

The Illinois Lion, Lioness, Leo

MD1 e-Magazine (Full) Vol. 3 - Issue 6, December 2015

*New Chicago Ridge Lions Club with 53
New Members Charter Nite With 1 Vice
President
Bob Corlew*



Below: Burr-Ridge-Hinsdale-Oak Brook Lions Club Members Posing for a Photograph Around the Globe at the Lions Clubs International Headquarters .



To All Our Readers

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Council Chair Speaks:



Greetings of the Season to each of you!

Lion Gail and I wish you the very best this Christmas Season to you and your families. It is at this time of year when all Lions realize all of the hard work and dedicated hours that we have spent to help improve the lives of others. Each of the clubs throughout all of the districts have worked diligently toward our Lions motto of "We Serve". All Lions at one time or another throughout this year has felt that Lion Moment, that moment when you realize that yes I do make a difference, I can help change someone else's life and we do matter. I have heard it said time and again, if not for Lions....then who? Congratulations one and all, for a job well done.

On November 14th, the Leadership Team lead by Chairperson Lion Jama Wahl held this year's MD-1 Forum. 140 Lions from across the state attended and came away with some new ideas to take back to their clubs. The team presented some new concepts such as the 10 table 20 minute "Lions Gone Wild" seminar. A seminar on new and younger Lions presented by new and younger Lions. Some of the presenters were graduates of the 2 previous graduating classes of the Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI). They did a terrific job. Start to make your plans now to attend next year's Mid-Year Forum to be held in October. Lion President Bob Corlew and his wife Lion Dianne will be the guest at the forum.

Our state GMT and the District GMT Teams are working hard at driving the membership numbers up. There has been improvement, it's not all doom and gloom. There seems to be a slight upswing in the numbers. We need to continue our efforts on

moving forward. Remember, Rome wasn't built in a day and we won't stop the decline in membership in a day either. It takes time and I feel that we have turned the corner.

Again, on behalf of the Council of Governors, the Vice District Governors, the Past International Directors, and all Lions across the multiple, A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Thank you for your service,

Lion Steve
Council Chairperson
santonlions@comcast.net

Editorial:



All of us had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day Celebration this week; unfortunately almost 235 million turkeys gave their lives for us to celebrate! These facts aside, most of our Lions Clubs in the US donated food baskets, fed the needy people in their communities and kept up our motto "We Serve."

My request to all Lions Clubs secretaries who took part in this food drive to record their service activity on MyLCI so that they will get credit towards "Relieving the Hunger Campaign" so that club will receive recognition from Lions Clubs International for your participation.

Holiday season has just begun; soon we will be celebrating Hannukah, Christmas and New Year. We will be shopping until our credit cards hit maximum limit. Some will go beyond by using several credit cards from their wallets. Whatever we do to our loved ones, let us keep in mind that there are hundreds of people in our communities who cannot afford to have a healthy meal for their holiday celebration, cannot afford to give gifts to their children and can't even have a small Christmas Tree in their living room.

As Lions in our communities, we should focus on local challenges and try to meet as many as we can.

Collecting non-perishable goods, gently used winter coats, toys for tots, etc., etc. If we Lions don't do these little things, nobody will. At least all Lions buy a small gift to a needy kid in MD1, there we will have close to 17,000 extra gifts to give.

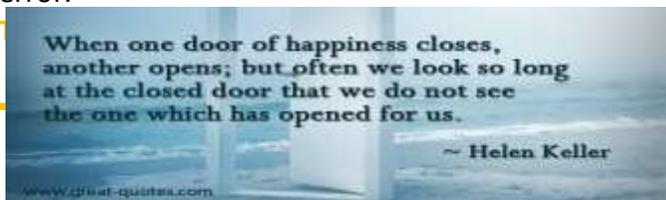
Last week I had an opportunity to witness chartering a new club – Chicago Ridge Lions Club with 53 newly chartered members. I said, “Wow” as in recent years we never had an opportunity to charter a huge new Lions Club. Under the leadership of Past International Director Dan O’Reilly and PDG Harold Burkett, Jr., this took place in Chicago Ridge. Kudos to these leaders and also all the new members of Chicago Ridge Lions Club and their hard working office bearers. This is the only way we can grow Lionism in our communities. I would like to see all Districts in MD1 take this challenge and bring in new Lions Clubs this Lionistic Year.

-Austin D’Souza, Editor

ILStateEditor@gmail.com



An Error: Above photograph was on the face of last month’s magazine where the group was mentioned as Fox River Valley Lioness Club. These are Fox River Gove Lioness Club members. Sorry for this error.



The spouses Speak.....



Learn more about the

*“Duffles for Dignity”
Spouse Project*

Meet Janet Breckon 1-H

Hi, let me introduce myself. I am Jan Breckon, Governor Steve Breckon is my husband. Steve and I are both from the rural area between Sciota and Roseville, Illinois. We both had the advantage of growing up on family farms. As children my family had a horse, a collie dog, chickens, hogs, and cattle, and mother raised Pekinese and Pomeranian dogs for sale. Steve’s family also had many animals. Today, Steve and I have a Labradoodle dog, a horse, and a number of cats and kittens. We live on 13 acres at the edge of LaHarpe where we have a home, barn and several other buildings. The rural way of life is our choice. The old saying that you can take people out of the country, but you can’t take “country” out of the people is true for us. We really got started off somewhat together as I was in first grade in the same country school with Steve when he was a second grader. We have known each other for a long time.

We have two sons and six grandchildren. Steve and I enjoy traveling to visit our sons and their families. I have been involved with bowling for many years, and currently bowl in two leagues. It is a lot of fun and good exercise for the participants. We are both retired and also devote time to the Lions Club service, other community activities and traveling. I retired from the Medical Transcription office at Memorial Hospital Clinic in Carthage, IL in 2008. I also serve as a proof reader for much of Steve’s written material he turns out for Lions. My days seem always to be filled with taking care of animals, grandchildren, and numerous other activities. Steve and I have functioned as a team since we got married in 1962.

Yes, the years have gone by rapidly, but life has been good to us.

The duffel bag project is an excellent project to help some young people in the foster care system. I extend my thanks to the foster parents who work with these children. I wish all Lions Club members the very best in their work serving humanity. The worldwide positive impact of Lions service is worth the Lions work. Spouses and Lions, please continue with this work, as no one else will do it.

If you are interested in donating to “Duffels for Dignity Project”, contact your District Governor Spouse. Monetary donations can be written to the Lions of Illinois (memo line “Duffels for Dignity”)

The Spouses of the 2015-2016 Council



Duffels for Dignity Spouses' Project

I thought I would give you an update on this project. First of all, for those of you who are not familiar with this project, let me give you a brief description. The Spouses of the Council of Governors 2015-16 have banded together to lead a service project that will provide wheeled duffel bags for foster children to various agencies in the state. These foster children move from location to location with their meager belongings in a black garbage bag. The group's goal was to provide 50 duffel bags to an organization during the 2015-16 Lions year. The first presentation will be at the December 5th Council meeting to the Lutheran Agency, which is located in District CS.

The group came up with a title “Duffels for Dignity” and then they determined we needed a logo, which is shown at the beginning of this article. After the

logo was created, everyone thought, we need a luggage tag and the next thing I knew, we had luggage tags. I would like to thank two people for their help on this part of the project. Lion Rich Polanek our designer who donated his services and PCST Dawn Grogan for having the luggage tags



donated by her company.

(Some spouses of current council at the MD1 Mid Year Leadership Forum in East Peoria Duffels for Dignity Table)

But funding the project became our priority. Many of the funds were personal donations from the spouses.

As the energy and excitement continued to grow within the group, another idea was discussed...selling Christmas cards (which were designed for our group). They were first available at the 1-M Convention and at the MD-1 Forum. We are almost sold out of Christmas cards. But will have greeting cards for all occasions very soon. Please contact Lion Pam Fowler from District 1-J or any of the Spouses, if you are interested in Christmas cards. The cards will be available at the December 5th Council Meeting.

I would like to thank those of you that have made personal donations; they are so very much appreciated. In addition, I had the opportunity to attend the PDG dinner/meeting which is held every year on Saturday night after the MD-1 Forum. PDG Tom Senger asked me to talk about the “Duffels for Dignity Project” afterwards the PDG's

voted to donate \$500.00 to the project, which will provide us with an additional 25 duffel bags for the foster children. We can't thank them and everyone else enough for their donations.

Our goal now is to present duffel bags at the February Council Meeting and at the State Convention.

Stay tuned for more information on this project in the state newsletter and also your district newsletters as this project moves along.

Need more information about this project? Feel free to contact any of the Spouses or myself to answer any questions you may have.

