

**The Lions Club  
of Gravenhurst  
District A-12  
Region 21  
Zone 21 East**

# THE GROWL

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**HEAR YE, HEAR YE,  
GRAVENHURST LIONS CLUB IS HOSTING  
THE A-12 CONVENTION ON APRIL 25TH TO  
APRIL 27TH AT THE TABOO RESORT  
COME ONE, COME ALL  
DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER AS THEN YOU  
WILL MISS ALL THE FUN OF JOISTING,  
A MAGNIFICENT FEAST AND CAMARADERIE**



## **The Lions Club of Gravenhurst**

Box 582

Gravenhurst, Ontario

PIP 1T9

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., Granite Restaurant, Highway 11N, Gravenhurst

**BULLETIN EDITOR LION WENDY FLETCHER  
705-687-7000, JANDWFLETCH@SYMPATICO.CA**

# Gravenhurst Lions News & Announcements



My apologies to Lion Glen as I missed his birthday on Jan 26th and Betty & Glen's anniversary on Jan 31st (56 years)



## ***Birthdays***

Ron Chaisson - Apr 21st

Garry Fitzell - Apr 27th

Wendy Fletcher - Apr 28th

## ***Anniversaries***

Ken & Carol Kloepfer - Apr 23rd

## ***Get Well Wishes***

Eunice Chaisson

Carol Kloepfer

Harvey Ramer

Bill Daoust

Doug Campbell

And anyone else out there who I was not told about our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.

## Slate of Officers: 2008-2009

President: Daniel Soucy

1st VP: Ed Stirrett

2nd VP: Sarah Grimes

3rd VP: Randy McGregor

Imm. PP: Rob Grimes

Secretary: Cindy Dann

Treasurer: Marj Lewis

1st Year Directors: Dave Durant, Archie Howard

2nd Year Directors: Brandon McGregor, Gord Campbell

Membership Director: Irene Campbell

Bulletin Editor: Chris Lewis

## QUICK IDEAS TO INCREASE MEMBER'S MOTIVATION

- **Share Your Enthusiasm –**
  - attitude is infectious. How you feel about making positive changes to your club will affect how members respond. Be upbeat and enthusiastic – your members will be motivated to support your efforts.
- **Have an Informal Gathering –**
  - invite new members to meet with club officers in a casual, non-club setting. This will help them become acquainted informally with the leadership team where they can ask questions.
- **Share Praise Freely –**
  - important to all members, and especially new members, is positive reinforcement for a job well done. Often, simple acknowledgements are best – a special thank you during a club or committee meeting, a personal note of thanks, a word of encouragement. Consider creating a “Kudos” column in your club newsletter or website to list those members who have done their jobs well, made great suggestions, or gone above and beyond the call of duty.
- **Emphasize social Involvement –**
  - you want to involve members in your club socially as well as through activities. Socialize with members during and outside of meetings. Share happy occasions – birthdays, anniversaries, a special achievement or the achievement of a spouse or child. The club newsletter and website are great places to list these special occasions.

### **Communicate Constantly –**

open communication is vitally important to the success of your club. It creates a comfortable, productive environment that will motivate members to do their best. Encouraging input from members and using your club meetings, newsletter and website to communicate club happenings will help you with this task.

### **LIONS GRACE**

**O LORD, THY BLESSINGS NOW LET FALL  
UPON THESE LIONS AS THEY CALL  
MAY ALL OUR TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BE  
FOREVER STRENGTHENED LORD BY THEE.**

### **LIONS TOAST**

**NEVER ABOVE YOU  
NEVER BENEATH YOU  
ALWAYS WITH YOU**

Dear Club Officers,

Unless you are an accountant or a mathematician, you may think that numbers are boring. Most people think they have better things to do than listen to someone quote a string of statistics – and if you are a Lion, you do!

