the seats 'toadstools' because that's what they resemble providing single person seating," Robison says. "The concrete picnic tables and benches are fairly inexpensive, about \$100 for a table and two benches." Club members built five sets of tables and benches, plus miscellaneous seating around the park, spending about \$1,000.

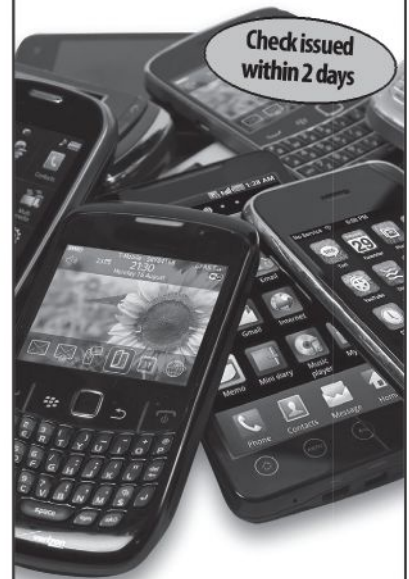
"The Key Peninsula juts out into the southern waters of Puget Sound. It's approximately 20 miles long and up to eight miles wide," says Robison. "Its name is derived from the key-like shape of the peninsula. Our Lions club is the only international service club organization on the peninsula."

Lions have worked on several parks, and are now intent on keeping them all in pristine condition by eradicating the invasive Scotch broom. "This is an invasive species that can get rapidly out of hand," says McMillan. Members have held one work party and plan more with community volunteers to identify and rid a park of the noxious plant.

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## Chileans Pull Out All the Stops

**CHILE**—Five Lions clubs in central Chile gave a day of full service for those in need. They not only did vision screenings, provided eyeglasses and offered dental and foot care but also handed out food, dispensed legal aid, provided housing assistance and even set up a hair salon. The La Cisterna, La Florida, La South Florida, Puente Alto and La Calera clubs ran the event. Chile has 166 clubs with 2,828 Lions.



Dental care was part of the service day in Chile.



Lion John Pederson works the fish auction that raised funds for the X-ray machine.

## Going Fishin' for Funds

**NEW ZEALAND**—Normally a sleepy town of 4,000, Whitianga hosts as many as 40,000 visitors during the tourist season. The travelers come for the pristine beaches, spectacular sunsets and, most of all, the unmatched deep sea fishing. But the town's remoteness and simple lifestyle, while appealing, also meant that the inevitable injuries and accidents proved to be terribly inconvenient or more threatening than should be.

So Lions led a drive to raise funds for an X-ray machine. In less than half a year \$230,000 was generated not only for a machine with sophisticated digital technology but also for a building to house it and operating capital for the first year. Town leaders anticipate that the number of ambulance trips to a hospital in Hamilton 2.5 hours away or to Thames an hour away will be reduced by at least a dozen weekly.

The 35-member club turned the town into a fundraising machine. The grocery store asked customers at the checkout line to toss in a dollar. Children sold cookies. The Mercury Bay Bowling Club kicked in \$1,000, and the operator of a glass bottom boat tour donated his proceeds from a crowded tour.

The Lionesses held a quilt show. The Lions? Capitalizing on the town's chief allure, the club held a fish auction. They persuaded many participants in a big game fishing tournament to donate the blue marlins, kingfish and snappers they caught to an auction.

The club was on a mission, as literally was one of its newest members, an American. A retired corporate lawyer from Salt Lake City, Richard Gordon went to Whitianga with his wife as a Mormon missionary. He became a Lion after noticing the impact the club had on the town since 1965. "I said, 'I want to join these guys,'" he says. "This is a tiny town, and I have never seen a community come together to support a project the way this one has done to support this Lions club."



# Italians Save Children from AIDS

**ZAMBIA**—Years ago, Italians established a hospital for their countrymen who built a dam on the Zambezi River in southern Zambia near the border with Zimbabwe. In recent years Italian Lions have focused on the needs of Zambians in the region. Lions in District 108 IA3 constructed a hospital and three clinics, dug dozens of water wells, donated 20,000 new textbooks and even started a school of agriculture.

The most recent project of Italian Lions there helped the most vulnerable and proved to be the most heartfelt and perhaps the most life-changing. Lions expanded a clinic to enable it to treat pregnant woman with HIV so that the virus is not transmitted to their children. Now only about 1 percent of the women with the virus who are treated pass it on to their children.

Italy has 1,326 clubs and 43,000 Lions. The first club was the Milan Host Lions Club in 1951.



International Director Roberto Fresia of Italy lays the cornerstone for a health facility in Zambia.



## Got to Hand It to Korean Lions

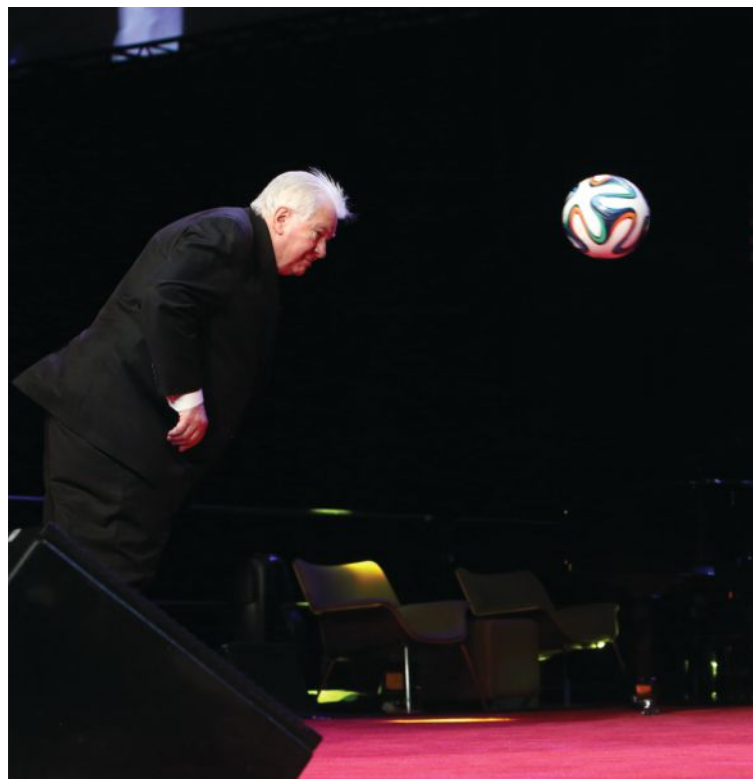
**KOREA**—Lions in Korea like to take matters into their own hands—often performing hands-on service. Members of the New Nam Hae Lions Club (top) traveled to Kwandang village to do major repairs on the home and property of an impoverished family. Chung Seo (bottom) Lions chopped eight tons of firewood in advance of the cold and donated it to a welfare center.







# Good Times, Momentous Happenings







(Counter clockwise from top) Canadian Lions proudly wave the flag during the parade. Lions crowd around the LCIF booth at the exhibit hall. Barry J. Palmer, 2013-14 international president, heads a soccer ball kicked to him by a Brazilian Lion during a delay in the last plenary.



# Lions sang, danced and launched our association toward its centennial at the 97th International Convention in Toronto.

by Jay Copp

A shining moment of the 97th International Convention in Toronto unexpectedly occurred during a long delay, an unwanted interruption that may have roiled attendees of an uptight corporate gathering. The third plenary session had ground to a halt because, unknown to the thousands of Lions at the Air Canada Centre and even to Lions leaders in charge of the session, the election results were delayed when votes had to be counted by hand at the nearby Metro Toronto Convention Centre after the automated voting machine malfunctioned. President Barry J. Palmer of Australia could not proceed with the oath of office for 2014-15 President Joe Preston of Arizona.

Palmer stalled for time. The big screen showed videos of Honolulu, the next convention city, and highlights of the Toronto convention. Then, out of options, Palmer told Lions to take a “stretch break.” The arena’s speakers blasted the infectious “Happy” by Pharrell Williams. Lions in their seats clapped, swayed in place and danced. On stage, to the delight of the crowd, Palmer swiveled his hips, and Preston and First Vice President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Japan, a dignified neurosurgeon, let loose and joined in the impromptu dance party.

After many minutes, seeing Palmer still needed to fill time, a Brazilian Lion wearing a soccer jersey bounded to the stage with a soccer ball and skillfully kicked and kept the ball aloft for a long stretch. That’s when the beautiful game helped transform the interminable delay into a beautiful moment. The Brazilian purposely knocked the ball toward Palmer, who, though years removed from his playing days, deftly headed the ball as Lions roared.

Convention is a lot of things over five days in July. It’s a business meeting where Lions elect new leaders and conduct official business. It’s a sort of continuing education seminar in which skills and strategies are learned. But most of all it’s a festive gathering where Lions share camaraderie, make new friends and, as demonstrated at the third plenary, revel in the Lions spirit, defined not only by a desire to serve but also by a generous, easygoing spirit full of patience and optimism. “It’s just amazing to be around and look at so many people who share the same passion. It’s fun just to be in the elevator and what you see and hear,” said Karen Ritterbush of the Battle Creek Lions in Nebraska.

Heather Griffin of the Newcastle Lions in Canada hopped on a local commuter train to reach Toronto. “I get to see all the happy people here. I really enjoy all the different Lions’ outfits,” said Griffin, whose volunteer duty was to stand at the entrance to the exhibit hall and give directions or answer queries. Griffin epitomizes Lions’ emotional bonds to membership. Lions often find it deeply gratifying to serve their communities alongside friends.



# Lions Flock to Toronto

The convention in Toronto was well attended with 16,452 Lions and guests. The top 10 nations represented were:



**UNITED STATES**  
**3,496**



**JAPAN**  
**1,576**



**CHINA**  
**1,398**



**CANADA**  
**1,361**



**INDIA**  
**1,164**



**NIGERIA**  
**1,033**



**NEPAL**  
**855**



**SRI LANKA**  
**712**



**BANGLADESH**  
**421**



**KOREA**  
**365**

Some, like Griffin, are even more deeply rooted in their club because of family. She intended to wear her late father's Lions' shirt in the parade. Asked what that experience would mean for her, she composed herself and gently replied, "Don't make me cry."

Convention also is about looking proudly back at grand achievements and fixing Lions' sights on lofty future plans. In his farewell address, Palmer ticked off a lengthy list of accomplishments: Lions served more than 4 million people and tallied nearly 2 million service hours just in our four Global Service Action Campaigns (youth, vision, hunger and the environment). Additionally, RAP, the Reading Action Program, has now benefited 19 million, and Lions have planted more than 3 million trees, generating enough life-sustaining oxygen for 6 million people.

Palmer's theme last year was Follow Your Dream; he told Lions his far-flung travels helped him realize clubs had al-

ready been doing just fine reaching for the stars. "Lions, you have been following your dreams," he said.

