



**We Serve**

# Rochester Lions Club

Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind  
[www.rochesterlionsclub.org](http://www.rochesterlionsclub.org)

July 2003  
**NEWSLETTER**

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***“Service is the rent we pay for our time on earth”***

Lion Doc O'Brien

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **General Meeting** –Monday July 7th 6:30 pm at the RiverCrest.
- **Board Meeting** – Wednesday July 9th at Leader Dogs Kennel (Avon Rd) building conference room, 7 PM
- **General Meeting** –Monday July 21st 6:30 pm at the RiverCrest.
- **Cruising at the Village Mall** – Each Monday night 5:00 PM til Dusk
- **Sidewalk Sale Days** – July 17<sup>th</sup> thru the 19<sup>th</sup>. Downtown with our Food Wagon
- **Movies in the Moonlight** – each Saturday night starting July 12 thru Aug 2, with our Food Wagon
- **Puppy Day** – Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup> at Leader Dogs.

## President Steve's Message

Honey, I've got good news and bad news... my year running the food wagon has ended, but my year as President is just beginning! Actually it goes this way: the good news is "I'm excited about my upcoming year as President of the greatest group of people I know" and the bad news is "my year running the food wagon is coming to a close."

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Gary Senical will be managing the food wagon this year and has been a big help to me on several occasions, standing in to manage food wagon events. Lion Gary is well versed on the operations of the food wagon and will do a great job. Besides, it's really the many highly skilled, enthusiastic Lions that work the wagon that really make it happen.

Wow! If you missed the President's Ball last month, you missed a great one! Seventy-one Lions and guests

gathered at the Paint Creek Cider Mill Restaurant for some food, drink and fun. And we scored high marks on all three. We had to delay



the serving of dinner to allow everyone time to get through the bar. Good thing Lion Ed wasn't there, he would have been banging that coffee cup for quite some time! The cooks and wait staff did an outstanding job, insuring everyone had a nice dining experience.

With dinner completed and wine glassed replenished, everyone assembled on the deck over looking

Paint Creek. With seating for everyone, we all

settled in for one of the best ceremonies in recent Club history. President Bill showed his appreciation to many deserving Lions for their service and leadership during the past year. Special awards and recognition were also given to Lion Dale Burke for "Life

Membership," your truly for earlier since he was vacationing in Italy that night).

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"Lion of the Year" and Lion Ferrera as a "Melvin Jones Fellow" (Lion Gene was presented his award

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Governor Bill took the floor next and shared some very inspirational stories about what we do as Lions... yes, "We Serve" and we support many worthwhile organizations who help the seeing and hearing impaired, but bottom line, plain and

simple, "we make people's lives better."

Governor Bill then installed our new slate of Club officers with



minor difficulty locating the Lion Tamer (Lion Lynn Miller) and nearly forgetting to install our Membership Chairperson (Lion Jim Kemler)!

As incoming President, I then shared some thoughts about how fortunate I was to be assuming the leadership of this great organization at its pinnacle. I also shared a quote from a Readers Digest interview with Richard Gere, who was asked "what's the most important thing you've learned from

the Dalai Lama?" Gere responded: "That anything I do that is motivated by my personal enrichment leads to suffering for me, while anything that enriches the happiness of someone else makes me happy. And it's never failed." I think this plays a big part in what motivates each of us to be Lions. We are all about enriching the lives of others. Yes, we truly make a difference in other peoples lives. But as Gere points out, these good deeds actually bring happiness to our own lives as well, a real win-win situation.

The evening ended with a long-planned, un-announced, "roast" of Lion Larry Cole. After explaining why I feel Lion Larry is a Lion's Lion, I disclosed the one flaw in his Lion's resume... he's yet to sponsor a new members. About that time, Lion Carole Hansen wheeled "Jeanette" in! Lion Larry tried to make a quick exit, but was reeled back in (yes, he took it "hook line and sinker!!!"). I presented Lion Larry with a membership application for Jeanette. Oh, bye the way, Jeanette is a "mannequin" who takes part in the Cole/Shelton family ritual of delivering the same fruit cake back and forth the past 8 Christmases. There is much more to this story; ask Lion Larry for more details.

Sit back, buckle-up and hold on tight... it's going to be a great year!

