

Keep on Truckin'
Highway tragedy sparks long-term delivery of goods.

The Comeback
Bacterial infection can't keep Canadian down.

Strengthen the Pride
Ten ways to improve your club.

LION

LCIF:
Transforming
Lives in Tibet and
Perhaps Your
Town, Too

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98th Lions Clubs International Convention
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Friday, June 26 – Tuesday, June 30, 2015

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meet humanitarian
needs, encourage
peace and promote
international
understanding
through Lions
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Help Lions Help Others Through LCIF

A young girl in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, is happy after receiving new glasses from Fargo Lions in North Dakota on a mission supported by LCIF.

Joni and I are Lions, but we're parents, too. So it was very gratifying for us when we recently visited a primary school in Nairobi, Kenya, and watched as more than 300 lovely children received vision screenings. Joni and I then had the privilege of giving eyeglasses to the children that needed them. I'm not sure who was smiling more—the children or us. You can smile with pride, too, because the screenings were made possible by LCIF. And LCIF's remarkable service is made possible by Lions such as yourself.

I almost didn't want to tell about this project in Kenya. You may get the wrong idea about LCIF. Kenya is probably not anywhere near you. You may think, "Oh, yes, LCIF helps people far away from here, in undeveloped nations." I am proud that LCIF indeed helps people in dire need in impoverished places. Working through LCIF, Lions restore sight, protect people against measles and help disaster victims get back on their feet and so much more.

But our Foundation also helps millions of people in developed nations. It's active perhaps in your own commu-

nity or likely a community near you. As just a few examples, LCIF recently awarded \$100,000 to Lions in Colorado to provide vision screening equipment to the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, \$75,000 to Lions in Ohio to equip a handicapped-accessible playground and \$100,000 to Lions in Toronto, Canada, to provide equipment to a Lions eye care center.

LCIF is Lions' tool for serving on a larger scale than clubs can do on their own. Think of LCIF as a logical extension of the Lions' model. We join a club because our service is more valuable when we unite with like-minded others. We support LCIF because our funds go a lot further when put into a common pool. Through LCIF, we help each other help others. We can and do provide services that governments and other civic groups are not able to.

Please take a few minutes to read the full story about LCIF in this issue. If you have any doubts about the value of being a Lion or don't quite grasp the scope and reach of Lions' service, this story will swell your pride in being a Lion. One sure way to Strengthen the Pride is to better understand who we are and what we do. Now that's something to smile about.



Joe Preston

Joe Preston
Lions Clubs International President

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Celeste,
Dance
Instructor



Introducing Kyrobak, the new device that uses professional technology for personal use to deliver lasting results — and it takes just 10 relaxing minutes!

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used by medical professionals, are available in this doctor-recommended, home-use device. Just 10 relaxing minutes is all it takes for Kyrobak to deliver lasting relief for your lower back pain.

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Ken S., Museum Curator

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DR STEVEN GEANOPULOS,
CHIROPRACTIC NEUROLOGIST



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Animal Attraction

[The Big Picture



Seven blind teenagers and pre-teens cuddled birds, touched calves, fed hay to cattle and experienced farm life for a day in rural Minnesota. The outing was led by Charlene Guggisberg (top photo), who is blind. She grew up on a farm and now works at BLIND Inc. in Minneapolis. The youths and their three counselors visited farms owned by Al Guggisberg, Charlene's brother, and Tony Guggisberg, her cousin. The farm visit was part of BLIND's Buddy Program, a 24-day stay with the counselors in apartments in Minneapolis. The youths study Braille, practice cane travel, take computer and cooking classes, do their own laundry and go rock climbing and paddle boating. The Lafayette & Area, New Ulm, Shakopee, Richfield and Minneapolis Riverview Lions clubs supported the Buddy Program; Charlene's father, Wallace, is a longtime Lafayette Lion. Several Lions also accompanied the youths to the farms.

Photos by Lion Ruth Klossner



Night Rider

The Tyne Tunnel 2K race in northeastern England is billed as “the fastest wheelchair race on the planet.” Racers, including many Paralympians, speed nearly 50 miles per hour on a downhill stretch of the tunnel, which runs beneath the Tyne River. Jade Jones (photo), 16, won the women’s race in 6.14. The Tynedale Lions Club was a race sponsor, and Lion David Burdus’ company organized the race. An access consultant (advising architects on making buildings accessible), Burdus is a former wheelchair road racer. He took this race photo, which won first place in a photo competition of the LION Magazine, British and Irish edition.



Watch a clip of the race and learn more about Burdis at lionmagazine.org.



A TIP OF THE HAT TO A NATIONAL HERO

He saved 155 people from dying in an airplane crash, and now he is helping Lions and LCIF save children from dying of measles. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, who became a national hero in 2009 when he safely landed his jet in the Hudson River in New York, has donated a signed US Airways captain's hat to Lions in District 19 C in Washington. The highest donor to LCIF's One Shot, One Life measles program will win the hat from 19 C Lions. The winner can be an individual, a club, a district or a multiple district.

A child's life can be saved for less than \$1 with a measles immunization. The Washington Lions' goal is to raise \$100,000 for LCIF, and their initiative is subtitled The Hat That Saved 100,000 Lives.

The autographed hat is worth several thousand dollars, says 19 C Vice District Governor John Kirry, a friend of Sullenberger since both were pilots for Pacific Southwest Airlines in the 1980s. Sullenberger delivered the keynote speech at the 93rd International Convention in Sydney in 2010. For information, contact Kirry at lionjk@comcast.net or (253) 265-1466.



Lions in Washington held the initial planning for their hat donation program on Jan. 15, the anniversary of the emergency landing of the plane piloted by Sully Sullenberger.

Watch part of Sullenberger's stirring speech at the Lions' international convention in Sydney.

100

FIRST CENTENNIAL VIDEO PREMIERES

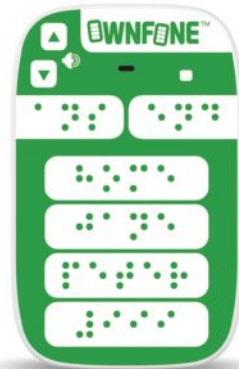
The first centennial video, a five-minute story on the founding of Lions Clubs International, is part of the latest LQ, the Lions Quarterly video magazine. The video explains how and why Lions began in 1917 and why "Lions" was chosen as a name. It describes founder Melvin Jones and the Chicago Central Lions Club, the first new club. Subsequent videos, to be released periodically, will focus on Jones, Lions as Knights of the Blind, expansion of Lionism, peace/international understanding and other themes.

Watch the first centennial video.

GROUNDBREAKING BRAILLE PHONE GOES ON SALE

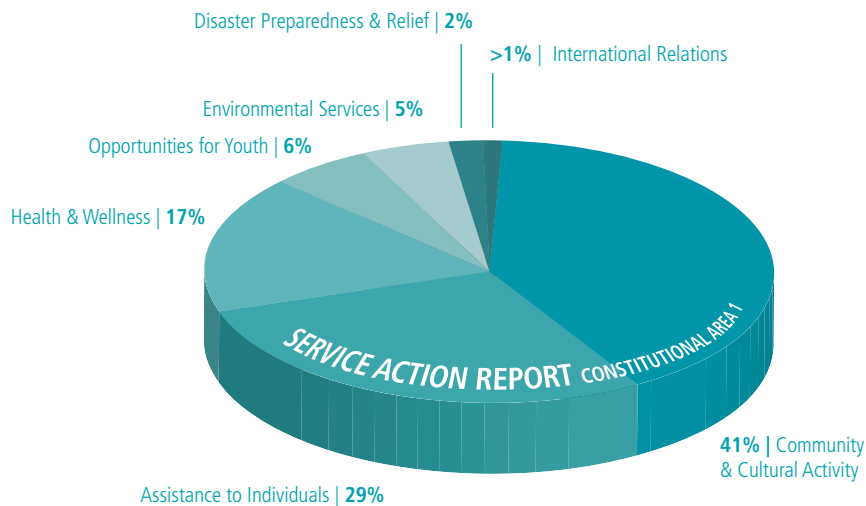
A Braille phone is being sold by a London-based company. The front and back of the phone are made using a 3D printer and can be customized. The company, OwnFone, says the phone is the first of its kind to be on the retail market, according to BBC News. For those who can't read Braille, raised text can be printed on the keypad. Another feature is that several Braille buttons can be pre-programmed to call family, friends or emergency services. The phone costs 60 pounds (US\$100).

It's currently available only in the United Kingdom, but OwnFone plans to soon sell it in the United States and elsewhere.



The iPhone is life-altering for the blind (Sept. 2012 LION).

Ingenious devices for the blind make everyday life easier (Nov. 2008).



U.S. LIONS' SERVICE TYPICAL OF REST OF WORLD

U.S. Lions are most likely to serve as a Lion through a community or cultural activity such as civic service, food distribution or a sports/recreational event. The next common service category for Lions from Constitutional Area I (U.S. and affiliates, Bermuda and Bahamas) is assistance to individuals such as aid to the vision or hearing impaired and aid to the elderly. The third most common service category is health and wellness such as eyeglass recycling and vision screening, according to the 2013-14 Service Activity Report of Lions Clubs International (LCI). The annual summary compiles the service reported to LCI.

The breakdown of service of Lions worldwide resembles the U.S. Lions' pattern: community and cultural activities were most popular, followed by assistance to individuals and then health and wellness. The totals for all seven constitutional areas are: 371 million people served through 21.5 million Lions service hours and 550,561 projects. Also reported were 3.5 million eyeglasses collected and 1.6 million trees planted.

CLUB TOYS WITH PARKING REGULATIONS

Parking is not easy in Alliston, Ontario, a town of 15,000 often blanketed in snow in winter. Vehicles are not permitted to be parked on a street for more than two hours during the snow season. In December a cluster of cars sat for hours in one spot. The drivers were at a church function. In the spirit of the season, actually owing to Alliston Lions, the police officer did not issue any tickets. Instead, he alerted them to the club's Toys for Tickets drive. The next day the grateful drivers dropped off bags of new toys at the police station. During the drive, 18 people chose to donate toys in lieu of a parking ticket. The club collected 7,000 pounds of food and assisted 153 families through the toys/tickets program, bins placed at stores, schools and churches, and a "red-light" special in which officers aside a police cruiser, aided by Lions, accepted donations from shoppers outside a Wal-Mart. The Alliston Lions obviously enjoy a longstanding relationship with town leaders. The current mayor, Richard Milne, is second vice president.

EXTRA, EXTRA: LIONS LIKE THE LION

Sixty-eight percent of Lions surveyed said receiving LION Magazine is an important part of their membership while 32 percent said it was unimportant. How did Lions rate the LION compared to other magazines they read on a regular basis? Forty-three percent said it was good, 28 percent said very good, 19 percent fair, 7 percent "one of my favorites" and 3 percent said poor. The readership data is from a 2014 survey by Lions Clubs International of 2,000 U.S. Lions. About 57 percent of Lions surveyed read every issue of the LION while 14 percent said they read three of four, 8 percent said they read two of four and 12 percent said one of four. Thirty-eight percent said they spent less than 30 minutes reading an issue, 31 percent spent between 30 to 59 minutes on an issue, 21 percent from one to two hours and 10 percent more than two hours. Fifty-five percent said they recycle the LION after reading it while 24 percent discard it, 12 percent save it and 19 percent place it in a waiting room or give it to another person or a hospital, library or other institution. (Percentages for this question exceed 100 percent because some Lions both recycle the magazine and sometimes pass it on.) As for the digital LION (lionmagazine.org), 18 percent said they read it. Sixty-five percent of those who read it find it somewhat useful, 17 percent very useful and 11 percent not very useful.



Debra Leroy Russell of the Washington County Ladies Lions Club in Texas reads the LION while vacationing in Key West, Florida.

Ahmi Dhuna

Burlington Area Leo, Iowa

This driven and dynamic high school senior excels at sports, science and service. A Leo of the Year Award recipient and Leo Club Program Advisory Panel member, Dhuna credits her achievements to the high bar set by her two older brothers and her parents' knack for letting her passions soar—sometimes quite literally.

Plays the clarinet and alto saxophone

Recently went on family trip to the Galapagos Islands (pictured)

Plans on a career in the medical field



Dancing Cub

My brother was the founder of my Leo club, and I started tagging along to service projects when I was 9. I was the honorary club mascot! My favorite memory is going to the prom that the Leos held at the nursing home. I loved dancing and watching the kids and seniors together.

Serving Up Team Spirit

I started playing tennis when I was 5. I love that it's as much a mental challenge as physical. I was team captain last year. It's challenging to motivate a team in an individual sport. My Leo leadership experience helped me know how to encourage my teammates and build a contagious excitement.