Minutes after taking the oath as 2014-15 president, Preston officially ushered in the Lions' centennial celebration in 2017. Flanked by the other international officers and Past President J. Frank Moore III, the centennial chairperson, Preston revealed the centennial service goal: 100 million people served. Clubs worldwide will attempt to improve vision care for 25 million, relieve hunger for 25 million, help 25 million youths primarily through education or literacy efforts and benefit 25 million through environmental projects including planting 10 million trees. "Are you up for the challenge, Lions?" Preston asked. The crowd roared.

The three plenaries were a showcase for important causes and people. Ruchira Gupta, the founder of Apne Aap Women Worldwide, decried the widespread horror of human trafficking. Lions Wendi Dwyer and William Mou, a former Lost Boy of South Sudan, talked about their literacy initiative at wells. The Seven Summits Mountain Climbing Team from Nepal described how they conquered Everest and the highest peaks on three other continents. "This year I've asked Lions, What is your Everest? They could reply, 'Our Everest is Everest,'" said Palmer. "We're very glad to have them here because they know firsthand how critical leadership, teamwork and planning are."

Part of the appeal of convention is the swirl of dress, language and mannerisms. The common denominator is service, exemplified by the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), which pools Lions resources and crafts partnerships to achieve broad service aims. In the second plenary session, a parade of speakers highlighted the goals and success of LCIF. Binod Chaudhary of the Chaudhary Foundation pledged \$1 million from the foundation for social businesses to reduce poverty through microenterprises. Other

Watch a lively video of the convention highlights.

Watch the creative "Oz" video, which retells the familiar Oz story with a Lions angle.

Watch a video of the engaging chat between Olivia Newton-John and 2013-14 President Palmer.

Listen to Lions talk about their experiences as a Lion in segments done at a recording booth set up at the exhibit hall.

Meet the 17 new international directors.

Read the talks of President Preston, Ruchira Gupta and David Foster.

Learn the winners of the International Awards including the Environmental Photo Contest and the World of Service Awards.

The 1958 convention in Chicago was one of the best ever, and the LION told the story in photos.





(Left) Joe Preston of Arizona, 2014-15 international president, greets Sparky, the mascot for Arizona State University. The Prestons are big Sun Devil fans, and Sparky helped lead the Preston demonstration at the plenary session.

A Lion shares his memories and insights on being a Lion at the recording booth in the exhibit hall.

dignitaries detailed Lions' progress in battling blindness and curtailing measles. The message of the day was that LCIF enables Lions to do far more than they could on their own. "Working together, Lions identify the most crucial needs, and LCIF supports you in your humanitarian efforts that transform the lives of people around the world," said 2013-14 LCIF Chairperson Wayne A. Madden of Indiana.

Past International Director Robert E. Corlew of Tennessee was elected as second vice president in Toronto in a close vote over Past International Director Mike Butler of Texas. He'll serve as international president in 2016-17, succeeding Yamada.

Membership numbers revealed to Lions in Toronto were generally quite good. Total membership stood at 1,360,121, the best June figure in a decade. Total clubs were 46,385, the best in June in 20 years. The average charter size increased to 31 from 26, an important statistics because larger charter clubs are more likely to endure. More worrisome were membership numbers in North America. Membership dropped 2,793 in the United States and 192 in Canada.

Lots of things happen at convention when large numbers of Lions congregate—nearly all of them good. "It's my fourth convention, and every time I come I learn something new," said Yvette Fiedtfou of Guyana. "I'm

interested in recruiting, retention and rewards. I get new ideas I can try at home."

Watching the festive parade, Past District Governor Lewis Quinn of the Anchorage Captain Cook Club in Alaska told of the convention parade that led him to Lions. "When my grandfather was at the convention in Tapei [in 1987] he saw a Lion from Alaska, picked him out of the crowd and told him, 'You've got to give my grandson a call in Alaska and tell him about Lions.' I happened to know him! I had done some business with him [Past International Director Buster Hall]. I had been a Rotarian until then."

Chance encounters, fortuitous coincidences and history repeating itself all are part of convention. Incoming District Governor Donald Bissonnette of District A 711 in Ontario had his ceremonial DG ribbon pulled by his father, Lion Peter, who had been an incoming district governor at the Toronto Convention in 1964. But it gets even better. Peter's father, Neill, a Lion for more than 50 years, attended the Cedar Point, Ohio, convention in 1925 when Helen Keller urged Lions to be Knights of the Blind.

The convention's keynoter was singer Olivia Newton-John, who eschewed a formal speech but instead sat down on stage in comfortable chairs with fellow Aussie Palmer for a nice chat. Johnny Carson would

have been proud, but Carson probably would have stayed away from some of the profundities Palmer elicited from the breast cancer survivor. "I think the thing that inspires everybody—what everybody needs is love, whether it comes through interaction with other people, whether it comes through music or art or laughter," said Newton-John.

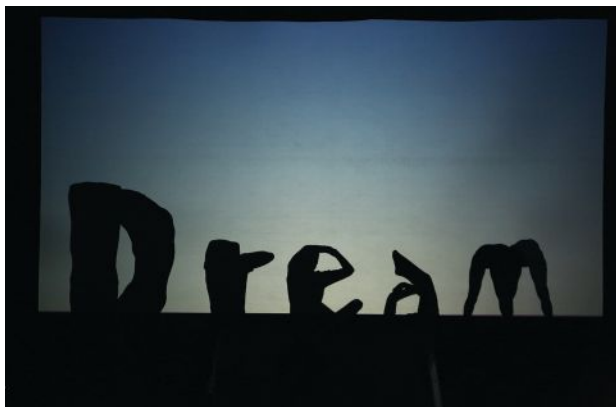
Grammy-winning producer and songwriter David Foster of Canada received the 2014 Lions Clubs International Humanitarian Award. His foundation, which assists families with children in need of life-saving organ transplants, received \$250,000. "The greatest gift I was given was being raised by parents who had a great moral compass," said Foster. "You could say my music destiny was predetermined. But for all of us being charitable is optional. But no one should get applause for being charitable. It is, simply put, our responsibility."

As Foster played the piano, Newton-John sang two of her many hits: "I Honestly Love You" and "Magic." She dedicated the latter "for the Lions and the magic they perform." As she sang "we have to believe we are magic, nothing can stand in our way," it was not a stretch to assume that the Lions singing along may have found the lyrics perfectly fitting to what they do in their clubs in their myriad hometowns.



# 14 *Memorable Moments at the Toronto Convention*

Catapult Entertainment, shadow dancers who perform behind a screen using their silhouettes, ended their performance at the second plenary paying tribute to Palmer's theme by spelling out DREAM.

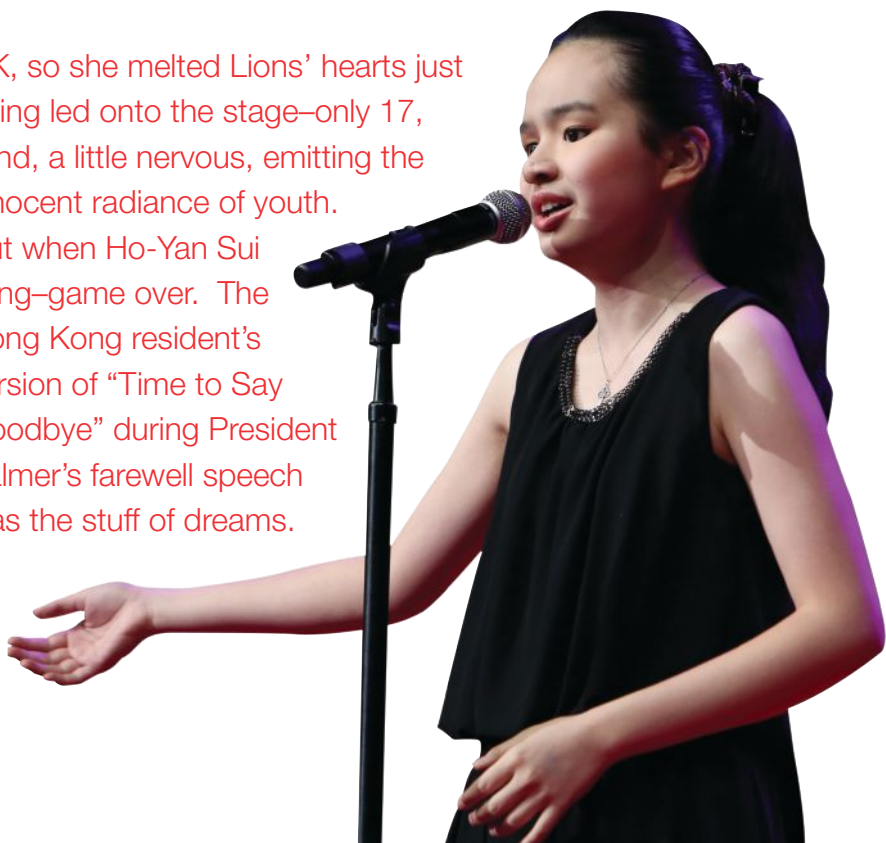


He cannot only lead and inspire but sing and write, too. Near the end of his inaugural speech new President Joe Preston belted out his stirring theme song, "Strength of the Pride."



Sometimes it's the quiet, private, overlooked moments that typify Lions and their generous spirit. Seated in the front at a three-hour plenary session, Edward Strzala of Newark, Delaware, patiently recounted what was happening on stage to his blind wife.

OK, so she melted Lions' hearts just being led onto the stage—only 17, blind, a little nervous, emitting the innocent radiance of youth. But when Ho-Yan Sui sang—game over. The Hong Kong resident's version of "Time to Say Goodbye" during President Palmer's farewell speech was the stuff of dreams.





The parade showcases Lions' pluralistic spirit. The float of the Lions of India displayed quotes by Mother Teresa and Gandhi.



Ah, the enthusiasm of a newcomer. New Lion Gloria Walton of the Brooklyn Kings County Lions Club in New York perched up high on a flower bed and showered parade marchers with a stream of joy. "You're beautiful," she shouted multiple times. And later: "I feel the energy!"



The skies were blue, the streets of downtown Toronto were lined with spectators and the Mississippi Lions All-State Band marched in perfect precision and played with peerless craftsmanship. The all-state bands are vivid reminders of the powerful influence of Lions on youth.



Special Olympics athlete Ariel Ary of Costa Rica, who has benefited from Opening Eyes, opened some eyes of his own when he delivered a speech. “I don’t think there was a dry eye in the house,” said Council Chair Steve Bennett of Nebraska. Added Karen Ritterbush of the Battle Creek Lions in Nebraska, “He held his heart out.”



If this Lion thing doesn’t work out, 2013-14 President Barry Palmer might find himself on the telly chatting up celebrities. His one-on-one with Olivia Newton-John was absent of blather and full of insight.