But I have some numbers to share with you that I think are very exciting and I think you will, too. For the first time in many years, all measures of [recruitment](#) and [retention](#) show a positive trend. Through January 2008, LCI shows a net membership increase of 4,283, which is the best first six-month period we have experienced in many years. Most importantly, all constitutional areas and most districts are showing great improvements over historic trend.

Due to the many community service projects that are conducted in the first half of the calendar each year, membership traditionally grows by the thousands between January and June, it will be truly exciting to watch the membership total as it is documented by our new, [timely reporting system](#). With your help, I believe that we will be able to have an increase in overall membership. What an outstanding legacy that would be for our leadership year!

But achieving this goal will not be easy and it requires that you take action immediately. The next two months have traditionally been a time for club recruitment drives. I urge you to take the next two months as an opportunity to intensify your efforts to bring high quality new members into your club. By now I am sure that you realize that the projects you have identified and planned will benefit greatly from additional hands to share the work. A successful effort this month will enable your club to take part in [Worldwide Induction Day in April](#), which in turn will be an excellent way to create even more interest within your community.

As you work to strengthen your membership, please remember that we have successes on which to build.

The number of [women](#) and [family members](#) has reached an all-time high of 240,000, due largely to the innovative family membership program. These groups should remain a primary focus of your recruitment efforts.

I am proud to say that more districts will be receiving awards for establishing new clubs than any time in recent memory. Through January, the number of new clubs worldwide stood at 570. Keeping in mind that the majority of [new clubs](#) are reported in between January and June, I am confident that we can establish more than 1,250 by the end of our leadership year. Nurturing the potential for new [Lions Clubs](#), [Club Branches](#), [Campus Club](#), and even [Leo Clubs](#) is an important part of contributing to our worldwide extension. The excitement surrounding the formation of new clubs can also help to energize and expand your own club.

These are wonderful numbers and clear evidence that our membership initiatives are achieving results. But even more important is what the numbers represent. They show that Lions and Lions Clubs are brimming with new confidence, eager to accomplish our mission and proud to show the world that, “We Serve.”

I am grateful for the part your leadership has played in establishing this new confidence.

Sincerely,

Mahendra Amarasuriya

International President

### **CSFII News: Lions have surpassed CSFII's minimum goal!**

During our last Worldwide Report Day on February 20, 2008, CSFII coordinators reported that more than US\$157.9 million had been raised by Lions worldwide for CSFII! Thank you for all that your club has done to surpass CSFII's minimum goal. Now, your club can join Lions around the world as we pursue CSFII's US\$200 million “Vision for All” challenge goal!

Dear Fellow Lions,

I would like to update you on recent news in LCIF. I ask that you share this information with your club and district to help promote LCIF.

## **CSFII Surpasses Goal**

Campaign SightFirst II has surpassed the \$150 million minimum goal. On Worldwide Report Day February 20, National and Multi-National Coordinators' telephone calls and reports revealed that Lions have raised more than US\$157.9 million for CSFII. With four months remaining, Lions are now looking ahead to the additional challenge goal and helping ensure the future of SightFirst through continued and expanded efforts to eliminate preventable blindness worldwide. Lions' support of CSFII is crucial in the remaining months. Visit the [CSFII Web site](#) for more information on the campaign and fundraising ideas.

## **LCIF #1 NGO Ads Available**

In a special report released in July, LCIF was ranked the number one non-governmental organization worldwide. From 34 global organizations, LCIF came in first. As a result of the ranking, LCIF has received a great deal of media coverage and has also placed special ads in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and several other nationwide daily newspapers around the world. These ads are available to [download online](#) for Lions to use in their local newspapers as well. To localize the information, simply add a local telephone number and club Web site. The [press release](#) of this announcement is also online to share with your local media.

