

The Gravenhurst Growl

December 2008
Published Monthly



2008-2009 CLUB PRESIDENT

Daniel Soucy
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The Gravenhurst Lions Meet at 6:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, September through June at the Granite Restaurant, Hwy. 11 North, just south of Gravenhurst. All meetings are Dinner Meetings—cost \$15.00.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Nancy Watt-Durant
Gravenhurst Lions Club
dg@a12lions.org

VICE-DISTRICT GOVERNOR

George Bik
Alliston Lions Club
vdg@a12lions.org

REGION 21 CHAIR

Ernie Rye
Emsdale Lions Club
region21@a12lions.org

ZONE 21 EAST CHAIR

Rob Grimes
Gravenhurst Lions Club
zone21e@a12lions.org

THE ULTIMATE GIFT

As the holiday season approaches, our sights often turn to shopping, and finding the right gift for that special someone. But what if you could give a gift that provided independence, freedom, mobility, dignity, safety, and companionship to someone with a disability? Would that be the ultimate gift under the tree? Supporting our Canadian charitable organization—the Lions Foundation of Canada—is a great way to give that gift.

Currently there are 180 Canadians on the waiting list to receive an LFC Dog Guide, and the list is growing every year. Contributing funds towards the sponsorship of a Dog Guide team will go a long way towards reducing this waiting list. Costs to sponsor a Dog Guide team range from \$4000 for a Hearing Ear Dog to \$10000 for a Special Skills or Seizure Response Dog, but every little bit helps.

Supporting our District Governor Nan's project of expanding the Veterinary facilities is another great way to help.

There are several litters of puppies

expected to be born over the holidays. Have you considered "adopting" one of these puppies at a cost of \$100 which goes towards offsetting veterinary costs for their first year? Or becoming a Foster Puppy Family? Those future Dog Guides at the top of this page would love to come home with you!

Purchasing a tree in memory of a loved one to the LFC Memorial Forest in Breslau at a cost of \$150 is a lasting tribute to their lives, and supports the mission of LFC.

Look at the LFC Wish List for ways you can support the needs of the Foundation through donations of funds or items. Visit the LFC Gift Shop, and order items that support the foundation.

However, the greatest gift you can give is your passion and commitment to our Foundation. Learn about LFC, and promote it at every opportunity. Speak to your friends, neighbours and coworkers about what the Foundation is and what it does.

For more information on the Lions Foundation of Canada, visit www.dogguides.com.



The Lions Club of Gravenhurst, Box 582, Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1T9

Bulletin Editor: PCST Chris Lewis, 705-687-2144, bulletin@gravenhurstlions.org

www.gravenhurstlions.org

“SECONDS” OF THE MEETINGS...
(A Brief Summary of the Minutes)

Business Meeting of November 4th, 2008:

- Proposal from Gord Campbell to hold pot-luck Christmas social at Beaver Ridge, changed to be held in Feb/March
- Purchased a wreath for the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Legion
- Bill Allison reminded everyone of the flags being done on November 11th
- Membership Chair Irene Campbell reported there will be an induction of Maryann McCormack on November 18th
- PR Chair Dave Durant reported that he is working on a new club public relations manual
- Ways and Means Chair Irene Campbell reported that the test Lions mints programme is underway, and being monitored for success
- Lions Foundation of Canada Chair Marj Lewis reported on the LFC books that are being distributed to doctor's, optometrist, vets offices, schools, and the library throughout town
- Nevada Chair Marj Lewis reported that 3 new boxes of tickets have been purchased
- Youth Services Chair Chris Lewis passed around a sign-up sheet for the Santa Claus parade being held on Nov. 22nd
- Community Services Chair Fred Collins read a thank-you from the Gravenhurst Supper Club, and a donation to a local resident is currently on hold. He reported that there is one more spot to be filled for the Salvation Army kettles on December 13th
- Property Chair Terry Stevenson reported on the status of the building at Gull Lake Park. He indicated we will need to install a gate, a new door, and a new roof. It was passed to sign up to a 25 year lease.
- Ron Chaisson donated his 50/50 winnings to the club to purchase 2 more LFC books
- Ron Chaisson and Kent Ing were wished farewell for the winter

Social Meeting of November 18th, 2008:

