



**We Serve**

# Rochester Lions Club

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

March 2004  
**NEWSLETTER**

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

Lion Doc O'Brien

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**Mar 1<sup>st</sup> General Meeting:**  
6:30 at River Crest; Elections.

**Mar 3<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting:** 7:00 pm at Leader Dogs

**Mar 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting:**  
6:30 at River Crest; Special "Michigan Model" Night Open House.

**Apr 2-4<sup>th</sup> District Convention;**  
Perrysburg, OH

*And don't forget-*

*White Cane Week is April 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

*The Festival of Cars Car Show will be May 29-30<sup>th</sup>.*

## President Steve's Message

*"It sure feels good to be a Rochester Lion."*

We've all reflected back on why we are Lions, and more specifically... a Rochester Lion. We are all serious about our commitment to humanitarian service and volunteering to truly making a difference in other people's lives. And best of all, we all enjoy having fun along the way! We serve many worthwhile organizations who assist visually and hearing impaired individuals. We also play a major role within our local community.

A recent article in the Winter, 2003-2004 Rochester Community Schools Newsletter caused me to reflect on these thoughts. Seeing this

article made me proud to be part of the Rochester Lions Club. For those who may have missed it, the box on this page contains the article and photo.

As a follow up to this project, we received an email via our website from a social worker for the Rochester Community schools. She was working with a student and their family who was in need of a replacement pair of glasses. Medicare would not pay for



### Students Help Lions Recycle for Sight

Rochester Community Schools - Elementary Schools partnered with the Rochester and Rochester Hills Lions Club's Recycle for Sight program. During October all elementary schools collected used eyeglasses and prescription sunglasses to be used in the Lions International Sight First program. The success of the one-month partnership resulted in the

permanent placement of collection boxes in each elementary school and the administration center. Community members are encouraged to participate in the program. Lions Club representatives recognized each elementary school with a certificate of appreciation for their efforts and look forward to a long term partnership program.

replacing a broken pair of glasses. A few phone calls later by Lion Celia, the glasses were ordered and will be on the student's face in the next few days. Community service projects like Recycle for Sight often make a difference in ways we don't even realize.

*More from our President follows on page two-*

**2004/5 Nominations/Elections** – Our Past Presidents, lead by IPP Lion Sefcik, have compiled a very impressive list of nominees for our slate of 2004-2005 Club Officers.

***Elections will be held during our March 1<sup>st</sup> general meeting.***

Make sure you attend that night to cast your votes. Here's the current list of nominees:

For President:	Gary Senical
For 1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.:	Celia Domalewski
For 2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P.:	Sherry McBroom
For 3 <sup>rd</sup> V.P.:	Jim Williams
For Secretary:	Arnold Sell *
For Treasurer:	John Cadieux *
For Tail Twister: (one position)	Dave McKenzie Ron Barnett Dave Beane *
For Lion Tamer: (one position)	Ralph Vitale Glenn Sattlemeier Lynn Miller *
For Board of Directors: (two 2 yr positions)	John Benczik Lee Musson Ken Bilodeau Stu Clemens Dave Bates * Al Lucas *
For Membership Chairperson:	Lauren Stenroos
* = incumbent	

**Michigan Model Open House** –

Our second meeting in March will be dedicated to conducting our Michigan Model Open House. Thanks to everyone who submitted names of prospective new members, the membership committee mailed out over 60 invitations. If we follow the MI Model averages, we can anticipate approximately 20-30 guests that night! Lion Jim and the rest of the Membership committee have arranged to have displays from Leader Dogs, Penrickton Center and the Bear Lake Youth Camp. It is important that all the members in attendance that evening make a special effort to greet all the prospective members and get to know one another. Once dinner is over and we will have a short meeting (1/2 hour suggested) which “briefly” touches on Lions International, District 11-A2, our Club and finish by answering any questions they have. By the way, Tail Twister Lion Beane will not be on duty that night!

**11-A2 District Convention**

– Our District convention is just a month away. You still have time to register and attend. It's being held at the Holiday Inn French Quarters, in Perrysburg OH (a short 1-1/2 hour drive). I've heard excellent things about this resort. As always, we're looking forward to a great weekend. I will bring additional information and registration forms to our next meeting for those who may be interested.

