

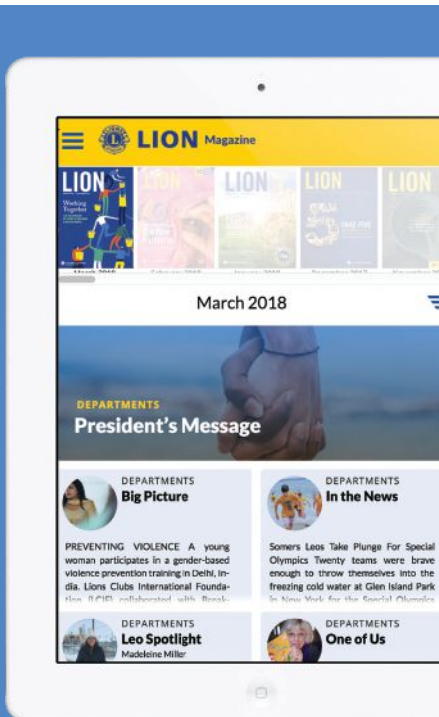
LION

OCTOBER 2018 LIONMAGAZINE.ORG

Service at Center Stage

Lions Take the Energy of
Vegas Home to Their Clubs





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VIDEOS

FEEL THE ENERGY FROM THE CONVENTION

WHAT HAPPENS AT #LCICON LAS VEGAS... IS SHARED WITH LIONS EVERYWHERE!

See what we were up to the first couple of days at the 101st Lions International Convention.

LAS VEGAS HIGHLIGHTS: THE PARADE OF NATIONS

Lions from around the world gather at the International Convention every year to see friends and show their colors at the Parade of Nations!

SERVICE IS STILL FRONT AND CENTER, EVEN AT CONVENTION

Lions make a difference, even when far from home. But Serving isn't ALL they were up to in Las Vegas.



THE VAULT



OCTOBER 1987 DENVER CONVENTION PREVIEW

Convention was coming to the mile-high city and Lion Magazine made sure you knew all about the destination.



NOVEMBER 1968 LIONS ARE NOT HATCHED

This Lion Magazine article from the vault explores what it means to train and develop new Lions.

HIGHER KEY AWARDS

Lions honored for sponsoring members.

WE SERVE

MISSION STATEMENT OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL:

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

CONTACTING THE LION

For change of address, non-receipt of the magazine and other subscription issues, contact 630-468-6982 or MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org. For all other inquiries call 630-571-5466. Have a story idea or photo? Want to comment on a story or make a suggestion for LION editors? Contact the LION at lionmagazine@lionsclubs.org or at 630-468-6798.

POSTMASTERS

Periodicals postage paid at Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 and additional mailing offices. Subscription price, US\$6.00 year, US\$12.00 year mailed outside North America; Single copies, US\$1.00.

Send notices of undeliverable copies on form 3579 to LION, 300 W 22nd St Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842. "Canada Post Publications Mail No. 40029736 Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: LIONS 2835 Kew Drive, Windsor, ON N8T 3B7."

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Calling All

World Changers

November 14, 2018, is World Diabetes Day, and Lions are taking steps for global impact.



Join the movement at
fightdiabetes.lionsclubs.org



**Lions Clubs
International**

Turn A “What if” Into Action

Hello, Lions!

You know that feeling after a big party, when you're both exhausted and re-energized? That's the feeling I had after our 101st International Convention in Las Vegas this past July.

I've learned that the seeds of some our greatest accomplishments as Lions have been planted during conventions. What happens is you meet someone—maybe they're from far away, a country you've never been to before. Maybe their club is working on a similar issue as your club. Or maybe their club is doing something really well that you wish your club could do better. You start saying, “What if?”

“What if there's still more to learn from those Lions? What if we tackled some problems together?”

Before you know it, an hour has passed, or an entire afternoon, and you know all about their family, because Lions are those kinds of people. But you also have plans in motion. In the past you relied on follow-up phone calls and written letters. Today, you have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. It's easier than ever to stay in touch and exchange ideas.

For those of you who didn't make the trip, I hope you'll read about it and feel the energy of all those Lions in one place. For those of you who were there, I encourage you to use the energy you found at convention to build momentum for you and your club. Gather those scraps of paper you collected with names, phone numbers, and email addresses. Get on social media and add to your circle of friends. Continue conversations that may have begun as a simple “what if” and turn them into action. 📍

Yours,

Gudrun Yngvadottir
International President, Lions Clubs International



We Serve.



Carving for Kids

Pediatric ophthalmologist and Minneapolis Ambassador Lion Dr. Erick Bothun began carving pumpkins for Lions in 2009 when he used his skill and steady hand to create a Lion-themed pumpkin as a decorative piece for Lions Gift of Sight's Thanksgiving for Vision event. Guests wanted to bid on the privilege of taking his artwork home, and the money raised was donated to the Lions Children's Eye Clinic at the University of Minnesota. Bothun now carves a pumpkin for auction each October, and auction winners typically give the pumpkin to the Lions Children's Eye Clinic or a school to display as long as it lasts. Last year the Lions raised US\$2,000 for the eye clinic with their designer pumpkins auction.





Sister Cities, Fellow Lions

In July, Taiwanese officials, including three Lions, came to Illinois to visit their new sister city of Westmont.

In August of 2017, Westmont entered into a formal sister city relationship with Hsinchu County, Taiwan, building cultural, educational, and economic ties between the two communities.

When Lion Ron Gunter, the mayor of Westmont, traveled to Taiwan in 2016 in the hopes of forging a relationship with the cultural home of many of Westmont's large Asian community, he was surprised to be warmly welcomed by about 20 Taiwanese Lions.

It turns out that the Taiwanese officials reading his resume before he arrived were also Lions.

“I had no idea,” says Gunter. “They also have a very strong Lions club, and our Lions have been one of the leading organizations that helped make this happen.”

So, when Taiwanese officials arrived in July, Westmont Lions returned the favor. Fifteen Westmont Lions greeted them at their hotel and made them breakfast at the Westmont fire department before taking them to tour LCI headquarters—a trip that was tops of the visitors' list of things to do.



Westmont has already seen the benefits of the sister cities' relationship with cultural programs and the student exchange program, says the mayor. “And now we find we also have the strong connection of Lions International.”

Looking Ahead

World Diabetes Day (November 14)

What does your club have planned? For service ideas, check out archived issues of Lion Magazine at lionmagazine.org.