An Evergreen Curiosity

I'm fascinated by science. I won the state Junior Science and Humanities Symposium with a research project on the antibacterial effects of the neem tree. The twigs are commonly used as toothbrushes in India, where my parents grew up. My mom used neem twigs until she was 12, and she's never had a cavity!

Cleared for Takeoff

My parents have always let my passions grow, even if it's been something they might rather I not do. I was at an airshow last year, and a flight school was offering free introductory lessons. After a long phone call with my parents, I was taxiing onto the tarmac. I knew this would become my

sanctuary, something that made me feel powerful but also at peace.

The Sky's the Limit

I'm younger by 7 years than my brothers. They're incredibly hard workers, and that rubbed off on me. But it's taken some time for me to discover my own path. Being a Leo has been a big part of that. One of my brothers came with me one day to flight school. Now he's following my lead and getting his license!

April is Leo Club Awareness Month. Find out about ways to help Leos like Dhuna soar and learn more about the Leo Club Program Advisory Panel at lionsclubs.org/leoclubs.

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

No More Excuses for a Restless Night's Sleep

We've all had nights when we just can't lie down in bed and sleep, whether it's from heartburn, cardiac problems or hip and back aches. 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, and sends a hopeful sleeper right off to dreamland.

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The Inside Scoop on the Hawaii Convention

Lion Robert K.Y. Lee, Host Committee chair for the 98th Lions Clubs International Convention in June in Honolulu, responds to your questions.



I know the weather will be great. Will the hotels be within walking distance of the venues?

—David Paul Beeman, Hanford Breakfast Lions, California

Some of the hotels are within walking distance to the Hawaii Convention Center (HCC), while the furthest hotels in Waikiki are approximately 1.5 miles away. Shuttle bus service will be provided between the LCI hotels and the HCC for all official LCI events. Information on shuttle bus pick-up locations and schedules will be posted at all LCI hotels and at the HCC.

Many Lions will have limited time in your amazingly beautiful state. What is your one must-do/see recommendation?

—Dawn Rice-Norton, Medway Lions, Massachusetts

This is a difficult question: there are so many things to see and do! On Oahu, where the convention will be held, my personal choice would be the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, which is part of the Pacific National Monument at Pearl Harbor. This is a haunting and solemn tribute to not only the lives lost that December morning but also is a memorial to all those who have served and continue to serve in harm's way. It's a chance to reflect on the true cost of war.

When will registration forms be available?

—Lion Chris Simola

Registration is going on now at lionsclubs.org. Or use the registration form on page 47.

Unfortunately lots of Lions can't visit the convention in Hawaii in June. But I think lots of them are interested in the event. Do you plan online live broadcasting or do you plan to upload longer videos of the main events of the convention?

—Péter Koleszár, president, Miskolc Lions Club, Hungary

Currently there are no plans for live streaming from Hawaii. LCI will include videos on the LCICon YouTube channel. There will be same day coverage of some events, and some activities will be shown the next day.

Will there be a place where we can buy refreshments after the Parade of Nations on Saturday?

—Julie Zimmer, Vinton Lions, Iowa

The Lions of Hawaii will be holding a Lions International Festival (LIFE) at Kapiolani Park, the terminus point for the parade. The festival, to be held on Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, will provide visiting Lions an opportunity to participate in Hawaiian games, learn to dance the hula or take part in an Okinawan "bon" dance while enjoying local foods and refreshments. This will be a great time to interact with your fellow Lions and immerse yourself in the host culture.

On the host committee website, there is an event called the "Waterfront Jam." Who will be featured at the Waterfront Jam?

—Andrea Riel, Suncook Valley Area Lions, New Hampshire

The Waterfront Jam will be a great

evening of music, hula and laughter under the stars at the Waikiki Shell. The show will feature some of Hawaii's finest musical talent including Riatea Helm, Jake Shimabukuro and Brother Noland, with internationally known comedian Dat Phan providing the humor. Ticket donations start at \$10 for the lawn. Shell seats are \$25, \$35, \$65 and \$500 for VIP. Tickets can be obtained only online at www.WaterFrontJam.com.

In Toronto, we had the first Lions Care project. Will there be a Lions Care project at the Honolulu convention?

—Past District Governor Ernest Chang, Chinatown Lions Club, Hawaii

The Honolulu Host Committee has designated Palama Settlement, a local non-profit community-based social service agency, as the beneficiary of this year's Lions Care project. The agency serves children, adults and senior citizens. We are asking the Lions to again donate toiletries, gift cards and other items at the designated location in the exhibit hall.



Next Ask a Lion
Eddie Marshall

For the next Ask a Lion we turn to Lion Eddie Marshall, a top recruiter. The longtime Joanna Lion in South Carolina has brought in more than

50 Lions and knows what it takes to build membership. Email your questions for him about recruiting or membership to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org or call the LION at 630-468-6805.



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You're out for a walk
and suddenly feel dizzy.

You stumbled
in the garden.

You slipped
in the
shower.

You live
alone.

You've
mixed up
your meds.

You
were
driving
and got
lost.



John Walsh, Safety Advocate
and Vice Chairman of GreatCall



Overheard

"I've had government cheese. I've had government peanut butter, so I see the importance of giving back."

—John Bingham Jr., region chair and member of the Pontiac Lions Club in Michigan, referring to his childhood. From the Oakland Press.

"Service projects come from the heart. The opportunity came, and I took it."

—Trisha Grahmann, charter president of the Victoria Downtown Lions Club in Texas. From the Victoria Advocate.

By the Numbers



15

Varieties of soups and chilies offered at the Bear Lake Lions soup dinner in Michigan.

3.5

Distance in miles of the Only Fools Run at Midnight race staged by Medical Lake Lions in Washington.

40

Winter jackets bought for children by Dunkirk-Fredonia Lions in New York.

850

Skiers who took part in the Hayward Lions Pre-Birkie race, which began in near-zero temperatures in Wisconsin. (The event precedes the American Birkebeiner or Birkie, the largest cross country ski race in North America.)

300

Gallons of apple cider sold each week in October during the annual Cider Day of Tallmadge Lions in Ohio.

57

Pairs of gently used jeans collected for the needy by the Dakota County Technical College Lions and the school's Student Life office in Minnesota.



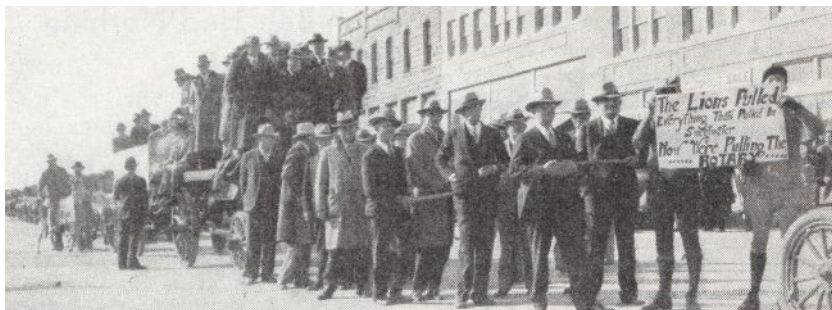
116

Coats purchased in one year for children by Boardman Lions in Ohio through the New Coats for Kids program at Target.

45

Teams that competed in the Dodge for a Good Cause dodgeball tournament held by Swanton Lions in Ohio.

84 Years Ago in the LION



MARCH 1931

Lions in Sweetwater, Texas, had to pull a farm wagon, loaded with Rotarians, after they lost a ticket-selling contest between the two clubs for a charity football game. But the game drew a big crowd, and the Lions won where it counted—on the field. The Lions "smote the enemy hip and thigh and won the football game."

17

Inmates from a federal prison who worked alongside Shamokin Lions and other volunteers to clean up Shamokin Cemetery in Pennsylvania where 800 veterans are buried (among others).



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Heartfelt Giving a Lions Legacy

One hundred dollars can buy a lot of things. You can buy a mid-priced e-reader, seven or eight pizzas, a good cologne, a few dozen roses (depending on the time of year) or download 100 songs from the Internet. Children in LaFarge, a small town in southwestern Wisconsin along the Kickapoo River, choose to help others as part of the LaFarge Lions Club's "Giving Back from the Heart" campaign—appropriately held around each Valentine's Day.

"We give a \$100 donation to each of the 14 classes at LaFarge public school to get their perspective on giving," Steve Brandl says of the 44-member club's four-year-old project. The results are surprising, he adds. "The kids do a great job of opening *our* eyes to things we have never considered."

Funds support a variety of charitable acts, says Lion Joan Kent, who last year visited a kindergarten class during a resident's presentation about building wells in Africa. The children were shown photos of the village, and they touched drums, baskets and brooms used by the villagers. The class voted to give their \$100 donation to build a well in a rural area in Africa. The possibilities were obvious to kindergartners like Theo Parr. He told classmates, "I'm making a connection with the kids in that village who don't have clean water, because I live in a village like they do."

Other classes chose to give to the LaFarge Booster Club, Ronald McDonald House, fire department, Pets for Vets, a humane society, Heifer International and the American Cancer Society. Students also agreed to donate a gas card to a family traveling for medical care and toward a 4-year-old's needed surgery.

Kent says the junior class voted to give their donation to a food pantry. "A lot of people in school use it," explains student Olivia Herken of her hometown of 750. Students may have been inspired to donate by Lions, but others were also inspired by their conscious decision to improve lives. Math teacher Jared Plaza is one of them. "I honestly believe they will be more active in the community later because of the thought that goes into making the decision of where to give their \$100," he told Lions. "We have a really small school and community, so this is like helping out family because you know everyone and how it will affect them."



Luther "Lupy" Myhro, 90, of the Rushford Lions Club in Minnesota helps children cross the street safely to reach their school.

Photo courtesy of the Tri-County Record and Mathew Rodenburg

Guardian Lions

Larry Bartelson says that Minnesota's notoriously brutal winter weather with temperatures often plunging nearly 20 degrees below zero didn't really affect him or the children Rushford Lions were helping cross the street to get to and from school. A yearlong construction project on Highway 43, a two-lane heavily traveled route through Rushford, population 1,730, made crossing the street in front of Rushford-Peterson School difficult, so Lions volunteered to supplement crossing guards, some of whom were teachers pulling double duty.

"It was well below freezing one morning, and a young boy who was riding his bike stopped to walk it across the road. I asked him if he was cold, and he just said, 'Nah, I'm from Minnesota. I'm tough!'" So are Lions. Bartelson knows how to face the elements. "He puts on about 10 layers of clothes and socks," says his wife, Ann, with a laugh. Each morning and after-school crossing shift is about 45-minutes during daylight hours.

Several members of the club are on duty for one week each month until the project is expected to conclude just before summer break. "It's not crazy dangerous, but the crossing areas are blocked off and not easily accessible. There's a lot of construction equipment blocking the views. Sidewalks are non-existent. It's just pretty much torn up and a big mess. All the drivers are pretty careful, but having safety patrols with high visibility vests and flags helps everyone be a little more cautious," Bartelson says. Most Lion crossing guards are either retired or semi-retired. "We have the time," he explains. Lions also volunteered on Halloween in Rushford's downtown, where it's a tradition for businesses to give candy to trick or treaters. Since the road construction stretches a mile, it also affects Rushford's small business district.

The kids, kindergarten age through 12th grade, are friendly and grateful to crossing guards, says Bartelson. "We exchange 'good mornings' and a little small talk. And they always remember to thank us."

Honoring the Service of Others

Mohawk Valley Lions in Oregon had already been negotiating to acquire a triangular half-acre of land for a park when the unthinkable happened. Lion Lee Downing, 75, a local rancher, was killed by a falling tree on his property in 2009. Lions continued with their park plan, and named it in honor of Downing, a popular charter member and moving force behind the park's creation.

The 17-member club cleared the land with help from family and friends in the community. They now maintain it themselves with some assistance from a high school community service class. A peaceful site bordering the Mohawk River, the park site is ideal for a memorial to veterans. "We viewed other memorials in small communities throughout the Northwest and came up with our own vision for a veterans' memorial," says Jesse Harris. Fifteen granite monuments are arranged in a 20-foot-wide semi-circle around the 30-foot-tall flag pole. The flag measures 6 feet by 12 feet.

The memorial was unveiled two years ago with the names of 509 local men and women, living and deceased, who served in the armed forces. The club includes the names of veterans

who served in long-ago battles, some of which date back to the Civil War, at its own cost. Lions did the majority of work themselves constructing the memorial.



The U.S. flag waves high above ground over the names of military veterans as people visit the Mohawk Valley Lions Veterans Memorial in Oregon.

