

## Lions in Winter

We don't hibernate during the cold.

## Trash Becomes Treasure

North Carolina Lions beautify their town.

## A Roar in Africa

Ugandan Lions serve exceptionally well.

# LION

## Honolulu, Here We Come\*



**\*But we suggest you fly  
to the 98th International  
Convention in June**



# “To you, it’s the perfect lift chair. To me, it’s the best sleep chair I’ve ever had.”

— J. Fitzgerald, VA

Remote Controls for Heat, Massage, Recline and Lift



Separate Heat and Massage Controls!

Sit up, lie down — and anywhere in between!

We’ve all had nights when we just can’t lie down in bed and sleep, whether it’s from heartburn, cardiac problems, hip or back aches – it could be a variety of reasons. Those are the nights we’d give anything for a comfortable chair to sleep in, one that reclines to exactly the right degree, raises feet and legs to precisely the desired level, supports the head and shoulders properly, operates easily even in the dead of night, and sends a hopeful sleeper right off to dreamland.

## Our Perfect Sleep Chair® is just the chair to do it all.

It’s a chair, true – the finest of lift chairs – but this chair is so much more! It’s designed to provide total comfort

and relaxation not found in other chairs. It can’t be beat for comfortable, long-term sitting, TV viewing, relaxed reclining and – yes!

– peaceful sleep. Our

chair’s recline technology allows you to pause the chair in an infinite number of positions, including the Trendelenburg position and the zero gravity position where your body experiences

a minimum of internal and external stresses. You’ll love the other benefits, too: It helps with

correct spinal alignment, promotes back pressure relief, and encourages better posture to prevent back and muscle pain.

**And there’s more!** The overstuffed, oversized biscuit style back and unique seat design will cradle you in comfort. Generously filled, wide armrests provide enhanced arm support when sitting or reclining. The high and low heat settings along with the dozens of massage settings, can provide a soothing relaxation you might get at a spa – just imagine getting all that in a lift chair! Shipping charge includes white glove delivery. Professionals will deliver the chair to the exact spot in your home where you want it, unpack it, inspect it, test it, position it, and even carry the packaging away! Includes one year service warranty and your choice of fabrics and colors – Call now!



This lift chair puts you safely on your feet!

## The Perfect Sleep Chair® Call now toll free for our lowest price.

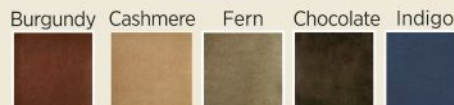
Please mention code 48918 when ordering.

**1-877-461-1725**

**Long Lasting  
DuraLux Leather**



**DuraLux II  
Microfiber**



© 2015 firstSTREET for Boomers and Beyond, Inc.

46369





22



36



40

# Contents

**February 2015**

Volume 97 | Number 7

## Features

**22**

### Honolulu: Hawaii's Gathering Place

Lions will gather there, too, for the 98th International Convention.

**28**

### Turning Trash Into Treasure

A club in rural North Carolina beautifies its town thanks to its garbage business.

**36**

### Lions in Winter

We don't hibernate, and our service often is seasonally appropriate.

**40**

### A Very Loud Roar Out of Africa

Lions in Uganda take a back seat to no one when it comes to service.

## Also Featured

**32** Service Week for Children



## Departments

- 4** President's Message
- 10** First Roar
- 17** Service
- 19** Service Abroad
- 46** Visionary Work
- 47** Club Toolbox
- 48** @Lion



Enhance your digital LION experience. Click on “HELP” in the toolbar above for instructions on how to make the most of the digital LION.



**98th Lions Clubs International Convention  
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA  
Friday, June 26 – Tuesday, June 30, 2015**

# WE SERVE

## MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:

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

### CONTACTING THE LION

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

### POSTMASTERS

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

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



our best selling dress shirt  
white pinpoint oxford

SPECIAL  
INTRODUCTORY  
PRICE **\$19.95**

reg. \$69.50-\$74.50

- white 100% cotton
- 6 collar styles
- button or french cuffs
- regular, big & tall or trim
- 14½" x 32" to 20" x 37"

• **FREE** (reg. \$10.95)  
monogramming

• Add this silk tie for  
**\$19.95** (reg. \$62.50)

Blue, Black, Red, Yellow,  
Green or Orange.

**Paul Fredrick**

[paulfredrick.com/special](http://paulfredrick.com/special)  
**800-309-6000**

Specify promotional code **CWRSTL**

**FREE EXCHANGES.** New customer offer. Limit 4 shirts per customer.  
Shipping extra. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 3/31/15.





Conviviality is commonplace at conventions—as evidenced by these German Leos last year at the international convention in Toronto.

## An Attractive Invitation: Join Us in Hawaii

Lions Clubs was founded and grew from like-minded individuals coming together to improve society, better their communities and assist those in need. Its appeal proved to be universal. Lions now exist in 210 nations and geographical areas. Lions Clubs taps into a deeply rooted impulse: to serve others. Nowhere is this spirit more evident and more inspiring than at the international convention.

You certainly can understand and appreciate Lions at your local level. But only by attending an international convention can you realize the scope and range of Lionism.

Lions talk about the day they truly became a Lion: not their induction day but the time they served and understood the impact of their service. There are a whole lot of potential turning points for a Lion at our international convention:

- the grand parade of nations
- the stirring flag ceremony
- the spellbinding speeches at the plenary sessions
- informative seminars
- world-class entertainment

Or maybe it happens at a quieter moment on an elevator when you cross paths with a Lion from halfway around the world and realize, despite differences in

language, culture and customs, you are much more alike than different.

The international convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, will be a time to reflect and celebrate all of your achievements this year. We will celebrate your successes in service impact, membership growth and leadership development and your improvements in the efficiencies and effectiveness of your club operations. It will be our baseline in kicking off next year and the next phase of our centennial celebration.

Please set aside a week in June to enjoy the charms and magic of Hawaii while soaking up the wonders of Lionism. Our greatest, most spectacular coming together is once a year at convention. Joni and I hope to see you there this year. We know it will be an experience you'll treasure for the rest of your life.



*Joe Preston*

Joe Preston  
Lions Clubs International President



**Chicago Doctor Invents**

# Affordable Hearing Aid

## Superb Performance From Affordable Digital Hearing Aid

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

Dr. Cherukuri knew that untreated hearing loss could lead to depression, social isolation, anxiety, and symptoms consistent with Dementia and Alzheimer's disease. In his practice he knew that many of his patients would benefit from new digital hearing aids, but many couldn't afford the expense, which is not generally covered by Medicare or most private health insurance.

## Same Digital Technology as \$3,000 Hearing Aids

He evaluated all the high priced digital hearing aids on the market and then created his own affordable version — called MDHearingAid® AIR

for its virtually invisible, lightweight appearance. This sleek doctor-designed digital hearing aid delivers crisp, clear sound all day long and the soft flexible ear domes are so comfortable you won't realize you are wearing them.

This new digital hearing aid is packed with 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 “whistling” and annoying background noise.

## Try it at Home with Our 45-Day Risk-Free Trial

Of course hearing is believing, and we invite you to try it for yourself with our RISK-FREE 45-Day home trial. If you are not completely satisfied simply return it within that time period for a full refund of your purchase price.

- ✓ Mini Behind-the-Ear Digital Hearing Aid
- ✓ Doctor-Recommended, Audiologist-Tested
- ✓ Sleek, nearly invisible
- ✓ FDA-Registered
- ✓ Thousands of satisfied customers
- ✓ FREE Shipping in USA
- ✓ Batteries Included! Comes Ready To Use
- ✓ 100% Money Back Guarantee!



## Satisfied Buyers and Audiologists Agree, AIR is the Best Digital Value

*“The AIRs are as small and work as well as a \$5,000 pair I had previously tried from somewhere else!”*

—Dennis L., Arizona

*“...my mother hasn't heard this well in years, even with her \$2,000 Digital! It was so great to see the joy on her face.”*

—Al P., Minnesota

*“I would definitely recommend them to my patients with hearing loss”*

—Amy S., Audiologist, Indiana

**For the Lowest Price Call Today**

**800-873-0541**

**Phone Lines Open 24 Hours EVERY DAY**

**MDHearingAid® >>> AIR**

**Use Offer Code AU93 to get  
FREE Batteries for a Full Year!**



**45-DAY  
RISK-FREE  
TRIAL**



Proudly assembled in the USA  
from Domestic & Imported Components.

© 2014

**www.MDHearingAid.com**



[The Big Picture



A Lionhearted People





A wedding party leaves a Church of Uganda (Anglican) in Kyraumba, a small town in the Rwenzori Mountains in Uganda. Ugandans are "preternaturally friendly," writes Douglas Cruickshank in "Somehow: Living in Uganda Time." "The vast majority are charming, generous, great talkers, insightful, warm, handsome, beautiful, gracious, caring, stoic, even-tempered, welcoming, guileless, fine dancers, lovers of laughter and a hell of a lot of fun." A Californian, Cruickshank spent a few years living and working in Uganda. On a return trip, he met with Ugandan Lions and reported for us on their energetic, optimistic service (page 40). Photo by Douglas Cruickshank



[The Big Picture



Reinventing the Wheel





This boy in a small village in Uganda carved his own bike from wood. When our writer on Ugandan Lions, Douglas Cruickshank, came across him on a hike in the mountains, the boy demonstrated his expert craftsmanship: he coasted down a hill and triumphantly raised his arms over his head when he reached the bottom. Ugandan Lions demonstrate a similar innovative, can-do spirit (page 40).

Photo by Douglas Cruickshank





São Tomé, the nation's southern island, is situated just north of the equator.

## AFRICAN NATION JOINS LIONS

Lions Clubs International has become bigger by adding one of the world's smaller nations. São Tomé and Príncipe became LCI's 210th country or geographic territory. The São Tomé Rosa Porcelena Lions Club was chartered in October with 30 members. The Portuguese-speaking island nation is located off the western coast of Central Africa. The nation's two main islands are São Tomé and Príncipe. The country's population is 187,000, the second smallest African nation behind Seychelles.



The waters of Lake Michigan often were rough, but the blind sailors from the six teams completed the course. Photo by Mark Trendel

## BLIND SAILORS TAKE ON LAKE MICHIGAN

Blind sailors from six nations competed in a race on Lake Michigan in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, last fall. Teams from Australia and Great Britain claimed first places at the IFDS Blind Match Racing World Championship. The three-person crews navigated the course via an audio system that played a unique sound for each boat. Sheboygan Lions prepared meals for the sailors and assisted them with offshore needs. Prior to the race, Lion BJ Blahnik of Sheboygan, who has limited vision, told the Wisconsin LION he took up sailing again after hearing that the race was coming to his town. "In no time at all, I was driving a sailboat all by myself for the first time in 12 years," he wrote. "I hope someday to be like those sailors [in the race] who do not see themselves as impaired. Rather, they all say, 'Why not me?'"



Indiana Lions are now welcomed in style. Photo courtesy of Lion Andy Dybel

## INDIANA LIONS PUT BEST PAW FORWARD

Indiana Lions not only beautified their state office building but also paid tribute to their long history and recognized their 403 clubs. Past International President Wayne Madden of Indiana helped dedicate the new entryway to the Indianapolis office last year. The plaza tells the story of Indiana Lions from W.P. Woods of Evansville, the first president of Lions Clubs International in 1917-18, to the many outstanding service projects of Indiana Lions. The Indiana Lions Foundation used an engraved brick program to fund the beautification.

## LIONS MUSEUM IN GEORGIA OPENS

A devotee of Lions memorabilia, Chip Nedza patiently amassed every collector's Lions pin ever produced in Georgia. Then, simply by asking, he secured a treasure trove of Lions material from former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, a longtime Lion. This is the makings of a museum, Nedza thought. And so it was. The Lions Museum at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse in Chamblee opened last year.

The museum displays more than 1,200 Lions items. The collection is a testament to Lions as not just a club but as a way of life. The Lions logo and colors are part of hats, shirts, ties, jewelry, watches, clocks, buttons, ash trays, pocket knives, license plates and more. Also on display are banners, patches, pins, bells and gavels. The history of Lions in Georgia is told through rare photos, letters and newspaper and magazine stories, says Nedza, district 18 N governor and the state historian.

Dozens of items relate to Past International President Jim Ervin of Georgia 1999-2000. Among them are gifts from Lions worldwide and congratulatory letters from dignitaries including then-President Bill Clinton. The Carter collection includes his Tail Twister pin from 1956-57, his district governor pin from 1968-69 and his 60-year chevron.

Perhaps the most poignant display is a hefty 18-volume Braille Bible. Linda Lea Salzman, born blind in 1948, received the books from New Jersey Lions when she was 10. After Salzman died in 2013, her sister gave the books to her friends, Lions Glen and Ann Hall of the Statesboro Lions Club in Georgia, who donated the Bible to the museum.

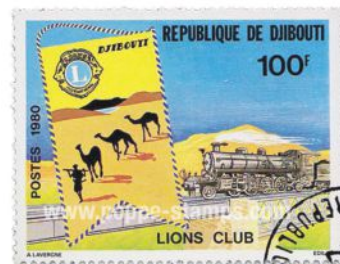


The 18-volume Braille Bible once belonged to a 10-year-old girl in New Jersey.



## INVESTED IN LIONS

Most photos posted by Lions on LCI's Flickr site show projects, events or meetings. A Lion from the Izmir Turk Cyber Lions Club in Turkey took a different approach. The symbolism is in the eye of the beholder: when you don your vest, Lions are close to your heart? Or, we often say Lions roar but it's more like a meow—a gentle, lovable sound full of good will.



## SUPPORT CENTENNIAL STAMPS

The Lions International Stamp Club (LISC) is asking Lions worldwide to promote Lions Clubs International's 100th anniversary in 2017 by having stamps issued in each member nation. Lion Bob McClelland, a past member of the Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee, advises Lions to stress the accomplishments of clubs in their own countries when writing to postal authorities. In 1967, Senegal, Brazil and Peru issued special stamps celebrating the 50th anniversary of LCI. "Hundreds of similar stamps have been issued over the last 96 years," says Howard Levenson, coordinator of the LISC's Centennial Stamp Project. Visit [lisc.nl](http://lisc.nl) to learn how to promote this global effort.

Governments issued stamps honoring Lions' golden anniversary.



## Celine Childs

### Whitemarsh Lion, Pennsylvania

*As her club's first female club president—now in her third term—Childs has never let a potentially dangerous genetic condition, disability from a tragic car accident or the challenges of aging get in the way of her drive to give back and step up.*

Was president of the county choral society—favorite song is Haydn's "The Creation."

Had several exhibits and sold photographs she took in Ireland (pictured below).

Received eye exams from Lions when she was a child.



Photo courtesy of Bob Raines/Montgomery Media

### I Love a Parade

I got to know the Lions when I coordinated our town's tricentennial parade and they were a sponsor. I had no idea how to organize a parade, but somehow it turned out great. I kept thinking of Barbra Streisand singing "Don't Rain on My Parade!"

### Undeterred by Disability

I have albinism, so I'm nearsighted and very sensitive to light. You won't find me at the beach, but it's never held me back. Thankfully my sight is good enough that I can drive, and I loved being a nurse for 28 years.

### A Natural Leader

As a child I did a psych test and was told I was a leader. I didn't

think much about it, but I do often think, if I don't do it, who will? I know how to crochet, but I can't sit still. I'm happiest when I'm solving problems and getting something done.

### Healing through Serving

My husband and I were in a horrible car accident in 1989. I broke my back, and my husband had a bad concussion. We both went on disability. After a year of rehab, I started volunteering more. I wasn't able to work, but I could still help others and be involved in the community.

### Advocate for the Elderly

I started a new residents' association at my senior living community which addresses real issues,

like installing surveillance cameras. I'm proud that we formed a small card and candy shop run by volunteers. The residents can stop in, buy a candy bar and socialize there.

