



We Serve

Rochester Lions Club

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

June 2004
NEWSLETTER

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

Lion Doc O'Brien

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Soap Box Derby Inspection Day** June 5th at Shelton Pontiac Buick
- **General Meeting – June 7th at the RiverCrest**. 6:30 PM All-State Band Members, Highland Dancers. Theme – “Flag”
- **Board Meeting – June 9th**; Location and time to be determined
- **3rd Annual Rochester Soapbox Derby Classic-** June 19-20th east 3rd street in downtown Rochester
- **President's Dinner – June 21st; 6:00 PM** at Pine Trace. RSVP to Lion Gary w/ payment
- **Leader Dog Puppy Days-** June 26th. Rochester Hills Bloomer Park. John R Rd north of Avon Rd

President Steve's Message

Wow! As we all look forward to a fun filled summer season, this 2003-2004 Lion's year is coming to a close. Yes, this is my twelfth and final article for the newsletter as your President. It's been an honor and a privilege to serve with each and every one of you.



Our Michigan Model Membership Drive culminated with the induction 8 new members during our first meeting in May. Welcome aboard! In the photograph, seated from left to right are John Meisel, Chuck Vanitvelt, Gerry Post, Sandy and Don Pihl, Bryan Wright, Art Carlson and Ted Reynolds. A ninth new member, Herb Mann, was inducted during our second meeting in May. I'd like to nominate the Rochester Lions Club as the “Poster Club” for the Michigan Model Membership process! “Great Job” everyone.



We had yet another first this year. In our continued effort to seek out new opportunities to support our local community, the *Wallace “Doc” O'Brien Community Improvement Grant* was formed. Lion Dave Bates spearheaded this effort. This \$1,000 grant was won by The Rochester Area Neighborhood House and will help fund a new reading

program they are instituting for pre-school kids with reading deficiencies. The presentation was made to Susan Vidican, Executive Director.

As Memorial Day approached, so did the rains. Three consecutive food wagon clean-up Saturdays were washed out. Less than a week before the Heritage Festival was to open, Southeastern Michigan saw some of their worst flood damage in history. We received more rain this May, than any other May in history. This picture shows the area of the Rochester Park just six days before it was schedule to hold some 180 antique cars in our Festival of Cars Car Show. Many people thought the Heritage Festival would have to be cancelled this year given the extent of the flooding. All is history now, see the photo gallery from this year's event; it was a huge success.



June 21st Presidents Ball: You should have all received your invitations to this years Presidents Ball which will be held at Pine Trace Golf Club [6 p.m. – note earlier time].

Hope to see you all there; it's sure to be a great evening.

Board Room News: At the Club's May 5th Board Meeting, the board reviewed our fund raising levels (up 9% from the prior year) and voted for donations to the following

charities for the year:

Welcome Homes
Penrickton Center
Lions Care L.C.I.F.
Can-A-Man
Leader Dogs for the Blind
Visually Impaired Youth Camp
Juvenile Diabetes
Lions All State Band
Beaumont Silent Children
Madona College Deaf & Hearing
MI Eye Bank & Transplant Center
Roch Neighborhood House
O.P.C.
Roch. Community House
Roch. Christmas Parade
Lions Visual Imp.Inf. Center
Lions Hearing SE MI
Leader Dog Bldg Fund (4th of 5 installments)
E-Blind
Visual Aids

The club also gets credit for the following:
Christmas Card Sales
Puppy Dog Event

Grand Total: \$62,556!!

For our Club to continue to increase our charitable donations year after year, is truly remarkable; a credit to our fine Club and our dedicated group of volunteers. I applaud you all.

Together we ARE making a difference in other people's lives.

Lion President Steve



Our next major

fundraiser is the ever popular Rochester Soapbox Derby Classic which appropriately falls on Father's Day weekend, June 19-20 this year. Our Club is taking on a much more active role in the planning and coordination of this year's event by teaming with the Detroit Metro Soapbox Derby Association and The Rochester Downtown Development Authority. This year's event should be bigger and better than ever. As in prior years, we'll be looking for many volunteers on race weekend as well as help on inspection day and for trial-runs.

June 7th Meeting: Our guests this evening will be the local students we are sponsoring for the Michigan All State Band. They will be entertaining us that evening by showing us their musical talents. It so happens they are also accomplished Highland Dancers and will be performing several of those routines as well. It should be an exciting evening. (Yes, if this look familiar it was originally scheduled for May, but needed to be rescheduled)

Featured Charity

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
(www.jdrf.org)

World's Leading Funder of Diabetes Research

JDRF is the only major diabetes organization focused exclusively on research. It is the number one nonprofit, nongovernmental funder of diabetes research worldwide. Since its founding in 1970 by parents of children with juvenile diabetes, JDRF has awarded more than \$600 million to diabetes research. In FY2001, it provided \$115 million to diabetes research.