Past International President Joe Wroblewski is a Lion in winter, retiring as Lions’ U.N. Liaison. (He will continue to chair the Convention Committee of the board of directors.) “Let’s stand and show our appreciation for one of the greatest Lions of all time,” Past President Al Brandel exhorted the crowd at the final plenary and then proceeded to read a congratulatory letter from President Obama.



You might think 55 years as an entertainer might dull one’s edge, but Neil Sedaka put on a masterful performance at the International Show. He was engaging as well as fully engaged. Pop love songs never sounded so good.



Do pay attention to the man behind the curtain. The first plenary had a Wizard of Oz theme, and Palmer made a grand entrance from the backstage curtain by arriving on the stage in an Oz-type bubble.



Tongbram Mahesh Singh of India, the 2013-14 Peace Poster Contest grand prize winner who lost his father in an accident and lives in an orphanage, was anything but intimidated by the crowd of 15,000 at the

plenary session. He exuberantly raised his arms in triumph when marching on stage to receive his award.

*The 2015 International Convention will be in Honolulu, Hawaii. Find registration information on page 47.*

Lions Jean-Jean Fong, Ssu Ting Yu and Chao Yung-yuan from Multiple District 300 Taiwan donated more than US\$750,000 to LCIF. Their bow and guttural roar were priceless.



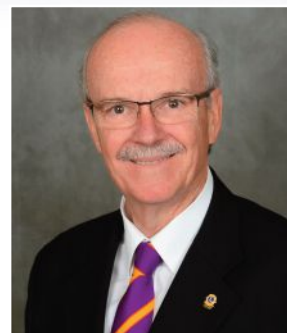
# Lions Elect Directors in Toronto

Delegates to the 97th International Convention in Toronto elected 17 international directors to serve a two-year term. Two were elected from India, South Asia, Africa and the Middle East constitutional area; one from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and the Islands of the South Pacific; three from Europe; three from the Orient and Southeast Asia; one from South America, Central America, Mexico and the Islands of the Caribbean Sea, and seven directors from the United States and U.S. affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas.

Visit the Lions Clubs International website for biographies of newly-elected directors as well as biographies and photos of the four international officers and second-year directors.



Svein Øystein Berntsen  
Hetlevik, Norway



Jorge Andrés Bortolozzi  
Coronda, Argentina





Eric R. Carter  
Auckland, New Zealand



Charlie Chan  
Singapore, Singapore



Jack Epperson  
Dayton, Nevada,  
United States



Edward Farrington  
Milford, New Hampshire,  
United States



Karla N. Harris  
South Milwaukee, Wisconsin,  
United States



Robert S. Littlefield  
Moorhead, Minnesota,  
United States



Ratnaswamy Murugan  
Kerala, India



Yoshinori Nishikawa  
Himeji, Hyogo, Japan



George Th. Papas  
Limassol, Cyprus



Jouko Ruissalo  
Helsinki, Finland



N. S. Sankar  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India



A. D. Don Shove  
Everett, Washington,  
United States



Kembra L. Smith  
Decatur, Georgia,  
United States



Dr. Joong-Ho Son  
Daejeon, Republic of Korea



Linda L. Tinchler  
Riley, Indiana, United States

# International Contest Results

## ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO CONTEST

### Best of Show (Grand Prize)

Dr. Friedrich Härting  
Hamm Hammona Lions Club, Germany

### Best of Category: Special Theme/ A Dream for a Healthy Environment

Benjamin August  
Token Creek Lions Club, Wisconsin

### Best of Category: Landscape

Patricia Kalicki  
Medway Lions Club, Massachusetts

### Best of Category: Animal Life

Ripu Daman Singh  
Bhandara Brass City Lions Club, India

### Best of Category: Weather Phenomenon

Lonnie Edwards  
Brunswick Lions Club, Georgia

### Best of Category: Plant Life

Lin Edwards  
Milford Lions Club, Connecticut

## PARADE

### Division I, Category A

#### Floats:

- 1) MD 321, India
- 2) MD 27, Wisconsin

### Division I, Category B1

#### High School Band:

- 1) MD A, Ontario
- 2) MD 321, India

### Division I, Category B2

#### All State Band:

- 1) MD 30, Mississippi
- 2) MD 14, Pennsylvania
- 3) MD 10/SD 10, Michigan

### Division I, Category C

#### Precision Demonstration Unit

MD 321, India

### Division I, Category D

#### Uniformed Marching Delegation

- 1) MD 321, India
- 2) MD 307, Indonesia
- 3) Lions of Scandinavia—Aland Island, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden

### Division II, Category A

#### High School/All State Band

- 1) MD A, Kichener
- 2) MD 21, Arizona

### Division II, Category B

#### Precision Demonstration Unit

- 1) MD 316, 317, 318, 324—India
- 2) MD 103, France

## NEWSLETTER (BULLETIN)

### Lions Club

First Place: Baguio City Host Lions Club, Philippines  
Honorable Mention: Prescott Noon Lions Club, Arizona  
Honorable Mention: Loomis Lions Club, California  
Honorable Mention: Mont Clare Lions Club, Elmwood Park, Illinois  
Honorable Mention: Vantaa Lions Club, Finland

### District

First Place: 107 A, Finland  
Honorable Mention: District 322 B1, India  
Honorable Mention: District 35 I, Florida  
Honorable Mention: District 12 O, Tennessee  
Honorable Mention: District 107 G, Finland

### Multiple District

MD 31 J, North Carolina

## WEBSITE

### Lions Club

First Place: Majorda Lions Club, India  
Honorable Mention: Bagheria Lions Club, Italy  
Honorable Mention: Stoney Creek Lions Club, Ontario, Canada

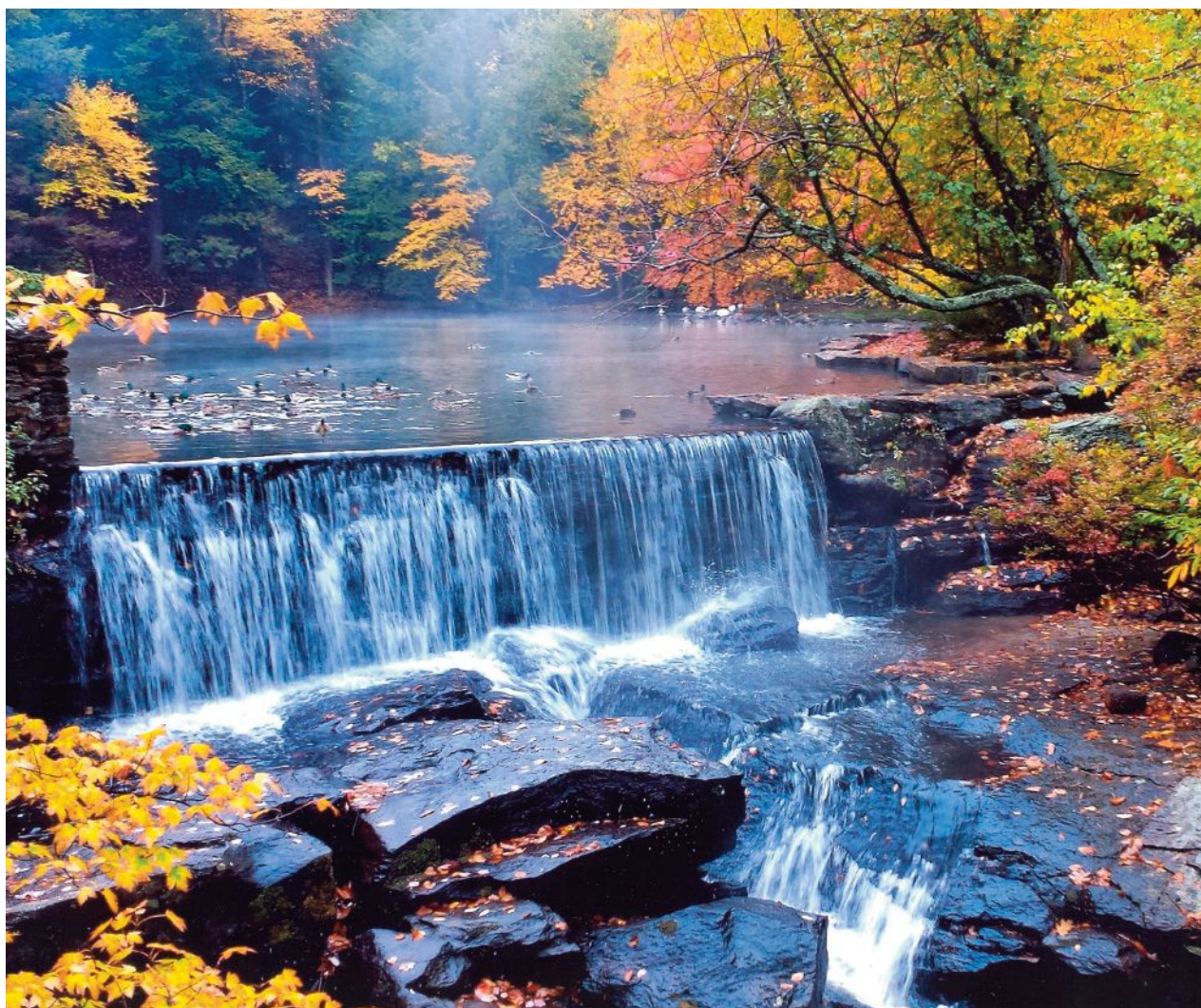
### District

First Place: District 300 A2, MD 300 Taiwan  
Honorable Mention: District 322 A, India  
Honorable Mention: District 322 F, India

### Multiple District

First Place: MD 16, New Jersey  
Honorable Mention: MD 13, Ohio  
Honorable Mention: MD 35, Florida





**Best of Category: Landscape**  
Patricia Kalicki, Medway Lions Club, Massachusetts

# Lions Launch Centennial Celebration

by Jay Copp

Readers of the Chicago Tribune on June 8, 1917, learned that the Allies had swept 10 miles into German-held territory in Belgium. Other stories included the trial of a Chicago alderman accused of graft, the apparent suicide of an insurance tycoon on the city's South Side and a report

that one third of the men in Chicago who registered for the draft claimed no exemption for service.

Through no fault of its own, the Tribune missed what turned out to be a major event on June 7—which took place just a few blocks from its newsrooms at the swank Hotel

## A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Melvin Jones and fellow Chicago businessmen found Lions Clubs to improve the community; the first convention takes place at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

During the international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, Helen Keller charges Lions with becoming “knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.”

Lion George Bonham paints a cane white with a wide red band to aid the visually impaired after he witnesses a blind man having trouble crossing the street.

Members of the Detroit Uptown Lions Club turn an old Michigan farmhouse into a school to train dog guides for the visually impaired, helping to popularize guide dogs worldwide.



