

DISTRICT A-12 NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Issue 2

October 2006

DISTRICT GOVERNOR JIM HILT

Campaign Sight First II

Some interesting facts.....

LCI has set a goal of \$2,000,000. USD If we were to divide that target by 750 Districts, each would have a target of \$2,666. Allowing for an exchange rate of 1.12%, District A-12 would be responsible for just under \$3,000 Cdn. Obviously, this is an over-simplified way of looking at the overall picture. As with any Lions project, we must strive to do more than our share.

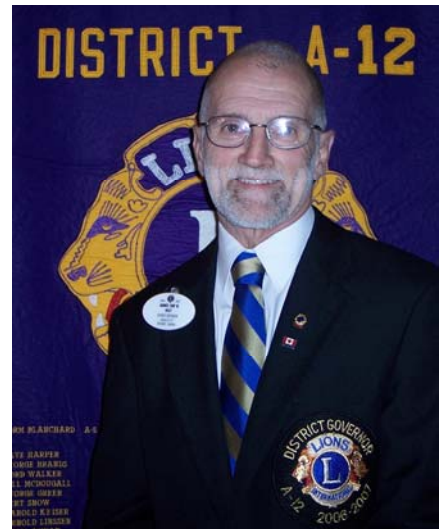
So you can understand why I am so proud of our District as we now stand at just over \$10,000 Cdn. I know of several Clubs who have

pledged over \$2,000 each. On behalf of Lions International, and the people who will benefit from this program, my heartfelt thanks

Family Membership

I wish to remind all Club secretaries about the Family Membership which comes into effect on January 1st, 2007

Secretaries must complete the Family Unit Certification Form, which is available on line from LCI. I have also asked Webmaster Lion Chris to put it on the A-12 website.



Cont'd on page 2

A-12 Governor Jim Hilt

USA Canada Forum, Columbus, Ohio September 14-16

These forums for learning never fail to amaze. The motivational speakers (stand-up comics) are the best you can get. Their messages vary but they all help to make us better people and of course, better Lions.

One such presenter, Connie Podesta set



the tone for the whole forum. We all had to imagine what shape we represent, circle, square, triangle or squiggly. Each shape was given a character profile and for most of us, it was right on. We got a chance to laugh at ourselves and our fellow Lions.

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Special points of interest:

- Read about Family Membership and how it will affect you, page 1 & 2
- District A-12 Guide dog sponsorship
- Useful information to recruit new Lions, page 4
- Become part of a team, page 5
- All about senior citizens

Coming

- Oct 28- Barrie Lions 75th Charter Night
- Nov 2-Zone 36W, Cold-water
- Nov 8-Zone 8S, Alliston
- Nov 14-Zone 21W, Windermere
- Nov 15-Club Peace Poster entry (one) deadline post-mark to Governor
- Nov 16-Zone 8N, Stayner
- Nov 17-18-Governors' Council, Markham
- Nov 22-Zone 21 E, Dorset
- Nov 30-Family Membership Certification forms due
- Dec 5-International Leo Day
- Dec 9-Magnetawan 40th Anniversary
- Jan 8-Zone 8N, Innisfil
- Jan 13-Melvin Jones Birthday, Lions International day of service
- Feb 6-Zone 21W, Britt
- Feb 7-Zone 21E, Huntsville
- Feb 8-Zone 36W, Wasega Beach
- Feb 13-Zone 8S, Gilford
- Feb 16-17-Governors' Council, London
- Feb 20-Zone 21N, Magnetawan

Mini Cabinet Meeting and BBQ

Aug 13th - Bay Lake, Emsdale

Getting ready for an event of this type takes much preparation, planning, fixing things up and of course cleaning. Well, it was certainly

worth all of it. The first arrivals were at the house by 9:15 a.m. and there was no looking back.

By 12:30 p.m. all the Cabinet officers arrived and the BBQ was fired. Everyone pitches in without asking; the coolers were filled, the condiments were set out and of course the food followed.