### Irish Roots

My family immigrated to the U.S. from Ireland when I was 4. I've visited five times. I have 78 cousins there! I'm always stunned by how photogenic everything is—even a disheveled shack. I've taken hundreds of photos. My favorite thing to do is to get up in the morning and sit with the sheep. They're very patient—they wait for me to change my lens!

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.


Perfect Choice HD™ is simple to use, hard to see and easy to afford...

# Invention of the Year

PERSONAL SOUND AMPLIFICATION PRODUCTS (PSAPs)

## THEY'RE NOT HEARING AIDS

**NEW**  
Now with more  
power and  
clarity!



*Virtually  
impossible  
to see.*



Perfect Choice HD is NOT a hearing aid. It is a Personal Sound Amplification Product (PSAP). Hearing aids can only be sold by an audiologist or a licensed hearing instrument specialist following hearing tests and fitting appointments. Once the audiologist had you tested and fitted, you would have to pay as much as \$5000 for the product.

Personal Sound Amplification Products use advanced digital processing to amplify the frequencies of human speech. Thanks to the efforts of a doctor who leads a renowned hearing institute, this product is manufactured in an efficient production process that enables us to make it available at an affordable price.

The unit is small and lightweight enough to hide behind your ear...

only you'll know you have it on. It's comfortable and won't make you feel like you have something stuck in your ear. It provides high quality audio so soft sounds and distant conversations will be easier to understand.

Try it for yourself with our exclusive home trial. Some people need hearing aids but many just want the extra boost in volume that a PSAP gives them. We want you to be happy with Perfect Choice HD, so we are offering to let you try it for yourself. If you are not totally satisfied with this product, simply return it within 60 days for a refund of the full product purchase price. Don't wait... don't miss out on another conversation... call now!

*Perfect  
Choice HD™*

**Call toll free now for  
the lowest price ever.**

**1-877-788-5811**

Please mention promotional  
code 48917.

1998 Ruffin Mill Road,  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834

Perfect Choice HD is not a hearing aid.  
If you believe you need a hearing aid,  
please consult a physician.

WEIGHT	Less than 1 ounce
SOUND QUALITY	Excellent: Optimized for speech
FITTING REQUIRED?	No
ONE-ON-ONE SETUP	Free
RETURN POLICY	60 Days



# Marrying a Blind Man

BY MARGARET PHALOR BARNHART

"You don't plan to marry a blind man, do you?" queried my mother. I had met Jim (not his real name) early in my freshman year of college in Ohio. For our third date he invited me to a concert in downtown Columbus. He used a cane that led him along the sidewalk and up and down steps. I learned to let him take my arm so he could feel the motion of my body. The music was terrific but the chemistry wasn't there. That was our last date.

I graduated and taught fifth grade. One of the girls was blind. An excellent student, "Susan" used a Braille writer and books and a typewriter. All went well until it came time for me to teach volleyball. I asked Susan to help me keep score. Wrong! Susan stomped out of the gym and walked several blocks to her home. Soon she returned with her mother, who assured me it was OK for her to play volleyball.

Years later, working as a counselor in an elementary school, I taught classes that included hearing and visually challenged children. The teacher of the visually impaired was blind. "Janice" managed her classroom with the help of her guide dog and aide. She and I became friends. The first time we went out to eat her salad came with an anchovy on top. Janice picked it up with her fork and put it in her mouth. She immediately spit it out. "Why didn't you tell me?" she asked. Another day we ate pancakes. As I was spreading the ball of butter over my flapjacks I saw Janice use her fork to place the butter in her mouth. She said, "Please tell me these things." From then on I did.

Janice lived alone in a house she had purchased. A large ticking clock helped her know where she was in the room. Another clock struck every 15 minutes. Her door bell connected to a speaker indoors so she could ask who was there. She traveled to school and elsewhere on a city bus. She was amazingly self-sufficient.

Years ago, I signed up for a massage at my local fitness center. Charlie, the masseur, was blind. I heard it was best to remove all my clothing. With a towel wrapped around me Charlie told me how to fit my body into the sheets so that I would be completely covered. A gesture I appreciated, he discreetly stepped out of the room while I positioned myself on my back.

Charlie was a master at his trade. Exposing one limb at a time, his gentle massage began at my fingers and up to my shoulder. He proceeded with each foot and leg, then the other arm and my back. It was incredibly relaxing.

Blind since age 10, Charlie was very professional and trustworthy. Over three years I got to know him well. For six months I stopped going, then signed up once more for a massage. My husband and I had separated and were headed for divorce after 28 years of marriage. Charlie told

me his wife had died 10 years ago and he lived alone in his apartment.

Some days, when I noticed Charlie had an open slot, we would go for a walk. One day I spied a robin's egg on the grass. His daughter is named Robin. I picked up the egg and gently placed it in his hand. He told me no one had ever done that before.

Charlie and I were married in a pine forest at a nature center. Birds were chirping. Airplanes flew overhead. Purely by chance our wedding day coincided with a nearby air show. Mother was there, and yes, she accepted Charlie into her life, even asking him for a massage!

*Margaret and Charles Barnhart are members of the Tucson Rincon Lions Club in Arizona.*





# BOOKING YOUR OWN CONFERENCE TRAVEL IS EASY AS ABC

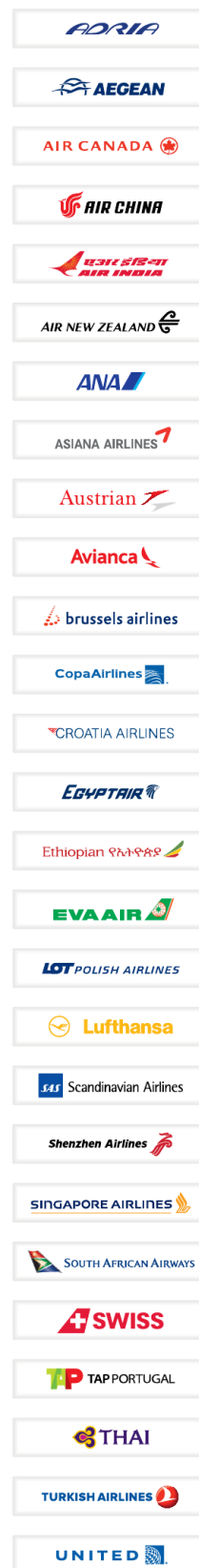
WITH THE GLOBAL  
ONLINE BOOKING TOOL  
FROM STAR ALLIANCE  
CONVENTIONS PLUS

No matter where you are travelling from, the Star Alliance™ network offers you a wide choice of flights to the Lions Clubs International 98th International Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii.

And with over 18,500 flights a day to 1,316 destinations across 192 countries, our 27 member airlines extend the same choice to any future conferences you are planning to attend.

You can also save money when you book your flights. Simply quote the Convention Code UA07S15 and you plus one travelling companion will receive a special discount. Better still, no matter which Star Alliance member airline's frequent flyer programme you belong to, you can earn and redeem miles across all 27 airlines.

For more information, or to join the airline network that offers you more choice wherever your conferences take you, simply go to [www.staralliance.com/conventionsplus](http://www.staralliance.com/conventionsplus)







## Overheard

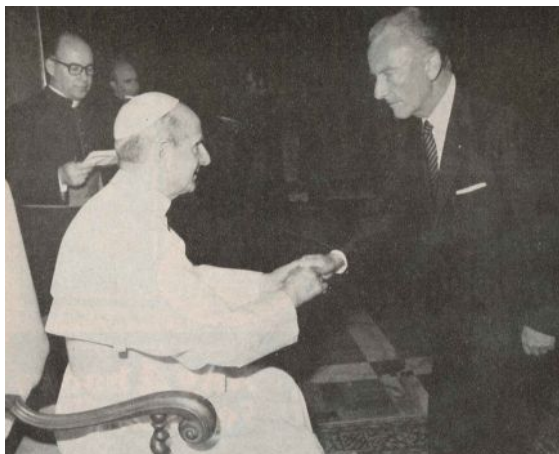
**"They really wanted to help others before helping themselves."**

—Rodney Bergman, president of the Gifford Lions Club in Illinois, on his club's fundraisers for residents affected by a tornado even though at least 10 Lions saw their homes damaged or destroyed. From the News-Gazette.

**"When you talk to a kid right now, the first thing they do is pull out their iPad or something and go to the Internet. We are really pushing social media like Facebook."**

—Past District Governor Calvin Parker of South Carolina on efforts to establish Leo clubs. From the Times and Democrat.

## 42 Years Ago in the LION



### FEBRUARY 1973

International President George Friedrichs of France met Pope Paul VI in a private audience at the Vatican. The two leaders discussed world peace and attaining human solidarity. The pope also congratulated Lions for their service.

## By the Numbers



**783**

Three pointers made last year by four local high school basketball teams in the Shoot for Sight project of

Crossville Lions in Tennessee. Lions secured pledges from businesses and residents for each shot made, resulting in \$2,715 for vision care.

**20**

Price in dollars a woman offered for a Christmas tree stolen from the lot of Bennington Lions in Vermont. Charged with petty larceny, the woman told police she thought the trees were free because there were no signs indicating price.

**1,200**

Newspapers sold on street corners in two days in December by Memphis Lions in Michigan to raise funds for holiday turkeys. Lions sell ads to businesses and wrap the ads around The Free Press and Detroit News.

**335**

One-pound packages of sausage resulting from two hogs purchased from 4-Hers at the county fair by Paoli-Meridian Lions in Indiana. The Lions donated the sausage to a food pantry.

**8.5**

Pounds of pull tabs collected for Sutter Creek Lions in California by 20-year-old Joey Menschel, who has autism.

**13**

Percentage of large American flags displayed per town population last July 4th in Garber, Oklahoma, thanks to a Garber Lions fundraiser. The town of 850 displayed 109 flags.



**400+**

Birthdays of residents listed in the calendar created and sold by Wakefield Lions in Kansas.

**600**

Pounds of raccoon served at the Danville Lions Club Raccoon Dinner in Ohio. The dinner includes mashed potatoes, vegetables and, of course, raccoon gravy.



**6**

Length in miles of a ski trail in Wisconsin kept open because Minocqua Lions paid the trail's liability insurance.



## Texas Lions Sit High in the [Bike] Saddle

Brownsville Downtown Lion Ray Hughston has a friendly, furry little reminder of a bike ride he took last summer with other Texas Lions. Her name is Chiquita. A tiny mutt who now insists on sleeping at Hughston's feet, she was found in one of the many towns Lions passed through on a ride from Brownsville to the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville to celebrate the camp's 65th anniversary.

"Yeah, she came up to us when we were sitting around having lunch one day in a warehouse lot, a sweet little thing with no collar, obviously abandoned and hungry. So we fed her and decided to take her home. She's my favorite memory," Hughston, a past international director, says fondly. He rode about 240 miles and says he might have made it the entire distance if the weather had been better. "It was cold and rainy a good part of the way."

While the number of riders varied from 10 to 20, the core group included avid cyclist Hughston and his son, Chris, also a Lion. "He's just a kid. Only 52," his father says with a chuckle. Others included Nancy Gayman, Sonia Figueredo and Bill Wade, 75. Martha Cramer was among Lions who provided ground support for the team. "We stopped at RV parks

overnight," she says. "We had travel trailers, motor homes and a pop-up camper."

Lions screened 370 children, most of them preschoolers, at 11 locations along the way. The screenings were scheduled by other clubs along the 343-mile route to Kerrville. Some of those club members joined the Brownsville Lions as they passed through town. "We had one Lion who made it only a mile," adds Hughston, who once rode 1,500 miles to San Diego to help raise \$150,000 for Lions. "We had a few others who made it the whole way. It didn't matter because this ride wasn't a fundraiser. The important thing was that we really got a lot of publicity about Lions and the camp. We had some TV and newspaper crews follow us, and we were able to talk about Lions and what we do."

Figueredo, a 20-year-old college student, says, "I knew from the get-go that this wouldn't be easy." She serves as the club's mascot, so she donned the heavy Lion costume at screenings. "You have no idea how many times my lion tail was pulled," she says good-naturedly.

She believes she made lifelong friendships on the ride. "I experienced some of the best home cooking and



Past International Director Ray Hughston rides most of the way to Kerrville on an recumbent bike.

Texas hospitality from our own Lions. I really got to know everyone better on a personal level," she says. Her favorite memory? "Nothing beats the sound of dead silence and seeing wild peacocks in the middle of a cool Texas night." She also made a new biking buddy in Ray Hughston. "When we got back, I fixed up her bike a little," he says. "I have a garage full of bikes, so I pulled a bunch of parts off some to make it a little easier for her to keep on riding."

## Serving up Some Fun in Maryland

"Hi, Mr. Hot Dog!" That's a cheerful greeting Fruitland Lions in Maryland hear often when they're out and about town. They just smile when they hear the happy shout-out. They know it's a client of Lower Shores Enterprises (LSE) in Salisbury, which provides employment for adults with disabilities. Lion Murray Shores says that in the past 18 years since club members first started serving monthly lunches, they've cooked and dished out more than 65,000 hot dogs along

with all the trimmings—apple sauce, potato salad, baked beans, chips, salad, soda and dessert.

"They all love our hot dogs. Some of the clients are 60 or 70 years old, and it's like a picnic when we come there. Nobody knows our names so we're just 'the hot dog people,'" he says.

The project began when Lion Bill Tribeck, whose son Michael, 53, a client since 18, retired and was asked by LSE to volunteer at a picnic. Two

years later, Tribeck was still serving lunches to clients when he was joined by Lion Norm Griffin. "It kind of grew from there," Shores explains.

"As other Lions retired, they'd come and help out, too," adds Tribeck, who says seven to eight Lions regularly volunteer together on the last Friday of every month serving approximately 200 clients. They've already worn out one grill and recently replaced it to keep up with the demand.



## Cold Weather, Warm Hearts

When the thermometer plunges outside, the polar bears get moving in New York. Polar bears in name only, these hardy humans embrace the frigid weather to raise money for community service projects of the Lisbon and Ogdensburg Lions clubs. The two clubs are located within 10 miles of each other in the northern part of the state along the U.S.-Canada border and often collaborate on activities, says Marsha Snyder of the 25-member Lisbon Lions Club.

Snyder says the idea for a Polar Bear 5K Run/Walk originated with Past President Rhonda Roethel. "It was a way to promote Lions and the camaraderie between the two clubs. We also saw a great fundraising opportunity during our long winters," she explains.

"Since we are directly on the U.S.-Canada border, we always have participants from Canada. Each year we have three gentlemen in their late 70s from Ottawa, Ontario and Montreal join in the race," Snyder says. Held on the banks of the St. Lawrence River, the location is only one hour from Ft. Drum, an army base, so soldiers also participate.

"One year, we had a soldier propose to his girlfriend, a runner, after she completed the event. Then he deployed to Afghanistan, and his now-wife participated in the race," Snyder says. The couple told Lions that they intend to always participate in the event, no matter where they're living in the future. The clubs advertise their fundraiser in local and Canadian newspapers, on radio, in schools, fitness centers, to a running organization and on Facebook.

## Partners in Service in Arizona

The 250-million-year-old striking, showy red rocks of Sedona, Arizona, are world-famous natural wonders. The secret of the colorful sandstone rock formations is iron. When water enters the porous formations, the iron in water tinges the rocks red. But there's another vital partnership that's been formed in Sedona that has nothing to do with water and sandstone and everything to do with working together for others. Oak Creek Canyon Lions in Sedona are joining with students at the Verde Valley School (VVS) to distribute donated eyeglasses in Malawi.

The college preparatory boarding school has more than 100 students from 18 nations and service abroad is part of its curriculum. Students have been traveling to Malawi since 2007 helping to build homes, paint schools and distribute medical equipment among other projects. VVS staffer Caroline Diehl explains that the school encourages students to make a positive difference in the world by actively volunteering. "It feels a little bit like a miracle the way it all came together with Lions," she says. Before connecting with Randy Crewse, she'd been searching for a new project in which to engage classes.

