



We Serve

Rochester Lions Club

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

Feb 2005
NEWSLETTER

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

Lion Doc O'Brien

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Feb 7th – In lieu of a regular meeting there will be a Region II Zone Meeting dinner and meeting – 6:30 PM at the River Crest. A good way for you to see what other clubs are doing.

Feb 9th - Board Meeting at the Leader Dog Campus on Avon Rd

Feb 21st. Regular General Membership dinner and meeting – This is 2005- 2006 board members nominations night. 6:30 PM at the River Crest. Theme - President

Bulletin!!

Feb 11th is the deadline to have your registration in to the district for this years' district convention (Mar 4, 5, & 6 in Grand Rapids). If you need the blank forms contact Lion President Gary

Happy Valentines Day



birthday of one of our not so immediate past presidents); 82 days (Apr 23rd thru May 2nd) until the start of White Cane week; and 89 days (May 1st) until our annual Bowling Tournament.

As I look out the window at night and see grey clouds, snow coming down and temperatures in the single digits I can think it's the middle of winter. Or, I can wake up in the morning, open the shades and see a robin pecking at the edge of the melting snow; see the morning sun glancing over the white of the clouds and know that spring is almost here. This is president's message was written (and hopefully goes to press) before Ground Hog Day (Feb 2nd) so I hope the pesky critter doesn't see his shadow. But if he does it's still half way to spring! Happy Valentine's Day everyone.

Remember, "Rochester Lions Club, A Family, A Team" THINK SPRING!

Lion President Gary



Pres Abe



Pres George

Lion President Gary's Message

Sitting down to write this article I want you all to know that the heater went out in the car, it's minus 4 below, there's 8 inches of snow on the ground and I'm trying hard to think of spring.

We should all think of spring. After all, in 14 days (Feb 14th) it will be Valentine's Day (don't forget the flowers and chocolate); in 21 days (Feb 21st) President's Day (what are you buying your president?); in 45 days (Mar 17th) you'll be Irish on St Patrick's Day (I think I hear Danny Boy playing on the radio); in 48 days (Mar 20th) the first day of spring (now known as the Chevy Equinox); 55 days (Mar 27th) until Easter (also the

Last month our club was able to assist another local resident in need of eyeglasses who could not afford them. With the assistance of Weisman Optometry, Helen T. of Auburn Hills, received an exam and new glasses.

Each year we receive several calls through local organizations asking for assistance in providing sight or hearing appliance for the less fortunate of our community. The Rochester Lions Club is proud to be able to directly improve the lives of our neighbors.

***An email from
Lion Larry Cole:***

At our next meeting on Monday, February 7th, our club will be hosting the Region II Zone meeting. There are three series of these meetings held each year with each series having meetings in each of our District's four Regions. Since I am a Zone Chairman for the District this year, our club has the honor of hosting one of these events.

This would be a great opportunity for those members who have never been to a District meeting to attend and see what happens at these meetings. District officials and representatives from the other clubs in our Region are in attendance so this would be a good forum to meet the leaders of the District and other local Lions.

What I need from you is for you to let me know via email or phone if you will be attending this meeting. I need to inform Nino as to the

number of meals to prepare.

Thanks

Larry Cole,
Region II Zone I Chairperson
Phone: 586-254-7027 (H)

Lion Past President Bill Sefcik reports he has a new email address:

BillSefcik@Yahoo.com

And Lion Dave Bates reports his new email address is:

david.bates2@comcast.net

I think changing your email address is a bad idea. You loose your Internet Homestead Tax benefit when you move.

LION SECRETARY ARNIE REPORTS ON THE JANUARY BOARD MEETING:

Lion Bilideau is researching some clarifications to our 501c3 charitable organization status

The Board authorized donations to Lion Klingensmith's Mexico hearing aid clinic trip, Mich. Assoc for the Deaf, and to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Club has obtained license for Mustang car raffle. Ford Motor will be loaning a mustang for our ticket events.

Club is obtaining permission from communities and stores for white cane solicitations.

Lion Sec. Sell is researching old records to review club boundaries.

Discussed upcoming events: White Cane, Leader Dog Bowling Benefit, Heritage Car Festival, and President's Ball.

***An email from
Lion Steve Shelton:***

The annual Michigan Lions Forum will be held Saturday, February 5th in Lansing. This is an outstanding opportunity to expand your Lion horizons. What started out a number of years ago as the "White Cane Forum," has grown into a real "event." It a day filled with statewide sharing and fellowship with other Lions, a chance to pickup White Cane supplies for the club and most importantly an opportunity to attend various leadership seminars.

Breakout sessions include:

- "Mirror, Mirror" Your Club Image
- Spread the Word - Public Relations
- Navigating Lions Websites
- Through Your Eyes
- Tax & Legal Issues Concerning Lions Clubs
- New Clubs - The Road to Growth
- Diabetes
- How to Get Your Article in Lion Pride
- The Art of Recognition
- Hope for the Best, Plan for the Worst
- White Cane

The Club will cover the modest \$30 registration fee; so for all those interested in attending, give Lion Al Lucas (our White Cane Chairperson *Extraordinaire*) a call at (248) 651-0474 ASAP. The registration deadline is fast approaching.

An email from
Dr Tae-Sup Lee, LCIF Chairperson

Dear Lion Steve,

The South Asian tsunami is considered the largest natural disaster in modern history. LCIF and Lions are responding accordingly. I am pleased to tell you that LCIF is initially committing US\$5 million to assist in the recovery. The funds will enable Lions in South Asia to provide for long-term reconstruction by building homes, school and child welfare centers for orphans.