On that note I have to thank Lion Helen Rye from the Emsdale Club who cut every vegetable, fruit and desert into



pieces and arranged the platters. Prior to that, Lion Helen also did the shopping. How could you possibly manage without friends of this caliber? CST Ernie, thanks for continuing to be Treasurer of the Emsdale Lions Club and giving me the time to get everything ready.

Lions Bob Payton-Stewart, Martin Dube and Calvin Ulrick – thanks for cooking and feeding all our guests. Help from Club members

is so important and it is much appreciated. Lion Les Stevens, thanks for helping out.

I know you were all told to say that everything looked great (by the Governor) but you made me feel that you really meant it. The compliment of the day goes to RC Fred Collins who said "anyone can have a house, but you have a home".

The weather cooperated, the conversations were lively and no speeches were made.

Cont'd from page 1 **Family Membership**

Recognizing the value of the family unit, LCI has now made it possible for family members two through five to pay a reduced international fee. Rather than the standard \$39 USD, the fee is reduced to \$19.50, providing all members reside at the same address. This applies to existing members, as well as new members joining after January 1st. New members will also have their activation fee waived. This is a great opportunity for savings, and an excellent recruitment tool!

Whether you use this program to attract more spouses into our great Association, or to attract the young adults in our family, it's a win-win opportunity. Remember this also applies to parents, grandparents, cousins, in-laws, aunts, uncles, etc – as long as they live at the same address.

To qualify for the reduced semi-annual fee this January, Club secretaries must forward a completed form for each family unit by November 30. Thereafter, a completed form will be required every May and November.

If you have any questions, please contact any District Officer.

Governor Jim

Dog Guides of Canada

from District A-12 Lions Foundation of Canada Chair Lion Les Stevens

905 936 5644 or email les.stevens@sympatico.ca



October 2006

Special Skills Dogs of Canada

Megan is a young woman who has cerebral palsy and requires the use of a power wheelchair. Where many have seen her disability as a hindrance, she sees it as a challenge.

After years of obstacles, Megan applied for a Special Skills Dog Guide. These Dog Guides are trained to complete a variety of skills which include picking up dropped items, opening and closing doors, assisting their handler getting in and out of bed, operating light switches and activating alert systems.

Megan's Dog Guide Ice has provided her with safety and independence. Megan lives alone and if her wheelchair were to get stuck, or worse, if she were to fall out, there's now someone close by to call for help. Megan feels that Ice gives her "a unique sense of comfort and stability that I don't think anyone else could even begin to comprehend. Ice just isn't any dog, he's special and he's an extension of me".

District A-12 Dog Guide Sponsorship

It is stories like this that inspire me to promote the Dog Guides of Canada as much as I can. The benefits go beyond the simple mechanics of the dog's tasks, they alter the lifestyle for the complete family.



District A-12 has sponsored only one dog guide in the last three years, although individual clubs, including Elmvalle Lions and Killarney Beach Lions have sponsored others. We have some donations towards the next sponsorship, so I wish to encourage all clubs to donate towards the completion of a dog guide this year. Send your donation to me, or direct to Lions Foundation of Canada, but ensure that it is marked for "District A-12 Dog Guide Sponsorship".

Lions Canine Challenge

Dog Guides of Canada does not receive any government contribution towards expenses. All costs are covered by corporate, service group or individual donations and fund raising events. One of the fund-raisers is the Lions Canine Challenge.

This year's Challenge will be held on Saturday January 13th from noon until 4pm at the Lions Foundation of Canada Oakville facility. Lunch will be provided, in fact, it may become part of the challenge.

The challenge is made from one team of 2 – 4 Lions to any other team. Each team member participates individually in the "tests", accruing scores into team totals. The tests include walking through obstacles blindfolded using a white cane, then with a dog guide. The tests are made more interesting by shouting misleading directions to the blindfolded participants in other teams.

