

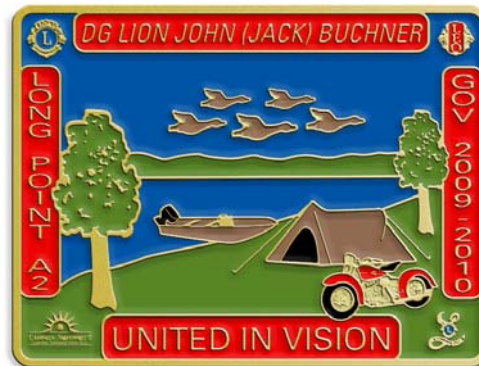
June 2010 Edition

Governor John's Newsletter



District A-2

Theme: "United In Vision"



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Lions Clubs International

President's Message

Lions Planted Ginkgos in 2009-10

by Eberhard J. Wirfs

President, The International Association of Lions Clubs

The marvelous ginkgo tree can live for 1,000 years or more. It is an apt symbol of heritage, adaptability and utility – which is why I chose it as a symbol of my presidency. Lions, I have served as your international president for just one year. But I believe that in 2009-10 Lions worldwide have embraced my theme of Move to Grow and we've moved our association forward with great success and much hope for continued growth and success. Lions have planted ginkgo trees to strengthen and develop our association in many ways. We've served our communities with great energy and innovation, started new clubs and inducted new members, and showed the public who Lions are and why we're absolutely vital. The number of new clubs is up 12.5 percent from last year, the best we've done in a dozen years. The latest figures show that our overall net growth is 24,079 members, compared to 17,058 the previous year. China has 113 new clubs and Africa has 46 new ones. The Global Membership Team and Lion leaders deserve a round of applause. Lions have stepped forward for leadership training, a prerequisite for any organization with grand goals. Nearly 450 Lions representing 302 districts graduated from the Senior Lions Leadership Institutes. Applications for this program exceeded program capacity by 26 percent. Additionally, 45 Regional Lions Leadership Institutes are being held this year and 3,800 Lions will be trained, a 36 percent jump from last year. Two initiatives I personally championed did very well. The Lions in Sight Campaign was held in January to raise awareness of Lions. Districts from every constitutional area participated and local media covered the events. The Global Youth Music Competition proved to be popular and representatives from each constitutional area will compete in Sydney at the international convention. The list of successes goes on. The Leo program was rebranded and rejuvenated. Our e-Clubhouse (a Web site template) grew to 2,300 sites. Lions Quest marked its 25th anniversary and expanded its presence; it now operates in 57 nations.

This year Move to Grow has been a constant reality and an overarching guide to Lions. It's been my great privilege to serve as your international president, and Margit and I are immensely grateful for the kindness and hospitality shown to us. We wish you well and, for the last time, express our deep appreciation and admiration for the invaluable service you give to your community.

Governor's newsletter, June 1, 2010

Our Lions year is winding down. Some of us are looking forward to a summer break and some of us are looking forward to fun and fund raising during the summer. Carnivals within the district have already been organized and have actually happened. Winter seems just a memory now, of north winds and driving snow as we get out the umbrellas and sun screen.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Lions family of this great district for their friendships, support, and encouragement. It has been a banner year, an outstanding year of travel, anniversary celebrations, emails, phone conversations, a great A2 Friendship convention and so much more.

We have chartered one new club, the Niagara Falls West End club, and there is a very good possibility of another club before the end of this Lions year.

The district has been incorporated and all the paper work seems to be in place. Thanks to the MDA lawyer and several dedicated Lions for following thru with this to make it happen.

The Journey for Sight in Region 4 and Region 5 has been completed and the Walk for Dog Guides should be winding down as well. As promised I rode in both Region 4 – Dereham Lions Halls in Mt. Eglin to Camp Trillum-Ranbow Lake and in the Region 5 Journey-The Circle Route Ride- of 142 km. and survived.