Tradition Continues in Lion's Name

When California Lion Rocky Lombardi, a long-time member of the Millbrae Lions Club and a past District 4-C4 governor, spoke about the need to support vision care for those in need, people listened. He hosted annual wine and hors d'oeuvre parties to raise money for the Lions Eye Foundation of California-Nevada (LEF). Those events netted between \$15,000 to \$30,000 to continue providing free eye exams, surgeries and medications to those in need.

"He was a contractor, and he'd clean out his warehouse in South San

Francisco and erect a huge tent in the parking area in front," recalls Foster City Lion Fred Sommer. When his health deteriorated, the parties ended. Still, Lombardi served as an LEF adviser and adviser emeritus until his death last year.

Lions decided to continue Lombardi's legendary fundraiser by sponsoring a memorial wine tasting in his name. More than 250 people attended to sample products from six amateur wine makers—including those previously made by Lombardi and some from Steve Picchi, 2013-14

district governor. Sommer wasn't one of the winemakers, he admits. "I've never made wine, but I do enjoy it very much," he says.

So do a lot of other people. Tickets sold for \$35 in advance or \$45 at the door, and several clubs gave generous donations. Sixteen Lions clubs donated and served food, and the event raised \$25,500 for LEF. Lions intend to start a new tradition of their own by hosting other wine tasting fundraisers in the name of the man—and gracious, generous Lion—who started it all.

JAPAN

Lions Unleash Bottled-Up Daring

Kids today: they're afraid to tackle challenging endeavors. That's the view of some Lions in Toyama, a city of 1 million in the center of Japan. Understanding that children today (surely no different than children of prior generations) need to be challenged does not take a degree in rocket science.

But the Lions in Toyama are using rockets to lessen children's hesitancy to pursue activities in which success is not certain.

For six years the Toyama Minato Lions Club has helped students make and launch their own rockets. Rising along with the whirring rockets are knowledge of engineering principles and a willingness to tackle a difficult, even potentially dangerous, task.

Lion Machiko Kataguchi, who has years of engineering experience, coordinates the annual Bottle Rockets Trials at the Hokubu Children's Center. Kataguchi began the project because he saw too many children ignorant not only of basic science but also hesitant to try endeavors that were difficult.

"Lions help the kids make their rockets, but take care not to do too much or interfere," according to a story in the Japanese LION. "They even let the kids use utility knives and scissors. In today's accident-averse society, children are shielded from anything dangerous or difficult. Therein lies the problem: today's children will be unable to deal with even the slightest hardship in the future. The Lions are teaching the children not only to make bottle rockets but to be independent, work hard and be proud of their achievements."

The children also learn how to use technology to their advantage. For the first few years, they used hand pumps to pressurize partially water-

filled plastic bottles. That method was exhausting. So now they use a compressor. The rockets are flying farther,

prompting Lions to affix flags in the ground marking the ever more distant flight of the rockets.



The children immensely enjoy building and launching the rockets while also learning to take chances.

AUSTRALIA

Angry Bird Gets Lions' Attention

The bird had a brain. The large butcherbird nesting near an apartment complex stayed put whenever an able-bodied man emerged from the building. But elderly Dodie Allen of Ipswich, Australia, who uses a walker, became trapped in her own home. The magpie-like bird would swoop in and claw at her head.

"I get sick in the stomach because I know it's coming after me," she told the Queensland Times in a story headlined "Woman a Prisoner in Her Own Home." Accompanying the story was a photo of a nervous-looking Allen clutching her front door.

Leave it to Lions to handle a bird problem.

Ipswich Lions arranged for traps to be set near the building. The butcherbird didn't fly into the trap. But a fierce storm took care of the problem. Turns out the bird was attending to a nest. High winds blew the chicks from the nest. Doing what he could, a neighbor took the chicks to a wildlife care facility. Allen now can safely leave her home.

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Farmer Russell Mulligan pulls the digger with his tractor.

Using forks in the wet ground, the Lions laboriously dug up the potatoes by hand. The farmer who owned the land told the Lions any potatoes they dug up were theirs; the mud had prevented him from using his heavy-duty commercial digger.

NEW ZEALAND

Potato Dig Gets a Boost

Many members of the Temuka Pakeke Lions Club are hardy retired farmers, accustomed to physical labor. They grow potatoes and pumpkins for Lions' fundraisers and also chop kindling wood, bagged and sold to the public. Still, they are in their 60s and 70s. "We would have retrieved a small quantity as it was extremely heavy work," says Barbara Somerville, president.

To the rescue came a digger from America that had not been used in more than two decades.

Lion John Wills learned that local farmer Warren Mulligan had an International Harvester single-row digger imported in the early 1950s.

The Lions dusted it off, and Mulligan's son hooked it up to a 35-horsepower Massey Ferguson tractor.

The Lions were in business. They quickly dug 3.5 tons of potatoes, which they sorted and divided into smaller bags for sale to the public. The sales netted US\$1,500.

The yellow potato harvested by Lions is typically used for potato chips. But the Temuka Lions are not only hard workers but also know their way around the kitchen. "We bought a fair share for our own use. They have a lovely flavor—excellent for baking and mashing," says Somerville.

AUSTRIA

The Andrews Sisters—and Der Bingle—Sing in Austria

Music is universal, transcending language. But words, too, can be universal. The Gmunden Lions in Upper Austria held a "Jazz Night" as a fundraiser. The headliners were the "Andrews Sisters." The headline in the subsequent story in the Austria LION Magazine was "Swingen in Gmunden."

The land of Mozart and Strauss has an abiding fondness for jazz. The Jazz Night is a long tradition of the 48-member, all-male Gmunden Lions Club. This past year the popular Vienna Swing Sisters sang the hits of the Andrews Sisters. Lisa Jakob, Eva Hinterreithner and Susanne Fanny Rader took on the roles of LaVerne, Maxene and Patty Andrews, America's most popular female singers in the 1940s. The set list included "Rum and Coca Cola," "Tico Tico" and "Bei Mir Bist Du Schoen."

Bing Crosby and other male singers of the era also showed up on the bill. Singer Markus Richter handled those tunes. The entertainment amounted to "a recreation of one of the most fascinating eras of musical history."



INDIA

Clubs in India Perform Unusual Service

Service for two clubs in India is a matter of life—and death. The Vellore and Thiruvannamalai Lions clubs recently coordinated the donation of two cadavers to Christian Medical College in Vellore in southern India. One of the bodies was the father of a Lion, according to the New Indian Express. Vellore Lions also have arranged for the donation of 21 pairs of eyes to the medical college.



Health care workers meet with residents of Pintag, Ecuador.

ECUADOR

Remote Villagers Served in Ecuador

Lions in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, traveled 16 miles over mountain roads to provide not only health care to villagers but also medical advice to prevent illness and disease. Ten members of the Quito Colonial Lions Club, four doctors and three health care workers spent a day in Pintag to provide exams, medicine and information. More than 150 adults and children were served at a school. "The participants were very interested. There were lot of questions and comments. These activities fill our hearts and help us grow as people and become better human beings," a Lion told the Spanish LION Magazine.

GERMANY

'Help for Little Ears' a Big Success

Children in tow, some mothers in Peru travel hundreds of miles to a central location to lift their offspring from silence or muffled sound and a murky future to full hearing and an opportunity at a solid education and a promising life. Given overnight accommodations, the parents come from homes that lack computers and smart phones. But their children return home with state-of-the art hearing aids and a shared understanding with their parents on how to work and maintain the sophisticated listening devices.

Since 2009, working with a church, German Lions have provided thousands of hearing aids for children in Peru and South Africa. A project of the German Lions' foundation, Hilkswerk der Deutschen Lions, Help for Little Ears has succeeded in transforming the lives of needy families who otherwise would have not have access to nor the money to pay for hearing aids.

Lions collect used hearing aids and have them expertly refurbished or secure donations of new ones from companies. The hearing aids meet



The hearing of an infant in Peru is tested as part of a German Lions' project.

standards issued by the European Union for Hearing Aid Acoustics.

Help for Little Ears is a complex operation. In Peru and South Africa, volunteer audiologists and physicians work with the children and parents. German Lions sometimes are present

to help fit the aids. The goal for the children, already partly realized in some instances, is for them to attend secondary school and even college perhaps and eventually take up a profession.

Through LCIF, Lions Serve Every Day, Every Way

BY CASSANDRA BANNON



Photo by Dan Morris

In Kansas and worldwide, LCIF restores and improves sight and prevents blindness.

Saving Sight

Lions save sight in many ways. LCIF supports their sight-saving efforts through programs such as SightFirst, which helps Lions build comprehensive eye care systems in underserved communities to prevent blindness and vision loss, as well as caring for those who are blind or visually impaired.

A simple pair of eyeglasses can bring the biggest smile to a child's face. Seeing clearly can help a child read better, participate in sports and so much more. LCIF and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Companies (JJVCC) have been working together to help millions of children see more clearly and bring smiles to their faces through their Sight for Kids partnership program. Launched in Asia and led by local Lions, JJVCC employees and local partners, Sight for Kids engages eye care professionals who train teachers to

conduct school-based vision screenings and eye health education in underserved communities. When needed, students are referred to local eye care professionals for eye exams, eyeglasses, further treatment and follow-up care at no cost.

Now, LCIF and JJVCC are expanding their Sight for Kids partnership to communities in Kenya and Turkey. These are the first two countries in Africa and Europe to receive Sight for Kids services. Through the program, more than 20 million children in underserved schools and communities across the Asia Pacific region have already benefited from Sight for Kids. The need for access to basic eye exams and treatment for school-aged children is global. Through this expansion, even more children will receive needed eye care.

As the chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), I have the honor of presenting you with some of the highlights of the Foundation's work in 2013-14. This report will give you a glimpse of our achievements and the lives we have touched through your kindness and compassion. I look forward to celebrating even more success stories with you at the upcoming international convention in Honolulu. Congratulations to Past International President Wayne Madden on a successful year as chairperson, and to you, Lions, for supporting your Foundation!"



Barry J. Palmer
LCIF Chairperson,
Immediate Past International President

Photo by John Timmerman



Students in Ireland learn life skills through Lions Quest.

Supporting Youth

LCIF's Lions Quest program teaches character education, bullying prevention, drug awareness and service-learning to students from kindergarten through grade 12. The American Institutes for Research completed in 2013 an independent evaluation of the Lions Quest program in Wood County, Virginia. More than 1,000 students were evaluated across all three program areas—Skills for Growing, grades K-5; Skills for Adolescence, grades 6-8; and Skills for Action, grades 9-12. Students in all evaluated grades showed gains in social awareness, relationship skills and peer relationships. The research also noted reductions in disruptive and potentially harmful behaviors.

This study not only shows how effective Lions Quest is but also positions LCIF and Lions as leaders in best practices in youth development. Lions make sure that Lions Quest programs are implemented with fidelity, ensuring that students and teachers have the best possible conditions for learning and growth.

Thank you to everyone who supported Lions Clubs International Foundation this past year. In a world of service, your generosity is making a lasting difference in the lives of millions. As LCIF chairperson, I have seen our impact firsthand, and it is humbling. I have seen communities around the world that have been strengthened through our efforts. I have seen the smiles of the people whose lives we have touched. Those faces will stay with me forever as a reminder of what Lions and LCIF can accomplish.



2013-14 LCIF Chairperson Madden comforts an infant.

You provided life-saving measles vaccinations in places like Bangladesh, Botswana and Uganda. You gave needed supplies and hope to the Philippines following the devastation of Typhoon Haiyan. You helped students around the world make positive choices and lead healthier lives through Lions Quest. You saved the sight of millions through SightFirst, which ushered men and women into the light, just as Helen Keller urged us to do. I am truly grateful for all that you do.

Our partnerships allow us to expand our reach and help even more people. Alongside The Carter Center, we helped eliminate river blindness in Colombia and expanded our SightFirst initiative to address preventable blindness in Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and Uganda. Thanks to our Sight for Kids partnership program with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Companies, we have screened the vision of more than 20 million students and we're expanding our reach beyond Asia to Kenya and Turkey.

Lions Quest received a US\$300,000 grant from the NoVo Foundation to enhance its social and emotional learning curriculum to help meet the changing needs of our students and schools. We are vaccinating millions of



A Lion in Nepal vaccinates schoolchildren.

vulnerable children against measles through our partnership with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and we're making great strides toward our goal of raising US\$30 million for the fight against measles.

But none of this would be possible without you. Together, we are truly making this a world of service. As you read through this report, you will learn about some of the lives we have touched and see the tremendous impact we have achieved together. I hope you will remember that none of these touching stories would be possible without your continued support.

