

DISTRICT A-12
ORIENTATION MANUAL
LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL



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Dear Lion:

Welcome!

You are a vital part of the world's largest and most effective community service organization with 1.3 million members in 205 countries and geographical areas.

Your first step is *active* participation in your Club's service, fund-raising and social activities.

LEARN ALL YOU CAN, AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

This booklet will give you a basic understanding of the history, structure and activities of our Association. However, it is only from your fellow Lions that you will learn what this means in your own community.

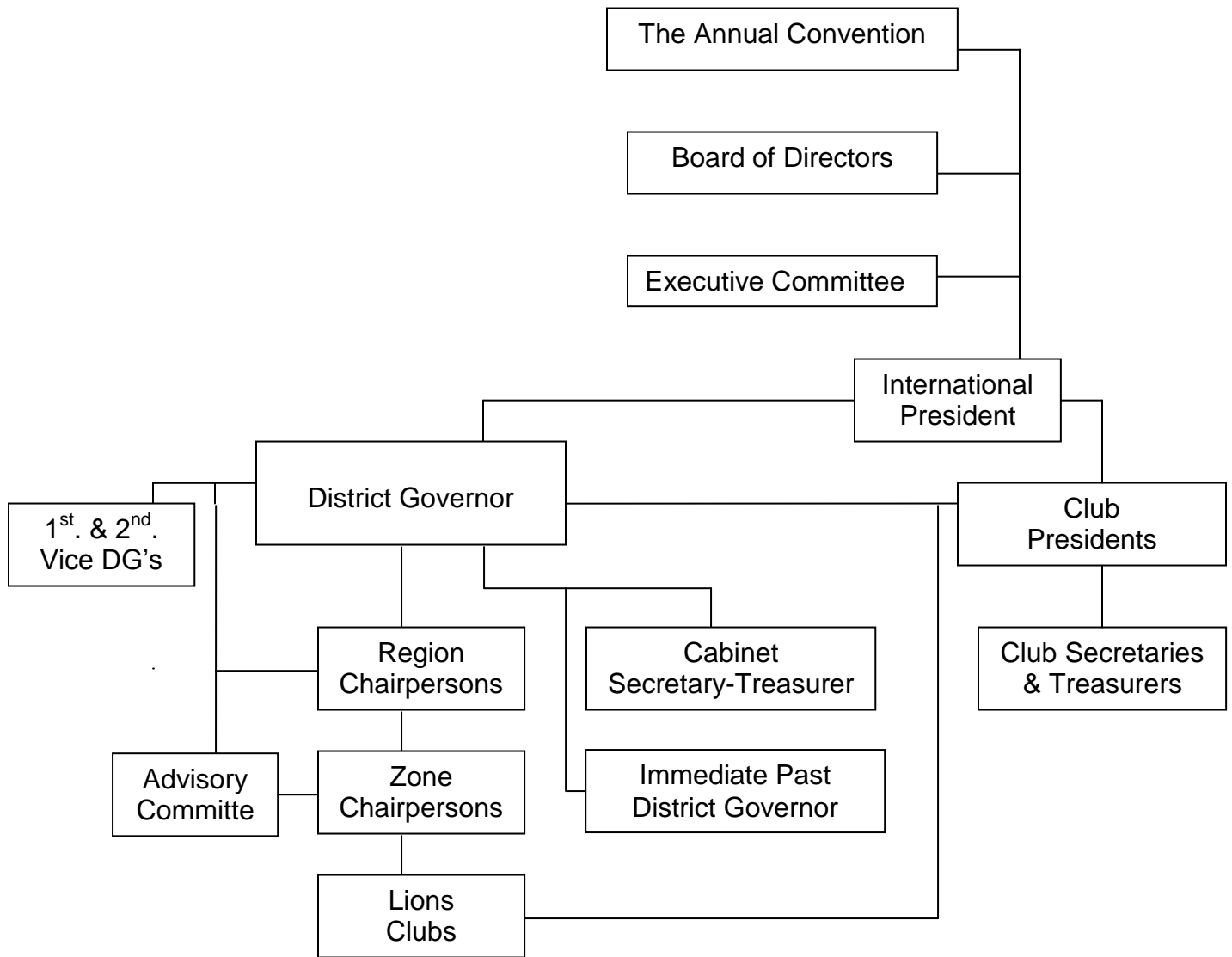
As you become more active and knowledgeable, please share your experiences and pride of accomplishment with family and friends. Few things can be as gratifying as bringing another person into our community of service.

SO LET'S GET STARTED . . .

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The International Association of Lions Clubs Organization Framework



LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL www.lionsClubs.org

Lionism began in 1917, when Melvin Jones, a young Chicago insurance agent, convinced a group of independent business Clubs to consolidate to form a national organization that would be dedicated to helping the community and serving humanity.

The first annual convention was held in Dallas Texas, October 8-10, 1917 with delegates from 22 Lions Clubs in attendance. To commemorate this event each year, October 8th is known as World Lions Service Day.

On the first day of the Dallas Convention, Melvin Jones was elected to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. In honour of Melvin Jones, the month of January (his birthday was January 13) has been designated Founders & Rededication month.

Lions became International on March 12, 1920 with the establishment of the Border Cities Lions Club in Windsor Ontario. The Club was later named Windsor.

THE NAME

The legal name of our Association is "The International Association of Lions Clubs" and the short form is "Lions Clubs International". The abbreviation *LCI* is also used occasionally.

THE MOTTO

"We Serve"

First announced by I.D. Doug Gammon at the International Convention in New York, July 7-10, 1954, it was chosen after a two year process, during which over 6,000 entries were submitted. Eleven entrants submitted "We Serve" – eight from the United States, two from Canada and one from Hawaii. In accordance with contest rules, the earliest postmark was declared the winner: Lion D. A. Stevenson, from Fonthill, Ontario, Canada.

THE SLOGAN

Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety.

At the 1919 Convention, there was a movement against the Lion as our emblem. Lion Halsted Ritter of Denver CO defended what the name stood for (fraternity, strength, etc) but stressed the letters stood for "the true meaning of citizenship: Liberty, Intelligence, **Our Nation's Safety**".

THE COLOURS

Purple and gold were selected as the official colours in 1917. Purple represents loyalty to country, friends and to one's self and to the integrity of mind and heart. Gold symbolizes sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgment, purity in life and generosity in mind, heart and purse towards mankind.

THE EMBLEM

Adopted at the 1919 convention, it consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular purple or blue field. Bordering this are two Lions, profiles facing away from the center, facing both past and future. The word "Lions" appears at the top with the word "International" at the bottom. The January 1931 issue of THE LION stressed that this emblem "was not selected at random" and that "the lion has been the symbol of all that was good".

VISION STATEMENT

To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service

MISSION STATEMENT

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

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

The Association fosters service activities internationally. At present the following are our major commitments:

SIGHT FIRST- LIONS CONQUERING BLINDNESS

This program was introduced at the International Convention in St Louis in 1990. The aim is to eliminate preventable and reversible blindness around the world. Campaign Sight First, the three-year fund-raising initiative that concluded on June 30, 1994, and raised US\$143.5 million, with interest, US\$1.9 million. Presently projects are underway throughout the world: building eye clinics,

teaching medical personnel, funding clean water supplies, and spraying rivers for disease carrying insects and many more. Our *Lion* magazine provides regular updates on the successes of this initiative.

In 2005, Campaign Sight First II was introduced with a target of \$US150 million over three years, and a "stretch goal" of \$US50 million for research into the causes and cures of blindness. The campaign raised over \$US200,500,000 – the most successful global fund-raiser to date.