- Guest Speaker was VDG George Bik on his official visit. He spoke on the Global Membership Team, the renewal of the Lions Brand, and why we serve. He performed an induction on Maryann McCormack who was welcomed into the club.
- Ed Rynard of the Bracebridge club spoke on the 2009 Bracebridge Trip of the Month Draw
- Carol Keith reported that 2 A-12 Lions will be accompanying her on her vision screening mission to El Salvador
- Terry Stevenson reported that the transfer of the building at Gull Lake was passed at council, and lease is to be drawn up soon
- Cindy Dann and Marj Lewis are chairing the Christmas Party on December 16th at the Granite
- Rob Grimes reported that Ron Riddell is undergoing heart surgery on November 19th
- Randy McGregor reported that the Leos have just celebrated their 5th anniversary, and the Bracebridge Lions invited us to their Leos Spaghetti Dinner on Nov. 26th
- Chris Lewis reminded everyone of the float building on Nov. 20 and 21, and he will be having a short Youth meeting after the meeting.

Directors Meeting of November 25th, 2008:

- Daniel will ask the property committee to arrange a work party to pick up club equipment currently being stored at Rob Grimes' house
- Recommended a donation of \$4700 over three installments towards the No Child Without programme to sponsor three schools in Gravenhurst with MedicAlert bracelets. More information available at www.nochildwithout.ca.
- Recommended that the club accept the offer of Doug Gray, developer, to sponsor one of our club meetings
- Unanimously recommended the endorsement of Chris Lewis as candidate for Zone Chair for Zone 21 East, 2009-2010.
- The 3-Year Planning committee was struck with Chris Lewis as Chair, Rob Grimes as Vice-Chair and Daniel Soucy as member.
- Thank you letter was read from LFC for the purchase of trees at the Memorial Forest in Breslau for Harvey Ramer and PDG Bill Daoust

REGION CHAIRMAN

The qualifications of a Region Chair are:

- Good communication skills
- Good leadership skills/ability to motivate
- General knowledge of Lionism & protocol
- Demonstrate enthusiasm
- Have served as Club President for a full term or major portion thereof
- Have been a member of Club Board of Directors for an additional 2 years
- Have served as a Zone Chair or Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

The Duties include:

- attending an officer training session
- Serve as a voting member of the A12 Cabinet
- Report at Cabinet Meetings on the activities of the Region
- Promote and motivate Lions to accept leadership roles beyond the club level
- Host 2 Region Rallies, one held at the Convention where Region awards are presented
- Work with the District Governor, Zone Chair, and MERL team to increase membership, extension, retention and leadership training within their Zone
- Develop and execute an orientation programme for new members in the Region

3 YEAR PLANNING COMMITTEE

Our organization is at a crossroads—membership is in serious decline worldwide, and immediate action is required. Without this action, our organization may not survive. The Lions International Global Membership Team, and DG Nan has requested that each club form a committee to develop a 3-Year Plan for their club. This committee will look at creating concrete targets for membership growth, leadership development, and retention. It will also look at the long-range vision of our club, and recommend changes that can allow us to continue to effectively serve our community. The committee members will be serving a three-year term, and will report regularly to the board and to the club. The committee was formed out of our Membership Committee for 2008-2009, and will consist of Chris Lewis, chair, Rob Grimes, vice-chair, and Daniel Soucy, member.

The committee will meet soon, and hopes to have a preliminary plan in place for our January Board of Directors meeting. If you have any insights, observations, or comments that, please send them to Chris.

CALL TO ACTION!

LITTLE KNOWN HOLIDAY FACTS

Saint Nicholas of Myra, the original Santa Claus, was the patron saint of children, thieves and pawnbrokers.

Based on previous surveys, 17 percent of you will embarrass yourselves in some way at your office Christmas party.

A Mongolian wild ass can run 8 mph faster than a reindeer.

It's Donder, not Donner.

Christmas pudding should be stirred from east to west.

56 percent of North Americans sing holiday carols to their pets.

53 percent of North Americans plan to "re-gift" this year.

1 in 3 men will wait until Christmas Eve to finish their shopping.

1 in 6 men would like to get rid of all the "gift-giving nonsense."

A traditional Christmas dinner in early England was the head of a pig prepared with mustard.

