

Governor's Newsletter



District A-12

Governor Peter McCague



Keep On Keeping On

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Coming | 2 |
| LCIF Chair | 2 |
| Convention Committee | 3 |
| Peace Poster | 3 |
| Camp Huronda | 3 |
| Victoria Harbour | 3 |
| Camp Dorset | 3 |
| Youth Exchange | 4 |
| Lions Foundation | 4 |
| GNIB Lake Jo | 4 |
| Heath Tip | 4 |
| Arrested Development | 5 |
| MERLO | 6 |
| MacTier Lions | 7 |
| SightFirst Facts | 7 |
| Remembrance | 7 |
| USA/Canada Forum | 8 |

The Governor's newsletter and our district website; a great stage for one to make a point or just to get a message "out there", but first you have to read it. A good deal of effort goes into the production of these publications and it is imperative that they are shared with all members. Thank you, Lions Maureen and Jennifer for the newsletter and Lion Chris for our website.

I also want to thank Immediate Past District Governor Jim for leaving the District in fine shape at the end of his term. Thank you Jim, on the District's behalf, for your service with dedicated passion to Lionism.

When it comes to key attributes of being a member of Lions Clubs International, passion must be the key. Passion can be love or hate; of course it's the former we look for in Lions. I don't think it matters whether it's your vocation, hobby or favorite pastime, without

some passion these would begin to feel like time wasted. So it is passion for Lions that I sincerely hope you carry with you always; when this is of

particular importance is when it comes to selling Lionism. Take a look at your club and I'll bet that the Lion who has brought in the most members has passion, for Lions and for his/her club. That is how Lionism is spread; with passion. When asking someone to take a look at Lions, with the hope they will join, it is vitally important that this is done with passion, pride in their club, and knowledge of our organization.

I would like you to examine the International Presidents Program for 2007-08 "Challenge to Change".

The program has two categories

1. **Core Programs and**
2. **Regional / Area Specific Programs**, in this newsletter I would like to address the first two of the nine items in the program.



| <u>What Should We Change?</u> | <u>How Should We Change?</u> |
|--|---|
| a. Lions Clubs Image | Become more relevant to the 21 st century, reflecting our communities and their needs. |
| b. Membership | Focusing on women and men under 40 and quality membership development to ensure the future of our clubs |
| c. Projects | Clubs are encouraged to focus on well planned signature projects responding to community needs. |
| d. Meetings | Short, more interesting lively meetings, e-mail and meetings at project locations. |
| e. Planning for the future | Formulate strategic plans at club and district level. |
| f. International Headquarters operations | Reorganization is underway to deliver cost effective services. |



C O M I N G . . .

- Oct 23-MERLO'ghetti, Alliston
- Oct 22-Zone 36 East, Orillia
- Oct 27-Golf Challenge, Wasaga Beach Lions, \$45/ea, Orr Lake
- Oct 30-Zone 21 North, Sundridge
- Oct 31-Sight Night
- November-Diabetes Awareness
- Nov 3-70th Charter Anniversary, Midland Lions Club, \$35/ea, 6 pm
- Nov 3-65th Charter Anniversary, Bracebridge Lions, \$75/ea, 6pm
- Nov 10-IPDG Jim Roast-Alliston Lions, \$22.50/ea, 6 pm
- Nov 11-Remembrance Day
- Nov 15-Postmark deadline to send Peace Poster to Governor
- Nov 15-19-Senior Lions Leadership Institute, Oak Brook
- Nov 24-MacTier & District Lions 20th Annual Wild Game Dinner, 6 p.m., \$30/ea
- Nov 24-Orillia Lions "Curl for Sight"
- Nov 30-Family membership certification forms due
- Dec 1-Postmark deadline to send Peace Poster to MD"A"
- January-Glaucoma Awareness Month

The best thing to give:
 to an enemy, forgiveness
 to a friend, your ear
 to an opponent, tolerance

Keep On Keeping On.....Cont'd from Pg. 1

2. The Challenge to Grow – The Vital 8

These are the characteristics of a quality Lion (as identified by a district leadership), as a guide to prevent quality of new members being compromised for quantity.

1. The ability to meet the obligations of being a Lion.
2. Integrity
3. Willingness to devote time for Lions services
4. Commitment to serve
5. Socially acceptable demeanor
6. Willingness to be a team player
7. Compatibility with the club culture
8. Empathy for fellow human beings

I think you'll agree that much of this is common sense, but the points made become more memorable and meaningful when we see them in print and they can be shared and discussed among us. I encourage you to use these as topics of conversation at club meetings and when considering new members.