Sedona Oak Creek Canyon Lion Crewse first learned from a friend three years ago that VVS students visited Malawi, as well as other countries, to do service activities. He believed Lions could partner with them to personally deliver donated lenses into the hands of those who need them. "It took just one lunch [with Crewse] to launch our collaboration," Diehl recalls of their first meeting.

"We could never have done this on our own," points out Crewse. "It works out great. Everyone's a winner. We get to do a project with real impact, the Verde Valley School kids get to see the fruits of their labor first-hand and people in Malawi get the gift of sight."

The students now personally deliver donated eyeglasses collected by Arizona Lions. It's a learning experience for students as well as Lions. Dr. Serge Wright, a Lion since 1973 and one of the Oak Creek Canyon club's 12 members, owns Sedona Eye Care. He donates the office as the hub for eyeglass processing, teaching students how to use lensometers to read prescriptions and how to gather, clean and sort eyeglasses. Lions work right alongside them.

Crewse, whose wife, Milton, is also a Lion, reached out through the Internet to an eye doctor at a Lions-supported clinic in Blantyre in Malawi to learn if there were any specific vision needs to be met. There were, so Wright arranged for expensive specialty lenses and frames to be donated by optics manufacturers to several severely-impaired children. "They'd been learning to read Braille before their new high-powered lenses arrived," says Crewse. Students not only deliver the glasses, they also help fit them to people at the clinic. More than 2,500 pairs have been cleaned, sorted and delivered so far.



Because of their specialty lenses, two children are able to read a LION Magazine brought by VVS students to Malawi.

Watch an upbeat video on the Verde Valley students' mission to Malawi.



Fitness celebrity Yngvar Andersen skis alongside disabled athlete Brynhild Brattabø, whose week at the Ridderrennet was paid for by the all-women Oslo Maud Lions Club.

Photo courtesy of Jan Arne Dammen, Ridderrennet

## NORWAY

# Snug as a Snow Boot: Blind Skiers, Norwegians and Lions

How important is skiing in Norway? Cross-country skiing is the national sport. The words ski and slalom are Norwegian in origin. Norwegians proudly boast, “Nnordmenn er født med ski på beina!” (Norwegians are born with skis on their legs!)

So it’s not a surprise that Norwegians are credited with popularizing skiing and cross-country skiing for the blind. The genesis for the growth of skiing for the blind was the Ridderrennet, first held in Norway in 1964 for 57 blind skiers. Now the world’s largest winter sports week for those with disabilities, the Ridderrennet last year hosted 500 disabled skiers including many without sight. The participants ski cross-country and downhill, shoot rifles during a biathlon and even race on snowboards.

Norwegian Lions were integral to the early success of the Ridderrennet and today are the largest private spon-

sor of the event. The Lions’ Red Feather Campaign in the 1960s raised funds for the Beitostølen Healthsports Center, where the events are held. Last year 161 Lions clubs in Norway contributed 520,000 kroner (US\$77,000) for the competition. Lions on skis volunteer as well. They accompany the

participants during the races, in front for guidance during the cross-country and behind on the downhill.

The Ridderrennet was begun by Erling Stordahl, a blind musician. He happened upon the joy of skiing after a stream of military vehicles left deep tracks in the snow, and he discovered he could ski without fear of a collision. “I felt I had regained my eyesight,” he later wrote.

Some as young as 15, participants come from more than a dozen nations including the United States, Canada and Vietnam. “The Ridderweek has completely changed my life—what I do, how I do things,” Jim Denton, a blind, 56-year-old, four-time Winter Paralympics athlete from England told Family Ski News. “I started skiing here back in 1981 and thought, ‘It doesn’t get any better than this.’” Denton is careful to choose Norwegians as guides even for his Paralympics events. “I think a part of me must be Norwegian,” he adds.

## INDIA

# Lions in India Care for Outcasts

Kohima Lions in India built a home for those with leprosy in 1983. As they often do, club members recently visited the home to give the residents meat, potatoes and sweets. Fourteen people with leprosy, also known as Hansen’s disease, and family members live at the facility.

One of the elderly residents hailed Lions as “their parents,” according to the Asian Tribune. “We are really thankful to you for showing your personal concern and love for us,” he said to the Lions.

Leprosy has been curable since the 1940s thanks to antibiotics. But its stigma endures in India, where those with the disease often are shunned.





The riders in the St. Bernard Challenge pedal through a mountain pass.

## FRANCE

# Epic European Bike Ride Unites Lions

Europeans are accustomed to seeing clusters of colorfully attired bike riders furiously pedaling up and down mountain roads and through quiet, picturesque villages. But they've never seen an organized ride quite like this.

Fourteen experienced cyclists spent five days traversing the country roads of France, Switzerland and Italy. A motorcycle escort headed the riders and a van followed in the rear, both vehicles emblazoned with Lions logos. Lions from 10 clubs—three from France, three from Switzerland and four from Italy—provided bicycle escorts in and out of their towns and made sure the riders had dinner and a place to stay.

Chartered two years ago, the Yvelines Heraldic Lions Club in France sponsored the 500-mile Défi St. Bernard (the St. Bernard Challenge), which included two climbs of the daunting 8,000-foot Great St. Bernard Pass in Switzerland and a few laps around a celebrated velodrome in Switzerland. The international character of the ride was a neat fit for the

club, whose members hail from a variety of nations but share English as a language. “Our club wanted to demonstrate an example of the international cooperation that Lions can offer,” says Bob Bell, charter president.

The ride also demonstrated the fitness and skill of the cyclists. They averaged 20 miles per hour, including the frequent arduous climbs, and sped down mountains as fast as 50 miles per hour. The sole injury was to a non-rider. “The only accident was a tumble by the doctor on his motorbike,” says Bell.

The riders were drawn from a triathlon club to which a Lion belongs. They secured pledges, and the ride raised \$20,000 for Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque, a charity that provides life-saving heart operations for children in developing nations.

Years before he moved to France, Bell was a charter member of the English-speaking Brussels Heraldic Lions Club in 1984 in Belgium. His new club got off to a big splash with a

swimathon and a theater outing. “But these really didn’t give the international dimension I had hoped to create,” says Bell, a Welshman who married a New Zealander and has lived and worked on five continents. “The joy of having 10 other clubs involved was proof that the word ‘international’ in our name is not a myth.”



Eltham Lions filled this shoebox for a 5- to 9-year-old girl.

### SWEDEN

## Lions Link with Artisans

For four days each year artists and craftsmen in the ancient city of Hudiksvall open their studios to the public. They sell their art, and Hudiksvall Lions, who sponsor the Art Tour, hold a raffle to generate funds and raise their visibility.

A quaint city of 15,000 founded in 1582, Hudiksvall has a small but lively arts community. The 37-member Hudiksvall Lions Club, chartered in 1952, is one of Sweden's oldest Lions clubs.

Last year the club raised US\$4,000 from the raffle, which offers art as prizes. The club also runs a flea market and festival and supports local people in need, children in Senegal and Mexico and cancer research.



The ceramic sculpture by a Hudiksvall artist was a prize in the Lions' raffle.

### NEW ZEALAND

## Lions Step Up For Shoebox Project

Begin with an empty humdrum shoebox. Add toys, crafts and books. Decorate the box with Christmas wrapping paper and send to a warehouse for distribution to needy children. The end result is a happy Christmas morning.

For five years the Eltham Lions Club in New Zealand has participated in Operation Christmas Child. The 45 shoeboxes members filled this holiday season were for children in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Samoa, Vietnam, Thailand, or Cambodia. The shoebox goodies fall into six categories: "something to love, something to wear, something to play with, something for hygiene, something for school and something special."

All those things add up to joy for both Lions and recipients. "This is a fantastic way to spread some Christmas love to children who otherwise would not receive any gifts. It's a great way to involve Lions' partners and families," says Lion Clare Bramley.

The largest Christmas project of its kind, Operation Christmas Child is coordinated by Samaritan's Purse, led by Franklin Graham, the 2011 Lions Humanitarian Award recipient. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 113 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in 150 nations.



### NEPAL

## Nepalese Lions Get Creative

Lions in Kathmandu in Nepal filmed and posted on YouTube a short video on street children. Kathmandu Gliese Lions have done projects to help homeless children but made the video to encourage its twinning club in Germany and Lions elsewhere to aid street children.

The video consists of an original song by Nepalese singer Sajar Raaj and scenes of a bedraggled street urchin being ignored by passers-by. Raaj and the film actors donated their time and talents.

Lion Sunit Shrestha, the video project coordinator, says, "The street children problem is not only in developing countries but in developed countries too. We want to pass the message to all Lions to help, support and adopt street children in your local community."

Watch the video.

### AUSTRALIA

## Club 'Segues' to a New Fundraiser

Surat Lions in Australia have found a novel way to raise funds: rent Segways. The 12-member club will provide the two-wheeled personal mobility devices for people who wish to ride along the town's scenic river walk.

"I think a lot of us nowadays have to be thinking outside the box, be supportive without being a drain in other ways on our community," President Wendy Newman told ABC News in Australia. Located 300 miles from Brisbane, Surat has a population of 426. The club previously relied on donations from a mining company.



A full-page photograph of a sunny beach in Honolulu. In the foreground, several tall palm trees with lush green fronds lean over the scene. The beach is sandy and crowded with people; some are walking along the shore, while others are swimming in the clear, turquoise water. In the background, a city skyline with several high-rise buildings is visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

# Honolulu: Hawaii's Gathering Place

BY SARA BENSON



(Opposite) The white-sand beaches of Waikiki draw sun lovers worldwide.

Ever since the days of ancient Polynesian double-hulled canoes and 19th-century whaling ships, Honolulu has been a crossroads between East and West, welcoming travelers from the world over. Hawaii's spirit of aloha—a word that can mean, among other things, peace and love—is a way of life for the diverse people who live here. Aloha also embraces every visitor to the Hawaiian Islands. All of this makes Honolulu a perfect fit for the Lions' upcoming 98th International Convention, which will be held in Oahu's capital city June 26-30.

Mere specks in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, the Hawaiian Islands are the most remote places on the planet. With the nearest continent more than 2,400 miles away, Honolulu can feel like another country, or even another world. It's either the United States' westernmost state capital or the easternmost city in Asia, depending on how you look at it. Historically the home of Hawaiian royalty, Honolulu first sprang to life as a port town. Down by the waterfront today, cruise ships still dock beside fishing fleets that supply one of the Pacific's liveliest fish markets. Just inland, palm trees rustle above city streets while cooling trade winds blow in from off the salty sea. Not far from downtown are the world-famous white-sand beaches of Waikiki, where hula dancers sway and the music of ukuleles and slack-key guitars plays.

Honolulu may be a bustling, modern capital, but it's one with a laid-back, tropical attitude. A visit here feels more like spending time in a small town, even when you stroll among the skyscrapers. Although it's Hawaii's biggest city, Honolulu doesn't even rank in the top 50 U.S. cities by population, and locals like it that way. Here business executives and politicians wear aloha shirts to work, and neighbors often greet each other by name on the sidewalks. The pace of life is unhurried, and everything tends to run on "island time"—meaning they're always a little behind schedule, but rarely does anyone mind. Once you arrive, just do as the popular bumper sticker advises: "Slow Down—This Ain't Da Mainland."

It's not for nothing that Oahu is nicknamed the "The Gathering Place." Islanders celebrate a uniquely mixed heritage: Polynesian seafaring voyagers, European and American ship captains, Protestant missionaries and merchants, and Asian and European immigrant plantation workers. Hawaii maintains a separate sense of identity from the rest of the United States, but that's not to say that anyone visiting the islands will feel like an outsider—quite the opposite. As the native Hawaiian saying goes, "We're all in the same canoe." Put into practice, that piece of ancient wisdom makes Hawaii a surprisingly harmonious, multicultural place. Across the islands, you'll find a spirit of community and an enthusiasm for doing public good that matches the Lions' own ethic of international service.

With a convenient public bus system that will take you just about anywhere you want to go within the city or around the island, Honolulu is also an easily walkable city. Start your explorations in the capitol

## HONOLULU'S MUST-SEE SIGHTS

### BISHOP MUSEUM

1525 Bernice Street; [bishopmuseum.org](http://bishopmuseum.org)

Honolulu's top-notch natural history museum is hands down the best place to discover ancient Hawaiian traditions. Be impressed by intricate feather cloaks, carved wooden spears and surfboards that once belonged to royalty. In ancient times, only royals were allowed to surf. The gift shop sells exquisite Hawaiian art and crafts.

### IOLANI PALACE

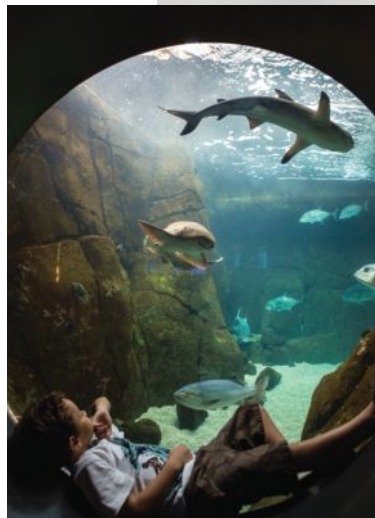
364 South King Street; [iolanipalace.org](http://iolanipalace.org)

Built only two decades before the Hawaiian monarchy was overthrown, this building symbolized the sovereignty of the islands. Reserve tickets a few days in advance for a guided tour of the beautifully restored royal palace. Every Friday at noon the Royal Hawaiian Band gives free concerts on the lawn.

### WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

2777 Kalakaua Avenue; [waikikiaquarium.org](http://waikikiaquarium.org)

Run by the University of Hawaii, this pint-sized educational aquarium is rightly called a "window to the sea." Colorful coral and reef fish, glowing jellies, green sea turtles and endangered Hawaiian monk seals are among the marine creatures you'll meet here.



### HONOLULU MUSEUM OF ART

900 South Beretania Street; [honoluluuseum.org](http://honoluluuseum.org)

At downtown's eastern edge, this fine arts museum is a tranquil spot, where airy galleries surround fountain courtyards. The Asian art collection is especially noteworthy. Tours of Shangri La, yesteryear celebrity Doris Duke's art-filled, oceanfront mansion, depart from the museum (buy tickets in advance).

Watch a short, exciting promotional video on Hawaii.

Watch the highlights of the Lions' 83rd International Convention in Honolulu.



## FIVE DINING DESTINATIONS

### ROY'S WAIKIKI

226 Lewers Street; [royshawaii.com](http://royshawaii.com)

On Waikiki Beach Walk, chef Roy Yamaguchi's kitchen crafts upscale Pacific Rim cuisine in a beachy setting. On the prix-fixe dinner menu, order fusion classics like macadamia nut encrusted fish or Szechuan-spiced short ribs. Reservations recommended.



The roasted macadamia nut Hawaiian white fish with creamless lobster is a favorite at Roy's Waikiki.

### LEONARD'S BAKERY

933 Kapahulu Avenue; [leonardshawaii.com](http://leonardshawaii.com)

Worth the detour from Waikiki, this famed island bakery turns out hot, uber-fresh *malasadas* (Portuguese-style fried doughnuts), dusted in sugar and filled with an ever-changing variety of flavors, from custard to *haupia* (coconut cream).

### MARUKAME

2310 Kuhio Avenue; [toridollusa.com](http://toridollusa.com)

Lines snake out the door for Waikiki's best cheap eats. This cafeteria-style joint makes its Japanese noodle soups from scratch right in front of you, and the deep-fried tempura shrimp and vegetables are perfectly crunchy.

