

# LION

SUMMER 2023 LIONMAGAZINE.ORG

## Changing the World

International President  
Dr. Patti Hill has great  
plans for Lions and Leos



Lions International

# BRING SOME STYLE TO YOUR SERVICE

The new “We Serve” collection combines fashion and function — and will help you show the world what it means to be a Lion. All our new items feature the Lions International branding, with a bit of extra flair.

Visit the Lions Shop today to explore all the new “We Serve” gear and find your favorite!



Scan the code with your mobile device



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## WE SERVE

### LIONS INTERNATIONAL MISSION

To empower Lions clubs, volunteers and partners to improve health and well-being, strengthen communities, and support those in need through humanitarian service and grants that impact lives globally, and encourage peace and international understanding.

### CONTACTING LION MAGAZINE

For change of address, non-receipt of the magazine or other subscription issues, call 630-468-6982 or email [MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org](mailto:MemberServiceCenter@lionsclubs.org). To share a story idea for consideration, email [magazine@lionsclubs.org](mailto:magazine@lionsclubs.org).

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International President Dr. Patti Hill with her partner in service, Greg Holmes.

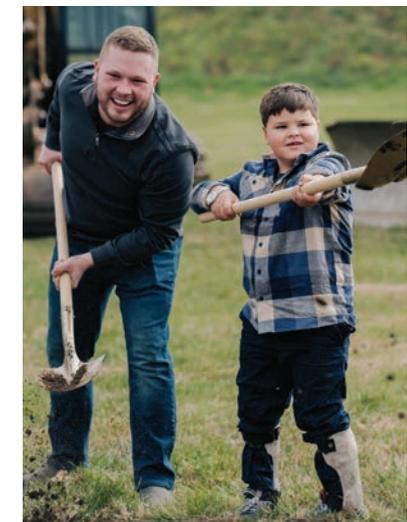
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## Changing the World With You

Dear Lions,

I am truly honored and humbled to serve as your international president, and I am happy to share with you my message of Changing the World.

For years, Lions and Leos have been changing the world, one community at a time. Now, collectively, we are setting bold ambitious goals to meet the needs of our neighbors, our communities and our world. Boldness and action are exactly what we can deliver as we tackle the biggest challenges that lie before us. Boldness, focused on success and excellence, and commitment to service: these are the benchmarks we must use to grow our clubs and districts so we can be there every time we're called on to serve.

At our international convention in Boston, I had the privilege of announcing our annual priorities and our four-year initiative, *MISSION 1.5*, which is our drive to reach 1.5 million members worldwide by the conclusion of the 2027 Lion year. Although I've been a Lion for over 30 years, it never ceases to amaze me how, as Lions and Leos, we rise to any challenge placed in front of us. I'm excited to embark on this exciting mission with you as we grow our membership and capacity to serve.

I hope the stories in this issue will not only inspire you to grow your clubs and expand your service, but also to share your own stories. When you share your service and membership stories, you let the world know what it means to be a Lion. Every day is a great day to extend an invitation to a potential Lion to join us.

Let's be bold and lead the way to a better future and a world of change.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Patti Hill*

**Dr. Patti Hill**  
International President, Lions Clubs International



We Serve

# Your help goes a long way.

Since 1968, LCIF has funded more than US\$1.2 billion in grants to support meaningful service, delivering effective solutions to meet global needs.

Give today and bring possibilities to life.  
[lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive](https://lionsclubs.org/WaysToGive)



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**



## Lions Take Over Boston

Lions and Leos from around the world gathered in Boston July 7-11, 2023, for the 105th Lions International Convention. Attendees experienced five action-packed days of hearing from inspiring speakers, sharing success stories, parading through the streets of Boston, doing service projects and rocking out to world-class entertainment.

Couldn't make it to Boston? No worries! We're getting ready to do it all over again next year in Melbourne, Australia. Register today at [lionscon.lionsclubs.org](https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org).



## Lions International Honors Chef José Andrés and World Central Kitchen with Humanitarian Award



Cooking from the heart is an Andrés family tradition. The ambitious creative began his culinary journey alongside his parents at their home kitchen in Spain before the chef started formal training at one of the world's most notable restaurants, Ferran Adrià's El Bulli.

Chef Andrés immigrated to the United States in 1991 and has continued to change the world through the power of food at his dozens of revolutionary restaurants and international humanitarian organization, World Central Kitchen, which works to feed communities impacted by tragedies.

Chef Andrés founded World Central Kitchen in 2010 to fill not only stomachs but hearts and minds, too. The nonprofit organization is often first to the frontlines, providing fresh meals in response to crises while working to build resilient food systems with locally led solutions. To date, World Central Kitchen has served more than 300 million nourishing meals around the world.

The Lions Humanitarian Award is the association's highest honor, given to an individual or an organization with exemplary humanitarian efforts. This award comes with a Lions Clubs International Foundation grant for up to US\$250,000 to a charitable organization for continuing humanitarian activities. Chef Andrés joins a distinguished list of prior recipients, including Mother Teresa, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Denis Mukwege.

Chef José Andrés is known around the world as a Michelin star culinary artist and owner of award-winning restaurants including Agua Viva, Bazaar Meat and Pigtail.

When the entrepreneur isn't getting creative in the kitchen, perfecting cookbooks, traveling with his family for their Discovery+ streaming show or working on his podcast, Longer Tables, Chef Andrés is dedicating time and energy to humanitarian service.

Andrés is founder of World Central Kitchen, a nonprofit organization that provides fresh meals in response to crises. Lions International honored Chef Andrés for his impactful work by presenting him with the 2023 Lions Humanitarian Award during the 105th Lions Clubs International Convention on July 10, 2023.

## Celebrating the Power of Marketing

### 2022-2023 Marketing Award Winners Named

This April, we announced the winners of our inaugural Lions International Marketing Award. In addition to reaping the benefits of promoting their clubs — like increased visibility, new members and more service opportunities — the winners received recognition and prizes.

- CA I: Antigua Lions Club (Antigua and Barbuda)
- CA II: Fenwick Lions Club (Canada)
- CA III: Parita Lions Club (Panama)
- CA IV: Bosco Marengo Santa Croce Lions Club (Italy)
- CA V: Capiz Leo Club (Philippines)
- CA VI: Dharan Ghopa United Lions Club (Nepal)
- CA VII: City of Adelaide Lions Club (Australia)
- CA VIII: Sfax-Thyna Lions Club (Tunisia)



Think your club has what it takes to execute an award-winning marketing campaign? The 2023-2024 award submissions are open.

Visit [lionsclubs.org/marketingaward](https://lionsclubs.org/marketingaward) to learn more.

## Tune in to LionTV

Every day, Lions and Leos are making positive headlines across the globe as they serve a world in need.

LionTV is Lions International's new social media video network that shares bite-sized news reports to showcase inspiring service projects, exciting events involving Lion leaders, meaningful partnerships with other organizations and more!

Stay plugged into what's happening in the world of Lions International at [lionsclubs.org/liontv](https://lionsclubs.org/liontv).



## IN THE NEWS

# Leading with Compassion

## Peace Contest winners inspire through creativity



2022-2023 Peace Poster Winner

**Emma Andreea Paveliuc // Age 13 // Romania**

Emma has been keen on art for as long as she can remember. It's her way of expressing her feelings. She's grateful to the Iasi D Lions Club for sponsoring the Peace Poster Contest in her city, as it gives children an opportunity to share their perspective on life and express their thoughts. In her poster, she shares her depiction of what it means to lead with compassion, which starts with the idea that we are all interconnected.

"I want to inspire people to be united because the future is in our hands, and in order to build it, we have to help each other," she says.



2022-2023 Peace Essay Winner

**Keaton Hamilton // Age 11 // Canada**

Keaton is a self-described ordinary kid who's active in hockey, soccer and skiing, and loves playing video games. He's lived with low vision his entire life, but his visual impairment has not held him back from pursuing his interests or finding new ones, like writing. Keaton is grateful to the Newmarket Lions Club for hosting the Peace Essay Contest in his town because it allowed him to share his take on this year's theme, Lead with Compassion.

"Knowing that someone has your back while accomplishing any difficult task in achieving goals is one of those diamonds in life. That is what friends would do and that is what leading with compassion is all about," he says.

## Host the 2023-2024 Peace Contests in your area!

A dream isn't just a wish, hope or desire — it's a path, a goal, an ambition. This year, we're asking young people to show how they'll turn their dream of a peaceful world into reality.

**Order your Peace Poster Kit by October 1!**



[lionsclubs.org/peaceposter](https://lionsclubs.org/peaceposter)

## IN THE NEWS

### OVERHEARD ON SOCIAL MEDIA

"I wear a Lions pin every day to almost everything I do. It's a great conversation starter."

—Lion Stu Young

"I wanted a way to serve that targeted my own strengths, so I could give the very best of myself to a project. Lions gave me that opportunity in a way no other club does."

—Lion Jennifer Adams

"I followed my crush to a Leo club meeting in college. 31 years later ... still serving, but I never dated my crush."

—Lion Anthony Kojo Onwaeze

"I was a recent empty-nester looking for purpose and something to fill a void in my heart! Since joining, I've had the opportunity to give back to my community, make lifelong friends and meet people from all over the world!"

—Lion Lisa Gismondi

Follow @lionsclubs



### BY THE NUMBERS

# 39

Boxes of books donated by the Pearl City Lions Club in Hawaii and shipped to the Baguio City Host Lions in the Philippines.

# 75

Years the Chassell Lions in Michigan have been hulling strawberries for The Copper Country Strawberry Festival's strawberry shortcake.

# 1,300

Handicap ramps built by the Larsen-Winchester Lions in Wisconsin to help individuals with limited mobility.

# 1.5 million

Members by 2027 to reach Lions International's new *MISSION 1.5* goal.

USA

## Wonderful Onesies

Providing comfort to infant cancer patients one snap at a time.

BY JOAN CARY

La Center Lion Edie Brannon in Washington read on Facebook that a local woman was in search of a seamstress. She probably needs something hemmed, or a button repositioned, thought Brannon, who had fulfilled those simple requests many times.

But this was no quick fix. The woman was helping a friend in Tennessee find adaptive clothing to keep her 7-month-old daughter warm during her chemotherapy infusions. The rooms are purposely kept cool, staff need access to the chemo port on the baby's chest and babies have a knack for kicking off the blankets intended to keep them warm. That leaves them with just a diaper.