1917

1925

1930

1939

1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952

1920

Lions clubs become international by chartering a club in Windsor, Canada.



1935

Amelia Earhart, an honorary member of the New York City Lions Club, completes a record-breaking nonstop flight from Los Angeles to the Lions Clubs International Convention in Mexico City. Lions donate a Talking Book machine to the Milwaukee Public Library allowing the blind to hear books.

1944

The world's first eye bank is created in New York City. Most eye banks today are Lions-sponsored.

1945

Lions assist in drafting the United Nations charter, starting a lasting bond with the United Nations.



Watch an interesting video on the centennial.

Read the commemorative booklet published for Lions Clubs' golden anniversary in 1967.



LaSalle in Chicago. There, in the East Room, Chicago businessman Melvin Jones convened representatives from 27 clubs from various parts of the nation. Some were called Lions Clubs of Indiana. Others included the Reciprocity Club, the Wheels and the Business and Professional Men of St. Paul. The plan was to form a new association dedicated to service.

The representatives held a secret ballot. Ever savvy, Jones did some cloakroom campaigning and his name won out: the Association of Lions Clubs. His vision triumphed, too. Until then, businessmen's clubs met, dined and traded business. Jones wanted strictly service, not self-service. Don't pat one another on the back: do something for someone in the community.

Lions will be hearing a lot about Jones—and Lions' remarkable growth and history—the next three years. Launched at the 97th International Convention in Toronto in July, the centennial celebration has officially begun. Lions Clubs International (LCI) will produce and make available

a treasure trove of material to help Lions appreciate their heritage. Lions, for their part, can celebrate. And serve.

Befitting a centennial, the key number is 100: serve 100 million people. Lions are asked to improve vision care for 25 million people, relieve hunger for 25 million, help 25 million youths through education, literacy efforts or other ways and benefit 25 million people through planting trees and other environmental projects. This is a birthday celebration, so piece of cake, right?

Well, not so fast. Clubs typically report to LCI that Lions serve 8 million people annually. So the Centennial Service Challenge is truly challenging. What will help is the challenge piggybacks on the Global Service Action Campaigns. For the past few years clubs already have been targeting youth, vision, hunger and the environment through Engaging Youth in August, Sharing the Vision in October, Relieving Hunger in December/January and Protecting the Environment in April.

After an international contest among Lions, an official motto is chosen—"We Serve" submitted by Lion D. A. Stevenson of Fonthill, Ontario, Canada.



1954



LCI moves to its fourth and final location in Oak Brook, Illinois, after decades in downtown Chicago.

1971

Lion Jimmy Carter, a peanut farmer from Georgia, becomes president of the United States.

1977

1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987

1948

Only three years after having been torn apart by World War II, Europe sees its first Lions club in Stockholm, Sweden, and Geneva, Switzerland, follows suit just days later. A Lions club is formed in Kalaupapa on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. Kalaupapa is a leper colony, and all the charter members have Hansen's disease (leprosy).

1957

Lions launch youth programs including Leo Clubs.



1968

The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is established.



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**

1973

In February, the association welcomes its 1 millionth member.

1987



The association allows women to become members.

The centennial theme is Where There's a Need, There's a Lion. The occasion is far more than a feel-good event or focused solely on service. Lions leaders expect the extended birthday bash to energize and grow membership, attract new service partners, develop new service opportunities, raise awareness of Lions and envision the future. Next year, Lions will roll out a Centennial Membership Challenge.

LCI has been putting pieces into place to ensure the goals are met and each club and Lion can take part in the celebration. There will be a centennial website and publications, toolboxes, an e-newsletter, a heritage blog and other social media directly tied to the anniversary. Trained heritage ambassadors will fan out to club and district meetings to speak on Lions' history.

The website is already up and running at [lions100.org](http://lions100.org). It's "one-stop shopping" for all things centennial. Included

are FAQs and information on earning banner patches.

Few Lions understand the depth, range and scope of Lions' contributions to society. The centennial will help correct that. In the works are a story bank, a traveling exhibit and a documentary. The centennial will be a lever for Lions to reach out to their communities. Among the plans are a Lion for a Day for clubs to recognize those who share Lions' values and a Global Service Challenge, similar to the recent World Lunch Relay (June LION).

So Lions can put on their party hats and keep them on until the centennial concludes with a rollicking celebration at the 2017 convention in Chicago, where it all began. The roars you hear that week won't be from the Lincoln Park Zoo.

SightFirst is launched, raising more than \$415 million dollars to help eradicate major causes of blindness.



Lions charter two clubs in China, that nation's first voluntary membership groups since the 1950s.

Lions mobilize more than US\$15 million for South Asia tsunami relief—the single largest disaster reconstruction project in LCIF's history.



Lions will celebrate 100 years of service.

1990

2002

2004

2017

1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

2001

2003

2010

2011

A more complete timeline is at [lions100.org](http://lions100.org).



LCIF and Special Olympics partner on Opening Eyes, screening the vision of Special Olympics athletes.

Through SightFirst, Lions and The Carter Center record their 50 millionth river blindness treatment.

LCIF partners with Bausch + Lomb to launch the Pediatric Cataract Initiative.

LCIF awards its 10,000th grant—bringing the total amount awarded to US\$708 million. Lions help administer the 148 millionth dose of Mectizan to treat river blindness.





# WHAT IS THE CENTENNIAL *Service Challenge*?

25

*million people benefited*

**Special Goal:**  
Provide 10 million youth  
with books & literacy

Key Service Areas\*:

- Education Scholarships
- Leo Club Sponsor
- Sports/Music Instruments
- School Supplies
- Computers & Aids
- Lions Quest
- Peace Poster Contest
- Youth Camps & Exchange

YOUTH

25

*million people benefited*

**Special Goal:**  
Provide 10 million  
children with  
eye care

Key Service Areas\*:

- Vision Screenings
- Low Vision Aids
- Braille Education
- Mobility/White Canes
- Sight Restoring Surgery
- Eye Banking
- Eyeglass Recycling

VISION

100  
Million

HUNGER

25

*million people benefited*

**Special Goal:**  
Provide 10 million people with  
ongoing food assistance

Key Service Areas\*:

- Food Pantries
- Soup Kitchens
- Feeding Programs
- Meal Delivery
- Agricultural/Garden Projects

ENVIRONMENT

25

*million people benefited*

**Special Goal:**  
Plant 10 million trees

Key Service Areas\*:

- Recycling Projects
- Sanitation & Latrines
- Solar Energy & Lights
- Parks, Playgrounds & Green Spaces
- Nature Cleanup Campaigns

# Extra Motivation

What makes someone a Lion? Often, the motivation is deeply personal, a life-changing event or experience. Several Lions—both veterans and newbies—share what led them to Lions and continues to inspire their service.

by Elizabeth Blackwell

## Dreams of Democracy

It's a long way from Iran to California. Leave it to a blind entrepreneur who had to flee his native land because of his democratic activism to embrace Lions for their civic engagement and as a lever to push for change in the world.

Born in Iran, Arman Soltani lost his sight and much of his hearing when he was 2 years old. Desperate to improve his prospects, his parents immigrated to northern California in search of better schooling. Soltani had his first encounter with Lions in high school. "I wanted to go to a wrestling camp in Minnesota, but we didn't have a lot of money," he says. "My dad told me to pray."

Soltani did more than pray; he rang up a Lion in San Rafael and said he'd been told they helped blind people. "Well, come to our meeting, and we'll listen to what you have to say," the Lion told him. Soltani made his pitch. "Afterward, they gave my mom a check for \$800—the full amount," he says.

Soltani went on to start his own mortgage and printing businesses, which allowed him to be financially independent. "I've had to be a business owner since I was 18 because people wouldn't hire me at the level I wanted to be paid," he says. In the summer of 2001, he visited Iran for a month—on the urging of his mother, who hoped he'd find a suitable girl to marry—and it changed his life. "I was pretty cocky," says Soltani, 38. "I was a blind guy, but I felt like I could do anything. And everyone I met in Iran was so unsatisfied with their life."

When he came back to the United States, Soltani was determined to help bring democracy to Iran, and he wrote a model constitution for activists to use. In 2007, he returned to Iran and stayed for two years. "Most Iranians are very sophisticated and educated," he says. "There is so much potential. My whole life I'd wanted to focus on human rights, and everything seemed to be pushing me in that direction."

In 2009, when the Iranian government cracked down on pro-democracy protestors, Soltani was forced to flee the country in secret, narrowly escaping with the help of Kurdish smugglers. He recounts the story in an audiobook, "Fire in the Darkness," which he is selling to help fund his pro-democracy initiatives. (Order at [www.fireinthedarkness.com](http://www.fireinthedarkness.com)).

Soltani and his wife Margory moved to Discovery Bay two years ago, drawn by the community's boating and watersport-friendly lifestyle; Soltani is an avid water skier and river rafter. Joining the town's Lions club was a no-brainer. "My biggest passion in life is to help people, and that's what the Lions are about," he says. Noting that there are no Lions clubs in Iran, he hopes to translate the Lions charter into Farsi. "I'm a dreamer," Soltani says. "No matter what challenges or disabilities you have, there's always a way to adapt. I believe you can make big changes—as long as you're willing to work hard to get there."

(Opposite) Arman Soltani gets a welcome taste of his homeland when he visits a winery in Napa Valley built to resemble, he says, "a genuine Persian palace."







## Remembering a Role Model

Regina Evans became the first legally blind president of the Shallotte Lions Club in North Carolina last year. When she presides over a meeting, she is reminded of the traditional role of Lions, the part they played in her life and her motivation to give back in kind. When she fingers the lion necklace she wears, she is reminded of the one particular Lion who mentored her as a Lion and steadied her during a health crisis but unexpectedly passed away.

Evans lost most of her sight as a baby after contracting measles and pneumonia. To her, that was a setback, not a tragedy. She grew up trying to avoid being defined by her disability. Her life followed the routine course of school, work and marriage. She attended and then worked at a state school for the blind. She married, had a daughter and moved to South Carolina in 1993 for her husband's job.

"It was a big adjustment for me, to start over," she says. She got a job with the South Carolina Independent Living Council, where she helped people with a variety of disabilities to become more self-sufficient. Inspired by her own life experiences, she also developed a sensitivity program to teach others how to interact with people who are visually impaired. Lesson Number One: "Don't grab my arm—ask me if I need help."

Evans, 56, still has happy memories of the Christmas parties held by the Lions in her hometown of Whiteville. "They invited all the visually-impaired children in our area, and it made us feel very special," she says. Evans became an associate member of the Georgetown club 10 years ago and not long after, she met Carl Applewhite of the Conway Lions Club. She proudly describes him as "a true Lion." The two clicked immediately. "He believed in service and everything Lionism stands for, and he was the reason I decided to stay," she says.