LIONS YOUTH OUTREACH

See pages 22

SIGHT CONSERVATION

This includes the Lions Clubs International Eyeglass Recycling Program which facilitates processing, cataloging, and dispensing used eyeglasses where needed throughout the world.

Email: sight@a12lions.org

VISION SCREENING

Starting in 2004, Lions volunteered to visit elementary schools and conduct basic eye tests. The program has proven very successful and is now being done throughout the District. Where deficiencies are detected, parents of the young students are asked to take their child for a full examination. Email: vision@a12lions.org

ENVIRONMENT

Since 1972, Lions Clubs International has recognized the co-operation between Clubs and international organizations for the preservation of natural resources and the improvement of quality of life. This includes: combating pollution, recycling, providing safe water supplies, distributing food supplies, energy conservation, wildlife preservation etc. Email: environment@a12lions.org

LEO PROGRAM & YOUTH EXCHANGE

A Leo Club is an activity sponsored by one or more Lions Clubs, and is open to young people between the ages of 12-28. Presently there are approximately 5,600 Leo Clubs in 138 countries. Membership as at January 2006 was just over 140,000.

A Leo Club's function is to develop leadership skills in young people through community service; to provide young people with valuable life experience, enabling them to become compassionate and self-reliant members of society; to offer opportunities for personal growth through achievement and responsibility. Email: leos@a12lions.org

Youth Exchange is a short-term cultural exchange program that offers young people aged 15-21 years, four to six week home-stays with Lions Club approved host families. After and absence of several years, District A-12 resumed the program in December 2005. Exchanges are arranged between Clubs in different countries. Email: exchange@a12lions.org

HEARING CONSERVATION AND THE BOB RUMBALL CAMP FOR THE DEAF

This includes the collection and distribution of used hearing aids, the support of the Bob Rumball Camp for the Deaf, the Lions Homes for Deaf People, mobile testing units, dog guides, educational and vocational training and employment opportunities. Email: hearing@a12lions.org

INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING & COOPERATION

Because of the world-wide scope of our organization and the motto "We Serve", the community of Lionism extends beyond Clubs to include districts, nations and the international community of mankind. This concept is represented by:

- International Club Twinning,
- International School Twinning,
- Lions Day with the United Nations,
- World Peace Day,
- International medical assistance, etc.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"

Our District A-12, is one of ten districts that form Multiple District "A" (MDA). The Multiple covers a vast area from Windsor on the west, Lake Ontario on the south, dipping into Quebec on the east and to James Bay in the north.

The Districts are designated: A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-711, A-9, A-12, A-15, A-16.

From the beginning in 1920, when Lions Clubs International came to Canada, there was a steady growth of Clubs throughout Ontario and Quebec.

In 1994, The Lions of Districts A-8, A-10, A-14 and A-17 located in Quebec formed their own Multiple "U".

After much deliberation, a vote was taken to dissolve District A-6 with District A-5 assuming responsibility of the area formerly known as A-6 effective 1999-2000 Lions year.

Effective July 1, 2002, Districts A-7 and A-11 combined to become District A-711. Also on that date, the seven Clubs of Zone 17 South were transferred from District A-5 to A-12 as Zone 21 North.

As of the end of June 2009, MD"A" had 14,179 members.

Each district has a Governor who sits on the Council of Governors during the Lions' year. The MD"A" Chairperson of the Council is elected during the mid-winter council meeting, by the current District Governors. All current District Governors are eligible candidates for the position of Council Chair. It is the Chairperson's responsibility to oversee the business and the administration of MD"A" and to chair the meetings of the Council of Governors the following year.

The newly elected Council Chairperson appoints Lions to chair the various MD"A" committees, e.g. Youth Outreach, Sight Conservation, Research and Long Range Planning, etc..

Multiple District "A" appoints two Lions to serve as Secretary and Treasurer and each receive an annual honorarium, approved by the Council of Governors.

DISTRICT A-12

With Lions Clubs active in over 200 countries, it would be very difficult for the International Board of Directors to exercise control without the help of knowledgeable and dedicated local Lions. The association has therefore organized into 752 Districts (as at July 1, 2009). The chief executive officer, the District Governor, is an officer of the International Association.

Voting delegates from the Clubs in that District elect the District Governor at the convention. Because of the importance of this office, District Governors-Elect from around the world gather just prior to the International Convention for a series of seminars designed to broaden their knowledge of the Association and its programs. They take office at the close of the International Convention for a term of one year.

By 1972, MD"A" was comprised of 519 Clubs and 18,266 Lions and the International Board approved the creation of 2 new Districts: A-12 and A-14 effective July 01. The first Governor for District A-1 I was Dr. David Harper from Nobleton.

For administrative purposes our District is divided into three Regions and seven Zones.

Zone 8 North		
Angus & District	Elmvale & District	Innisfil
Stayner	Thornton & District	Wasaga Beach
Zone 8 South		
Alliston	Beeton	Bond Head & District
Bradford	Gilford & District	Schomberg
Tottenham & District		
Zone 21 North		
Burk's Falls	Emsdale	Kearney
Magnetawan	South River	Sundridge
Whitestone McKellar (formerly Dunchurch)		
Zone 21 East		

Baysville	Bracebridge	Dorset
Dwight	Gravenhurst	Huntsville
Stephenson & District		
Zone 21 West		
Bala & District	Britt	MacTier & District
Parry Sound	Peninsula	Pointe au Baril
Port Carling	Windermere & District	
Zone 36 East		
Barrie	Barrie South	Orillia
Oro District	Springwater-Vespra	Washago & District
Zone 36 West		
Coldwater	Midland	Penetanguishene
Port McNicoll	Tiny Township	Tiny Trails
Victoria Harbour & District	Waubaushehene & District	

As at July 2009, District A-12 had 49 Lions Clubs with a total membership of 1,210. We also have 10 Lioness Clubs and 5 Leos Clubs.

The voting members of District Cabinet are:

- District Governor
- Immediate Past District Governor
- Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer
- 1st. Vice District Governor
- 2nd. Vice District Governor
- Region Chairpersons
- Zone Chairpersons

The non-voting members of the District Cabinet are the Committee Chairpersons appointed by the District Governor for:

- Constitution, By-Laws
- Diabetes and Camp Huronda
- District Pins & Trophies
- Effective Speaking
- Environment
- Governor's Newsletter
- Hearing Conservation & The Bob Rumball Camp for the Deaf
- Internet Technology
- Lions Clubs International Foundation
- Leo Clubs
- Lioness Liaison
- Lions Camp Dorset
- Lions Foundation of Canada
- Lions Peace Poster Contest
- Lions Quest
- Long Range Planning
- MDA Publications & Bulletin Contest
- Memorial Chair

MERL:

- Membership

- Extension
- Revitalization
- Leadership

No Child Without

Public Relations, Promotion & Lions Information

Sight Conservation & Lake Joseph Centre

Vision Screening

Youth Exchange

* Convention Host and Honorary Committee chairs are not appointed by the District Governor

YOUR CLUB

The Lions Club is the most important single element of Lionism.

It is the Clubs after all which carry out the program and activities that have made our Association what it is today - the largest and most active humanitarian service organization in the world.

Membership is by invitation only, and is open to men and women of legal majority who have demonstrated high moral character and a commitment to community betterment.

Your Club has been chartered by the International Association and has agreed to abide by the International Constitution & By-Laws.

The.....Lions Club was chartered in
 with
 theLions Club as our sponsor.