*Lion President Steve*

***As usual one of the last acts of the past Board was finalizing disbursements of contributions.***

***Despite the pressures of a poor economy, the hard work of the members allowed the Board to hand out checks in similar amounts as last year.***

Welcome Homes for the Blind	\$2,500
Penrickton Center for the Blind Children	3,000
LCIF-Melvin Jones Fellowship Award	1,000
Can-A-Man	200
Leader Dogs for the Blind	11,600
Leader Dog Building Fund	20,000
Lions Bear Lake Camp	2,400
Juvenile Diabetes Foundation	2,800
Lions All State Band	1,100
Beaumont Silent Childrens Fund	350
Madonna University Lions Hearing Fund	250
Michigan Eye Bank & Transplantation Center	500
Rochester Neighborhood House	2,500
O.P.C.-Rochester	600
Rochester Community House	200
Rochester Christmas Parade	100
Lions Visually Impaired Information Center	200
Southeastern Michigan Lions Hearing Fund	100
E-Blind Program	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$49,500</b>

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### Upcoming General Membership Meetings

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Note: Board meetings will generally take place the Wednesday after the 1<sup>st</sup> General Membership meeting of each month. Board meetings will be held at the Leader Dog kennel building (Avon Road) conference room at 7pm.

July 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting: District Gov Lewis Moeller will be visiting; President Steve will speak about the coming year for our Club; and we will induct Chris Kowal. Theme is red, white and blue. Anyone using an American flag to escape paying a theme fine pays a minimum one dollar fine.

July 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting: Bill Potere from the Clinton River Greenway Opportunity Project will share with us the ongoing process of conservation within our community. Theme is sunshine.

Aug 4<sup>th</sup>: Club picnic at the Kiwanis shelter in the downtown park (east end of park); soft drinks, hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided by the Club; members bring a dish to pass; and their own place setting.

Aug 18 Meeting: Mark Rolains MD, St. Joseph's Hospital Ophthalmologist, will speak about Eye Sight and current surgical options. The theme is dog days.

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## Fundraiser Events - News & Updates

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

Jul 17-19 ..... Side Walk Sales  
Jul 12,19,26 Aug 2.....Movies in the Moonlight  
Jul 26..... Leader Dog Puppy Day  
Aug 4 .....Club Picnic  
Aug 8 .....Cruise & Movie  
Aug 10..... Rock-n-Rods  
Aug 16.....Woodward Dream Cruise  
Sep 12 .....Nite Lite Golf  
Sep 25 ..... Memorial Golf Outing

### SOAP BOX DERBY REPORT



Wow! The Soap Box Derby was again another big hit for the Lions, the City of Rochester and most of all the kids. Our involvement started months before the race: rounding up the Club's cars from storage (thanks again Lion Mike), lining up kids to prep/rebuild and race our cars, securing sponsors for some fund raising, and working with Joe Flynn's derby crew on inspection day and trial-run night. Lions could be seen everywhere helping out on race weekend, performing such tasks as parking & traffic control, final inspection, car handling, timing & scoring and much more. Approximately 30 Lions (and spouses) participated throughout the weekend. We could be seen everywhere wearing our new Lions Soap Box Derby T-shirts. The Lions support did not go unnoticed. During the trophy presentation, Joe Flynn presented the Rochester Lions Club with a beautiful appreciation plaque. Ask anyone there, the applause from the crowd increased significantly during our recognition. That was very nice.

We owe a big thanks to the Gamma Phi Beta sorority from Oakland University who showed up to help the Lions. They are interested in community service too and found that many of their goals aligned with those of Lions. We had a lot of

fun with them and hope to utilize them more at some of our busier food wagon events.

The Derby actively promotes the core values of teamwork, the spirit of competition, perseverance and an emphasis on family. Did you know we had three fellow Lions with grand kids competing in the derby? In each case, 3 generations



working side-by-side; passing along much more than I'm capable to put into words. Congratulations to Lions Mike Gendich, George Newton, Don Westphal and their families.

Lion Celia is responsible for arranging for the use of one of our cars to be auctioned at her grandson's school fundraiser. High bidders were the Mong family and they turned it into worthwhile family project, attending clinics, rebuilding the car and studied all the how-to instructional guides. All their hard work and some degree of luck paid off as their son Cody, a first time racer, was runner up in the stock division. Here are the thanks that Cody's mom passed along to Celia and me...