On Christmas Eve in 2001, the Bethlehem Hotel had 208 of its 210 rooms free.

It's "God rest ye merry, gentlemen," not "God rest ye, merry gentlemen."

There are 1.76 billion candy canes produced every year. Kris Kringel, a man in his 40s, lives in North Pole, Alaska, and delivers pizzas for a living. He drives a 1984 Ford Tempo.

Based on a 1999 estimated population count of North America and Europe, on Christmas Eve of that year Santa Claus had to visit 42,466,666 homes in a 12-hour period -- that's 983 homes per second.



[REMEMBER WHEN YOU WANTED TO CHANGE THE WORLD? YOU STILL CAN!]



We're the new generation of Lions! Join us today!



no child without[®]
Canadian MedicAlert[®] Foundation

**A Program of the Canadian MedicAlert[®] Foundation
in partnership with the Lions Clubs of Canada**



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Canadian MedicAlert Foundation?

MedicAlert is a charitable organization. It is the leading provider of medical information services linked to customized medical bracelets and necklets.

What is the MedicAlert *No Child Without* program?

No Child Without (NCW) is a charitable program that offers all elementary school aged children (ages 4 – 14th birthday) with medical conditions or allergies free 24-hour MedicAlert protection regardless of their financial resources. The goal is to help protect the estimated 300,000 children with medical conditions across Canada over a 5 year period.

Why is the *No Child Without* program important?

Children are the most vulnerable individuals in our society, especially during a medical emergency or crisis. With the rise in childhood diabetes, asthma and allergies, thousands of children have a medical condition, allergy or special need that should be communicated to medical personnel in an emergency. The *No Child Without* program has been created to provide these students with the 24 hour protection of the MedicAlert emergency information services.

How are the Lions involved?

The Lions have partnered with the MedicAlert *No Child Without* program to bring the program to the schools in their communities.

What recognition will there be for my Lions Club?

The Lions emblem will appear on all the MedicAlert *No Child Without* information materials. This includes the web site, publications, and the MedicAlert *No Child Without* identification bracelets, necklets, and wristbands. Lions web sites will also promote the NCW program. In addition, Lions Clubs will receive media attention every time a new school board announces the NCW program in their community.

What is the cost to my Lions Club?

The cost for each child is \$100. This will cover the cost of the bracelet, wristband or necklet, creating a database of the child's medical records and access to the 24-hour Hotline in case of an emergency. The maximum number of children sponsored will be 5% of the total number of students in the school. For example, if the school has 300 students then the club would sponsor 15 children at a cost of 15 X \$100 = \$1500.

Once the child is on the program, there will be no cost until the child reaches 14 years old. Parents then decide if they wish to continue in the program at a reduced student fee.

Is this an ongoing expense to our club?

No. After the Lions Club has paid for the NCW program in your local school, the Lions have completed their sponsorship commitment.

Lions Clubs have budgeted financial commitments. How can we be involved?

Some clubs have funds and will be able to sponsor a school for the total amount immediately. Other clubs may have a portion of the funds on hand and may sponsor the school with the help of the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation and then repay the foundation after a fundraising event. In some cases a Lions Club may wish to sponsor a school, have no funds available, but want to be part of the NCW program. As this program will be run over a period of 5 years, the club can commit to sponsoring a school during that time period. This would allow them to budget funds for future schools.

For more information, visit www.nochildwithout.ca.

Submitted by Chris Lewis, Club Youth Services Chair

Who's in that picture?



Name this Lion, and you could win a semi-fabulous prize!

November Challenge



Chris Lewis, 1969

Congratulations to Kathy Daoust for being the first to correctly guess that the November picture was Chris Lewis! Kath wins a wonderful prize package compliments of McDonald's. The deadline for your guess for the December challenge is December 15th! I need more baby pictures! Send them to me right away!



NOBODY'S GREENER THAN THE GRINCH!

A frosty Saturday morning brought smiles to the faces of hundreds of children in Gravenhurst.



The Lions were out in full force again handing out hot chocolate and candy canes. Many thanks to Terry for loaning us the use of his shop for two nights, and hauling the float, and to all the Lions who helped assemble, and walk the parade route on a crisp and cold day.



PROPERTY FOR SALE!