World Diabetes Day 11/14



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS 1	FRI 2	SAT 3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

November 2018

Special Olympics Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Special Olympics—a Lions Clubs International collaborative partner—celebrated its 50th anniversary July 17-21, 2018, in Chicago, Illinois, which is the original birthplace of the games. It was 50 years ago that the organization kicked off its first event, hosting 1,000 athletes at Soldier Field in downtown Chicago.

Anniversary events included the first-ever Special Olympics Unified Cup, a star-studded Global Day of Inclusion, a Law Enforcement Torch Run, and a ceremonial lighting of the Special Olympics Eternal Flame of Hope, which symbolizes the organization’s mission toward inclusion and justice for people with intellectual disabilities.

OVERHEARD

“Everyone has a different background—farmers, teachers, cheese makers. We’re very accepting of people of different backgrounds.”

—**Simon Domper**, Norsewood Lions Club, Norsewood, New Zealand.
See story page 10.

“[Lions] see people for who they are and not their job titles.”

—**Fereshta Ramouzi**, from the Calgary MRU Lions Club, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. See story page 10.

“I can’t say enough good things about the Lions. They’re really helpful, saving people a lot of money and a lot of trouble.”

—**Roger Pergande**, whose father, Neil, received a wheelchair ramp built by the Larsen-Winchester Lions in Wisconsin. See story page 9.

BY THE NUMBERS

2018 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION EDITION

130

Countries represented.

2,000

People per year fed by the Las Vegas community garden, Vegas Roots, which was the site of a service project for Lions attending the convention.

15,000

Lions registered to attend.

4.5

Weight in pounds of Lion Jay Puls’ pin-adorned vest, which he showcased at the 2018 convention.

USA

Lions Help Big Brothers Big Sisters Go Places

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia were in a bind. They have multiple “littles” in their one-to-one child mentoring program, and lots of “bigs” to support them, but they had no way to transport them to activities.

And then the Lions drove up.

Lions of District 24 E, the Lions of Virginia Foundation, and LCIF joined forces and bought a new US\$40,000 van for the organization as part of LCI’s Centennial Community Legacy Project program. It will impact the lives of hundreds of children who live in the area.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest and largest mentoring organization in the U.S., matching children in need with adult one-on-one mentors. In Roanoke, Virginia, and the many rural communities around it, they serve about 400 children ages 6 to 12, says June House, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia.



“Littles” from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia explore their new transport van, courtesy of Lions.

The one van they had wasn’t enough to get all of the children where they needed to be, and they were having to rent a van regularly.

“It was very expensive and then when you add in the insurance and other concerns, we were limited and we just couldn’t do it,” says House.

She heard about Lions helping another group, and she approached LCI. Past Council Chair Martin Alford then put the wheels in motion, gathering club and district financial support to match grant funds from LCIF and the Lions of Virginia Foundation.

The 15-passenger van now allows organizers to take the children on field trips and after-school enrichment activities, and to transport “bigs” and “littles” together to programs like hiking

and fishing. Giving them this time together is important, says House.

The volunteers give four hours a month to mentoring their matched child, and it appears to be helping. House says 100 percent of the children in the Southwest Virginia chapter have avoided the juvenile justice system.

For the Virginia Lions, they were able to make a lasting impact on the lives of children in need of mentoring and support, Alford says. And as for House, she’s found the Lions to be “exceptional,” so exceptional that she’s planning to join a Virginia club.

USA

Ramping Up Service

You never know when you'll need a wheelchair ramp, but if that time comes, the Larsen-Winchester Lions in Wisconsin have it all under control.

The Lions celebrated a service milestone on August 11, 2018, when they constructed their 1,000th wheelchair ramp.

This one was for retired Larsen farmer Neil Pergande, 86, who milked cows until he was 84, but recently suffered a stroke and is cared for by his son, Roger. Not only will the ramp allow Roger to transport his Dad in and out, but it gives Neil a place to sit outside and enjoy one of his favorite past times—playing fetch with his dog, a border collie-blue heeler mix that keeps “going and going and going,” says Roger Pergande.

“This ramp makes a huge difference for us,” he says.

Larsen-Winchester Lions started building ramps in 1989, and their workmanship and kindness has become so widely known that they average one ramp a week now, building a total of about 45 a year.

The ramp stays for as long as it's needed, whether for a few months or for many years. When it's no longer required, Lions remove it and reuse what they can to build another for someone else in need, says Lion Bruce Stowe, the club's ramp chairperson.

Labor and materials are free to the people of their communities, but Lions ask that those who live outside their 25-mile radius contribute 50 percent of the material cost—generally US\$350 to \$400. That money goes right back into supplies for more ramps, and those who can't afford it are connected with other Lions clubs and social services agencies for financial assistance.

Those in need outside the Larsen-Winchester limits are also referred to other Lions clubs that are now making ramps.

“One of the keys is getting other Lions to do this,” says Stowe. “We get a lot of calls, from 30, 40, 50 miles away, and I would love to be able to say, ‘Call this Lions Club.’”



Lions Leon Harder and Kim Jansen secure a rail section for the 1,000th ramp.

ARGENTINA

Welcome Signs Show Unity and Inclusion

The Ayacucho Lions Club in Argentina has found a way to greet travelers to their country in a big way. The club, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in April 2017, installed two welcome signs at the entrance to the city.

The idea for the signs came from past club president Rafael Losinno and are intended as a symbol of unity and inclusion to all visitors.



welcome to

LION

COUNTRY

A Conference, a Convert, and Lions' Contagious Kindness

STORY AND PHOTOS BY REANNON MUTH

I arrived to the Lions Clubs International Conference in Las Vegas with a secret: I wasn't a Lion. I'd never been a Lion. I wasn't sure I'd ever even met one before.

I was a writer from Las Vegas, contracted to cover the conference for Lion Magazine. I knew only what I'd read online: Lions Clubs International is the largest and oldest service organization in the world. Members from more than 200 countries would be attending the convention at the MGM Resort and Casino, and it was only the second time in more than 100 years that the conference had been hosted in Las Vegas.

I studied the Lions around me in the crowded hotel corridor—A Filipino couple wearing tailored blue jackets, a group of Indian men in gray suits, a woman wearing a

lion hat, and, everywhere, the telltale pin-adorned vests; a sea of yellow. The Lions stood out, especially in contrast to the hotel's other visitors—swarms of bathing suit-clad men and women carrying giant inner tubes and three-foot long margaritas. The inner tubes were because the resort's pool was located adjacent to the conference headquarters. The three-foot long margaritas were because, well, it was Vegas and three-foot long margaritas are practically the city's mascot.

The Lions looked friendly. But as I headed outside toward the exhibit hall, I wondered if my interloper status would be an issue. Would the 15,000 club members attending the conference accept me—an outsider—as one of their own?