*Celia, Thanks once again for sponsoring Cody's car for the derby. It was a really nice experience for him and it was the first real competition*



*that he has been in. Winning the 2nd place trophy was a great event for him. He called his grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc to tell them about the trophy. It is also great that the Lions Club supports the event. He will definitely be racing again next year. - Sandy Mong*

*Steve, Thanks so much for the picture of Cody. The whole soap box derby was a great experience for him. He enjoyed working with Jim on*

the car and winning his first trophy was definitely a memorable moment for him. We really appreciate the commitment that the Lion's Club has made to the Soap Box Derby. It is great that you get sponsors for the cars and that children have the opportunity to experience the event. - Sandy Mong



Now for the really big news... one of the Club's car won the super stock

division and is going to Akron OH to compete for the national title the end of July. Leon Niewoit saw the ratty old orange car on inspection day, 2 weeks before the race. "Hey, is that a Lions car and is it still available?" We said "yes" and he was very excited to get it. In less than 2 weeks, Leon transformed the car into a good-looking, fast racer.

Congratulations Leon! As you can see from the picture, Mr. B's Restaurant Group sponsored the car (actually Lion Celia paid half the sponsor fee) and will be getting a lot of mileage from their advertising dollar. There has been some talk about a contingency of Lions driving down to Akron to cheer Leon on. Let Lion Steve know if you are interested.

Joe Flynn donated another car to the Lion's fold. This is the car he used at all the building clinics and did a great job showing off our Lions club.

As always, thanks to everyone for one Great weekend.

Lion Steve



Lion Lynn and Terri Williams report they have received several letters from the troops thanking the Rochester Lions and the Rochester community for the goody packages we put together. Below we reproduced a couple of the notes. If you would like to contribute additional support see Lion Lynn for a list of needed items.

Terri,  
 Thanks for the package.  
 I'm going to hand everything out to the boys. Saddam International Airport is clear and ready for flightz. See you soon.  
 KG Michael Hibbs

March 29 2003  
 Thank-you Terri for your support of our troops. Please also thank the community of Rochester, Rochester Hills and Oakland Township. Our troops greatly benefit from your generosity. We cannot thank you enough.  
 CH(MAT) Tiff Watts

#### FROM THE DESK OF LION DAVE BATES-

In response from an appeal from Marie Balla Dieudonne (the former Lion Club president from the Ivory Coast who spoke briefly at one of our May meetings) Lynn Demsky and I (along with Marie) helped to sort and pack clothing which was unsold at the recently held St. John Lutheran Rummage Sale. After filling eight boxes with assorted clothing suitable for a tropical climate, we mailed them to the Gagnoa Lions Club in the Ivory Coast. They will then distribute the clothing to the most needy people that they can find. Since the country is wracked by civil war, many people are desperate for clothes. I am submitting press releases and pictures to the Rochester Eccentric and the Suburban Lifestyles as well as well as the Lion Pride.

**CLUB WEBSITE:**

Yes it's true; the Rochester Lions Club now has a web presence. We are "out there" for everyone to see and learn about our organization. For those of you with access to the Internet, please take a little time to get familiar with our site. We are always looking for feedback and ideas. Most of the changes since going live, March 1<sup>st</sup>, have been in the "photo gallery" sections (Our Club, Rock 'n Rods, Soapbox Derby and Nite Lite Golf). Please bring in any photos you may have that you feel shows off our club.

We are also actively looking to find ways to get the word out about our Club and our website. These include adding our web address to such things as... the food wagon, stationary/letterhead, business cards (see sample below), newspaper articles, fundraiser flyers and White Cane thank you cards.

**DONATION CANNISTERS:**

Lion Arnie Sell reported Leader Dog Canister money was recently collected from the nine locations that he was responsible for. Lion Arnie has been subbing for Lion Ted Kamrath in this endeavor. So far \$3,398 has been collected for the period 9-20-02 thru the end of June.