### SANSEI SEAFOOD RESTAURANT & SUSHI BAR

2552 Kalakaua Avenue; [sanseihawaii.com](http://sanseihawaii.com)

Across the road from the beach, this elevated sushi bar and Pacific Rim seafood restaurant is creatively helmed by island-born chef Dave Kodama. Book ahead and be seated before 6 p.m. to enjoy early-bird discounts.

### HAILI'S HAWAIIAN FOODS

760 Palani Avenue; [hailishawaiianfood.com](http://hailishawaiianfood.com)

What exactly is Hawaiian food? Answer the question at this casual, family-owned eatery just outside Waikiki. In business since the 1950s, Haili's cooks up savory *kalua* pig plate lunches, with *poi* (mashed taro) and seafood *poke* on the side.

district, where you'll find the USA's only royal palace and other eye-catching historical buildings including missionary homes shipped from New England around Cape Horn and an imposing coral-stone church. Many ornate buildings date from the 19th century, when Hawaii was transformed from a Polynesian island kingdom into a U.S. territory.

A short walk from downtown, Chinatown's pungent public markets and hole-in-the-wall noodle houses await. Chinatown, once the city's red-light district for carousing by sailors in centuries past, has been hit by a wave of revitalization. Art galleries, antique shops, fashionable boutiques, creative restaurants, buzzing bars and nightclubs have all popped up here. Another easy walk from downtown takes you to Honolulu's harbor. Ride the free elevator to the observation deck on the 10th floor of the art deco Aloha Tower to gain sweeping views of the waterfront, from Waikiki Beach over to deep, blue Pearl Harbor and beyond.

Honolulu's sunny playground is Waikiki Beach. Tourists have been turning up at this idyllic beach since even before the grand old days of steamship travel to Hawaii. In days past, Waikiki (a name that means "spouting water") was a retreat for Hawaiian royalty. Today it's a vacation destination for millions of people from around the world. It's bewitching to spend a few hours lying on the sand, as palm trees rustle overhead while you take in panoramic views of landmark Diamond Head set against the shimmering waters of the sea. Surf instructors, the modern incarnation of Waikiki's famous beach boys, give lessons right on the sand. Clamber aboard a traditional Hawaiian outrigger canoe for a chance to be tossed around in the waves, then pay your respects to the lei-draped statue of surfing legend and Olympian Duke Kahanamoku.

An entertainer performs the hula in Honolulu.



After dark, Waikiki is just as entertaining. Once the sun dips below the horizon, tiki torches are lit and a conch horn is dramatically blown, signaling that the outdoor hula show is about to begin. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, local hula schools perform ancient and modern dances by the beach, accompanied by traditional Hawaiian musical instruments like gourd rattles. Hang around afterward for a chance to meet and take photographs with the performers. Waikiki's beachfront hotels also have their own open-air bars offering free music nightly, and sometimes hula dancing, too. The Halekulani's gracious House Without a Key lounge, named after a novel about Honolulu police detective Charlie Chan, has awe-inspiring ocean views at sunset with solo hula dancing by graceful former Miss Hawaii pageant winners. The Halekulani is also the best place to try Hawaii's famous tropical cocktail, a mai tai (rum mixed with orgeat syrup and citrus juices).

Wherever you end up spending your free time in Honolulu, whether in the city or by the beach, allot plenty of

time to eat. The capital city dishes up everything from food truck fare and farmers market bounty to haute Hawaii Regional Cuisine by island-born star chefs including Alan Wong and Dave Kodama. Perhaps no meal is more iconic than Hawaii's mixed plate lunch, reflecting the islands' varied ethnic heritage. Dig into two scoops of rice and a heaping mound of macaroni salad beside Korean *kalbi* short ribs, Filipino pork *adobo*, Japanese *mochiko* fried chicken or Hawaiian *kalua* pig. Another local dish to try is *poke* (pronounced "POH-kay"): diced raw fish (popularly, ahi tuna) marinated with a host of flavors, often soy sauce, sesame oil, ginger, onions, seaweed and chili peppers. For a sweet treat, try toothsome Chinese-style "crack seed," which is dried, preserved fruit that's by turns sweet, sour and salty. After a day at the beach, line up at a shave ice stand for a fluffy cone of ice doused in a rainbow of sweet syrups, with an optional scoop of macadamia nut ice cream underneath.

You won't want to miss the opportunity to visit Honolulu—not only for its irresistible natural beauty and its

Three memorable international conventions have been held in Hawaii.

Lions wowed by humanitarian Dr. Jules Stein, former ambassador Clare Boothe Luce, actor Cary Grant and "Hawaii Five-O" star Jack Lord. (July/August 1976 LION).

Entertainer Art Linkletter urges Lions to curb drug abuse (July/August 1983).

Thousands enjoy the aloha spirit (October 2000).

## EASY EXCURSIONS AROUND OAHU

### PEARL HARBOR

1 Arizona Memorial Place; [pearlharborhistoricsites.org](http://pearlharborhistoricsites.org)

If you take only one day trip from Honolulu, make it to historic Pearl Harbor, a 40-minute bus ride west of downtown. A boat tour of the poignant USS Arizona Memorial, the final resting place of more than 1,100 service members who died in Japan's surprise attack on Dec. 7, 1941, is a must-do. Tour tickets can sell out early in the morning, so reserve yours in advance online.

Nearby, the USS Bowfin is an actual WWII-era submarine that you can climb around inside. Over on Ford Island, reached via a shuttle bus, you can walk the grand decks of the Battleship Missouri, where Japan ceremonially surrendered at the end of WWII, and gaze up at the restored aircraft hanging inside the Pacific Aviation Museum. Plan to spend all day if you want to visit most of these sights.

(Right) Pearl Harbor is a must-see destination.



### HANAUMA BAY NATURE PRESERVE

100 Hanauma Bay Road; [honolulu.gov](http://honolulu.gov)

Nowhere else on Oahu can you snorkel with such a huge diversity of tropical fish. This sparkling aquamarine bay (closed Tuesdays) is 10 miles east of Waikiki, easily reached via bus. Snorkel gear can be rented on the beach.

### DIAMOND HEAD STATE MONUMENT

Diamond Head Road; [hawaii.stateparks.org](http://hawaii.stateparks.org)

A cinematic backdrop for Waikiki Beach, this extinct volcanic tuff cone affords 360-degree views from its summit. The 1.5-mile round-trip hiking trail to the top is doable by all ages; just be prepared for hot sun, wind and steep stairs.

### POLYNESIAN CULTURAL CENTER & CIRCLE ISLAND TOUR

55-370 Kamehameha Highway, Laie; [polynesia.com](http://polynesia.com)

If you want to see more of Oahu but have only a day to spare, take a circle-island bus tour. Stops include scenic lookouts, the North Shore's legendary surf beaches and the folksy, educational Polynesian Cultural Center.



deeply rooted Hawaiian culture but also to experience the simple pleasures of everyday life in the islands. There's nowhere else in the world quite like Hawaii, and Honolulu is ready to welcome the Lions' convention. Look for more details about the convention, including scheduled speakers and entertainment, in future issues of the LION, especially the April issue, or check the LCI's website soon. In the meantime, if winter has you shivering, dream of Hawaii's beaches, its *kalua* and *kalbi* and its aloha spirit.

*California-based travel writer Sara Benson has been writing about the Hawaiian Islands for more than a decade. She has lived and worked on all the main islands, but it's the vibrant streets of Honolulu that keep calling her back.*



Shrimp food trucks and shave ice are popular both among tourists and Hawaiians.



## Hawaiian Lions Serve Gladly, Grandly

The weather is typically nearly perfect, the beaches are alluring and the pace of life is more relaxing. But don't let the setting fool you: Lions of Hawaii are no different in serving than Lions elsewhere. They address vital community needs, whether it's Kona Lions screening the vision and hearing of schoolchildren after the state stopped its screening because of budget problems, North Kauai Lions installing rescue tubes on a beach or Lions in Honolulu helping to repair city sidewalks degraded by weather and heavy pedestrian use.

District 50 in Hawaii has 1,800 Lions in 66 clubs throughout the islands. These clubs sponsor 35 Leo clubs with 2,000 members.



Three Leo clubs in Hawaii began the Socks for Sisters program after Leos learned schools in Afghanistan are unheated.

A major activity is the busy Hawaii Lions Eye Bank and Makana Foundation, the sole eye bank in Hawaii and the entire Pacific Islands. Over the last 35 years, the eye bank has restored the sight of 5,000 patients. It averages 200 cornea transplants annually.

Vision and hearing screening also is a major focus. Since 2010, Lions of Hawaii have screened the vision of more than 22,000 students.

Perhaps the most distinctive and inspiring project is aid to villages in war-torn Afghanistan. Led by Leos and involving many Lions, the Socks for Sisters program (January 2014 LION) has delivered thousands of pairs of socks, as well as school supplies and eyeglasses, to Afghan girls, who learn in unheated schools.



# 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) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**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



# *TURNING TRASH INTO TREASURE*

A club in rural North Carolina beautifies its town thanks to its garbage business.

BY MARSHA MERCER



Lucanne Rinke (left) and Debbie Hicks know that Etowah Lions' garbage business cleans up—not only disposing of trash but also hauling in lots of cash for the club.



When the Etowah Lions Club organized 60 years ago, the 20 charter members first raised money for service projects the way other Lions did: turkey shoots, cake sales, raffles, gospel sings and barbecue suppers.

But they really hit pay dirt when they got into garbage.

Etowah Lions, in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina, began picking up trash in 1964, neighbor helping neighbor and spreading the word about Lions. The service has blossomed over the years into a successful, independent, for-profit business.

Today the three heavy-duty garbage trucks of Etowah Lions Services Inc. haul away trash and recyclables for nearly 2,500 customers. With a staff of six, the business grosses more than \$500,000 a year.

"It's doing well, yes," says Lion Debbie Hicks, company business manager and District 31 A first vice district governor. Her husband, Will, is immediate past district governor. "We help the community. We pay cash for all our equipment and property. We don't owe anything to anybody," she says, adding that these days a new garbage truck costs about \$116,000.

The company pays dividends to Etowah Lions Club: \$24,000 this year. "The garbage really is a blessing," says Lucanne Rinke, who lives in nearby Horse Shoe. She is the immediate past president of the Etowah Lions Club, which now has 44 members. "We don't have to work as hard [on fundraising] because we've got the business," she says.

Etowah, located 100 miles from Charlotte, 18 miles from Asheville and 8 miles from the nearest four-lane highway or interstate, is unincorporated. It's dry, although the county allows alcohol sales. Etowah has two stop lights, a supermarket, drugstore, two banks, a gas station, public library, churches, a few shops and a post office. Etowah is not big. But it's not small and it's growing. Lions have helped steady the town.

"Most of the progress Etowah has made over the years is because of the Etowah Lions," says Dave Childers, a longtime Etowah Lion until he moved to Hendersonville, about 9 miles away.



Robert Crook (left) and Roy Gass of the Lions' garbage business make their rounds.



“The neat thing about Etowah is that if it wasn’t for the Etowah Lions Club, we wouldn’t have had a bank or a library,” says Debbie Hicks. Lions persuaded bank officials to open a branch, and Lions sponsored the library. “The Lions helped form the volunteer fire department and lobbied to save the post office,” she adds.

To learn how Etowah Lions turned trash into treasure, talk to Lion Jerry Cox, president of Etowah Lions Services and three-time president of the Etowah Lions.

“I was in it from the beginning,” says Cox, whose dad, the late Lion Grady Cox, coached the Etowah Little League team. From the age of 10, Jerry played second base. In the mid-1960s, Etowah had a few hundred residents and no trash collection. Most people actually dumped their trash in the French Broad River—their property deeds gave them the right—or carted it to the dump.

decided they needed to pay both the helper who was running the trash truck, who was not a Lion, and the wife of a Lion who had volunteered her time for years keeping the books. That year, Etowah Lions Services was incorporated as a full-fledged business.

The dividends from the business support many projects including college scholarships, free vision screenings and eyeglasses, the Marjorie McCune Center, Camp Dogwood, and Lions Clubs International. The McCune Center is an adult care home owned and operated by the Lions of Western North Carolina; Camp Dogwood is the summer camp for the visually impaired and blind run by North Carolina Lions.

The club is buying a SPOT camera-type device that costs about \$8,000 and screens the vision of children as young as 6 months old, says Rinke. She hopes children can be screened at Lions Pride Day in August, an annual festival with free food and entertainment at Etowah Park.



The garbage business and the Etowah Lions support important entities in their small town.

The elder Cox and a couple of other Lions decided that picking up trash would help their community and be good Lions public relations. On Saturday mornings, they and their boys, who played ball together, jumped in their own pickup trucks and drove around, talking to people and collecting garbage.

“I got paid for that. A few dollars was spending money!” says Jerry Cox with a chuckle, summoning the perspective of his 15-year-old self.

By 1974, the project had taken off, and Etowah Lions

For many local residents, the greatest gift from Etowah Lions may be the park. In 1994, using proceeds from the garbage service, Etowah Lions bought 20 acres of farmland, kept 2 acres for a clubhouse and used the rest to build the recreational facility, which it turned over to Henderson County.

Etowah Park now has four ball fields, bleachers, basketball and tennis courts, a shelter, picnic tables, a playground, a paved walking trail and a concession stand, which the Lions operate. Club members take turns selling

soft drinks, hot dogs, pretzels and candy at games five days a week in the summer, generating revenue for park upkeep and improvements.

By the year 2000, after building the park, some Lions started thinking about, well, trashing the trash. “The equipment was worn out, and some Lions wanted to stop it and shut the service down, put the money in the bank and let it draw interest,” says Jack Keyes, who joined Etowah Lions in 2000. “You know how that would have gone,” he says, noting that with low interest rates, the nest egg of about \$100,000 would not have grown much.

Keyes had business acumen, having recently retired from his own trucking business. “I said, ‘This could be a gravy train if you run it right and organize it right,’” he recalls.

The Lions listened. They bought a new compactor truck, built a warehouse to store the trucks, opened an office and hired Debbie Hicks as manager in 2006. A Lions hiring committee ran an ad in the local paper and decided that Hicks, who was club president and had already been volunteering long hours at the business, was the best qualified applicant.

Some members objected, and a few even left the club over the new arrangements. Etowah Lions Services is run by a board of five Lions, who serve two-year terms. As club president, Hicks also oversaw the board that runs the company. So Hicks had become her own boss. To allay concerns, she “literally took a hat off,” she says. When she went to company board meetings, she took off the hat she wore to demonstrate she was switching roles. “That’s my integrity,” says Hicks, the only Lion on the payroll.

Hicks runs the office and company website, but don’t get the idea that she’s stuck behind a desk all day. The retired Air Force technical sergeant isn’t afraid of hands-on duty.

“I throw the trash if somebody is out sick,” says Hicks, who is 5’6 1/2” and describes herself as a “meat-and-taters girl.”

Figuring people in town have goodwill toward Lions, the company is not shy about its Lions connection. The Lions logo as well as Etowah Lions Services are emblazoned on its trucks and its 13 dumpsters.

“Jack [Keyes] is the one who brought us into the 21st century,” says Cox. But the Lions never lost the neighborly spirit that motivated them from the start. Before building the warehouse, Cox was sensitive that nearby residents might not be thrilled with a garbage truck warehouse down the road.

“I went and talked to the nearest neighbor about the color of the building. He picked out the colors—blue and green. He can’t complain,” he says. “You want to be friendly with everyone.”

In the last decade, Etowah has become a retirement mecca. Its population zoomed 151 percent between 2000 and 2010 to nearly 7,000 people. One draw is the Etowah Valley Golf Club, whose Edmund B. Ault-designed golf courses are on land reclaimed after a brickyard closed.

Jim Moyes was a Lion in Etowah in the early 1960s but his career as an airline pilot kept him away for 40 years. Retired, he moved back about five years ago.

Etowah Lions show their pride in their garbage business.