I stepped into the exhibit hall—a stadium-sized room replete with stages, murals, quote walls, and tables of shiny gold pins—and walked until I came across a cornered-off section in the middle of the hall, where a group of Lions sat in folding chairs.

As I got closer, I noticed the medical kits and the men and women in white lab coats and the realization dawned on me: I'd wandered into a blood drive. It was 9:30 in the morning, we were in the world's premiere party destination, and dozens of Lions were using their vacation time to donate blood. One of the Lions being prepped was a man wearing a single florescent, rainbow-colored shoe. He was missing a leg. He was also missing an arm.

This was my first indication that there might be something special about Lions. Here was this man, who'd clearly experienced more than his fair share of hardship in life, and yet he was giving where





he could—donating his blood so that someone facing an even worse predicament might see his or her fortunes reversed.

In the days to follow, I witnessed this display of unfiltered kindness on numerous occasions. Lions offered directions when I looked lost and a seat at their lunch table when I looked lonely. After I failed to locate my car in the parking garage and security went looking for it, a Lion offered to wait with me so that I wouldn't have to stand in a deserted garage by myself.

Several Lions invited me to visit them in their countries, handing me their business cards and promising me that they'd give me a tour of their hometowns if I ever came to visit. They gave me gifts—flower leis, key chains, stress balls, and pins. They added me as a friend on social media. But it was more than just polite overtures and common decency. The Lions I met were open and seemingly un-

afraid to be vulnerable. One man shared with me his struggles adapting to his teenage daughter's diabetes diagnosis. Another revealed how his life had been changed after a scary medical diagnosis. And everywhere I looked were examples of Lions daring to be their authentic, silly selves—singing folk songs in the parade, dancing in the exhibit hall to Pharrell Williams' song "Happy," and waving their hands and singing as a cover band played Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline" in the MGM Grand Garden Arena.

Prior to moving to Las Vegas, I'd lived in more than 20 cities—Tokyo, New York, Orlando, Honolulu, and Salzburg, to name a few—and had gotten to know people from a wide variety of countries and cultures. I can thus say with some authority that the Lions I met at the 101st Lions Clubs International Convention were different. They were special.

giving changes you

"Why are Lions so nice?" I was standing outside the MGM Grand Garden Arena, pen and notepad in hand, talking to two college students who were wearing red, white, and blue top hats and jackets with the words "Japan Lions" emblazoned on the front and back. Neither student was from Japan. The hats and jackets were gifts from some Lions they'd taken a photo with earlier—a spontaneous moment of generosity.

Fereshta Ramouzi from the Calgary MRU Lions Club theorized that one possible reason Lions seemed so warm was because they look past the superficial. "People see people for who they are and not their job titles," she explained.

"Giving back to the community lifts your spirits."

Ramouzi had noticed that to be especially true at the conference, where despite coming from vastly different cultures, everyone behaved like old friends.

"It's a Utopia. It's like a small country...everyone interacting together," he said.

Christopher Remtulla, also from the Calgary MRU Lions Club, suggested that it was because serving others makes people happier and more positive. "Giving back to the community lifts your spirits," he said.



united for the common good

Lion Bradley Barth from the Altoona Lions Club in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, thought that the difference I noticed may be due to Lions' keen communications skills.

"Because we serve, we naturally interact with a lot of people. We go out into the community, so we're used to talking to different people from different backgrounds," he explained.

Simon Domper, from the Norsewood Lions Club in Norsewood, New Zealand, shared a similar point of view, saying he attributed Lions' friendly and generous spirit to the fact that Lions clubs attract a wide scope of people from varied backgrounds. This diversity forces club members to be open-minded, tolerant, and flexible. "It's necessary if you want to be able to work together," he explained.

"Because we serve, we naturally interact with a lot of people."

Domper's village has just 350 residents (20 of whom are Lions) and yet: "Everyone has a different background—farmers, teachers, cheese makers. We're very accepting of people of different backgrounds," he said.

I got to see this special brand of inclusivity first hand during the Parade of Nations, when 10,000 Lions—many of them dressed in the traditional garb of their country—marched with one another through downtown Las Vegas. United in their discomfort under the oppressive desert heat, the Lions walked, sang, and chanted past

the law offices, drive-thru wedding chapels, and historic casinos of old Las Vegas.

While the dividing lines between the countries may have been evident at the start of the parade, by the middle of it, the lines had begun to blur. The Nigerians were marching with the Brazilians, the Indians were waving flags from the U.S. state of Iowa, and the Chinese were leading crowds of Americans in shouting "China! China! Go, Go, Go!" As a first-time Parade of Nations spectator, the experience was surreal. You could see it on the faces of some of the Las Vegas tourists, who looked surprised to have wandered out of their hotels and into a kaleidoscope of colors and cultures.

During one of the Plenary Sessions, the audience was asked to rise to their feet and sing a song. I hesitated before standing. I didn't want to participate; I wanted to observe. I'd chosen a seat at the back of the auditorium for that very reason. But then the Lions around me looked at me expectantly, with outreached hands, and so I stood. I held their hands and I did my best to sing along. At first I felt silly and self-conscious, but as the chorus of thousands of voices washed over the arena, I felt moved, too.

On my first day at the conference, Akash Jogi, a Leo from India, had said: "Leos and Lions make it seem that an ideal world is not that far off." At the time, that comment had struck me as sappy and idealistic, but after watching a stadium of people from nearly 200 countries hold hands and sing with one another, I began to see what he meant.



making a difference

During the five-day conference, I watched Lions sort hotel soaps for the homeless and brave the triple-digit desert temperatures to harvest vegetables at a community garden. I heard stories from Lions in India who were working in cancer hospitals, Lions in Panama who were making children's coloring books, and Lions in the Philippines who were planting forests of mangrove trees.

Throughout, I couldn't help but think what a gift they'd given themselves. A lot of people may be hesitant to volunteer because they think the world's problems are too many or massive. But the Lions I met seemed to know better. They knew that the key lies in daring to show up; daring to try.

One of the presentations I attended was by a woman from Leader Dogs for the Blind, a nonprofit that pro-

vides the vision-impaired with seeing-eye dogs. She told the story of a man who who'd gone blind as a result of a genetic disorder. He'd lost his job and his family and was planning to commit suicide until a Lions member stepped in and helped arrange for him to be matched with a leader dog. "Everybody wonders if they've made a difference in the world," she concluded, "Lions don't have to wonder."

What a powerful thing it must be to know, with full certainty, that the work you've done will have a lasting impact on the planet. Maybe the kindness I'd seen on display at the conference wasn't an inherent personality trait but merely the result of living a life imbued with meaning.