A typical Lions Club is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of a President, up to three Vice Presidents, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Lion Tamer, Tail Twister, Membership Director and several Directors.

Our major fund-raising projects are

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The proceeds from these fund-raisers are distributed to many organizations and groups, some of whom are.

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LIONISM - AT THE CLUB LEVEL

THE PRESIDENT

is the chief executive officer of the Club and presides at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Club. He/she appoints the standing and special committees and ensures that regular elections are called.

THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

greet members and guests at Club meetings and acts in an advisory capacity on the Board of Directors. (Some Clubs may choose to appoint an Official Greeter, other than the Immediate past President)

THE VICE PRESIDENTS

perform the duties of the President in his/her absence. Each Vice President oversees the functioning of committees as designated by the President.

THE SECRETARY

has custody of all general records of the Club, including the minutes of meetings, attendance, committee reports, elections, membership histories, addresses and telephone numbers.

THE TREASURER

receives all monies from fundraising, dues etc, disburses all monies on authority given by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer has custody of and maintains records of the Activities, Administrative and Member accounts.

THE LION TAMER

has charge of and is responsible for the property and paraphernalia of the Club, including the gong and gavel, flags, fine box etc.

THE TAIL TWISTER

promotes harmony, fun and fellowship at the meetings with stunts, games and imposing fines. The Tail twister may not be fined except by the unanimous vote of all members present.

THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

is responsible for developing a growth program for the Club, and encouraging Lions to invite new quality members. The membership committee is comprised of chair, vice chair, and committee member.

THE DIRECTORS

are elected each year for a one or two year term and provide additional experience and insight to the BOD and support BOD decisions to the membership

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

comprised of the above, formulates and executes the policies and resolutions of the Club. All new business is discussed by the BOD first and its recommendations are then presented to the Club at the general meeting.

AWARDS, HONOURS, and RECOGNITIONS

Club Awards

At the Club level a member can earn a 100% attendance award each year.

Chevrons are also presented for length of membership. An award is presented to the sponsor of a new Lion after the new Lion has been a member for a year and a day.

DISTRICT AWARDS

The District Governor, at his/her discretion, can present a Governor's Appreciation Award to any worthy member of the Lions Family. He/she may also recognize committee chairs for their service to the district. Each Club is automatically entered into the Governor's Contest (see contests).

ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The Humanitarian Award is one of the most distinguished forms of recognition to be presented to a non-Lion or group for their outstanding work for humanity. The monetary award is presented by the International President at the annual International Convention.

Other awards presented on the recommendation of the District Governor or the International Directors of the Association to outstanding individuals are:

1. Ambassador of Good Will Award (medal)
2. Presidential Award (medal)
3. International Leadership Award (medal)
4. International President's Certificate of Appreciation

HONOURARY LIFE DIRECTORSHIP OF LIONS CAMP DORSET

A Club can honour an individual with a certificate indicating a Life Directorship in Lions Camp Dorset at a cost of \$100.00.

Funds received assist with the operation and growth of the Camp.

HONOURARY GUARDIAN OF CAMP HURONDA

A Club can honour an individual with a certificate and pin indicating Honourary Guardianship of Camp Huronda at a cost of \$100.00.

Funds received assist with refurbishment of the Camp.

KNIGHT OF LAKE JOSEPH CENTRE

A Club can honour an individual with a certificate and a pin indicating Knighthood of Lake Joseph Holiday Centre at a cost of \$100.00.

Funds received assist with the operation and growth of the Camp.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

A Club can honour a Lion, Lioness, Leo or family with a certificate and lapel pin indicating Life Membership in our Foundation, at a cost of \$100.00.

A banner crest is provided free of charge to each Club in which 100% of the members are Life Members of the Foundation. Funds received from this program assist in the operating costs of the Foundation and the dog 'guide programs.

JUDGE BRIAN STEVENSON FELLOWSHIP

This is the highest Canadian honour in Lionism that can be bestowed on a member of the Lions Family or other worthy recipient, for outstanding achievement, commitment or involvement. The medal, inscribed with a maple leaf and Lions Logo superimposed with a gavel, is suspended on a white ribbon with a red maple leaf, and a bar inscribed with Lions Foundation of Canada. A lapel pin is also provided.

The fee of \$500.00 Canadian is used to build an endowment fund for Lions Foundation of Canada.

Any individual who is already a Judge Brian Stevenson Fellow can, for an additional donation of CD\$500, receive a Progressive JBS Award. A Club or district can contribute on behalf of an individual.

MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP

Created in 1973 in honour of our founder, this is the highest form of recognition for commitment to humanitarian service. The recipient, who can be a Lion or non-Lion, receives an inscribed plaque and a lapel pin.

The fee of US\$1,000 is donated to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), which disburses the money around the world for disaster relief and humanitarian efforts. Do not confuse with Lions Foundation of Canada (LFC).

PROGRESSIVE MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP

Any individual who is already a Melvin Jones Fellow can donate an additional US\$1,000 to US\$60,000 and receive a diamond, sapphire or ruby to recognize each level of giving. A Club or district can also contribute on behalf of an individual.

LIONS QUEST FELLOWSHIP

A Club can honour a Lion, Lioness or Leo with a pin and a framed print at a cost of CD\$500.

CANADIAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION HARRY A. NEWMAN DIABETES AWARD

Created in 2005, in honour of the first Canadian President of Lions Club International (1924-25). The recipient will receive an engraved glass award, a lapel pin and a personalized letter from the CDA Board at a cost of CD\$800.

* There are awards at each level in Lionism, too numerous to mention in this manual. Only the more prominent ones have been highlighted.

CONTESTS

CLUB PRESIDENT EXCELLENCE AWARD

The following must be fulfilled (the requirements for this award are periodically be changed by LCI - see current District Directory):

1. The Club complied with the Association Constitution & By-Laws and the policies of the International Board of Directors etc.
2. The Club shall not have an unpaid balance over US\$50.00 owing to the International Office as of March 31 of the fiscal year.
3. Within the fiscal year, either show a net increase in Club membership, or sponsor a new Lions Club.
4. An accounting must be made for all twelve Monthly Membership Reports.
5. In order to qualify, the Club President must certify that all new members have been properly inducted, indoctrinated and involved by assignment to a working activity and service committee.
6. From the following, six must be completed:
 - a) All other reports required by the International Office and/or MDA and/or the District of which the President's Club is a part, must be filed on time.
 - b) The President must have personally sponsored one or more new members who shall have been inducted prior to June 30.
 - c) The Club must have conducted at least one major service project that shall have been reported on the Club's activity report.
 - d) The Club must have conducted at least one major fund-raising project with substantial membership participation that shall have been reported on the Club's activity report.
 - e) The PU-101 forms must have been submitted within the time required by the International office.
 - f) The Club President must have attended at least two Zone Advisory Meetings in person and must have been in attendance or shall have been represented at all other meetings held in his zone.
 - g) The Club President must have attended a District, Multiple District Convention or conference or International Convention preceding or during his term of office.
 - h) The Club President attended a Club Officer Training School.

Each Club Secretary may obtain the official application form for the President Excellence Award from the District A-12 Website. The application must be completed by the Club Secretary, recommended by the Zone or Region Chairperson and sent to the District Governor. The District Governor must certify that all requirements have been met and mail within 30 days of the close of the International Convention.

REGIONAL SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Some Regions recognize the secretary of a Club in a Region who scores the highest on a point system for the completeness and timeliness of Membership reports, attendance at zone meetings, cabinet meetings, region rallies, and leadership and officer training school.