“I’ve been all over the world and there’s no place like this,” he says. He quickly cites Etowah’s advantages: “the scenery, the countryside, the air, the people, the low cost of living. It’s very, very laid back and very little traffic, considering there’s just a two-lane road.”

In 1998, Etowah Lions constructed their clubhouse, a stick-built structure with white wood and a red metal roof. The kitchen has two gas stoves, a refrigerator and a freezer. The second and fourth Thursday of every month, the club holds buffet dinner meetings there. Betty Cox, Jerry’s wife, cooks, even though she’s not a Lion and she’s not paid. She started cooking for the Etowah Lions dinners in 1971.

The favorite menu? Country-style steak-fried, then slow-cooked for three hours—green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, fruit salad, pie or cake. Hot fudge cake is a special treat.

“They’re a real good bunch,” Betty Cox says. “I don’t normally have any complaints.”

Etowah Lions Services continues to grow. When a new housing development pops up, the company lets people know about the business with the unusual beginning. Although it has competition from other commercial waste management firms, Etowah Lions Services has been adding about six percent to its customer base yearly.

Part of the appeal may be down-home, Lions friendliness.

“We are really easy to get ahold of. No music on hold,” reads the company website. “You may have to listen to a detailed message then leave your name and number but we will call you back usually within the hour or so, except on weekends and holidays.”



# Worldwide Week of Service for Children Set for May



Lions worldwide help children. Fort Vancouver Lions in Washington host a track meet for visually impaired youths from the Pacific Northwest. The event takes place at the Washington State School for the Blind. Competing in the 100 meter race, Sofia Batchelor, 10, of Vancouver, told *The Columbian*, "Sometimes I feel like I'm flying. Like I can just keep on forever." Photo by Steven Lane/*The Columbian*

Lions never needed extra incentive to help children throughout our nearly 100-year history. Clubs did so as a matter of course. But this May clubs are being asked to direct their service toward children to help reach our centennial goal of serving 100 million

people by 2017. Lions Clubs International has designated May 16-22 as a Worldwide Week of Service to help children in need.

Feed a child. Read a book to a classroom. Paint a playground. There are innumerable ways to help children. But there is



Schoolchildren in Ecuador practice proper hand washing, taught to them by Guayaquil Bosques De La Costa Lions.

only one way to report the service to LCI and have it count toward the 100 million goal: via the Service Activities Report on the online MyLCI system ([mylci.lionsclubs.org](http://mylci.lionsclubs.org)). Activities that qualify for the Centennial Service Challenge (CSC) have a special CSC

logo on MyLCI. A club can also qualify for the CSC by making a contribution to LCIF. Mark “donation to LCIF” when entering the activity on MyLCI.

Besides assisting 25 million children, the centennial challenge asks Lions to improve





Students in the Philippines display their school bags, filled with books and school supplies, given to them by Dasmaringas Lions.

vision care for 25 million people, relieve hunger for 25 million and benefit 25 million through environmental projects. Clubs that report their centennial service activities will

be awarded a banner patch based on their participation. Questions? Contact LCI at [CSC@lionsclubs.org](mailto:CSC@lionsclubs.org).



# May 16-22 will be Worldwide Week of Service to help children in need

(Right) Lions in Três Lagoas, Brazil, hold a day of reading and counting for schoolchildren. (Below) Lions and Lionesses in District 323 A3 in India hold a sports day for students with disabilities.





# LIONS IN WINTER

We don't hibernate. And often our service is seasonally appropriate.

BY JAY COPP



The bitter weather can be dangerous even for bundled-up Alaskans. Photo by Jeff Schulz/AlaskaStock.com

---

## Club Saves Lives When Temperatures Plunge

---

How cold does it get in Bethel, Alaska? Two years ago the *average* temperature in February was 19 below. That winter was colder than normal but not exactly atypical. The ice in the Kuskokwim River usually does not break up until May.

How isolated is the town of 6,500? The town is not part of the state's skimpy road grid. Snowmobiles and airplanes are preferred modes of transportation. Barges can deliver goods and food only in the summer. Gasoline is

\$6.75 a gallon, a carton of milk costs \$8 and a seasonal delicacy such as a fistful of peppers sets you back \$9.

"It's a subsistence lifestyle for a lot of people: hunting, fishing and berry picking," says Lion Ross Boring, an educator who teaches children of migrant workers.

Survival seems even more tenuous during the long, mostly dark winter. Bethel enjoys a whole 5.6 hours of day-time on the shortest day of the year in December.

The town's frigid weather, coupled with its isolation and limited economy, does indeed make life more risky. Six people died of exposure in unheated buildings during the awful winter of 2013. Last year only one person died of exposure. Credit goes to a new Lions club and its shelter for the homeless. The club was founded specifically to protect people from the cold, and the Bethel Winter House Lions Club sheltered 88 people last winter over 90 days.

Rotating between facilities at two churches, the overnight shelter counted 1,500 guest stays and served 3,300 meals. Fifty-seven volunteers including Lions staffed the shelter. The club secured \$13,000 in donations from residents and businesses to operate the shelter. Donations even came from churches and people in the Lower 48.

Prior to the shelter, the options for those without means were the emergency room at the hospital, a sobering center or the jail. Some people fabricated illness to gain

time in the emergency room, and others drank just to be admitted to the sobering center. But Bethel, unlike the closest villages, is a "wet" community where alcohol can be purchased without restriction. "Alcohol is an issue here. We used to be a 'damp' community where you could buy only so much for your own use," says Boring, who helps coordinate the shelter.

The new club makes two: the 32-member Bethel Lions Club was chartered in 1962. Past District Governor Dottie Vasquez helped launch the new club. New Lion Eva Malvich, a Yupik who works at the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center, also helped establish the shelter.

Boring moved to Alaska from Montana 25 years ago to enjoy "the Alaska experience." A Lion since 2006, he understands that part of that lifestyle is looking out for one another. "I've always given of myself to different projects," he says.

---

## Lions Sell Trees, Warm Hearts

---

The bonfire built by Wrentham Lions in Massachusetts on their Christmas tree lot warded off the cold but also brought people together. "It creates such a nice, cozy, warm feeling," says Lion Greg Stahl. "Customers put their hands over the fire. Kids poke sticks in it. I was a country boy, so I can tell you people have a relationship with fire." Lions in suburban-like Wrentham, located 30 miles from Boston, began selling balsam firs and Frasers four years ago after a landscaping store that sold Christmas trees closed. The first year the club's sales were poor, and it made only \$1,800. Lions sold 220 trees in 2013 and netted \$4,000.

"We were beginners. It took us until the third year until we figured it out," says Stahl. The trees, hauled in freshly-cut from northern Maine, are sold on American Legion property just off Main Street. The spirit of the season draws in customers, and that same spirit motivates them as generous buyers. "During the Christmas season people love to buy trees where the money goes to charity," explains Stahl. "People will say to us, 'Here's 50 bucks. Buy a tree for someone in need.'" The club actually does that as a matter of course. In 2013 the dozen or so unsold trees were given to patrons of a food pantry.



AP Photo

Lions Joe Moscariello (left) and Greg Stahl stay warm while selling Christmas trees. Helen Keller lived in Wrentham for several years in the early 1900s, and Moscariello lives next to her former home.



---

## Seasonal Task Brings Holiday Cheer

---

Don't let the red "Bah Humbug" hat fool you. John "Benny" Benevento, president of the Fairbanks Host Lions Club in Alaska, brings the Christmas spirit—and music—to downtown Fairbanks. Each year he programs Christmas music into the clock tower at Golden Heart Plaza. During the non-Christmas season the clock plays a mixture of patriotic music, show tunes, jazz and old traditionals. But in December songs such as "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" play after every 15-minute bell chime. The clock tower actually was put up by a Rotarian club in 1990, and Rotarians upgraded it last year. But Benevento, a retired electrical engineer, takes on the duty of making it seasonal—evincing the Christmas spirit by yielding to popular tastes. He prefers more traditional or religious Christmas songs but still programs in songs he does not like.

Lion John "Benny" Benevento switches the clock tower in Fairbanks to a holiday format.



# What if Lions could...



...**give** kids the strength to resist drugs  
and alcohol, and make good choices?

...**help** children develop positive skills?

...**bring** parents and communities  
together to support education?

...**help** children develop the skills  
necessary to succeed in the 21st Century?

...**prepare** the next generation of  
volunteers?

**We can,**

and we are doing it every  
day in communities like  
yours – and in 90 countries  
around the world – through  
Lions Quest and Lions Clubs  
International Foundation.



Learn more by visiting [www.lions-quest.org](http://www.lions-quest.org)  
or email [info@lions-quest.org](mailto:info@lions-quest.org).



# A Very Loud Roar Out of Africa

Lions in Uganda take a back seat to no one when it comes to service.

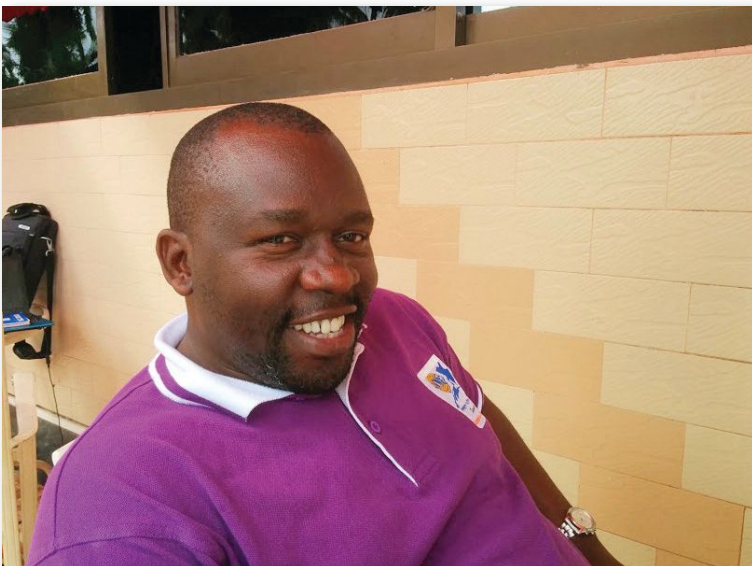
BY DOUGLAS CRUICKSHANK

One of the numerous things Westerners don't know about Africa is that many Africans devote a considerable amount of time and effort to helping their fellow citizens. Indeed, some of the most significant charitable work being done on the vast continent is performed by Africans. Not surprisingly, many of those doing that work are Lions. Lions clubs are abundant and active throughout much of Africa, and on a recent visit to Uganda I met with several club members to learn about their service projects.

I lived in Uganda as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer from 2009 to 2012. I fell in love with the country and its people and now return there for extended visits whenever possible. On this most recent trip I sought out several club presidents in various parts of the country, talked with them about

their clubs' activities and on one uplifting afternoon accompanied Lions and Leos during a visit to an important project they support in the bucolic town of Entebbe on the shores of Lake Victoria.

Uganda is a small country—roughly the size of the state of Oregon—with a huge population, about 35 million. It's located in East Africa, bordered by Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan. It has one of the highest birth rates in the world—the average woman has 6.6 children. More than half of its people are younger than 15. Needless to say, the pressure on the country's dramatically gorgeous environment and animals is intense, as is producing adequate food to keep its rapidly growing population fed. Health care, education and caring for



orphans and other vulnerable children are serious challenges, to put it mildly.

For the last quarter century Uganda has been relatively stable politically, with a growing middle class. Yoweri Museveni has been president of Uganda since 1986, shortly after he overthrew President Milton Obote. (The notorious Idi Amin, the Ugandan leader Westerners are most familiar with, was driven out of the country in 1979; Obote was president both before and after Amin.) Considered a key country in the region by the United States and other western governments, Uganda receives substantial foreign aid. The nation gets nearly \$500 million annually from the United States alone, mostly for HIV/AIDS programs, though that figure is likely to drop because of the anti-gay law that passed in early 2014. The country's profile rose recently with the election last summer of Sam Kahamba Kutesa, a lawyer and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Ugandan Cabinet, to the post of president of the United Nations.

\*\*\*

I'm not the first U.S. visitor to note that Kampala is vaguely similar to San Francisco, where I live when I'm not in Uganda. Well, it's built on a series of hills, but I suppose the similarity stops there. San Francisco is a pleased-with-itself, quasi-European mini-metropolis. Kampala is a classic, crazy, megalopolis-in-the-making of the developing world. The population of Kampala is about 1.2 million; San Francisco counts 800,000. But both have huge commuter populations that live in the sprawl of outlying suburbs and smaller towns they've gobbled up as they've grown, so the area's real population is far larger than the official number. In the center of Kampala, if there is such a place, is the Africana Hotel. Among the many conferences, concerts and other events that take place there, it's the meeting place for several of the city's Lions clubs.

Late one equatorial afternoon, I meet Hilda Kahindi, sitting at a table in the gardens of the Africana. Kahindi is

the president of the Kampala Cosmopolitan Lions Club. The club was founded in 2003 and has 29 members; she's been president since 2007. I ask her what motivated her to get involved with Lions. She says she first learned of the club and its activities through her uncle and aunt, who were both members and often took Hilda along with them to Lions' events. At one such event, volunteer doctors recruited by Lions performed cataract operations. The experience moved her deeply. "I was inspired," she says. "I thought to myself, 'I must join a club which makes it possible for me to put a smile on someone's face.'"

Kahindi is typical of the Uganda Lions and Leos I talked with: energetic, optimistic, looking to a better future and willing to roll up their sleeves to make it happen. It's a description that can be applied to the majority of Africans I met during the years I lived there and still run into when I visit. It differs markedly from the view of Africa and Africans one often gets from Western media.

The Lions club that Kahindi presides over is involved in an array of service projects. These include tree planting (they've planted more than 1,000 in Kampala alone), road safety (they give day-glo safety jackets to the city's boda-boda—motorcycle taxi drivers), distribution of sanitary supplies to teenage girls, aerobics class fundraisers and blood drives for the terrific CORSU Rehabilitation Hospital near Entebbe. The club also provides a children's home with clothes, school fees and food. All the support for the projects comes from donations by individual members or is raised by Lions through direct solicitations.

Just before leaving I ask Kahindi what the club needs most. "School books," she tells me. "Books for the kids, to help educate them."

A couple days later, Kakinda Michael drops by my apartment in Ntinda, a Kampala suburb. Kakinda is a busy guy, but he pays me a short visit to brief me on the activities of the very active Kampala New Century Lions Club of



Many of the club presidents in Uganda are younger and full of energy and ideas: (from left) Dans Naturinda, Hilda Kahinda, Rebecca Nankumbi and Alex Banya.



which he is the president. The club was founded in 2006 and is largely made up of doctors and other young medical professionals, and their spouses. There are currently 16 members, but Kakinda, 32, expects the young club to grow fast. He is a doctor himself, a public health specialist. A Lion since 2000, he was a Leo while in medical school, as were many of his friends. “The first year we were in college, we joined the Leos,” he tells me, “then the second year we turned into Lions.”

One of Kampala New Century’s most ambitious ongoing projects is the annual health camp, held in different parts of the country each year. “What we do,” Kakinda explains, “is mobilize health workers—most of our friends are doctors. Then we go to the big companies and get them to donate medicines. We pay for our own transport and partner with the local Lions club, which usually takes care of our lodging and food. We also do HIV/AIDS counseling and testing. And river blindness is another illness we treat. We have an upcoming sight campaign planned, focused on river blindness.”

Kakinda tells me that club activities are underwritten largely by member donations. A fee of 30,000 Uganda shillings (about \$11.50) is collected from each member every month. When possible Kampala New Century partners with other clubs in the city. Looking to the future, Kakinda wants the club to initiate a sanitation program, involving building latrines in residential areas. They also plan to start a vaccination program that will serve different districts throughout the country. Kakinda works for the Ministry of Health, so the club and the Ministry often collaborate on health projects. Radio call-in shows are another way that the health-centric club reaches out to the communities with health advice.