This event is entertaining learning (it leaves a much more durable impression) and a fun fund-raiser. Each team must pay a registration fee of \$500 or more. The Tottenham Dodgers, who were a close second last year, challenge all clubs to beat them in this challenge, in terms of funds raised as well as team score. District A-12 provided more than half of the teams last year. Let's see if we can dominate the event this year. Register with Lion Gord Wallen at Oakville (905 842 2891)

You can make a difference

If any club would like information about the Canine Challenge, Walk for Dog Guides, or any other aspect of the Dog Guide program, please contact your LFC Chair, Lion Les Stevens. I would be happy to answer your query, arrange a guest speaker at your location, or visit you for a presentation.

Why we split up.....She told me we couldn't afford beer at \$25 a case anymore and I'd have to quit drinking. Then I caught her spending \$65 on makeup and I asked her how come I had to give up stuff and she didn't. She said she needed the makeup to look pretty for me.

I told her that's what the beer was for. I don't thing she's coming back??? Steve Haskin

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A LION?

As a Lions club member, you can:

- Make a difference everyday in your community. Whether it is providing support locally or reaching out internationally, you will have an opportunity to serve.
- Be a part of a worldwide organization carrying out community and humanitarian projects. Members allow Lions clubs worldwide to carry out its many community and humanitarian programs.
- Grow personally and professionally by participating in our programs, community service projects and events.
- Gain an understanding and have an impact on local and international humanitarian issues.
- Develop relationships with both local and international community and business leaders.

Have access to membership discounts and services.

Interested in becoming a member?

Membership in a Lions club is by invitation from a local club. If you are interested in membership, use the [club locator](#) to contact a local Lions club. Tell the local club you are considering membership and want to attend a meeting to learn more. Then, ask a member for a membership application.

Can't find a club near you?

Fill out the [Prospective Member Form](#). Lions

Clubs International will forward your contact information to a club in your area.

Find out more about what Lions do. Read the publications, [We Serve](#) (ME4), [I am a Lion](#) (ME37), [Look at Lions Now](#) (PR770) and [Lions...People Just Like You](#) (ME26). View our full list of member [discounts and services](#).

For additional questions, e-mail the [Membership Operations Department](#) or call 630-571-5466, ext. 356.

Lions club members are men and women who strive to make a difference in their local community as well as communities worldwide. Their volunteer efforts go beyond the support of vision care, to addressing unmet health and education needs worldwide.

How can I start a Lions club?

Is there a need in your community that is not being met? Consider forming a Lions club to bring together community service-minded individuals in an area where

there is no Lions club or where an additional club would further Lions service.

Think beyond municipalities when assessing a community for a new club and consider business parks, corporations, college campuses, medical complexes and shopping areas. In areas where it is difficult to meet the 20-member minimum to charter a new club, consider starting a club branch. A [club branch](#) allows individuals to broaden the reach of a parent club while meeting at its own time and location, serving its own community.

Interested in learning more on how to start a Lions club? E-mail [New Clubs & Marketing](#) or call 630-571-5466, ext. 306.

SOME SERIOUS THOUGHTS FOR ALL OF US TO CONSIDER....

Submitted by...Lion Kathy Daoust, A12 Leadership Chairperson

I find that many people are afraid to dream big. They are reluctant to hope for too much because they don't want to be disappointed. As a result, they satisfy themselves with the mundane.

It doesn't have to be that way. Even if you suspect in your heart of hearts that you don't have the talent or resources to accomplish your goals-much less accomplish your wildest dreams-you don't have to give them up. You just need to change your strategy. Instead of working alone, you need to be part of a team. Here is what a team can do for you:

- It makes you better than you are.
- It multiplies your value to others.
- It enables you to do what you do best.
- It allows you to help others do their best.
- It gives you more time.
- It provides you with companionship.
- It helps you fulfill the desires of your heart.
- It makes everyone on the team a winner.