Wayne A. Madden

Wayne A. Madden
2013-14 LCIF Chairperson,
Past International President

Fighting Measles

LCIF provides financial and volunteer support to reduce measles deaths worldwide by increasing access to measles vaccines where needed most. Through the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative, Lions are playing an increasingly central role in international efforts to end measles. In 2013, LCIF partnered with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to protect millions of children against measles where vaccines are needed the most. More than 100 million children will be vaccinated through the partnership.

LCIF has committed to raising US\$30 million by 2017 to improve access to vaccines through Gavi. The funds will be matched by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, bringing the total to US\$60 million. Lions also play a key role in mobilizing people for vaccination campaigns.

In celebration of World Immunization Week, April 24-30 in 2014, LCIF launched a 30-day challenge to raise US\$1 million for the One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles Initiative. Measles donations to LCIF during the month of April were matched by the family of Lion Abhey and Past District Governor Aruna Oswal of New Delhi, India, up to US\$500,000. Lions exceeded the challenge, raising a total of US\$1.3 million to combat measles.

Watch a brief video on Sight for Kids.

SightFirst marks its fifth anniversary (Dec. 1995/Jan. 1996 LION).

LCIF celebrates 20 great years (Oct. 1988 LION).

The complete LCIF annual report can be found at lcif.org.



Lions provide food to families in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan.

Providing Disaster Relief

The LCIF Emergency Grant program provides financial support to Lions engaged in disaster response for immediate needs. Major Catastrophe Grants provide substantial funding for disasters with major impact.

In November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan struck Southeast Asia, devastating the Philippines. The typhoon was believed to be the largest storm ever to hit land. Entire villages were obliterated and millions of people in the region were affected, many of them left homeless. LCIF immediately mobilized a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant for relief efforts, followed by another US\$30,000 for immediate needs. Designated donations from Lions worldwide poured in, surpassing US\$1 million in the wake of the disaster.

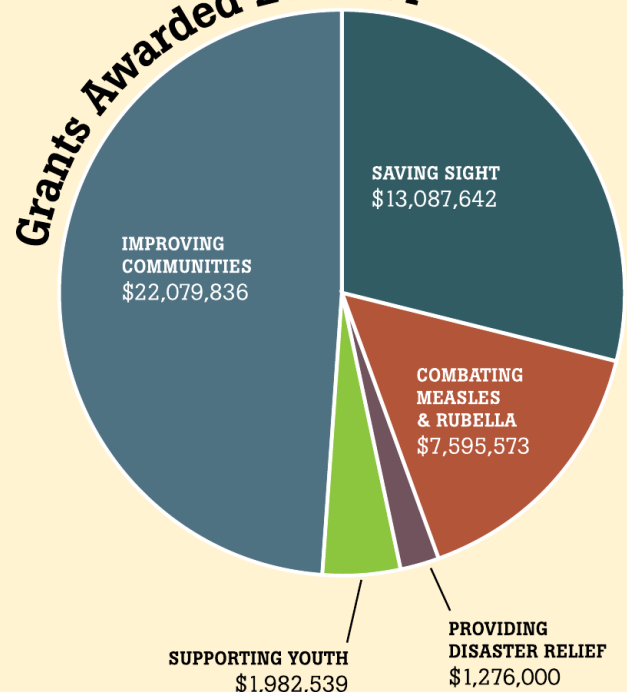
Financials

In fiscal year 2013-14, Lions, their partners and friends generously donated US\$43.9 million to LCIF. The Foundation awarded 538 grants totaling US\$46,021,590. View the rest of the Foundation's finances at lcif.org/resources/EN/pdfs/lcif/financial_statement.pdf. Thank you for believing in LCIF!

Improving Local Communities

Through its humanitarian grants, LCIF provides matching funds to support Lions' efforts to improve vital public service institutions and programs in their local communities. For example, with the help of a US\$5,000 International Assistance Grant from LCIF, Lions in Portland, Oregon, purchased wall charts and an autorefractor to test visual acuity. The Lions teamed with three clubs in Peru—the Lambayque Ciudad Evocadora Lions Club, the Llampallec Lions Club and the Lambayque Ciudad Evocadora Leo Club. Together, they organized health fairs, conducted hearing and vision screenings and distributed more than 250 pairs of eyeglasses to people in need in Peru. The Portland Lions also certified six local Lions on the correct use and operation of the autorefractor, enabling the local Lions to continue their vision screening work.

Grants Awarded 2013-14



KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

Nineteen years after a highway tragedy, Lions in California continue to send truckloads of goods to Navajos in New Mexico.

BY JAMES MCGRATH MORRIS





Karen Hosteen presents a gift to Roger Reimers, who aided her family and other Navajos after her son died tragically.

Earlier this year, Roy Hosteen sat behind the steering wheel of his red Ford pickup, the one the family called “Big Red.” With the sun setting behind him and the shadows lengthening across the red rock landscape of western New Mexico, the retired Navajo uranium miner was heading home to the hamlet of Pinedale, or *Tó Béełwíisgání* in his native language of Diné.

In his rearview mirror Hosteen could see a veritable flea market of consumer goods: crammed into the bed of his pickup and lashed down on a flatbed trailer were a jumble of bicycles, tools, odd bits of furniture and cardboard boxes stuffed with clothing, toys, blankets, towels and kitchen appliances. The bounty of donated used items had been offloaded in the crisp air that morning outside Gallup, New Mexico, from an 18-wheeler packed and driven by members of the Cupertino Host Lions Club in California. Articles that would fetch only a few dollars in a Bay Area thrift shop comprised precious cargo in Navajo country.

The reservation stretching across 27,000 square miles of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah is the largest in the United States, bigger than 10 of the 50 states. Containing some of the most beautiful and striking landscapes of the Southwest, it is also a homeland to widespread and dire poverty.

More than four out of 10 Navajos are unemployed, and nearly half of those who do find work earn less than the established poverty rate of \$11,490. The destitution is not confined to the sparsely populated corners of the reservation far from places of employment. Even Navajos who moved to the modest-sized cities close to the reservation struggle to make ends meet. In 2013 the U.S. Census Bureau took a look at cities heavily populated by Native Americans and reported that more than three out of 10 residents of Gallup and Farmington, to its north, lived in poverty.

For three days after the Cupertino Lions semi had headed back west, Hosteen and his wife, Karen, would take this drive at least a dozen times to begin the distribution of approximately 26,000 pounds of items. In turn, each pickup truckload would be redistributed to other vehicles heading out, spider web fashion, to Navajo settlements, with each donation eventually finding its way through an elaborate kinship network to a family in need. The Cupertino-Navajo aid program is a ritual now two decades old that sprung from a highway tragedy.

A HUNTING TRIP

In 1996 Lions Roger Reimers and his longtime friend David Lee embarked on a hunting trip to New Mexico from California. Reimers, who worked for Shell Oil, had grown up hunting in Cornelius, Oregon, when he was the only one of three boys who would accompany their father duck hunting along the rivers and small lakes west of Portland. Lee, an accountant, was an avid hunter as well. “We hunted together every chance we had, but it was never enough,” Reimers says.

On this cold November morning their quarry was bigger than ducks. They were setting out in search of Cow Elk, the female of the species whose 500 pounds of flesh is valued by hunters. With an Apache guide leading the way, they planned on filling their freezer with elk meat.

Before sunrise, the two hunters were in a car winding its way down a lonely stretch of New Mexico on State Road 64, their guide at the wheel. As the vehicle rounded a curve, the headlights briefly illuminated a woman clad in a black T-shirt on the side of the isolated stretch of road. She was trying to wave them down. But the guide sped on, telling the men she was likely a Navajo who had been kicked out of the car by an angry man.

"It's 15 degrees outside," Reimers said. "She could freeze to death."

The guide still pushed on toward the hunting grounds. "No elk is worth a life," Reimers said.

Reluctantly the guide turned the car around. When they regained the curve they came across the woman again. This time they spotted two children, ages 2 and 4 as they learned, with her. Getting out from their car they found that her arm was bleeding and badly broken. She told Reimers and Lee that she and her children had climbed up to the road from a ravine where their car had plummeted. In the darkness they had left the children's father below. "Please check on my fiancé," she pleaded.

Lee scampered down the embankment. When he returned he shook his head "no" to Reimers. He decided to see for himself. In the dim light of early morning Reimers saw that 21-year-old Romeo Hosteen had been thrown clear of the car. His body was draped across a fence, his neck was broken, and his head rested on his chest. Frost was forming on his back. "He looked like he had knelt down to pray," says Reimers, his eyes growing moist recounting the story while straddling the corner of a bed in the Red Lion Hotel in Gallup 18 years later.

The men managed to flag down a truck, remarkably one containing two off-duty state troopers. The Apache guide drove off to Dulce, a small town nearby, to call for an ambulance. While awaiting its arrival, Reimers and Lee picked up jewelry that had spilled from cases that had been in the car. The couple, it turned out, had been returning from a native craft show in Colorado. Exhausted, Romeo Hosteen had fallen asleep at the wheel.

In due time the group saw the flashing lights of the approaching ambulance. The medics loaded the woman and her children into the vehicle and departed. The troopers, who also had hoped to hunt that day, urged that Reimers and Lee get back to their day's plans. "We shot two elk that day," Reimers recalls.

Heading back to Gallup, Lee suggested they stop in at the police station to see how the survivors of the wreck were faring. Officials assured the men that the children and their mother were being well cared for, but they also learned that everything in the truck that had been towed to town had been stolen, including the jewelry Reimers and Lee had put back in its cases. "Everything," says Reimers. "They had nothing."

Back in Cupertino, Reimers and Lee suggested to their Lions club that they arrange for Christmas gifts for the Hosteen children. In December Karen and Roy Hosteen, Romeo's parents who had assumed care for their son's children, received a box with fruit, toys and some cash.

On a subsequent hunting trip, Reimers and Lee visited the Hosteens in their mobile home, heated by a stove made

from tire rims welded together. The men were struck by the difficult conditions under which Navajos lived. Seeing close up the plight of Native Americans aroused a deep sympathy within them. "We kind of looked around and saw there was a need," Reimers says. "How could we have treated people like that?"

Reimers and Lee decided to expand the initial act of kindness and talked the club into making it a regular service program. Since then, approximately every 18 months, club members pack a semi-trailer with donated items collected for months around the San Jose, California, area and dispatch it to Gallup. "We went from shipping boxes and some cash, to make sure they had something for Christmas, to the program we have today," Reimers says.

UNLOADING A BOUNTY

On this year's trip, Reimers climbed into the cab of club member Wayne Allen's 18-wheeler. The day before the pair had completed a 17-hour drive from Cupertino to New Mexico. Allen fired up the 560-horsepower Detroit diesel engine and pulled the 53-foot Freightliner, loaned by McKinney Trailer Rentals, back onto I-40 for the final 13-mile leg to Southwest Indian Ministries in Manuelito. A complex of small buildings, with a big barn-sized structure at the center, the place would soon be full of noisy Navajo children attending summer youth camps. But on this morning the stillness was only broken by the baritone rumble of diesel trucks speeding by on I-40 and the click-clacking wheels of the occasional mile-long trains that pass through Gallup loaded with containers from far-away ports.

A dozen or so members of the Gallup Lions Club, which famously runs one of the state's best and oldest rodeos, and three Cupertino Lions, who had driven on their own from California, milled about the garage door entrance to the large building where Allen backed his truck. The truck's door opened, and the men and women dove into the task of unloading, sorting and stacking the goods. Soon, the hall that was usually used for family gatherings and wedding receptions became dotted with islands of stacked boxes of clothing and mounds of castoff items such as old skis, metal crutches, toaster ovens, several bulletin boards and even a rusted Christmas tree holder. A few small children excitedly jumped on plastic tricycles and played with dollhouses, among the first items coming off the truck.

Karen and Roy Hosteen stood quietly by as the volunteers did their work. They chatted with Reimers, whom they had not seen since the previous truck run more than a year earlier. It was the 12th or 13th time a truck from California had come bearing donations, but on this day a photographer from Albuquerque and a writer from Santa Fe were chronicling the event. "I told her I would be close by in case she felt a little uneasy," Reimers says.

Like most Navajos, the Hosteens are taciturn when talking to outsiders. Karen works as a health assistant specialist at Fort Defiance Indian Hospital across the border in Arizona. Roy is retired from his last job, a five-year stint working in the now defunct uranium mines.

Over the years since the first donations arrived in a



The goods delivered periodically by Cupertino Host Lions in California end up in the homes of hundreds of Navajo families.

U-Haul trailer, the event has grown into a kind of living memorial to her deceased son, explains Karen Hosteen, but nonetheless the event still brings back the pain of her loss on that November day in 1996.