## **Milestone in Trachoma Treatments**

LCIF reached a major milestone in trachoma treatments January 23 when LCIF Chairperson Jimmy Ross distributed the [10 millionth dose](#) of azithromycin (Zithromax®) to 16-year-old Messeleche Tilahun. The antibiotic, donated by Pfizer Inc, is a main strategy in the fight against the blinding disease in poor, rural areas. Messeleche lives in the Awi Zone in Ethiopia, the most trachoma-endemic part of the country, where an estimated 18 million are at risk. Representatives from The Carter Center, Lions clubs of Ethiopia, Pfizer, the national trachoma program, government of Ethiopia, and other partner organizations joined the celebration and are a part of the coalition working toward elimination of trachoma in the region by 2012. Lions in Ethiopia have been integral to achieving remarkable results in the country. The 10 millionth dose comes after just 18 months of full scale intervention and points toward meeting the elimination target date. Through SightFirst, LCIF has awarded numerous grants for [trachoma control](#), outreach and training projects in Ethiopia and elsewhere in Africa.

## **SightFirst Grants Awarded**

The SightFirst Advisory Committee Meeting [awarded nine grants](#) at its January meeting. This included grant funding to continue the childhood blindness project with the World Health Organization, which has established 30 need-based centers around the world. Other grants included cataract surgery campaigns, upgrading a Lions eye hospital and establishing and equipping a teaching hospital. A total of US\$9,554,378 was awarded, US\$3,580,708 of which represents grants from undesignated SightFirst funds. The full list is available online.

## **Grants Approved for Lions Quest**

[Seven grants](#) totaling US\$364,872 were approved at the January Lions Quest Advisory Meeting. The grants enable Lions Quest programs to expand in countries currently participating in the program or to begin the program in new countries. Japan, Kenya, Canada and Turkey received grants to implement and expand the program. Pakistan and Sri Lanka became the newest countries to launch the program. The full list of approved grants is online.

## **Lions Join Coalition**

Lions Clubs International has joined the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) as a sustaining member and partner to enhance the work of local communities and help youth resist alcohol and other drugs. Lions will support their mission to build stronger capacity for anti-drug efforts through the 5,000 community coalitions nationwide. Through Lions Quest, Lions can teach youth how to avoid drugs and make responsible decisions. A letter announcing the partnership was sent to the 500 other organizations in the coalition encouraging these organizations and communities to work with their local Lions club on drug-free programs. LCIF also had a booth at CADCA's annual convention this month, the largest training conference in the U.S. for community coalition activists and substance abuse professionals.

## **New Giving Publication**

A new publication, ForSight in Gift Planning, is available to those Lions wishing to increase their support to LCIF. It provides an overview of various donation programs, news updates and stories of those helped through Lions' contributions. The publication is available [online](#) or by contacting [LCIF Development Staff](#).

## **Increase Your Support Through an MJF**

Have you considered becoming a Melvin Jones Fellow or extending your generosity through a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow? Fellows are a group of dedicated philanthropists who have changed the lives of hundreds of millions of people worldwide. To increase support for CSFII in the final months, President Mahendra Amarasuriya has issued a challenge to raise the number of Melvin Jones Fellows to 300,000 total. One Fellowship can save the sight at 167 individuals, each with a story, a family and a face. The application form is available [online](#) or credit card donations can be made securely [online](#).

## **Cruise with the Chairperson**

Support LCIF while soaking up the sun in the Caribbean. Join the LCIF Chairperson and fellow Lions from around the world for the 9th annual LCIF Cruise, which will set sail November 9, 2008 for 12 nights in the southern Caribbean. The cruise visits with local Lions in ports of call and there is a special Melvin Jones Fellowship reception on board. All of the cruises are open to the public and US\$1,000 of every cruise is tax deductible. The cruise has raised over \$300,000 for LCIF. To learn more about the cruise, [download the brochure](#) or email [lcifdevelopment@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lcifdevelopment@lionsclubs.org). Space is limited.

Lions' support and promotion of LCIF is crucial. I thank you for your continued dedication to LCIF.