WE SERVE






live by example

A big theme of the convention was the need for change and the need to adapt to new technologies, like social media. Some of the convention's most attended workshops had titles like "Attracting Millennials to Join Lions" and "Learn to Tweet." But if my example is anything to go by, one of the best things Lions can do to recruit new members is to live by example. Whether it's through Facebook or actual face-to-face conversations, it's Lions' quiet optimism, authenticity, and dedication to service that outsiders will find most attractive. Let that shine through and the recruits will follow.

I would know. While I arrived to the convention an outsider, five days and several new friends later, I left the conference with a pin and a commitment to serve. I'm not a Lion—but that may soon change.

Because now I have a new secret: I'll be attending my first Lions club meeting next week. 

INVESTED

Lions talk vests

STORY AND PHOTOS BY REANNON MUTH

For many Lions, the yellow vest has come to represent more than a colorful piece of attire. The Lions I interviewed spoke of the vest serving as both an international identifier and a beacon for community service. When asked, “What does the vest mean to you?” one of the most common responses given was simply: “Pride.”



A



B



C



D



E



F

A “It shows Lion’s identity. It also shows that you’re proud to be a Lion,” says Henry Tan (far right), Singapore.

B “A lot of people don’t wear the vests but we think it’s a tradition worth keeping alive. It’s important because it tells people where you’re from. And it also advertises that you’re a Lion,” says Malcom Tam, from Kalaheo, Hawaii, USA, standing next to Basilio Fuertes, from Waimea, Hawaii. Both are members of The West Kauai Lions Club. Fuertes agrees, adding “The gold color attracts the eye.”

C “The vest means service and community; helping others,” says Jill Friedrichs, from Mount Prospect Lions Club in Illinois, USA. Mike Witkowski, also a Mount Prospect Lion, says, “It shows that no matter who we are or what club we’re in, we share the same goal.”

D Paula Ross-Brandt of the Brooklyn Leaders Lions Club in New York, USA (left) says, “This vest tells me who I am, where I am, and what service I provide.” Gillian Jansen (center), also a Brooklyn Leader Lion, says, “People see you and they immediately know you.”

E Ali Alp of the Istanbul Ciragan Lions Club (left), with Orhan Turay (right), poses wearing the shirt his club had specially made for the convention. It includes a peace sign to signify the peace Lions help spread across the planet.

F Peter Anderson, from Bellingham Central Lions Club in Washington, USA, sports a fun mohawk wig. Anderson thinks it’s important to show pride in being a Lion, but he prefers the Lions shirts over the vests. “The vests are a great identifier but I don’t think they work in today’s market. I think we need some uniform identifier—like a jersey or shirt—but we need to update our wardrobe.”



lci#can star is born

Eighty-six-year-old Jay Puls had only been inside the MGM Resort and Casino for five seconds and he was already getting mobbed. Though he towered over the 20 or so Thai women that had surrounded him, his height wasn't what had caused several of the ladies in orange vests to erupt in choruses of "wows." It was his vest. It was covered in pins. So many pins, in fact, that according to Puls, the vest weighed 4.5 pounds.

"Is this normal?" I asked, indicating the mob of people snapping photos and waving pins at him in hopes that he would trade. "Oh yeah," he replied with a smile. "My vest is a magnet."

The attention was nothing new for the Live Oak Lions Club member from Modesto, California. He wears the vest to all the conventions. "I have another vest that has everything on it—past this and past that. Everything but pass out," he joked.

Puls wasn't the only conference attendee to draw a crowd. When I first met Maxime Tougma of the Ouagadougou Zoodo Lions Club in Burkina Faso, so many people were clamoring to take a photo with him and his pin-covered

vest, a line had begun to form. Though Tougma appeared bemused by the attention, he was patient, too; smiling as Lion after Lion held out their cell phones and sheepishly asked if they could snap a selfie with him.

"harmonizes our identity"

All the notoriety had apparently earned Tougma the nickname "Star Lion." Some of his club members had even jokingly referred to him as "007" because of the James Bond level of attention he'd received from the "charming ladies." But Tougma is proud of his vest, especially the pins.

"The pins are trophies of friendship that I have been able to get from my Lions friends since my first participation in the Centennial Lion Convention in Chicago," he said.

Tougma thinks wearing a Lions Club vest is important because it "harmonizes our identity." It's a sentiment other conference attendees expressed as well.

Planting Seeds of Community

Service Events Give
Convention-Goers a Way to
Keep Serving While Away

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
REANNON MUTH**

It was only 7:30 in the morning in Las Vegas, but it was already over 100 degrees. While most Vegas visitors were likely enjoying the morning from the comfort of their air-conditioned hotel rooms, many Lions were outside in the dirt, stooped over patches of melons, hot peppers, and tomatoes. There were gathered at Vegas Roots, the only urban community garden in the Vegas Valley, and the Lions were helping with the harvest.

Their reasons for volunteering at the garden varied. For Lion Leonette Jones, of the Brooklyn Stuy Lions Club in New York, gardening has almost become a hobby, thanks to the many gardening service projects she's done through her club. "I like doing outdoor things. I've done urban gardening on rooftops," she said, as the group took a break to drink some water.

For Jack Kampfer, a Lion from Oahu, Hawaii, the choice to garden had been one of curiosity. He wanted to start a similar community garden with his club in Hawaii and had come hoping to get some ideas.



Lions help harvest melons, hot peppers, and tomatoes in the desert heat at Vegas Roots—Southern Nevada's only urban community garden. Temperatures soared over 100 degrees, but that didn't deter Lion Jack Kampfer from Oahu, Hawaii, and Lion Leonette Jones from Brooklyn, New York, from serving while away.





Maryland Lion Kirby Travers joined the project for a more personal reason. Two years ago his daughter was diagnosed with diabetes. Since then, Travers has made sure that his service projects have a health, fitness, or diabetes-awareness focus.

He thinks community gardens like Vegas Roots are important because helping to grow and pick vegetables will teach kids and families how to incorporate more healthy foods into their meals when they cook at home. “A lot of city folk don’t know what to do with vegetables like squash,” he said. “They don’t how to cook it.”

That was a refrain echoed by the Vegas Roots staff. “People don’t know how to grow things, especially in this heat,” one of the coordinators explained in an interview in the garden’s small office. She said the garden’s founder, health and wellness coach Roz Brooks, wasn’t an expert either—at least not at first. She started the garden in 2010 in the hopes of helping the Vegas community learn how to incorporate more fresh fruits and veggies in their diet, but quickly discovered how difficult it was to grow vegetables in the dry climate and rough soil. But it wasn’t impossible.