Brannon verified what she'd been told. There was no adaptive clothing sold for children smaller than a toddler size 4. Undaunted, she sat at her sewing machine, remembering how she had made a sweatshirt with a zipper for her husband when he had kidney dialysis. With one of her grandson's onesies, she made what was the first of many "Wonderful Onesies" to come.

Brannon mailed her prototype to the mother in Tennessee for feedback, made adjustments, and sought input from other sewer-artists and fellow Lions, continuing to improve her design. She also showed her work to pediatricians at the Vancouver Clinic. The reviews could not have been better. She sat back down and sewed 100.

**"If we can lighten that burden in any way, we want to."**

- Lion Edie Brannon

All the onesies are new, washed and sterilized. A simple lined buttonhole on the right chest with a 7-inch placket like a pocket flap is what turns a regular US\$1-\$3 wardrobe staple into a Wonderful Onesie. It keeps the baby covered and allows room for an adult hand to easily access the port.

Brannon took the project to her club, then to other MD19 clubs where they were eager to help. With a US\$500 grant from Walmart, the Camas Lions Foundation took her shopping for onesies and supplies. The Vancouver Lions Club held a "Onesie Round Up," collecting 50 onesies and making a US\$50 contribution. The Salmon Creek Lions donated US\$250 and reimbursed members for the onesies they'd purchased. Numerous individuals contributed in different ways. All onesies and fabrics are either donated or purchased by grant funds, says Brannon.

After meeting the Salmon Creek Lions, Lion Kay Hurst introduced Brannon to her quilting group, the North Star Quilt Guild. Brannon met with the guild, providing several dozen onesies along with sewing supplies, but guild members purchased more, making close to 300 Wonderful Onesies.



"The finished product is adorable. They used their quilt fabric stashes and matched the onesie color to their stash fabric perfectly. They are just so happy to not be sewing masks," says Brannon. "And they work like bees."

By the start of 2023, Brannon and her helpers had made Wonderful Onesies available through Randall Children's Hospital and OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital, both in Oregon, and hoped to be introduced at hospitals in the Seattle area. At Doernbecher, they asked if she could also make something for children going through dialysis while awaiting a kidney transplant.

"Long-term, I think Wonderful Onesies could go national with the right shepherd," she says. "We intend to form a group of dedicated Lion Wonderful Onesie-ists."

"No one will ever be charged for a Wonderful Onesie. They will never be sold. These are a gift. Childhood cancer is one of Lions' global concerns and Wonderful Onesies are our response to a common need," says Brannon.

"These poor moms don't have a lot of control over their baby's diet, their baby's medication, their schedule. They are at the mercy of the cancer. If we can lighten that burden in any way, we want to."

BRAZIL

## The Collectors

Big collections of little things translate into help — and hope — for Brazil's urban animals.

BY ERIN KASDIN

The best thing about acts of kindness is that they ripple through a community, often turning small gestures into big change.

Lions in Brazil have found a way to turn their passions into projects that benefit many aspects of their community. Matheus Luamm, president of the Lions Clube Aracaju Bertha Lutz in Aracaju, Sergipe, founded the Projeto Tampas Pets (Pet Lids Project) in 2020, and it has been making a difference ever since.

At the time he started the project, Luamm was a teacher and wanted to think beyond the walls of his classroom to find a project that could truly help the greater community. As an animal lover, Luamm decided he might be able to help the population of feral cats in Aracaju.

**"Sowing kindness is to show hope for humanity. It's to help the planet — our common home."**

-Lion Matheus Luamm

A local veterinary clinic had a program where they accepted donations of plastic caps, metal lids, iron seals and aerosol cans. The clinic would then sell the recyclable goods and use the money to spay and neuter feral cats or those whose owners could not pay.

After the first successful year, Luamm's 21-member club began partnering with more clubs. And while he is no longer a teacher at the school, the project with the Lions club is still going strong. Lions place collection bins in schools, restaurants and bars throughout the city, and deliver four to five large bags of recyclables every few months.

"Spaying and neutering animals is an act of love," says Luamm. "We help control the population growth and prevent the spread of diseases."



The project has earned the ODS Seal, signifying it meets the requirements of Brazil's National ODS Movement for compliance with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The Aracaju Bertha Lutz Lions are an example of how small actions can make a big impact on our world. "It's beautiful to see Lions keeping little caps or seals from their lunches and saving them to put in the collection bins," says Luamm.

"Sowing kindness is to show hope for humanity. It's to help the planet — our common home."

# LIFE DERAILED

## LIONS STEP IN WHEN DISASTER STRIKES.

BY JOAN CARY

Home is the place you want to run to, not from. But home may never feel the same for the people of East Palestine, Ohio, who found their quiet small-town life turned upside down in one night of disaster.

Portions of a Norfolk and Southern freight train that derailed Feb. 3, 2023, still on fire the following day. (AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)



A large plume of smoke rises over East Palestine, Ohio, after a controlled detonation of a portion of the derailed Norfolk Southern trains Monday, Feb. 6, 2023. (AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

**O**n the evening of Feb. 3, Stella and Daren Gamble watched from their front porch as a fire escalated rapidly less than a mile away. About 50 Norfolk Southern train cars had derailed, including 11 tank cars carrying hazardous materials that ignited, fueling fires that damaged another dozen cars.

Later that night, city officials instructed residents to take shelter in the high school when there was fear of explosions. Then, on Feb. 5, those living within a mile of the disaster were ordered to evacuate so crews could execute a controlled burn of five cars hauling cancer-causing vinyl chloride. The chemical was drained into a trough and burned, sending a giant plume of smoke over the town.

**“ We just wanted to help. The rashes, the headaches, the stress of everyday life is overwhelming. I feel so sorry for these people.”**

**-Lion Mary Duris**

#### SEEKING SAFETY

The Gambles, with their 14-year-old twin granddaughters and three foster children, frantically packed a few essential items and fled to a hotel where they stayed for three months before moving into a rental house 31 miles away.

Daren made daily trips to take care of the pets and check on their five-bedroom house where three generations of Gambles have lived, and where over the years, they raised five kids and cared for hundreds of foster children. Later he would tell Stella about their garden — the rhubarb that was ready to cut but couldn't be eaten for fear of contamination, and Grandma's rhododendrons blooming without his wife there to admire them.

Stella wanted to be there, and tried to visit a few times, but it wasn't long before her coughing would start, nausea would set in and a rash would form around her burning nose. But she wasn't the only one experiencing health issues after the disaster. One of her granddaughters would get nose bleeds, and numerous people reported having similar conditions in addition to others, like migraines.

#### FACING THE UNCERTAINTIES

“It's so very stressful. You think it's all going to be better and then they find something else,” says Stella. “You don't know what to do. You can't bear to keep thinking about it, but you can't not think about it. Can we live there again? Are we going to be constantly worried about what's contaminated? That is our home.”

They feel fortunate to have found a vacation rental house to escape to — although none of this feels like a vacation. Their son, still in East Palestine with his children and dogs, hasn't been as lucky.



Ohio Lions from Brimfield and Suffield were among the many who came to the aid of the East Palestine community.

# “What a great feeling to be hands-on doing something that’s needed.”

-PDG Wayne Christen

“People don’t come to Columbiana County on vacation,” says Stella. “This is a rural area (on the Ohio-Pennsylvania line). There aren’t many places to rent.”

News of the disaster spread across the country in the days and weeks following the derailment. Environmental activist Erin Brockovich came to town. Donald Trump stopped for a day. But it didn’t take long for the media and politicians to move on to other stories and issues.

What has not disappeared, though, are the residents’ questions, uncertainties, health problems and fear of dangers they can’t see but suspect are there.

Despite reports that the water is safe, most people were still not drinking it in June. Thousands of fish were found dead in the waterways that meander throughout their town. Frustrated by conflicting reports of what’s safe and what isn’t, residents rely on those they know and trust — neighbors, friends and people like the Lions.

## LIONS LEND A HAND

“Dealing with disaster relief isn’t something they taught us in DG school,” District Governor Carol Snyder told PDG Wayne Christen, a member of the Calcutta Ohio Lions Club. After disaster struck, Christen immediately began coordinating donations from clubs in the district.

Snyder asked that financial donations be made to the Ohio Lions Foundation (OLF) and that clubs collect nonperishable food, cleaning supplies and personal care items. Together, Lions used OLF grant money and club donations to purchase more than US\$35,000 worth of US\$50 gift cards to help residents with immediate needs. In the spring, they distributed US\$4,000 in gift cards for a local grocery store.

“Nearly every zone and club in District 13 OH4 contributed in some form, in addition to the donations to OLF from other districts around the state and country,” Snyder says.

West Point Lions Mary Duris and Violet Mellon, who live three towns away, volunteered to deliver their club’s donation of personal care items and hand out gift cards even though tons of contaminated soil were being removed from the derailment site that day and the wind was kicking it up in the air.

“We just wanted to help,” says Duris. “The rashes, the headaches, the stress of everyday life is overwhelming. I feel so sorry for these people.”

Despite not knowing what the future holds for her family, Stella Gamble says they are thankful for the kindness that has come their way from people near and far. The Lions were more than happy to do their part.

“What a great feeling to be hands-on doing something that’s needed,” says Christen. “It was especially heartwarming to have an actual part in assisting those in need from East Palestine.”



## Changing the World

Change doesn’t happen all at once. It happens through many small choices. With every act of kindness, we change a life. With every Lions club and Leo club, we change a community.

**When we change our communities, we change the world.**



The Gamble family enjoying their backyard months before disaster struck.

## Bringing Out the Best in Others

### Lifting others up is what she does.

Dr. Patti Hill is an accomplished teacher, administrator, psychologist and small-business owner. But it isn't her impressive resume that she'll mention when you ask what's important to her.

"The purpose of my life on this earth is to help others achieve their potential. If I'm not doing that, I should be!"

Dr. Hill makes it her mission to find the potential in others and to create an environment that helps them thrive. "I always see the good in people," she says.

Every step in Dr. Hill's career was made because she believed in doing her part to ensure others could achieve their dreams. When she was asked to teach special education in secondary school, she agreed and then promptly enrolled in a master's program focusing on teaching the deaf and hard of hearing.

