



**We Serve**

# Rochester Lions Club

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

May 2003  
**NEWSLETTER**

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

Lion Doc O'Brien

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **White Cane Week** - April 25<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup>
- **General Meeting** – May 5<sup>th</sup> at the RiverCrest
- **InterClub Meeting** – May 7<sup>th</sup> With Warren and Windsor Clubs, Contact Lion VP Steve Shelton
- **Club Officer Training** – May 10<sup>th</sup> at Leader Dogs 8:30 am
- **Board Meeting** – May 12<sup>th</sup>; at Leader Dogs Kennel (Arvon Rd) building conference room, 7 PM
- **Soap Box Derby Inspector Training** - May 14<sup>th</sup> meet at RiverCrest at 5:30 pm to carpool to Joe Flynn's house
- **Food Wagon Spring Cleaning** – May 17<sup>th</sup> 9 – 11 AM behind Lion Mike Gendich's shop on Elizabeth St
- **Festival of Cars Bag Stuffing** – May 17<sup>th</sup> 1 PM at Lion Steve's
- **General Meeting** – May 19<sup>th</sup>; L. Brooks Patterson – The Rainbow Connection
- **Heritage Festival Car Show** – May 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>

## President Bill's Message

Fellow Lions,

As we get ready to rally through another racing summer season it is time to shift gears and accelerate toward the end of our rainbow. Over this last year our club has managed to set the groundwork and pave the path for a brighter future. Now it is time to drive down that road and enjoy the view.

During this time it is important to remember that our involvement as Lions is not a 'vocation', but rather an avocation. We too easily forget

to have fun along the way. Let us make time for fun by working smarter and not harder. One of the ways in which we can accomplish that is to plan our time wisely. Start now while it is early. It is not practical to 'obligate' oneself to every single event this upcoming season. I instead encourage you to browse again at our new website and look at our CALENDAR OF EVENTS section. Look for the functions that you especially value.

*President's Message Continued on page 2*

## Featured Charity

### Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation ([www.jdrf.org](http://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 which has helped set the research agenda to find a year, 85 percent of JDRF's directly support research and research. It is estimated that 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.



*committed to finding a cure*

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`

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## President's Message - Continued

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Ask yourself what interests you the most and where you could greatest contribute. You will probably find more enjoyment by planning on those select.

Another way we can enhance our current activities is to take advantage of some of the business tools we have available. We are after all a business, just one that specializes in helping those less fortunate.

Likewise, it is our camaraderie that enables the teamwork necessary to meet that objective. As in any business, word of mouth is its most powerful tool.

Let us spread the word. There are personalized Rochester Lions Club Business Cards available. All you need to do is ask and we will get them to you. Be sure to use them though. You can use them everywhere in town. You will find that people are intrigued by that logo in the corner with "We Serve" right below. It is a great conversation starter. Even better yet is the clubs new website address on the card. People will be all the more intrigued. Just imagine what their impressions will be if they should happen to check out our site. Our new website was not created for only us to look at. Ask for a business card and pass them around. Encourage all to check out our latest and greatest accomplishments on the website. You will find many people intrigued by it all.

We will see many new faces this summer. Along with the many faces out in public there will be new members at our side. Let us also remember etiquette. Too often clubs get stodgy and clique-like. That is not the impression we should convey. We are here to have fun while we serve. Go that extra little bit and embrace everyone with a warm and friendly smile. You will find it is contagious.

Bill Sefcik  
President

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## General Meetings Report- April

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### April 7th:

Forty-nine Lions and guests in attendance! A great meeting and even better evening. The members and friends came through in spades with goodies for the troops and Joe Flynn updated us on the Soap Box Derby event. A big thanks to Lion Lynn Demsky for her efforts in support of the troops.

### April 21st:

A great joint meeting with the Lake Orion Lions Club and a change of pace for dinner. Hopefully we didn't embarrass them to much with the White Cane collection. Notice all the prospective members coming to our meetings. Great work members. Keep 'em coming.

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## Upcoming General Membership Meetings - May

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### May 5th:

Hey – a break – no program. *Gonna give myself a party. Just me and the blues. And serve old memories. Remember all the happiness we once knew.* Never mind that's Mandy Barnett on the stereo. At the Rivercrest as usual. Social hour at 6:30 PM and dinner at *-doobie – doobie -doo –* man don't play the blues when you're trying to put together a newsletter. Hey there's the theme – give me the "Blues".