**Up coming fundraisers** – I know there is still snow on the ground, but it's not too early to mark your calendars. White Cane Week is April 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Festival of Cars Car Show will be May 29-30<sup>th</sup>. These are big events for the Club and require widespread participation. Please make every effort to be available and lend a helping hand. Our charities need our support more than ever. By the way, we need to schedule some “weenie-wagon” maintenance and spring cleaning before too much longer!

*Lion President Steve*

**Featured Charity**  
**Michigan Eye-Bank and Transplant Center (MEBTC)**  
[www.mebtc.org](http://www.mebtc.org)



**A Brief History** - The Michigan Eye-Bank was organized in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1957 as a joint project of the Ann Arbor Host Lions Club and the University of Michigan Medical Center. In 1963, the Eye-Bank became a founding member of the [Eye Bank Association of America \(EBAA\)](#). In 1971, the Eye-Bank was accepted as a State Project of Michigan Lions and, in 1973, the Eye-Bank was incorporated as a Michigan not-for-profit corporation with 501(c)(3) status.

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**A New Name: An Enduring**

**Mission** - In 1985, the scope of the corporation's interest was expanded to include the recovery of other tissue in addition to eyes. The organization's name has changed several times over the years; it is now officially named MEBTC. This is translated as Michigan Eye-Bank and Transplantation Center in Michigan and as Midwest Eye-Banks and Transplantation Center in Illinois, Ohio and elsewhere.

**The Eye-Bank's Service Area**

**Expands** - The entire state of Michigan is served by the Michigan Eye-Bank with the incorporation, in 1971, of the Eye Bank at Wayne State University's Kresge Eye Institute and, in 1989, of the former Upper Peninsula Lions Eye Bank in Marquette. The MEBTC took over operation of the Illinois Eye-Bank (IEB) in Chicago in 1985 at the request of the Chicago Ophthalmological Society. In 1996, the Watson Gailey Eye-Bank in central Illinois affiliated with MEBTC and services were extended to Northwest Ohio that year.

**A Single Purpose - The Gift of**

**Sight** - Time has passed, but our commitment to sight restoration remains the same. The Eye-Bank provides corneas for transplant,

promotes public education and supports eye and vision research. We do all of this to achieve a single purpose - to give the Gift of Sight.

Before someone like Carmen can receive a sight restoring corneal transplant, there must be a donor whose surviving family decides to give the gift.

At the Midwest Eye-Banks and Transplantation Center, we make the Gift of Sight possible by bringing together corneal tissue donors and the people for whom a corneal transplant is literally a second chance for sight. Our commitment to the restoration of sight continues as we strive to educate people about the ongoing need for eye donors.

**Corneal Problems Cause 10% of**

**Blindness** - A corneal transplant is performed when the normally transparent cornea is scarred or distorted due to injury, degeneration or infection. Ten percent of all blinding eye diseases are due to corneal problems, which can be reversed through a corneal transplant.

**Recovering Corneal Tissue -**

MEBTC's primary purpose is to recover, process, and distribute corneal tissue for transplantation. In order to provide the highest quality tissue for transplant, the eyes or

corneas must be recovered as soon as possible after the donor's death.

**Testing and Evaluating Tissue for Transplantation**

- Eye tissue is transported to one of the Eye-Bank's laboratories, where it is evaluated by certified technicians working under the supervision of an MEBTC Medical Director. All MEBTC Medical Directors are fellowship trained, Board certified corneal surgeons. After the corneas are preserved, they are evaluated and a sample of the donor's blood is submitted for serologic tests. If the serology is negative and the tissue is determined suitable for surgical use, the corneas are then available for transplantation.

**One Result of Continuous**

**Improvement** - MEBTC, through its several divisions in Michigan and Illinois, distributes more than 2,000 corneas for transplant annually. Since 1991, MEBTC has distributed corneal tissue based on a Scheduled Surgery System, allowing corneal surgeons to schedule their patients for a transplant up to six months in advance of the procedure. Since the program began, the Eye-Bank has successfully met the schedule for providing tissue over 99% of the time. This allows both patients and surgeons to plan for the surgery, greatly reducing the anxiety and waiting time previously associated with a corneal transplant



*Carmen, a corneal transplant recipient, with her older sister Chelsea.*

## Michigan Model Set for March 15th

Our club has decided to hold a membership drive modeled on the Michigan Model format. The format for this event is to invite prospective members to an open house that has a program specifically set up to orientate these prospective members to the various aspects of Lionism and to educate them what it means to be a Lion. This program will cover all areas of Lionism including the International, State and Local Club organizations and activities. It will also define the obligations and costs associated with being a Lion. This event will require that all members provide a list of prospective members that can be invited to this event. Included in this newsletter (see last page) is a copy of a form that you can use to submit names of prospective members. These names have to be turned in by February 16th to the membership committee so that an invitation letter can be sent Feb.19th.