REGIONAL TROPHY FOR CLUB ATTENDANCE AT REGION RALLIES

Some Regions have trophies/plaques that are presented to a Club that has the most members or most members x distance traveled, in attendance at the Region Rallies in March and/or at Convention.

DISTRICT AND MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" BULLETIN CONTEST

Copies of the bulletins of the District winners are submitted to Multiple District "A" for judging.

MD"A" Categories:

1. Monthly 40 or more members
2. Monthly 39 or less members
3. Twice monthly 40 or more members
4. Twice monthly 39 or less members

District A-12 Categories:

1. Best Overall bulletin
2. 2nd place overall bulletin
3. 1st place editorial
4. 2nd place editorial
5. Runner-up monthly 40 or more members
6. Runner-up monthly 39 or less members
7. Runner-up twice monthly 40 or more members
8. Runner-up twice monthly 39 or less members
9. Best 1 or 2 sheet bulletin
10. Runner-up 1 or 2 sheet bulletin

Format: The bulletin must display the name of the Club, the name and address of the bulletin editor, the district and zone numbers. Only five points are allotted for format to put all Clubs on an even playing field regardless of budget.

Content: The major emphasis is placed on content. Seven points will be allotted for each of the following:

1. Date, time, location of the next meeting and program
2. Report of Club activities; actions of the BOD.
3. Coming events of the Club, Zone, Region, District and International.
4. Information relative to membership development & retention.
5. Reports of previous meetings.
6. Personal news on members.
7. Constructive editorials.
8. Continuous receipt of bulletins.
9. General information as it concerns your district and Lions International.

Effect: This is the overall appearance of the bulletin and the interest it creates.

Special Note: Humour in bad taste, deduct ten points.

DISTRICT A-12 GOVERNOR'S CONTEST

The contest runs from July 01- June 30.

All Clubs are automatically entered in the Governor's Contest and an award will be given to the Club with the highest point score in the District. An award will also be presented to the Club with the most points in each Region. The Governor may decide not to present these awards

Points will be awarded as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Attendance at Zone Advisory meetings: | |
| President and Secretary | 35 pts |
| President or Secretary | 15 pts |
| 2. Monthly Membership reports post-marked by 5th of month | 50 pts |
| 3. International dues paid by Oct 1 and Mar 1 | 25 pts |

4. District dues paid by Oct 31	25 pts
5. Monthly bulletin sent to Governor	10 pts
6. Sponsor a new Lions Club	200 pts
7. Sponsor a new Club branch	150 pts
8. Sponsor a new Leo Club	150 pts
9. Loss of any member in good standing	-10 pts
10. Reinstated or transferred members	20 pts
11. Net increase for Club membership for the year:	
5% net increase	100 pts
10% net increase	200 pts
12. InterClub visits reported on Activity reports:	
visit by 10% of Club within your region	15 pts
visit by 10% of Club outside of your region	25 pts
visit by 25% of Club within your region	35 pts
visit by 25% of Club outside your region	50 pts
13. Attendance of Club president at cabinet meeting	25 pts

ALL LIONS CAN ASSIST THEIR CLUB IN THIS CONTEST

CONVENTIONS and FORUMS

These events can be attended by any Lion or Lioness and partner and are not restricted to voting delegates from the Clubs. Pre-registration is recommended as it is hectic to register at the conventions and accommodation may not be located with the other Lions of your area.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

This event, held late June or early July, is one of the largest conventions in the world with more than 20,000 Lions and family members in attendance.

The location is selected up to 5-7 years in advance from the bids received from the host countries or Multiple Districts.

Usually the format of the convention is the opening on Tuesday (registration open Monday) and the closing on Friday. A spectacular parade of colourful floats, costumes and marching units is held usually on the first day or evening (depends on the temperatures). Most of the nations in the world of Lionism participate in the parade that takes several hours to pass the reviewing stand. MD"A" marches in all of the parades carrying our Canadian flags and has on occasion won an award.

Dress code for the MD"A" contingent in the parade is a safari shirt (white with red maple leaves), white slacks or skirts, white shoes and a regulation hat or umbrella. Shirts, hats and umbrellas are available from the MD"A" office.

Although you can read about the convention each year in the Lion magazine, it is felt that certain aspects bear mentioning.

Opening session is highlighted by the parade of flags representing all the member Nations of Lions Clubs International.

Second session features keynote speakers of world renown: Nobel Prize winners, Presidents, Media personalities etc. and also the Memorial Service that pays homage to those Lions who passed away during the year.

Third and final session, after voting, includes the presentation of the Lions Humanitarian Award which includes a cheque for US\$200,000 to a recipient who is working for the betterment of the world, the inaugural address of the new International President, and the election results of the International Board and the constitutional issues. Governors-elect take their oath of office at the conclusion of this session.

In addition to these sessions, registrants could take advantage of the seminars, the fun and fellowship - International style, and the International Show. There is lots to see and do.

Registrations are available in the Lion magazine or from your Club secretary. Each Club in good standing has one delegate and one alternate for every 25 members or major fraction thereof.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" CONVENTION

This convention is held each year in late May/early June prior to the International Convention. It is attended by Lions and Lioness from throughout Ontario and parts of Quebec.

The Council of Governors selects the location of the conventions up to three years in advance from the bids received by Clubs or districts.

Convention proceedings begin for the average Lion on Thursday night and end at noon on Sunday. Thursday night is a social evening with the Lions' store and pin trading available. Seminars, luncheons, opening ceremonies and a social evening round out the day for Friday. Scheduled on Saturday is the Business Session and special interest events in the morning and a parade (optional) in the afternoon. The Convention banquet is held on Saturday evening. On Sunday voting takes place, the Memorial service, and the final Business Session in which the election results are announced and the District Governors-elect are introduced.

Registrations are available from your Club Secretary and in the Lions magazine. Each Club in good standing is entitled to one delegate and one alternate for every ten members or major fraction thereof.

DISTRICT A-12 CONVENTION

Our District A-12 Convention must be held at least 30 days prior to the MD"A" Convention and is usually scheduled for the last weekend in April. The District Governor and the Cabinet decide if bids for upcoming conventions are acceptable and then these submissions are placed on the ballot for the current convention.

Approximately 350-375 registrants attend the A-12 convention that starts on Friday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon. On the Friday evening, after the Parade of Club Banners, a relaxing social evening is held.

On Saturday, the Opening Ceremonies, Business Session, Region Rallies, voting and a parade (optional) fill the morning and afternoon. Recently there has been an Awards Luncheon, in lieu of the Saturday night banquet, where the keynote speaker is the International guest who also assists the District Governor with any special presentations. On Sunday morning there is voting and the Memorial Service, followed by a brunch, election results and introduction of the new Cabinet.

During the luncheon, the district winners of the Effective Speaking Contest may make their presentations.

Registrations are available from your Club secretary. Each Club in good standing is entitled to one delegate and one alternate for every ten members or major fraction thereof.

USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM

Held each September in various locations in North America, this event focuses on providing all members of the Lions Family with an opportunity to develop their leadership skills and take back information to their Clubs.

Commencing on a Thursday afternoon the programs are packed with outstanding motivational speakers, Lions' leaders, seminars, workshops and lots of fun and fellowship, until the closing banquet on the Saturday evening. If you are going to learn about Lionism, this is the place.