The total raised to date is just over \$13,000.00 for CVC Dog Guides. I will let everyone know when the second dog will graduate. When I last spoke to Julie at the Foundation they did not have a date yet. This would not have happened without the cooperation and hard work of the Lions family of the District of A2. This truly is the "Progressive District". Thanks to one and all for a great "Ride".

Just a quick message to the A2 Friendship convention committee...Thanks from all of us in the district. We look forward to March 2011.

It appears that all my days left in this Lions year will be full of Lions meetings and fun things. The Multiple District "A" convention is coming up June 2-6th in Kingston and the International Convention starts on June 28th and ends July 3, 2010 in Sydney Australia. Don't forget to sign up for the USA/Canada Forum in Milwaukee, Sept. 23-25. The Forums are always a great place to meet old friends and make new ones and it is a great learning experience. This year there are some 73 seminars scheduled, with excellent speakers and terrific topics.

Thank you to the Lions, Lioness and Leos of this district for allowing me "To Serve" as your district governor and to proceed on as council chair for your Multiple District. We do "Serve" here and beyond. We are "United in Vision" as we listen to each other and work together.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish DGE Lion Joyce Harvey and her cabinet all the best in the 2010-2011 Lions year.

A2 District Governor, John Buchner,
CCE
We are "United in Vision"

**1st Vice District Governor's
June Message**

Happy Father's Day to all you dads, step-dads, grandfathers, foster dads, big brothers, and male caregivers out there.

“A Father is someone who carries pictures where his money used to be.” *Lion*

- Small boy's definition of Father's Day,”It's just like Mother's Day, only you don't spend so much”. *Australasian Manufacturer.*

Thank-you to those clubs who've forwarded copies of your **PU101s**. We need them as we're preparing the 2010-2011 A-2 Directory now. **The PU101 forms can be downloaded** from the A-2, MDA, and LCI websites, or contact Governor Lion Jack for a copy.

The **COLTS, (Club Officers Leadership Training), April 29th, at Cayuga Secondary School,** went well, by most reports. I've read a number of positive comments in Club Bulletins, and have received good reports from a couple Zone Chairs as well. Most seemed to appreciate the more interactive sessions and our attempt to bring a little more fun to the proceedings. If you missed it, too bad.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: MEMBERSHIP:

I'm thrilled by the number of Clubs that have increased their membership by four, five, six, eight and more members this Lions year! Altogether, District A-2 has increased its new Lions membership by over 114 (at last count), and there are more joining every week.

Two weeks ago, some of us in the MERLO Team were privileged to attend an extremely well-run new members night at Jordan Lions Club. Most Lions there had invited one or two potential Lions out to hear a number of their own Club members talk about their “pet projects”,-“passions” they called it- events that they personally run with the blessing and help of their fellow Jordan Lions. I've since heard that between six and eight of those guests attending will be joining Jordan Lions Club. And why not? They already know that if they have a project in mind, the Jordan Club will be behind them as they try it out.

This echoes something my own Club has found out over the past several years, that we need to try out the ideas of new members. Sometimes events that we've lost money on in the past are now doing well, because these new members run them in a different way.

RETENTION:

Despite our successful District -wide efforts at getting new members, we've lost over 113 Lions this Lions year from our Clubs, with 39 of them to death. Which means, another 74 Lions have “walked out the door”. What is wrong? Why so many?

It looks like retention is something we all should be taking a good long look at. LCI has information and questionnaires to help your Club operate at its best and keep your members happy and feeling like they're making a difference. Take a look on the A-2, MDA, and /or LCI websites. Much of this material is downloadable, and a lot is free for the asking.

All the best to you and your Club. Have a great month ahead!

Yours in Lionism, Lion Joyce Harvey,
1st Vice District Governor & MERLO Chair
905-768-3498 or, harv@ispnet.ca



Lion Gov. Jack receiving a Melvin Jones Extention Award from Long Point Lions President Bill Fick. Thank you for this wonderful year of service as district A2 Governor. Good luck on your new job as council chair of Mda.