*And Lion Ted reports that he has collected 897 used eye glasses for a one month period. He has a new box at the Post Office that also asks for used hearing aids.....*

**MEMBER CALLING CARDS**

 <p><b>Rochester Lions Club</b> Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind www.rochesterlionsclub.org</p>	<p><b>Gene Ferrera</b> Past President</p> <p>811 Croydon Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (h) 248-651-4685 (w) 248-651-7242 gferrera@frankrewold.com</p>

Lion Steve Shelton has already made up business cards for all board members. He is now prepared to do the same for any member who requests them.

**2003-04 COMMITTEE SIGN-UP**

This is the perfect opportunity to get more involved with fellow Lions who share common interests. Sign up soon for next year's committees. Lion Steve plans to have all the committee spots filled in time for the July publishing next years Roster. Most committees require just a small amount of time and effort, but play a significant role for the Club and it's Charities. Select from the following list and give Lion Steve Shelton a call...

Administrative & Service Committees:	
All State Band	Newsletter
Attendance & Meals	Nominations & Elections
Constitution and By-Laws	Peace Poster Contest
Convention	Photographer (New)
Christmas Party	Picnic
Diabetes Awareness (New)	Programs & Guest Speakers
Eye Glass & Hearing Aid	Public Relations
Finance (New)	Raffle
Float Construction	Roster
Fund Raising Think Tank (New)	President's Ball
Greeter(s) (New)	Sickness & Welfare
Induction Ceremony	Sight & Hearing Conservation
Invocations	Supplies (Logistics)
Leadership Development (New)	Youth Programs (New)
Membership	Website (New)
Memorial Services (New)	
Fund Raising Projects:	
Canister Collections	Mint Sales
Food Wagon	Nite-Lite Golf
Heritage Festival Car Show	Rock-n-Rods Car Show
Leader Dog Christmas Cards	Soapbox Derby
Memorial Golf Outing	White Cane



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!**

Lion Christopher (Chris) Kowal of 3085 Palm-Aire Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (Home Phone: 248-895-7831) was inducted in June. He is employed by Century 21 (business phone: 248-652-7700 X 170), he is a single person and is also attending college, his sponsor is Lion Bill Hansen

What's "Motorhead Monday's at the Village"?

Well, you could ask Lion Denny Scott. Or you could stop by The Village of Rochester Hills any Monday night from at 5:00 PM til dusk. It starts this Monday May 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be cars, music, cars, raffles, trophies and much more. If you would like to help out just call Lion Denny Scott. If you have a hot rod or classic car bring it out. Either way you'll have some fun. Maybe the weather will even cooperate this year.

**2003 – 2004 Club Roster Booklet**

**Lion Secretary Arnie is preparing the Club roster booklet for 2003 – 2004. If you have address changes, email addresses phone numbers, etc that need updating please get them to him ASAP. We wish to make the booklet as accurate as possible**

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**Club Officers:**

*President:* Steve Shelton  
*I. Past President:* Bill Sefcik  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:* Gary Senical  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:* Celia Domalewski  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:* Sherry McBroom

*Secretary:* Arnold Sell  
*Treasurer:* John Cadieux  
*Tail Twister:* David Beane  
*Lion Tamer:* Lynn Miller  
*Membership:* Jim Kemler

*Board of Dir.'05:* George Newton  
*Board of Dir.'05:* Larry Cole  
*Board of Dir.'04:* David Bates  
*Board of Dir.'04:* Al Lucas

**Lions Club – Den Keeping**

- **Attendance** - *If you can not attend a general membership meeting, contact Lion Lee Musson no later than the Friday prior to avoid incurring dinner charges:  
- voice: (248) 652-4608  
- email: Lee@Musson.net*
- **Sick & Welfare** - *If you know of a Lion or close family member, who is in need of a get well or condolence message or flowers, contact Lion VP Celia Domalewski (248) 651-7995.*
- **Newsletter Material** - *Send items you want published in the newsletter to Lion Gene Ferrera:  
- voice: (248) 651-4685  
- fax: (248) 651-5174  
- email: gferrera@frankerevold.com  
- mail: 811 Croydon Rd  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309*
- **Roster Changes** - *Changes to your mailing address, phone number, email address, etc. should be forwarded to Lion Secretary Arnie Sell (248) 375-9293.*
- **Business Cards** - *Members wishing to have personalized Lions Business Cards made should contact Lion VP Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443*
- **Hats** - *New "Rochester Lions Club" hats are available from Lion VP Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443*