Lion Gail Anton

anton173@comcast.net

LEADERSHIP CORNER



Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada is the President of Lions Clubs International for 2015-16. As part of his theme Dignity, Harmony, and Humanity; he introduced the **7 Keys to Success** to help clubs maximize their potential and give club presidents an opportunity to earn special recognition.

Each club president is eligible to receive the [Club President Award](#). A club president has the opportunity to impact positive change that is meaningful to the club members and the community.

The 2015-2016 Club President Award is based on the *Seven Keys to Success* and is an initiative to help the club president, lead the club, maximizing its potential. LCI also provides quality resources to find new ways to serve the community.

So how does it work?

Club presidents are encouraged to use the criteria below to bring about change in your club.

The resources in bold letters noted in the criteria below are available from the LCI Website! A quick and easy download!

Seven Keys to Success

1. To increase the value of being a member, host a **[New Member Orientation](#)**.
2. To be a club that members can be proud of, conduct **[How Are Your Ratings?](#)** to find ways to make membership in your club more meaningful.
3. To hold high quality service projects, conduct a **[Community Needs Assessment](#)** and carry out a service project.
4. To serve with family members, host a **[service project](#)** that includes family members.
5. To increase the number of female and/or younger members, **[sponsor younger](#)** and/or **[female members](#)** or **[charter a club](#)** that includes female and/or younger members.
6. To be a leader in your community, take two or more courses or seminars offered online from the **[Lions Learning Center](#)** or offered by your district, multiple district, constitutional area or LCI.
7. To think in dynamic new ways, conduct **[Your Club, Your Way](#)**, **[Blueprint for a Stronger Club](#)**, or the **[Club Quality Initiative](#)** (CEP) to identify and implement changes.

Upon completion, submit the Application Form to your District Governor or Zone Chairperson. You can submit the application *at any time during the 2015-2016 fiscal year!* Your District Governor will then order the award. Please allow three or more weeks for delivery. All orders must be received by June 30, 2016.

To access the application and the award order form go to the www.lionsclubs.org

- **[Club President Award Application](#)** – To be completed by the Club President

- [Club President Award Order Form](#) – To be completed by the District Governor and submitted to LCI

Jama Wahl, MD1 GLT Coordinator, 815-822-3014 or jamawahl@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP CORNER:



The New Year Is Just Around The Corner!

I don't know how many "regular readers" I have. If you are one, you will remember that last month's article was titled "The Holiday's Are Coming!" Well, they are here. Most likely the Thanksgiving Holiday has come and gone by the time you read this. (It seems as if many retail stores go directly from Halloween to Christmas. They seem to forget that there is another holiday in between them. Oh well, they can make more sales over Halloween and Christmas than they can over Thanksgiving. They don't sell turkeys and the trimmings.)

Christmas is closing in. Procrastinators have about four weeks before they begin their shopping. Others have slight smiles on their faces knowing they are already done.

The New Year is just around the corner. In about two to three weeks some of us will begin making New Year's Resolutions. Some of these "wishes for tomorrow" will include the usual "lose some weight", "quit smoking", "be a better person", etc. Those are great personal goals. How about your Lions Club? There is no reason why an individual Lions Club can't make a New Year's Resolution. What could your club resolve to do? There are many possible responses. They include 1) perform one more service project than last year, 2) earn at least one dollar more than last year at your fundraisers, 3) have a greater presence in your community, etc. I would like to suggest one more: finish the current Lion Year (June 30, 2016) with at least one more member than you began the year (July 1, 2015).

If your club adopts my suggested resolution you will reap several benefits. One of which will be making it easier to attain the first three resolutions mentioned above: 1) additional Lions makes it easier to take on additional service projects, 2) additional Lions will lessen the load of those working your fundraisers, 3) additional Lions will better enable your club to have a greater presence in your community. The latter of the three should increase the chances of you recruiting even more new Lions.

Give the idea of a club resolution some serious thought. If your club makes any, follow through on them. The benefits could be substantial.

-Paul Gergolla, PDG

MD-1 GMT Coordinator

Phone: 630-858-8073

Email: lionpg1@aol.com

State Alert Corner:



Greetings December Readers,

The holidays are approaching us rapidly, a good thing we are prepared for them.

It may be nice outside or a terrible snow storm, let's not forget about those who are by themselves. A simple phone call or a quick visit can make a huge difference. If someone doesn't answer and they should, it could be an indicator that there is a problem. Better to check than not check at all.

My thought for you is short and sweet. Your area just had a terrible event and your Club has been approved for a \$10,000.00 Alert grant from LCIF. I leave you with this question to ponder. How would your Club spend that money properly?

May your Holidays be fantastic and I am not afraid to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Lion Jim Kiser

State Alert Chair

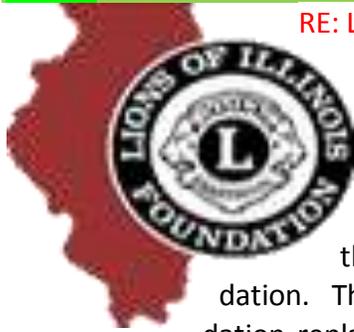
LionJimKiser@sisna.com

630-660-7944

November 18, 2015

MEMO

RE: Lion Van C. Stone



Fellow Lions,

As you may recall, Lion Van Stone retired on June 30, 2013 as the Executive Director of the Lions of Illinois Foundation. The Lions of Illinois Foundation replaced Lion Van with PDG Don Hook. Don was in the position for five months when he passed away on July 3, 2013. At that time, the Lions of Illinois Foundation Board of Directors asked Lion Mario Gumino to step into that role until a decision was made on the position of Executive Director.

On July 1, 2014 the board promoted Lion Mario Gumino to the position of Executive Director with a two year contract, and gave Van a two year contract to come back and manage the Endowment Fund. There was a clause in Mario's contract that if he or the Board was not comfortable with Mario in the role of Executive Director, he could step down and resume his responsibility as the Accounts Manager. On July 1, 2015 the Board gave Mario a five year contract. Mario was asked to find someone to fill the Accounting position. The search to fill the accounting position is currently in progress.

On July 1, 2015 Van was into his second year of his two year contract. On November 7, 2015 the Lions of Illinois Endowment Fund Board voted not to renew Van's contract and to release him from his current contract with full pay. There is a policy which allows the Executive Director to take over the role of Managing Director for up to 90 days. During that time the Board of Trustees will make a decision on moving forward.

As we all know, Van was a great Director. He took our Foundation to greater heights. He helped build our Endowment Fund to where it is today. When you see Van please take the time to thank him for all that he has done, and we wish him all the best in his retirement years.

LIONS OF ILLINOIS ENDOWMENT FUND MEMORIAL DONATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2015

Table with 3 columns: DATE, DECEASED, and DONOR. Lists memorial donations for the period of September to October 2015, including names of the deceased and the recipients of the donations.

Dear Lion Leaders,

I'm sharing a message sent to all district governors.

I also wanted to let you know that a **survey to help determine the global service priorities** of Lions will be sent to all Past International Presidents, International Directors, Past International Directors, Council Chairpersons, District Governors and Multiple District Office General Secretaries in late November. **The survey will be sent to all Lions worldwide in mid-January.** Please take the survey when you receive it—and encourage your Lions to participate!

Please continue supporting your district governor's efforts to build membership and charter new clubs in your district. I would also like you to encourage your clubs to set a goal of adding 3 new members this year and hosting a service project in each of our Centennial Service Challenge areas of youth, vision, hunger and the environment. Together we can strengthen our districts and make our Centennial Celebration a success!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

Dear District Governor,



November 30th is coming up fast, so make sure you're ready to finish strong in Period 1 of the Lions Dignity Award. Keep the following in mind to maximize your recognition:

- Earn a **Silver Pin** for achieving membership growth in your district. Achieve positive growth *and* charter a new club to earn a **Gold Pin!**
- New members and charter **members must be submitted to LCI by November 30th** to count towards your Period 1 recognition.
- Visit the [Lions Dignity Award](#) Web page for complete awards information.

Now's the time to keep your momentum going. You've worked hard throughout Period 1 to strengthen your district, so keep it up to make sure you're on track for recognition at the end of November.

Remember, **there are only two earnings periods in the Lions Dignity Award**, so don't miss out on your opportunity to be recognized in Period 1!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada

Your International President

Help Us Shape the Future of Service!

For nearly 100 years, LCI has strived to be the global leader in service. As the needs of our local and global communities change, we recognize that our service priorities must also change. To make sure we're ready for our next century of service, we need you to help us determine what Lions' global service priorities should be.

In late November, a survey will be sent to all District Governors, Past International Presidents, International Directors, Past International Directors, Council Chairpersons, and Multiple District Office General Secretaries. In mid-January, the survey will be sent to all Lions worldwide. Please take the survey when you receive it—and encourage your Lions to participate in January!