Teams are incredible things. No task is too great, no accomplishment too grand, no dream too far-fetched for a team. It takes teamwork to make the dream work. *John C Maxwell*

Teams come in all shapes and sizes.

If you're married, you and your spouse are a team. If you are employed by an organization, you and your colleagues are a team. If you volunteer your time, you and your fellow workers are a team. Every day in some way, you are a part of a team. The question is **not**, "Will you participate in something that involves others?" The question is, "Will your involvement with others be successful?"

The 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork

No problem is insurmountable. With a little courage, teamwork, and determination a person can overcome anything. *B. Dodge*

It marks a big step in your development when you come to realize that other people can help you do a better job than you could do alone. - *Andrew Carnegie*

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. *Helen Keller*

No one can whistle a symphony. It takes an orchestra to play it. *Halford E. Luccock*

Can YOU apply these thoughts to your membership in a Lions Club? Are these thoughts relevant to what we do together as Lions in our community? Do you always have a positive attitude and respect what other club members are able to accomplish on our "team"?

If a team is to reach its potential, each member must be willing to subordinate his personal goals to the good of the club. *Bud Wilkinson*

Melvin Jones—founder of Lions International

Melvin Jones was born on



January 13, 1879 in Fort Thomas, Arizona, the son of a United States Army captain who commanded a troop of scouts. Later, his father was transferred and the family moved east. As a young man, Jones made his home in Chicago, Illi-

nois, became associated with an insurance firm and in 1913 formed his own agency.

He soon joined the Business Circle, a businessmen's luncheon group, and was shortly elected secretary. This group was one of many at that time devoted solely to promoting the financial interests of their membership. Because of their limited appeal, they were destined to disappear. Melvin Jones, however, had other plans. "What if these men," he asked, "who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their

communities?" Thus, at his invitation, delegates from men's clubs met in Chicago to lay the groundwork for such an organization and on June 7, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born. It was stipulated that clubs were not to be social in nature nor were members permitted to promote their own business interests.

Jones eventually abandoned his insurance agency to devote himself full time to Lions at International Headquarters in Chicago. It was under his dynamic leadership that Lions Clubs earned the prestige necessary to attract civic-minded

members.

The association's founder was also recognized as a leader outside the association. One of his greatest honors was in 1945 when he represented Lions Clubs International as a consultant in San Francisco, California, at the organization of the United Nations.

Melvin Jones, the man whose personal code "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else" became a guiding principle for public-spirited people the world over, died June 1, 1961 at 82 years of age. For information about the Lions International Melvin Jones Memorial in Fort Thomas, Arizona, USA

The Editor's ramble.....

A comment received on the Governor's visitations inspired this editorial.

I remember when I was a new Lion. I was finally getting into the groove after about six months, starting to know what ZC, RC and VDG meant. Now I was really a member!

The realization hit during the time that Gov. Jim decided to run for a District Officer position. The more I traveled with him and the more functions we attended, the more I knew of the wheels that turn to keep an organization of this size running. You need the officers to coordinate fund-raising,

establish rules, basically keep us on track and lawful in what we do.

Because of these rules of operation, we, as Lions, are able to go out into the community and do our fund raising and no one doubts our integrity or questions where the money goes.

It starts right at the top with our International President, who serves for one year and yes, there is a first vice and second vice serving and getting ready for their year. These are real people, not just names in the Lions Magazine.

This year our President is Jimmy Ross from Texas

who has a persona that can't be missed. He is a "people" person and is never too busy to stop and talk, about almost any subject you wish to bring up. Anyone who was at the International Convention in Boston can attest to this. He seemed to be everywhere and he certainly attended all functions. This also was true at the USA-Canada Forum.

He posed for pictures—all you had to do was ask.

I for one will always pay attention to who our International President is from now on. I confess, I had to look at my Certificate of Member-

ship to see who signed mine and I have no idea what he looks like but I will definitely try and find out.