“We had to do it by trial and error,” she explained. Today, the garden grows enough produce to feed approximately 2,000 people a year. Cooking classes and a kid’s gardening club are also offered.

Travers was happy for the opportunity to serve while away and hopes the hours of volunteer time he and other conference attendees donated will have a ripple effect throughout the Las Vegas community.

“I feel like volunteering my services will ultimately cause others to as well, and thus my small amount of time will end up being multiplied with service time throughout a community,” said Travers.

After the last pepper had been picked, the Lions said goodbye to the garden staff and headed to the convention shuttle bus. As they weaved their way past a family of chickens that had gathered near the garden’s entrance, a Lion snapped a photo of one of the garden’s hand-painted signs. “As the garden grows, so does the gardener,” it read—A fitting metaphor for Vegas Roots, and, in a way, a fitting metaphor for Lions, too. By helping others, Lions also help themselves.

“That’s true,” Travers said. “Volunteering for others does make me feel good about myself.”



||||||| #LCICON 2019 |||||

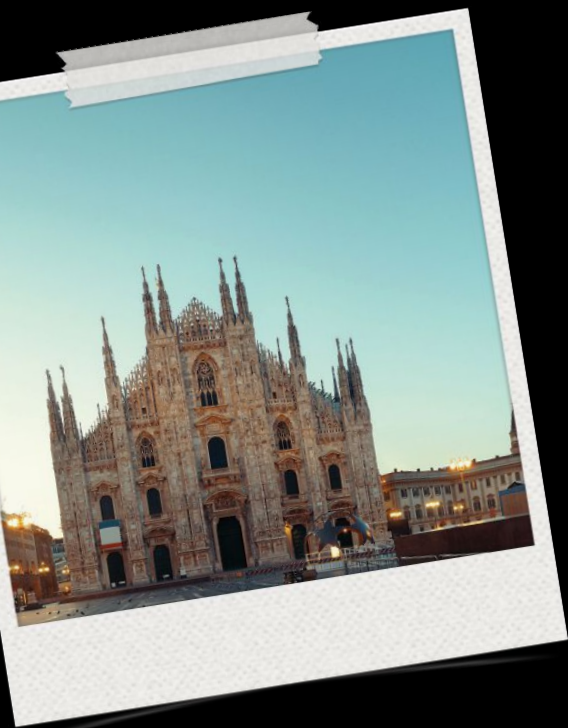
A RENAISSANCE OF SERVICE

*Have you been to Milan? Have you been to
Milan with approximately 15,000 other Lions?*

HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

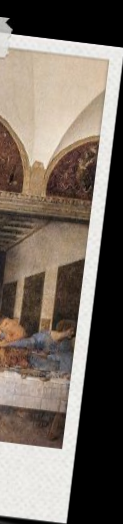
*Whether you've never been to a convention
or you've been to every single one, this is an
event to put on your list for 2019.*





THERE IS INSPIRATION EVERYWHERE IN MILAN

- » Duomo de Firenze, a famous gothic cathedral that serves as the mother church for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Florence
- » Museo del Novecento, the home of 20th-century art, featuring Umberto Boccioni's spiral ramp
- » The Last Supper, the famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci
- » Quadrilatero d'Oro, a hub for made-in-Milan designers of high-fashion
- » Lively night-life in Navigli



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||||| The MiCo Milano Congressi is the largest event center in Europe and will host Lions from across the globe for five days, July 5-9, 2019.



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So bring your most fashion-forward Lions gear, and meet us in Milan next summer.

 Feel the Magic of Milan. Watch now.

Disability Does Not Mean Inability

BY JAMIE KONIGSFELD

Leo Clubs cultivate leaders for life and provide young people with an opportunity to serve in their community. Working with Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)'s partner, Special Olympics, Leos bring new life and a new level of impact to LCIF.

While actively involved with the Leo Youth Program, Leo Tanya Nzvengende, then-President of Leo District 412 in Southeast Africa, applied for and was awarded a youth leader position at the 2015 GenUin Social Impact Summit. Taking place during the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, the summit gathered 120 Youth Leaders from 30 countries around the world, with and without intellectual disabilities. Together, the leaders developed impact projects focusing on ideas to promote inclusiveness for people with intellectual disabilities in their communities. Within their longstanding partnership, LCIF and Special Olympics International work to promote inclusiveness through sports, health, and leadership development, with teams comprising members of all ability levels.

Tanya's project aimed to create a more inclusive community through sports in her home country of Zimbabwe. When speaking about creating change, Tanya imparted simple, but insightful words of wisdom, "Disability does not mean inability." While implementing her program, Tanya was quick to recognize that there were athletes

she worked alongside who were natural born leaders and very effective in creating partnerships in the community.

"Working with the athletes was an awesome experience for me," said Tanya. "They inspire me to do more in terms of advocating for equalities for people with intellectual disabilities in my country. I would like to make a particular mention of one outstanding athlete, Nyasha Derera whom I have thoroughly enjoyed working with for the past year. He is a born leader and a great speaker. It was Nyasha who made me realize that we have not given our athletes equal opportunities in leadership roles. We tend to focus more on having them fit in instead of standing out."

As a Leo Youth Activation Leader for Africa, Tanya set out to recruit as many Special Olympics athlete leaders as possible into the Leo program. "Lions Clubs International and Special Olympics International have such a great partnership at an international level," she said. "This partnership needs to be localized in all our African programs. That's my mandate for the next two years."

Today, Tanya is serving in a high-level leadership role on the Leo Advisory Panel. She continues to empower people with intellectual disabilities in Zimbabwe and beyond.

While Leo Tanya continues her service journey, this past September, Lions Clubs International sent five more Leos and one Lion to the Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Forum in Baku, Azerbaijan. This year's youth leaders traveled from Indonesia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Malaysia, and Brazil to lead projects that promote social impact and inclusion. The movement for inclusiveness marches on as these youth leaders return to their communities and create their own social impact.

Visit [LCIF.org/BE100](https://www.lcif.org/BE100) to learn how Campaign 100 will sponsor and deliver programs addressing the distinct needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations such as the elderly, the disabled, females, orphans, and others disproportionately impacted by social and economic factors and requiring special services.



Four Stars for the Foundation for Seventh Year in a Row

BY JAMIE KONIGSFELD

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has received its seventh consecutive four-star rating from Charity Navigator, putting it in the ranks of just five percent of evaluated charities within the U.S.