This year Karen and Roy's pickup truck shuttle runs between the Southwest Indian Ministries and Pinedale were completed in a record three days. Karen's brothers and other relatives helped complete the distribution to families they knew were in need or to others who had requested items since the last delivery. By week's end the donations had found their way to such places as Chinle and Sweetwater, Arizona, and Shiprock, New Mexico, the capital of the Navajo nation. "For each pickup load we delivered," says Karen Hosteen, "the stuff went to 25 to 30 families."

"That family gets a wrench. That family gets a couple of screw drivers," says Reimers in explaining the doling out of the items netted by his club. To outsiders such an informal distribution method may seem puzzling. Churches, organizations and governments are usually the ones that manage aid programs. Even the chapter houses, which are the administrative units in the Navajo nation, are bypassed.

But like the lunar landscape of the reservation, the cultural life of Navajos remains very different than that of Euro-Americans. Instead of, say the Red Cross, Navajos look to their families for help. Matrilineal kinship is one of the most important building blocks of Navajo society, with every member belonging to one of 64 clans. For Karen and Roy Hosteen, K'é—a Diné term for compassion, friendliness, and generosity—and K'ei—a term for kinship—come together in the act of distributing this treasure of donated goods. When Navajos share with relatives they do so with no expectation of reciprocity. Only when they give people to outside their clan is it done as a matter of exchange.

Jennifer Nez Denetdale, a professor at the University of New Mexico and the first Navajo to earn a history Ph.D., puts it this way: "As a Diné woman familiar with Navajo cultural values, I would say that kinship remains an important way life is organized for Navajos. To distribute charity through a family is often done. The notion of family for Navajos is an extended, family-based clanships, so we are talking about extensive kin relationships that form the community."

THE FUTURE

It's been 18 years since the accident that started hunters Lee and Reimers on their journey of providing aid to Navajos. In the years since, Lee passed away and the running of the program fell solely to Reimers. He likens his work to that of being a bus driver and the role of Lions to that of passengers. "Every passenger has the right to give me directions as to where that should be and currently that seems to be that this project should continue," Reimers says. "I'm happy to continue driving this bus and along the way I have met and continue to meet some wonderful people. David Lee would be proud of us."

In addition to the hours of volunteer work and the locating of storage for the donated items, the 2014 collection and delivery effort required raising \$5,100 for fuel and other costs. The items were gathered through an intensive information campaign, and the money came from Saturday breakfast fundraisers. All in all, the project is a considerable undertaking for an organization with only about three dozen members. But the Cupertino club has already begun collecting for the next trip. It hopes to fill another 53-foot trailer in the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016.

Reimers turned 75 following the last collection drive. "I have been told," he says, "that the guys in my club think I have two more trips left in me and then someone else will assume responsibilities for the project. But I don't think it will be dropped any time soon."



THE COMEBACK

Moses Chan thought he'd never hold his son's hand again. A local Lion, along with her club, zone and a widening circle of generous people, thought differently.

BY TODD SCHWARTZ

For the first three of the four billion years that life has existed on Earth, the single-celled microorganisms that were the ancestors of modern bacteria dominated the planet. In many ways they still do. Every gram of soil contains some 40 million bacteria, and the biomass of Earth's bacteria greatly exceeds the weight of its plants and animals.

There are tens of trillions of different types of bacteria living in and on your body. Many are vital. Most are harmless. Some, like certain strains of *A Streptococcus*, can be deadly. Around Christmas in 2011, a few million of them tried to kill Moses Chan.

Born in Hong Kong, Chan came with his family to Canada when he was 5 years old. Now 39, Chan is a single

Moses Chan's high-tech prosthetic right hand allows him to enjoy regular activities with his son, Myles. (A cell phone is balanced on his left hand.)



'I was so surprised that the world was full of people who were so generous and selfless.'

father with sole custody of his 7-year-old son, Myles. He was a very busy guy living in Vancouver, British Columbia, when an infection sent him to the emergency room. The following day he collapsed and went into a coma that would last nearly two weeks. Doctors, who never could discover how he got the infection, fought a life-and-death battle with the bacteria. They won, but in the process Chan's hands and feet literally died while still attached to his body. A quadruple amputation followed.

With his hands and feet lost, Chan stayed in the hospital for six months, wondering what else was gone.

"I thought I'd just lay in bed for the rest of my life," he says. "I didn't know how I would take care of my son, how I would live, how I could work. What kind of father could I be?"

That proved to be the key. At the top of the list of the many things Chan now couldn't do, for Myles' sake, was to give up.

Over the next incredibly difficult 18 months, Chan left the hospital, was fitted with prosthetic legs and hooks for hands, and tried valiantly to adjust to his new life. He learned to drive again. He learned to get through the day and be hopeful about tomorrow. But his prosthetics, particularly the hooks, created a wall between him and most people.

"People would stare at my hooks all the time," Chan remembers. "They would never look me in the eye."

There were much better solutions available—more natural-looking myoelectric hands with fingers that open and close cued by muscle movements in what remains of the amputee's arm. The problem, of course, was money. These high-tech prosthetics range from \$35,000 to as much as \$60,000 per hand. Maintenance and repair cost thousands more. Chan didn't have anything like that kind of resources, and even the generous Canadian health system that had paid for all of his hospital care didn't extend to such very expensive assists for a very small number of hand-amputee citizens.

For months, Chan's friends en-

couraged him to go public, to fundraise for support for a better set of hands. Eventually he agreed, and a local news station picked up the story. That's how Lucy Chan-Ng (no relation) heard about the single father who needed help.

A Vancouver event and wedding planner, a 20-year Lion and, by all accounts something of a dynamo, Chan-Ng was deeply moved by Chan's plight.

"I was speechless," she remembers. "The trouble he had gone through, a single father, a brave person—I wanted to bring this to the full attention of the Chinese community. I wanted to see what I could do personally, and what our club, the Richmond-Chinatown Lions could do."

Chan-Ng knew her club couldn't raise enough money by itself, so she began taking Chan around to the clubs in her zone. She organized events including one featuring a famous former Hong Kong movie star. She made call after call. The club's Tailtwister, Chan-Ng knew a thing or two about cajoling and persuading. Moses Chan's cause eventually evolved into a zone project.

By the fall of 2013, more than \$100,000 had been raised by the powerful combination of the Richmond-Chinatown Lions, churches in Vancouver and Toronto, and many television viewers who had seen the story.

"I was so surprised that the world was full of people who were so generous and selfless," Chan says. "Before this, I didn't believe that was the case. But there is a lot of compassion and hope out there."

In October of 2013, Chan sat nervously in a room at Award Prosthetics, a Burnaby, British Columbia, company that has been serving amputees for nearly two decades. The procedure was painless. The prosthetist expertly replaced the hook prosthetic on Chan's right arm with a new myoelectric hand. The extraordinary moment signaled a real turning point in Chan's comeback from the quadruple amputation—as well as the start of another steep learning curve



in his life. Happy endings don't just happen. Blood, sweat and tears often precede them.

"The hand," Chan explains, "is controlled by movements of residual muscles in my arm. Opening and closing the hand was a brand new skill, like learning to play a musical instrument. Learning to relax my arm properly is a factor. Sometimes the hand still opens when I don't want it to! Using the hand is like learning to play the piano, and I hit a bad note or two once in a while."

But on that first day, and on each day since, the grace note Chan enjoys most is the ability to hold his son's hand. "What has surprised me," Chan points out, "is what I can do, not what I can't. To be able to go home, take care of my son, go to work, is amazing."



Prosthetist Tony van der Waarde adjusts Chan's artificial hand.

"It's not like the movies," says Award Prosthetics founder Tony van der Waarde, a prosthetist for 40 years. "You don't just suddenly have a fully functional new hand. The fit to the amputee's body [the interface that van der Waarde is a master at creating] is an ongoing process of refining and tweaking," he says.

To operate the hand, Chan must pre-plan, then think of the muscle movement he wants, and concentrate on that muscle alone. The hands need maintenance regularly, parts wear out at random times, and the hands must be replaced every five or six years. The electric motors mean that the prosthetic can't get wet. And prosthetics usually weigh more than the original limb, so the rest of the body can get very fatigued. "There's a lot to

learn. But the technology is evolving every day, and prosthetics will get better and better," says van der Waarde.

Better and better is already the course of Chan's progress. He will soon add a second myoelectric hand on his left side. He is becoming more adjusted to the slower pace of life that prosthetics dictate. "It takes a long time to do pretty simple things," he says. But he still has found time for a new commitment: he joined the Richmond-Chinatown Lions.

"The Lions inspired me to have a heart of giving," says Chan, who answers the phones as a public information employee for the city of Vancouver. "I was moved by their generosity and action on my behalf, and I hope I can help others in the future. I will work with amputees and

also support whatever the club is passionate about. I'm learning how to be a good Lion now."

"The person is the key to building a new life," says van der Waarde. "The prosthetics we supply are important, but the person's attitude is far more important. That's where the strength comes from."

Chan knows his comeback will be a process that never ends. He will need to raise funds for new hands in a few years. There will be new technologies and new techniques. Things will break, things will be difficult. But he will always reach for more—and for his son's hand.

"Losing limbs doesn't have to change who you are," new Lion Chan concludes. "What counts is what is in your head and in your heart."



DOGS WHO GUIDE

Blindness sapped the joy from a young Canadian woman until lovable dog guides helped turn her life around.

BY JAY COPP

So I've asked Beverley Berger to show me what her life with a dog guide is like and I'm apparently about to be the reason she fractures her leg or worse. She and Jasper, her friendly but aging Labrador retriever, are out for a stroll in her quiet neighborhood in a small town 30 miles outside Toronto. It's a perfect summer day, which is why a boy about 10 is on his bike, riding fast heedlessly like a typical lad his age. He's on the sidewalk and veering straight toward Beverley and Jasper.

What is the proper protocol here? Do I step in front of her? Tell her to take a quick sideways step? She's 62 but slender, athletic-looking and, from what I've learned so far, quite capable of making quick, good decisions. I don't want to panic her. Or be paternalistic. So, trying to not to sound alarmed, I quietly tell her, "There's a boy on his bike coming at us." I wave my arm slightly at the boy, who grins madly as he whizzes by me, Jasper and Beverley.

Jasper does not flinch. I think I catch a small smile cross Beverley's face as she continues walking. Earlier today she had told me she can sometimes orient herself, determine she's entering another room at home or elsewhere, by a slight change in the air flow. The boy on the bike must have created a tornado-like wave.

I find myself equally protective of her at each intersection, even as Jasper dutifully stops at crossroads. If a car is approaching, Beverley usually can hear it and Jasper knows to wait as well. Turning drivers, if they notice she is blind, inevitably abruptly stop and wait for her to cross. She waits for them. It's like a reverse game of chicken. She may speed up the courtesy dance by waving them through, but she and Jasper patiently let the cars go first.

We come to the library. Jasper knows dozens of words. "I think it's usually the tone of my voice," Beverley explains. We're still on the sidewalk, about a dozen feet from the door. "TURN RIGHT. TO THE DOOR," she tells him. Presto, Jasper escorts Beverley to the library door. She nimbly unhooks his leather harness, takes it off and hands him a biscuit. A working dog, Jasper would never eat while in harness.

Across the street is the post office. Village residents must pick up their mail. That's a chore Beverley often does, both as an excuse to get some exercise and to share household duties with John, her husband of 40 years. The "street" is a busy highway with cars and semi-trucks traveling at breakneck speed. I'm befuddled. "How do you manage to cross that street?" She replies, "There's a light I press."

On our way back to her home real trouble looms. A sandy-haired woman in her 50s is walking two dogs on leashes. I can see a block away that one is a handful. He strains at the leash. She and her dogs are headed straight for us. As she draws near the boxer remains set on mayhem. He barks and pulls at the leash with powerful thrusts.

The woman stops moving forward as we approach and steps to the side. She is on the parkway three or four feet from us. It's hard to read her face. Is she troubled about what may happen? Or is she annoyed that she gave ground while struggling to control two dogs and yet this other woman with a single dog continues to occupy the middle of the sidewalk? It's possible she does not even know Beverley is blind. Beverley is looking ahead and she strides with the grace of a sighted person.

Watch a moving video on Beverley Berger.

I had warned Beverley a woman with a nasty dog was approaching. What do I say now? I am torn. Would I be out of line for speaking up, implying she can't handle this on her own? What if she misinterprets my advice and moves toward the danger?