Registrations are available from the District Leadership chairperson and the Club secretary. As with any of these gatherings, you will meet and talk with Lions from many different areas of Canada and the USA, taking home new ideas, a better understanding and a lifetime of friendships.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Lions International, Multiple District "A" and District A-12 offer a wide range of training for Lions seeking higher office, or Lions merely wishing to expand their knowledge of our Association while improving their own skills. These topics include:

- Lions Learning Centre – a series of online courses at www.lionsClubs.org
- Senior Lions Leadership Institute
- Faculty Development Institute (train the trainer)
- Regional Lions Leadership Institute

Mini versions of some of these training courses, as well as a wide variety of other Lions' and general interest topics, are also offered at the annual District A-12 Lions Learning Weekend and other sessions held throughout the year.

Contact your President, or any member of the MERL Team for the course which best suits your needs or interests.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Club levies an entrance fee and annual dues to its members. Lions Clubs use these monies for administration purposes and to defray International dues, MD"A" dues and District dues.

THE ANNUAL DUES ARE:

International	US\$39.00
MD"A"	CD\$14.50
District A-12	CD\$ 7.00
Lions Learning Weekend	CD\$ 3.00

Effective January 1, 2007 a International Family Dues Structure was introduced by LCI. For family members in the same Club, living in the same residence, the first family member will pay the full \$US39. Subsequent members to a maximum of four (total for family is 5), over the age of majority, will pay \$US19.50 and no entrance fee.

The Activities Account of a Lions Club, consisting of funds raised from the public through Club projects must be expended only to satisfy some community or public need. Under no circumstances may these funds be used for administrative purposes.

Lions normally pay approximately \$12 to \$15 for their meal at a dinner meeting. The Tail twister will usually find a reason to fine a Lion up to a maximum established by the Club (approx \$1). Generally raffle tickets will be sold at a dinner meeting and the proceeds will go to the Administration fund. Some Clubs may also run auctions, raffles, pot-luck suppers, etc. to raise additional funds for the Administration Account.

Additional money may be spent on refreshments before the meeting, to visit other Clubs, to attend zone meetings, or social events. Lions may purchase a convention vest (cost around \$CD95) on which they can wear pins, badges and, of course, their name tag. Many Clubs have opted for Club shirts in lieu of wearing vests.

International dues help to finance a world-wide operation which includes the operation of our Headquarters in Oak Brook IL, the salaries of employees, postage, supplies, literature and publications, the International Conventions etc.

District dues and Club dues cover the administrative costs for the District and your Club.

The biggest expense of being a Lion is not financial, but the time that you decide to devote to Lionism. You will be expected to work on some major projects, and sit on some committees. You are not however expected to put all your free time into Lionism.

You are a volunteer, and as such, should give of yourself that which only you can decide. There is a certain obligation to being more than just a social member.

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

In 1983 the Lions of Canada created this charitable Foundation to provide service to physically challenged Canadians in the areas of mobility, safety and independence.

An old schoolhouse in Oakville was purchased and renovated to house the Foundation, through the fund-raising efforts and labour donated by the Lions.

The Foundation is governed by an elected Board of Directors comprised of 10 Lions representing all the provinces including the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Each Director serves a three year term.

At this time the Foundation has five National projects: dog guide training schools operating as Canine Vision Canada, Hearing Ear Dogs of Canada, Special Skills Dogs of Canada, Seizure Response Dogs and the recently announced program to provide dogs to work with individuals who are autistic.

CANINE VISION CANADA

CVC began operation in 1985 at the old schoolhouse in Oakville. Dog guides for the blind or visually impaired are generally Labrador Retrievers and Golden retrievers who have received an intensive six months of training and are in good physical health. The dogs are trained to navigate stairs, revolving doors, escalators, and hazardous situations on the street. A client comes to the facility for 26 days of learning to handle and trust the dog with which they were matched. These dogs wear a black harness monogrammed with CVC and can legally accompany its owner anywhere. There were 100 graduate teams in the 2005-2006 year.

The cost for a Club, group or individual to sponsor a CVC dog is \$6,000.00. The full cost of each Dog Guides Service is about \$20,000.

HEARING EAR DOGS OF CANADA

In 1988 HED became the second program of the Foundation. These dog guides alert deaf and hearing impaired people to everyday sounds such as a kettle boiling, the door bell, a baby crying. Small and medium sized dogs that are friendly and willing to work are accepted into this six month training program. A client is brought to the facility for two weeks to learn to work and bond with their dogs. These dogs wear a bright orange collar indicating Hearing Ear Dogs of Canada. The cost for a Club, group or individual to sponsor an HED dog is \$4,000.00.

SPECIAL SKILLS DOGS OF CANADA

The third dog guide program began in 1991 to answer the needs of many Canadians confined to wheelchairs and those clients with special needs. Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Standard Poodles (for people with dog hair allergies) and some mixed and small breeds are trained depending on the work required. The dogs can operate light switches, open doors including the fridge, retrieve items dropped, pull wheelchairs, assist in undressing their owner, help with transferring their owner from wheelchair to bed, activate alert systems, get help for clients suffering from seizures.

Again these dogs are checked for medical soundness and undergo an intensive six to eight months of training. Until recently, because the school was not wheelchair accessible, the trainer and the dog spent two weeks at the client's home working together. These dogs are recognized by a royal blue harness and perhaps saddle bags.

The cost for a Club, group or individual to sponsor an SSD is \$10,000.

SEIZURE RESPONSE DOGS

These dogs are especially intuitive and can sense when their human partner is about to experience a seizure and they alert him or her so that preventive measures can be undertaken. They are also trained to get help by activating alarms, etc.

The cost for a Club, group or individual to sponsor a SRD is \$10,000

AUTISM – FULL DETAILS OF THIS PROGRAM HAVE NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED. It is suggested that the reader check the LFC website for information at www.dogguides.com.

FOSTER PUPPY PROGRAM

Dogs are received for the programs from generous breeders, as donations of adult dogs, and from our own breeding program. At eight weeks puppies are placed in approved foster homes for approximately twelve months. The foster family is asked to raise the pup, socialize and teach proper house manners and basic obedience.

PARTNERS IN INDEPENDENCE

This was a fund-raising initiative for the 1994-95 Lions' year in which Lions and Lioness Clubs, and corporate donors were asked to pledge to raise \$3.5 million to build an addition to the Oakville facility, build kennels on land donated to the Foundation near Guelph and set up an endowment fund that will assist with the operating funds of the Foundation's programs. Due to the generosity of many Clubs, individuals, foundations, and corporations the goal of \$3.5 million was exceeded.

Construction at the Oakville facility was completed and the official opening was the summer of 1997. Breslau is the home of the breeding facility, the Leona Hummel Dog Guide Training Centre, that is the master kennel and pre-training facility in preparation for the dogs transfer to Oakville, and also the Memorial Forest.

MEMORIAL FOREST

This is a fund-raiser for the Foundation, and has been a tremendous success. For a donation of \$150 a tree will be planted and marked with a memorial plaque. Many Clubs and individuals have dedicated trees to deceased loved ones and each year in June attend the dedication ceremonies at the Breslau facility.

BOB RUNBALL CAMP FOR THE DEAF

Located just 12 km south of Parry Sound and situated on over 400 acres that surrounds not one but two lakes, the Bob Rumball Camp of the Deaf provides a camping experience for deaf children and their families.

Started in 1960 by Rev. Bob Rumball as an outreach of the Ontario Mission of the Deaf, the camp offered summertime programs that no one else did.

In 1974, the Lions Family of District A-12 became involved in a major project of renovating existing buildings, building new structures, improving water and hydro services and major landscaping. All this work allowed the camp enrollment to increase to 160 per week.