While she was a young teacher, Dr. Hill's uncle Eddie, who was deaf, had shared stories with her about the difficulty of traveling to distant boarding schools to be educated. Even then, he wasn't allowed to use sign language in school. She hoped she could make education better for students like her uncle.

While working as a teacher of deaf students, Dr. Hill was presented with the results of student testing performed by school psychologists. They informed her that although the students did well in visual perception, they scored low in verbal skills. Stunned, Dr. Hill used American Sign Language as she responded, "You didn't even sign to them!"

She knew her students couldn't achieve their full potential if they couldn't even use their primary source of communication. She didn't want the same thing to happen to them that had happened to her uncle Eddie, so she began taking psychology classes to create a better way to assess students.

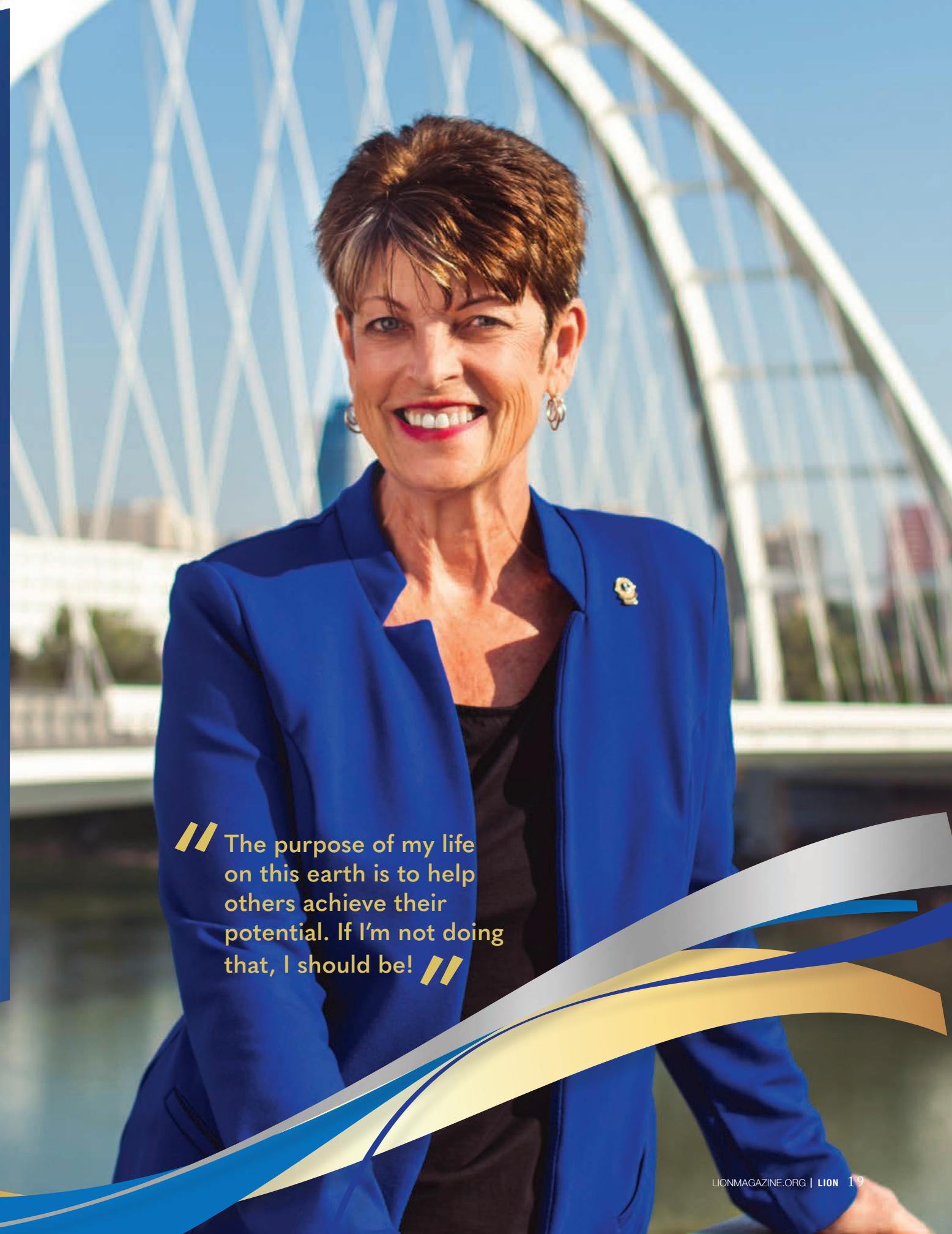
Classes eventually turned into a doctorate degree, and now she's a licensed psychologist.

Dr. Hill served for a time as principal at a specialty school for children with severe speech and language development challenges in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She also started a consultancy business using her knowledge and experience to help government agencies design and implement better programs for children, youth and their families, which she's been running for more than 40 years.

Dr. Patti Hill devoted her life to making the world a better place. Along the way, she found Lions.

Actually, Lions found her.

“The purpose of my life on this earth is to help others achieve their potential. If I'm not doing that, I should be!”



## Making the World a Better Place

It turned out that Dr. Hill's business partner was married to a Lion. When district Lions organized a project to help fund cochlear implants for those in need, they wanted someone with knowledge of the deaf community, so they turned to Patti for guidance. Of course, she was happy to help.

When Dr. Hill became the founding principal of The Heritage School, Lions wanted to return the favor. "What do you need?" they asked.

Dr. Hill was happy to have Lions' help, but she didn't expect them to keep coming back.

But the Lions persisted.

In fact, they asked her to become a Lion. More than once.

There was no question her life was already busy. In addition to her business and her job as principal, she was finishing her Ph.D. and expecting her first child. Even so, she couldn't turn them away.

In 1990, she joined the Edmonton Host Lions Club. She soon realized her club was more than just a local club; it was a critical part of a global association of clubs just like hers that were serving in nearly every country on earth. Being a Lion was the perfect way to do what she had always wanted to do—make the world a better place.

One of her first projects showed Dr. Hill just how powerful being a Lion can be. The hospital in Edmonton didn't have a dedicated pediatric operating suite. This meant every time a child required surgery, the equipment had to be manually adjusted to accommodate these young patients. This added more complexity and discomfort to an already harrowing experience for children and their parents. Dr. Hill and her club asked how much it would cost to

build a specialized operating suite for children. The response? Three hundred thousand dollars.

"And we did it," she says. With the help of LCIF, they raised every penny. "That's when I knew that Lions could have real impact."

When she attended her first multiple district convention, she realized that the impact wasn't limited to Edmonton.

As she walked around the venue and saw the displays of all the projects Lions had done that year and heard the conversations taking place, she realized the scale of it all. That's when she knew she was part of something much bigger than she could've imagined.

"I get it now," she said. Dr. Hill realized Lions weren't just changing their communities, they were changing the world.

Changing the world is what she is focused on as our international president.

**// We're here to make the world a better place. It drives every decision I make. //**





## Changing the World

**There's an old saying – It's the journey, not the destination. Changing the world is a journey. There's no middle and no end. There is, however, a beginning.**

With every small act of service, you contribute one step towards change. It's up to each of us to simply begin. Like rain filling a bucket, we can change the world one drop at a time.

In fact, we are all changing the world with every decision we make. Truly meaningful changes will occur when we are intentional about the *kind* of changes we want to make. When we strive to make positive changes—in our lives and in the lives of others—we put *good* into the world.

Lions have been doing our part to change the world for more than 100 years. In every project we do, with every donation we make, we contribute to positive change in our communities. As we fill our own buckets, our communities rise with us.

We are all connected. When we see that connection, boundaries and barriers disappear.

We realize that while global challenges may seem daunting, there is always a place where we can begin. The place is here. The time is now.

Our world is a beautiful place. Let the rain fall. Drop by drop, fill your bucket. Help those around you fill theirs. Every day, in big ways and in small, let's serve to make our world an even better place for all.



## BE THE CHANGE

# Change Begins One Step at a Time

We change the world one life, one relationship, one community at a time.

Here are some great ways to get started.

### Create a greener, cleaner environment.

Protecting and improving our environment is a great way to engage with our communities. By helping to protect and restore our natural resources, we can literally change the world. Let's act boldly, and let's act now.

### Share your story with the world.

Developing great marketing skills can help you tell the world who you are and what you do. Social media and local media, and online and offline marketing give you new ways to tell your stories. Shine a light on your club and invite your community to be a part of the change as Lions and Leos.

### Reach your service potential.

People want to be a part of something that matters. So set service goals that push your capacity and create opportunities for even more impact with new members. Find ways to ensure your club is inclusive and welcoming to all.

### Empower even greater good.

Our foundation empowers us to do so much more than we can do alone. LCIF enables us to think big and undertake projects that can truly change the world. So, support LCIF, and let LCIF support you.



// If people truly understood the good they could do as Lions or Leos, they'd be lining up to serve with us. We must show them what we do, and that they can change the world too. //

BE THE CHANGE

## Believe in Yourself

To change the world, we first must believe change is possible.

Here are some key steps that can help you face the challenges ahead.

### Be brave.

In the causes you tackle and in the work that you do, don't shy away from something that may seem too difficult. You're up to the task and other Lions are here to support you. So take that bold first step.

### Invest in the future.

We all have a reason to invest in the future, and young people may be uniquely positioned to help us create change. We are better able to deal with the issues facing our communities when they're at the table with us. Let's invite the next generation of global leaders to serve with us as Lions.

### Collaborate.

We do our best work as a team. Work with community leaders, other service organizations, and each other to address the biggest problems facing your communities. Collaboration makes change happen faster.

### Lead the way.

Lions and Leos lead by example. We show the world what is possible when people care about their communities and when kindness is the goal. Lead the way, and others will join you.

// I believe in Lions. I believe in Leos. I'm here to support you, every step of the way. //





We Serve

Changing the World

Be the change.



[lionsclubs.org/president](https://lionsclubs.org/president)



# THE SERVICE OF CHAMPIONS

Lions keep cross country invitational running for 50 years.

By Joel La Puma • Photos by Mark Ripley





(left to right) Lion Jerry Hansen, Lion Dave Lundy, Lion Bill Johnson and Lion Mike Loken in front of their club's trailer, which is fully stocked to feed up to 300 people through one of their waffle feed fundraisers.