Most of all Lions keep up the good work. Think of these ideas as tools that you may use to "Keep On Keeping On" and remember that "you must be the change you wish to see in the world" (Gandhi).

F R O M T H E L C I F C H A I R

I want to start by thanking all the Clubs who have either donated or budgeted for Campaign Sight First II. District A-12 receipts now stands at almost \$54,169. Worldwide, Lions and friends of Lions have donated almost \$113 million USD. The simple word "thanks" seems so inadequate, but it is indeed a heartfelt "thanks".

One of my tasks is to solicit funds for our Foundation. What better time to make a donation to Campaign Sight First II than now! Everything is in our favour, with the Canadian Dollar hovering at equality with the US greenback

In addition to supporting our Foundation, a donation to CSFII supports the Governor's project, can be used as a credit towards a Melvin Jones Fellowship, *and* is available at par!!!

Statistics are boring, but I must give you a few: only 49% of Canadian Clubs have made a donation to CSFII. In A-12, our record is not much better with only 53% of Clubs participating. We have three Model Clubs – Alliston, Emsdale & Gravenhurst. If we wish to proudly proclaim our role as Knights of the Blind, we must *all* step up to the plate and end preventable blindness. Remember, every \$6 donation gives sight to one more person.

Please make your cheque payable to District A-12 and forward to PDG Kathy Daoust.

GRAVENHURST CONVENTION COMMITTEE

The Committee are hard at work on our Convention at Taboo this year. Regular monthly meetings are taking place, leaving nothing to chance. It will be very well planned. Everyone has their job to do and with an early start, all will be done well in advance.



Make sure you book your room early. Spaces are filling up and you don't want to be disappointed. Early bookings also help the convention committee arrive at some degree of accuracy regarding space, rooms and meals.



CAMP HURONDA

Lion Deb Hope, Camp Huronda Chair

Fellow Lions...As a result of IPDG Jim Hilt naming Camp Huronda as his Governor's project last year, just over \$50,000 was raised for the addition to the "Creative Centre". Following a recent site visit, it was determined the entire cabin needs to be rebuilt, which means the cost has gone up. If after supporting Gov Peter's CSFII project, you are in a position to make additional donations,

please consider Camp Huronda when planning your budget for this year. It would be great if we could raise the money for this project quickly and therefore get the craft shop up and completed this fall in preparation for next year. I am also trying to arrange a work weekend this fall. I will let all clubs know as soon as possible. Thanks to those Clubs who have made donations.

VICTORIA HARBOUR & DISTRICT

A new member for Victoria Harbour, Lion Al Malott sponsored by Norm Cadeau and inducted by IPDG Jim. Excellent timing for the induction ceremony given that Waubauskene (a new Lions Club in the making), had six of their members in attendance for some fellowship.



Pictured, a donation of \$1,000 was presented to Gerard Lachappelle to add to the bursary set up at the Midland Hospital in the name of his late wife, Gail .

Just a friendly reminder to those Clubs that have yet to send in their payments for our District dues, please do so!
CST Tom

Yesterday is a cancelled cheque, tomorrow is a promissory note; today is the only cash you have—so spend it wisely
.Kay Lyons

CAMP DORSET

Lion Lloyd Stockdale, Camp Dorset

Additional donations to Camp Dorset would help to offset the construction costs we've incurred this past year. Any clubs that can help out, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You



The Oro District Lions Club donated their One-night share of 50/50 ticket sales at the Barrie Speedway, (\$660.00), to the Lions Foundation of Canada's Vision Guide Dog Program. Shown in the attached photo are Carol Buchanan and Opie, her Vision Guide Dog, Lion Kate Heels, Project Chair, and Club President, Lion Alvin Evans.

DISTRICT A-12 YOUTH EXCHANGE JULY 7 - AUGUST 4

PDG Rajja Rosenthal, Youth Exchange Chair

Participation in a Lions International Youth Camp/Exchange Program is often a life-changing experience; it is a unique cultural learning opportunity.

On Saturday, July 7 - five excited, talented, well-traveled and well-spoken young people arrived from a cross-section of European cultures."

They were ready to experience a Canadian way of life here in District A-12. For all of them this was their first time to visit Canada. Our guests were:

Thanks to all the Lions & Lioness Clubs in A-12 for your financial donations during the past Lions Year. Without your generosity and help, our Youth Exchange program could not have taken place!

Please see A-12 Website for full story & pictures.