One day, as a man was walking along the shore, he looked down the beach and he saw a person going back and forth between the beach and the water's edge. As the man approached he saw hundreds of stranded starfish on the sand.

The man was struck by the futility of the person picking up one starfish at a time and throwing it back into the ocean so they would not die.

As he came up to the person he said, "Why are you bothering, there are too many for you to make a difference." The person stopped, looked at the starfish in his hand and said, "It will make a difference to this one."

YOU TOO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Author unknown



Where are they?

October

23-Orillia-DG
24-Windermere-DG
25-Dorset-DG
26-Springwater-Vespra-DG

November

1-Beeton-DG
6-Barrie South-DG
7-Gravenhurst-DG
8-Port Carling-VDG
13-Wasaga Beach-DG
13-Coldwater-VDG
14-Parry Sound-DG
15-Tottenham-DG
16-Emsdale-VDG
20-Cookstown-DG
21-Peninsula-DG
27-Kearney-DG

December

4-Schomberg-DG
5-Barrie-DG
6-Oro District-DG
7-Angus-DG

January

3-Bala-DG
4-Staymer-DG
8-Creemore-DG
9-Collingwood-DG
16-Bond Head-DG
17-Huntsville-DG
19-Innisfil-Killarney Beach-DG
22-Washago-DG
23-Elmvale-DG

February

13-Victoria Harbour-DG
20-Innisfil-DG

To have your article included in the next issue please send your article

newsletter@a12lions.org

Next issue deadline:

January 22, 2007

Lion Maureen Hilt
P 705-636-1862 F 705-636-0305
E-mail: jimohilt@vianet.ca

ZC Lion Stan Corkum
P 705-727-0915
E-mail: stanbarb56@aol.com

Dear Lord, So far today, am I doing all right?

I have not gossiped, lost my temper, and been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, cursed, or eaten any chocolate. I have charged nothing on my credit card. But I will be getting out of bed in a minute, and I think that I will really need your help then.

What is a senior citizen?

A Senior Citizen is one who was here before the Pill and the population explosion. We were here before television, penicillin, before frozen food, nylon, Xerox, radar, fluorescent lights, credit cards and ballpoint pens.

For us, time-sharing meant togetherness, not computers, a chip meant a piece of wood, and software was not even a word. We were here before pantyhose and drip dry clothes, before ice makers, dishwashers and electric blankets, before men wore long hair and women wore tuxedos. We were before yogurt, plastics, the 40 hour

week and the minimum wage. We were before Ann Landers. We got married and then lived together. How quaint can one be!

Closets were for clothes, not for coming out of, bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. We were before Batman, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer and Snoopy-before DDT, vitamin pills, disposable diapers and jeeps, instant coffee and decaffeinated anything. McDonald's was unheard of, and fast food was what one ate during Lent.

We were before FM radios, tape recorders, electric typewriters,

word processors, electronic music and disco dancing – and perhaps that is not all bad!

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was for mowing, Coke was a refreshment drink and pot was a cooking utensil. If we had asked to explain NATO, Ms., CIA or IUD we would have said they were probably some kind of alphabet soup.

We are today's SENIOR CITIZENS – a hardy bunch when you think how our world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make!

AREN'T WE FANTASTIC!

Governor Visitation Pictures



President Dan Waters & Gov. Jim



Gravenhurst, Pres. Chris Lewis & Gov. Jim, 60th Anniversary



PCC Gord and PDG Edwin Walker, Midland—advice for Gov Jim



Bracebridge, PDG Terry Mayhew, Gov. Jim, Pres. Greg Readman



Tres. Kathy Deniet, Gov Jim & Pres. Aubry Cotton, Dwight



Gov. Jim receiving an old Club pin from Pres. Dieter Keck



Gov. Jim, Lioness Liaison Donelda Moody & Barrie Lioness, 70th Anniversary



Gov Jim, Extension Chair Nancy Watt-Durant & Tres. Brian Johnston, Oro Medonte