For a few seconds the outcome appears in doubt. The boxer lunges viciously toward Jasper, coming within inches of his handsome face. Utterly calm, Jasper stands stock-still. Finally, the danger passes. We move away. "That woman should have apologized," I say. At the library, Beverley had told me that she and Jasper, like other owners and dog guides, can handle most situations. Problems occur because of poor or misinformed decisions made by people they encounter. "It's the people, not the dog," she repeats to me.

It's the people. Before you meet someone like Beverley, you wonder how the blind cope. You wonder if their lives are seriously flawed or somehow lesser this or lesser that. You want to protect them. Maybe you pity them. Beverley Berger, in no small part thanks to Jasper, a gift of Canadian Lions, is doing just fine, thank you. She is a remarkable person in many ways, regardless of her sight capabilities. A story on Beverley can't but help include her blindness, but it's her relationship with Jasper that is far more interesting and ultimately more significant.

We're on the porch of the Berger home. It's a comfortable, spotless, well-appointed home full of pottery, paintings and knickknacks. It's a home my wife or mother would comment on, in the car after we leave, "that's a beautiful home." Beverley is a classic homemaker. She made some of the pottery including a finely detailed beaver with real beaver teeth, a gift from a friend. She also is adept at knitting and rug hooking, and her colorful handicrafts adorn the living room. Brownies are cooking in the oven. "Ooh, I've got some chocolate goo on my arms," she says, wiping off the residue.

She's lived in the same house for 36 years, and, sometimes putting her hand out before her, she walks confidently and quickly from room to room. "I've had some mishaps. It's usually when I have a talk to give. I'll walk in with a big gash above my nose," she says.

Still, uncannily, she knows exactly where things are. She points to the wall on her left when referring to a family photo. Describing the farming roots of the community, she gestures beyond the windows to the spacious fields of grain. "I guess I'm very inquisitive. I ask a lot of questions. I talk to John a lot," she says.

She owns a few gadgets to help her with everyday life. A software program reads her email aloud. She loves to cook, and she uses a talking kitchen scale. "He has a great British accent," she says gleefully. She treasures her audio books; she favors science and travel. Canada offers free tuition for those over 65, and she toys with the idea of soon pursuing a degree in linguistics.

Beverley has an open, expressive face. The glamor of youth, certainly once part of her features, has retreated at her age. But her face still emits a glint and spark, the visage of someone not beaten down by the years. Jasper, out of his harness, lies at her feet. Beverley talks a mile a minute.

"When he's out of his uniform, he's just a dog. He wants to run around and chase a Frisbee. He's a softie. He has a good heart. I've also been told he's very handsome. But he gets the job done when I need him. So I get the best of both worlds," she says.

Her fourth dog guide, Jasper, is 10. She's had him since 2006. There's a certain bitter-sweet tone to Beverley when she talks about her companion. "He's slowing down, just like people do. He's starting to cut corners," she says. On our walk, Jasper had periodically veered to the side to sniff and other times to relieve himself. "I let him get away with that. I have too much respect for him," she says.

In a few months he will retire. But he won't leave home. John, 82, will become Jasper's caretaker and de facto owner. "I think he'd rather have me leave than Jasper!" cracks Beverley. So the Bergers, as has happened before, will once again become a blended family: a retired dog guide, a new dog guide and two



Jasper is uncanny about knowing the way home.

adults.

Beverley has come a long way since her first dog guide. Back then, she used a cane after losing her sight at age 30. The cane was a far easier tool to master. "It was very difficult for me at first [with a dog]. With a cane you orient yourself spatially. It's a lot like radar," she says. "The number one rule is to follow the dog. It sounds simple, but it's very difficult.

"It's a trust issue. Will your dog see the manhole cover? You have to learn they don't stop to be a tourist. They stop for a reason. It takes time to make it work. You work as a team. It's like any relationship. You have to get to know each other."

Learning to handle a guide dog was one thing. Beverley also had to learn how to accept her fate. Becoming blind devastated her. "I was very angry, bitter. I didn't handle it well. I was not a very nice person. I was very curt. If some-

'The number one rule is to follow the dog.
It sounds simple, but it's very difficult.'

one tried to be nice to me, I was so angry. I thought they felt sorry for me, and that's the last thing I wanted.

"It was like a five-step grieving process for me. When you lose something precious like vision, it's like losing a loved one. People who have been blind their whole lives don't feel the same way. I've had people tell me, 'It's great you've had vision because you know what blue is like.' Well, I know what I'm missing."

Beverley lost sight in one eye and then the other. Her first retina detached when she was 17. Her desperate parents sent her to the Mayo Clinic. She underwent the same crisis 13 years later. "I missed the boat when it came to retinas," she says wryly. She had multiple surgeries in Boston and Philadelphia. Finally, she put a stop to the fruitless medical procedures. Her eye ordeals happened not only early in her life but early in the science and treatment of her eye condition. "That was like the Stone Age then. It was a little before the computers and laser treatments," she says.

As embittered as she was, Beverley could not sit in the corner and cry. She and John had been married for a decade before her blindness. He was often on the road working in the film industry. She had to take care of their 4-year-old daughter, Stephanie.

Life is not a fairy tale. When mommy or daddy is sick or impaired, young children don't rally behind them. They get frustrated when their needs are not met. "Kids are selfish. That's just the way they are. It impacted her life. She wanted to know why I couldn't take her to McDonald's or her friend's house."

Yet her bitter pill also proved to be beneficial. "I have to give credit to Stephanie for motivating me. When her attitude was, why can't you do this or do that, I thought, I'll show you, you little brat. That's just my personality."

One advantage Beverley had in raising Stephanie was

that the whole community seemed willing to be her eyes and ears. "Once she [Stephanie] was smoking by the hockey rink. I'd say within 30 minutes of it I got two phone calls. They said, 'We know you can't see ...' Everyone took a protective role. She really hated that for a while."

So Beverley learned how to take care of Stephanie without vision and how to keep up the home. Next Beverley had to learn to embrace life again, to regain her inde-

pendence, to get out of the house and become a full participant in society. It took a few years, but in 1989, seven years into her blindness, the Nobleton Lions approached her about a dog guide.

"They didn't want to be presumptuous. Not every blind person wants a dog. It's a lot of responsibility. It's like having a child. You have to care for them. You have to feed it and clean it. You have to stoop and scoop," she says.

Beverley spent 28 days learning how to work with a dog guide at the CNIB (once known as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind), amply supported by Lions. Her first dog was Totem. There was a slight hiccup. "He no speak English," recalls Beverley with a smile. Totem was trained by a person who spoke French. She adjusted to that hurdle. A higher hurdle was integrating Totem into the family. Give a dog to a family,

and a child will want to play with it.

"It was rough time. The dog was not a family pet. They really resented that. I had to restrict how much attention they paid to the dog. I got pretty crabby: 'Leave the dog alone!'"

Over time, boundaries were established, and Beverley gradually expanded her boundaries. With her guide dogs she learned to navigate her neighborhood, take the train to Toronto and even get to the airport for plane trips. Jasper and his three predecessors opened up the world for her.



Beverley is an accomplished handcrafters.

They also pried open her heart.

"I'm responsible for another living creature. You have to think beyond yourself. It gives you a purpose. It makes you realize the world is not such a bad place.

"A dog gets me from Point A to Point B. I rely on him as a tool to do what I want to do. But he really cares about me. He wants me to be happy. When I'm sad, he feels that. He puts his paw on my leg or his head in my lap."

Being out and about with Jasper also is like wearing a name sticker that says, "Hi, glad to meet you." Dog guides are a people magnet. "It's different when you have a cane. People are afraid to say or do the wrong thing. You start to think, OK, I'm blind and people don't want to be near me. You get these negative thoughts. That's not a good way to live.

"A dog is a great icebreaker. People come up and start talking to the dog. I have to respond for the dog. I was once in a pub at the airport and a guy sent over a gin and tonic for the dog!"

Each dog has had its own personality. "You learn their little idiosyncrasies over time," says Beverley. In particular, each has had its own bugaboo. "Totem loved large bodies of water. He almost took me water surfing twice." Mason hated green garbage bags on garbage day—something about the bag blowing in the wind spooked him. Silly Kit stopped in his tracks when near a lawn tractor. Jasper? "He doesn't like ladders," she says.

So the dogs have been with Beverley for 25 years through thick and thin. Stabs of anger and despair still pierce her. That's when Jasper proves especially valuable. "When I feel the resentment creeping up on me, I try to push it away. Or I go for a walk. When something is bothering me the best way to reduce stress is physical activity."

The worst of times was when their second child, Daniel, suffered a detached retina at age 7 and lost sight in that eye. He had been born when Beverley was blind. Taking care of him was not nearly as difficult as watching him become legally blind. "That was the most wrenching thing that ever happened to me," she says. "I'm a mother. I was like, OK, God, if you want to wrestle, wrestle with me."

As he grew older, it took time for Daniel, now 30, to find himself, says his mom. He recently experienced the thrill of traveling through Europe for five months on his own. His marriage had ended before his trip; perhaps his disability was too much for the couple to overcome, she says.

"I think 85 percent of relationships end when one of the partners gets a serious disability," says Beverley, who credits John for not wavering in his commitment to her. "He never treated me any differently. If he had, I would have resented it. I wasn't his blind wife. I was his wife. I have to thank John for standing by me. He was simply my husband—no more, no less."

John, who retired three years ago, is puttering about the house today. Stephanie, 36, is an advertising and marketing manager for John Deere. Daniel works for EB Games. Jasper stretches out on a rug in the porch. "It will be a difficult transition," Beverley says of his impending retirement. "But after one hour outside now he crashes when we get home. When he was a young dog I'd give him a

drink and it would be, what do we do now?"

Jasper stirs and ambles over to Beverley. "He's a mama's boy," she says, slipping off his harness, a task she has done thousands of times and soon will do for the last time. Jasper lies at her feet. "Now he's just a dog."

Editor's note: Beverley now has a new dog guide, Lotus, and Jasper has taken retirement in stride.



Jasper behaves properly as a dog guide when in harness.

Lions in Italy train dog guides (June 1985 LION).

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TAKE PRIDE IN LIONS— TEN TIMES OVER

BY JAY COPP

We are taught to be wary of pride. Pride goes before the fall is a familiar warning. Calling someone “prideful” is not a compliment. “Proud people breed sad sorrows for themselves,” novelist Emily Bronte weighed in. But there is bad pride, involving a sense of superiority and conceit. Then there is good pride, a well-measured understanding and appreciation of achievement and worth. Pride can propel us to stay the course, to do good, to reach our full potential as people—and as Lions.

International President Joe Preston is urging Lions to Strengthen the Pride this year. That’s a play on words, of course. A pride of Lions, a club can grow stronger in service and membership. To Strengthen the Pride also means taking pride in who we are and what we do. Only by recognizing and celebrating our service mission can we reach our potential and maximize our impact on the world.

Preston has identified 10 specific ways to Strengthen the Pride. It’s not hard to find clubs and members that take pride in Lions and in strengthening their service commitment and capabilities, evidence that any Lion or club can act similarly and achieve similar results.

Lions should **share the pride by asking others to join**. Ray Adams, an active member of the Coventry-West Greenwich Lions Club in Rhode Island since 1979, can attest to that. “As my story shows, you have to ask,” he says. Years ago, after managing his boys in Little League, he told his wife with the extra time he now had he might run for

the town council. “Honey, I love you and you can do whatever you want. But the day you get elected is the day I file for divorce,” his wife, who detested politics, told him.

Adams told that story to another Little League manager. “If you want to do some community service come to the golf course tomorrow night. After the round we’re having a steak fry, and I want you to meet some guys,” the baseball manager told him. Turns out it was a Lions fundraiser, and the manager, Joe Fryc, became his sponsor.

Adams knows asking is essential. A few years ago Leo Lamoureux, a longtime member, died. His family had helped on fundraisers, but he had not asked them to join. The club took care of that oversight, and today his daughter, Barbara Lee Scotti, is president and her husband, Tim, will succeed Adams as treasurer.

Lions should **take pride in our accomplishments and traditions**. Echoing Helen Keller’s call for Lions to be Knights of the Blind, Edgar “Nick” Cleves Jr. of the Alexandria Lions in Kentucky has meticulously repaired 56,000 pairs of eyeglasses out of his home over the past 22 years. Lions clubs bring him broken eyeglasses and parts from optometrists and stores, and Cleves, 87, replaces or repairs the temples and nose pieces for eyeglass missions by doctors and medical students in Haiti, Indonesia and elsewhere.

Lions need to **take pride in our service projects**, as do the Medina Lions in Ohio. It’s not an exaggeration to say

(Opposite) Tom Richardson and the other 52 members of the Plano Early Lions Club in Texas take lot of pride in the 3,000 eyeglasses they recently collected and processed for the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Midland.