Club President's Award

I introduced the **7 Keys to Success** to help your clubs maximize their potential and to give club presidents an opportunity to earn special recognition. I'd like you to continue promoting the [Club President Award](#) to your club leaders, and encourage them to submit their award application during the 2015-16 fiscal year.



Important Reminders

Here are some important reminders that can keep you on track for success:

- Encourage your clubs to set a goal of **inviting at least 3 new members** this fiscal year. Remind Lions they can earn progressive recognition in the [Centennial Celebration Membership Awards](#) for inviting and retaining new members.
- Encourage your clubs to host a special project for the [Worldwide Week of Service to Fight Hunger and Poverty](#) on January 10-16.
- Now is the perfect time to review the **leadership development goals** you created with your GLT and make any needed adjustments to your plan.
- Remind your clubs that the GLT can help support current leaders and develop new ones, and encourage your clubs to take advantage of online training through the [Lions Learning Center](#).

Lions Clubs International & LCIF | 300 W. 22nd St. | Oak Brook, IL | 60523 | USA
[Click here](#) to unsubscribe and/or manage your subscriptions

Join Lions around the world for a special Worldwide Week of Service dedicated to helping the nearly 800 million people facing hunger and poverty every day. Together, we can bring dignity to others and reach our Centennial Service Challenge goal of benefitting 100 million people.

Getting involved is easy!

- Host** a project that impacts hunger and poverty in your community during the week of January 10–16
 - Promote** your project to your community to showcase your club
 - Report** your project on MyLCI Service Activity Report and earn a Centennial Banner Patch for your club

**Share event photos using the hashtag #Lions100,
and we'll share them on the LCI Facebook page!**

Lions of Illinois Foundation

Chili's give-back program earns LIF 15% of sales when you enjoy their tasty meals this November - January



Anywhere in Illinois

Enjoy a delicious meal at Chili's at their restaurants anywhere in Illinois and earn Lions of Illinois Foundation 15% of your sale (excluding tax and gratuity)



Chili's®
ILLINOIS

Coupon good for one FREE Chili's Chips and Salsa w/ any entree purchase
Valid at **ALL CHILI'S ILLINOIS LOCATIONS**
One coupon per visit/per guest check/per table. Not valid w/ any other offer or discount, including 2 for \$20 menu items. Exp 1/31/16



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For funding our Low Vision Screenings for youth. This promotion begins November 1, 2015 and ends January 31, 2016. Participate as many times as you want!
Go to the lionsofillinoisfoundation.org website to get more vouchers and your FREE CHILI'S Chips & Salsa coupon. It could not be simpler or more delicious!



Chili's Give Back Program
Bring this voucher when you visit (Dine In or To Go) the Chili's location identified below and 15% of your purchase (excluding taxes) will benefit:

LIONS OF ILLINOIS FOUNDATION
Low Vision Screenings

Group/Charity:
11/1/15—1/31/16

Event/Exp. Date
One coupon per person, per visit at participating Chili's restaurants only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends per expiration date above.

ALL ILLINOIS LOCATIONS

Chili's Locations
#99999000005965



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Chili's Locations
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100th International Convention – 2017 Chicago, Illinois



Information Technology Update 9/29/15

Website Update

We have a website that can be found at lions2017chicago.org. It currently contains preliminary information for the Host Committee groups for initial planning purposes. A website committee has been forming comprised of MD1 IT Committee members and other interested Lions (Lions Amy Toft, Dan Kallbrier, Larry McGuire, Dennis Spaeth and Jamie Drez), and the site will be refreshed and redesigned this Fall to give it a fresh look and to plan for other audiences including convention attendees to visit for information.

MORE VOLUNTEERS welcomed!! If you wish to work on the website in any capacity from writing text to graphic arts and design, to doing data entry and everything in between, please contact me and let me know what you'd be interested in doing. My contact information is below.



Seeking website designers, developers and graphic artists to assist with design and development of the website for the 100th annual Lions Clubs International Convention being hosted by MD1 Lions of Illinois in Chicago in Summer of 2017.

There is much to be done over the next two years. All skill levels welcomed! If interested in assisting in any capacity, please contact Lion Tom Drez, MD1 IT

Chairman at tom@drez.net or 630-240-5024 (cell).



Facebook Update

We have a complementary Facebook page to match our website that can be found at fb.com/lions2017chicago. The page has 628 likes from Lions all around the world and growing every week. Please LIKE our page and promote and SHARE it to all the Lions you know through email and your Club and District's FB pages. Social media is infectious. Once we tell two people, they each tell two people, and so on and so on.....Let's double our LIKES by the end of this year!

All questions, comments, suggestions, additional web committee volunteers and other thoughts welcomed any time!

Lion Tom

MD1 Host Committee IT Chairperson
MD1 IT Chairperson
1-BK "Cabinetman" Cabinet Secretary

tom@drez.net
630-240-5024 (cell)



SAVE THE DATE!



The Abe Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, IL, site of the:
2016 State Convention

**May 20th through
May 22nd, 2016**

**SAVE THE DATE and plan on joining us for some:
FUN, FELLOWSHIP & FULFILLMENT!**

More to come next month!

Rates for Convention = \$99 + tax per night!

RECENT REVIEWS for the ABE LINCOLN:

“One of the best hotels ever!” We just returned from our stay in Springfield. We thoroughly enjoyed staying at this hotel. The staff was very friendly, the beds were extremely comfortable, and the location was perfect for visiting all of the historic Lincoln sites. We ate in the hotel restaurant three times during our stay. My husband said it was the best burger he ever had! I had the prime rib and it was excellent. Our server was Sean - very friendly and very prompt to attend to our every need!

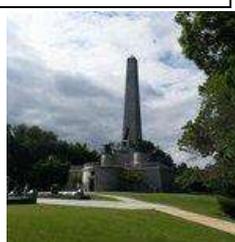
“Possibly the best hotel in town” I am in Springfield often and this is my favorite hotel. Clean, well-appointed, comfortable rooms. One deficit is the walls are thin and you can hear every word, sneeze and flush. Great breakfast buffet includes made to order omelette. Room service menu is quite limited and not the best, but it's good enough if you're exhausted or don't feel like venturing out of your room. There's always a conference or other activity so rooms book up, you'll need a reservation. Front desk staff could be friendlier, but otherwise good

“One of the best hotels ever!” We just returned from our stay in Springfield. We thoroughly enjoyed staying at this hotel. The staff was very friendly, the beds were extremely comfortable, and the location was perfect for visiting all of the historic Lincoln sites. We ate in the hotel restaurant three times during our stay. My husband said it was the best burger he ever had! I had the prime rib and it was excellent. Our server was Sean - very friendly and very prompt to attend to our every need!

SOME OF THE TOP THINGS TO DO in SPRINGFIELD:

- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum
- Lincoln Home National Historic Site
- Dana-Thomas House, a Frank Lloyd Wright 'Hidden Treasure'
- Lincoln Tomb & War Memorials
- Lincoln Memorial Gardens
- Lions of IL State Convention

COME EARLY OR STAY AFTER THE CONVENTION AND ENJOY ALL SPRINGFIELD HAS TO OFFER!



MD1 Host Committee



In one year and seven months, the Lions Clubs International Centennial Convention will be held at McCormick Place in Chicago starting on Friday, June 28 and running through Tuesday, July 4, 2017. The International Parade will be Saturday, July 1, 2017 and is scheduled to march down State Street from Lake Street south to Congress Parkway.

The MD-1 Host Committee has been working on the convention activities, but more importantly working to raise the necessary money that is needed to support those activities. For the most part, the Lions have been supported in the purchase of the two Commemorative Pins and the MD1 Vest that reflects the pride of our Lions. Unfortunately, the area of individual Club and District donations has been well below our projections.

The third pin in the set of three will be available this spring. Between Pins #1 and #2, there has been more than 5,500 pins purchased. The committee is looking to produce and sell a limited number of "Shadow Boxes" that will contain the three pins, and also have two additional pins. This project is still being developed and will hopefully be available by the State Convention in May, 2016.

There are polo shirts and baseball caps available for sale with the committee logo proudly shown on it. They will be available at all the sub district convention and the State Convention. This is only the start of some of the merchandise that will be available to commemorate this celebration. After the first of the year, you will be able to order them on-line.