In 2007, her family moved back to North Carolina to be closer to relatives, and two years later, Evans was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her friend Applewhite provided moral support throughout her illness, and after her recovery, she decided to join the Shallotte Lions Club. But just as Evans' health was improving, Applewhite's took a turn for the worse. When Evans was asked to serve as president, she said she would do it only if Applewhite agreed to come induct her. He agreed, but sadly, died of lung disease only a few months later.

Evans wears a lion necklace Applewhite planned to give her at the induction ceremony, as well as a small plaque engraved with a portion of his intended speech: "Madame Lion President Regina, I'm so proud of you. Call on me, I'll be there looking over your shoulder."

"It has been challenging," says Evans, "but I have to be



Regina Evans is now steeped in Lions—from her lion necklace to her visit to the Lions Adventure Water Park (December 2013 LION), built to accommodate those with disabilities, with Irwin Siegelwax, a zone chairperson.

the best Lion I can be, for Carl. I don't let barriers stand in my way; I've knocked down plenty in my life."

Like many clubs, the Shallotte Lions are facing an aging membership, so attracting new, younger members is at the top of Evans' to-do list. But her main priority, and the reason she wants those new members, is so the club can donate more to eye research: "That's where my heart is, and it's what Lionism stands for."

Secretary Don Eggert says Evans has given all of the Shallotte Lions a better understanding of what it means to be visually impaired. "She's an inspiration," he says. "She has not let her disability slow her down, and her passion for Lionism and 'We Care' attitude show at every meeting."

In her day-to-day life, Evans exemplifies the message she is so eager for others to understand: that every blind person is a unique individual. "We want respect," she says. "I may not be able to do something the way you would, but I can do it my way. If I can do nothing more than educate the community about Lionism and get them to understand what it means to serve the visually impaired, then I've had a successful year."





Photo by Mike Krivit

After their son's death, Keith and Virgie Wright helped found the first Ronald McDonald House in Minnesota.

## Son's Ordeal Motivates Parents

When his son, Daniel, 8, was sick with leukemia, Keith Wright often slept overnight in a chair in his hospital room. This was 1972, before living quarters were available for parents of severely ill children. Sadly, it also was before the availability of bone marrow transplants.

Daniel was sick for three years. "He was a typical boy—very active," recalls Wright. In their grief over his death, Keith and Virgie Wright banded together with several other parents they had met at the hospital and to serve children with life-threatening illnesses founded in 1979 the state's first Ronald McDonald House and just the 10th overall. Years later, Wright became a Lion partly to promote support for the 375 Ronald McDonald Houses worldwide.

To establish the House, he often drove two hours or more one way after work to drum up support from Lions, Jaycees, Rotarians and church groups. Then his grief was raw and fresh. Today, a 79-year-old retiree, he can talk about his son matter-of-factly. But the desire to make the burden a little lighter for those who experienced what he did remains strong, and he continues to serve as an ambassador for the Houses, regularly speaking before groups and picking up bags of pop tabs. He stays active "because I lost my son," he explains.

Establishing the House was not easy. The bank from which he eventually secured a line of credit had no idea what a Ronald McDonald House was. With support from McDonalds, the families eventually scraped together

\$90,000 and converted an old fraternity at the University of Minnesota into an eight-bedroom living quarters. Today, the Ronald McDonald House on Oak Street contains 48 large apartments and a fully accredited K-12 school, the state's only one-room schoolhouse. At 75,000-square-feet, the residence is the size of a Marriott and just as comfortable and clean.

Wright can quickly tick off the statistics that show the value of the House. The average cost for a bone marrow transplant exceeds \$300,000. The average stay for a family is 215 days. The House has a 95 percent occupancy rate. Home when children become critically ill is where the health care is. "Are you a parent? Parents don't leave their kids," says Wright, a Nisswa Lion and a former manager in the furniture industry.

More than 50 Lions clubs have supported the Oak Street residence and the other two Ronald McDonald residences in the area. Nearly a dozen Lions clubs take part in the Cook for Kids program, where volunteers prepare a meal, serve it and then clean up. A caravan of Aitkin Lions recently drove hours to cook for the nearly 250 people at the House.

Tragedies often destroy marriages and irreparably wound people. Service gave the Wrights a way to cope. "It didn't tear us apart. It made us stronger," says Wright.

—Jay Copp

## Staking a Place in the Community

When Adam Zakroczymski Jr. accepted a job offer and moved to Antioch, Illinois, in 1986, he and his wife knew no one. They were total strangers. How do you fit in and make friends? Follow the sound of the roar and keep going.

As the Zakroczymskis explored the small town of 7,000, they noticed that its best, family-friendly amenities—including a swimming pool and a large park—had been built using funds raised by Lions. “They were the prime movers getting things done,” Zakroczymski says. Joining the Antioch club, as he did in 1990, “was an opportunity to become a part of this community, meeting and helping people.”

Since then, there has barely been a year when Zakroczymski, now 68, hasn’t served on the board or been involved with projects such as a playground, a sports park named in honor of deceased club member Tim Osmond and scholarships for high school students. At Thanksgiving and Christmas, club members deliver 75 food baskets to families in need. “They’re substantial,” says Zakroczymski proudly. “We need strong guys to carry them.”

Zakroczymski’s out-of-the-box thinking was the key to one of the club’s most successful fundraisers: a personalized

Monopoly board game (which he first saw advertised in the LION). The club sold naming rights to streets, railroads and other features on the “Game of Antioch” board, and the bidding quickly got heated. “By the first afternoon, all the major streets were sold,” Zakroczymski remembers. “Businesses were paying \$1,500 to get their name on a corner square.” The Monopoly fundraiser and the proceeds of a wild-game dinner and auction raised \$20,000 for a local wetlands sanctuary, named in honor of past club president William E. Brook.

This year Zakroczymski became the first three-time president in the club’s history. In recognition of his service, he has been named a Melvin Jones Fellow and received the President’s Award for Leadership and Excellence in 2012. “He’s extremely positive and upbeat, and he’s always encouraging others,” says Chuck Cermak, a past president and Zakroczymski’s sponsor. “His caring for this community is one of the driving forces behind our club.”

Zakroczymski has also brought Lionism to the next generation, encouraging his son Adam (nicknamed “Zak Three”) to join as soon as he turned 18. “They stuck me on the board right away,” laughs Adam Zakroczymski III. He



Adam Zakroczymski Jr. and Adam Zakroczymski III are fixtures in community life in Antioch, Illinois.



was elected president when he was 25, the youngest president in the club's history. Now a 32-year-old father of two, he runs an environmental-testing business in Antioch with his father. The two Zaks may joke about who will serve the most terms as president, but "it's not about the guy at the helm," says the younger Zakroczymski. "It's about the crew that helps steer the ship."

The population of Antioch has doubled since Zakroczymski Jr. moved to town, and all those new residents are reaping the benefits of the Lions' hard work. "It's been a hell of a ride," he says, "and I wouldn't change these years for anything. The Lions are here to help our community, and we have."



A boy takes part in "Hooked on Fishing, not Drugs," an event with special meaning to Al Meyer.



Lyle Goff hooks youths on fishing as one way to grow up responsibly.

## Safe Harbor in Minnesota

Scratch a club and find a Lion with a story that tells why he's passionate about Lions and the club's projects. The Coon Rapids Lions Club has at least two such members. One's story is ordinary yet meaningful and resonant. The other's story is extraordinary—something very much out of the ordinary occurred that left a lifelong mark and commitment.

When Lyle Goff was laid off from his job 10 years ago, his wife told him he was not allowed to sit on the couch and feel sorry for himself. The Goffs had been on the receiving end of Lions generosity through fundraisers the Coon Rapids Club ran with school and community groups, and Goff realized it was time to step up and do his part. "Becoming a member meant becoming part of the fabric of our town," he says. "If I hadn't joined, I would not have developed so many long-lasting friendships with our club members, our civic leaders and just everyday people who live here."

The club, which recently celebrated its 60th anniversary, has been on an upswing, thanks to a move to recruit more empty nesters—people who, like Goff, are looking for a productive way to fill their time. For the last four years, the club has held a free lunch event in a popular park, handing out up to 300 pulled pork sandwiches while talking up Lions. "Nobody's going to promote us better than ourselves," says Goff, 51, now president.

The club also takes part in "Hooked on Fishing, Not Drugs," a popular annual event along the Mississippi River that includes hands-on demonstrations about water safety, sport fishing and knot-tying. The Coon Rapids Lions collect and refurbish used fishing gear to donate at the event.

The fishing event is of special interest to fellow Lion Al Meyer, 68, a retired carpenter, a longtime fisherman and a witness as a boy to a tragic drowning. As an 8-year-old farm boy, Meyer was at the local beach when he heard a commotion. A crowd gathered. "The parents were screaming. It was like a shooting, a car accident," recalls Meyer. "The mother was pounding on his chest, trying to get the life back in him. But he was blue."

The boy, perhaps 3, had been on a boat and slipped off. Water safety is better today, but still terribly lacking. "Every time I fish I see a kid jumping around a boat, not wearing a properly fitted jacket or not wearing one at all," says Meyer, shaking his head. "It's such a preventable thing. It's almost easier than wearing a seat belt."

The Lions' fishing event includes precise, patient instruction on water safety. "My life is pretty much used up," says Meyer. "But if we can save one life, especially a child's, it's all worth it."

# Scoreboard Least Important Part of This Ballgame

by Jay Copp

Christian Simonetti, 9, normally flies down the first base line in his Pony Baseball games. "He's really proud of his running," says his mother, Pam. But wearing a blindfold and momentarily confused by hearing both the ball and two bases beeping, he hesitated after solidly thwacking the ball.



The Pony Baseball players take the field—carefully.

Photos by Ana Venegas/The Orange County Register/ZUMAPRESS.com



Christian had to adapt in the field as well, tracking the ball with his ears and not his eyes. Lesson learned. “It gives the kids a chance to experience what adaptive sports are like,” says Alecia Cerna, a youth consultant at the Braille Institute in Anaheim, California.

For Christian’s mom, too, the beep baseball game pitting visually impaired youths against Pony Baseball players was not about winning or even competition but about discovering that just because life may throw you a curve ball or two doesn’t mean you are doomed to strike out or sit idle on the sidelines. The Pony players saw that lack of vision was not an insurmountable barrier even in sports. “It was just a fantastic opportunity for kids to take on a challenge like that,” she says.

For four years players from Seal Beach Pony Baseball have competed in a beep baseball game against youths who attend the Braille Institute, an afterschool program. So

many Pony youths want to play that names are drawn from a hat to fill the squad. The Institute players are also not shy about taking on new experiences or being part of the broader community. Some belong to the Braille Leo Club, sponsored by the Seal Beach Lions Club.

