

Positive Pride



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As your District Governor, Virginia and I were honored to attend the 90th International Convention for Lions Clubs International in Chicago, Illinois.

Approximately 15,000 Lions Members, representing 45,000 lions clubs, and 200 countries and geographic areas were in attendance. The Parade of Flags from the 200 countries was a vision never to be forgotten by those attending.

The prestigious Lions Humanitarian Award was presented to Lion Timothy P. Shriver, Chairman of Special Olympics, an exciting and well deserved accolade. Timothy is also a Charter Member of the Washington, DC Special Olympics Lions Club. Keynote Speaker, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter presented a call to all Lions to expand and continue our global campaign through the last year of our Sight First II Program, to continue the fight against preventable blindness. What a passionate and dedicated

humanitarian speaker and also a Past District Governor with 50 years as a Lion.

The excitement grew as the oath of office was administered by then International President Jimmy Ross to our new International President Mahendra Amarasuriya of Sri Lanka. You could have heard a pin drop throughout this huge assembly of Lions. You can only imagine the resounding applause for both of these fine lions at the completion of the ceremony.

The final recollection which I would like to leave you with is that of 750 District Governors and their spouses all standing together as they were formally elected for their year as District Governor for 2007-2008 — and all at the same time had their spouse remove the elect ribbon from their District Governors badge!

I personally wish to thank each and every lion from District H for allowing me to share your year as your District Governor. My partner in service, PZC Virginia and I look forward to a great year as “Positive Pride”.





Meet our new International President, Mahendra Amarasuriya

He is a graduate of the University of Ceylon with a Bachelor of Science degree. He has participated in the Top Management Course at the International Institute of Management in Lausanne, Switzerland. He has also acquired considerable experience in the field of management over the last 40 years as a director and of many prestigious companies in Sri Lanka.

President Amarasuriya is the chairperson of the Commercial Bank of Ceylon Limited and three other blue chip companies, as well as a board member of many other blue chip companies in Sri Lanka. He is also a past chair person of the International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, Employers' Federation of Ceylon, the Employees' Trust Fund Board, the Institute of Management of Sri Lanka and the National Agribusiness Council of Sri Lanka.

A charter member of the Lions Club of Galle (pronounced Gaul), he has held many offices within the association, including District Governor from 1978 to 1979, Council Chairperson from 1979 to 1980 and International Director from 1991 to 1993.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including many membership awards, the Master Key Award, eight International President's Certificates of Appreciation, eight International President's Awards, the Leadership Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He has also received the 100% District Governor Award, the Extension Award and the 15-Year Perfect Attendance Award. President Amarasuriya is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and resides in Colombo, Sri Lanka with his wife, Lion Kushlani, also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

LCIF Ranked Best NGO Worldwide



In a special report released Thursday, July 5, 2007, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) was ranked best among non-governmental organizations (NGOs) worldwide. From 34 global organizations, LCIF came in first for its execution of programs, demonstrated accountability, communications internally and externally, program adaptability to the surrounding community, and understanding the goals of its corporate supporters. Lions beat out Rotary International, Habitat for Humanity, UNESCO and UNICEF, to name a few on the list.

The ratings were compiled by the Financial Times in association with the Dahlberg Global Development Advisers and the United Nations Global Compact. The assessment was published in the Financial Times' Corporate Citizenship and Philanthropy Special Report and highlights companies' growing interest in long-term partnerships to tackle an expanding range of social issues.

Just for
Laughs



An elderly woman who lived on the third floor of an apartment building broke her leg. As the doctor put a cast on it, he warned her not to climb any stairs. Several weeks later, the doctor removed the cast.

"Can I climb stairs now?" she asked.

"Certainly you can," the doctor replied.

"Thank goodness!" she exclaimed. "I'm sick and tired of climbing up and down that drainpipe!" -

- from the Lion Magazine





Some highlights from the Cabinet Meeting - July 21, 2007



Zone Chairs and member of the cabinet presented their reports with gusto.