As I did with Hilda Kahindi, I ask Kakinda what motivates him, what inspires him to serve. “I think we have to give back,” he tells me. “I look at it this way: We are lucky to be where we are. It’s sheer luck. We are lucky that our grandparents and parents went to school, so then we went to school. It had nothing to do with being better than other kids. We were in the right place at the right time, in the right environment. Eventually, you really have to give back.”

Not long after meeting with Kakinda, I travel to the southwest Uganda and the busy town of Kabale where I visit with Alex Banya, president of the Kabale Lions Club. Banya tells me he owns the town’s private Brainstorm High School, but club activities go beyond education projects. The club’s 28 members “oversee a tree planting program, and we are involved in health,” Banya tells me. “We have a signature project here, a hospital that was constructed by Lions. We also do fundraising. We normally hold radio talk shows, especially when we have someone who has a problem and needs assistance. We work with these corporate companies, like banks, and we get their support. Recently we had someone with a problem of the heart, and we arranged to help him.” In addition to his own school, Banya and the club support the local Hornby School for the blind.

“We typically attract members because they hear of our activities and want to get involved,” Banya continues. A challenge in his community, however, is that many people

who want to participate in service projects simply don’t have the money to do so. Kabale Lions try to accommodate everyone who wants to help. “We encourage members to pay in installments to make it more affordable,” Banya explains, “not the whole lump sum at once.” The membership fee is 200,000 shillings per year (\$77), plus a 5,000 per month activities fee (less than \$2). Still, Banya tells me, “Some fail to get the money. You see, in this place the people are not rich, they are poor! But we tell them you don’t need to be rich, you can give your time.”

The Kampala Central Lions Club is the largest club in Uganda with 108 members. Nearly half, 46, are women. The club is growing rapidly. The energetic Dans Naturinda is president. He joined the club in 2005 and took on the presidency a few months ago. “When I came in,” he tells me, “I was resourceful in fundraising, so they wanted me to head things up.” It’s clear he enjoys the challenge and he’s good at it. “Our first priority is health issues,” he tells me. “We organize a big annual medical camp. We raise money, pick a needy place elsewhere in the country and go there with a team of doctors and ourselves as volunteers. We treat anything and everything from kids to people who need minor surgery. At the last camp, we did 45 hernia operations and 36 cataract surgeries. We served 2,804 patients during that single campaign. We also do immunizations.”

One of the club’s most dramatic successes came earlier this year at a medical camp. Kampala Central Lions took doctors, nurses and its medical and surgical camp to the remote, rural district of Kamuli. Many people were at-



Two Leos, students at Entebbe Secondary School, bring gifts to the children at Purpose Babies Home. (Opposite) Kimera Remmie Suzan (shown with her daughter) founded the Purpose Babies Home, supported by Lions and Leos.







tended to. One of the club's most important services—distributing sanitary products to girls so that they can continue to stay in school even during menstruation—reached a large number of the area's young women. Then, on the camp's second day, a member named Lion Florence learned of a disabled woman in the local health center who was enduring an especially long, difficult labor. She required a Cesarean section, though the center was not equipped to perform the procedure. She was at high risk, as was her baby, and the only place that could treat her properly was a long, rough drive away. Lion Florence alerted one of the camp's doctors, Dr. Kisekka Rockie, to the dire situation and the young mother-to-be was brought to the surgery theater.

As soon as the woman arrived, Rockie began the Cesarean, and in a mere half hour the baby was delivered. It was named after Naturinda and Rockie. Later, in an article in the club's glossy magazine, *Naturanida* said, "We have heard of numerous women dying in labor in rural areas, and I am sure that if it was not because of the Lions' presence here today this woman would have added to the statistics. Lions do miracles, and I have no doubt that this is one of those miracles that we will always remember." Rockie, it should be noted, joined the Kampala Central Lions Club soon after this hopeful event occurred.

The funding for the great things being done by Naturinda's club comes from its members but also fundraisers such as a marathon. And when Rebecca Kadaga, the speaker of Parliament, visited the club, she was so impressed she personally contributed a million shillings (\$385).

"Now we are planning to have a focal point for all our activities," Naturinda tells me as we are saying goodbye. "We've bought a large piece of land to build a multipurpose health and youth center. It's already designed, and we have construction estimates. That is our main project for next year: raising funds to build. We'll begin with a health and eye care unit, then expand from there." Given Kampala Central's impressive history of service, this new project seems destined for success.

As my visit with the Lions of Uganda was nearing its end, I didn't think I could be any more impressed than I already was. Then I met a couple of young women in the beach town of Entebbe, about a 45-minute drive from Kampala. The women's names are Rebecca Nankumbi and Kimera Remmie Suzan, and it's no overstatement to say they are doing amazing work. Nankumbi is president of the 23-member Entebbe Lions Club and also adviser to the Entebbe Secondary School Leos. She's been a teacher at the school for five years, and when I asked to see the project she's most proud of she immediately mentioned Kimera and her Purpose Babies Home. Kimera, in her early 30s, was working an office job in Entebbe a few years ago when she became aware of how many orphaned and abandoned babies there were in the community, some of whom were HIV positive. It disturbed her, but then it would disturb most people. What makes Kimera exceptional is that she committed herself to doing something about it, and she's been wildly successful in her efforts. She established the Purpose Babies Home, which now houses and educates (in the case

of the older kids) more than 30 children from small babies to age 5 or 6.

"I quit my job when I decided to take care of the babies," Kimera tells me, "and used the money I had saved up to rent this place." This "place" refers to a pleasant house with large yard and out-buildings not far from Entebbe's town center. The property also now includes a nicely appointed school with several classrooms. Nankumbi and her Leo students visit the home regularly, bringing food, toys and—most importantly—fun and affection, singing and dancing. I was fortunate to accompany them on one of their visits.

Before visiting the babies home, I met Nankumbi at the school where she teaches for a short tour. She showed me the vegetable garden the Leos have started; they sell the vegetables and use the proceeds to buy things for the children at Kimera's home and for other club activities. Walking across the school grounds, Nankumbi pointed out the large trees that the Lions had planted and the neatly painted sign announcing that the school was home to the Entebbe Lions Club Leos. Nankumbi explains that she was previously involved with the Red Cross, which got her in the habit of doing service and community work, then another teacher in the school got her interested in the Lions.

In addition to supporting the babies home, Nankumbi and her Lions and Leos colleagues help with cleanup at the local hospital, as well as volunteering at the Disabled Children's Home and a local home for the elderly. They get some support from LCIF, but most of what they spend comes from their own resources or donations they solicit. Club membership is 170,000 shillings annually (approximately \$65). Having Lions and Leos bring interested friends to meetings helps the club attract new members. Nankumbi tells me that she wants to "increase our focus



The preschool at the Purpose Babies Home is a place of learning and love.

on empowering the girl child, village children and school dropouts, by working through schools to empower girls.”

We drive over to Purpose Babies Home in a sedan and a pickup. The truck carries all the Leos and the gifts for the children; the sedan carries the rest of us. As we drive I think of the extraordinary women I’ve known (and some impressive men too) during the years I’ve spent in Uganda. The coffee cooperative I worked for when I lived in western Uganda was founded by women and its membership is still 85 percent women. They are a fun, hard-working and formidable bunch. Nankumbi and Kimera are no different: They see what needs doing, and they do it. Sounds simple, but it takes enormous resolve, courage and effort. Fortunately, they are up to the task. What’s more, they are great role models for the many girls and young women they come in contact with.

Once at the babies home, we pile out of the vehicles and unload the bags of gifts for the children, who are seated in a ragged circle on the large lawn near a brightly painted carousel. We are greeted by Kimera and her young, shy, darling daughter. Before joining the children, Kimera shows us around the home and the school. It’s a modest, tidy place with clean sheets on every bed and a stuffed animal, courtesy of Lions, waiting for each child. The school has numerous hand-drawn educational charts, books and other supplies, though the need to replenish is constant. Food, clothing and shoes are, of course, also in continual demand.

Kimera is preternaturally cheerful and relaxed and the kids seem happy, healthy and fun-loving. It is an inspiration to see what Kimera has achieved with her own hard work and a bit of help from Nankumbi, the Leos and Lions. As the Leos pass out the gifts to the children, one of Nankumbi’s fellow teachers drills them in animal sounds, then one of the Leo girls gives the kids a short speech. “Babies, we are so happy to see you today,” she tells them. “We always look forward to being with you and we miss you when we are away. But we always think of you and love you.” It is moving to hear these words come from this teenage girl, and the kids seem to know that she means what she says. I’m impressed, too, to see that male students are just as good and caring with the kids.

There are some songs and some dancing and sweets are passed out, then it’s time to go. I thank Kimera for the fine work she’s doing, and she invites me to visit any time I’m in Entebbe. I definitely will as it was the high point of my trip. For their part, Nankumbi and the other Lions will be coming back every couple of weeks or so, continuing to make community service a part of their lives and the lives of all they come in contact with. “It gives me a great deal of satisfaction,” Nankumbi says as we are driving away. “I feel touched by these children.”



There’s rarely a dull moment at the Purpose Babies Home.



# The Fight Against River Blindness in the Americas Advances

BY CASSANDRA BANNON

Lions remain active in the fight against onchocerciasis, and international efforts to eliminate the disease have made significant advances in the last year.

International Second Vice President Bob Corlew and a delegation of international Lions leadership traveled to Mexico City in November to participate in the XXIV InterAmerican Conference on Onchocerciasis (IACO), an annual meeting for partners of the Onchocerciasis Elimination Program for the Americas (OEPA) to celebrate achievements in the elimination of onchocerciasis, also known as river blindness, and to discuss potential solutions to remaining challenges.

Mexico has now eliminated disease transmission and completed the post-treatment surveillance period. Officials have submitted its dossier

to the World Health Organization (WHO) for disease elimination verification. If confirmed, Mexico will become the third country in the region to receive verification of elimination of onchocerciasis. The government of Guatemala also is preparing to start the official process to request confirmation from WHO. In 2013, Colombia became the first country confirmed by WHO as free of onchocerciasis, and Ecuador in September became the second country to receive confirmation.

While at the conference in Mexico City, Corlew and other Lion leaders met with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, a Lion, and Mary Anne Peters, CEO of The Carter Center and a former ambassador, to discuss the ongoing partnership between Lions and The Carter Center, which began in 1999.

“We are making huge strides toward halting onchocerciasis,” says Corlew. “Thanks to the work of our partners and the generosity of our Lions, we are preventing blindness and creating a future free from this debilitating disease.”

Onchocerciasis is a parasitic infection that causes extreme itching and eye lesions, and may lead to disfiguring skin diseases, low vision and irreversible blindness. Transmission of onchocerciasis in the Americas now continues only in the border region between Venezuela and Brazil among the Yanomami population. Interrupting onchocerciasis transmission in this region poses a significant challenge because the Yanomami people are migratory and live deep in the Amazon rainforest.

During the IACO conference, the ministries of health of Venezuela and Brazil committed to working together with The Carter Center, OEPA and other partners to eliminate onchocerciasis from this region by 2019. The Carlos Slim Foundation donated US\$6.8 million to OEPA to support elimination efforts among the Yanomami people.

Since the Lions-Carter Center partnership began, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has provided US\$6.3 million to Latin America via The Carter Center for onchocerciasis control, plus additional funds to help Lions in Brazil, Ecuador and other impacted countries support national onchocerciasis control projects. Latin America now has less than 1 percent of the world’s river blindness. About 120 million people remain at risk in Africa.

A health worker in Union Victoria, Guatemala, measures a child prior to administering the correct dosage of Mectizan® to prevent river blindness.  
Photo courtesy of The Carter Center/P. DiCampo



## Boost Membership and Morale during Membership Growth Month

With Membership Growth Month coming up in April, now is the perfect time to focus on inviting prospective Lions and planning for their welcome. Induction ceremonies can play a big part in solidifying new Lions' feelings of commitment and inclusion. And if you think of inductions as multi-tasking opportunities to build awareness and love for Lionism, they can do even more.

### Three Ways to a Bigger, Better Induction Event

#### 1. Run a Strong Membership Campaign

Incorporate creativity into inspiring Lions to invite new members. Initiate a district-wide challenge with prizes for the winners. Hold a friendship night or open house. Or invite friends to help with a service project, enabling them to experience what being a Lion is all about.

#### 2. Include a Public Relations Plan

Welcoming new members provides a chance to promote Lions' service in your community. Make the event newsworthy. Having a local official or celebrity participate, sharing a story about someone who the Lions helped or coinciding the induction with a unique service project will draw the media's attention.

#### 3. Hold a Meaningful Ceremony

Induction ceremonies should be unique and relevant to your members' cultures and traditions. Customize the event by combining a special ceremony with an educational orientation, a dinner with entertainment or a public event.



New Chernuei Lions in Taiwan show their pride as they are inducted into the club.

### Asked on Facebook: What makes an induction ceremony special?

"Make it all about the new members and how proud we are that they CHOSE to be a Lion."

—Tina Canon, Wilsonburg Lions Club, West Virginia

"It is not the formal induction—it's the laughter, the friendships, the welcoming nature of our club."

—Sharron Nickerson, Orchard Mesa Lions Club, California

"Some inductions have begun in darkness and all were welcomed to come into the light ... pretty moving!"

—Dawn Rice-Norton, Medway Lions Club, Massachusetts

### Don't Forget Current Members

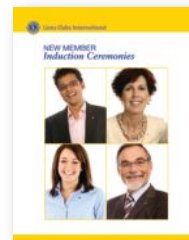
Existing Lions can reaffirm their commitment as part of induction festivities.



Include a ceremony for members to renew their dedication or receive recognition. Another option: present Lions who sponsor new members in April with pins for Membership Growth Month.

### Just a Click Away: LCI Resources

Looking for more guidance on planning an induction event that stands out? Find it in LCI's "New Member Induction Ceremonies" guide. Search for it at lionsclubs.org.



### Ask 1, Keep 1

In addition to President Preston's new initiative, "Keep 1" (January LION, page 4), he continues to encourage Lions to "Ask 1." "Just imagine if each and every Lions member—all 1.35 million—asked just one person to join their club. It's that simple," says Preston. Submit photos, download logos and purchase Ask 1 pins at lionsclubs.org. Also, watch for Preston's announcement of the Centennial Membership Challenge in the April LION.

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt

Watch the Ask 1 video.





## Lions are Tweeting

More Lions clubs are using Twitter to announce events, build support and thank project supporters. Get your club in on the Twitter action and while you're at it, follow LCI at @lionsclubs. Check out this sampling of Tweets from Lions:



**Bonita Lions Club, Florida @BonitaLions**

If you're interested in volunteering, leading projects, networking and having fun. Become a Lion!



**Seton Hall Lions Club, New Jersey @SHULions**

Our Recycle for Sight Initiative starts tonight! Jubilee 119, 8 p.m. Come out and help us decorate boxes to collect used eyeglasses.



**Arnprior Lions Club, Ontario, Canada @ArnpriorLions**

We're BBQing at the White Pine Festival in Arnprior this weekend. Drop by the Giant Tiger parking lot and grab a bite!



**Pasadena Lions Club, California @paslions**

Our thanks to Linden Optometry's Dr. Mo and technician Maria for helping us provide free vision screenings today.



**Lions 108 IB4, Milan, Italy @mondolions**

#lionsclub at #Expo2015 health prevention, food education and adoption of healthy lifestyles



## Facebook Feedback

In December we asked Lions what you would like to see as a theme for a future special edition December issue. Here are a few of your great suggestions:



**Diana Feit** Focus on RAP—so many great Reading Action Projects. —Stellarton & Area Lions Club, Nova Scotia, Canada



**Rockton Illinois Lions Clubs** Stories of how Lions have helped the hearing impaired, either by assisting with the purchase of hearing aids or providing free screenings.