Serving Through LCIF,

Jimmy M. Ross

Chairperson, LCIF

For more information about Lions Clubs International Foundation contact Alecia Dimar at [Alecia.Dimar@lionsclubs.org](mailto:Alecia.Dimar@lionsclubs.org)

# OPEN



# HOUSE

**Saturday, April 5th, 2008**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**



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# A-12 MEMBERSHIP NOTES

## March 2008

*Prepared by A-12 Membership Chair PDG Dave Durant and distributed to District Officers, Club Membership Chairs and Club Presidents in A-12*

### A-12 MERLO MISSION STATEMENT

We serve our District Lions by seeking to expand knowledge through information and support to help all Clubs grow and prosper.

### DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

So far this 2007/2008 Lions year, we have inducted 40 new Lions - but - dropped 53 Lions and another 8 Lions have passed away. Good news is that the New Waubaushene Lions Club will be chartering in April with 23 or more members. As a result, our District membership is about the same as the beginning of this Lions year - 1303 members.

### GOOD NEWS and BAD NEWS

As mentioned above - GOOD NEWS - a new Club is being formed in Waubaushene. Their sponsoring Club is the Victoria Harbour Lions Club and their Guiding Lion is PRC Bill Rawson.

The Charter Night is Saturday, April 19, which is also Lions Worldwide Induction Day. PID Gil Constantini will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$30 and the festivities are being held at the Oakwood Community Centre, 280 Park Street, Victoria Harbour. Tickets can be ordered by:

- email at [crackerjack47@hotmail.com](mailto:crackerjack47@hotmail.com) with a subject line of "Charter Tickets"
- via post to Waubaushene Lions Club, Box 118, Waubaushene, ON, L0K 2C0
- by phone at 705-835-3550.

Get a group together and plan to attend to support our newest Club .

The BAD NEWS is that the Oro-Medonte Club has been placed on Status Quo. Oro-Medonte were sponsored by the Orillia Lions Club in 1995 but have been struggling with membership for the past few years.

### NEW MMR SUBMISSION TIMES

Presidents and Membership Chairs, please advise your Club Secretary that starting in April (not too far away), there will be a change in the submission dates for clubs to report their monthly membership reports (MMRs).

These reporting changes will apply both to clubs that



report their membership transactions online (through the online WMMR system) and for clubs that submit paper MMRs to International headquarters.

The reasons for the changes are to (1) enable LCI to produce more timely

cumulative monthly membership reports, and (2) provide more consistency and accuracy between the LCI cumulative monthly member report and Club Billing Statements and District Financial Recap reports.

For clubs that report online through the WMMR system, transactions must now be entered by the last day of the current month. And for clubs that file paper MMR reports, they must mail paper MMRs to LCI by the 20th of the current month.

Please note that it is not necessary to send copies of the MMR to anyone in the District. Governor Peter and others in A-12 who require the membership data can go on-line and obtain the information directly from the LCI webpage.

More than 70% of the Clubs worldwide report online via the WMMR system. If you Club would like to report online, please contact the Information Technology division by email at [wmmr@lionsclubs.org](mailto:wmmr@lionsclubs.org) to receive a password and basic instructions.



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## **LiveSmart** DIABETES EXPO

Title Sponsor 

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**\$10 until March 28 (online only)**

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**diabetes.ca**



# April 2008

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5



Apr 1 - Lion Meeting at the Granite Restaurant at 7pm

Apr 2 - Leo Meeting at the GYC at 7pm

6 7 8 9 10 11 12



Apr 7, 14, 21, 28 - Breakfast Program at Beechgrove Public School 8:15am-8:45am

Apr 9 - Leo Meeting at the GYC at 7pm

13 14 15 16 17 18 19



Apr 15 - Lion Meeting at the Granite Restaurant at 7pm

Apr 16 - Leo Meeting at the GYC at 7pm

20 21 22 23 24 25 26



Apr 22 - Directors Meeting at the Granite Restaurant at 7pm

Apr 23 - Leo Meeting at 7pm at the GYC

27 28 29 30



Apr 25, 26, 27 - Hear Ye Hear Ye Come one come all to the A-12 Convention held in Gravenhurst at the Taboo Resort

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