Our lot on Industrial Drive is currently listed for sale with Paul Clairmont, our agent with RE/MAX Lake Country Realty, Inc. If you know of someone who might be interested in the property, have them contact President Daniel who will forward their information to Paul.



DISTRICT GOVERNOR NAN'S VISITATION SCHEDULE

Jan. 7th—Bala
Jan. 12th—Dwight
Jan. 13th—Gilford
Jan. 19th—Baysville
Jan. 21st—Oro District
Jan. 22nd—Sundridge
Jan. 26th—Kearney
Jan. 27th—Victoria Harbour



Feb. 3rd—Pointe au Baril
Feb. 4th—Penetanguishene
Feb. 9th—Orillia
Feb. 18th—Stephenson
Feb. 24th—Windermere
Feb. 26th—Bracebridge

Mar. 9th—Washago

In addition, there will be several Zone Advisory Meetings, and Region Rallies that DG Nan and ZC Rob will be attending. Details to follow as they finalize their schedule.

Departure times and locations will be confirmed as the visitation approaches.

Our obligation and responsibility as a club is to ensure that our cabinet officers never travel alone.

It is a great learning experience to travel to the other clubs and it gives the Gravenhurst Lions Club a sense of pride to show others that we support our District officers in their leadership growth.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER!



MARY-ANNE MCCORMACK
(sponsor Irene Campbell)

ANNUAL SALVATION ARMY KETTLES

Our club annually supports The Salvation Army with their kettle drive in December.



Several years ago, the service clubs in Gravenhurst met, and asked The Salvation Army to act as umbrella co-ordinator for charitable giving to needy families at Christmas. Previously, each service club made

donations and food and gift baskets to various families, resulting in duplication and an inefficient distribution.

This year our day to staff the kettles will be December 13th. See Fred Collins to sign up! The LCBO location is quick to fill up, as they often give free samples throughout your shift...

ZONE CHAIR ROB'S VISITATION SCHEDULE

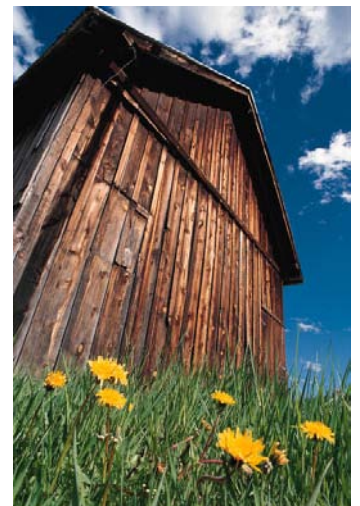


Jan. 20th—Gravenhurst
Jan. 21st—Huntsville

"Canada: A few acres of snow."
- Voltaire, 1758.

GULL LAKE STORAGE BUILDING

We are now the proud lease-holders of a beautiful fixer-upper in a forested park-like setting with a view of tranquil Gull Lake, just minutes from all the amenities—schools, shopping, and entertainment! Thanks to Terry Stevenson and his Property committee, we now have a place of our own to store our flags, trailers, supplies and equipment.



This spring, there will be some work to do—the building needs some paint, a new roof, new locks, and a gate installed off of Phillip Street. In the New Year, Terry and his team, will be preparing a budget, and developing a schedule to complete this tasks. Start polishing your hammers, and sharpening your saws so you'll be ready to go....

e-SERVE! LIONISM ON THE WEB



It Takes A Lion—<http://www.ItTakesALion.ca>

District A-12—<http://www.a12lions.org>

7TH ANNUAL

DISTRICT A-12 LIONS LEARNING WEEKEND

March 28 & 29, 2009

At the
BAYVIEW WILDWOOD RESORT
Sparrow Lake



The seventh District A12 Lions Learning Weekend is planned for March 2009 at Sparrow Lake. In addition to Club Officer training, there will be interesting and enjoyable sessions for all the Lions and Lioness in the District. THERE IS NO CHARGE TO ATTEND, but YOU **MUST REGISTER BY MARCH 8th TO OBTAIN A MEAL**. Participants registering after March 8th will be eligible to attend the LLW but will not receive a lunch.

OPTIONS GALORE!