In the friendly, quick game, score is not kept. Everyone bats once. Players from both teams wear blindfolds while batting and playing the field. Fans cheer loudly for both squads.

Beep baseball modifies the rules and practices of the game to keep it safe and make it practical. Batters hit the ball off a tee. The batter is safe and tallies a run if he reaches one of two beeping bases before a fielder can grab the beeping ball and place it over his head.

By all accounts, the game this past year was evenly contested. Though few if any of Braille Institute youths play beep baseball regularly, they have the advantage of being



Pony players scramble for the ball.





In beep baseball even the little things, such as maneuvering around the field, take teamwork.

accustomed to running and doing things that require manual dexterity without vision. The Pony players are accustomed to playing baseball. “They played very well. They impressed our kids,” says Cerna.

In running and reacting spontaneously, the Braille youths showed superiority. “It’s funny to see the Braille kids run to bases pumping their arms and sprinting for the

bases,” says Scott Newton, a Seal Beach Lion who is the senior Leo adviser. “The sighted kids hold their hands out in front of them blocking obstacles. The base running is where the Braille kids shine.”

The baseball game evolved from a Beepball tournament among Braille Institute teams that was started by the Seal Beach Lions Club. Seal Beach Lions and Leos made





A Braille Institute player dashes to a base.



A Braille Institute player holds the ball aloft.

sure the game ran smoothly. They worked the bases and beepers, guided players to and from the field and cooked hot dogs and hamburgers.

The baseball field may be the first time the sighted youths and those from the Braille Institute meet in athletic competition, but off the field it's not unusual for the two to mix as those with disabilities are mainstreamed in schools. Christian and his classmates also encounter the challenges

of disability through a day at their school called Walk a Mile in My Shoes. Students use a wheelchair while navigating the hallways or wear dark glasses to simulate poor vision. "Seal Beach is a tight-knit community, and we do a lot to expose our kids to different things," says Simonetti.

The baseball game ended with a handshake line. Without the blindfolds on it was even easier to see the broad smiles of players from both teams.

# LCIF Grants Change Lives

by Eric Margules

Schoolchildren in the remote village of Kyon in Burkina Faso squeeze into a small one-room hut that houses all the village's classes and students. Growing attendance now has stretched the schoolhouse's capacity to the point that some classes are even being held outdoors.

This is set to change thanks to the Lions of District 403 A1, who will be constructing a new schoolhouse with expanded facilities to handle the larger number of students with the help of a \$34,000 Standard grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

The new schoolhouse, which will feature three classrooms, a teacher's office and a storage room, is being designed and constructed locally with the support of the Lions Amitie Villages. A separate facility with lavatories will also be constructed nearby to provide further support for the students. Thanks to the activities of local Lions and the Standard grant from LCIF, an estimated 150 more children a year will be able to attend school in a safe, comfortable environment for the first time.

While Lion activities in Burkina Faso exemplify LCIF's mission to improve the lives of vulnerable populations around the globe, the scope of LCIF's grants transcends geography and circumstance. With more than 70 grants totaling more than \$3 million approved by the board of trustees in July 2014, Lions are finding more ways than ever to impact their communities.

Disaster relief efforts such as those following a Category 5 cyclone in Tonga in January are another way LCIF changes

lives. After Tropical Cyclone Ian struck Tonga's outer Ha'apai islands, a state of emergency was declared. Nearly 1,200 buildings throughout the islands were damaged and about 2,300 people were left homeless. Power lines and electrical systems lay in tatters, and a contaminated water system meant the majority of Ha'apai residents were without fresh water.

Following the destruction, local Lions sprang into action by mobilizing funds and procuring donations to install three new 10,000-liter water tanks to replace those lost during the storm. Building plans include a shelter to provide further protection for the tanks. With the assistance of a US\$15,000 grant awarded by LCIF, Lions plan to finish construction soon.

Since its inception in 1968, LCIF has been active in the realm of vision. So it was no surprise when LCIF approved a grant of \$75,000 to expand the capabilities of the Social Center of Ophthalmology in Casablanca, Morocco, which serves only the poor and uninsured.

The grant funds will allow the Lions-managed clinic to purchase the equipment necessary to diagnose and treat diabetic retinopathy—an improvement desperately needed in Morocco, which is home to an estimated 600,000 people who will develop diabetic retinopathy during their lifetimes. Lions estimate that more than 2,500 patients will receive care

and treatment for diabetic retinopathy.

With these grants and many more approved already this year, it's easy to see the impact Lions and LCIF are having around the world.



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**



# Microenterprise Means Big Opportunities for Nepalese Entrepreneurs

by Eric Margules

Charity is a virtue. At least for most people.

While many think of charity as harmless acts of altruism and good intentions, Binod Chaudhary, a Nepalese businessman, philanthropist and founder of the Chaudhary Group Foundation, sees it as a stumbling block to philanthropy—a way to use money to make problems disappear without addressing the fundamental issues.

But Chaudhary and the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) have a solution: microenterprise. At the 97th Lions Clubs International Convention, LCIF Chairperson Wayne Madden and the LCI executive officers signed a memorandum of understanding pledging US\$200,000 to support the Chaudhary Group Foundation's microenterprise pilot, Nepal Social Business.

"We share a vision of a better world without poverty," said Chaudhary, "where everybody has access to health service, education and employment, and where socially critical and green businesses promoted by bright and young ideas become self-sustainable enterprises."

The funds from LCIF, together with an existing US\$1 million contribution from the Chaudhary Group, will help Nepal Social Business provide aspiring social business entrepreneurs with resources and training to build successful businesses (a process called incubation). Once developed, Chaudhary believes these businesses will spur growth in their local economies, making a positive impact on some of the most vulnerable regions and populations in the developing nation.

As part of the initial pilot program, the Chaudhary Group Foundation selected six projects at various stages of development to receive support. Pilot projects range from eco-tourism development and environmental management, to educational centers and even an organic manufacturing cooperative, and all share a deep commitment to addressing social issues in their communities.



Former LCIF Chairperson Wayne Madden and Binod Chaudhary sign a memorandum of understanding pledging US\$200,000 for the support of aspiring entrepreneurs in Nepal.

"Our vision is to create 5,000 such businesses in Nepal within the next five years and thereby to change the lives of thousands of unemployed youth through the creation of social businesses," said Chaudhary. "I'm truly privileged to sign this path-breaking agreement between Chaudhary Foundation and the Lions Club International Foundation."

Local Lions will be involved in Nepal Social Business projects at all levels of operation. From selection through incubation and eventual launch, Nepal Social Business will call on the local Lions' depth of knowledge and experience to provide guidance and mentorship to aspiring entrepreneurs.

Whether as on-the-ground support—organizing facilities and acting as first contact for potential partners—as a part of specialized advisory boards, or even as coaches and mentors for entrepreneurs, Lions will be the heart and soul of a partnership that hopes to make the dreams of young Nepalese entrepreneurs a reality.

# Honoring the Lionhearted

## Community Award Program Spurs Membership

In Mississippi, a Head Start teacher has been dedicated to helping children for 19 years. Another community member worked tirelessly to build an animal shelter in Pike County. A police officer has played a key role in disaster relief for Biloxi. A volunteer has been devoted to diabetes prevention and management throughout the Gulf Coast. What do they all have in common? They have hearts of a Lion.

Initiated by Past 30 S District Governor Dwain Simpson, the “Heart of a Lion” award program recognizes the contributions of non-Lion community members who epitomize the ways of Lionism. While a bighearted way to honor individuals whose work often goes unrecognized, the program has turned out to have some big-time benefits for clubs. “It’s a win-win project. Not only do we get acquainted with other community leaders and their projects—which can bring about new service project ideas and partnerships—but we have the opportunity to build awareness of Lions and gain new members who are a natural fit,” says Simpson, a Diamondhead Lion.

After being selected by clubs and honored with an awards ceremony, award recipients don’t receive a hard sell for membership. Rather than being asked to join, honorees usually become curious about the work of Lions and are won over once they learn what Lions are all about. “I had always thought that we could gain more members if only people actually knew what Lions stood for and the work we do. By being recognized as sharing the spirit of Lions, people learn about us and may want to join,” says Simpson.

Simpson’s hunch was right. After presenting more than 70 Heart of a Lion award certificates in the district over the past couple of years, the resulting new membership count is at about 40. And even if award recipients don’t join, they often become enthusiastic allies of the Lions.

Shellie Marengo Moses received the honor in 2013 for her work as the south Mississippi director of Make-A-Wish. Working singlehandedly in 17 counties, Moses has coordinated more than 500 wishes for ill children. “I was completely shocked and tremendously honored that I had been selected for the award.

For an organization to take the time to learn about others who serve and give back is so heartwarming,” says Moses.

Moses was taken aback with a lovely awards ceremony at a yacht club, but she was more surprised at who was in attendance. “The Lions had done some research and found out how very close I am to my family. To my surprise, they were there at the ceremony,” beams Moses. Although she cannot commit to joining now, Moses has become an unofficial Lion. “I have sup-

ported several Lions causes, and I’m always happy to help with projects in any way I can.”

No matter the membership outcome, this feel-good program has an intrinsic value that hits close to home for many Lions. Simpson explains: “I have had many award recipients thank me, some very emotionally, for honoring them. Often volunteers and dedicated community members don’t think they will ever be recognized for their important contributions.”



– Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt





# 98th Annual Lions Clubs International Convention Friday, June 26 – Tuesday, June 30, 2015 • Honolulu, Hawaii Convention Registration and Hotel Reservation Form

## Deadlines

- **May 1, 2015:** Deadline for advance registration and hotel reservation. Registrations after this date will be processed in Honolulu.
- **May 1, 2015:** Deadline to receive a refund for a registration cancellation. • **May 15, 2015:** 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 9, 2015: Reservation in delegation hotel

☐ After January 9, 2015: ☐ I prefer my delegation hotel ☐ if my delegation hotel is not available, next choice/preference \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 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. **One hotel deposit per room, not per person** 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
Melvin Jones Fellow Luncheon	June 29/ 13:30-15:00	US \$70	_____	\$ _____
District Governor/Past District Governor Banquet	June 29/ 20:00-22:00	US \$125	_____	\$ _____
ViridiSTOR "Intelligent" 2015 Convention USB		US \$15	_____	\$ _____

The ViridiSTOR replaces the brochures, handouts, DVDs and more that you would normally carry back home. Enjoy this environmentally smart solution to easily organize and share information. Offered in English – other languages to be advised.