### May 19th:

L. Brooks Patterson will be with us at the RiverCrest. His program will not be on Oakland County politics but rather on the Rainbow Connection. This is a Rochester based charity that funds wishes of severely ill children.

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## Fundraiser Events - News & Updates

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### WHITE CANE – April 25th thru May 4th



Still time to get out there and hustle up money. If you are out of town or otherwise indisposed a substantial check is expected to

participate in this event. We thank Lion Al Lucas and his site captains for spearheading this effort, but it takes the offer of time from the membership to make this event successful. Every member needs to contribute more than a few hours to this cause. Contact Lion Al Lucas or one of the site captains and give them your support and time. Last year we raised a near record \$20,000. We can surely top that this year, but it will take serious member participation.

**Your collections need to be turned in to the Captains and Lion Chairperson Al Lucas as quickly as possible so that the Board will be able to disburse funds in line with collections**

*See page 4 for Contact information*

### HERITAGE FESTIVAL CAR SHOW –

Goodie bag stuffing at Lion Steve Wolken's house on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. We need volunteers for the Food Wagon on both Saturday and Sunday. Sign up at the meetings or call Lion Shelton or Lion Wolken.

While the motto of the Lions Club is "We serve", it should be done so out of enjoyment rather than obligation. Consequently, as I can no longer say that I don't know what it takes to put together a Car Show of this magnitude, my motto is "work smarter, not harder". To that end, I have tried to break down the various areas into definable elements that I believe are enjoyable to do rather than burdensome tasks. Many times, just finding the "right" person for the "right" job can get you most of the way toward that pleasurable goal. Additionally, consistency from year to year can greatly improve the "thru - put" and the fun. So, if you have become familiar with something, don't hesitate to sign up for it again. On the other hand, those who enjoy variety may assist in new areas. Please remember that all volunteers (be they a Lion, family member or friend) will receive a beautiful "Festival of Cars" T-shirt for their efforts. While our traditional one day show

has now expanded to Saturday with the "Warm Up", very little effort is required to support it. The "Sign Up" sheets (don't forget to indicate your size) will be passed around for your review at our General Membership Meetings beginning on April 21st.

If you are unable to attend, do not hesitate to call as your support is sincerely appreciated.

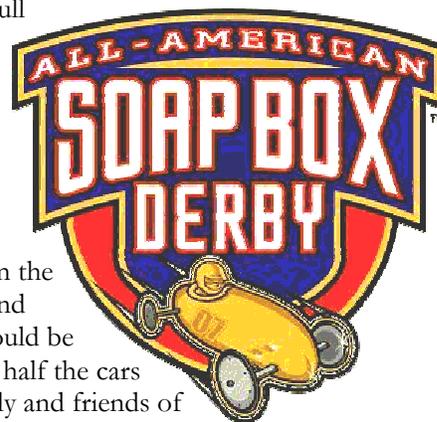
*See page 4 for Contact information*

### SOAPBOX DERBY – June 28th -29th

Joe Flynn kicked off the Club's excitement for this year's DADA Soap Box Derby with his presentation to our Club during the April 7th general meeting. Joe and his wife Cheryl were both on hand, passing out flyers, showing off the new Rochester Lions Club car and talking about the many exciting aspects of "gravity racing." For those of you who missed this meeting, Joe has built a beautiful blue "stock" kit with "Rochester Lions Club" in big bold yellow lettering down each side. Another great way to get our Club it's well deserved recognition. Something new for this year's participants... winners from each of the 3 race categories (stock, super stock and masters) will represent the Detroit Metro area at the world finals in Akron, Ohio and be eligible for up to \$5,000 in scholarship money!

Activities are in full swing for this year's derby.

Lion Mike has retrieved all the Club's cars from winter storage in Lapeer and is locating kids from the area to re-build and race them. It should be noted that nearly half the cars are going to family and friends of Rochester Lion members.



Key dates to keep in mind:

- May 14 (Wednesday) Lions Inspector & Tech Clinic
- June 7 (Saturday) final car building clinic at DADA
- June 14 (Saturday) Inspection Day at Shelton Pontiac
- June 24 (Tuesday) Race Volunteer Meeting
- June 28-29 (Saturday-Sunday) DADA Soap Box Derby Classic Race

Those interested should contact Lion Steve Shelton or Lion Ralph Vitale. ❖

## 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 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. So far \$2084 has been collected for the period 9-20-02 thru 2-18-03.