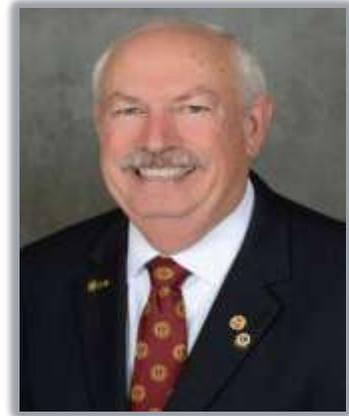
Please consider making club or district donation. Each level has a different banner patch and over the next couple of years you can earn all three patches. For clubs that can't make that size of a donation, then consider joining with a fellow club and work together to earn that patch. For a donation of either \$100, \$250 or \$500 participating club would receive a banner patch for the respective donation. I would like to thank those clubs and districts that have made a donation already. Also, as an individual, you can receive the patch for your vest.

There are a variety of areas that volunteers are needed. The list of areas is located on the flyer. Please look over the list and mark the areas that you are interested in working. The shift time is about 3 hours to the maximum and with enough workers it would not be longer, unless you choose it to be. All volunteers will receive a vest to wear showing the Lions that you are here to assist them. I hope that you would consider to become an active part of the committee.

Lion Robert Block, PDG
2017 MD-1 Host Committee, Chairman



**Meet our Association's
1st International Vice President
Chancellor Robert "Bob" Corlew**



FACTS ABOUT VP BOB:

Hails from Milton, TN, which is an unincorporated community.

Married to Lion Dianne. Both of them are Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows. VP Bob is a member of the Murfreesboro Lions Club and has been since 1978.

Has also been active in the Boy Scouts of America, the Jaycees and the Red Cross. Lions Bob & Dianne have 5 children and 4 grandchildren.

FUN FACTS ABOUT VP BOB:

In 2nd grade, VP Bob was a Jr. Fire Marshall! He wore a little badge and insisted on going to school early each morning to inspect to be sure there were no fires overnight 😊

As a child, Bob had a pet Collie. Not being too original on names back then, he named his dog..... "Collie"!

He was a club organizer, even as a child, starting the "77 Club" when he was in 2nd grade! It was named 77 because you should be 7 years old in 2nd grade, but it probably had more to do with the fact that 77 Sunset Strip was a popular TV show at the time!

VP Bob learned to drive at an early age (driving farm trucks and tractors off road). He had his first wreck at 8 years old!

His favorite vehicle to drive when he's at home is his 1995 Ford F-150 Pick-up. It has 265,000 miles on it, and gets really good gas mileage! He filled it up right after Christmas in 2014, and it still has a half a tank today 😊

Lions Clubs International ... 100th Annual Convention

Friday, June 30 - Tuesday, July 4, 2017

Official Schedule of Events

(Tentative)

Friday, June 30 - July 4, 2017

Friday, June 30

10:00 - 17:00 Exhibit Hall and Convention Services Center
 14:00 - 17:00 Seminars
 19:30 - 22:30 District Governor-Elect Celebration Banquet

Saturday, July 1

? Step-off International Parade
 10:00 - 17:00 Exhibit Hall and Convention Services Center
 19:00 - 20:15 International Show

Sunday, July 2

10:00 - 13:00 Opening Plenary Session
 Presidential Address, Flag Ceremony
 International Parade Results
 10:00 - 17:00 Exhibit Hall and Convention Services Center
 14:00 - 17:00 Seminars

Monday, July 3

10:00 - 12:30 Second Plenary Session
 Memorial Service, Nominations for
 Third Vice President and International Directors
 10:00 - 17:00 Exhibit Hall and Convention Services Center
 13:30 - 15:00 Melvin Jones Fellow Luncheon
 13:30 - 17:00 Seminars
 20:00 - 22:00 Past International Officers Banquet
 / Past District Governors Banquet

Tuesday, July 4

07:30 - 10:30 Voting and Convention Services Center
 10:00 - 13:30 Final Plenary Session
 Installation of 2017-18 International President
 Installation of 2017-18 District Governors
 19:00 - 21:00 International Officers Reception



Convention Venue
 International Show / Displays
 Pin Trading
 Voting / Plenary Sessions
all at
McCormick Place
 Chicago, Illinois, USA



**Lions Clubs International
 Centennial Convention**

Parade of Delegations

Saturday, July 1, 2017

Step Off - 7:00 am

S. State Street going South
 Staging on W. Wacker Drive
 Disband at E. Congress Pkwy

Route Map



- Starting point / direction of march
- Staging Area of delegations
- Disband Area with shuttle buses

Contact for more general information

Lion Robert Block, PDG

MD1 Host Committee, Chairman

615-205th Place, Dyer, IN 46311

gov0990@aol.com

(219) 671-0287

Lion Steve Anton, CC

Volunteer Recruitment Chairman

17324 Highwood Drive, Orland Park, IL 60467-6051

Phone: Res (708) 479-4779 or Cell (708) 514-4215

e-mail: santonlions@comcast.net

2017 Host Sub-Committees

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sergeant-At-Arms Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Booth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airport / Transportation Greeter | <input type="checkbox"/> District Governor-Elect School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parade Marshal / Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel Greeter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merchandise Booth | <input type="checkbox"/> LCI Headquarter Guide |

Please fill out and return

If you would like to volunteer on the MD1 Host Committee and have not already filled this out, then select the area of interest and submit.....

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Residence Phone Number _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Lions Club / District _____

Illinois Pin Trader Association

The Illinois Pin Traders Association is still existing and I hope that we can get it active once again. The past years, have been tough on the personal lives of the association members and officers. We have lost some of our members due to death and sickness. They will be missed by all the members and I express our sincere sympathy to their remaining spouses. For those that are recovering from illness, I hope that they will have a fast and full recovery. We look forward to your return to be active in the activity of our association.

Friendship Pin trading has been around for years, and it is a way to strike up friendships not only in our Districts and State, but all of Lions thru out the world. The trading pin is a sign of your personal identity that you are sharing with those that you are trading pins with. As you know there are a variety of pins in all shapes, sizes and colors. The pin with our Lions logo needs to be approved by Lions Clubs International before they can be produced. This process is done by the approved pin manufacturer for Lions Clubs International.

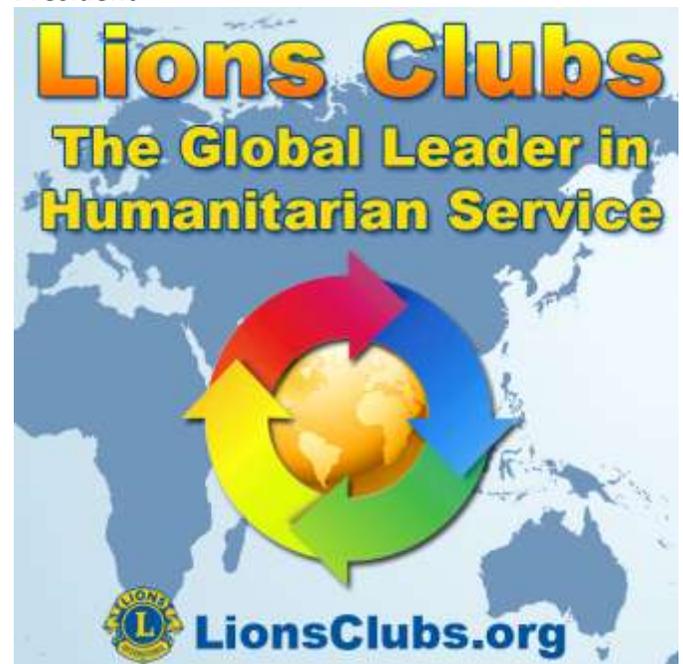
Fellow Pin Traders have a number of opportunity to trade pins. You have the individual club meetings, District and State Conventions, different Forums - the MD1 Forum and the USA/Canada Forum, Pin Trading Swap Meets throughout the country and the International Convention. Our Association is one of many individual organizations that do exist around the Lions world. We are also part of the Lions International Pin Traders Association. They too have their own membership fee, newsletter and annual meeting at the International Convention.

Around the first of the year, we will be getting dues statements out to our current roster. We understand that there are some that have paid in ad-

vance, and we will make sure that you receive the proper credit for that payment.

I look forward to be able to rebuild our organization and become an active part in the Lions of Illinois. Hopefully in the years to come, the association will be part of the selection of our State Trading Pin. So please, be patient as we work together to reorganize our association.

Lion Robert Block, PDG
President





Hardscrabble Lions prepare Thanksgiving baskets for delivery to Streator residents.



Chicago African Lions Club: From left, US Army staff Sgt. Amre Chapele and wife Ese Chapele, flanked by Lion Mandis Edokpa and Lion Osagie Igbinosun. The induction was done by PDG John Chisum, on 10/25/2015

The **La Grange Lions Club** participated in the opening of the Centennial Hill Bike Trail in Willow Springs with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Forest



Preserve District of Cook County and Trails for Illinois. The link has more information about the trail and the partnership: https://www.mwrdd.org/pv_obj_cache/pv_obj_id_1517F6930D1788DF7239A71DC365893B36EE0D00/filename/15_1017_Cent_Trail_PR_FINAL.pdf



Above is the flier announcing the opening event which was attended by Congressman Lipinski and a Village of Willow Springs administrator in addition to representatives of the four organizations named above. Attached also is a picture of Lion Todd addressing the attendees at the ribbon cutting.