Ste Marie Among the Hurons in Midland

Sini Bergqvist, Finland hosted by Lion Ralph Snell and Cathy, Kristina Dunkel, Germany hosted by Arlene and John Anderson, Denisa Cervenova, Slovak Republic hosted by Lion Dieter Keck and Helga Dill, Phillippe Maas, Luxembourg hosted by PDG Yvette Gerber and Horst, Helga Storrusten, Norway hosted by Lion Cathy Cormier and PDG Rajja Rosenthal

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Lion Jennifer McCague

The 2007-2008 fiscal year marks the lions Foundation of Canada's 25th anniversary and what better opportunity to raise awareness and funds for the Dog Guides and their potential clients. The Foundation has grown by 80% in the past seven years and needs to grow another 40% to keep up with the needs

of their clients. The only way to accomplish this is with increased support from lions clubs across the country. If every club took on a special project to help raise funds for Dog Guides, it would ensure the next 25 years are just as bright as the first 25 years. With 100% Club participation by Lions

Clubs across Canada LFC can reach their goal and make the 25th year the best yet. Select a club representative and fill out the form in the 25th anniversary brochure available online a www.dogguides.com and return it to the Foundation via mail or

CNIB LAKEJO

Big Ticket Items:
BBQ (8 foot industrial) - ours rusted through,
Lawn Tractor, Rescue Boat, Mini Van

Small Tickets Items:
New Computers for our guests to use with Zoom Text and JAWS, Lamps for all of the Bedrooms (reading lights), Orange Boat Cans (9.99 at Canadian Tire), Life guarding Torpedo's (3 of them), Key Hole lifejackets for People in Wheelchairs (3 or 4), Mugs with Saucers for the dinning room (100 of them), Dark Patio Furniture (easier for the guests to see than the white), Canoe Paddles, Kayak Paddles, Kayaks
Thanks,

*Lion Terry
Sight Conservation &
Lake Jo*

HEALTH TIP

Your thoughts

Every thought you have can have a powerful impact on the cells of your body. Positive thoughts can rid your body of disease, while negative stressful thoughts can give your body disease. Negative thoughts or stress cause the body to become acidic, creating an environment for sick-

ness and disease.

Your words

Words have power.

Most people speak words that increase body stress and turn the body's PH from alkaline to acidic. Words can change the way we think and feel. Researchers have conducted that speaking the correct form of words and thinking the right

thoughts can actually change a person's DNA. There is a good possibility that the things you say will come to pass in your lifetime so be careful about the negative words you speak and the negative thoughts you think.

Try thinking and speaking positive and uplifting words

ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT

an opinion piece by Lion Frank Lawson
Oro District Lions Club

Those who excel at sports as adults also excelled at them when they were young. Family, friends, teachers, coaches and others would have recognized their special talents early and, henceforth, their treatment would have been quite different from that of other, less athletically gifted, youngsters. These exceptional athletes grow to adulthood under a set of rules different from the rest of society. When they are finally forced to leave their sport, many have great difficulty adjusting to the real world. Although they may be 30 or 35-years of age, they are still at a juvenile level in the development of many life skills. The common term for this condition is arrested development.

I believe that some Lions members have the same condition.

We join Lions primarily to improve the community in which we live. That is our motivation; it's also the "hook" that the organization uses to attract new members. We see members of the local Lions club participating in a roadside cleanup, or constructing a wheelchair ramp, or installing lights at the ball diamond, or volunteering at an event. We see a photo and read a story in the newspaper about the Lions making a donation to a hospital, or to a library, or to a fire department. We see local Lions in action and we like what we see. We join, and soon we are enjoying the comradeship of club members, working on fundraisers and completing local projects. This may be referred to as our entry level into Lionism.

I believe that some Lions members remain forever at their entry level into Lionism.

As we proceed through our life as a Lion, many of us realize that there is much more to our organization than our home club, our home community, raising money and completing local projects. These elements are essential but there is so much more. At first we enjoy meeting and interacting with fellow club members. Later we discover opportunities to meet and enjoy interacting with members of other clubs. At first we may enjoy working on construction projects. Later we discover opportunities to participate in a variety of service projects including those for the blind, the deaf, the diabetics, etc. We enjoy the meals, camaraderie, and the presentations at club dinner meetings, and then we discover that the meals, camaraderie and presentations at Zone Meetings and Region Rallies and Council Meetings are equally enjoyable. We may enjoy working in the club as an elected or appointed official. Later we discover opportunities to enjoy elected and/or appointed positions at the District level. At first we consider ourselves to be citizens of our local community and our nation. Later we learn that Lions are citizens of the world!