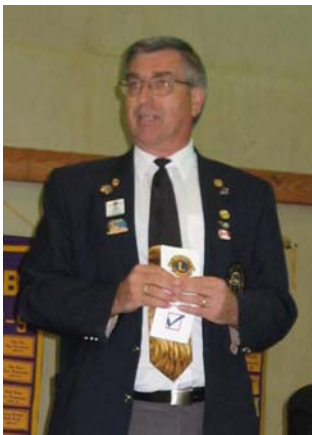
Jones Atterberry asked for our attention to the need for diabetes education on behalf of children as much as adults.



Rock White, Sight First II Coordinator for U.S. reported on progress to date.



Bob Clay, Retention Chair, reminded us all of that important issue of keeping our good members.



VDG Mel Stokes asked for our vote to elect him to be our next District Governor.



PDG Ray Tremblay talked about some plans for Spring Conference 2008.



LCIF Chair encouraged clubs to remember their donations to LCIF.



PZC Mike Stanford presented Judy Portas with "Lion of the Year" Award (H3).

All of us are encouraged to visit our District H Webpage often — at www.md19hliions.org where you'll find all kinds of information, news about Club events, the registration form for the Fall Forum and a fine photo gallery. We are very fortunate to have such an experienced webmaster, Lou Raboin, to manage our webpage.



District H Banner Passing 2007



Past District Governor Gary Lutz passing the buck to Grev.



What a game guy!



So, the man says, "I'm ready — bring it on!"



...and the banner is passed.



Two happy raffle winners!

Are we having fun yet?!



A fine group of Past District Governors were on hand to cheer Grev on: 1st row (l to r) Marilyn Martin, Rod Barnes, Polly Voon and Dur Roberson. 2nd row Garry Lutz, Gordon Roberts, Charles Erasmus, Grev, Ruth Roberts, John Lintelow and Ray Tremblay.



PDG Terry Stidman Receives Foundation's Highest Award

PDG Terry Stidman of Spirit Lake, Idaho received the highest honor the Northwest Lions Foundation for Sight & Hearing will ever give in a presentation last month at the MD19 Annual Convention in Wenatchee.

At the Friday morning session, Foundation Chairman Terry Robertson and President Monty Montoya presented Terry with the first-ever **Founders Award**, given in memory of Lions Chet Lesh, Jack Smalley and Jack Radford. These three men pioneered establishment of the world-leading eye bank that our Foundation operates today. This award will not be given every year — only when warranted by achievement far beyond even the Lions' high standard of charitable service.

Terry received this award in recognition of valorous and highly valuable service to the Lion's sight mission as a first-ever live eye donor in the history of our eye bank. Terry's right eye was removed this February to stop it from spreading cancer and throbbing pain further into his nervous system. In a situation that would justify self-pity for many, he saw an opportunity to serve others by publicizing the good that comes from eye tissue donation. Prior to his surgery, Terry called the Foundation with an offer to share his story with newspapers and television stations. The resulting news coverage that featured our Lion's sight mission reached a conservative estimate of more than two million people.

There is another potentially huge gain for our sight restoration mission in Terry's service. Immediately after removal, his eye was flown to the Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, where it will be a key part in a promising research project to better diagnose and treat age-related macular degeneration, the number one cause of blindness in older Americans. Research Project leader, Dr. Kang Zhang, was thrilled to receive this rare live tissue. He says it will be sliced into 1,000 sections and used for the next seven years as part of this study.

- (excerpted from MD19 Border Crossing)

California Girl Wins Peace Poster Contest

Min-Ji Yi, a 13-year-old girl from Los Angeles, is the grand prize winner of the 2006-2007 Lions International Peace Poster Contest with the theme, "Celebrate Peace. Music is an integral part of her design. "Just as the many musical notes unite to make beautiful melodies, countries also can unite, to create even more beautiful harmonies," said Yi.