### 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

### 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@frankewold.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.

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## Communications info:

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### Heritage Festival Car Show

Lion Steve Wolken      Day: (586) 575-0670  
                                 Evening: (248) 375-2793

### White Cane April 24 – May 5

Lion Al Lucas    248-651-0474

Site Captains:

Livernois & Walton	Ron Barnett Gary Senical	248-651-1507 248-689-1744
University& Main	Dennis Scott	248-651-4155
Farmer Jack @ Tienken & Main	Stu Clemens	248-656-2045
Kroger @ Liv. & Walton	David Beane	248-652-6375
Kroger @ Adams	Mike Johnson	248-276-1204
L&L @ Adams	Jim Hoehner	248-651-6788
Whole Foods	Al Lucas	248-651-0474
Post Office	Arnold Sell & Ted Kamrath	248-375-9293 248-651-5150
Food Emporium	Lyn Demski	248-656-7671

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.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBER!!

We welcome Lion Eric D. Bothwell of 436 Rewold Dr, Rochester MI 48307 a retired GM Engineer, (his wife's name is Gail, phone: 248-651-1329, E-Mail: [ERICCHEVYBOTHWELL@aol.com](mailto:ERICCHEVYBOTHWELL@aol.com). His sponsor is Dennis Scott) to the Rochester Lions Club.

### CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

The District is sponsoring a Club Officer training session on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM till 11:45 AM at Leader Dogs. Coffee and donuts will be served. All club officers, directors and future officers should attend. Contact President Sefcik for further info.

## Fun Stuff!

### Gardens and Nature

*Overheard between God and St Francis (or yard work is not an excuse for working the Food wagon):*

GOD: Frank, you know all about gardens and nature, what in the world is going on down there in the U.S.? What in the world happened to the dandelions, violets, thistles, and the stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought, and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees, and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of color by now. But all I see are rectangular patches of green.

ST FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. They're called the Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers "weeds" and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But it is so boring, it's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, bees, or birds, only grubs and sod worms. It's temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want grass growing there?

ST FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing it and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The spring rains and the warm weather probably makes the grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites very happy.

ST FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it has grown a little, they cut it -- sometimes two times a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they bale it like hay?

ST FRANCIS: Not exactly Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST FRANCIS: No sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now let me get this straight: They fertilize it to make it grow and when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST FRANCIS: Yes, sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense! At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep the moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves become compost to enhance the soil. It's a natural circle of life.

ST FRANCIS: You'd better sit down, Lord. As soon as the leaves fall, the Suburbanites rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No way!! What do they do to protect the shrubs and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST FRANCIS: After throwing the leaves away, they go out and buy something called mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST FRANCIS: They cut down the trees and grind them up to make mulch.

GOD: Enough!! I don't want to think about this any more. St Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST CATHERINE: "Dumb and Dumber"; a really stupid movie about ...

GOD: Never mind; I think I just heard the whole story from St Francis!

### Club Officers:

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

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

*Board of Dir. '03:* George Newton  
*Board of Dir. '03:* Stu Clemens  
*Board of Dir. '04:* David Bates  
*Board of Dir. '04:* Al Lucas

### Lions Club – Den Keeping

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Attendance</b> - <i>If you can not attend a general membership meeting, contact Lion Lee Musson no later than the Friday prior to avoid incurring dinner charges:</i><br/> - voice: (248) 652-4608<br/> - email: <a href="mailto:Lee@Musson.net">Lee@Musson.net</a></li> <li>• <b>Sick &amp; Welfare</b> - <i>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.</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Newsletter Material</b> - <i>Send items you want published in the newsletter to Lion Gene Ferrera:</i><br/> - voice: (248) 651-4685<br/> - fax: (248) 651-5174<br/> - email: <a href="mailto:gferrera@frankereold.com">gferrera@frankereold.com</a><br/> - mail: 811 Croydon Rd<br/> Rochester Hills, MI 48309</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Roster Changes</b> - <i>Changes to your mailing address, phone number, email address, etc. should be forwarded to Lion Secretary Arnie Sell (248) 375-9293.</i></li> <li>• <b>Business Cards</b> - <i>Members wishing to have personalized Lions Business Cards made should contact Lion VP Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443</i></li> <li>• <b>Hats</b> - <i>New "Rochester Lions Club" hats are available from Lion VP Steve Shelton (248) 652-8443</i></li> </ul> |
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