Leo the Lion (Rebecca Green) poses with Little Leo - (grandson of Lion Tracy Muur) prior to the start of the **Morrison Homecoming Parade**.



Tracy Muur, back row - Aaron Johnson, Beth and Steve Wroble, and Ken Jansma.



Morrison Lions ready for the start of the Homecoming Parade - Left to right - Ken Jansma, Flora Stralow, grandchildren of Lion Tracy Muur, Leo - (Rebecca Green), Darlene Smith and Lion Mobile Driver Tracy Muur.



Lion Michelle Roberts receives Candy Day donations from members of the community.

A good crew made short work of the service project cleaning a mile of Route 30 east of Morrison on Saturday, October 17th - Front Row - Bart Smith and grandson, left to right - second row - Denice Smith, Jim Blakemore, Rebecca Green,

Algonquin Lions club participated in Candy Days and raised \$4,803.00 of which the minimum 60% will be donated to be recognized. The club also held its 76th Anniversary Charter Night Dinner where one new member was inducted and awards were given - of note, Lion John Cygan was awarded a Melvin Jones Award and Lion Clarence Fleming was awarded the President's Appreciation Award for his role in the donation of the 1924 Buick Sedan

previously reported that was donated to the club and sold to realize a profit of approx. \$7,000 that went into Project Funds for future donation. The club is ready to take delivery of Xmas trees for its annual sales event on November 21 with sales set to begin the Friday after Thanksgiving, Nov 27.

-Lion Chris Moore, Secretary, **Algonquin Lions Club**



Diabetes Awareness presentation to the **Carrollton Lions Club** this evening. They had approximately 18 members in attendance and were very receptive to the program. Lingering around after the presentation a number of members and I interacted about diabetes, etc. which may me feel I may be doing something of good and driving home the awareness idea. Objective is to make Club visits to those that have never had diabetes awareness presented to them and it's a bit of a challenge via email so I'm going to start making phone calls. – Lion Rob.

New Chicago Ridge Lions Club Charter Presentation:

District 1A welcomed it's brand new Lions Club – Chicago Ridge Lions Club with **53** new members. This club became the fifth large club in District 1A. This mission was started by PID Dan O'Reilly in Chicago Ridge 7 months ago and finally materialized with the assistance of PDG Harold Burkett, Jr., and reached its glorious height with 53 members. LCI I Vice President Chancellor Bob

Corlew was the keynote speaker who delivered a thundering speech and congratulated all the new members and its officers.



(Chicago Ridge Lions Club President Bill Lammel receiving International President Yamada's appreciation certificate from LCI I VP Chancellor Bob Corlew)



Chicago Ridge officers were installed by Governor Ralph Zarada.



Dignitaries at the Chicago Ridge Lions Dias.



New members of Chicago Ridge Lions Club lined up for their induction by PID Dan O'Reilly.



Left to Right: PDG Bill Kelley, New Member Stacy Johns & Sponsor Lion Gayla Kain, New Members Don Gass & Larry Morris with Sponsor Chuck Kain & New Member Marla Summers with Sponsor Jim Summers.



Chicago Cook County Lions Club members celebrated Veterans Service Day and collected hundreds of books. Children made hand designed

greeting cards to be sent to veterans for holidays as greeting cards.



Lauding Lions—Local residents received service awards from the **Aurora Noon Lions Club** at the community-service group's annual Charter Night dinner at Fireside Grill in Sugar Grove Thursday, Nov. 5. From left are Bob Fowler, Elgin, Ill. Lions District 1J governor; Michele Needham, Plainfield, president, Aurora Noon Lions; Al Benson, Aurora, 2015 Distinguished Service award winner; and Kathy Long, Aurora, a 15-year membership award. Oswego resident Jimmie Delgado, 10-year anniversary award winner, is not shown. Presentations concluded an annual Charter Night dinner that celebrated the club's 93rd anniversary.

Aurora Noon Lions honor members for service

Local residents received service awards from the Aurora Noon Lions Club at the community-service group's annual Charter Night dinner at Fireside Grille in Sugar Grove Thursday, Nov. 5.

Award winners were Al Benson, Aurora, who received the club's 2015 Distinguished Service award and a 10-year anniversary award; Kathy Long, Aurora, 15-year award; and Jimmie Delgado, Oswego, 10-year award.

Michele Needham, Plainfield, Aurora Noon Lions president, presented Benson's award.

Bob Fowler, Elgin Lions Club member and governor, Illinois Lions District 1J, presented anniversary awards.

Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada, Lions International president, said in a letter to award winners, "Lions Club International recognizes the anniversaries of our members because they are a reminder of the milestones of our lives.

"They give us the opportunity to celebrate, commemorate and reflect.

"Anniversaries are the perfect opportunity to celebrate your accomplishments and contribution to promoting dignity, harmony and humanity in your community."

Long edits the Aurora Noon Club's newsletter. Delgado has served as club treasurer since 2007.

Benson, club second vice president, publicizes club activities with copy and photos.

Presentations highlighted the club's annual charter night dinner to celebrate the club's founding in 1922.

The Aurora Noon Lions Club meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at Luigi's Pizza, 732 Prairie St. in Aurora.

To Oak Park-River Forest Lions Club:
"I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve this past weekend. The boys and I collected donations for Candy Day at the intersection of Oak Park Ave and Lake St. I've attached a few pictures of me and the boys.
The money we collected was deposited at Community Bank and I provided my name to the teller. I



left the cans with the teller, but I still have the aprons which I will return when you tell me where you'd like me to take them.

Thanks again for the opportunity!"

Best,
Andy Jager (Prospective Member)

Welcome Lion Beth



The board of directors approved Beth Orr's application to become the newest member of our club. She and her three children participated in our Veterans Service Day. She resides in Darien and is the owner of a child care center.

Welcome to Chicago Cook County Lions Club Beth!

1,000 Bottles for Africa



Our club will be collecting empty prescription bottles to donate to the Lions of Africa for distribution during missions. Once we have 1,000 we will send

a package. The goal is to have this accomplished by the end of this fiscal year which is June 30, 2016.



Chicago Mexica Lions Club decorated their annual Christmas Tree at the Chicago Museum of Science & Industry as part of Christmas Around the World. Their tree will be one of 65 trees which represent various nations in the world. Picture shows RC Brenda Gutierrez and Lion Amelia Tobias. Since several years this club has been taking part in this event.

NEW LIONS CLUB WITH 60 MEMBERS?



Nearly 60 Blackburn students added their names to a list of those interested in starting a **Blackburn Campus Lions Club** during the College's annual Community Fair in late August. Student organizers and Lion Suzanne Krupica were on hand to greet students (and entertain the baby of a Blackburn staff member!).

Lions from all ten sub-districts of MD1 came together at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria on November 14 for the 2015 MD1 Lions Leadership Forum. Lions laughed and learned throughout the day!



Next year, the MD1 Forum will be held on October 22, 2016 as a Kick Off to the 2017 International when the Lions of MD1 will be hosting the Lions of the world.



Each table during the Forum had one felicitator to hold several presentations by Lion Leaders. All sessions were of 20 minutes and lions were hopping one table to another to attend seminars.

A new concept with new ideas worked real well.



Lions Went Wild Leader PID Bud Wahl during Forum Welcome session giving away door prize to all attendees.



MD1 Council Chair welcoming participants.



MD1 GLT Chairperson lead 2015 Forum

MD1 PDG Association Annual Banquet
MD1 State of Illinois Past District Governors' Association held their Annual Banquet at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria on Forum Day.

Association President PDG Austin welcomed the gathering and Secretary/Treasurer PCC Terry Knollenberg presented last year's general body minutes and up-to-date accounts. Members



anonymously approved their annual donations - \$1,000 to Lions of Illinois Foundation, \$1,000 to Lions Clubs International Foundation, \$1,000 to Centennial Convention Host Committee and \$500 to Duffle for Dignity – MD1 Council Spouses' project.



IPDG Terry D'Souza and PDG Molly were inducted to MD1 PDG Association by PDG Johnny Anderson by placing firemen's hat on them and to be ready whenever and wherever they needed in their districts.

PDG Mario Gumino, Lions of Illinois Foundation's Executive Director gave updates on Lions of Illinois Foundation activities



and recent developments. He asked full pledged cooperation from all PDG's of MD1 and thanked for Association's donation.