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

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

## REGISTRATION FEES

	Adult	Child (17 and under)
Early (before 9 January, 2015)	US\$110	US\$10
Regular (10 January through 31 March, 2015)	US\$150	US\$10
Late (1 April, 2015 – onsite)	US\$170	US\$10

## Package A:

Registrations: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ticketed Events: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ViridiSTOR: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hotel Deposit: US\$ 225.00  
 Total Due: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR

## Package B:

Registrations: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ticketed Events: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ViridiSTOR: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Due: US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**Mail form and payment to:** Lions Clubs International Attn: Convention Division • 300 West 22nd Street • Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA • Allow 4 weeks for processing and mail delivery of your confirmation. **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](mailto:registration@lionsclubs.org)** • **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. CRHF2015.EN 8-14

# Courage and Compassion in Oklahoma

After a tornado swept through Moore, Oklahoma, on May 20, 2013, 9-year-old Logan Richardson looked over his neighborhood and thought of other kids like him. “I was really sad,” he says. Their homes were gone, their possessions ripped apart and scattered in the wind. Bikes lay mangled in the wreckage. His school, Briarwood Elementary, was one of two that was destroyed. Stunned and thankful his own home escaped the crushing 200 m.p.h. wind path of the EF-5 tornado, Logan’s first thought was for his friends and classmates who lost everything. “He just wanted them to have a nice summer,” says his aunt, Valerie Adair. “He thought if they had bikes to ride, that would help. You can’t tell a 9-year-old, ‘No, you can’t help people,’ so we got to work.” Logan immediately began creating flyers and mailing them to people with a hand-drawn tornado on each envelope.

Logan and his family found allies in the Norman Sooner Lions Club. And the club found two new members when Adair and her husband, Mark, now president, joined after Lions helped give 190 new bikes and helmets to children. The bike giveaway cost \$18,000, most of which was raised by word-of-mouth. “When people found out the Lions were involved, it gave us credibility. It just grew from there,” Adair says.

Using social media, Adair and the Richardsons first began raising funds but encountered some difficulties establishing a bank account. When Adair ran into 2012-13 club president David Donaldson, he offered his support. “It was one of those ‘Wow!’ moments when everything goes right,” she says of their encounter. Donaldson wanted to expand the project further to include smaller nearby communities. “Logan



Photo by Rachel Richardson

Garrett Richardson, then 4, Logan’s younger brother, rides through a neighborhood hard hit by the tornado in Oklahoma.

had a big vision, but the Lions had an even bigger vision,” Adair explains.

“I just thought the club could help,” Donaldson says. A year later, he presented Logan with the Heart of a Lion award at the Oklahoma State Convention because “Logan thought with his heart.” Now 10, Logan says he feels “really good” about the honor. “I want to be a Lion someday because they help people.”

Five separate giveaways were held where children were allowed to choose their own new bikes purchased by Lions at a discount. Helmets were donated free of charge by a bike safety group. School officials helped connect

Lions with children in need. After another group in Tulsa learned about Logan’s efforts, they insisted on rewarding him with a new bike for himself. Logan’s parents had already planned to buy him one. “I told them it wasn’t necessary, but they said they wanted to ‘give the giver’ something,” says his mother, Rachel.

Logan and his classmates spent last year attending school in a nearby church while theirs was being rebuilt. “The new normal is the sound of construction work in the area,” Adair says. She doesn’t mind. It means neighbors are coming back home.

—Pamela Mohr



## CLUB BRIEFINGS

ACTIVITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**District 14 A** in **Pennsylvania** generated excitement among its 47 clubs by presenting them with a membership challenge. In six weeks, the district welcomed 16 new Lions and one new Leo.

The **Loco Ladies Lions** of **Dilworth, Minnesota**, kept busy last year with a ham Bingo, Halloween party, food bank donations, tree planting and other fundraising events. Their biggest contribution was an AED defibrillator that is mounted in the community center.

The **Aurora Noon Lions Club** in **Illinois** held its annual Halloween pancake breakfast, with many costumed children in attendance. In the spring, the Lions held their 6th annual Breakfast with the Bunny. Both fundraisers help to benefit the club's hearing and vision charities and conservation programs.

Civic groups and businesses joined the **Rainier Lions** in **Washington** for their community Halloween event in the town park. The festivities included candy, hot cider and cocoa and games for hundreds of trick-or-treaters and their families.

In **Louisiana**, the **Alexandria Lions** participated in a penny drive and raised 25,000 pennies and donated a selection of books for an elementary school library after a budget cut.

A benefit sponsored by the **Carrington Lions** in **North Dakota** helped raise more than \$20,000 to help a teenager whose right eye was severely damaged in a fire-works accident.

The **West Goshen Lions** in **Pennsylvania** made a donation to the Neighbors in Action program, which matches seniors in need of services with those who can assist them.

In **Georgia**, the **Camilla Lions** screened the eyesight of approximately 400 third-grade students.

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# INFORMATION

## ANNIVERSARIES OCTOBER 2014

**95 Years:** Marquette, Mich.; Springfield, Ill.

**90 Years:** Bloomfield, N.J.; Hays, Kan.; Marietta Noon, Ohio; Montclair, N.J.; Richmond Noon, Ind.; Tillsonburg, ON, CAN

**85 Years:** Haleyville, Ala.; Northwood, Iowa; Odon, Ind.; Plainview, Texas; Ravenswood, W.V.; Ridgewood-Glen-dale-Middle Village, N.Y.; Spencer, Ind.; Thurmont, Md.; Wakita, Okla.; Wautoma, Wis.; Wellsboro, Pa.

**80 Years:** Benton Harbor Fairplain, Mich.; Buckingham, QC, CAN; Carrollton Host, Texas; Chicago Englewood, Ill.; Dawson, Ga.; East Greenwich, R.I.; Falls City, Neb.; Huntington, N.Y.; Mount Desert Island, Maine

**75 Years:** Ball Ground, Ga.; Calumet City, Ill.; Creston, BC, CAN; Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.; Danvers, Mass.; Elverson Morgantown, Pa.; Glens Falls, N.Y.; Gloversville, N.Y.; Hebron, Neb.; Lockport, N.Y.; Madisonville, Ky.; Mulberry, Ark.; Onancock, Va.; Oxford, Pa.; Ritzville, Wash.; Round Lake, Ill.; Spokane Hillyard, Wash.; Springfield, Colo.; Stover, Mo.; Warrenton, Va.; Washburn, Wis.

**50 Years:** Bay Roberts, NL, CAN; Cedar Maple City, Mich.; Gauley Bridge, W.V.; Hanover Horton Area, Mich.; Hood Canal, Wash.; Laurel, Iowa; Minneapolis Lyn Lake, Minn.; Montague-Erving, Mass.; Mounds View, Minn.; Penuelas, P.R.; Pinawa, MB, CAN; Ramapo, N.Y.; Richmond, Minn.

**25 Years:** Seguin Sunset, Texas

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 JUNE 2014

### Supreme Key (500 Members)

- Lion S. Palanivelu, Salem Melvin Metro, India

### Ambassador Key (150 Members)

- Lion S. Natarajan, Madras Porur, India

### Key Of State (75 Members)

- Lion Frank Stein, River Grove, Illinois
- Lion Harun Rashid, Dhaka Arannak, Rep. of Bangladesh

Continued on page 55



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# THANK YOU

THE LIONS CHANGED MY LIFE

## A Great Assist

Ever since he was 4 years old, Tanner Hall's life revolved around motocross. His complete focus in life was the freedom and exhilaration of racing dirt bikes. That tragically changed in 2011 when 15-year-old Hall was left paralyzed from the chest down after a dirt bike accident. The Rushville, Indiana, resident wouldn't be held down for long though, with his competitive and athletic spirit re-emerging after being introduced to wheelchair basketball. Now a freshman at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) on a wheelchair basketball scholarship, a state-of-the-art sports wheelchair from the New Salem Lions is helping Hall play at his best and carve a new path for his future.

## Q&A: Tanner Hall

### **How has the new Per4Max Thunder wheelchair helped you improve your game?**

It's designed specifically for wheelchair sports. It has straps for my lap, knees and feet to keep me in place. It's customized to fit me perfectly, so it's comfortable and allows my moves to be sharper. It's also lighter than my old chair, which makes me faster.

### **It must be helping you transition to playing at the college level.**

When I was asked to play for SMSU I knew I needed to have a new chair so I could be the best player I could. I got to play with my new college teammates when I was registering for classes this summer, and I realized quickly that the chair was going to really help my college basketball career.

### **Were you surprised at how much you liked the sport?**

Before my accident, all I cared about was riding my dirt bike. I didn't think much about my future or school. I really didn't think I would ever find another sport that I would feel the same way about. I enjoy how competitive wheelchair basketball is. I don't think people realize how physical the sport is.

### **Do you think more about your future now?**

Without motocross to focus on, after my accident I started thinking more about it. I worked harder in school and got better grades. I can definitely say that I feel more positive in general now, and I look forward to the future. I care about more things in life now. I also want to prove that I can still do achieve anything I want, just as I did before.

### **What are your plans for college and beyond?**

I plan to get a business management degree, and then I'd like to find a career associated with motocross. Even though I can no longer race, I would love to still be involved with the sport.



Tanner Hall shoots in the comfort of his customized sports wheelchair.

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](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org). Please include "Thank You" in the subject line.



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

### TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

### JUNE 29 – JULY 3, 2014

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. Approved establishing an internal audit function including the engagement of a Manager of Internal Audit.
2. Approved the following:  
The internal audit function shall be the responsibility of the internal auditor with oversight by the Audit Committee. The internal auditor will report to the Audit Committee. The internal auditor is responsible for establishing a risk-based annual internal audit plan and monitor progress against the annual internal audit plan. At the end of each fiscal year, the internal auditor will submit to the Audit Committee and Treasurer an annual audit plan outlining the risk area(s) to be reviewed during the upcoming year.

#### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Replaced the term "Rules of Audit" with "General Reimbursement Policy" in Chapter VIII of the Board Policy Manual.
2. Amended Chapter VIII of the Board Policy Manual to define the order in which vehicles are provided to the international family.

#### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Denied second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 300-C1 (MD 300 Taiwan), District 316-B (India), District 317-D (India), District 324-A1 (India) and District 403-B (Republic of Madagascar) and declared the following as second vice district governors in their respective districts for the 2014-2015 fiscal year:
  - Lion Tien Kuei Weng - District 300-C1 (MD 300 Taiwan)
  - Lion A. Venkatachalam - District 316-B (India)
  - Lion Arun Shetty - District 317-D (India)
  - Lion T.M. Gunaraja - District 324-A1 (India)
  - Lion Fidy Rakotozay - District 403-B (Republic of Madagascar)
2. Upheld two second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 321-A3 (India), declared the second vice district governor election in District 321-A3 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and that the second vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws, and declared that the filing fee less US\$250 shall be refunded to each of the complainants.
3. Denied a first vice district governor election complaint filed in District 301-E (Philippines) and declared a vacancy in the office of first vice district governor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and that the first vice district governor vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the International and District Constitutions and By-Laws.
4. Upheld the second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 301-A1 (Philippines), declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, declared the first vice district governor election in District 301-A1 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of first vice district governor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, declared a moratorium on district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor elections in District 301-A1 until such time as the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the International Board of Directors determines that District 301-A1 is able to run a free, fair and consistent election, declared the offices of first vice district governor and second vice district governor remain vacant and that the office of district governor be filled by appointment by a committee selected by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee in consultation with the Executive Officers and the leadership in Multiple District 301 and OSEAL, declared that the recommendations from the appointment committee be approved by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee on behalf of the International Board of Directors.
5. Established the Election Compliance Task Force for 2014-2015 and authorized the International President to appoint up to six (6) members to serve on this committee.
6. Established the Advisory Committee to review potential Second Vice President candidates and requested further review by the Long Range Planning Committee and our successor Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
7. Revised the privacy policy in Chapter XV of Board Policy Manual including provisions related to advancements in electronic communications.
8. Revised the Standard Form District By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual to reflect the newly established language for the general reimbursement policy.
9. Revised the District Governor and First and Second Vice District Governor Election Complaints Procedure in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to increase the filing fee.
10. Revised the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual by adding in three (3) new exhibits related to nominating committee checklists for the offices of district governor, first vice district governor and second vice district governor.
11. Revised the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual by adding in a new exhibit related to standardized ballots.
12. Revised the Standard Form Club By-Laws in the Board Policy Manual with respect to with respect to good standing of a member.
13. Revised the non-discrimination policy in Chapter XVIII of the Board Policy Manual to make the policy applicable to all aspects of membership.
14. Revised the definition of good moral character and reputation in his/her community in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual to provide further clarification and guidance to Lions clubs and members.

#### DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Amended the Board Policy Manual to change all references to "Protective Status Quo" to "Protective Status."
2. Amended the District Governor reimbursement policy to allow the DG Team to visit a priority club two additional times without prior approval.
3. Corrected a reference within the policy regarding GMT and GLT to refer to the proper sections which outline the purpose and structure of this group.
4. Amended the coordinating Lion expense policy to remove the terms "Rules of Audit" and replace it with "Reimbursement Policy."

#### FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved the 4th Quarter Forecast 2013-2014, reflecting a surplus.
2. Approved the final budget for fiscal year 2014-2015, reflecting a surplus.
3. Approved a revised 401(k) Savings Plan Investment Policy Statement.
4. Approved an increase in the district governor allowance for automobile to US\$.50 per mile (US\$.31 per kilometer) effective July 1, 2015.



5. Modified Club Suspension and Cancellation Policy effective July 1, 2015, as follows:  
A club that has an unpaid balance in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 90 days will be suspended, including the suspension of the club's charter, and all the rights, privileges, and obligations of the Lions club. In the event the club does not acquire active status on or before the 28th day of the month following suspension, the club's charter will be automatically cancelled. The cancellation of a club for financial suspension may be rescinded within 12 months from the date of the cancellation, in the event the club has paid their account balance in full and a completed reactivation report is received. Clubs that have been cancelled more than twice due to financial suspension will not be eligible for reactivation.
6. Replaced the term "Rules of Audit" with "General Reimbursement Policy" in Chapter XXII of the Board Policy Manual.

#### LCIF

1. Changed the LCIF Steering Committee term of the Immediate Past LCIF Chairperson from one year to two years.
2. Approved the creation of an ad hoc committee for LCIF governance with selection determined by the LCIF Chairperson in consultation with the Executive Officers.
3. Transferred US\$1 million in unobligated funds in the annual SightFirst budget to the next fiscal year.
4. Appointed Wayne A. Madden as the LCIF representative to the Pan American Ophthalmological Foundation.
5. Selected the following members of the Lions Quest Advisory Committee for a three-year term: Past International Director Jorn Andersen, Past Council Chairperson Jorge Bortolozzi, Past District Governor Dr. Bharat Bhagat, Past International Director Steve Sherer, Sandra Clifton-Bacon, Beverly Fisher and Dr. Fernando Salazar.
6. Increased the humanitarian grants budget for the current fiscal year by an additional US\$3 million.
7. Approved 72 Standard, International Assistance and Core 4 grants totaling US\$3,132,842.
8. Authorized a special distribution of US\$150,000 to the Louisiana Eye Foundation from the Carl and Beulah Landry Baldrige Endowment Fund.
9. Approved that Rebecca Daou shall assume the title, responsibilities and duties of the Executive Administrator of Lions Clubs International Foundation.
10. Amended the LCIF Bylaws with revisions related to LCIF Administrative Officers.
11. Amended the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual as follows:
  - The addition of language related to emergency grant criteria
  - Revisions to the gift acceptance guidelines
  - Revisions related to standard grant criteria
  - Revisions related to the changes in the LCIF Administrative Officers
12. Amended Chapter XVI of the Board Policy Manual as follows:
  - Revisions related to changes in the LCIF Administrative Officers
  - Housekeeping change from "Rules of Audit" to "General Reimbursement Policy."

#### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. Approved Faculty Development Excellence Series for implementation during 2014-2015.
2. Approved revision to GLT District Funding Support Program, effective beginning in 2014-2015, limiting funding support available through this program exclusively to zone chairperson training.
3. Approved a Faculty Development Institute in Bahasa for MD 307 (Indonesia) during 2014-2015.
4. Revised board policy related to the GMT/GLT structure at the multiple district level. This change allows the International President to approve the appointment of a GMT/GLT multiple district coordinator based on unique circumstances in those multiple districts where, by policy, no GLT/GMT coordinator is included in the GMT/GLT structure.

Continued on page 54

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### First year directors

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Continued from page 53

5. Approved the Leadership Development Recognition Program, which offers GLT Multiple District Coordinators and District Coordinators the opportunity to earn recognition for their leadership development efforts.
6. Replaced the term "Rules of Audit" with "General Reimbursement Policy" in Chapter XIV of the Board Policy Manual.

## LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. Approved the creation of a Family and Women Action Committee in 2014-2015 and authorized the International President to appoint up to 10 members to serve on this committee.
2. Approved the adoption of the Centennial Celebration theme: "Where there's a need, there's a Lion."
3. Revised Chapter III of the Board Policy Manual with respect to the duties and composition of the Special Centennial Planning Committee and appointed two new members to this committee.
4. Approved a two-year pilot program to promote and encourage other community service organizations to become Lions clubs.

## MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the Africa Zone Challenge Pilot program to continue for three years.
2. Amended the Board Policy Manual with new language covering expenses for field operations managers.
3. Revised the eligibility requirements for Lions to earn the Key Awards by adding language requiring a club be in good standing in order to be eligible for the award.
4. Added language to the Board Policy Manual that places limits on the number of new campus clubs and new students members in a district in a fiscal year, with additional campus clubs and student members requiring the approval of the Membership Development Committee.
5. Updated language in the Board Policy Manual related to the Student Membership Program, covering dues and fees.
6. Amended the Board Policy Manual language on Club Branches, allowing for special circumstances (with permission from the International Board of Directors) where a Lions club may form a branch club in communities/areas outside of their district that is not currently served by a Lions club.
7. Approved Republic of Azerbaijan as the 209th new Lions country.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Converted the public relations grant program to a centennial grant program beginning with fiscal year 2015-2016.
2. Awarded R.R. Donnelley and Sons a three-year contract to print LION Magazine (headquarters edition), LION Magazine (Spanish edition) and the Club Supplies Catalog.
3. Approved an additional 300 Presidential Award Medals for fiscal year 2013-2014.
4. Updated Chapter XVII of the Board Policy Manual with several housekeeping revisions.

## SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Named the 2013-2014 Leo of the Year Award recipients.
2. Approved the Centennial Service Challenge.
3. Expressed support for the formation of Lions Kid-Sight USA initiative, a logical evolution of Lions children eye screening programs in the USA, and offered full operational support and active promotion by the Service Activities Division.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI website at lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.



## MONUMENTAL MAGAZINE

Past President Charlie Wynn of the Willimantic Lions Club in Connecticut brought out his LION while at the Moai, monolithic human figures on Easter Island. Past President Roswitha Wallburg of the North Rockland Lions Club in New York not only read the LION on her trip to Antarctica but also met two Lions from Mumbai, India. Jacqueline Kenworthy (right) of the Fairhaven Lions Club in Massachusetts shares a story in the LION about Andrea Bocelli with Mara, her new Italian friend in Florence. Mara later took her to his birthplace in Tuscany. Want to be in the LION? Send a picture along with your name, Lions club, hometown and photo description to [lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org).



## INFORMATION

Continued from page 50

### Grand Master Key (50 Members)

- Lion Ron Betenbough, Lubbock, Texas
- Lion John Wiggins, Live Oak, Florida

### Senior Master Key (25 Members)

- Lion Dennis Grotrian, Crockett, California
- Lion Alwood Dokken, Benson, Minnesota
- Lion Patricia Terranova, Corona, New York
- Lion Ronald Moore, Ladysmith, Wisconsin
- Lion Shannon Pendergrass, Palmer, Alaska
- Lion Sylvia Concha Sánchez, Illapel Domingo Ortiz De Rozas, Chile
- Lion György Pázmányi, Budapest Wesselenyi, Hungary
- Lion Neil Tyler, Redcliffe Inc., Australia
- Lion Robert Sy, Manila Absolute, Philippines
- Lion Romeo Veloso, Quezon City Katarungan Central, Philippines
- Lion Anil Goel, Delhi Pitampura Kohat, India
- Lion Suresh Bajpai, Kanpur, India
- Lion Amar Bose Gupta, Meerut Platinium, India
- Lion Vimal Bardia, Ahmedabad Karnavati, India
- Lion Basant Mishra, Korba Ntpc Jamninali, India
- Lion Gulab Arora, Bhopal Friends, India
- Lion V. Nathan, Port Blair, India
- Lion B. Nellaippan, Tirunelveli, 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](http://www.lionsclubs.org).

## Don't Buy Survival Food... Until You Read This!

### Bad news...

Sooner or later, a crisis will hit you like a locomotive. The evidence is everywhere – storms, wars, terrorism – the list goes on. When a disaster strikes, you have to be ready. You need to make darn sure your family is prepared.

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**Free bonuses!** My 3-month kit came with 5,400+ heirloom survival seeds, 4 hard copy books, an 11-in-1 survival tool, and some other cool stuff.

Don't let a crisis totally knock you off your guard. Get the same peace of mind I have now by making sure your family has enough survival food on hand – just in case. You'll be glad you did.

P.S. Got a call from Frank and guess who just tried to buy up his entire supply of food? The answer is shocking...

**LOG-ON NOW TO GETFOOD85.COM**



# LAST ROAR



Photo courtesy of White Bear Press

## DISPATCHED

Jackson Kurisca, 10 months, finds himself alone in a pumpkin patch at PunkinMania, held by the Wildwood Lions Club in Minnesota.



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