What does this mean? Our Foundation is “outperforming most other charities in America,” according to Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator. A four-star rating is the highest rating a nonprofit organization can receive from Charity Navigator, the largest and most-utilized charity evaluator in the U.S.

This also means that Lions and non-Lions alike can rest assured that their generosity is in good hands. Whether a donation is made to the Empowering Service fund or the Disaster Relief fund, donors can know that they are truly making a difference in the world.

Plus, 100 percent of the donation goes to support LCIF grants and programs, which is something not all nonprofits can claim.

“This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Lions Clubs International Foundation apart from its peers, and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness,” said Thatcher.



Charity Navigator has rated more than 9,000 charities and provides data on 1.8 million more nonprofits within the U.S. Their mission? To “make impactful philanthropy easier for all.” The organization intends to promote intelligent giving by rating the best-known and lesser-known charities, along with everyone in between, based on financial health, accountability, and transparency. Financial information and evaluation is based on each charity’s 990 tax filing in the U.S. Charity Navigator evaluates 10 times more charities than their nearest competitor, and Forbes, Business Week, and Kiplinger’s Personal Finance have celebrated their unique method of applying data-driven analysis to the charitable sector.

This news couldn’t be more timely, as Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service just kicked off at the 101st annual Lions Clubs International Convention in Las Vegas. If you are not yet familiar with our Foundation’s largest fundraising effort in its 50-year history, Campaign 100 aims to raise US\$300 million by June 30, 2021. Campaign 100 will empower

Lions to serve hundreds of millions of people per year in communities near and far. As challenges facing our world expand and change, our Foundation must also evolve. The achievement will allow Lions to create an even bigger impact by expanding its cause areas to include childhood cancer, hunger, and the environment.

Our Foundation’s Chairman, Naresh Aggarwal said, “I am proud of this milestone and prouder still in the work that LCIF is doing to improve lives around the world. LCIF donors can be confident their donations are being used in support of the programs for which they are intended.”

LCIF will continue to strive for outstanding fiscal management, accountability, and transparency.

Visit [LCIF.org/BE100](https://www.lcif.org/BE100) to learn how Campaign 100 will play an important role in empowering Lions to increase service impact and continue the fight against diabetes, while also expanding our global causes.



Satellite Beach Lions in Florida worked three weekends building a US\$12,000 gazebo for the community as part of a Lions Centennial Community Legacy project. Boy Scouts helped.

Sylvania Sunrise Lions in Ohio held their 15th Annual Fishing Derby for the Visually Impaired at Merickel Farley Trout Club where they taught the children to fish, and also provided a picnic lunch. Lions cleaned the catch and provided the materials to send the fish home with the families.

With the support of the Lions Club of Pound Ridge in **New York**, the Horace Greeley High School Foreign Exchange Club has been running a student exchange with the Carey Baptist Grammar School in Melbourne, Australia for eight years. Four students from each school have the opportunity to live with an exchange student's family for six weeks.

The **South Carroll Lioness-Lions Club** in **Maryland** held their annual Safeway raffle, and the winner received a US\$500 gift card. Safeway matched the club's US\$250 to fund the prize. Funds raised support two annual scholarships for high school seniors. The club also supports community and elementary school programs, Lions Camp Merrick for diabetic children, and members make blankets for Project Linus each year.

Oceanside Sea Lions in **California** celebrated their 50th anniversary with a party. Each year they sponsor the Miss Oceanside and Miss Teen Oceanside Scholarship Pageant, and this year Lions gave out more than US\$6,000 in cash scholarships and prizes. These queens and princesses become goodwill ambassadors for the city, the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, and the Oceanside Sea Lions, and do community service work throughout the year.

In Canada, the **Lions Club of Repentigny La Seigneurie Quebec**, inducted as an honorary member, 102-year-old Simone Cote to celebrate Lions Centennial.

In Memoriam: Past International President James T. Coffey has died. He was 82 years old. He joined the Toronto Lions Club in Canada in 1959 and held a perfect attendance record for 50 years, during which time he held many offices and served as an instructor at numerous leadership seminars. Accompanied by his wife, Lion Betty Coffey, he traveled to 110 countries as an ambassador for the Lions and met privately with the Heads of State in most of those countries, including a private audience with Pope John Paul II at Vatican City, and with President Bill Clinton at the White House. He received many awards including the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members. A graduate of Kent State University, he had a successful career in the oil refining business and was a dedicated member of the First Presbyterian Church of Toronto where he was an ordained deacon and elder. A son and a grandson joined him in Lions.

In **Maine**, the **Yarmouth Lions** presented a birthday cake to their 102-year-old member Espen Christensen, a Lion for 50 years, a Melvin Jones fellow, and a decorated World War II veteran.

The **Lamar Lions** in **Missouri** donated US\$250 to help rebuild the granite Vietnam Memorial at the Lamar High School, honoring six graduates who gave their lives in the war.

On the island of Kauai, **Hawaii**, the **North Shore Lions Club's** donation of 10 washing machines is helping victims of spring floods that brought 50 inches of rain in 24 hours. Landslides blocked roads, and floods tore apart homes. The Lions also worked with the Hale Halawai 'Ohana O Hanalei Community Center to get water heaters for flood victims.

The **Greenville Lions** in **Michigan** teamed up with members of the 4-H program to operate a booth at the Montcalm County 4-H Fair. The 4-H provided the building and booth, and Lions supplied man hours to shop, cook, and serve the food. They split the revenue of US\$9,000, and Lions will share their half with the community through services, volunteer projects, and opportunities for children.

Westminster Lions in **Maryland** hosted a paint night with participants painting birdhouses. Proceeds went to Lions Saving Kids Sight, a nationwide program offering community eye screenings for children.

Sarasota Lions in **Florida** joined with the Grace Community Church for their first Day of Hope. Two registered nurses, Lions from Brazil and Argentina, joined the club in glucose screenings and vision screenings.

The **Cold Spring Lions** in **Minnesota** held their ninth annual golf tournament and cash raffle at River Oaks golf course. The winner of the cash raffled received US\$1,000.

For more than 20 years, the **Chestertown Lions Club** in **Maryland** has sponsored the town's Halloween parade for families, with the assistance of the Washington College Student Government Association. Lions sponsor a contest, giving out monetary prizes for best dressed contestants and best dressed floats, and each year the mayor is dressed in costume and armed with a large basket of candy for the kids along the parade route.