- ☺ You have the option of attending only Saturday, or only Sunday, or both Saturday and Sunday. Select the days which fit best with your schedule.
- ☺ You have the option of staying overnight at the resort, staying with friends in the area, or commuting each day.
- ☺ You have the option of joining in the dinner and social Saturday evening at the Bayview Wildwood Resort. You have the option of taking in any of the several interesting sessions which have been planned for you.

Saturday only registration. Includes baked goods, coffee, tea and lunch
Sunday only registration. Includes baked goods, coffee, tea and lunch.
Saturday and Sunday registration. Includes baked goods, coffee, tea and lunch on both Saturday and Sunday
Saturday Lions Social & Dinner at the Bayview Wildwood Resort – Cost \$21.00
Food Handling Certificate – Cost \$30.00
Smart Serve – Cost \$25.00

If you wish to stay overnight at the Resort you may book a room at the Bayview Wildwood (1-800-461-0243 or 1-705-689-2338). The special rate for this weekend is \$119.00 per room per night plus tax & gratuity, based on double occupancy. Additional adults in the room would be \$10.00 each plus tax & gratuity. Contact the Resort directly to make a reservation and let them know you are booking with the "District A-12 Lions Learning Weekend".

Step 3 Please fill out a separate form for each participant

Name	Lion () Lioness () Partner in Service ()
Mailing address	
Town	Postal Code
Club	
Telephone	E-mail

Step 4

Send the above completed form along with your payment, if applicable, for Saturday diner, and/or Food Handling and/or Smart Serve to:
PRC Fred Collins, A12 Lions Leadership Chairperson
156 Pinedale Lane, Unit 12 – Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1B4

Cheques should be made payable to "District A12.

Lioness and Partners in Service, the fee is \$30 per day if you wish to attend your choice of seminars and have lunch. Make your cheque payable to "District A12".

Please note – no campaign posters or draw tickets allowed.
Any questions? – Please call Lion Fred @ 705-687-2846
Or email to... fredcollins@sympatico.ca

Step 1 – Select one session in each time slot that you would like to attend.

SATURDAY 09:30 – 10:30am	
Keynote Address	Identity theft and protection of privacy. Timely tips and information on ensuring that you do not become a victim of this growing crime.

SATURDAY 10:45am – 4:30pm	
Presidents , Vice Presidents & Directors	This interactive two-day session includes: duties of a President, Vice President & Director, Roberts Rules of Order, club retreats, induction ceremonies, membership retention, handling cliques, conflict resolution, protocol, meeting management, managing teams, etc. Continued on Sunday. This will be a 6 hour certification course at an additional cost of \$30 . A must for any Lions club preparing and selling food to the public. The maximum number of participants is 25.
Food Handling Certificate	

SATURDAY 10:45am – 12:00 Noon	
Basic Computers	An introduction to using computers for those Lions who are uncomfortable with electronic technology and computers.
Fire Safety in the Home	Don't make an ash of yourself and your family. This session will deal with the anatomy of fire and the hazards and preventive measures to be taken.

LUNCH - included in your registration if you register no later than March 8th.

SATURDAY 1:30pm – 4:30pm	
Club Secretaries	Duties of a club secretary and tips to make the job easier. Open to all interested Lions
Lions, Liquor and the Law	A must for those Lions who are involved in planning and delivering activities which include the sale of alcoholic beverages to the public.
Producing Club Bulletins	Tips and an exchange of ideas on formulating an effective monthly or bi-monthly bulletin. If possible, bring a laptop with you.

SATURDAY 1:30pm – 2:45pm	
Tail Twisting	A long standing tradition of Lions Clubs which can provide fun and relaxation among your members and, put some extra change into your club's administration account. Tips on how to be an effective and successful tail twister.

SATURDAY 3:00pm – 4:30pm	
Questions and Answers Session	An opportunity for Lions to engage in an open question and answer session with members of the District Cabinet and MERL Team.

SUNDAY 9:30am – 12:30pm	
Presidents , Vice Presidents & Directors	Day 2 of this interactive session designed for Presidents, Vice Presidents and Directors.
Smart Serve	This session will be available for a fee of \$25 presented by PDG Yvette Gerber, Smart Serve Trainer. If you receive a passing score on the test provided you will receive a Smart Serve pin and identification card certifying that you are a responsible server of alcoholic beverages. The maximum number of participants is 15.
Spread Sheets and Data Bases	An interactive session on understanding and using common spread sheets and data bases. Bring a laptop if possible.