By 1990 a decision was made to investigate the possibility of keeping the camp open year round. With the assistance of the Toronto Argonaut Alumni, a year-round lodge was started in 1992. The Lions A-12 Recreation Hall still stands as the cornerstone of the new main lodge. Now the camp can accommodate 180 people every week in the summer and during the winter months up to 100 people can be housed.

A proposal was submitted to the Lions Home for Deaf People in 1994 to replace the existing infirmary. The new building allows the camp to operate four-season programs with proper care needed.

There is always a need for renovations and development and in 1996, the boys' dorm built by the Lions in 1973, was raised and placed on a new foundation. Future plans include the renovation of two cottages to year round service and the building of three more family cottages.

The on-going projects naturally rely on funding from many sources: Lions Family of A-12, the Chinguacousy Lions, the Argo Alumni Association, the Lions Home for Deaf People and the Telephone Pioneers. In particular the Parry Sound Lions have been faithful supporters both financially and with hands-on involvement.

The camp now provides deaf persons from not only Ontario but across Canada and the USA, with opportunity to enjoy waterskiing, canoeing, camping under the stars, and communicating in sign language.

CAMP HURONDA

Located 12 km outside Huntsville on the shores of Lake Waseosa, Camp Huronda is a 110 acre camp that provides two weeks of residential experience for boys and girls, ages 8-15 years, with diabetes.

All 86 children at each session have Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes which requires them to inject insulin several times each day. They have the opportunity to associate with other campers, counselors, nurses and doctors who are also diabetic.

The camp, owned and operated by the Canadian Diabetic Association of Ontario since 1971, has two doctors, five nurses, and a dietician on staff that provide excellent care and supervision throughout the summer.

Forty qualified counselors, area staff and counselors-in-training offer many activities for the campers - horseback riding, sailing, windsurfing, archery, tennis, fishing, wilderness survival, arts & crafts and much more.

Camp Huronda is classified as a non-profit organization and relies on funding from the CDA's annual Sweepstakes Raffle, private and corporate donations, and from service Clubs such as the Lions.

Past District Governor Jean Hamilton's project for 1997-98 was to raise funds to complete the expansion of the camp dining-room and a medication room. The A-12 Lions family contributed a total of \$43,000.00 to this project.

In 2001-2002, Past District Governor Ron Desjardins' project was a 15 passenger van to be used to safely transport the children on field trips. A resounding success... the excess money raised was used to purchase a water trampoline and resurface the basketball court.

In 2006-2007, District Governor Jim Hilt has recognized the needs for updates at the camp. Two of the most urgent needs appear to be the medical facility, affectionately referred to by the campers as the "Insul Inn", and the Craft Hut.

The generous donations from A-12 amounted to \$53,488, and in 2008-09 were augmented by fund-raising in District A-2 and A-4, so demolition of the craft hut occurred in fall 2008 and construction was completed in time for the 2009 camp.

The A-12 Chairlion for diabetes and Camp Huronda can be reached at diabetes@a12lions.org

CNIB- LAKE JOSEPH HOLIDAY CENTRE

The Lake Joseph Holiday Centre is located 30 kilometers south of Parry Sound on Highway # 69, on the east side, five minutes north of the junction of Highway 169 (MacTier).

The land was an old train station where travelers would come by train, stay the night sleeping in the berths, and be picked up by the boats the next morning. The manager's cottage is an original building that was the living quarters of the station manager and his family. The gazebo on the high hill on the far side of the camp at one time was a restaurant for the train passengers.

In 1961, Lions Clubs of Ontario, the Canadian Council for the Blind and the CNIB merged resources. The Lions Clubs purchased the land and the CNIB bought it from them for \$1.00. In addition the Lions Clubs donated over 80% of the money required to erect the original buildings.

For nearly 50 years the Lions Family of Ontario has continuously supported the Centre through work projects, building construction, camper subsidies, and of course capital purchases. Items like boats, vans, buses, room furniture, TV, patio furniture and tractor have come from the Lions and Lioness.

The Lake Joseph Holiday Centre operates from May to September. Not-for-profit groups such as hospitals, retirement homes, youth groups, CNIB conferences and schools are hosted during May and June. The summer is filled with five weeks of adult and two weeks of children that are CNIB clients (maximum of 96 per week).

During the last two weeks of August, 100-125 children from across Canada who are suffering from kidney disease, are hosted at the camp. In September the Lung Association and groups of deaf/blind adults have use of the Centre.

An Appreciation Day is held every August for the Lions and Lioness of Ontario to come and tour the facilities, enjoy the water sports, and be provided with a delicious dinner and refreshments.

In late 2001 an aggressive fund-raising campaign was launched across the province to rebuild the centre. In 2002 the centre was closed for the summer for major rebuilding, and was reopened in the spring of 2003 with a new main building housing a commercial kitchen, dining room and lounge. The old stone fireplace in the lounge was also replaced with a newly constructed one.

In 2002 – 2003, then A-12 District Governor Dave Hewitt chose as his Governor's Project to build a new modern medical building. He applied for and received a Lions Clubs International Foundation grant of US\$75,000 which was combined with \$60,000 raised by the District A-12 Lions Family that same year.

Additional funding was still required to complete construction and furnishing of the medical building which motivated the following year's Governor Kathy Daoust to continue PDG Dave's project as her own. A further \$50,000 was raised by the Lions Family of A-12 in 2003 - 2004. During the winter months of 2004 – 2005, the new medical facility was completed. At the Lions Appreciation Day in August 2005, the new "District A-12 Medical Centre" was officially opened.

e-mail sight@a12lions.org.

LIONS CAMP DORSET

Located off the South Kawagama Lake Road, a few miles from Dorset on 380 acres of Crown land, Lions Camp Dorset is the answer for hundreds of dialysis patients and their families. There they can spend a week of vacation and make use of the medical facilities on-site.

In 1974, Lion Sandy Ailles and the Dorset Lions Club and Lion Herb Walpole (deceased) and the Hamilton East Lions Club co-founded Lions Camp Dorset and formed a charitable foundation. The camp is owned and operated by a Lions Board of Directors.

In April 1978, Lions and local interested people began construction after four years of planning and fund-raising, and the first of many patients stayed at the camp that summer.

Each year, through the generosity of many Lions and Lioness Clubs around the Multiple District, cottages and motel units have been built and furnished. Presently there are twelve cottages and three five-unit efficiencies, a trailer park, a medical centre housing 20 dialysis machines, tennis/basketball courts, playground and finally the new community centre with indoor swimming pool, dining hall, kitchen, library and craft room.

In 2005-2006 Past District Governor Len Day chose to donate any money raised in his project towards repairs and upkeep to the Dialysis machines located at the five centres in District A-12, including Camp Dorset.

In addition to the support of the Lions Family, Lions Camp Dorset has received grants from Wintario and the Ministry of Tourism and corporate donations from many such as Stelco, Reynolds, Alcan, Domtar, McMillan Bloedel, Culligan and Johns Manville.

The entire complex is worth in excess of \$5 million and has no mortgages or debts. However, operating costs and upgrades are an on-going concern. One of the latest ventures in fund-raising is the Snowmobile Poker Rally held in the surrounding area in February.

During the summer the camp is staffed by volunteer nurses and doctors as well as the two nurses on staff.

Work parties are organized each weekend in May, June, September, October and November for clean-up, maintenance, construction etc. If you are in the area, and would like to visit or work on one

of the projects, call the District Chairperson listed in the A-12 Directory or Custodian Steve Woolman at 705-766-2780. E-mail campdorset@a12lion.org

MEETINGS

CABINET MEETINGS

There are three Cabinet meetings per year hosted by various Clubs in the District at the request of the District Governor. These are held on a Sunday, commencing with social at 10am and adjourning approx 3pm.

