

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

THE GROWL

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The Lions Club of Gravenhurst

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

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Gravenhurst Lions News & Announcements



Birthdays

Carol Keith - Jan 4th
Ken Kloepfer - Jan 17th
Barb Stirrett - Jan 25th
Nancy Watt-Durant - Jan 27th
Doug Campbell - Jan 29th

Anniversaries

Ron & Eunice Chaisson - Jan 10th

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.

**GRAVENHURST LIONS CLUB
CONVENTION IS IN APRIL 2008
AT TABOO RESORT DON'T
FORGET TO REGISTER NOW**

Hello Lions,

The Lions Foundation of Canada Canine Challenge is taking place on Saturday, January 26, 2008 from Noon to 4pm. Location will be at the Lions Foundation of Canada, 152 Wilson Street, Oakville.

Experience a Dog Guide in Action!

**A fun, interactive demonstration of Dog Guides and the important role they play in the lives of people with disabilities.

**A great opportunity for Lion, Lioness and Leo fellowship.

**Also, you will be supporting Lions Foundation of Canada and its Dog Guide programs.

****Lunch is provided for all who attend****

Please note that the LFC Committee has invited the Gravenhurst Leos to attend this wonderful learning experience. The Leos have accepted our invitation and have formed a team of four who will be doing the interactive demonstrations.

If you would like to attend and see the Dog Guide training centre in action, please let me know so I can register you. We must register as the Foundation needs to know how much food will be needed for lunch.

Thank you,

Lion Marj Lewis

Dear Club Officers,

In the hurried pace of daily life, packed with work, responsibilities to our families and our best efforts to serve our neighbors and our world, we sometimes forget to reflect and reevaluate. But reflection is necessary in the life of every business, organization and human being and it is important to set aside a quiet, peaceful time for that purpose.

Fortunately, the coming of the New Year every January 1, offers us the perfect opportunity to look back and look ahead. As you look back on our year of leadership, now half completed, I know that you will recall it as a year of milestones and celebrations.

We have had good reason to celebrate. The year 2007 was the [50th for Leo Clubs](#), the [20th for women](#) in Lions Clubs and [the 90th of our association](#). Perhaps the greatest reason to celebrate has been the growth of our worldwide membership, which has increased by over 3,300 since July 1. This is the largest net growth the association has had, in many years, for this period. The reintroduction of October growth has also helped with an increase in membership. A trend toward better retention of our members also contributes to this increase. In addition, our worldwide presence continues to grow in both breadth and depth. Lions in each constitutional area have succeeded in establishing new clubs where none existed before.

Without a doubt, this great news is due to three factors:

- Our innovative programs to recruit women, young people and entire family groups;
- The enthusiasm with which Lions the world over have embraced the challenge to change, and

The hard work and imagination of the staff at international headquarters.

I say, "Bravo!" to all. I expect this most positive trend to continue into 2008 and that membership reports will give us even more reason to celebrate in the next Lions year.

The celebration of our 90th anniversary at the international convention in Chicago last July was certainly an exciting event, but there will be even greater excitement at the [2008 International Convention in Bangkok](#) this coming June.

There we will celebrate the successful conclusion of [Campaign SightFirst II](#) (CSFII), which is poised to meet and exceed its goal of raising US\$150 million to fund the continuation and expansion of the SightFirst program. But your club's participation is critical to our success.

With more than US\$125 million raised, we have achieved 80 percent of our minimum goal. Until we reach this minimum goal, many millions of people will not receive life-changing SightFirst services. In the coming months, lead your club's efforts to do all it can to ensure that we will celebrate CSFII's success this June. CSFII is our most ambitious and wide-reaching initiative in Lions' history and one that is at the heart of our mission as Lions: to save sight.

In thinking about the future, I hope that you are also planning for [the leadership of your club](#) after your year in office is completed. And at the district level, you should be also be aware that Lions Clubs International took some key first steps to further outline the [position of Second Vice District Governor](#), a position that is used effectively in many multiple districts worldwide. Many of us see this position as key to easing the workload of district governors while providing a training ground for more future leaders.

Your club may wish to do something similar by creating "assistant" roles for your club's officers or committee chairperson positions, and to reserve those spots for younger or newer members. I have seen this successfully done in Germany where some clubs have "Assistant Treasurers" or "Assistant Secretaries" etc. reserved for newer members or the 'next generation' as some call it. Taking such steps not only will ensure a strong and vigorous chain of future leaders, but it will also help ensure better retention through enhanced member involvement.

You have my thanks for all you do as well as my very best wishes for this holiday season and for another year of successful service in 2008.

Sincerely,

Mahendra Amarasuriya

International President

Dear Lion

I want to tell you about an exciting new Lions partnership.

In July 2007, The International Association of Lions Clubs agreed to help the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) disseminate information about large-scale or pandemic influenza (flu).

This new partnership includes my participation as one of four leaders of national (US) non-profit organizations to appear in advertisements for HHS' awareness campaign, *Take the Lead: Pandemic Flu-Working Together to Prepare Now*.

Participation in this national public health campaign is an honor for Lions clubs. This national campaign coincides with our [Lions ALERT emergency preparedness program](#).

Last century, there were three worldwide pandemic flu outbreaks. Millions of people died. Unlike seasonal flu, humans have little - if any - immunity to a pandemic flu virus. It takes several weeks or months for public health officials to identify a pandemic flu virus strain and develop a vaccine.

As community leaders, we Lions can participate in a pro-active pandemic flu plan. The best prevention technique is [good personal hygiene](#). Additional information about pandemic flu appears on the HHS Web site: www.pandemicflu.gov and the United Nations' World Health Organization (WHO) Web site at: www.who.org. The Association welcomes the opportunity to work with other national or international organizations to provide flu preparedness information.

Sincerely,

Jimmy M. Ross
LCIF Chairperson

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**

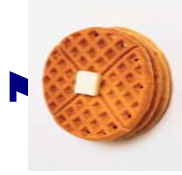


January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5

Jan 1 - Happy New Year

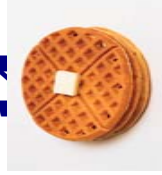
Jan 7, 14, 21, 28 - Breakfast Program at Beechgrove School 8:15am - 8:45am



6 **7** **10** **11** **12**

Jan 8 - Lion's Meeting at the Granite Restaurant at 7pm

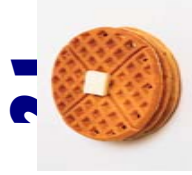
Jan 9 - Leo Meeting at the Gravenhurst Youth Centre at 7pm



13 **14** **15** **17** **18** **19**

Jan 13 - Melvin Jones Birthday

Jan 16 - Leo Meeting at the Gravenhurst Youth Centre at 7pm

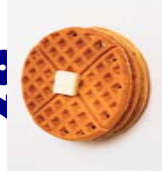


20 **21** **22** **23** **24** **25** **26**

Jan 22 - Lions' Meeting at the Granite Restaurant at 7pm



Jan 26 - Lions Canine Dog Challenge in Oakville for more info see Lion Marge



27 **28** **29** **30** **31**

Jan 29 - Board of Directors meeting at the Granite at 7pm

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