In a half-century of competition, innumerable legacies and memories are built, but not all sporting events last 50 years. This October, the Alexandria Lions Meet of Champions will reach that milestone. And just as they've done every year since helping to launch the event, the Alexandria Lions Club will be there on its 50th anniversary helping every step of the way.

Each year, nearly 2,000 runners ages six to 18 from as many as 28 cross country programs participate in the eight events of the meet, which has become one of Minnesota's largest cross country invitationals. In addition, 3,000 to 4,000 spectators attend, creating an electric atmosphere. "The stands are packed," says Jaelyn Miller, a junior with the Alexandria Cardinals girls' varsity team. "It's so loud you can't even hear who they're cheering for."



Lion Jerry Hansen, Alexandria Lions Club event chairperson, has volunteered with the Meet of Champions since 1982.

**"Everyone knows what needs to get done. And we get things done quickly."**

**—Lion Jerry Hansen**

## KEEPING PACE WITH THE TIMES

The Meet of Champions has evolved quite a bit since it began in 1973. In the early years, the race took place in a city park with Lions manually recording the runners' times. Today, runners compete on a well-manicured 3.1-mile (5 km) course at a nearby resort with a professional electronic timing system recording their results.

"We used to have a half-dozen Lions waiting in the chutes," says Lion Ron Branch, the Alexandria club's treasurer. "We had to get the numbers from all of the runners when they crossed the finish line."

While technology has modernized the event, it could never replace the heartbeat of the event: the Lions.

Lion Jerry Hansen has volunteered to help with the Meet of Champions since 1982, his first year as a Lion. "I make a lot of calls," says Hansen, the club's event chairperson for the past 15 years. "Everyone knows what needs to get done. And we get things done quickly."

## PREPARATION BEGINS IN THE OFFSEASON

The Lions' involvement begins long before the first starting pistol fires on race day. The club does year-round fundraising. Hansen estimates the club holds at least 12 to 15 waffle feeds during the year, often as part of local church events or private graduation parties, to raise funds for the Meet of Champions as well as the Lions Eye Bank. The fundraisers are such a success that the club has a trailer, branded with the Alexandria Lions Club logo, that's fully stocked with equipment to feed up to 300 people.

Proceeds from the waffle feeds help cover vital aspects of the race, including the trophies and medals. Hansen estimates the Lions purchase around 100 trophies each year at a cost of nearly US\$1,500. The most meaningful of the Lions' trophies is a travelling plaque that goes home with the winning team each year to display until the next race. Countless memories of victory and camaraderie are represented in that plaque.

"The trophies are a starting point to attracting great

runners," says Jerry Amundson, Alexandria's assistant cross country coach for 42 years. That comes as no surprise when you see them on display during the event, stretching across two tables in blue-and-gold columns that evoke a city skyline. The Alexandria Lions are committed to making sure the runners leave the event feeling like champions.

## A WELL-OILED MACHINE

In addition to buying the trophies, the Lions pitch in wherever they can. Over the years, they've secured land-use permissions, found parking solutions, rented portable toilets and hospitality tents, and paid for the electronic race timing. On race day, dozens of Lions help set up the course, which usually involves clearing the colorful fall foliage to make way for the runners, and assist in almost every aspect of the event. Some help direct traffic in the parking lots while others act as guides on the course and finish line judges.

"My daughter runs cross country," says Hansen. "We've seen disorganized meets. People are impressed by how well run the Meet of Champions is."

**“The Alexandria Lions are interconnected everywhere.”**

Jerry Amundson, Alexandria assistant cross country coach

## TEAMWORK BREEDS CHAMPIONS

It's clear the Meet of Champions has left a deep impression on the city of Alexandria. “After 50 years, the event is embedded in the town,” says Hansen. “It becomes part of the fabric.”

The Alexandria Lions Club is just as ingrained in their community's fabric as the cross country event that bears its name. While the Meet of Champions is their most prominent event and their waffle feeds have become a mainstay, their service in the community is continuous and unwavering. And it does not go unnoticed. “The Alexandria Lions are interconnected everywhere in the city,” says Amundson.

What started as a Lions club connecting with the school to create a sporting event 50 years ago has become much more. According to Travis Hochhalter, head coach of Alexandria Cross Country, “The Meet of Champions is a culmination of who Alexandria is.”



MISSION 1.5

# MOMENT



## LION PHILIPP & LION NATALIJA BLOBEL

### THE MISSION:

MISSION 1.5 is the drive to reach 1.5 million members worldwide, so we can better meet the growing needs of our communities and serve more people than ever before.

### CHALLENGE ACCEPTED BY:

Lion Philipp and Lion Natalija Blobel

### LOCATION:

Augsburg, Germany

### SUMMARY:

Chartered a 28-member club focused on increasing international understanding and world peace.

### BACKGROUND OF THE CLUB FOUNDERS:

During their time as members of Lions Club Augsburg-Elias Holl, the Blobels created the “Lions Help for Ukraine” program, which has completed more than 10 humanitarian missions and raised over 440,000 euros to purchase vital items for families impacted by the conflict.

Their service inspired them to think even bigger by taking their commitment to service — and the Ukraine relief program — to the next level by forming the Lions Club Augsburg-Friedensstadt, also known as the LC Augsburg-City of Peace.

### ABOUT THE NEW CLUB:

LC Augsburg-City of Peace is rooted in Lions International global causes, international understanding and world peace — and the club members practice what they preach.

Members range in age from 28 to 63 and come from professional backgrounds including medical, engineering, students, entrepreneurs, retirees and a war refugee the group rescued from Ukraine.

“This diversity brings a wealth of knowledge, perspectives and skills, creating a truly dynamic and resourceful group dedicated to serving humanity,” Blobel says. “We live in a colorful world, and a Lions club should be a diverse place.”

### READY TO JOIN THE MISSION?

Visit [lionsclubs.org/mission1.5](https://lionsclubs.org/mission1.5).

## LION PHILIPP AND LION NATALIJA'S TOP FIVE TIPS FOR RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

- 1 Focus on passion for service.** Seek genuinely passionate individuals who value service and community involvement.
- 2 Be transparent.** Clearly communicate the goals and activities of your Lions club to potential members.
- 3 Invite prospective members to serve with you.** We learned from PIP Douglas X. Alexander to involve potential members in service projects and activities to give them a firsthand experience of what Lions are all about.
- 4 Foster a sense of belonging.** Create an inclusive environment within the club so new members feel they are part of a larger family.
- 5 Offer continual development.** Provide opportunities for personal and professional growth through training, networking and leadership roles.





# Let the children play

LEO-LIONS TO BUILD INCLUSIVE PARK FOR THEIR COMMUNITY.

BY ANNEMARIE MANNION

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Born with a bilateral clubfoot, seven-year-old Craig Griffin hasn't had the strength or mobility to swing by himself at a playground for most of his young life. And there wasn't a playground in his community with the equipment he needed to climb into a swing and pump his legs, a slide he could skim down or a tower he could climb.

That will all change for the first grader, who will be one of the first children to try out a new inclusive playground that will open this fall in Caryville, Tennessee.

"I'm very excited," he said. "The swings sound like fun, and the slides, too."

*Craig Griffin inspired the Caryville Cares Leo-Lion Club to build an inclusive playground in their community.*

Photos by J. Miles Cary

## Where there's a need, there's a ... Leo-Lion club

The playground project was spearheaded by Caryville Cares, a Leo-Lion club that, although only two years old, has big plans to provide much-needed resources to their rural community in east Tennessee.

The 35-member club started with two goals: to give back to the community and to provide an opportunity for young professionals to network and build bonds.

"Our community was sorely lacking an opportunity for young professionals to get together," says Lion Brandon Johnson, club president, who started the club and has led the playground project. "We had a lot of people who wanted to give back, but who didn't know what to do."

### Birth of the idea

The idea for an inclusive playground came about because Johnson works with Craig's father, Darrell Griffin, at an auto and tire repair shop. He knew that Craig, who at different times was in a wheelchair or wearing leg braces, had undergone numerous surgeries and had needed to relearn how to walk at least 10 times.

Johnson also had discovered that the closest inclusive playground for children with disabilities was about an hour's drive away — too far for the Griffins and many other families to easily access.

"I could see the struggle for Craig of not having a single place he could play with his brother, Dalton," Johnson says.

"Having a mobility challenge in our family is not new for us," says Craig's mother, Kendra Griffin. "But it's not really something that's thought about by others [in many communities]."

“IT’S POWERFUL TO SEE HOW A SMALL COMMUNITY CAN COME TOGETHER TO CREATE SOMETHING FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF EVERYONE.”

— LION DR. CHEYENNE ALLEN

Dr. Cheyenne Allen, a pediatric physical therapist who works with children with disabilities and a member of the Caryville Cares Leo-Lion Club, agreed with Johnson that there was a need for an inclusive playground.

"I've heard parents say they wish their children had some place to play where they would not get hurt and where they wouldn't have to apologize to other parents if their child's wheelchair got in the way or if their autistic child had a tantrum," she says.

## Assessing the community's needs

Although an inclusive playground seemed like an important need, the members of Caryville Cares didn't assume that an inclusive playground was what the community needed. Instead, they invested time in surveying residents and doing research.

They learned that one in five people in Campbell County, where Caryville is located, has a disability.

"That's double the national average," Johnson notes.

They also learned that the county is home to many veterans living with disabilities and to older adults who are raising their grandchildren.

"We have grandparents and great-grandparents with mobility issues who've never been able to take their grandchildren to a park," Johnson says. "Imagine trying to get a wheelchair over wood chips."

To further determine their community's needs, club members did in-person interviews and ran polls on social media — an information gathering process that Johnson says was crucial.

"You've got to look at your community," Johnson says. "A lot of time you think you know your community, but you don't."

### Doing their homework

The club also educated itself and the community about what an inclusive park is and what it would entail to build one.



## A closer look at the Caryville Cares Playground

### The inclusive playground will include:

- Wheelchair-accessible ramps and platforms
- Soft, safe and comfortable play areas
- Adaptive swings with adjustable features
- Inclusive climbers with a variety of paths and handholds
- A merry-go-round with a ramp
- Play structures that are low to the ground and easily accessible
- Textured walls with interactive panels



Johnson and Griffin help break ground for the playground.