Through its research funding, JDRF has been instrumental in establishing a focus on the needs of all people with diabetes, which has helped set the world's diabetes research agenda to find a cure. In a typical year, 85 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and education about research. It is estimated that more than 200 million people have diabetes. They are at risk of losing sight due to diabetic retinopathy. Diabetic retinopathy affects the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye that transmits visual messages via the optic nerve to the brain. When this delicate tissue is damaged by diabetic retinopathy, the result may be visual impairment or blindness.

Diabetes awareness was adopted as a long-term commitment of the association in March 1984. The primary objective of the Lions program is to reduce the number of new cases of blindness caused by diabetic retinopathy through diabetes education, early detection and treatment, and support of research. Lions are especially encouraged to conduct awareness activities during the month of November--Lions Diabetes Education Month`

NEW MEMBER

Herbert (Herb) E. Mann Sr. married to Marrietta
3676 Worthington Court Rochester Hills MI 48309
Home Phone: 248-373-9086
He is employed at Home Depot as a HR Manager
Office Phone: 248-373-7059
Home E-mail: w3676@flash.net
He is sponsored by Lion Jim Kemler

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
Christmas Party	Picnic
Diabetes Awareness (New)	Programs & Guest Speakers
Eve 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

The Rochester Lions Club sign up sheets for the upcoming events are now on line.

From Lion Larry Cole: They can be found under the "Our Club" menu as "Sign Up Form". Here is the shortcut:
<http://rochesterlionsclub.org/Our Club/Sign Up Form/sign up form.php>

To sign up for an event, select the following items from the pull down menus: Event, Time, Task

Then enter your name, phone, email and number of people signing up. To protect your privacy, the phone number and email address are not shown on the WEB site and are stored encrypted on the server. If you supply an email address, you will get an email indicating what you have signed up for. You can also search for every event you have signed up for by entering part or all of your name in the search field and clicking on the Search button. Remember that if you sign up for an event and then your plans change, please notify the chairman of the event.

Fundraiser Events - News & Updates

WHITE CANE



Lion
Chairperson
Al Lucas
reports total
donations
exceed
\$19,000 with
some

additional
donations yet to be turned in. Not bad given the circumstances but well below last years record amount of \$24,000. Lion Al believes this years total was negatively impacted by the economy, inability to occupy the post office site and a decrease in membership hours soliciting. If the amount of hours worked on White Cane by the membership had just equaled last years hours we likely would have topped the 2004 donation amount. This will impact our ability to support our charities in the coming year. But with some hard work we can make up the difference in upcoming fundraisers. If you haven't turned in your equipment or you were planning on giving a personal donation please do so without delay.

-Heritage Festival Car Show -

Once again a great show - 180 cars on Sunday and another 30 or more on the warm up on Saturday. Great work Lion Chairperson Steve Wolken and crew. As usual it rained on Sunday but it held off this year until the end of the show. Our Classic car show is the hit of each years Heritage festival. A few hitches this year with the Food wagon but all chipped in and solved the problems. At least temporarily. Great work all.

MEMBER CALLING CARDS

	Rochester Lions Club
We Serve	Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind www.rochesterlionsclub.org
Gene Ferrera Past President	811 Croydon Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (h) 248-651-4885 (w) 248-651-7242 gferrera@frankrewold.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.

Committee News

All committee members are encouraged to send Lion Gene information about their committees for publishing in the newsletter and sharing with the membership.

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 1st, 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.

MAY BOWLING EVENT

Lion Celia Domalewski reports that the may Bowling event in Support of Leader Dogs was a successful event. She reports the event should bring in \$7,000 an amazing amount since this is our first year sponsoring this long time event

September Nite Lite Golf

Lion Gene Ferrera reports that the annual September Nite Lite Golf event is being postponed with the possibility of moving the event to spring of 2005. The primary reason is the loss of our long time supporting sponsor and host - the Rochester Hills Golf Club. We have been unsuccessful in finding a location which can both host the event and support the activity in a manner which keeps the cost down. This event has traditionally been one with great participant support but little sponsorship.

Fun Stuff:

Amazing!! The year is 1904, one hundred-one years ago... what a difference a century makes. Here are the U.S. statistics for 1904...

- The average life expectancy in the US was 47.
- Only 14% of the homes in the US had a bathtub.
- Only 8% of the homes had a telephone.
- A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.
- There were only 8,000 CARS in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average wage in the US was \$0.22/hour.
- The average US worker made between \$200-\$400/year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000/year, a dentist \$2,500/year, a veterinarian between \$1,500-\$4,000/year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000/year.
- More than 95% of all births in the US took place at home.
- 90% of all US physicians had no college education.
- Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."
- Sugar cost \$0.04/pound. Eggs were \$0.14/dozen.
- Coffee cost \$0.15/pound.
- Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
- The five leading causes of death in the US were:
 1. Pneumonia & influenza
 2. Tuberculosis
 3. Diarrhea
 4. Heart disease
 5. Stroke
- The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii & Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
- There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- One in ten US adults couldn't read or write. Only 6% of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Coca Cola contained cocaine. Marijuana, heroin & morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores.
- According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health."
- 18% of households in the US had at least one full-time servant.
- There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire US.

Just think what it will be like in another 100 years. It boggles the mind...



2004 Heritage Festival Car Show