The US\$5 million commitment is a matching donation from LCIF. Half of the US\$5 million will come from LCIF reserves, and the other half from the expected US2.5 million in donations to LCIF for tsunami relief from individuals, clubs and districts worldwide.

The second piece of important news is that until March 31 donations to LCIF for tsunami relief are eligible for Melvin Jones Fellowship recognition. This covers donations for tsunami relief from Dec. 26, 2004, to March 31, 2005. See below for more information.

Lions in South Asia continue their vital relief operations. Lions there already have spent an estimated \$820,000 on relief, including \$220,000 in Emergency grants sent to them by LCIF. Lions in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, India and Malaysia are providing tsunami victims with essential supplies such as food, water and medicine. Lions in Sri Lanka in District 306C, for example, sent 75 lorry loads of relief materials to devastated towns and villages. In Indonesia, Lions were the first social organization to coordinate aid in Banda Aceh. Despite having lost members of their own families, Lions spent untold hours dispensing supplies.

Even as they distributed crucial supplies, Lions began planning long-term reconstruction of communities. Lions have been meeting with government officials and other relief

organizations to develop comprehensive but entirely realistic and practical recovery initiatives. You can be assured that Lions, who are key civic, business and community leaders themselves, are making certain that their service and their funds are applied expeditiously and efficiently.

LCIF is mobilizing tremendous financial support for recovery for South Asia. To date, LCIF has received more than US\$630,000 in donations from Lions. This includes US\$200,000 from the Lions of Korea and US\$120,000 from the Lions of Sweden. The Lions of Japan are expected to make a major donation and the Lions of Ireland expect to contribute US\$460,000.

These donations will enable LCIF to partner with local Lions on rebuilding communities. The real impact of LCIF's assistance to tsunami victims in South Asia will be fully realized in the next several years as LCIF partners with Lions to rebuild communities. This long-term approach plays to the strength of LCIF and Lions, who belong to their communities, understand local needs and know how to get things done.

The shock and horror of the tsunami disaster will remain with us for a very, very long time. But LCIF and Lions are doing all they can to help victims and get communities back on their feet. I humbly thank you for your service and compassion.

Sincerely,
Dr. Tae-Sup Lee,
LCIF Chairperson

Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) Recognition

LCIF's normal policy is that MJF recognition is not allowed for designated donations. To encourage donations for tsunami victims, the LCIF board of trustees temporarily has amended this policy. Donations for tsunami relief from Dec. 26, 2004, to March 31, 2005, are eligible for MJF recognition. These must be donations that fully provide for an MJF through a US\$1,000 donation. The Melvin Jones

Fellow does not have to be named at the time the donation is made.

Using tsunami relief donations to provide for MJF recognition is an option for clubs and districts. Be sure to indicate whether you want MJF recognition when sending in the donation. LCIF prefers that districts and clubs not request MJF recognition when donated funds are secured as the result of large-scale solicitation of the public.

Whether or not MJF recognition is obtained, donations for tsunami relief count toward an individual's and a club's cumulative giving totals to LCIF, which help qualify an individual and club for various award programs.

Press Coverage

LCIF has received inquiries from Lions about media coverage of Lions' relief efforts. Lions have received some favorable attention from the media, and LCIF is working with a public relations firm to further publicize the great service of Lions. But you, too, can help spread the word about Lions' assistance to tsunami victims. LCIF has created a [sample press release](http://www.lions-tsunami.org/sample_release.shtml) on Lions' tsunami relief. http://www.lions-tsunami.org/sample_release.shtml

Visit the Web

LCIF has set up a Web site to keep Lions informed of developments related to tsunami relief: www.lions-tsunami.org. The site is loaded with current and comprehensive information. Please bookmark it and refer to it periodically.

Donations Needed

Lions are encouraged to continue to send [donations to the Asia Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund \(#5105\)](http://www.lions-tsunami.org/making_a_donation.shtml). Donations to LCIF are a highly efficient and effective way to help people impacted by the tsunamis. Every donated dollar goes directly to relief efforts; LCIF's administrative costs are paid for by interest on investments. http://www.lions-tsunami.org/making_a_donation.shtml

2005 Mustang Raffle

Rochester Lions Club

March 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , 6 th	Autorama - To be confirmed Cobo Hall, Detroit
May 1 st	Leader Dog Bowling Benefit Classic Lanes 2145 Avon Industrial, Rochester Hills
May 28 th , 29 th	Heritage Festival of Cars Rochester Community Park 816 Ludlow, Rochester
June 11 th , 12 th	Soap Box Derby 202 East Third Street, Rochester
June 18 th	Leader Dog Puppy Day Leader Dogs for the Blind 1039 S. Rochester Rd., Rochester Hills
July 14 th , 15 th , 16 th	Side Walk Sales 339 Main St., Rochester
August 4 th	Meadow Brook Vintage Car Tour - To be confirmed Royal Park Hotel 600 East University, Rochester
August 7 th	Meadow Brook Concours d'Elegance - To be confirmed Oakland University 2000 N. Squirrel Rd., Auburn Hills
August 12 th , 13 th	Dancin' in the Street 339 Main St. & 4 th Street, Rochester
August 14 th	Rockin Rods n' Rochester 339 Main St. & 4 th Street, Rochester
August 19 th , 20 th	Woodward Dream Cruise 30908 Woodward, Jax Express, Royal Oak
September 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th	Romeo Peach Festival - To be determined Lions Park, Romeo
September 9 th , 10 th , 11 th	Art & Apples - To be determined Rochester Community Park 816 Ludlow, Rochester

The club will be present at the above events with the Mustang to sell raffle tickets. If you would like to attend and help sell tickets and have a great time while doing it, contact Lion Denny Scott.