An inclusive park is universally designed, which means it can be used by all people, and provides a sensory-rich environment that enables children to develop physically, socially and emotionally. It also creates play experiences that meet a variety of needs and interests.

"It's a higher bar than even an ADA-accessible park," Johnson says.

### Collecting the funds

Building such a facility was no easy feat. The Leo-Lions needed to raise US\$500,000 to see their dream come true.

They received a US\$90,000 LCIF grant and planned various fundraisers, including a Christian comedy show, a "Dancing with the Stars"-style competition featuring local celebrities, dinners and roadside donation collections. They also set up a text-to-donate system so residents could make donations via their phones.

"We've done everything and anything you can think of to raise money," says Johnson. "This has been 100% led by Leo-Lions. A team of young professionals — whose average age is 30 — has raised a half-million in cash."

### Finding the land

Caryville Cares broke ground for the park in November 2022.

The City of Caryville leased 1.5 acres to the club for US\$1, a sign that the grateful Leo-Lion club had earned the support of the greater community and its leaders for the playground.

"We're talking premier real estate [for the park site]," says Johnson.

### Building more than a playground

The new playground is colorful and inviting, with a wide variety of equipment to meet the needs of all children. And Caryville Cares' plans for the park are just beginning. They are also planning to include an inclusive Halloween celebration and Special Olympics events.



Griffin with Caryville Cares club members.

"Land next door is US\$800,000 an acre."

The deal Caryville Cares struck with the city called for the club to build the park and for the city to maintain it.

They see the playground as a place to bring the community together no matter their needs or abilities.

"This won't just be a playground. It will be a hub for people with disabilities to be treated fairly," Johnson says.

### Uniting the community

Being a member of Caryville Cares and working on the playground project has been a learning experience for Allen, who often was called upon to speak to groups and organizations about the drive to build the playground.

She says working on the project has opened her eyes to how people in a small community can be galvanized to work toward a common goal that benefits the community overall.

"It's helped me to realize that when you give people the opportunity to help — they take that opportunity," Allen says.

"It's powerful to see how a small community can come together to create something for the greater good of everyone."

### Providing a safe space to play

Even though the playground has plenty of bells and whistles, some of its less showy elements, such as the soft, flat surface, is appreciated by Kendra Griffin.

Previously, even a wrong step on gravel or wood chips could've meant an injury for Craig and a trip to the hospital.

She's thrilled that Craig and 12-year-old Dalton can now play together — carefree and no longer needing anyone's assistance.

"He can be independent [now]," she says of Craig. "And he won't have to worry about getting hurt." 



### What's a Leo-Lion?

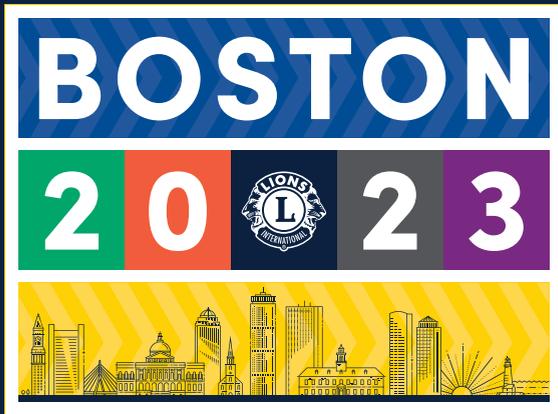
Current or former Leos between the ages of legal majority and age 35, who have served as Leos for at least a year and a day, can continue serving as Leo-Lion members. Leo-Lion membership offers the flexibility to serve in any type of Lions club alongside Leo-Lions and Lions.

#### Some Leo-Lion membership benefits include:

- 50% discount on international dues
- Entrance or charter fee waiver
- Exclusive Leo-Lion membership pin
- Access to a private LinkedIn Leo-Lion professional networking group

Learn more at

[lionsclubs.org/leo-lion](https://lionsclubs.org/leo-lion)



Lions and Leos, thank you for coming together to celebrate service at LCIcon 2023 Boston!



**Melbourne 2024**  
106TH LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

## LionsCon 2024 Melbourne

Join us June 21-25, 2024, for an unforgettable convention in the land down under! The 106th Lions International Convention will be held in beautiful Melbourne, Australia, where Lions and Leos will show the world how service is our nature.

**Register early to save US\$75!**



# 5 Reasons to Visit Melbourne, AUSTRALIA

- 1. Cultural Hub**  
Immerse yourself in art and culture by attending one of Melbourne's many festivals or checking out its world-famous street art.
- 2. Foodie Paradise**  
Explore the city's diverse culinary scene by enjoying flavors from around the world served up in a variety of venues from fine dining restaurants to casual eateries and street vendors.
- 3. Sports Capital**  
Take in top-tier competition in Australia's sporting capital. If live action isn't on the calendar during your visit, consider a tour of iconic stadiums like the Melbourne Cricket Ground.
- 4. Architectural Gem**  
Admire the city's blend of architectural styles, ranging from Victorian to contemporary. Must-see landmarks include Flinders Street Station, St. Paul's Cathedral and the Royal Exhibition Building.
- 5. Gateway to Natural Beauty**  
Explore the natural wonders surrounding the city with a coastal drive on the Great Ocean Road to enjoy breathtaking views or a trip to the Yarra Valley to take in picturesque landscapes.

# Pickleball Pandemonium

Clubs hit the courts for fun, fitness and fundraising.

BY JOAN CARY

If anybody knows how to serve, it's the Lions. They've been acing it for more than 100 years.

But serving in pickleball, now that's a relatively new thing, and Lions who try it are getting stuck on it like syrup on pancakes.

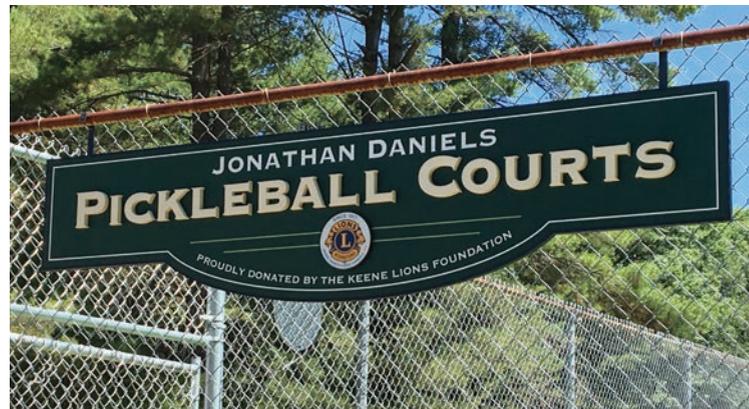


Lion Curt Goke (center left) with his wife, Jane (center right), and members of the Eden Prairie Lions Club on a pickleball court in Minnesota.

### Pickleballin' in the Midwest

"Lifelong friendships are made out of this," Lion Curt Goke in Minnesota says of both Lions and pickleball. Goke, 77, a member of the Eden Prairie Lions Club since 2017, plays pickleball three times a week and teaches beginners after church on Sundays. He has competed in 43 tournaments and played in at least 70 venues. His wife, Jane, equally as active, qualified to play in the 2019 Margaritaville USA Pickleball National Championships.

Pickleball has also created new fundraising opportunities for clubs. The sport is so popular in Goke's town that the Eden Prairie Lions partnered with the Twin City Pickleball Club to sponsor a tournament as part of the Lions' biggest fundraiser, the annual Schooner Days. Pickleball registration filled in early April for the June event.



When Curt and Jane swapped their racquetball racquets for pickleball paddles about 14 years ago, few people knew what the sport was. Now all ages vie for time on the courts. A hybrid of badminton, tennis and ping-pong, pickleball has been the fastest growing sport in the U.S. for three years running, according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association. It is played in almost every country.

"Lifelong friendships are made out of this."

-Lion Curt Goke

### Serving up fun and fitness on the East Coast

In New Hampshire, Ron Farina, a member of the Keene Lions Club, has enjoyed seeing the sport's popularity explode. Farina is a USA Pickleball Association Ambassador and proud to say he has played on the courts at Bainbridge Island, Washington, where the sport was founded.

For about 50 years he was happy with tennis, playing every week, indoors or out, with his friend, Rich.

"One day Rich said he was switching to pickleball. How would you like to come to a pickleball lesson?" Farina recalls. "I took that one lesson, and I couldn't believe the workout and how much fun it was. I played one more game of tennis and I never went back."

Farina was soon playing pickleball six days a week on a tennis court with markings for pickleball. Off court he found himself dreaming about converting two of the city's old tennis courts into six pickleball courts.

A Keene Lion for 53 years, he is known in his club and his community as a man who gets things done. Anxious to make his dream happen for the city of Keene, he began meeting with Lions and city leaders to educate them on pickleball — not just how fun it is, but how it can be used to increase awareness of diabetes and the importance of exercise. Eventually some of his listeners tried the sport, came back to the table, and supported his efforts.

In 2016, the Keene Lions donated US\$15,900 to have six new courts installed as one of four legacy initiatives marking the 100-year anniversary of Lions International. Farina's list of people either interested in learning the game or getting



Lion Ron Farina (left) with his friend and fellow pickleball enthusiast, Nancy Watkins, on the courts funded by the Keene Lions Club in New Hampshire.

"It's about community, camaraderie and exercise. It's just fun to play."

-Lion Ron Farina

time on a court had grown to include 350 email addresses.

Now 85, balance problems are keeping Farina off the courts, but he hopes his daily exercises will help him ease back into playing. He recently gave his job as chairman of the Keene Lions Pickleball Jamboree to a new, young Lion who also loves the game and was eager to get more involved.

In addition, the sport has brought new Lions into the club. Steve Gyory was newly retired when he moved to Keene from New Jersey and joined pickleball to meet people. Wanting to be more active in helping the community, he also explored service organizations in town. One day on the court he asked Farina, "Hey, how can I get involved with Lions?" Today, Gyory is president of the Keene Lions Club.

"When we first opened the gate for the new courts, all six were immediately filled and there were people waiting. The courts continue to be in constant use," says Farina. "People come 20 miles to play. It's about community, camaraderie and exercise. It's just fun to play." 

# Lions Respond to “Disaster of the Century” with LCIF Support

BY ANDREA SMALL

“Turkey is going through the most difficult days in its history,” says Past Council Chairperson Danyal Kubin, the disaster relief committee chairperson for MD 118 who is mobilizing Lions’ disaster relief efforts following the February 2023 earthquake and aftershocks that struck Turkey and Syria.