SUNDAY 9:30am – 10:45am	
Membership Retention	Getting new members is great but what about the members you already have. This session will present information on how to stop the "leaking" of present members.
Public Speaking	Down to earth tips on how to prepare and deliver a presentation to others while learning to control the butterflies in your stomach.

SUNDAY 11:00am – 12:30pm	
Club Finances	Tips for and duties of a Club Treasurer as well as for the Chairperson and members of the Club Finance Committee. Open to all Lions.
No Child Without	Information about Lions Canada-wide newest program. Every Club will want to have a representative at this session.

LUNCH – included in your registration if you register no later than March 8th.

Thank you for indicating which sessions you are interested in attending. Of course, you are not obligated to attend these when you come to the LLW. Your indication at this time simply allows us to determine the approximate number of participants for each session so we can plan for space.

REGISTER NOW

*There is **no** registration cost to you to attend the Lions Learning Weekend sessions, however, you are required to register no later than March 8th if you wish to receive lunch. The cost for any Lioness or Partner in Service who wishes to attend any of the seminars is **\$30per day which includes lunch.***

The optional Saturday evening dinner is an additional \$21.00

Step 2 – Select the box on the next page to indicate the days you will be attending and if you wish to have dinner at the Resort on Saturday evening. This information is necessary for adequate food preparation. If you do not register by March 8th you are welcome to attend the seminars but there will be no lunch available to you.

GRAVENHURST LIONS CLUB ROSTER

(Please notify secretary of any errors and corrections to secretary@gravenhurstlions.org)

NAME	SPOUSE	HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE	OTHER PHONE	E MAIL
Bill Allison	Kathy	687-7598			b-allison@hotmail.com
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Irene Campbell	Gord	687-0024			
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Terry Stevenson	Susan	687-6932	687-4994		stevensonplumbingelectric@bellnet.ca
Barb Stirrett	Ed	687-8715		644-7682 cell	easbes@sympatico.ca
Ed Stirrett	Barb	687-8715		645-0458 cell	easbes@sympatico.ca
Nancy Watt-Durant	Dave	646-1313			cdnerwro@muskoka.com
George White	Norma	687-3661			
Jack Willcock	Dorothy	519-220-1294			

(updated November 20, 2008)

3 Month Planner

December-January-February

December 2nd	Lions Business Meeting
December 13th	Salvation Army Kettles
December 16th	Lions Social Meeting (Christmas Night)
December 23rd	Board of Directors Meeting
January 6th	Lions Business Meeting
January 20th	Lions Social Meeting, ZC Rob's Official Visit
January 27th	Board of Director's Meeting
February TBA	CNIB Focus on Crocus Campaign
February 3rd	Lions Business Meeting
February 8th	District A-12 Cabinet Meeting, Victoria Harbour
February 17th	Lions Social Meeting
February 19th	Zone 21 East Zone Advisory Meeting, Bracebridge
February 24th	Lions Board of Directors Meeting

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Celebrations

December 17th	Terry Stevenson's 51st Birthday
December 17th	Lorne and Eleanor Punshon's Anniversary
December 19th	Ron and Barb Riddell's Anniversary
December 22nd	Randy and Lynn McGregor's Anniversary
December 24th	Gord Campbell's 62nd Birthday
December 27th	Ian Gray's 71st Birthday
December 27th	Ed and Barb Stirrett's Anniversary
December 31st	Dave Durant and Nancy Watt-Durant's Anniversary

If I've missed anyone, please let me know at bulletin@gravenhurstlions.org.



The Lions Club of Gravenhurst, Box 582, Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1T9

Bulletin Editor: PCST Chris Lewis, 705-687-2144, bulletin@gravenhurstlions.org



Learn the Danger Signs

Most blindness is preventable if detected early. Learn the danger signs and protect your sight. For more information about blindness prevention, contact:

Wendy Rawlings
687-7421



We Serve

www.lionsclubs.org

The deadline for publication in the Growl is the 15th of each month.

Electronic copy preferred.

Email your content to bulletin@gravenhurstlions.org.

If you would prefer to receive a printed colour bulletin, the cost/issue is \$4.00.

www.ItTakesALion.ca