The Time line is as follows:

- Feb. 16th** – Forms with list of Prospective Members Submitted to Membership Committee
- Feb. 19th** - Invitation Letters sent to Prospective Members
- Mar. 6-10** - Phone prospective members with a personal invitation
- Mar. 15th** - Michigan Model Open House meeting at Rivercrest (Please plan on attending this meeting to make guests feel welcome)
- Mar. 29th** - Send Follow-up Thank you note to Prospective members

## MEMBER CALLING CARDS:



Rochester Lions Club

Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind  
www.rochesterlionsclub.org

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Gene Ferrera

Past President

811 Croydon  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
(h) 248-651-4685  
(w) 248-651-7242  
gferrera@frankwold.com

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.**

To: Fellow Lions  
Subject: Christmas Card Sales

Leader Dog Christmas Card sales brought in a **profit of \$7700.00 DOLLARS IN 2003**. This was due in large part to the sales during the summer tours sales at Leader Dogs as well as the yearly mail out.

Let's all plan on working together in 2004 to increase this projects true potential via sales by our membership.

Look for corporate sales contacts, contact local business' who are willing to sell our cards ( Lytles and Firestone are the only locations we have to date). We need more Lion participation.

E-mail Cgallusser@leaderdog.org with your suggestions. Or call 888-777-5332 ext#1111.

*signed: Lion Past Prezidente Carlos*  
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### 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 its 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

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## F U n S T u f F

Not that any of you Lions, young or old, will own up to remembering any of these things, but Lion Ed Hart suggests you unlock the dark cells of your memory bank and see if any of the following means anything to you.

### ***Do you remember when...***

- The girls wore ugly gym uniforms?
- It took five minutes for the TV picture tube to warm up?
- Nearly everyone's Mom was at home when the kids got home from school?
- Nobody owned a purebred dog?
- When a quarter was a decent allowance?
- Your Mom wore nylons that came in two pieces?
- You got your windshield cleaned, oil checked, and gas pumped, without asking, all for free, every time?
- And you didn't pay for air? And, you got trading stamps to boot?
- Laundry detergent had free glasses, dishes or towels hidden inside the box?
- It was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents?
- They threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed. . .and they did?
- When a 57 Chevy was everyone's dream car...to cruise, peel out, lay rubber or watch submarine races, and people went steady?
- No one ever asked where the car keys were because they were always in the car, in the ignition, and the doors were never locked?
- Stuff from the store came without safety caps and hermetic seals because no one had yet tried to poison a perfect stranger?
- When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited the student at home?

:)

## Themes!

Mar 1st- Alexander Graham Bell demonstrates the telephone in March, 1876. Hey – Lion Dave didn't send me an email with the themes for the month and I looked at a calendar and that's what it said. I'm sure you can come up with something

March 15<sup>th</sup>- What else – Shamrocks!

### Rochester Lions Club Officers:

<p><i>President:</i> Steve Shelton  <i>I. Past President:</i> Bill Sefcik  <i>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</i> Gary Senical  <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice:</i> Celia Domalewski  <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:</i> Sherry McBroom</p>	<p><i>Secretary:</i> Arnold Sell  <i>Treasurer:</i> John Cadieux  <i>Tail Twister:</i> David Beane  <i>Lion Tamer:</i> Lynn Miller  <i>Membership:</i> Jim Kemler</p>	<p><i>Board of Dir. '05:</i> George  <i>Board of Dir. '05:</i> Larry Cole  <i>Board of Dir. '04:</i> David Bates  <i>Board of Dir. '04:</i> Al Lucas</p>
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### 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
- **Newsletter Material** - *Send items you want published in the newsletter to Lion Gene Ferrera:*  
- voice: (248) 651-4685  
- fax: (248) 651-5174  
- email: [gferrera@frankrewold.com](mailto:gferrera@frankrewold.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 Pres. Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443*

• **Hats** - *New "Rochester Lions Club" hats are available from Lion Pres. Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443*



Presented to Gail Kemler (2003 Parade Grand Marshal) at our February 16<sup>th</sup> "Date Night