The Club President is expected to attend and should encourage the Secretary, VP's, Bulletin Editor, and as many others as possible to join him/her. No Club reports are requested, however the district business is discussed, financial reports are presented, and Cabinet Officers and District Chairpersons are required to present a report on their activities and fund raising projects.

This provides an opportunity to learn more about Lionism at the District level and about the programs supported by the Lions Family. It is also a time for fun and fellowship and the exchange of ideas. The cost is for a meal of approx \$15, refreshments if desired, raffle tickets, etc.

CLUB MEETINGS

When a Lion takes his oath of membership, he/she pledges to attend meetings regularly, which usually includes two meetings per month.

The Board of Directors meeting is in addition to this and is open to any Lion of that Club, however only members of the board are entitled to vote. **NO PROXY VOTES ARE ALLOWED.**

The normal procedure for handling business is that any items are presented to the Board of Directors first and their recommendation is then brought to the general membership at the next meeting.

Many Clubs have only one dinner meeting a month and the other is scheduled as a business meeting, to help decrease costs for their members.

Please see the section under finances for approx costs.

Ideally a Club should take the opportunity, as often as possible, to provide a guest speaker at the meetings.

ZONE ADVISORY MEETINGS

There is a minimum two Zone meetings per year hosted by various Clubs in the Zone, on a week night, commencing approx 6:30PM and adjourning 9:30pm. The Club President and Secretary are expected to attend with a good representation from each Club.

A brief written report detailing each Club's activities since the last zone meeting is read by the President or Secretary. Often District Chairpersons will be invited to make a presentation with time for questions to follow. Alternatively, the Zone Chairperson may ask the Club President to prepare a written report, which can then be copied to the other Clubs, thus leaving more time for guest speakers and keeping the meeting within the desired timeframe.

Any Zone business will also be discussed with the voting members, namely the President and Secretary of each Club. This is also a time for fellowship and the exchange of ideas. The cost for the evening is: a meal-approx \$12 to \$15, refreshment if desired, raffle tickets, tail twister fine etc.

REGION RALLIES

A joint Region Rally of Regions 8 and 36 and a separate Region 21 Rally are hosted approximately 30 days prior to the District Convention, in a central location for the local Clubs. This is intended as an evening of fun, fellowship and campaigning for the candidates for District office: Governor, Vice District Governors, Region Chairperson(s), and Zone Chairpersons.

Often regular Club meetings for that week are cancelled and the Club President and as many Lions as possible are encouraged to attend. The Rally normally commences with a social time of 6:30pm and an adjournment at 10 pm.

No reports are given except an update for the upcoming District Convention.

Cost for the meal is approximately \$15, plus any refreshments he/she may desire, and the purchase of raffle tickets, tail twister fines etc.

PINS

Whether you purchase or trade, pins provide you with an opportunity to enjoy the fun and fellowship at meetings, forums and conventions.

CLUB PINS

Most Clubs design and produce a pin that is representative of their Club or area. e.g. Gilford has a fire truck mounted on a maple leaf. The average cost is \$4-5.00 with heavier or more colourful artwork increasing the price to over \$7.00 each. Since the Lions emblem is a registered trademark, only LCI authorized companies should produce pins.

DISTRICT PINS

Originally, our District pin was produced from designs submitted by Lions and voted on by Cabinet. The District pins represented either the four seasons, as experienced in our District, or the four camps in District A-12. Recently, this has changed to reflect something from the sitting Governor. For example, PDG Dave Hewitt had the lift bridge in Port Carling, PDG Kathy Daoust had the Muskoka chair which is situated on the south entrance to Gravenhurst, PDG Terry Mayhew had an ultralight plane, representing his career choice and PDG Leonard Day had an old locomotive, remembering the importance of rail to Essa (now part of Barrie). Governor Jim Hilt's pin tied in with International President Jimmy Ross' presentation at the International Convention – our pride in “riding for the brand”, Lionism. The same was true for PDG Peter McCague's pin, “Challenge to Change” – the International theme, and PDG Nancy Watt-Durant's which also reflected the International theme, “Miracles Through Service”.

VISITATION PINS

To participate in our Visitation Pin program, the Lion records his/her visits to other Clubs and functions as per rules stated on the recording form. When a required number of visits are registered, the Lion may then purchase a Visitation pin and the appropriate dangler. The purpose of this program is to promote fun and fellowship.

MD"A" PINS

Multiple District "A" produces a new pin annually that is endorsed by the Council of Governors and for sale the following year throughout the Districts. These pins are extremely popular for trading as the emphasis is on Canadian symbols e.g. maple leaves, Mounties, beavers, etc.

LIONS EMBLEM PIN

This is the one that was placed on your lapel when you were inducted into your Lions Club. It is the most valuable as it is your link with 1.3 million other service minded individuals around the globe. Wear it proudly at all times.

PUBLICATIONS

A wealth of information is available from Lions Clubs International in the form of videos, CD's, DVD's, and brochures. Many of these are provided at no cost to the Club. An updated listing of all publications is available annually.

THE LION MAGAZINE

Any Lion or Club may order the International edition of *"The Lion"* magazine, which is published ten times per year at a cost of approximately US\$7.00 annually. To subscribe, contact Lions Clubs International, Oak Brook, Illinois, or go to www.lionsclubs.org and click on “The Lion”.

All Lions in Multiple District "A" receive a copy of the MD"A" *Lion* magazine that is published six times per year. The cost of the magazine is included in the dues paid to International. If you are not receiving your copy, contact your Club Secretary as he/she provides Lions International with all new Lions' names and addresses (and also change of address for existing members) on the Club's membership reports.

WE SERVE - A HISTORY OF LIONS CLUBS

This is an excellent publication in both hard cover and paperback written by Paul Martin, detailing the first 75 years of history of Lions Clubs International. It is available from Club Supplies.

LIONS CLUBS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Published in 2008 by Paul Martin and Robert Kleinfelder, this book outlines our early history and continues on from where *We Serve . . .* left off, and takes the reader up to the present time.

WE SERVE - A HISTORY OF MDA

A history of Multiple District "A" compiled by the late Lion Larry Carlisle, past MD"A" Secretary. This history details each annual convention, pertinent data, elected officers, etc. To obtain a copy, contact the MDA secretary.

DISTRICT A-12 CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

This document details how we govern ourselves and operate as a District and is available on the A-12 website www.a12lions.org – click on "Administration" to locate it. Each Club should have a copy for reference.

DISTRICT A-12 POLICY MANUAL

This book highlights the roles and responsibilities of Club officers, committee chairpersons, protocol, conventions, memorial service, installations, etc. It is available on the A-12 website at www.a12lions.org – click on "Administration" to locate it. Each Club should have a copy for reference.