This is referred to as "growing in Lionism."

Sadly, the exclusive focus of some Lions members is their local club and their local community. They choose not to attend Zone Meetings or Region Rallies, except those that are held at their club. They choose not to attend Council Meetings, Lions Learning Weekends or District Conventions. Although they may agree to hold a position in their club, they choose not to run for Zone Chair, or to become a District Chair. They choose not to surf the web or to read the plethora of Lions printed materials so as to become informed about the exciting changes taking place in our organization. They enthusiastically endorse local projects, while steadfastly opposing their club's participation in the many exciting Lions projects that take place outside their community, or outside their District, or outside their country.

Have I described you? Do you recognize yourself? Have you chosen not to grow in Lionism?

As Lions, we are given opportunities to increase our skills, knowledge and understanding of all aspects of Lionism; to become more adept at raising funds, more skillful at identifying humanitarian needs at home and abroad, to give more freely of our leadership talents, and to become more understanding, more compassionate and more generous as We Serve. Only by growing in Lionism can we truly appreciate our potential, the potential of our organization, and the remarkable vision of Melvin Jones. Only by growing in Lionism can our motivation to improve our community, our world, be truly fulfilled.

Membership Extension Retention Leadership Orientation "MERLO"

VDG Nan, MERLO Chair

Although it's been around for several years in various formations - MEL, MERL, LEMPR (Leadership, Extension, Membership, Public Relations), MERLOT, the T standing for Training, it all boils down to a team of Lions dedicated to helping Clubs and individual Lions increase their knowledge, leadership and personal skills to help our organization grow stronger and better than ever.

This year's team members are: Dave Durant - Membership, Leonard Day - Extension, Fred Brox - Retention, Fred Collins - Leadership, Barry Jaynes - Orientation.

How can these Lions help your Club and you? Here are a few of the many ways:

- Membership - responsible for collecting and distributing membership statistics to Cabinet officers so they are aware of increasing or declining membership in each Club; preparing Membership Newsletters for Club Membership chairs to inform them of ways to help increase Club membership; available to assist Clubs to develop workable membership programs.
- Extension - responsible for looking for suitable areas in the District to develop new Lions Clubs, and working with local Lions and interested residents to start them on their way.
- Retention - responsible for developing programs to help Clubs keep their current Lions interested and involved in Lionism; available to work directly with any Club requiring assistance.
- Leadership - responsible for developing and presenting education and leadership programs in the District, such as District and Club Officer Training and the Lions Learning Weekend; knowing and promoting what programs are available outside the District, such as the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, the Regional Lions Institute, Senior Lions Leadership Institute; available to assist any Club with specific training needs.
- Orientation - responsible for developing programs to inform new and not so new Lions about our history, culture, and place in the District, Multiple District and Lions International; available to work directly with any Club.

In addition to the MERLO chairs, Region Chairpersons are part of the team and will work with the Clubs in their Region with any aspect of MERLO, with the respective chair, or individually. And this year, we have asked the Zone Chairpersons to join, as they see first-hand what is happening in the clubs and can suggest when assistance would be helpful. They are encouraged to work with the Region Chair or a MERLO chair and the Club. You can call on a team member at any time and expect to receive the help you need!



A-12 PIN CHAIR

Lions District A-12 pins are now available



don't forget to pick yours today!
And don't forget keep track of your Visitations and get your vest and dangler's!

LION RANDALL MCGREGOR P: 705-687-0618 E: LIONS_TALE_2@YAHOO.CA

Just a friendly reminder to those Clubs that have yet to send in their payments for our District dues, please do so!

CST Tom

You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

District Governor
& Vice District
Governor
Schedule



October

Dwight—22—DG
Dorset—24—DG
Sundridge—25—DG

November

Tiny Township -1-DG
Burk's Falls -5—DG
Pointe au Baril—6-DG
Schomberg—7—DG
Wasaga Beach—12- DG
Gilford—13—VDG
Port Carling-14-DG
Stayner-15-DG
Angus-15 -VDG
Parry Sound—13-DG
Baysville -19—DG
Schomberg—19—VDG
MacTier-20-DG
Stephenson-21-DG
Kearney—26 -DG
Tiny Trails—27—DG

December

Washago—3—DG
Peninsula—4—DG
Bala—5—DG
Penetanguishene—11—DG

January

Creemore—14—DG
Innisfil—15—DG
Beeton—16—DG
Barry South—21—DG
Thornton—28—DG

February

Cookstown—4—DG
Bond Head—5—DG
Tottenham—6—DG
Port McNicoll—12—DG
Barrie—19—DG

**MACTIER LIONS CLUB
MYSTERY MURDER DINNER SHOW**

Submitted by Lion Kate Heels

The MacTier Lions Club held its
Mystery Murder Dinner Show

which was presented by Murder Incorporated. It was a fabulous evening and this group also entertains for fundraisers with a 20 different show selection to choose from for your purpose for fundraising.