PDG Bob Block Centennial Convention Host Committee Chairman detailed the progress of host committee and thanked the association for its donation year to support Internaitonal

Convention in Chicago.

Lion Gail Anton, briefed PDG's on Duffle for Dignity Project of Council of Governors Spouses and thanked the Association for their generous \$500 donation to buy 25 duffle bags for needy children.



MD1 PDG Association Secretary/Treasurer PCC Terry Knollenberg and Vice President PDG Tom Senger.



Holiday Greetings from MD1 Endorsed Candidate for LCI Vice President PID Bud Wahl and

his wife Lion Jama Wahl for Happy Holidays and a Peaceful New Year 2016.



District 1A Lions took part in Special Olympics



which held at the United Center. Hundreds of kids took part in this event and were checked for their eyesight.



PDG Austin D'Souza inducted 8 new members to Chicago Filipino American Lions Club during their 11th Charter Nite Celebrations a the European Crystal Banquet Hall in Arlington Heights. Prior to induction all prospective members were blind folded and took a round on the dancing floor to feel how visually impaired people live in this world

totally depending on a friend, white cane or a dog. They held a lit candle and were asked to be the shining candles in their community to help the needy people and to make their lives better.



Governor Ralph Zarada installed new officers for the year 2015-2016 and gave his governor's message to play active role in their community by serving the needy and less fortunate.



Lions ZC Ben and his wife Yoly Zoleta received Guiding Lions Certificate form Governor Ralph.



...and as usual, Lions and guests danced to the music past mid-night.

Belvidere Lions Club Service Project: Habitat for Humanity

The Belvidere Lions Club helped complete the Belvidere Habitat for Humanity house. Lion Art Hyland was the project manager and with the assistance of several other Belvidere Lions members, a total of 700 hours and \$3000.00 were dedicated to the Habitat house for electrical service and inside wiring.

BELVIDERE STUDENTS ADVANCE IN LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST



BELVIDERE, NOVEMBER 10, 2015- Amanda Pozniak, a 6th grade student at Belvidere South Middle School and Celeste Guzman, a 6th grade student at Belvidere Central Middle School, have taken the first step to becoming an internationally recognized artist by winning a local competition sponsored by the Belvidere Lions Club. Pozniak and Guzman's posters were among more than 400,000 entries submitted worldwide in the 28th annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Lions Clubs International is sponsoring the contest to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere.

"The meaning behind my poster is, offering respect and kindness is the perfect mixture for peace," Pozniak, from Belvidere said. "The meaning of my

poster is, the peace of the world is in our hands," Guzman, also from Belvidere said. Their posters were selected by members of the Boone County Arts Council for their originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, "Share Peace." The judging was held on November 2, 2015 at Central Middle School.

Belvidere Lions Club President Valli Jo Rubeck said she was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students at Belvidere Central and South Middle Schools. "It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their visions."

Pozniak and Guzman's posters will advance to face stiff competition through the district, multiple district and international rounds of competition if one of them should be declared the international grand prize winner," Rubeck said.

One grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners will be selected. The grand prize includes a cash award of \$5,000, plus a trip for the winner and two family members to an award ceremony. The 23 merit award winners will each receive a certificate and a cash award of \$500.00.

"Our club is cheering for Amanda and Celeste as their posters advance in the compition, and we hope that their vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world," club President Rubeck said. Locally, Pozniak and Guzman, along with 251 other students participated in the Peace Poster Contest.

View past international grand prize winners at www.lionsclub.org. Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization with more than 1.35 million members in 210 countries and geographical areas around the world. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired and made a strong commitment to community service and servicing youth throughout the world.



MD1 Council of Governors will select State's #1 Peace Poster during their upcoming Council Meeting to be held on December 5, 2015. For the past two years MD1 I Place entry made it to LCI top lists.

Two Rochester students have won awards for essays they wrote about their grandfathers who served in the military.

The essay contest, sponsored by the **Rochester Lions Club**, drew 13 high school and 31 junior high entries. The winners, selected by the Lions Club, were high school senior Hailey Hollinshead and eighth-grader Danielle Booth.

Hailey won a \$500 scholarship; Danielle won a \$250 scholarship. Both read their essays during school assemblies in Rochester on Tuesday. Here is the text of the winning essays:

"A Hero Among Millions" by Hailey Hollinshead



"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same." -- Ronald Reagan

The freedom that Reagan speaks of, which is crucial

to the ever-thriving prosperity, ever-spreading tranquility, and ever-lasting opportunities of the United States of America, is guarded by our Armed Forces. A soldier's commitment and fortitude to leave his or her comfort zone, family, and home without knowledge of where he or she will be sent to or what will be requested of him or her physically and emotionally is true courage. Although November eleventh honors the men and women that have protected our country, there will never be enough time in the day to give every war hero ample recognition for his or her bravery.

One member of the Armed Forces that I would like to distinguish from the line on this Veterans Day is my grandfather: Robert Hollinshead.

He fought in World War II -- one of the most ghastly and grisly wars of the twentieth century. Who were the men in the trenches? Who went in on D-Day? My grandfather's name is one in millions, but I associate those nameless heroes not discussed in our textbooks with his. My grandfather's experiences take away the storybook feel to the wars I read about in history class and add a real point of view for me to connect with.

When I see a video on the news or social media that captures the raw emotions expressed when a soldier comes home to see family, or my personal favorite -- when the soldier surprises loved ones, the significance of homesickness hits me hard when I think about what it must be like to be away from home for so long. Those holding up the fort at home do not have it any easier though. I can only imagine the happiness my grandmother felt in 1945 when Robert knocked on her door after his term overseas.

I have discovered through the remarkable war stories of our veterans that giving back to the world is the most rewarding act of service, and exercising

bravery in times of adversity is the most respectable attribute to character. Remarkable resilience, acts of valor, strong spirit, and heroism characterize veterans of the United States of America. The ranks of an expanding extended family have provided our country with not only defense, but hope. God bless our troops -- the nameless, the unrecognized, the silent, my grandfather -- and the families that provide the support necessary to protect our country.

Grandfather will 'Forever Guide Me' by Danielle Booth



Donald L. Merkle, my grandpa, was many wonderful things, one of which was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He served in the United States Army from February 2, 1968, to May 30, 1973, after completing the Reserve Officer Training

Corps (ROTC).

My grandpa was adopted at the age of 2 by his aunt and uncle, after his father died and his mother was unable to care for him and his brother. They raised him on a dairy farm in southern Illinois, where he learned the value of hard work. None of his family had ever went to college, but he was determined to be the first. After graduating from high school in 1963, he was accepted at the University of Illinois in Champaign. In order to pay for college, he promised to serve 4 years in the U.S. Army after college graduation. This pact was part of the ROTC agreement.

Grandpa was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1968 and endured the difficult training to become an Army Ranger. He served one year in Vietnam as a reconnaissance pilot. In his 5 years in the military,

he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and ultimately achieved the rank of Captain.

Although he didn't ever like to talk about his awards, during his service to our country, Don Merkle received many medals: Bronze Star for heroic achievement, Air Medal for meritorious achievement in aerial flight, Commendation Medal for heroism, National Defense Medal for military service in a period of national emergency, Vietnam Service Medal, Gallantry Cross for accomplishing deeds of valor while fighting the enemy, and Vietnamese Campaign Medal for participation in major military operations.

Of all these medals, the Bronze Star was the most special. It is the fourth highest individual award granted by the U.S. military. He earned it by outwitting the enemy and figuring out smoke signals which kept an entire platoon safe from an ambush and saved the lives of dozens of soldiers. Because of my grandpa, those soldiers could eventually go home to the country they loved. Maybe they went on to raise families and work to make our country great. That's what Grandpa did. Don Merkle's job titles after the Army included district sales manager for Ralston Purina, hog farmer, and financial planner with Fortune Investment Group. He also volunteered his service at Salem United Church of Christ, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Madison County Farm Bureau, and Highland's Lions Club.

My grandpa and my grandma raised two daughters and were married for 46 years. I am very lucky to have had a grandpa like him who taught me so much and loved me no matter what. He passed away a year ago but I will never forget the lessons his life has taught me. His values of faith in God, love of family, patriotism, sacrifice for others, education, and hard work will forever guide me.

(This article was submitted for publication by Lion Linda Hall. I thought as we have a majority of Lions in MD1 who have grandchildren, these articles will inspire us. – Editor)

PHOTOS FROM DISTRICT 1M:



PDG Jani & DG Kevin Mendenhall



VLDGE Lion W. "Moe" Wimbley, Lion Steve Bennett & 1VDGE Lion Lori Bennett



With IPDG Lion Ron Stickler, Trustee PDG Lion Jim Strange & 2VDG Lion Darren VanDuyn. PID Bud Wahl speaks



Lions Amy Hill & Crystal Trotter – Alpha Leos (Paris) Advisor



PARIS ALPHA LEOS receive award from the Paris Human Resources Center for their contribution of toys for the center.