DISTRICT A-12 DIRECTORY

This directory is provided to every Club, elected officers, cabinet chairpersons and Past District Governors (PDG's) in August/September of each year. It provides information of meeting dates, place and time of each Club in addition to the Club officer names, addresses and phone numbers. All elected officers, cabinet chairpersons, and PDGs are listed. Official visitation dates, Lions Learning Weekend, Zone meeting, Region Rally, Conventions, and other important dates are also listed. A copy can also be downloaded from the District A-12 website at: www.a12lions.org

CLUB BULLETIN

All Clubs are encouraged to publish a Club bulletin/newsletter as a source of information and entertainment for the Lions in the Club. It can be used as a reminder of upcoming events, to report on completed projects, to highlight activities, etc. A large budget is not required as the bulletin can be one page or twenty. Bulletins from the various Clubs will also be available on the website. Clubs are encouraged to submit their issues to our IT Chair at: webmaster@a12lions.org

GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

This is a publication that is sent to the Clubs on a regular basis providing them with news and information on A-12 and beyond. It highlights the travels of the District Governor and contains his/her personal message to the Lions Family. The format and number of publications is at the discretion of the District Governor. Since only one copy is sent to each Club, ensure that the newsletter is circulated amongst the members. This publication is also available on line. Visit www.a12lions.org and click on Governor's Newsletter.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE

Each year the Club secretary is provided with an up-to-date catalogue of Lions' Club supplies and personal items. Ensure that this is circulated on a regular basis to allow members to order, at their own expense, any items they may wish to purchase e.g. tie, apron, vest, golf balls, hat, pen etc. Items can be ordered on-line at: Clubsuppliescanada@lionsclus.org

YOUTH OUTREACH

Youth outreach encompasses many projects dealing with young people (e.g. Leos, Youth Exchange, Peace Poster Contest, Street Children).

LIONS-QUEST

This is a series of programs that have been introduced into our schools to help young people develop positive social behavior, and lead healthy drug free lives.

In 1985 Lions Clubs International, in partnership with Quest International, introduced **Skills for Adolescence**, an approach to drug prevention for grades 6-8, into schools in North America. By the end of 1986, this program had expanded to 2500 schools in both North America and Europe.

Skills for Growing, aimed at the children from kindergarten to grade five, was developed in 1987 as it was recognized that early prevention was needed.

By 1993, a pilot for **Skills for Action** for high school students stressing violence and drug prevention, life skills and developing personal and social responsibility, was introduced.

The combined "Skills" programs reach more than three million children each year, all over the world, and involve the parents and the community.

In 2002, Lions Clubs International Foundation purchased Quest International.

One of the Lions' roles is to raise money to provide workshops to train the teachers in our schools and to provide the workbooks for the students as required. You may contact the District Chair at: quest@a12lions.org.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST

In 1987-88 Lions Clubs International established the first Peace Poster contest to encourage young people between 11 and 13 to share their vision and their hopes and dreams of living in a world united in peace.

Each October/November more than 350,000 children from over 50 countries create their interpretation of the annual theme by drawing, sketching or painting a poster.

Lions Clubs sponsor the contest at the local level by providing the schools or youth groups with the poster kit and providing the local winner with some type of recognition. One winner in each school or youth group advances to the District competition where it is the responsibility of the District Governor to ensure one winner is selected and submitted to the Multiple District "A" level. The Council Chairperson of MD"A" selects one winner from the single submissions of each district and submits the winning poster to Lions Clubs International.

The grand prize winner receives US\$2500, a special plaque and a trip with two family members to attend Lions Day with the United Nations in New York City.

Twenty-three International merit award winners each receive US\$500 and a framed certificate.

This program supports one of the association's objects - "to create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world".

You may contact the District Chair at: peaceposter@a12lions.org

EFFECTIVE SPEAKING

The purpose of this program is to provide an opportunity for self-expression and independent thinking for students in our school system.

Each school participating, sends the top two or three winners to the zone/region speak-off, those winners in turn advance to the district speak-off. Monetary prizes are awarded to the winners in addition to plaques or certificates.

Effective Speaking has three levels of competition: junior, ages 10 to 13, intermediate, ages 14 to 16, and senior, ages 17 to 20 in both English and French.

As stated, the winners advance through the various levels of competition, with the District winners competing at the MD"A" level speak-offs.

The role the Lions Clubs play in this program is to encourage participation from all their local schools and to host the contests up to the MD"A" level. The Lions Clubs can defray the cost of the contests by donating \$125 towards all levels of the Effective Speaking Contest. You may contact the District Chair at: speaking@a12lions.org

ABBREVIATIONS

BOD	Board of Directors
CC	Council Chairperson
CSFII	Campaign Sight First II
CST	Cabinet Secretary Treasurer
CVC	Canine Vision Canada
DG	District Governor
HED	Hearing Ear Dogs of Canada

ID	International Director
IPDG	Immediate Past District Governor
JBSF	Judge Brian Stevenson Fellow
LCI	Lions Clubs International
LCIF	Lions Clubs International Foundation
LFC	Lions Foundation of Canada
MMR	Monthly Membership Report
MDA	Multiple District "A"
MJF	Melvin Jones Fellow
PCC	Past Council Chairperson
PDDG	Past Deputy District Governor
PVDG	Past Vice District Governor
PDG	Past District Governor
PID	Past International Director
PP	Past President
(P)RC	(Past) Region Chairperson
SSD	Special Skills Dogs of Canada
VDG	Vice District Governor
VP	Vice President
(P)ZC	(Past) Zone Chairperson

CLUBS OF DISTRICT A-12 (CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER)

September 1931	Barrie Lions Club
	Barrie Lioness Club
November 1936	Alliston Lions Club
August 1937	Orillia Lions Club
September 1937	Bradford Lions Club
November 1937	Midland Lions Club
October 1938	Burk's Falls Lions Club
August 1939	Coldwater Lions Club
August 1939	Penetanguishene Lions Club
May 1940	Parry Sound Lions Club
October 1941	Huntsville Lions Club
	Huntsville Lioness Club
November 1942	Bracebridge Lions Club

May 1944	Sundridge Lions Club
November 1945	Port Carling Lions Club
November 1945	Bala & District Lions Club
	Bala & District Lioness Club
October 1946	Gravenhurst Lions Club
March 1947	Schomberg Lions Club
November 1947	MacTier & District Lions Club
January 1949	Elmvale & District Lions Club
	Elmvale & District Lioness Club
November 1949	Washago & District Lions Club
	Washago & District Lioness Club
May 1956	Stayner Lions Club
January 1960	South River Lions Club
November 1962	Angus & District Lions Club
	Angus & District Lioness Club
February 1963	Wasaga Beach Lioness Club
October 1966	Magnetawan Lions Club
April 1968	Windermere & District Lions
August 1968	Britt Lions Club
February 1969	Tottenham & District Lions Club
August 1971	Dwight Lions Club
March 1972	Whitestone McKellar (formerly Dunchurch)
April 1972	Dorset Lions Club
June 1972	Baysville Lions Club
July 1972	Victoria Harbour & District Lions
January 1973	Oro District Lions Club
	Oro District Lioness Club
April 1973	Innisfil Lions Club
	Innisfil Lioness Club

May 1973	Stephenson & District Lions Club
April 1975	Thornton & District Lions Club
May 1975	Gilford & District Lions Club
May 1976	Peninsula Lions Club
June 1979	Emsdale Lions Club
January 1980	Springwater Vespra Lions Club
June 1980	Port McNicoll Lions Club
May 1981	Point Au Baril Lions Club
April 1986	Bond Head & District Lions Club
May 1986	Sundridge Lioness Club
November 1989	Kearney Lions Club
June 1999	Beeton Lions Club
June 1999	Barrie South Lions Club
	Barrie South Leo Club (Barrie South Lions)
February 2006	Gravenhurst Leo Club (Gravenhurst Lions)
	Bracebridge Leos Club (Bracebridge Lions)
January 2007	Tiny Township Lions Club
January 2007	Tiny Trails Lions Club
	Innisfil Leos Club (Innisfil Lions)
April 2008	Waubashene & District Lions Club