In Memoriam: Past International Director Andre Danet died at his home in Rouen, France. He was 94. He was a member of the Rouen Doyen de Normandie Lions Club since 1951, and served as International Director from 1974 to 1976. He held many offices within the association, including that of editor-in-chief of an official Lions publication. In addition to his successful career as a dental surgeon, he was dedicated to volunteering and was active in multiple civic, cultural, and government organizations. He served his country as a volunteer during World War II. He was an avid reader, interested in history and politics, and received the Ambassador of Good Will award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members.

In Memoriam: Past International Director Robert "Bob" Seibert has died. A Life Member and past president of the Liverpool Lions Club, he was active as a moderator and presenter at several USA/Canada Lions forums. He was an honorary life member of District A2 in Canada, as well as eight clubs in his home district. A Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, he was also a recipient of the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members. Seibert was active in many community organizations and was an honorary life member of the Central New York Eye Bank founded in 1955 to provide ocular tissue donation and recovery services throughout Central New York.

Two Dogs Named LOPEZ

BY ANNEMARIE MANNION

A gentle black Labrador retriever named Lopez left large paws to fill in the life of Andrea Conner, a member of the Wauconda Lions Club in Illinois, and in the hearts of other club members who regarded the guide dog as more than just a mascot.

“He was a member. We always referred to him as Lion Lopez and he served like any other member of the club,” says James Kaiser, club president.

Sadly, after many years of service, Lopez died in July 2017. The club was so touched by the loss that they decided to donate US\$5,000 in his honor to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a non-profit in Yorkville Heights, N.Y., that raises, breeds, and trains guide dogs.

The donation is covering part of the cost of training another dog who is currently learning how to be a guide dog. It also gave them naming rights. They named him Lopez.

The original Lopez got involved in the club in 2008 through Conner, who suffers from degeneration of the retina and is legally blind.

“I’d fallen three times in one year and the third time I broke my ankle,” recalls Conner, 67, who, in order to be safe, started to walk with a white cane and received Lopez from Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

“I called him my Velcro dog,” Conner says. “He followed me everywhere. He allowed me to live as normal a life as possible. There were a lot of transitions as I was handling my vision loss. And he was a very sweet and affectionate dog.”

Lopez went to Lions club meetings and fundraisers and helped sell raffle tickets. When the club held a raffle for a Hawaiian trip, or other events, some people were at first reluctant to purchase tickets. They changed their minds after meeting Lopez.

“I put a Hawaiian lei around his neck and people who had said ‘No’ to buying a ticket would all of a sudden start asking me questions about Lopez. And then they would change their mind and say they wanted to buy a ticket,” Conner says.

“He was a rock star,” Kaiser says. “People wanted to meet Lopez and Andrea got a chance to explain to them what the Lions clubs do from a personal perspective.”

Since Lopez passed away, Conner has settled into a new partnership with a yellow Labrador named Gretzky. But Lopez will always hold a special place in her heart. She’s thrilled to know he is not forgotten.

“Lopez impacted so many lives including my Lions club,” she says. “It’s wonderful to help fund the training of a puppy who will carry on his legacy of enriching someone’s life with independence, companionship, and love.”



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA • June 24-28, 2018

AUDIT COMMITTEE

1. The committee will continue to monitor and follow up on action plans.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

1. Upheld second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 300-G1 (MD 300 Taiwan), declared the second vice district governor election in District 300-G1 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2018-2019 fiscal year and that the position of second vice district governor shall remain vacant for the year and shall not be filled and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainants.
2. Upheld a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 321-B2 (India), declared the second vice district governor election in District 321-B2 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2018-2019 fiscal year and that the position of second vice district governor shall remain vacant for the year and shall not be filled and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainants.
3. Removed District Governor Deepak Raj Anand from the office of district governor in District 321-B2 (India) for breach of duty and failure to comply with the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors. Declared that Deepak Raj Anand shall not be recognized in the future as a Past District Governor by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be entitled to any privileges of such title. Declared vacancy created in the office of district governor in District 321-B2 shall not be filled and that the district governor elect of District 321-B2 will serve as the acting district governor until the 2018 International Convention.
4. Upheld a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 321-D (India), declared the second vice district governor election in District 321-D for the 2018-2019 fiscal year null and void and of no force and effect, declared a vacancy in the office of second vice district governor for the 2018-2019 fiscal year and that the position of second vice district governor shall remain vacant for the year and shall not be filled and declared that US\$650.00 of the filing fee shall be refunded to the Complainants.
5. Removed District Governor Swarn Singh from the office of district governor in District 321-D (India) for breach of duty and failure to comply with the International Constitution and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors. Declared that Swarn Singh shall not be recognized in the future as a Past District Governor by Lions Clubs International or any club or district, and that he shall not be entitled to any privileges of such title. Declared vacancy created in the office of district governor in District 321-D shall not be filled and that the district governor elect of District 321-B2 will serve as the acting district governor until the 2018 International Convention.
6. Denied a second vice district governor election complaint filed in District 3233-G1 (India) and declared Lion Dr. Ishwarlal Mundra second vice district governor in District 3233-G1 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
7. Denied second vice district governor election complaints filed in District 3234-D2 (India) and declared Lion Abhay Shastri second vice district governor in District 3234-D2 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
8. Confirmed the decision of the majority of the conciliators in the multiple district dispute resolution complaint filed by Lions Club of South Madras in Multiple District 324 (India) and confirmed the international director endorsement of Lion R. Sampath issued during the Multiple District 324 convention held in May 2017.
9. Revised Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual for organizational purposes, to consolidate duplicative provisions as well as to remove language that has become obsolete and to better align with current practices
10. Revised the Neutral Observer Policy in Chapter XV of the Board Policy Manual as it relates to the timing of filing a request for a neutral observer and the availability of the neutral observer.
11. Revised Chapter XV, Paragraph I of the Board Policy Manual to remove the Centennial Action Committee as the language is no longer necessary.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

1. Presented delegation hotel assignments for the 2019 Milan Convention.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE COMMITTEE

1. Granted Malawi and Mozambique provisional district status at the close of the 2018 International Convention creating Multiple District 412.
2. Appointed Coordinating Lions for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
3. Moved the clubs in Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao from District E1 (Venezuela) to District 35 N (Florida, USA) at the close of the 2018 International Convention and moved the clubs from Constitutional Area III to Constitutional Area I.
4. Revised the Badge policy to recognize Past LCIF Board of Trustees.