**David Gauch** Since vision has been featured, I would say "youth" for 2015, "hunger" for 2016 and "environment" for 2017. That would tie in nicely with the Centennial Service Challenge. —MD13, Ohio



**Bruce Holmes** A focus on young leaders in service and how the Lions club engaged them. —Portarlington-Drysdale Lions Club, Australia

The LION wants to hear from you! Answer our next question on Facebook and Twitter on Feb. 4: *Hawaii, here we come! If you've been to Hawaii or plan to go for the convention, what's on your "must do" list?*

## Find it at lionsclubs.org

Are you always on the hunt for new ideas to build and strengthen membership? Gain inspiration from other clubs' initiatives on the Membership Success Stories page of LCI's website. Scroll through stories submitted by Lions from around the world and post your own account to make this resource even stronger. Search for "Membership Success Stories."



## Calling All Nature Paparazzi

Did you take a memorable photo outdoors on your last vacation? Show your commitment to improving the environment by submitting it for the Lions Environmental Photo Contest by March 1. Find the rules, see last year's winners and purchase the 2015 wall calendar at lionsclubs.org.

Connect with Us Online: [lionsclubs.org/web](http://lionsclubs.org/web)

Email us at [lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org) to submit a comment or make a story suggestion for our editors.

## 28th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest

# Share Peace

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

Start now. Purchase a 2015-16 Peace Poster Contest Kit (PPK-1), which contains all the materials needed to sponsor one contest.

Kits are sold through the Club Supplies Sales Department, January 15 - October 1, 2015, at International Headquarters. A kit must be purchased for each contest sponsored. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery; outside the U.S. may take longer.



**CALL 1-800-710-7822**

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



## Ask One in April and Be Recognized

Invite a member to join your club in **April** and receive a Membership Growth Award Pin!



Plus, if you invited a member in **October**, you will receive a gold pin and banner patch for your club.



**Visit [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)**

Questions? Email us at: [MemberPrograms@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberPrograms@lionsclubs.org)



## Club News

The **Clinton and Cayuga Lions Clubs** in **Indiana** have partnered to provide vision screenings for schoolchildren in three counties since 2007. The clubs share four Optic 5000 machines, two stereopsis kits and one color blindness kit. Lions have screened more than 9,000 students and made nearly 2,400 referrals since the program began. They've spent \$17,568 supporting the program and paying for follow-up treatment for students in need. "School nurses tell us that what we do in just a few hours would take them several months to complete due to all their other tasks," says Clinton Lion Dean Strohm.

Members of the **Moneta Lions Club** in **Virginia** pick up trash along a local roadway four times a year as part of an environmental project.

North Dakota Lion Judy Beaudry says serving as a youth camp coordinator at the **MD 5 Lions Badlands Youth Camp** in July was "an eye-opening, awesome experience" because of the 44 great young people, some of whom were Leos, who participated. "Many of the people they came into contact with thanked Lions for being able to meet them—they were so bright and compassionate. The people they touched may not run home and join a Lions club, but they will think of Lions positively because of the great impression these young people left," says Beaudry, a member of the Washburn Lions Club with husband, Mac, a camp director. Campers were from Canada, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia.

The **Spokane Central Lions Club** in **Washington** donated more than 30 plastic sacks and two backpacks loaded with school supplies. It's a club tradition to supplement what parents can provide. A corner of an office storage room is now filled with paper, pencils, pens and other supplies to be distributed to students as needed.

**Larsen-Winchester Lions** in **Wisconsin** have built what amounts to more than 4.5 miles of wheelchair ramps in the 34 years they've been constructing the ramps for disabled community mem-

bers. They recently completed their 800th ramp. The oldest member of the ramp crew is 92; two others are in their mid- to late 80s. Once the wheelchair ramp is no longer needed, Lions remove the structure's pre-made 10-foot sections to reuse at another home.

Members of the **Cecilton Lions Club** in **Maryland** screened 1,221 children recently, referring 143 for further care from a vision professional.

The **Rye Lions Club** in **New Hampshire** sponsored a car show that drew 500 spectators to see the 140 classic cars on display. Funds raised from the show will go toward scholarships, the New Hampshire Sight and Hearing Foundation, an association for the blind and funding for the club's medical equipment donation program.

Members of the **Livingston Lions Club** in **New Jersey** hosted a bingo and pizza party for residents of a home for veterans.



**Alto Lions** in **Michigan** (above) play a game with a little princess, one of hundreds of children who came to a Halloween party at Boulder Ridge Animal Park. Lions not only entertained trick-or-treaters, but also fed them and their families. More than 1,000 free hot dogs were given out, along with candy and prizes for winning a game.

**Selbyville Lions** in **Delaware** delivered canned hams to people in need in their community and gave another 99 hams to a food pantry for Meals on Wheels distribution. The club regularly helps stock local food pantries to help feed the hungry.

The **Lebanon Lions Club** in **Pennsylvania** hosted its first annual E. Michael Mease dinner, named in honor of a longtime beloved member who died. The \$10,000 raised will help Lions continue paying for eye exams and eyeglasses for people in need.



Lion Jim Martindale (above) makes wooden toys as part of a volunteer project supported by the **Chilliwack, Mt. Cheam, Dogwood Monarch and Stellars Jay Lions Clubs** in **British Columbia, Canada**. Over the past 10 years, more than 10,000 wooden pieces, including birdhouses, puzzles, cradles, trucks and cars, have been made and distributed to families in need and hospitalized children. Lions took charge of the project in 2013 from another community group they helped.

**Cucamonga District Host Lions** in **California** packed 3,140 used eyeglasses to be distributed on Lions missions.

The **Athens Middle School Leo Club** in **Tennessee** organized a food drive that collected more than 6,000 cans and packages of food for approximately 600 families who use the community food pantry. The estimated value of donations was between \$7,500 to \$10,000 collected during the five-day drive. Each day of the collection featured a theme, and students were allowed to dress according to that day's theme.

In **California**, the **Petaluma 7:11 Lions** held their annual White Cane Day, raising \$826 over two days for sight programs. They also prepared and served lunch at a Canine Companions for Independence graduation celebration.

The **Clear Spring Lions** in **Maryland** have managed a food bank since 1978, beginning with serving five families a month. The food bank currently serves 35 to 45 families.

In **New Jersey**, the **Absecon Lions** teamed up with public school students for a clothing drive, collecting more than 30 bags of coats, shoes and clothing items for a homeless shelter.

In **New York City**, Lions and LCIF sponsored a two-day Lions Quest training for 36 teachers.

The **Reedsburg** and **Baraboo Lions Clubs** in **Wisconsin** partnered to purchase a PediaVision Spot screening device, which they are using to screen all of the kindergarten through fourth grade students.

The **Cloverleaf Lions** in **Minnesota** are rehabilitating a 100-year-old city park building.



**Knowlton Lions** (above) in **Quebec, Canada** and volunteers assemble holiday baskets filled with new toys and food for families in need in several nearby communities.

For several holiday seasons, the **Watertown Lions Club** in **Connecticut** has aided Safe Haven, an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Lions collected \$11,000 in funds, food and clothing for the women and children at the shelter.

To increase community awareness of their activities, The **Tunkhannock Lions Club** in **Pennsylvania** offered free hot chocolate during the "Christmas In Our Hometown" celebration. The club also displayed a sign listing its recent accomplishments.

**Lowest Prices & Unmatched Value - Guaranteed!**

## Hawaii Four-Island Tour

Discover Paradise

**13 days from \$1649\***

Departs July 1, 2015. Join other Lions after the 98<sup>th</sup> International Convention and experience a true tropical paradise with perfect climate year round, stunning scenery and exquisite beaches while visiting the islands of Oahu, Kauai, Maui and the "Big Island" of Hawaii. Explore **Pearl**



**Harbor** and Punchbowl Crater on Oahu; enjoy an entertaining cruise on the Wailua River to romantic Fern Grotto on Kauai; visit Lahaina, the old whaling capital of the Pacific on Maui and on the "Big Island," tour **Volcanoes National Park**; the black sand beaches and more. Your vacation will be fully escorted by a friendly Polynesian

Tour Director who will provide an insider's perspective of the islands and also includes beachfront or centrally located hotels, inter-island flights, baggage handling, transfers, sightseeing and special events.

\*PPDO. Plus \$199 tax/service/government fees. Alternate monthly departure dates available. Seasonal charges may apply. Add-on airfare available.

## Rocky Mountain Tour & Western Frontiers

**14 days from \$1599\***

Departs August 12, 2015. Begin in Denver and enjoy a city tour followed by Cheyenne, the rodeo and railroad capital of the Old West. Then visit the Fort Laramie Historic Site and the majestic beauty of the Black Hills, including Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Crazy Horse Memorial. Explore the frontier town of Deadwood; "Little Big Horn National Monument" and the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. Continue to



**Yellowstone National Park** with opportunities to see spectacular geysers, lakes and mountains, including "Old Faithful." Then visit sister park Grand Teton, offering stunning views and extraordinary wildlife. Next, it's Salt Lake City with a tour including The Great Salt Lake. Head west and visit

the Utah Field House Museum and Dinosaur National Monument full of exhibits and scenery to explore. Your journey ends with a tour of **Rocky Mountain National Park** and thrilling drive on Trail Ridge Road, also known as the "highway to the sky."

\*PPDO. Plus \$159 tax/service/government fees. Alternate May - September departure dates available. Seasonal charges may apply. Add-on airfare available.

**YMT**<sup>TM</sup>  
**vacations**  
It's time to travel

**Call for Details!**  
**888-817-9538**

**Travel with  
other LION  
Members!**

Lions Club International not responsible for losses incurred.





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA, USA  
OCTOBER 5-8, 2014

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. The audited financial statements as of June 30, 2014, for The International Association of Lions Clubs and Lions Clubs International Foundation were reviewed and approved. The audited financial statements will be available following the board meeting.

### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Appointed the members of the District 301-A1 Advisory Committee.
2. Established the purpose, goals and objectives and changed the name of the Advisory Committee to Review Potential Vice President Candidates and revised Chapter II of the Board Policy Manual accordingly.
3. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2015 International Convention to amend the International Constitution and By-Laws to reinstate the office of International Third Vice President.
4. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2015 International Convention to amend the International Constitution to reallocate board representation.
5. Adopted a resolution to be reported to the 2015 International Convention to amend the International By-Laws to change the name of the "Leadership" Committee to "Leadership Development" Committee.

### CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Revised start times on the official convention schedule of events.
2. Established per diem allowances for appointed Credentials Committee members serving without other reimbursement, District Governors-elect and District Governors-elect Faculty and headquarters staff attending the Honolulu convention.
3. Revised policy to update procedures, appointments and systems in Chapter VIII, Paragraph E in the Board Policy Manual related to Credentials and Elections Procedures.

### DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Amended the Club Excellence Award and the DG Team Excellence Award to encourage electronic reporting and communication.
2. Expanded District 403 B1 to include the country of São Tomé and Príncipe.
3. Approved redistricting proposals for District 1-E and District 1-L (Illinois); District 14-A and District 14-R (Pennsylvania); Multiple District 29 (West Virginia); Multiple District 37 (Canada and Montana); and Multiple District 104 (Norway); to take place at the adjournment of the 2015 International Convention. Approved redistricting proposals submitted by District 106 A and District 106 B (Denmark) and Multiple District 13 (Ohio), to take place at the adjournment of the 2016 International Convention.
4. Appointed Lions to fill district governor vacancies.
5. Revised the Board Policy Manual to modernize the process for providing address information by replacing mailing labels with electronic data formats.
6. Amended the Board Policy Manual to allow name badges to be made for new titles as noted in Lions Club International Official Protocol and as determined by the International President or Executive Administrator.

### FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Approved the recommended changes to the General Fund and Emergency Reserve Fund Investment Policy Statements (IPS). Changes include:
  - The median or modeled return will be adjusted annually based on the Callan Five-Year Capital Markets Projection and the approved strategic asset allocation. The expected return will be reviewed with the committee annually and incorporated into the quarterly reviews.
  - Technical Changes: These include modification of portfolio benchmark(s), restatement of the existing asset allocation bandwidth, use of more relevant peer groups and indices, etc.
  - Correcting minor typographical errors.
2. Approved minor revisions to the Lions Clubs International Purchasing Policy.

3. Approved the 2014-2015 1st Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
4. Approved increasing the annual spending from the General Fund investments by an additional US\$4 million for fiscal year 2014-2015.
5. Amended Chapter XXII, Paragraph E.d. of the Board Policy Manual by replacing "US\$.41 per mile (US\$.25 per kilometer)" with "US\$.50 per mile (US\$.31 per kilometer)" effective July 1, 2015.
6. Deleted Chapter IX, Paragraph C.4.c. (2) of the Board Policy Manual in its entirety and replaced it with the following:  
Charter air travel may be authorized in advance by the Finance and Headquarters Operation Committee where travel by commercial air is not feasible and significant cost savings may be realized.
7. Deleted Chapter IX, Paragraph C.4. g. of the Board Policy Manual in its entirety, effective July 1, 2015. As agreed at the Toronto board meeting, effective July 1, 2015, district governors will no longer be reimbursed for office expenses; instead an increase in mileage rate was approved. This deletion reflects this change.
8. Approved a housekeeping revision to Chapter XII, Paragraph E.1. of the Board Policy Manual to update travel rules to reflect practice, as well as current titles.
9. Deleted Chapter XII, Paragraph E.4., I.3., and I.5. of the Board Policy Manual, as these policies are included in the Employee Handbook and have no financial impact.
10. Approved a housekeeping revision replacing the words "Rule No." with "section" in Chapter IX, Paragraph C.2.b of the Board Policy Manual.
11. Approved a housekeeping revision to Chapter XXII, Paragraph E.b.(3) to clarify the hotel and meal reimbursement.
12. Amended Chapter XI, Paragraph D.2.a. of the Board Policy Manual by deleting the sentence "This forecast will reflect expenses equal to or less than revenues." This is in conflict with the association's long-term strategic plan to subsidize any deficits with funds from the General Fund Investments.
13. Amended Chapter XXII, Paragraph C. of the Board Policy Manual, effective July 1, 2015, to modestly increase the maximum in-district budgets for international directors, past international presidents and past international directors as follows:

International directors	US\$6,200 to US\$9,000
Past international presidents	US\$8,000 to US\$10,000
Past international directors	US\$3,000 to US\$4,000

### LCIF

1. Revised the Investment Policy Statement by revising the target allocations for the Humanitarian Fund, further defining the alternative target allocations, and several administrative changes.
2. Approved 56 Standard, International Assistance and Core 4 grants, totaling US\$2,740,733.
3. Approved a Core 4 disability grant in the amount of US\$1,563,300, which represents the 2015 budget for the Lions-Special Olympics Mission Inclusion program.
4. Approved a Core 4 board-directed grant in the amount of US\$100,000, which represents the 2015 budget for the Lions-Aga Khan Development Network tree planting initiative.
5. Delegated the authority to select the nominees for the 2015 Humanitarian Award to the LCI Executive Officers.
6. Placed a moratorium on the consideration of all new grant requests from District 321-C2, effective immediately, and further stipulated that District 321-C2 return all funds disbursed for GA10907/321-C2 by December 31, 2014, or the moratorium will continue through July 1, 2017.
7. Amended Chapter 2 (Operations) of the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to include several housekeeping updates on the sections of budget management, LCIF expenses, grant approval policy and financial reports.
8. Amended Chapter 3 (Grants) of the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to include housekeeping update that US\$100,000 is the maximum amount available for Standard grants.

## Anniversaries

### FEBRUARY 2015

**95 Years:** Flint Downtown Host, Mich.; Nashville, Tenn.; Port Huron Host, Mich.; Rockford, Ill.

**90 Years:** Corvallis, Ore.; Ephrata, Pa.; Kennett Square, Pa.; St. Petersburg, Fla.; Waxahachie, Texas; Webster Groves, Mo.