Pictured here are: Ken Polky of the Paris Human Resources Center presenting the plaque of appreciation. As the presentation was during the day and the LEOs were in school, Advisor Lion Crystal Trotter, Lion Norm Wilson and Lion Amy Hill accepted the honorarium for them.

"Lion of the Year" Dean Cole. **Arcola Lions Club** is truly blessed to have Dean in our Club. Dean and his wife Marvelle go above and beyond at all times.



They are truly what Lions Club members should be. Dean is part of the club, FOR the club, and not for personal recognition. Pictured are Marvelle & Lion Dean Cole, IPDG Ron Stickler and Trustee Elect and PDG Wm. "Butch" Guennewig.



TEAM EXCELLENCE AWARDS:

2014-2015 District Governor's Team Excellence Award Recipients: Lions Jim Ingram (Numan, Tim Spannagel (Villa Grove), Darren Van Duyn (Westville--not pictured) — with Lion Lori Bennett & IPDG Ron Stickler (Paris), Mark Krutsinger (Arthur), PDG Janifer Mendenhall & DG Kevin Mendenhall (Robinson) and Moe Wimbley (Casey).



The Athens Leo Club Raised Funds during the homecoming activities at Athens High School. They held an ice cream social to raise money to purchase craft and Lego kits for the St. John's Hospital Pediatric play room. The day was also

Character Day, so the Leo members dressed up in character costumes. The Athens Leo Club has 16 active members and they are recruiting more. The club raised \$112 during the lunch hour activity. The ice cream was donated by sponsor Lion Tricia Laager. The Leo Club is making a difference in the community in which they live.



The Athens Leo Club Donates to St. John's Pidiatric --- On Wednesday Nov 11, five members of the Athens Leo Club made a presentation to the St. John's Pidiatric play room. They presented the hospital with 10 craft kits and 5 Lego kits. The club raised the funds to purchase these kits by having an ice cream social during the high school homecoming week. The Leo Club is the youth organization of Lions International, the world's largest service organization. The Leos are making a difference in their community.



VANDALIA LEOS CLUB participated in the Halloween Parade. New Leos ride in the convertible and invitations are out for new members to join in the fun.

On Saturday October 24 the **Athens Lions Club** representatives, President Larry Baughman and Secretary Bill Rider, delivered 1031 pair of eyeglasses to Lion Mario Gumino, Executive Director of Lions of Illinois Foundation, at the District Convention. In addition to the eyeglasses, also presented were 7 pounds of aluminum pull tabs, 63 ink cartridges, 8 cell phones and 18 pounds of Christmas lights. This brings the yearly total collections to 2368 pair of eyeglasses, 9 hearing aids, 129 ink cartridges, 10 pounds of aluminum pull tabs and 18 pounds of Christmas lights. All these items were donated by the Citizens of Menard County and the Athens School District. Collection spots are located in all Menard County banks and local funeral homes. Pictured - Lion Bill Rider, Lion PDG Mario Gumino & Lion Larry Baughman



Danville Lions completed a very successful Candy Day again this year. Lions also participated in the



club's Adopt-A-Spot project, collecting trash along a stretch of roadway. This type of project is appreciated by those who drive along that road. Lions Fred Faulstich, Erik Plotner, and Keith Strinmoen collect trash on the club's Adopt-A-Spot stretch of roadway.



Lion Mike O'Brien works Candy Day.

Arthur Lions Club completed their Candy Day activities with one day in Atwood and one in Arthur. The club also sponsored a Cub Scout troop and their Fish Fry had a successful turnout.

Club Secretary, Mike Brokaw reports that the **Blue Mound Lions Club** has had a very accomplished year in 2015.

In January we served a free meal to our Senior Citizen's in our community. We prepare all the food and grill the pork loin, so it's an all-day event for the club members. The Cub Scouts Pack 36 that we sponsor greet people at the door along with carrying trays and refilling drinks.

For the Easter egg hunt in April, our Lions club fully funded the candy grab and prizes given out randomly during the event. Almost the entire park is covered in candy and there is plenty of eggs and candy with the kids swarming for every last bit.

We fully funded the fireworks display in Blue Mound this year for the July 4th celebration, along with serving meals at our civic center. As our normal place to shoot off the fireworks was not available with the new school construction in Blue Mound, we had a local business owner graciously allow us to shoot fireworks from his property on the edge of town.

In August we had our town's celebration of the Blue Mound Fall Festival. We started the event off with our 25th Lions Golf Outing. Our Lions Club supports through donations to group that runs the festival as it is purely run on donations. We also had our Lions Club booth that is always a huge success with our Ribeye sandwiches, BQQ sandwiches, Pig Wings, fries, and cheese sticks.

On Oct 30th, we had our annual Halloween party held at the Blue Mound Civic Center. This year we took it to the next level. Instead of the traditional candy bag and costume party, this year we did much more. We added games for the kids to play, and decorated the Civic Center in a Halloween theme. We also offered the community a meal for \$1, which included a hot dog, chips, cookie, and a drink. With the timing of the event from 5:30 – 7:30, we didn't want parents to have the burden of preparing dinner also. As the night was progressing we realized there was a bigger turn out than ex-

pected and ran to get more hot dogs. We sold over 200 hot dogs and the parents were very appreciative.



Westville Lions held their 2nd annual K9 walk to benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind on Oct. 31. The top 3 winners for the pet costumes received a plaque. Westville Lions want to thank the Danville Small Animal Clinic for donating treat bags for each of the participants. Despite the weather, the walk went well & so did their 4th Annual Trunk or Treat event.



(These girls braided their hair together for their “twins” costume. How cool is that?) **Lerna Lions Club** sponsored a Halloween party for the community. There was a costume contest, hot dogs, chips & drinks, goodie bags & prizes. Winning costumes included Albert Einstein, a wind-up doll and Siamese twins.



Lerna Lions handed out treats to all participants



and fixed food items.



Burr-Ridge – Hinsdale – Oak Brook Lions in front of Lions Clubs International Headquarters with Strides Banner which was used for Stridewalk in Hawaii during International Convention.



PDG
Mary
Truit
with
her
smily
friends



PCC Terry Knollenberg testing eyes. Burr-Ridge – Hinsdale – Oak Brook Lions invited Lions of Illinois Floundatoin Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Bus to LCI Headquarters for Vision Screening.



Barangay Lions Club celebrated “Walk & Bike To School Day” early last October at Glen Hill



Elementary School. More than 130 students walked to school with their parents in celebration of the event. Club members prepared breakfast treats, fruits and fruit drinks for the students and their parents. The school PE staff prepared a fun and enjoyable dance and exercise activity to perform.



Thanks to all of the **Burr Ridge-Hinsdale-Oak Brook Lions Club's** generous sponsors, volunteers that helped out, and all attendees, it was another very successful 2015 Wine Tasting fundraiser. This is the 4th year for the event.

Walk To School Day is an international event held around the world by students, families and communities that celebrate the simple joy of walking or biking to school. **Glendale Heights**



Elgin Lion Ed Bates talks about the Lions Club and encourages students to contribute to the annual food collection. The red collection bins are placed in several elementary schools in the city. This year's goal is 10,000 items in the bins. On the right is Karen Peterson, PE teacher and food collection organizer at the Lincoln Elem. School.

Wheaton Lions Club's Reindeer Run, held in early December, is a CARA Certified Race, hosted by the



Lions Club in conjunction with the Wheaton Park District. Awards will be given to top male and female finisher, and top three finishers per age division. As noted, from a photo from last year's race, participants are encouraged to bring holiday spirit and wear costumes. Proceeds are used to benefit Wheaton Lion's Club Charities.



The 2015 holiday season was officially kicked off in mid-November in downtown Aurora with the Salvation Army red kettles very much in evidence. **Aurora Noon Lion** Lt. Rick Robertson (l) was among volunteers ringing the red kettle bells for the Salvation Army.

Recent **Aurora Noon Lions Club** award winners include: Lion Al Benson, who received the club's



2015 Distinguished Service Award and Lion Kathy Long who achieved her 10-year anniversary. (l-r) District Governor Lion Bob Fowler, Michele Needham, Club President, Aurora Noon Lions Al Benson and Kathy Long.



Darien Lions Jim Tikalsky, Joe Marchese and Lou Bedoe supervise at club's Annual Halloween Party at Darien Sportsplex.