Shown in the photo is the Murder el Dente cast with Lion

President Frank Spykerman and Lions Joyce and Kate Heels from Oro District Lions Club, who were the only Lions representing our District at this event. If you want a different and excellent fundraiser, this is the group that you want to

contact!

**SIGHTFIRST
FACTS**

- An estimated 37 million people are blind today.
- At least 80% of blindness is reversible or could have been prevented.
- Prevented serious vision loss for 24 million
- Provided 65 million treatments for river blindness.
- Restored sight to 4.6 million with cataracts
- Improved eye care services for hundreds of millions.
- Trained 68,000 ophthalmologists, ophthalmic nurses, and other professional eye care workers
- It's a stark fact. By the time you finish reading this page, one child somewhere in the world will have gone blind. One goes blind every minute. Half a million will have lost their sight by the end of the year.
- Childhood blindness is only one part of the global vision crisis. If nothing is done, experts said that the world's blind population could double from 37 million to 74 million by 2020.

R E M E M B R A N C E

Excerpts from
The Sunday Telegraph, London UK

Until the deaths of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan, probably no one outside Canada had been aware that Canadian troops are deployed in the region. Almost 10% of Canada's entire population of 7 million served during the First World War and 60,000 died. The Second World War provided a re-run. Their navy began the war with half a dozen vessels and ended the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth largest air force in the world. Canadians can proudly say of themselves—that 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of the world's peacekeeping forces. Canadian soldiers in the past half century have been the greatest peacekeepers on Earth—in 39 missions on UN mandates, and six non UN duties, from Vietnam to East Timor, From Sinai to Bosnia. It is the Canadian way, for which Canadians should be proud, yet such honour comes at a high cost. This past year more grieving Canadian families knew that cost all too tragically well.

“Challenge to Change”

D I S T R I C T A - 1 2

To have your article included in the next issue, please send your submission to

newsletter@a12lions.org

Next Issue Deadline

February 7, 2008

If you have a flyer, advertising an event, submit your copies (150) to editors and we will insert for distribution

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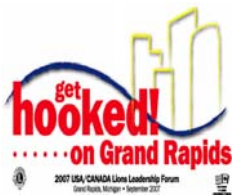
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Congratulations to...

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| Bradford Lions | - | 70 years |
| Midland Lions | - | 70 years |
| Orillia Lions | - | 70 years |
| Bracebridge Lions | - | 65 years |
| MacTier Lions | - | 60 years |

We Serve



**USA / CANADA FORUM
GRAND RAPIDS SEPT 6-8**



Pat Middlebrook, Helen Rye, Kathy Daoust, Sarah Grimes, Gerry Middlebrook, Maureen Hilt, Hart Holmstrom, Jim Hilt, Dianne & Peter McCague, Nancy Watt-Durant, Marilyn Holmstrom, Dave Durant, Ernie Rye, Chris Lewis, Daniel Soucy.

It was impressive as usual. Every year we are getting more and more Canadians attending Pictured at right is our

contingent from District A-12. It s a remarkable experience and though we go our separate ways during the day, at night we manage to get together for some social time or a meal. This year our keynote speaker was Jeanne Robertson who can associate every day experiences with life changing decisions. ...“She uses hilarious humor based on these events. She utilizes her positively funny style to illustrate how a sense of humor can be an integral part of one’s strategy for success.”

Lots of familiar faces; ID’s Bill & Carole Hanson, Richard & Deb Chaffin, Steve & Mary Ellen Sherer, Pat Shirley - all who remember their re-

cent visits to Ontario.

Next year the host is Saskatoon—yes, that’s right, it is in Canada. Let’s really get out and support this Forum. There will be more hosted in Canada if we show interest. Most of this group will be going. Driving, not that far—34 hours, approx. 3,000 km. The rates are reasonable and you won’t regret the time you spend there. If enough folks show interest, IPDG Jim (requested by the MERLO Team) will look into group rates or chartering a motor coach.

Remember.....“You are WANTED, in Saskatoon”.