Kubin, a structural engineer and seismic expert, says this series of earthquakes is the largest seen in the region in more than a century and were felt for more than 350,000 square kilometers (21,748 miles). Additionally, the earthquakes were very close to the surface, making the destruction even greater.

The disaster killed more than 50,000 people, injured more than 120,000, and left millions of people displaced. Homes crumbled to the ground, hundreds of other buildings collapsed, and communities were changed forever.

When a humanitarian disaster of this magnitude strikes, Lions are among the first to respond. Empowered by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) grant funds, they are bringing a small bit of comfort to survivors of these devastating earthquakes.

The first priority? Providing safety and shelter to people who currently have no place to call home.

Immediately after the first earthquake struck, LCIF awarded a US\$200,000 Major Catastrophe Grant to the Lions in Turkey. Lions used these funds to develop the Adiyaman Lions Container Village. The 60 containers purchased with the grant are furnished and fitted with a kitchen and bathroom to provide temporary housing for displaced people while they await reconstruction in their communities.

Lions in Sweden also used an LCIF Matching Grant awarded in May 2022 to develop the Antakya Lions Tent Village. Within the village are 320 tents to temporarily house 1,050 people, more than 340 of them children. Local Lion and Leo volunteers regularly interact with the children, providing them with learning and socialization opportunities.

Finally, through LCIF’s partnership with the MD 111 German Lions Foundation, funds are addressing the immediate survival, safety and short-term housing needs of victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

These are just a few of the projects that are underway. Additional grants will be awarded as needs continue to grow.



“The response and support from Lions worldwide is inspiring and illustrates Lions’ unwavering humanitarian spirit during this unfathomable disaster. Lions live and serve in the communities most impacted, and we will be there to support the people there as long as they need us,” says 2022-2023 LCIF Chairperson Douglas X. Alexander. “LCIF grant funding helps us make an even bigger difference for people who’ve experienced so much loss during this unimaginable disaster.”

LCIF grants are only possible with support from Lions across the globe who immediately united to support those impacted by the earthquakes. In the weeks following the disaster, many Lion leaders, clubs and districts launched fundraising events in person and online to benefit LCIF’s Disaster Relief fund. Lions worldwide also continue to make individual donations to support the cause. These efforts will help ensure that Lions can provide help and hope in the region for as long as it is needed.

“We are talking about a disaster on a scale that no country in the world can be prepared for on its own,” Kubin says. “That’s why we need the support of the international community more than ever. Together we are always stronger.”

To learn more about how Lions International is responding to this disaster and how Lions are an integral part of earthquake relief, visit [lionsclubs.org/earthquakerelief](https://lionsclubs.org/earthquakerelief).

# Partnerships with Purpose

BY LEIA WILLIAMS

“When you remove a cataract, people who have not seen their children in years, suddenly see them. It is amazing to witness,” Past District Governor Sedrace Rwekikiya shared, while standing under the thick shade of the tree canopy just outside St. Francis Nsambya Hospital in Kampala, Uganda. As she continued to speak about the incredible impact Lions have made in Uganda toward reducing preventable blindness, in the distance, the latest vision project was taking shape.

A renovated and expanded two-story vision clinic surrounded by scaffolding could be seen past the trees. This 5,500 square foot facility, expected to be completed in 2024, should provide enough space and equipment for medical staff to increase outpatient consultations from 2,800 to 8,100 per year. Newly trained staff will also increase the diagnosis and treatment capacity by thousands of individuals.

“I am excited about the new clinic being constructed,” Dr. Lucy Namakula expressed with a smile. “This will extend our services to the community and save our patients money.”

Earlier in the day, she had to refer a family to another hospital because their baby had severely crossed eyes and the current vision clinic could not manage his treatment. This referral to a larger facility would require travel for the family, which would increase their costs.

“It is important to support the clinic because sight is a gift. This clinic will save families money and the new equipment will improve our patient care, so we are grateful to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Latter-day Saint Charities for supporting us.”

Together, these two organizations have partnered to give over US\$420,000 to expand comprehensive eye care services in the Kampala metropolitan area. When the clinic is completed, it is expected to offer 20,250 student eye exams each year, in addition to exponentially increasing the current clinic’s capacity for cataract surgeries, diabetic retinopathy screenings and more.

For years, Kampala has had few comprehensive eye care facilities and they were not meeting the full needs of the community. Knowing this, Dr. Geoffrey Erem and fellow Lions of District 411-B decided they could bridge the gap by applying for a SightFirst grant with LCIF to expand and improve their current vision clinic. “Lions come together to solve community needs,” Dr. Erem noted. “If we pool resources, we make a larger difference.”

**“It is like a bit of magic. Just imagine that you have been living in darkness and now there is light.”**

-Dr. Lucy Namakula

Efforts like this one prove Dr. Erem’s point. The mission-oriented partnership with Latter-day Saint Charities will enhance LCIF’s ability to invest in vision care in expansive ways, support sustainable Lion-led projects, and reach thousands of people in Kampala. Additionally, for the medical professionals who will be empowered to serve a greater number of patients



Dr. Lucy Namakula

more effectively, this partnership will support their professional fulfillment, which is immeasurable yet priceless. “I love to help patients see,” Dr. Namakula remarked. “It is like a bit of magic. Just imagine that you have been living in darkness and now there is light.”

When the doors to the newly expanded St. Francis Nsambya Hospital Eye Clinic open next year, light will flood each room and patients will leave with the ability to see it, some for the first time.

LCIF and Latter-day Saint Charities have partnered since 2018 to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness for underserved populations in Africa, South America and the Middle East.

Visit [lionsclubs.org/CSR](https://lionsclubs.org/CSR) to learn more about LCIF partnerships and the impact they have around the world.

## CLUB NEWS

The **Fishhawk Lions Club** in **Florida** celebrated receiving their official club charter from Lions International. Members of their sponsoring club, the Brandon Lions Club, and numerous other Lions came to congratulate the new club. For three years, the Fishhawk Lions Club has been helping communities by providing COVID masks, supporting food banks and shelters, and instituting and supporting grassroots activities like luggage and shoe drives.

In **Texas**, the 16th annual **Sulphur Springs Lions Club** Lighted Christmas Parade was a showcase of festively lit parade entries. The Lions also teamed up with Blue Santa for the Blue Santa Toy Drive. New, unwrapped toys were placed along the parade route for Blue Santa to collect.

The **Owen J. Roberts Middle School Leos** in **Pennsylvania** completed a service project at In Ian's Boots, an organization dedicated to providing footwear for those in need.

In **Illinois**, the **Bismarck Lions Club** performed vision screenings at Bismarck-Henning Elementary School. Chartered in 1956, the club hosted its annual Pancake and Sausage Day and proceeds helped the Lions purchase a vision screening machine.

In **Ohio**, the **Westshore Lions Club** accepted new and gently used winter coats for Coats for Kids at the public library. They provided donors with holiday treats and a presentation on services for homeless youth.



Dalles Lions in Oregon drove a 100-year-old truck in the holiday parade.

**Dalles Lion** Timmy Mac in **Oregon** had access to a 1923 GMC one-ton truck and asked Lion Mike Kilkeny to be his co-pilot for the holiday parade. The 100-year-old truck didn't run well, had no headlights or taillights, and the brakes were marginal, but the adventurous Lions made it through the parade, guided by the lights of the pickup they followed.

The **Emporia Lions** in **Kansas** rang the red kettle bells for the Salvation Army and took in more than US\$2,000 over six hours. Lions added another US\$1,000 to the pot.

In November of 1996, a local radio disc jockey challenged his listeners to donate turkeys to help the less fortunate. The **Visalia Breakfast Lions of California** accepted that challenge and donated 25 turkeys. The turkeys were purchased from member fines, which were then matched by the club, and the Turkey Drive became an annual Lion project. In 2022, they donated 1,083 turkeys, 30 chickens and 100 rotisserie-cooked chickens. Corporate sponsors helped and the turkeys were distributed through local organizations.



James City Lions rang the red kettle bells for the Salvation Army in Virginia.

Twenty-six **James City Lions** in **Virginia** rang the red kettle bells for the Salvation Army, working 58 volunteer hours. Seven club members also collected 297 pounds of soft plastic from 111 residents on a cold morning, concluding their six-month period of recycling plastic with Trex.

The **Carrollton Host Lions** in **Texas** celebrated the holiday season looking back at what they accomplished in 2022. Over the year, the club held a wine tasting, a golf tournament, a Christmas party for Special Education students, and supported Metrocrest Services on a monthly basis with donations and food for their pantry.



Illinois Aurora Noon Lions' signing Santa brought joy to hearing-impaired kids.

**Aurora Noon Lions Club** in **Illinois** hosted an American Sign-Language Santa and Mrs. Claus for their 12th annual holiday party for hearing-impaired kids. Guests included 35 deaf and hearing-impaired children, caregivers, teachers and friends.

The **Owensboro Lions Club** in **Kentucky** hosted its annual Free Breakfast with Santa at Settle Memorial United Methodist Church.

In **Florida**, the **South Daytona Lions Club** had its monthly free diabetes screening at the Port Orange Farmers and Flea Market.

On Giving Tuesday, the **Avon Grove Lions** in **Pennsylvania** donated 150 large Christmas gift bags to Oxford Neighborhood Services. The bags were used by the children's parents to take home the toys they selected from the Christmas Toy Room.

The **Lathrup Village Lions** in **Michigan** were joined by the Optimist Club of Southfield-Lathrup Village and the Cosmopolitan Detroit Kiwanis Club for "Celebrate

Community 2022" at the World Medical Relief headquarters in Southfield to sort through mounds of medical equipment and supplies to be sent to Uganda.

**Lions Clubs in District 43Y** collected winter coats for those in eastern **Kentucky** who continued to feel the impact of the July 2022 floods and mudslides. Donations of space heaters, blankets, electrical cords, crock pots, food and more were welcomed as recovery efforts continued in the cold.