**85 Years:** Clyde, Kan.; Fort Atkinson, Wis.; Gosport, Ind.; Lewiston, Idaho; Orange City, Iowa; Tomah, Wis.

**80 Years:** New Castle, Ind.; Schumacher, ON, CAN; Skowhegan, Maine; Talbotton, Ga.; Van Buren, Ind.

**75 Years:** Bell Gardens, Calif.; Bryson City, N.C.; Chestertown, Md.; Coweta, Okla.; Easton, Md.; Fairfield, Mont.; Franklin, Ky.; Leesburg, Ohio; Lewisburg, W.V.; Manati, P.R.; Monticello, Miss.; Plain City, Ohio; Preston, Md.; Remsen, Iowa; Seguin Noon, Texas; Sharptown, Md.; St. Matthews, Ky.; Sumrall, Miss.; Thibodaux, La.; Towns County, Ga.; Victor, N.Y.; Williamston, S.C.

**50 Years:** Airdrie, AB, CAN; Ashburnham, Mass.; Athens Classic City, Ga.; Bailey Mountain, Colo.; Carlton Yamhill, Ore.; Clarklake, Mich.; Dousman Ottawa, Wis.; Gregory, S.D.; Helena, Mo.; Hokes Bluff, Ala.; Jeddo, Mich.; Jefferson Community, Pa.; Juana Diaz, P.R.; Middleton, Tenn.; New Boston Evening, Texas; Newcastle, NB, CAN; Pompey, N.Y.; Portland, Texas; Scarborough Cedarbrae Golden Mile, ON, CAN; Seligman, Mo.; Shelbyville, Ill.; Thistle-town, ON, CAN; Tri Dams, Calif.; Westchester, Ill.

**25 Years:** Eighty Four, Pa.; Palmer Rapids & Area, ON, CAN; Shelbyville Liberty, Tenn.; Toronto Mandarin, ON, CAN; Weare, N.H.

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

View the Higher Key Awards issued in October.

## Information

### In Memoriam

Past International Director Jules Coté, who served on the International Board of Directors from 2003 to 2005, has died. A Lion since 1966, he was a member of the Burlington Lions Club in Vermont and served as executive director of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired and as president of the Vermont Coalition of Disability Rights in addition to many other civic and Lions responsibilities.

- Amended Exhibit D (Forms of Recognition) of the LCIF Operations and Policy Manual to include information on the criteria for the Chairperson's Medal and where it fits in the hierarchy of LCIF awards.
- Amended Chapter 16, Paragraph B (Humanitarian Grants Financial Spending Policy) of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the revised Investment Policy Statement.
- Amended Chapter 16, Paragraph E (General Reimbursement Policies) of the Board Policy Manual regarding mileage.
- Amended Chapter 16, Paragraph F (Endowment Funds) of the Board Policy Manual in order to be compliant.
- Amended Chapter 16, Paragraph I (Investments) of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the revised Investment Policy Statement and eliminate unnecessary language.

#### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Approved a Faculty Development Institute for qualified Lions in North America, to be conducted in 2014-2015.
- Approved the curriculum plan and schedule for the 2015 District Governors-elect Seminar in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.
- Approved a Faculty Development Institute for qualified Lions in Central and Eastern Europe, to be conducted in May 2015.
- Approved curriculum and funding support for an Emerging Lions Leadership Institute for qualified Lions in Africa, to be conducted in early 2015.
- Requested that the Constitution and By-laws Committee draft language for a by-laws amendment, to be reported to the delegates for vote at the 2015 International Convention, changing the name of the Leadership Committee of the International Board to "Leadership Development Committee."

#### LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Determined that a reallocation of board seats be presented for approval to the delegates at the 2015 Convention as a constitutional amendment. This reallocation would reduce the number of international directors elected from Constitutional Area I, and would increase the number of international directors elected from Constitutional Areas V and VI.
- Decided that a constitution and by-laws amendment to reinstate the office of third vice-president be presented to the delegates for approval at the 2015 International Convention.
- Renamed the Special Centennial Planning Committee the "Centennial Action Committee."

#### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- Approved "Join Together," a new club pilot program for two years to charter Lions clubs or form club branches at existing community-based nonprofits in USA, Canada, the British Isles and Ireland, Sweden and Australia.
- Approved the Centennial Membership Program with an implementation date of April 1, 2015.
- Amended the international family and women coordinator job description to include reimbursement for approved forum expenses and be retroactive for approved forums in the current fiscal year.
- Approved a pilot program for a family and women structure that mirrors the GMT and GLT structure in constitutional areas V and VI.
- Approved the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe to become the 210<sup>th</sup> country/territory.
- Amended the Board Policy Manual for the extended billing adjustment period for Campus Lions clubs that effective July 1, 2015, campus clubs have through March 31 for the January per capita billing and through September 30 for the July per capita billing to amend their club roster.
- Approved the name change from the "Extension and Membership Division" to the "Membership Development Division."

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- Changed the centennial grant program to award up to US\$1,500 per district (not to exceed US\$15,000) and up to US\$2,500 for single districts.
- Approved to convert all official editions of LION Magazine from a print to a digital format by January 1, 2018.
- Changed Chapter XVII of the Board Policy Manual to require centennial related articles in all editions of LION Magazine.
- Inserted Lions Clubs International Foundation Executive Administrator into the Order of Precedence immediately after the position of Association Treasurer.
- Increased Leadership Awards from 1,280 to 1,680 for Lion year 2014-2015.

#### SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

- Established the positions of multiple district and district Reading Action Program (RAP) chairpersons beginning in fiscal year 2015-2016, and encourage all council of governors and district governors to appoint RAP chairpersons for one-year terms.
- Selected Leos and Lions to serve as members and alternates for the Leo Club Advisory Panel for the term of November 2014 - October 2016.
- Changed the name of the Leo of the Year Award to Leos of the Year Award.

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





## LCI COPY

(Mail to LCI before May 1, 2015)

Lions Clubs International Convention – 2015 Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Club Identification Number:

District:

Number of allowable delegates:  
Members:

Club Name:

Address:

**See previous page for the allowable delegate table.**

Please select one:

☐

DELEGATE

OR

☐

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Club Officer

Mail the above to LCI (Club & Officer Records Admin.) before May 1, 2015. After that date, bring it to the convention.

Lions Clubs International • 300 W 22<sup>nd</sup> Street • Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA

EN

## DELEGATE/ALTERNATE DELEGATE COPY

(Bring this copy to the Convention)

Lions Clubs International Convention – 2015 Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Club Identification Number:

District:

Number of allowable delegates:  
Members:

Club Name:

Address:

LCI stamp for  
Alternate  
Delegate  
certification

**See previous page for the allowable delegate table.**

Please select one:

☐

DELEGATE

OR

☐

ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Club Officer

# LION

## STAFF

**Editor-in-Chief:** Scott Drumheller  
**Managing Editor:** Dane La Joye  
**Senior Editor:** Jay Copp  
**Associate Editor:** Pamela Mohr  
**Assistant Editor:** Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt  
**Graphics Manager:** Connie Schuler  
**Graphic Designer:** Christina Jacobs  
**Graphic Designer:** Lisa Smith  
**Production Manager:** Mary Kay Rietz  
**Circulation Manager:** Troy R. Jewell

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

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

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

Contents copyrighted © 2015 by The International Association of Lions Clubs. All rights reserved. Reproduction wholly or in part, except as brief quotations, is prohibited except with written permission.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Joseph Preston, Dewey, Arizona, United States; Immediate Past President Barry J. Palmer, North Maitland, Australia; First Vice President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Minokamo-shi, Gifu-ken, Japan; Second Vice President Robert E. Corlew, Milton, Tennessee, United States. Contact the officers at Lions Clubs International, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523-8842, USA.

## DIRECTORS

### Second year directors

Fabio de Almeida, São Paulo, Brazil; Lawrence A. "Larry" Dicus, California, United States; Roberto Fresia, Albissola Marina, Italy; Alexis Vincent Gomès, Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo; Cynthia B. Gregg, Pennsylvania, United States; Byung-Gi Kim, Gwangju, Korea; Esther LaMothe, Michigan, United States; Yves Léveillé, Quebec, Canada; Teresa Mann, Hong Kong, China; Raju V. Manwani, Mumbai, India; William A. McKinney, Illinois, United States; Michael Edward Molenda, Minnesota, United States; John Pettis Jr., Massachusetts, United States; Robert Retty, Neuchatel, Switzerland; Emine Oya Sebük, Istanbul, Turkey; Hidenori Shimizu, Gunma, Japan; Dr. Steven Tremaroli, New York, United States.

### First year directors

Svein Øystein Berntsen, Hetlevik, Norway; Jorge Andrés Bortolozzi, Coronda, Argentina; Eric R. Carter, Auckland, New Zealand; Charlie Chan, Singapore, Singapore; Jack Epperson, Nevada, United States; Edward Farrington, New Hampshire, United States; Karla N. Harris, Wisconsin, United States; Robert S. Littlefield, 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, Washington, United States; Kembra L. Smith, Georgia, United States; Dr. Joong-Ho Son, Daejeon, Republic of Korea; Linda L. Tincher, Indiana, United States.

## ADVERTISING SALES Chicago

Mary Kay Rietz, Adv. Mgr.  
LION, 300 W. 22nd St.  
Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842  
630-468-6880  
Fax: 630-706-9234  
marykay.rietz@lionsclubs.org

## East Coast

Stephanie Bernbach-Crowe  
RB Advertising Representatives  
195 Cleveland Drive  
Croton on Hudson, NY 10520  
914-827-0015  
stephanie@rbadvertisingreps.com

## Central US

Tom Rickert  
Rickert Media, Inc.  
1745 Wazee Street  
Denver, CO 80202  
720-524-4859  
tom.rickert@rickertmedia.com

Pat Rickert  
Rickert Media, Inc.  
6710 Garfield Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55423  
612-861-1991  
pat.rickert@rickertmedia.com

## SUBSCRIPTIONS Change of Address

stats@lionsclubs.org, 630-203-3830  
Or send your new address to:  
Circulation Manager, LION Magazine  
300 W 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL  
60523-8842

## DELEGATE FORM Instructions for the International Convention

Are you serving as the Delegate or Alternate Delegate for your club? If so, please complete the attached form on page 54 and return the top half of the form to Lions Clubs International before **May 1**. Bring the bottom half of the form to the convention and present it when you arrive to certify at the Credentials area in the convention center. **Before sending the form, be sure a club officer (Club President, Secretary or Treasurer) signs both halves as indicated on form.** Mail the form to Lions Clubs International, Attn.: Club & Officer Records Admin Dept., 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842. Or fax your form to 630-706-9295.

In order to certify for the election, you will also need to bring a government-issued photo ID with your signature. Please be sure your club number is clearly printed on the delegate form for quicker processing. The LION will publish in April information on the number of allowable delegates for a club. For more information, contact the Club & Officer Records Administration Department at stats@lionsclubs.org or call (630) 468-6938.

**The 98th Lions Clubs International Convention**

**HAWAII** June 26 - 30, 2015

**Exclusive Lions Hawaii Cruising & Tours**

**7 day Hawaii Cruise on Norwegian Cruise Line's Pride of America**

**7 day Hawaiian Island Cruise**  
Jul 4-11 from \$2025USD\*  
Jun 20-27 from \$2440USD\*

**4 Day Maui Magic Package**  
from \$490USD\*

**4 Day Aloha Oahu Package**  
from \$333USD\*

**4 Day Kauai Explorer Package**  
from \$515USD\*

**4 Day Hawaii's Big Island Package**  
from \$429USD\*

**GUARANTEED DEPARTURES**

- We will customize any itinerary
- Please inquire for Special Lions Airfare rates

**CALL GOWAY TRAVEL - your LCI EXPERTS**  
1 877 469 2914 (Toll free for Lions)  
Email: [lions@goway.com](mailto:lions@goway.com)  
Sign up for YOUR Presentation at:  
[www.goway.com/lions](http://www.goway.com/lions)  
\*prices are per person based on double occupancy, land only

**Goway.com**  
Preferred Agent 2015 Lions Clubs Convention





## Stroke of Genius

Zrinski Lions in Croatia cleverly promoted both physical fitness and art appreciation at the city pool in Cakovec. Their Swimming to Light event drew 211 swimmers from ages 3 to 86 who swam a total of 465,150 meters (289 miles). The top swimmer tallied 35,000 meters (2.2 miles). The pool featured the underwater photography of renowned artist Marjan Radovic. Lions used the funds raised from the event to purchase devices for the blind for the city library and an association for the blind and to print city travel guides in Braille.



# Don't Let Life's Little Dental Problems Ruin Your Day.

## Make Loose Fitting Dentures Feel Like New!

Reline your dentures easily and safely! For both uppers and lowers.



## Repair Broken Dentures!

Fix breaks, mend cracks and even re-attach loose teeth.

Trust  
Dentist On Call®

Where Satisfaction  
is Always Guaranteed.

[dentistoncall.com](http://dentistoncall.com)

800.238.0220

Dentist On Call's  
denture and other dental  
products are available at  
drug and food stores  
everywhere.







# LAST CHANCE SAVINGS!

## POWER PANTS

WOW! Now Only

**\$12** per pair in lots of 2 or more!  
Reg. 2 for 29.95

**For ALL Waists 32 - 60!**

4" of Hidden S-t-r-e-t-c-h!  
(It's there, we swear!)

**100% Wash & Wear!**

### High-Quality, No-Wrinkle Fabric!

Your favorite premium quality dress pants, now **IMPROVED** with invisible Fit-Forever® Expansion Waist! Guaranteed to be the Best Fitting, Best Feeling pair of pants you've ever owned! Tailored in excellent dress fabric that feels and drapes like wool, but is 100% woven polyester — machine wash & dry with no shrinking, no wrinkling, and **NO IRONING!**

### Styling Appointments:

Trim flat front, 4 pockets, button close, nylon zipper.

**LAST CHANCE at this Low Price!**

**BIG GUYS, Same Low Price!**

**Now Available In Extra Short Inseams!**



**\$12** per pair in lots of 2 or more!  
2 for \$24  
3 for \$36  
4 for \$48

Haband #1 Bargain Place, Jessup, PA 18434-1834

I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ purchase price, and only \$5.99 shipping & handling for my entire order. Please add applicable state & local sales tax for the following states:  
AZ, GA, MA, NJ, PA, WI, & WV.

**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed**  
or Full Refund of merchandise purchase price.

**FOR MAXIMUM COMFORT, ORDER YOUR USUAL WAIST SIZE!**  
Waist: 32 34 36 38 40 42 44  
**Big Men (SAME LOW PRICE):**  
46 48 50 52 54 56 58 60  
Inseams: XS(25-26) S(27-28) M(29-30) L(31-32) XL(33-34)

☐ Famous Maker Set of 3 Belts!

Even sizes. 32 to 60.  
Genuine Leather. Black & Brown assorted colors.  
Add Just \$12 per set!

7ØR1C (31) assorted

What Size: \_\_\_\_\_

How Many Sets: \_\_\_\_\_

### On-Line Quick Order

☺	7TF-Ø1V6L	Imported		
		WHAT WAIST?	WHAT INSEAM?	HOW MANY?
Ø3	NAVY			
Ø2	TAN			
8A	SLATE			
6B	PEWTER			
N7	CORDOVAN			
Ø1	BLACK (not shown)			

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Haband! ☐ BLAIR CLASSIC  
☐ Visa ☐ AmEx  
☐ MC ☐ Check  
☐ Discover® Network

When you pay by check, you authorize us to use information from your check to clear it electronically. Funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

**Haband!**

#1 Bargain Place  
Jessup, PA 18434-1834

**For Faster Service Call: 1-800-543-4810 or visit [www.Haband.com/bestdeals](http://www.Haband.com/bestdeals)**