Yi, who speaks fluent English and Korean, moved with her family to the U.S. from South Korea six years ago. In addition to her academic studies, Yi plays tennis, serves as President of her Debate Club and participates in a church service committee, a local orchestra, a math club and a club for intellectually advance students. Having just graduated from 8th grade this past spring, Yi plans to enter a college early entrance program in the fall. She would like to study biology and become a brain or transplant surgeon. Her poster was chosen to go on to District 4L-1 by the Tarzana Lions Club.

- from June 2007 Lions Magazine



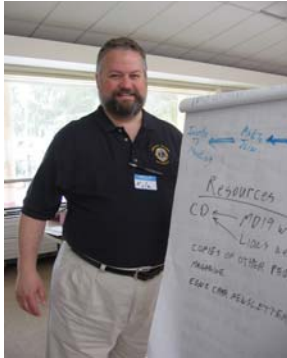
Meet Carol Vincent– Hall, H7 Zone Chairperson

Carol was born in 1959 in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. She got a B.A. in History from Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts. She moved to Seattle, Washington in 1990 to go to Bastyr College. She graduated with a N.D. in 1995 from what is now Bastyr University, and started practicing Naturopathic Medicine in 1997. She moved to Orcas Island in November of 2002 and became a Lion with the Orcas Island Lions Club in July of 2004.



In her own words: “The reason why I joined Lions? When I was growing up, I noticed the Lions and Kiwanis signs as you entered a town or city. I asked parents, etc. what the signs meant. All I got was that they were service organizations and that was it. I figured they did not know what the service organizations did, since information was not forthcoming. When my husband and I moved to Orcas, I decided to investigate this long-standing question. I found out and joined Lions.

It is a goal of mine to make sure that the word gets out to all our backyards about Lions. I believe you can't start informing individuals about Lions too early. Plant the seeds. You never know where they will take you. I am looking forward to helping H-7 this year. I think we can do wonderful things. We can reach for the stars, and get there, if we help each other.”



District H Club Membership Training

On a misty Saturday morning, June 23, 2007, Lions gathered at the Senior Center in Sedro Woolley to learn more about membership — about getting new members and then keeping them. This excellent training was conducted by **Lion Kyle Hall**, Membership Chairperson (WA). He covered in some detail how to organize and hold an Open House. There was a lively discussion about making our clubs more attractive to younger members. Participants shared activities that they pursue in their communities: reading to kids in kindergarten, babysitting, supporting scout troops, school projects, etc. It was suggested that Membership Chairs ask for time on the agenda at Board meetings to bring up membership issues. Kyle distributed a very helpful hand-out containing 25 marketing ideas to help clubs broadcast their message and increase their visibility; and provided Open House information and all other items covered on a CD. Kyle is a member of the Orcas Island Lions Club. He has various business interests in Orcas Island and is very active in Toastmasters.

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Report from Camp Horizon

Foundation Secretary, Lear Minehart, reports that two hundred and nine campers attended camp this year. ZC Cyndi Bryan provided the leadership as Camp Director. They had two new kitchen “workers bees” who excelled in their capacities as Chef and Chef’s assistant. Third Vice President Brenda Verhoven contacted clubs in the district and rounded up volunteers from the following clubs: Fairhaven, Dogwood Monarch, South Whidbey, Lynden, Everson, Ferndale, Bellingham Central, North Whidbey, Mount Vernon, Oak Harbor, Burlington and Bellingham Harborview to help serve meals, etc. Also there was a group of volunteers from the Light-house Mission in Bellingham who came out and helped on the 4th of July. In the absence of an assistant director, Foundation Treasurer Micki Sipherd stepped in and gave Cyndi a lot of help as general gofer, shopper, etc. Accolades are also in order for the DuFours and Wayne Tew, for making the camp mechanically safe and functional.



Director Cyndi had a great group of counselors this year. Dedicated Lion that she is, she recruited them to form a new Leos Club. As we go to press, she has 29 applications in hand and four more coming. Some of those new Leos helped with the meals and raffle at the Banner Passing.