In **Washington, MD** **19 Lions clubs** earned 19 benches through the Trex Recycling Challenge by recycling plastic bags. The benches have been placed around communities served by the Burlington, Federal Way, Lacey Midday, Lakewood First, North Pend Oreille Valley, Olympia Host, Rathdrum, Sedro Woolley, Silverdale Sunrise, Snohomish, Spanaway, Spokane Shadle North, Steamboat Peninsula, Tacoma Centennial, Tumwater, West Olympia Lions Clubs, as well as the Steamboat Island Club Branch of the Olympia Host Lions Club and the River City Club Branch of Post Falls Lions Club. Lions kept nearly 12 tons of plastic out of landfills.

The **Pearl City Lions Club** in **Hawaii** donated 39 boxes of books for Manana Elementary School, and **East Kauai Lions Club** had them shipped to the **Baguio City Host Lions** in the **Philippines**. Teachers made the arduous journey to get the books to the remote enclaves of the Cordillera Mountains.

When the blizzard hit **New York** in December, leaving thousands without power, a one-year-old boy was left without the ventilator he needed to breathe. His mother and father had to administer manual breaths for two days until strangers

rescued them and took them to a relative's home. The Lions Club of New York and Bermuda Foundation gave an emergency grant to the Brandel Murphy Youth Foundation to purchase a Honda generator, extension cord, and full tank of gas to gift the family so this predicament never happens again. **Lions Club of Western New York** member, Tom Witkowski, and District Governor Michael Yost presented the boy's mother with the gift.

The **Elkhart Lions Club** in **Indiana** teamed with Monteith Tire to help a local family get new tires for the family's handicap-accessible van used to take a 35-year-old father fighting ALS to medical appointments.

In **Ontario, Canada**, the **Dorchester & District Lions** and community volunteers have been working with the Magic Yarn Project to create Disney character-inspired wigs for young warriors with childhood cancer. Chemotherapy treatments often leave young scalps too sensitive for scratchy traditional wigs, but yarn wigs are comfy, soft and warm.



Dorchester & District Lions in Ontario, Canada, provided Disney-style yarn wigs to kids with cancer.

The **Lions Club of Chili in New York** ended a busy year providing food and gifts to nearly 30 families as part of their Holiday Gift Basket Campaign. With support from neighboring Lions in Churchville and Scottsville, they also participated in the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign, raising US\$1,361 for the community.

**La Habra Host Lions in California** honored Lion Lorna Badame as she reached her 500th platelet donation. For three decades, she has been donating almost every two weeks. Donation center employees and volunteers cheered as she arrived for her milestone and celebrated with cupcakes when she was done with her two-hour donation session. Lion Lorna was joined by her daughter, Lion Catherine Badame-Guimond.

In **Kansas**, the **Emporia Lions Club** continued its long relationship with the Emporia Head Start program, purchasing enough books for each of the 76 Head Start kids to have two books of their own.



Norwalk Lions in Wisconsin raised funds for schools.

In **Indiana**, **Heritage Lions Club** member Rick Boys, along with Rolando Yuja of the Honduras Lions, and Jim Brockmann, loaded 7,000 eyeglasses and delivered them to John Gellar of the Arcola Lions Club. Gellar stores the eyeglasses in his barn until the Arcola Lions hold their semi-annual eyeglass sorting party each spring. Eyeglasses are sent to be cleaned by the Goshen Lions, then shipped to missions in Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico. The three men loaded more than 30,000 eyeglasses, as well as 1,700 used shoes gathered by Changing Footprints in New Haven, into a 40-by-8-foot shipping container, including specialized machines for dental and eye surgeries, bound for Honduras.

In **California**, the **Lions Center for the Visually Impaired** has been active re-establishing in-person and hybrid group activities for senior clients. Excursions included the Jelly Belly factory and Big Break Regional Shoreline to take part in events like the Hopping Holiday Celebration with a life-size snow globe.

The **Maricopa Lions Club of Arizona** had a busy year of service in 2022. They performed 6,345 vision screenings with 1,568 referrals to an eye care specialist, and 5,965 total hearing screenings with 640 referrals to a hearing specialist. In addition, 18 club members volunteered 964 hours and collected 5,248 pairs of glasses.



California's Lemon Grove Lions worked to rid their town of graffiti.

Graffiti continues to be a problem in Lemon Grove, **California**, where property owners are responsible for graffiti removal on their premises. They are given a few weeks to remove it or they face fines. But getting it done isn't easy. The **Lemon Grove Lions Club**, with a grant from the California Lions Foundation, funded a graffiti abatement project. Lemon Grove Lion David Eckler and veteran Josh Klein lead the project, spending three to five days a week covering hundreds of graffiti tags in the city.

**West Kauai Lions in Hawaii** celebrated their 85th charter anniversary with their fellow Lions from six other clubs – **East Kauai, Kapa'a, Koloa, Kauai, Mana Loa-Nimitz and Lanai City**.

The **Niagara Cyber Lions Charter Afternoon Club in Ontario, Canada**, featured singers from the Rising Stars youth group who entertained at the club's charter celebration. The arts-supporting club gathers used instruments that are retrofitted and given to youth who can't afford them.



DG Bob Townsend congratulated Jamie Adams, Jim Adams Jr. and Jim Adams Sr. who represent three generations of Simcoe Lions in Ontario, Canada.

The **Simcoe Lions in Ontario, Canada**, welcomed 10 new members, including Lion Jamie Adams who joins his dad, Jim Adams Jr., and grandpa Jim Adams Sr., making the Simcoe Lions a three-generation club.

The **Larsen/Winchester Lions Club in Wisconsin** loaned out more than US\$900,000 worth of medical equipment in 2022, including 11 16-ft enclosed trailer loads going to the Ukraine through their partner, Orphan Grain Train. Lions are also supporting a group of neighboring Lions clubs starting their own distribution of medical equipment and completed their 1,300th handicap ramp.

In **Missouri**, the **East Side, South Side and Host Lions Clubs** came together for the 70th Annual Pancake Days at the Army National Guard Armory.

In **Pennsylvania**, the 2023 **Robinson Lions Club's** melodrama in its 55th year was a success. "Mystery at Uncle Fuzzy's or Dancing on Geezer's Grave" was written by Lions. The show is the club's main fundraiser with proceeds used for community service. Money made on the

Christmas play performed by the Lions provided donations to six Brown County schools and the Hiawatha Genealogy Club. It also helped buy fireworks for Robinson's Fourth of July festivities.

The 39th annual **Kemmerer Lions Club** Ice Fishing Derby held over Presidents Day weekend in **Wyoming** had 270 participants. Cash prizes totaling US\$4,888 went to the winners in various big fish categories. The fishing derby is the club's biggest fundraiser, and the money goes back to the community. The club has just six active members.

Over 15 years, the **Ashland Evening Lions Club in Ohio** has recycled more than 100,000 pairs of eyeglasses, some of them passed on by Goodwill Industries. Goodwill passes donated prescription glasses to the Lions to be sorted and recycled.

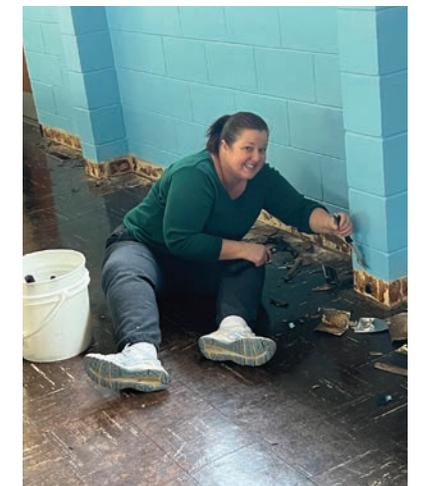
For more than 30 years, the **Portland Lions in Maine** partnered with The Iris Network to raise funds by parking cars. The Iris Network provides services to the blind and visually impaired and has a large parking lot near venues for sporting and other events in the area. The Portland Lions volunteered for parking duty but could not continue in 2017, and the **Falmouth Lions Club in Maine** took over. A year of parking will yield about US\$70,000 in revenue. Sight-impaired members of the Maine Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind assist in making change for the customers. The Lions provide the footwork and expertise in getting the cars parked.

The **Portage Lions in Michigan** donated their time and purchased materials to repaint the basement recreation room at CityGate as a thank you to the church for allowing their club to meet at its facility.

The **Lions Club of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania**, completed its 10,000th community vision screening at St. Joseph's School. The Lions have been providing free vision screenings to the community since 2017.

The **Louisville Highlands Lions in Kentucky** are proud of their longtime member Kitty Petit who after years of making blankets for her own family began making blankets for Project Linus, an organization that supplies blankets to hospitals, crisis centers, the foster care program and on Adoption Day at the county courthouse. Petit has made and donated more than 100 blankets to the organization.

The **Grifton Lions Club** has been named among the fastest-growing Lions clubs in **North Carolina**. The club inducted eight new members, recording a 125% growth rate. Lion Jerry Williams received an award from Past International President Brian Sheehan for his achievements in advancing the



The Portage Lions in Michigan helped repaint the recreation room of a church where Lions meet.

## CLUB NEWS

mission of Lions International. Williams is responsible for bringing in many of the new Grifton inductees over the last year.

The **Colfax Lions Club** in **California** teamed up with Colfax Elementary School staff to recognize students who exceeded school goals for growth in reading as measured by standardized testing. Colfax Lions gave each student a Kindle, responding to Lions' call to action for clubs to plan projects and activities that stress the importance of reading.



The Polo Lions' annual toy show in Illinois drew 300 shoppers.

The National Loon Center prepared for another summer of on-the-water education with the help of the **Crosslake Ideal Lions Club** in **Minnesota**. The Lions donated US\$1,000 for the purchase of high-quality binoculars to be used by participants aboard the StewardShip, a 31-foot tritoon boat that leads the National Loon Center's educational excursions on Cross Lake.

The **Parsippany Lions Club** in **New Jersey** hosted its first Spring Food Festival at Central Middle School as a fundraiser for first responders.

The **Valley Lions Club** in **Manitoba, Canada**, hosted the 24th annual Billy Beal Classic Ice Fishing Derby at Whitefish Lake. With US\$10,000 up for grabs, Winnipegosis' Thomas McKay landed a 4 lb. 2 oz. northern pike with 14 minutes left in the tournament and weighed it in with six minutes remaining.