Our Great weekend Ride

What a wonderful experience on the weekend. There were 12 of us who completed the Journey for Sight all the way around the Greater Niagara Circle Route - a total of 140 km.

congratulations to our eldest rider -- "OLD" Lion Bob Schram - did the whole ride (except climbing the mountain) finished in good shape - way to go my "Bike Buddy". Thanks also to Margie for all of her support workagain..... and to grandson Scot for his efforts on Saturday- great to have this youthful participation.

Thanks to Lion Ralph Krueger and his family for being so brave and taking in the whole weekend in spite of some "geographic" problems - glad the family was finally reunited and had some fun along the way. I apologize for misnaming the family at Grantham on Sunday afternoon. It was wonderful having the KRUEGER family on the ride.

Thanks to Lion George Deruyte and his fiancée and his girlfriend and family for all of the great support on Saturday and Sunday. Special personal thanks for having the extra bike along on Sunday when I experienced the flat tire. Great job on the pledges and support as well.

Thanks to Lion Stan J. Mach and his young friends for adding some fun and youth to our Journey. We had a lot of fun sharing our experiences and some people actually tried to keep up with this young legs along the way -- right George2. Great to have all of you along and hope that this leads to more experiences like this one for all of us.

Thanks to Governor John for his tremendous personal effort to take part in both Saturday and Sunday. Trips back and forth to near Vienna and Dunnville and Fort Erie and St. Catharines - all of this took real commitment and we congratulate the Governor on his tremendous support for the Lions Foundation during his term.

Thanks to the Fort Erie and Grantham Lions Clubs for providing such nourishment. It was wonderful to start and finish our day on Sunday with so much great support.

Thanks to my wife Nancy for her ongoing and continuing support as my partner in service and being part of these Lions activities.

Thanks Rob and Katherine for being there when we needed you.

Everyone did a super job on your pledges and donation support. I added up and balanced all of the sheets this morning. Looks like we will hit the \$2,500 mark when all is collected.
Super effort!!!

Hope I didn't miss anyone - thanks again for having such fun!!

George Hostick

georgehostick@hotmail.com



This is the Student Volunteer Award given by the MDA Past District Governor's Association. The winner is Kristin Bridges - a Grade 8 student from Lakeview School in Grimsby. The award was presented at the District School Board of Niagara's Educational Showcasing meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2010.

Those in the photo are (L - R) :

W Hoshizakj - Director DSBN,

Kristin Bridges - WINNER

Liz Fulford - DSBN Chair

Lioness Sue Beamer - A2 Youth Outreach Chair

Jen Miller - Kristin's teacher

Andrea Jack - Lakeview Principal,

Lion Alan Beamer - IPDG A2 Lions

This is the second year A2 has won the Student Volunteer Award from MDA Past District Governor's Association.

Submitted by Lioness Sue

WELCOME NEW LIONS:

Stamford Lions Club: Lion Michael DeDuca, Lion Andrew Fruci, Lion Dave Overton and Lion Mark Quatermain.

St Davids lions Club: Lion Andrew Allan, Lion Martin Forster, , Lion Rick Trapnell, Lion James (Jim) Bradley and Lion John Ghetti Jr (Affiliate)

IN MEMORIAM: Fonthill Lions Club: Lion Robert Haymes

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISTRICT A2:

Chippawa Lions Club: June 09 to 12th Annual Carvinal at Chippawa Lions Park.

St Davids Lions: Club Carnival July 22 to 24th

Journey For Sight Car Rally: September 18th 2010

Markham, Ontario: At the MDA caucus meeting on Saturday, March 6, 2010 in Markham A2 District Governor, Lion John Buchner was voted in as the Multiple District A Council Chair for the Lions year 2010-2011. Congratulation Governor John.

Important Notice: Zone chair Flo Fraser new email is ffraser1@cogeco.ca



This will be my last governor's newsletter due to personal problems I must resign from Lions International altogether. I have made mistakes that are ehond repair. Thanks to all for your support thru the years. Lion Andre