FINANCE AND HEADQUARTERS OPERATION COMMITTEE

1. Amended the Purchasing Policy to include a new section on Data Security and Data Privacy.
2. Approved the 2017-2018 4th Quarter Forecast, reflecting a deficit.
3. Approved the 2018-2019 Budget, reflecting a deficit.
4. Approved the change in investment advisor from Strategic Wealth Partners to Merrill Lynch Bank of America Corporation.
5. Amended both Chapter XXI and Chapter IX of Board Policy related to due dates on expense claim submissions.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved the group leader team for the 2019 District Governors-Elect Seminar.
2. Revised the board policy manual by deleting the existing language in its entirety and substituting the language which ensures that the District Governors-Elect Seminar Chairperson will have served as a District Governors-Elect Seminar group leader within the 10 years prior to the year in which the individual will serve as chairperson and, beginning with trainings relevant for the fiscal year 2020-2021, the District Governors-Elect Seminar Chairperson has been certified through the Lions Certified Instructor Program.
3. Revised the board policy manual by adding the language that, beginning with trainings relevant for the fiscal year 2020-2021, certification through the Lions Certified Instructor Program will be required to serve as a faculty for the District Governors-Elect Seminar DGE Seminar and a Lion shall not serve as a District Governors-Elect Seminar group leader for more than five different years.
4. Revised the board policy manual to include the new Lions Certified Instructor Program training and the provision that, beginning with fiscal year 2020-2021, certification through the Lions Certified Instructor Program will be required to serve as a faculty for the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute, Faculty Development Institute, Emerging Lions Leadership Institute, and Lions Certified Instructor Program training.
5. Revised the board policy manual by making additions and deletions related to the reimbursements related to the First Vice District Governor/District Governor Elect Training Program beginning with fiscal year 2018-2019.
6. Revised the board policy manual by changing the date that the Executive Committee approves the DGE seminar faculty appointments from "August" to "May" due to the time/location change of the 2019 DGE seminar to February 2019.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1. Approved a resolution making active district governors ineligible to serve as a Specialty Clubs Coordinator.
2. Extended the Veteran's Program until June 30, 2021.
3. Revised the Global Action Team structure for efficiency and budget considerations.
4. Extended the sunset policy for the country of Azerbaijan until December 31, 2018.
5. Revised Chapter X of the Board Policy Manual to include the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan as the 204th new Lions country or geographic area.
6. Revised Chapter X of the Board Policy Manual so that no more than two clubs can co-sponsor a new club.
7. Directed that the entrance fee for existing Lioness members be waived when joining a Lions club until June 30, 2021, and that their years of service be transferred by completing the Lioness Conversion Program Form.
8. Revised Chapter XIV of the Board Policy Manual to provide that the Global Action Team Chairperson will designate one of the three constitutional area leaders as the chairperson of the constitutional area (from either GLT, GMT, or GST). Supported that the Club First Vice President will serve as the Club Leadership Chairperson. Further approved that Global Action Team Vice Chairpersons and their spouses or adult companion may attend the June board meeting.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

1. Revised Chapter XIX, Official Protocol of the Board Policy Manual to reflect the new positions for the New Voices initiative.
2. Revised Chapter XIX, Section F of the Board Policy Manual to permanently increase the availability of Presidential Award designations from 1,125 to 1,625 and Leadership award designations from 1,280 to 1,780.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

1. Awarded the 2017-2018 Leos of the Year Awards.

For more information on any of the above resolutions, please refer to the LCI Web site at www.lionsclubs.org or contact the International Office at 630-571-5466.

LION



Lions Clubs International

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Six issues published yearly by Lions Clubs International
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<http://www.lionsclubs.org>

(ISSN 0024-4163) (R-124397233)
(PRINTED IN U.S.A)

Official publication of Lions Clubs International. Published by authority of the Board of Directors in 20 languages—English, Spanish, Japanese, French, Swedish, Italian, German, Finnish, Korean, Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Chinese, Norwegian, Icelandic, Turkish, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian, and Thai.

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ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER 2018

95 Years: Chicago Northwest, Ill.; Lombard, Ill.; Waterbury, Conn.; Hazleton, Pa.; McAllen, Texas; Pontiac, Mich.

90 Years: Myrtle Point, Ore.; Clendenin, W.V.; Farmington Evening, N.M.; Roseburg, Ore.; Glen Ullin, N.D.; Mc Cormick, S.C.; Sparta, Ga.; Crockett, Calif.; Lake Mills, Iowa; Slidell, La.; Hebron, N.D.; Royal Oak, Mich.; Urbana, Ohio; New Salem, N.D.; Mott, N.D.; Newberry, S.C.; Durango, Colo.

85 Years: Norfolk Ocean View, Va.; Chesterton, Ind.; Somerville, Mass.; Emmett, Idaho; Susquehanna, Pa.; Adel, Ga.; Glenrock, Wyo.

80 Years: New Bloomfield, Pa.; Thomasville, N.C.; Remus, Mich.; Neepawa, Manitoba, CAN; De Kalb, Miss.; Barre, Vt.; Thief River Falls, Minn.; Liverpool, Pa.; Bountiful, Utah; Hemet, Calif.; Powers Spalding, Mich.; Milton, Pa.; Powassan, Ontario, CAN; Cuero, Texas; Zillah, Wa.; Rochester Host, Minn.; Williamsburg, Iowa; Peru, Ind.; Burks Falls, Ontario, CAN; Dauphin, Manitoba, CAN; Wapato, Wa.; Randolph, N.Y.; Pleasant Grove, Utah; Seaboard, N.C.; Naples, Fla.; Atascadero, Calif.; Oconomowoc, Wis.; Crozet, Va.

75 Years: Natchitoches, La.; Dyer, Ind.; Winnfield, La.; Rittman, Ohio; Oakdale, Calif.; Bolivar, Ohio; Lingle Ft. Laramie, Wyo.; Markham, Ontario, CAN; Elm Grove, W.V.; Maiden, N.C.; Rupert, Idaho; Rensselaer, Ind.

50 Years: Stinesville, Ind.; Star Prairie, Wis.; Aledo Community, Texas; Thompson, Manitoba, CAN; Masset Haida, British Columbia, CAN; Warden, Wa.; Portage, Wis.; Blackwater, Mo.; Loyal, Wis.; Gloucester, Ontario, CAN; Moulton, Iowa; Carleton, Quebec, CAN; Amarillo Tascosa, Texas; Palestine Evening, Texas; Louisburg, Mo.; Mount Albert District, Ontario, CAN; Aspermont, Texas; Pleasantville, Wis.

25 Years: Houston Sports, Texas; San Gabriel Taiwanese, Calif.



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PARTING SHOT



Special Olympian Semaj Johnson, 10, son of James and Tanya Johnson of Maywood, Illinois, flashes a peace sign as he picks a set of new sunglasses at the Special Olympics Lions Club International Opening Eyes program, as part of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games in June at Illinois State University in Normal.



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