 **Lions Clubs International**
RECYCLE FOR SIGHT
Donate Usable Eyeglasses Here





Santa Lucía Leos in Ecuador are proud of the books they give to schoolchildren as part of their Reading Action Program.

they produced a miracle. The Miracle League is for children and adults with disabilities. Lions funded its concrete/artificial turf infield, bought uniforms and cook burgers on opening day. The pride Lions have in the league is matched and then some by parents who watch their children hit the ball, catch popups and spontaneously hug buddies running to a base. Chris Kungel sat in the bleachers watching her son, Austin, 15, play. "Look at him. He's so happy," she told the Sun News. His happiness peaked after he walloped a home run over the fence. "I deserve a milkshake," he yelled to his mom.

Stratton Eustis Lions from Maine and Lac Megantic Lions from Quebec, Canada, recently demonstrated they **take pride in being Lions** by celebrating 60 years of being sister clubs. More than 110 Lions from 15 clubs from both sides of the border gathered at the Stratton Plaza Hotel, owned by Lion Jeff Brickley. The day was filled with quiet chats, fiery

speeches, fond memories, rollicking entertainment and brilliant fireworks as well as somber reflection.

The two clubs, chartered on the same day and established by the same club in Maine, get together every 10 years. The towns are 50 miles apart. Eustis, which includes the village of Stratton, has only 800 residents, who often travel across the border to Lac-Magantic, population 6,000, for medical services or for shopping. Emergency vehicles from Eustis were the first from the United States to reach Lac-Magantic on July 6, 2013, after a fire and explosion from a derailed freight train transporting crude oil killed 42 people and destroyed half the downtown. Stratton Eustis Lions donated funds to their sister club for a children's room at the new library. On their day of celebration, Brickley, who had collected donations from hotel guests, donated more funds on behalf the hotel and Lions to the Lac-Magantic club, says Neil Iverson, president of the Stratton Eustis Lions.

Ponoka Lions in Alberta, Canada, **show a pride to educate the public and share our accomplishments.** The club bought a 48-passenger coach bus for use by the community, including senior citizens and sports teams, and wrapped the bus with its name, the Lions logo and a logo for the Ponoka Stampede, a festival featuring carnival rides and pony chuckwagon racing. Lions purchased the bus with funds from their Stampede food booth and bingos. The bus made more than 100 trips last year. "It's a moving billboard about our club and our community," says Barry Neath.

We recall the day we receive our pins as Lions. But many of us also **proudly remember the day we truly became a Lion.** For Terry Loucks, a past district governor and Wellsville Lion in New York, it happened when a mother called him and said her daughter needed surgery. But the family had no insurance. His club happened to be meeting that night. When

TAKE PRIDE IN OUR SPIRIT OF SERVICE AS ESTABLISHED BY OUR FOUNDER MELVIN JONES.

he gave her the good news the next day that the club would take care of the bills she broke down in tears. Loucks got a little misty-eyed himself.

Many Lions have such pride in membership that they **desire to be a Lion for life**. Harold Porterfield, 87, a well-known cattle rancher, has served as a Dorris Lion in California since 1959. He joined when his wife, Ruth, told him he should be more involved in the community. His pride in being a Lion was part of growing up for sons Chet and Guy, now Dorris Lions themselves. Lion Rennie Cleland says Porterfield is a typical Lion: “He doesn’t do anything for recognition. He just does it because that’s who he is.”

Lions ought to **invest in our goals and missions**. One effective way is to begin a Leo club, as did the Dawn-breakers Lions in Fremont, California. Lions did the spade work that blossomed into an extraordinary Leo club: the American High School Leo Club chartered last year with 212 members. The Leos have been busy volunteering for the California School for the Blind, the Fremont Festival for the Arts and a comfort kit drive for cancer patients.

Take pride in our spirit of service as established by our founder Melvin Jones. This year Preston asked clubs to celebrate Jones’ birthday on Jan. 13 by taking part in Lions Worldwide Week of Service. Several Royal Oaks Lions in Michigan served on a Salvation Army’s Bed & Bread truck, distributing soup, sandwiches, coffee, cocoa and blankets in Detroit. “I’ve been blessed in my life. Now that I’m retired, I can pay back for all the blessings in my life,” Bob Westbury told the Daily Tribune.

Lastly, Lions **should mix in fun in all we do**. Projects can be different. Why do the same-old, same-old? The Lake Jackson Lions in Texas staged a

common event with a devilish twist: a ZombieFest 5K run. Lions awarded prizes for the bloodiest costume, the best moan, the best shamle, the most imaginative costume and “best in horde.” Halfway around the world, Minnamurra Lions in Australia hosted a “Kiss Goodbye to MS” event in which 55 couples locked lips at the sound of a police siren.

Many clubs inject fun in meetings. “When you come to one of our meetings, it’s not all serious stuff. We joke, we crack up, we have a lot of fun,” John Griesheimer, president of the Washington Lions in Missouri, told The Missourian. All that fun retains members and attracts new

ones. “They’re hooked because they see how much fun we have,” adds Griesheimer.

“Never bend your head,” said Helen Keller. “Always hold it high. Look the world straight in the face.” So from this day forward let’s be Lions who are full of pride, act with pride and build communities that we will take pride in. We’ve enjoyed a proud history, and we need to build on that pride as we near our centennial.

Pamela Mohr and Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt contributed to this story.



Marlowe Hovey (center) and Tom Earley (right) of the Dell Rapids Lions Club in South Dakota assist Jim Boyum as he drops off a bundle of papers, putting the club over the one million pound mark since its recycling project began in 2008. The milestone made the local news: clubs ought to regularly share their accomplishments with the community.

Photo by Joe Sneve/Dell Rapids Tribune



Found on Instagram

The Lions Clubs' calendar is full of photo opps this spring, including Lions Day with the United Nations, Family Week, White Cane Week and the Worldwide Week of Service. Share your photos on the go with Instagram, a mobile app that allows you to snap a picture, choose a filter to transform the image and make it available for Lions around the world to enjoy. Follow LCI on Instagram at @LionsClubs and tag your photos with #LionsEverywhere. Download the app from your smartphone at instagram.com.



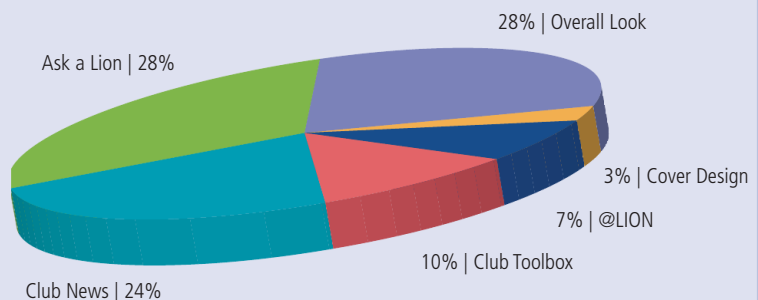
The Buzz at lionsclubs.org

Make a splash this year during Family and Friends Month in April with downloadable resources on LCI's website. Find a flyer and service project ideas as well as family membership information by searching for "Family and Friends Month." While you're at it, check out great tools to help your club participate in April's Protecting the Environment Global Service Action Campaign. Download a planning guide, project ideas, a sample press release and more.



Facebook Feedback

In January we asked Lions what you thought of the LION's new look. Here's how your opinions of your favorite new feature break down.



Watch for the next Facebook and Twitter question on March 4: *What do you think has been LCIF's most important accomplishment?*

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Email us at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org to submit a comment or make a story suggestion for our editors.



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
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Melvin Jones Fellow Luncheon	June 29/ 13:30-15:00	US \$70	_____	\$ _____
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District Governor/Past District Governor Banquet	June 29/ 20:00-22:00	US \$125	_____	\$ _____
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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\$ _____

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Total Due: US\$ _____

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

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

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Mail form and payment to: Lions Clubs International Attn: Convention Division • 300 West 22nd Street • Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842 USA • Allow 4 weeks for processing and mail delivery of your confirmation. **Credit Card and Bank Transfer Payments can be faxed to: (1-630) 571-1689 (If you fax, please do not mail original)** • **Questions? Email us: registration@lionsclubs.org** . **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

Join the Lions Worldwide Week of Service May 16-22!

Join us for this special Centennial Service Challenge event to strengthen our communities and help Lions reach our Centennial goal of serving 100 million people.

Looking for a great way to serve? Consider hosting a project to help children in need in your community. No matter how you choose to serve, be sure to join us for this global event!



Getting involved is easy!

- ✓ **Host a service** project that benefits youth, vision, hunger or the environment during the week of **May 16-22**
- ✓ **Share your project** with local media and on social media to showcase your club
- ✓ **Report your project** on the MyLCI Service Activity Report and earn a Centennial Banner Patch for your club



Start planning your Worldwide Week of Service in May project today!

lions100.org

[Thank You

A Gift for Someone Who Always Gives

On his daily walks through his hometown of Jamestown, Pennsylvania, Ray Roy is a friendly face known by many. He owns a lawn service, but he's also known for all of the ways he quietly helps people. He sings hymns at a nursing home twice a month and brightens people's days with home-baked pizzelle cookies. Thanks to his friend, Cynthia Jones, the Jamestown Lions returned Roy's many selfless acts with a gift to brighten his days.

"I first heard of Ray when my mother told me he and his brother showed up to plow a garden for her after my father died in 1987," says Jones. "Now he and his group sing to her at the nursing home. I thought, 'Wish I could do something for Ray.'" The Lions responded to her request with a 27-inch touch screen computer for Roy, who is visually impaired.

Enamored with the computer, Roy is learning how to use it with lessons from Jones. "We enlarged the print and set it up so there's a black background with white text so I can read what's on the screen. I love reading the news," says Roy. "I'll be learning to email and use Skype. The more I can learn, the more I'll be able to use it," says Roy.

Meanwhile, Roy continues paying it forward. "I try to help people whenever I can. People think I can't do much because my eyesight isn't good, but they have another thing coming!"

—Jennifer Gilbert Gebhardt



Ray Roy (center) receives a computer lesson from Lion and computer store owner Lion Andrew Fornal and Cynthia Jones.

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

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Club News

The **Longswamp Lions Club in Pennsylvania** sold 114 trees as a holiday fundraiser and donated food and fruit baskets to five families. Lions additionally distributed \$4,850 to local and state organizations.

The **New Maryland Lions Club in New Brunswick, Canada**, gave a helping hand to more than 170 families by sponsoring its 18th annual toy and food drive. The club has made the holidays brighter for more than 2,500 families since the project began. They collect toys and non-perishables at designated stops in the city's downtown using a sleigh float with a Lion dressed as Santa riding atop it.

Brentwood Lions in California sponsored a breakfast to raise funds to buy and ship relief supplies to medical professionals fighting the Ebola outbreak in Africa.

The **Mombasa Bahari Lions Club in Kenya** gave reference books and magazines to nursery school teachers for their classes. The learning materials were donated by a school class to Lions for distribution.



Cat in the Hat Melody Bailey (above) of the **Murfreesboro Noon Lions Club in Tennessee** reads to students, some of whom sport their own Cindy Lou Who 'do from *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* tale. Reading to children isn't a new project for Lions. Several Noon Lions individually head out to schools to read to children on either a weekly or monthly basis to encourage literacy. Celebrating what would have been Dr. Seuss's 110th birthday last March 2, Lions got into the spirit of the day along with children, teachers and staff, many of whom were costumed as Dr. Seuss characters.

The **Christiansburg Lions Club in Virginia** sponsored a holiday craft show that featured 150 vendors and raised \$12,000. Lions also performed vision screenings with the club's new Spot screener purchased in cooperation with the **Blacksburg Lions Club**.

Min Elders, of the Cherry Hill Pennsauken Korean Lions Club in New Jersey, volunteered on Thanksgiving Day helping to host dinner for hundreds of active members of the military and their families, and veterans, some of whom are homeless. The dinner was held aboard the Battleship New Jersey, permanently docked at the Camden waterfront as a nonprofit museum. "Oh, my gosh, we had so much fun and the vets were really happy. Everybody had stories to tell," she says. The meal was accompanied by entertainment, and was sponsored by several organizations.

The **Northeast Pennsylvania Lions Eye Bank** gave a \$25,000 donation to the Pennsylvania Lions Sight Conservation and Eye Research Foundation.

Norton Lions in Virginia donated 180 large boxes of food to families in need. One box feeds a family of five for two weeks. Lions sponsor fundraising events throughout the year to purchase provisions and new toys for children to distribute during the holidays.

Port Washington Lions in New York are selling a calendar featuring members of the community's police and fire departments in action. All donations received for the calendar are being given to the families of two recently slain New York City police officers.