The **Lions Club of Merritton** in **Ontario, Canada**, donated CA\$5,000 toward a new Dog Guide training facility in Oakville. The CA\$50 million project, scheduled for completion in 2025, will provide updated facilities and increase the number of dogs trained. Merritton

Lions made a five-year, CA\$25,000 commitment to the project. A second donation of CA\$5,000 was presented for the current operations at Dog Guide facilities. The club also ran a successful Trivia Night for 300 competitors in support of the Westview Centre4Women, a resource center and meeting place created by women for women.

In **North Carolina**, 22 **Lions from Zones 5 and 6 in Districts 31-L and 31-I** packed food bags for elementary children as part of the Backpack program. The Lions stocked shelves and packed more than 750 bags of food to be given out the following week.

The **Erie, Pennsylvania Lions Club**, chartered in 1922, has sponsored an all-star high school football game to fund its mission since 1939. Lions have been planning their 85th game for this summer. More than 5,000 coaches and players participate. Since that first game, the Save An Eye All-Star Football game has raised more than US\$3 million. Last fall, US\$20,000 was used for vision screening of children.

In **Illinois**, the **Polo Lions** Toy Show drew more than 300 people, some to look and many to buy toys from the vendors at the show.

The **Kent, Washington Lions** donated US\$5,000 to the Kent Police Department for their newly created Blue Bridge Foundation, which provides funds for police personnel to use when they come across someone in need of clothing, food or short stay housing. The police officers often paid for this out of their own pockets.



Lions in Kent, Washington, helped fund the police department's new Blue Bridge Foundation.

In **Minnesota**, the **Orono Lions'** 36th annual Snowball Open was held on the lake in Long Lake. More than 600 golfers took part and Lions raised more than US\$25,000 for local charities and organizations. The 18-hole course is carved out of the frozen tundra on Long Lake, and the Lions' challenging 19th hole was a big hit. Golfers donated US\$2 to play the bonus hole and had a chance to win up to US\$100 by getting the ball in a big can.



Breese, Illinois Lions served 1,348 people at their 37th annual chicken dinner.

The **Breese Lions** in **Illinois** held their 37th annual chicken dinner. Since 1986, the dinner has been held on the first Sunday in March and Breese Lions have served a total of 46,202 dinners. This year, Lions and their helpers served 1,348 dinners with a net profit of more than US\$8,300 that will support local needs.

Blind and low-vision children, along with their siblings, enjoyed an Easter tradition with a special sensory egg hunt sponsored by 11 Lions clubs in the Greater New Orleans area of **Louisiana**. **Lion Clubs of District 8S** made donations of food, drinks, prizes and treats for 27 pediatric clients from Lighthouse Louisiana, many using their white canes to find special eggs with beepers inside them. It was the seventh year the Lions clubs partnered with Lighthouse Louisiana for the event.

In **Wisconsin**, the **Goodman Armstrong Creek Lions Club** donated US\$500 to help the town of Fence break ground for a new playground, built benches for the town of Armstrong Creek and the school district, and provided a free "Pancake and Porky" breakfast as part of Armstrong Creek's Second Annual Sappy Days.

The **East Brunswick Leo Club** along with the **Edison Metro Lions** in **New Jersey** started their overseas book donation project in 2010, sending more than 700 books to underprivileged kids in Africa or the Philippines every year. Their 2023 book donation project was a big success, with Leos and Lions sending more than 700 books to the Philippines.

In **Massachusetts**, the Second Annual **South Attleboro Village Lions (SAVL)** Sock Drive collected 1,125 pairs for all ages and distributed them to homeless shelters, veterans, the Head Start Program, several churches and others in need. The Lions club also held its third annual pajama drive for children, providing new pajamas, a book and stuffed animal, plus socks or a blanket for a comforting bedtime routine. Lions have provided more than 500 pairs of pajamas to children in their community over the past three years.

The **Colts Neck Lions Club** in **New Jersey** hosted its annual Derby Day Tasting Event with beer, bourbon and wine tasting, including more than 40 varieties of wine. Food trucks, music and games, including a derby hat contest, a silent auction and a mechanical bull added to the fun. Proceeds help create Braille Trails in the Monmouth County Parks System.



The East Brunswick Leos in New Jersey collected 700 books for children in the Philippines.



McKeesport Lion Bobbie Billsborrow in Pennsylvania had her head shaved to raise funds for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

In **Pennsylvania**, **McKeesport Lions** applauded their member, Bobbie Billsborrow, who for 15 years has raised funds for St. Baldrick's Foundation, a childhood cancer research organization. She sells candy bars and popcorn and accepts pledges toward shaving her head each year at the main event that St. Baldrick's holds in the Pittsburgh area near St. Patrick's Day.

The **Avon Grove High School Leos** in **Pennsylvania** assisted the community in Penn Township's Easter event where children enjoyed face painting, a giant slide, train rides and the scramble for 15,000 plastic eggs filled with treats.

The **Rockaway Beach Lions** in **Oregon** hosted their annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner after a hiatus during Covid. The community came out in force. Leos from the local high school helped serve, and the dinner by donation brought in more than US\$600.

Members of the **Mechanicsburg Lions Club** in **Pennsylvania** helped beautify the Pink Hands of Hope Thrift Store, supplying their labor plus flowers and trees.

In **Florida**, the **South Daytona Lions** offer monthly vision screenings at the Port Orange Farmers and Flea Market each month.

The **Woodbine Georgia Lions**, with help and support from the Woodbine Woman's Club, had a successful Sixth Annual Car Show at the Lions Camp for the Blind in Waycross, **Georgia**. Proceeds totaled US\$4,600.

In **Kentucky**, the **Murray High School Leo Club** held its Inaugural Charter Night during the **Murray Lions'** April club meeting. More than 80 people attended, including 22 Leos wearing their new club shirts. The first Murray High Leo Club service project was cleaning the Lions Skatepark in support of Earth Day. Lions and Leos also replenished 14 blessing boxes throughout Calloway County.

**Fertile Lions Club** members and sixth graders from the Fertile-Beltrami School teamed up to clean up Fertile, **Minnesota**. They gathered at the Fertile Community Center to get fitted with vests and gloves before cleaning the fairgrounds, sports complex, park and approaches to the city, then returned to the center where the Lions treated the children to pizza and ice cream.



Sixth graders helped Lions in Fertile, Minnesota, clean up their town.

In **New York**, the **Broadalbin-Perth Lions** broadcasted live over the airwaves at WENT Radio for five hours as the guests on the station's Lions Information Day. The Lions discussed their local missions as well as what specifically drew each individual to become a Lion, interspersing the conversations with advertisements Lions solicited from local businesses. The broadcast afforded Lions the chance to reach out to a wider audience and promote the businesses that support them.



Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club President Bob Townsend explained the mission of Lions on WENT Radio in New York.



Lions in Minnesota and Wisconsin collected empty pill bottles for patients in Africa.

Past International President Brian Sheehan's theme, Together We Can, inspired **MD5M5 (Minnesota)** PDG Rob Rand and **MD27E1 (Wisconsin)** PDG Diane Fansler to take on a joint project. With the help of Lions in both multiple districts, they collected 2,896 pill bottles. The cleaned, reusable and sun-resistant pill bottles were shipped to Africa for use in safely distributing medications to patients.

In **Florida**, the **Ormond Beach Lions Club** honored their club president, Hank Lunsford, with the Millard Conklin Crusader for Lionism award, symbolized by a crusader's sword. The award encourages participation of "Grass Root" Lions, rewarding Lions for their outstanding dedication and contributions. Lunsford's father, Henry Lunsford, Sr., was given the award in 1970. Hank Lunsford is first vice president of the Florida Lions Diabetes Awareness Foundation.

The second annual Lion's CARE Cruise with the **Deerfield, Marshall, Cottage Grove and Cambridge Lions Clubs** in **Wisconsin** included a poker run and raffles in the morning, bowling and a bean bag toss for cash prizes in the afternoon, plus the Miracle League Spring Exhibition game with music. Proceeds benefitted

the Miracle League of Dane County, which allows children ages 4-19 with any physical or cognitive disability to play baseball on a specialized field.

In **Pennsylvania**, the **Lancaster Lions** celebrating their 100th year, kept up their monthly service by gathering at the Conestoga River to pick up litter along the Greenway trail.



North Carolina Lions from Claremont, Newton, Taylorsville, Bethlehem, St. Stephens and Long View packed 750 bags of food for kids.

In **North Carolina**, folks enjoyed the irresistible taste of freshly picked strawberries after purchasing fresh fruit from the **Hudson Lions Club**. Proceeds benefited visually impaired individuals in Caldwell County.

The **Easton Lions** in **Pennsylvania** helped residents rid their town and their homes of junk during Easton's Hazardous Waste Collection Day and the Easton Lions Junk & Recycle Day. The money raised supports student scholarships and the community's youth groups and service organizations. Lions accept everything from old sports equipment and toys to big appliances, mattresses and electronics, some for free and some for a fee of US\$5-\$35. Easton Lions have raised as much as US\$13,000 in four hours.

In **Alabama**, the **Lions Club of Mobile** sponsored the Double Tunnel Vision 5K Race where runners run not once but twice through the city's well-known Bankhead Tunnel, a submerged road tunnel that goes under the Mobile River.

In **Maine**, Rick Fowler, president of the **Mapleton Lions Club**, announced the club's 61st annual auction. The last two years, the Mapleton Lions ran two successful online auctions, but club members felt auction buyers were missing the traditional social experience of in-person auctions. This year, they hosted a hybrid auction that consisted of an online portion where starting bids were taken. The ending online bids then became the starting bids for the in-person event where final bids were made. Club members solicited nearly 300 items, gift certificates and services auctioned in support of the club.

The **Fort Myers Lions Club** in **Florida** recently presented the officers of the **Sanibel Captiva Lions Club** with a new gavel at a meeting of all the Lee County clubs. The Sanibel Captiva Lions Club lost all its equipment and memorabilia in Hurricane Ian.



Lions in Easton, Pennsylvania, gathered after a long day of service.

## PARTING SHOT

“I'm honored that we were able to find a program that really works for our students and will help them be better citizens in school ... and better citizens in their community.”



## The Future is Bright

Dr. Tamara Young, director of student services at Lincoln Elementary School, is all smiles as she talks about implementing the Lions Quest social-emotional learning program at her school in Calumet City, Illinois. Dr. Young is a member of the Calumet City Lions Club.

Learn more at [lions-quest.org](https://lions-quest.org).



# LION



Lions International

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