PDG Lion Mario Gumino, Exec. Dir. Of the Lions of IL Foundation (l) inducts two new members for the



Dundee Township Lions Club, Phil Aleo and Jim Schuldt. Sponsors for the new Lions are Jim McClung and Mike Burhrmann.



(l to r) District 1-J ZC Lion Renee Reeder, New Aurora Noon Lion Linnea Forney, and Lion Michele Needham, Pres., **Aurora Noon Lion Club**, and sponsor of the new Lion.



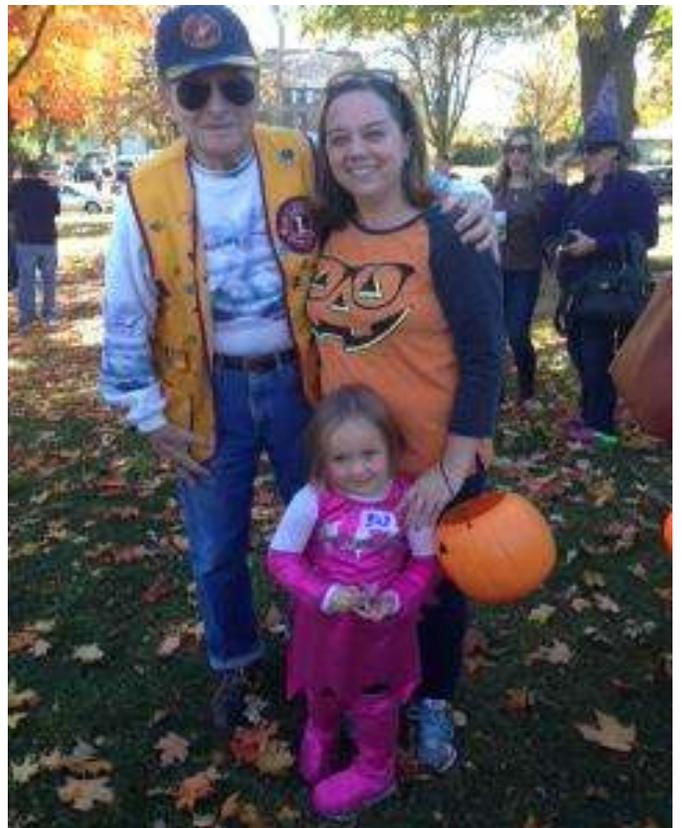
Spouses of **Waterman Lions'** Bev Rickerts (l) and Karen Fenske (r) help decorate the hall for the Lions Club's annual Halloween Party for area youngsters. Many hands make the work go faster!



(l to r) PDG Lion Bob Gilke inducts new member Lion Patrick Devitt to **Rosselle Lions Club**, who'd already helped out on Candy Day, Sponsor Lion Maryann Grygiel, and Lion Rich Leabru

Downers Grove Lions Club Pres. Lion Dr. Floyd Mizener with some of the participants who enjoyed the club's annual

Halloween Fest. Over 400 children attended the Fest on a bright fall day.





Crystal Lake Lion Steve Haugh takes a donation from a young boy while his Mom proudly looks on.



Darion Lion Steve Hiatt presents his dish for the Top Chef Competition held at the club recently.



Grayslake Lions Club President Lion Tim Keefe presented Wendy Warren of the Avon Township Food Pantry a check for \$3000 made out to the Northern Illinois Food Pantry. Supporting Lions included Mary Dietz, Carole Frank and Donald Dietz.

Lions District Governor Gary Meyers presided over two special ceremonies during his visit to the **Stillman Valley Lions Club**.



(R to L) Lions District Governor Gary Meyers is shown with new Stillman Valley Lion Anthony Rowley and his sponsor Marty Typer.

Lions District Governor Gary Meyers with Stillman Valley Lions Vic Smith (L) and Curt Freeberg (R) after presenting them with Melvin Jones Awards.



The awards are the highest recognition of Lions Clubs International for service to Lionism.



Oregon Library Director Andrew Deetman described the extensive renovations that are underway at the Oregon Library to the **Oregon Lions** at their meeting on November 12th. These renovations have been funded through a \$50,000 grant. Besides the construction of an elevator to make the building ADA compliant, the existing space in the building will be reorganized. Children and young adult materials will be housed in the lower level, freeing up the main level for the addition of more computers and the creation of reading and study areas. It will then be possible to display the

complete Eagle's Nest Art Collection in the upstairs Gallery and provide space for adult programs and exhibits. Andrew Deetman said he was hopeful that the project would be completed by the end of June 2016. Photo from left to right: Lion Candice Holbrook, Andrew Deetman and Lion Chris Martin.



On Saturday November 21, 2015, **The Lansing Lions Club** in cooperation with the Lansing Illinois Food Pantry distributed 31 Thanksgiving Food Baskets to local families in need. Please support your Local Food Pantry during this holiday season of giving.

The Lansing Lions Club also supports Vision Testing, Hearing Testing, Eye Glass Programs along with other Local Humanitarian Projects. For more information about the Lansing Lions please visit our website at <http://lionwap.org/eclub/sites/lansingil/index.php>

Lansing Lions and helper Pictured Front Row Left to Right: Helper Isaac Lyzenga., Lion Norm Abbott, Lion Les Bogs, Lion Bob NeCastro, Lion Rick Ham, Lion John Beymer, Lion Jim Dawson

Back Row Left to Right: Lion Mike Winters, Lion Phil Stewart

Not Pictured: Lion Richard "Doc" Rucoba, Lion Ed Follmar, Lion Bert Rivera,



IPDG Lion Terry D'Souza received Six Awards during District 1A II Cabinet Meeting as follows: 1. For bringing new club Award from MD1, 2. Being named as the Second Best Governor in North America – a Award from LCI, 3. A 2 Diamond Pin from LCI for increasing 25% family units in 1A, 4. A Pin from LCI for increasing Women Membership in 1A, 5. Presidential Medal from LCI IPP Joe Preston and 6. 100% District Governor Recognition from Lions Clubs International.

Football ticket-taking at Genoa-Kingston High School each year.

Have you ever wondered why the Genoa Lions are the ticket-takers at Genoa-Kingston High School Football Games? Do they have too much free time? Do they get to watch the games for free? Do they get paid by the School District ? The answers to these questions are: No, Lions are just as busy as anybody else that lives in Genoa. No, we cannot see the football game from the gate where we are stationed, and Yes the Lions get paid to work the

gate and donate all of that pay back to the Athletic Department at the end of the season. So you see the Genoa Lions donate their time and efforts to the High School so that the school district won't have to pay others to work the gate during the football season.



The Genoa Lions have been providing this service for several decades and most recently Lions Jerry Helland and Mike Moes have been organizing

volunteers for the 4 home games this year. The prior ten years or so, Lion Joe Wilkinson was acting as chairman and arranging volunteers for each home game. Joe retired from that post last year and received a “golden ticket” from the Athletic Department, during a football game, and received a “free pass for life” to any Genoa-Kingston High School game. Lion Wilkinson was assisted by Lion Helland last year. The tradition continues and the following Genoa Lions and their families donated their time this year: Lion President Bob Becker, Greg & Mary Cravatta, Hector Feliciano, Deb Gentry, co-chair Jerry Helland, Flo Kutz, Todd Merritt, co-chair Mike Moes, Dale Pelley, Mike Ross, Todd & Amy Walker, Gene Bradford, Chad Pacey and Joe Wilkinson.

Featured in the photograph during the yearly donation from the Genoa Lions to the G-K Athletic Department are Athletic Director Phil Jerbi receiving a check for \$400 from Lions Helland (on the far right) and VanDerHeyden (on the far left).

On Saturday, December 5, the **Chicago Windy City Lions Club** is having our third annual [Drinks with Santa](#) event at Teaser's Public House. 100% of the



money that we raise from this event goes toward our club's hunger projects, including our annual Holiday Food Project that provides meals to Chicago families in need. Last year, we fed more

than 50 families in Humboldt Park. We would love for you to join us and for you to encourage others to come. It's a good time and several local businesses are supporting us by donating some really nice raffle prizes. In addition to our raffle, we will have live music from the local band, Uncovered, and Santa will be there to drink with you and take photos.

Please check out the [Drinks with Santa Facebook Event](#) page and invite people who you think might be interested. Please [like our club on Facebook](#) for information on our hunger projects and other events.

Also, watch for us on WGN TV Morning News on December 2. Last year, [Santa and I did a holiday movie trivia game show segment on WGN](#) against Paul Conrad and Robin Baumgarten. Sadly, Santa and I lost. So, this year, we challenged WGN to a rematch. Wish us luck!



Council of Governors of MD1 and all Committee Chairs wish all readers Happy Holidays and a Bright & Prosperous New Year 2016!