In **Illinois**, members of the **Brookport Lions Club** served holiday meals to 250 residents whose homes were damaged or lost to a tornado that devastated the area.

The **Boardman Lions Club in Ohio** earned more than a \$1,000 from a garage sale. Funds will be used to

buy coats for children in need and be donated to Project Linus, a local charity that provides quilts to children in hospitals.

The **Spokane Central Lions Club in Washington** adopted a local elementary school and entertained 23 second-graders at a holiday lunch. The children were entertained by a magician and received a gift purchased from each child's wish list for Santa.



Moore Haven Lions in Florida (above) gave away wooden toys to children in need during the holidays after they asked an instructor of a woodworking class at a local correctional institution for help. Inmates made more than 100 toys for distribution by Lions.

Three-year-old Lorelei Maxwell received a stuffed lion toy from the **Portland North Bay Lions in Texas** as a thank-you for helping to distribute dictionaries and pencils to third graders. The club gave more than 300 dictionaries to classes when school started in the fall. Her mother, Lion Dianna Hamilton, says Lorelei has been helping Lions "since she could walk."

The **Wasaga Beach Lions Club in Ontario, Canada**, donated \$6,000 to the Lions Foundation of Oakville to sponsor a canine vision dog.

The **Waseca Lions Club in Minnesota** once again provided dictionaries to about 175 third-graders. Lions have distributed approximately 1,500 reference books for personal use to children at the beginning of each school year.



Meg Healas (above) of the Everett Central Lions in Washington suggests a free book from the Lions Giving Library. Lions sponsored the club's first "Eye Love to Read" project at a children's museum and gave free books they continually collect to children to promote literacy. Reading assistance dogs from Reading with Rover were also there as well as an optometrist and volunteers to provide vision screenings.

The Jennings Lions Club in Louisiana gave a magnifying device to an 8-year-old boy who suffered a stroke that affected his vision.

American Canyon Lions in California gave a \$500 donation to member Arvind Nischal to support his project of providing more than 600 pairs of shoes and socks to schoolchildren in a remote area of northern India. Nischal personally made the delivery of footwear to students after raising \$4,000 to purchase the items.

The Bowling Green Evening Lions Club in Kentucky donated \$6,500 to the Bowling Green Boys and Girls Club to pay for a security fence surrounding the property. Security had become an issue with children being unable to fully use the club outside area so the fence will make the area safer for youngsters.

Lions clubs in District 60 A partnered with the Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association to celebrate World Sight Day. Lions gave nearly 40 telescopic white canes to visually impaired residents.

The Mancos, Colorado, Lions Club was named "Citizen of the Year" by the town of Mancos. The club was chosen for its many community contributions including an annual health fair that serves more than 500 residents and a scholarship program for graduating seniors.

The Laona Lions Club donated 36 deer hearts to the raptor rehabilitation center in Antigo, Wisconsin. The organs provide needed protein for the injured birds to mend. The club starts collecting in them when the fall hunting season begins.

The Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center received nearly 1,000 pair of eyeglasses collected by Carter Ernst as part of his project to earn the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 406 in Kent, Washington. Under the guidance of Lacey Sunrise Lion Bill Miller and his grandfather Emerson Bishop, a Sumner Lion, Ernst collected the glasses by going door-to-door with assistance from some of his fellow Scouts. Scouts then visited the recycling center in Lacey to separate, clean and process the glasses for shipment.

The Johannesburg Glenoaks Lions Club in South Africa gave a high-tech electronic baby training unit to a volunteer community ambulance service. The US\$4,000 unit is now being used to train paramedics to diagnose medical problems in emergencies.

The McKeesport Lions Club in Pennsylvania sponsored a fundraiser pasta dinner and concert to raise funds for a new power wheelchair and hydraulic lift for a local resident.

Fenton Lions in Michigan celebrated Arbor Day in April by distributing seedlings to fourth-graders at five elementary schools. Each school also received a tree donated by a nursery to plant during a program that Lions have sponsored for three years to publicize Arbor Day's history and importance. They estimate that they've given more than 1,000 seedlings to children.

Continued on page 55

The 98th Lions Clubs International Convention



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A charter member of the Argyle Lions Club in 1952, **Aime St. Germain** received an award for more than 60 years of service to his Minnesota club. St. Germain is proud to have two sons, Joel and Ed, who are Lions.

The Alaska Legislature established November 14 as **Walter Soboleff** Day. A Juneau Lion for 25 years and Tlingit elder, Soboleff was a cultural and spiritual leader in the state. Soboleff passed away in 2011 at the age of 102.

Jeffrey Stribing, a Lancaster Lion in New York from 1978 until his sudden death at age 55 last year, was honored with his image appearing on a new welcome sign for the Village of Lancaster. Legally blind, District 20 N Past District Governor Stribing was a fixture in the town and was involved in many service and community revitalization projects.

River Hills Lion **Dave Brown** received the highest award given by the board of commissioners of the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind. Brown was a board member for eight years, serving on multiple committees and leading fundraising efforts.



Wally Thurow of the Sycamore Lions Club in Illinois was hailed by all who knew him as “Mr. Pumpkin” for his role in establishing the club’s annual pumpkin festival 53 years ago. For several years he proudly led a parade down Sycamore’s main streets riding an old-time bicycle and honking its horn. Under his leadership, the festival grew so large and popular that Lions eventually turned over operations to a community committee. When Thurow died in 2012 at the age of 85, a group of civic leaders and Lions raised \$65,000 for a bronze life-size statue of him wearing his stovepipe hat and standard parade attire—a tux topped off by his Lions vest. Installed in a prominent location along the parade route, the statue was dedicated in October. Last year the five-day festival attracted 200,000 visitors; Lions may not organize the fest, but they continue to judge the pumpkin decorating contest, which had more than 1,000 entries in 2014. Sycamore Lions also plan to honor Thurow’s memory with an annual scholarship in his name.


Mt. Vernon Lions in Kentucky recently gathered at the grave of deceased member **William E. Hunt**, who’d been a member of the club for 54 years. They placed a marker on his gravesite honoring his many years of service.

After a typhoon hit the Philippine Islands in 2013, Harbor Beach Lions **Bob** and **Sherry Swartz** in Michigan initiated a community campaign that collected nearly \$4,000 to purchase nonperishable food and medical supplies. Funds and clothing were also donated to Lions to pay for the shipment of 42 cartons containing food, clothing, blankets and medical supplies to various small outlying islands that received no other assistance.

When 23-year-old **Tyler Brehm** was sworn in as the newest member of the Castle Rock Lions Club in Wisconsin, the Lion doing the honors was his own great grandfather, Leonard Mummert, 78. Joining the Lions is a family tradition in Brehm’s family. His parents, Dennis and Stacey Schwabe, are also Castle Rock Lions. Brehm is now the youngest member of the club.

Bill Stancombe of the Indiana Lions Club in Pennsylvania was named 2014 Male Civic Leader of the Year for his many contributions to Indiana County. He’s been a Lion for more than 20 years and is involved in several organizations, including the county Humane Society.


Two Norton Lions in Virginia are still showing what big hearts they have—six decades after joining the club. Lions **Glen Teasley**, 84, and **Glenn Hill**, 95, have been working hard for the club’s Big Heart Project since it first began 64 years ago providing clothing, toys and food for families in need in Norton and surrounding communities. Last year, the club helped more than 200 families.




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To Read or Not to Read

Mary Beth Shobel (right), president of the Boardman Lions Club in Ohio, doesn't dither and decides to read the LION while at Elsinore castle in Denmark, immortalized in Shakespeare's "Hamlet." Immediate Past District 5M9 Governor Donald Hendrickx and his wife, Lion Pat Hendrickx (bottom right), of the Perham Lakes Lions Club in Minnesota, spend time productively while waiting to ride in the Perham Turtle Fest Parade. Erolyn Barrow (below), a charter member of the Larchmont Lions Club in New York, has her LION handy while near the Church of All Souls on Regents Street in London, England. Want to be in the LION? Send a picture along with your name, Lions club, hometown and photo description to lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org.



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Anniversaries

MARCH 2015

95 Years: Cleveland Host, Ohio; Frederick, Okla.; Lafayette, Ind.; Pasadena Host, Calif.; San Francisco Host, Calif.; San Jose Host East Valley, Calif.; Windsor, ON, CAN

90 Years: Abilene, Kan.; Blacksburg, Va.; Bremerton Central, Wash.; Edgeley, N.D.; Floral Park, N.Y.; Honesdale, Pa.; North Bay, ON, CAN; Overland, Mo.; Roseville Host, Calif.; Waupaca, Wis.; Yreka Host, Calif.

85 Years: Clarksville, Iowa; Lemmon, S.D.; Lone Pine, Calif.; Medicine Bow, Wyo.; Norton, Kan.; Perryville, Mo.; Watertown, Wis.; Wenatchee Central, Wash.

80 Years: Benton, Ill.; Bloomfield, Ky.; Brewton Greater Brewton, Ala.; Crescent, Okla.; Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; Fort Myers, Fla.; Mount Clemens, Mich.; Nanticoke, Pa.; Rifle, Colo.; South Hill, Va.; Taber, AB, CAN

75 Years: Atoka, Okla.; Carrizo Springs, Texas; Central City, Ky.; Cornwall, ON, CAN; Delhi, La.; Franklin, W.V.; Hondo, Texas; Laurel, Miss.; Litcher Gramercy, La.; Mansfield, Mo.; Millheim, Pa.; Millsboro, Del.; Paradise Host, Calif.; Russellville, Ky.; Selma, Calif.; Skamania County, Wash.; Smiths Falls, ON, CAN; Taylor, Texas; Washougal, Wash.

50 Years: Alexandria, Ky.; Berlin, Mass.; Bowling Green Evening, Ky.; Brush Creek, Tenn.; Dalhousie, NB, CAN; Durand, Wis.; Fort Collins Poudre Valley, Colo.; Hampton Mercury, Va.; Holly Pond, Ala.; Honolulu Ala Moana, Hawaii; Hunterdon Hills, N.J.; Midvale, Idaho; Pearl City, Hawaii; Pittsburgh Township, ON, CAN; Reinholds, Pa.; Sooke, BC, CAN; Stellarton & Area, NS, CAN; Walnut Grove, Minn.

25 Years: Belle Plaine, Minn.; Chauvin T-Caillou, La.; Kelowna Orchard City, BC, CAN; Wolf Point, Mont.

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

Information

For the Record

As of Dec. 31, Lions Clubs International had 1,374,673 members in 46,322 clubs and 755 districts in 210 countries and geographic areas. There were 371,707 Melvin Jones Fellow recipients and 71,450 Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow recipients.

Convention Countdown

2015	Honolulu, Hawaii June 26-30
2016	Fukuoka, Japan June 24-28
2017	Chicago, Illinois June 30-July 4
2018	Las Vegas, Nevada June 29-July 3
2019	Milan, Italy July 5-9

Club News Continued

Continued from page 51

Several Lions clubs in Illinois united to purchase a new bus for SEASPAR, which provides year-round recreational services for individuals with disabilities in their communities. The \$48,000 to purchase the bus was raised by Lions in Clarendon Hills, Darien, Westmont, Downers Grove and Lisle.

The Grantsville, West Virginia, Lions Club assisted local churches in unloading and distributing six tons of food at the Community Food Pantry. More than 350 families were helped.

The Springfield Lions Club in Tennessee sponsored its 78th annual variety show, raising more than \$7,000 for service activities.

The Meenambakkam Lions Club in Chennai, India, took 800 children to a 3D movie. Lions arranged for transportation and paid for snacks for the children during the film party.

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to Cobh, visit Blarney Castle, and perhaps kiss "The Blarney Stone," en route to Killarney. Drive the spectacular "Ring of Kerry," offering stunning scenery and tour Bunratty Castle & Folk Park, built in 1425. View the Cliffs of Moher, discover Galway, the Connemara region, Kylemore Abbey and the Sligo area. Enjoy a guided tour of Belleek Pottery, visit Ulster American Folk Park, and explore

"The Giant's Causeway." Complete your tour of the "Emerald Isle" in **Belfast** with sightseeing, including the impressive Parliament buildings, plus you'll visit the world's largest Titanic visitor experience, "Titanic Belfast." Return to Dublin for your flight home. *Tour includes 16 meals.*

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Greening Like a Cheshire Cat

The annual St. Patrick's Day Brewfest of the Porterville Breakfast Lions Club in California drew at least one patron of leprechaun persuasion last year. The club also nobly promotes non-imbibing: the club's signature project is its Chem-Free Grad Party, a sober party alternative for nearly 800 graduating seniors and their guests.

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