

Li ns Link



Lions Clubs International District C-1 Newsletter

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 01 JULY 2021



Who would have ever thought that from March, 2020 to June, 2021 we would be under the threat of a world-wide pandemic?

As I sit here in front of my computer and think back over the

past 15 months, I am amazed at the changes.

Some clubs have continued to meet virtually and find very creative ways to continue to raise funds and continue to serve.

My DGE training was supposed to happen in St. Charles, Illinois in February, but that was not to be. LCI quickly re-did the curriculum to make it virtual friendly and at the end of April, 750 DGE's started their training. The challenge was to conduct training with many time zones being factored in. DG Michelle Harris – C2 and I would get online at 6:00 p.m. our time and study with our Australian counterparts 1:00 p.m. the next day. How LCI managed to organize this was a major undertaking which proves how dedicated they are to have all of us trained properly.

During my training, I was able to meet International President, Douglas Alexander. As luck would have it, his theme for the year is the same as mine, "Service from The Heart." His message is 'we cannot serve unless we have members and we cannot have members unless we serve.'

The most important element of every club is members. Orientating new members and keeping them engaged in projects whether they be fundraising or service, will greatly help with retention. Inviting community members to assist in various projects opens the lines of communications and may result in new members.

My charity of choice this year is LCIF - Campaign 100. It is one of my goals that District C1 has 100% Club participation this year as this is the final year for this campaign.

As this term moves on, I will continue submitting little nuggets of information. I look so forward to serving all of you along with my Global Action Team.

IPDG Lion "Prince" Baweja
1VDG Lion Suzanne Leshchysyn
2VDG Lion Sandra Goodrich
PDG Terry Kozma – LCIF Coordinator
PCC Lion Betty Ann Robson – GLT
PZC Lion Brian Barnes – GST
PDG Lion "Walt" Skrepnyk - GMT

DG Melodie Franko

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS / DATES to REMEMBER

2021	Sep 09 11 Sept ??-?? Nov 06	USA/Canada Forum Emerging Lions Learning C1 Convention	Des Moines Iowa Red Deer ?? St. Albert, AB	
2022	Jun 24-28 Sep 15-17	International Convention USA/Canada Forum	Montreal, PQ Calgary, AB	lionsclubs.org lionsforum.org
2023	Jul 07-11	International Convention	Boston, Mass	lionsclubs.org

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District Governor
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Suzanne Leshchysyn
Vice District Governor

Sandra Goodrich
2nd Vice District Governor

Next Newsletter
Submission Deadline:
28th of current month

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS



SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2021
YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE DES MOINES!

[FORUM NEWS LETTERS](#)

[Forum Website](#)

[REGISTER ON-LINE](#)

SERVICE REPORTING REMINDER

All club service activities and volunteer hours from the 2020-21 Lions year must be reported on MyLion by **JULY 15, 2021**.



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VIRTUAL PIN?*



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Lions of Canada
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THINGS TO DO IN JULY

National Anti-boredom Month
National Grilling Month
National Hot Dog Month
National Ice Cream Month
National Picnic Month
National Watermelon Month

I am by no means endorsing that clubs should plan community events around this particular July activity, but for information purposes only, the second week in July is "Nude Recreation Week"! However, I hear Lions are looking for Specialty Clubs! KIDDING!! I'm just kidding!

July 1 – Canada Day
July 2 – I Forgot Day
July 4 – Independence Day
 National Country Music Day
July 5 – National Apple Turnover Day
July 6 – National Fried Chicken Day
July 7 – Chocolate Day
 Global Forgiveness Day
 National Strawberry Sundae Day
July 10 – Teddy Bear Picnic Day
July 11 – Cheer up the Lonely Day
 National Blueberry Muffin Day
July 13 – Barbershop Music Appreciation Day
 National French Fries Day
July 14 – National Macaroni & Cheese Day
July 18 – National Ice Cream Day
July 20 – Ugly Truck Day
July 21 – National Hot Dog Day
 National Junk Food Day
July 23 – National Vanilla Ice Cream Day
July 24 – National Day of the Cowboy
 National Tequila Day
 Tell an Old Joke Day
July 25 – National Chili Dog Day
July 28 – National Milk Chocolate Day
July 29 – National Chicken Wing Day
 National Lasagna Day
July 30 – National Cheese Cake Day
 Father-In-Law Day
 National Day of Friendship
July 31 – Mutts Day (every dog has to have their day)
 National Watermelon Day

Whether you make a club activity from something on the list, (except Nude Recreation Week) or you just enjoy the activities with family friends or fellow Lions.....without masks, have an incredible Service

JULY SERVICE REPORT

First, the pandemic made us stay home, now, Mother Nature is making us stay in the basement! I'm not sure if this is better or not! Wow, the heat is on, but restrictions are off and summer can be enjoyed the way it should be with family, friends and fellow Lions. Now the excuses are gone for not being involved with your community, doing the service that has made Lions heroes in your community. Throw on the yellow vest and tie on the apron. Let's all make this a summer of SERVICE.

Service is the focus of the Kindness Matters Service Award, and LCI has it up for grabs again to start a new Lions Year. Did your club do an outstanding act of Service in one of Lions five areas of Global Service; Vision, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Hunger or the Environment? If so, you have until August 15th to get your nomination form to your District Service Co-ordinator, in C-1 Lion Brian Barnes brianlionszonechair@gmail.com, or in C-2 PDG John Goodrich pdgjohngoodrich2011@gmail.com. If you need more information on the Kindness Matters Service Award, on the LCI Homepage, click on the little magnifying glass and type Kindness Matter Service Award. You'll find the award overview as well as nomination form. Good luck to your club for your acts of exceptional Service this past year.

One Club that could be in the running for the KMSA is the Edmonton Host Lions Club. Recently they teamed up with Alberta Avenue Community League's Hub Night Event and made 125 take out meals to feed the line up of people in attendance. They also gave out 60 Lions Personal Care kits to those who needed it. Feeding the hungry and helping out the less fortunate. The Edmonton Host Lions showed Kindness truly matters. Thank you so much for your service.

The Thorhild Lions Club recently held a food drive outside their local grocery store. It's the first time the club had tried this project, to both help the community and get their club members engaged in a new Service. It allowed members a chance to talk to the residents about their club and the Service they do.

Continued next page

End result was 6 shopping carts full of groceries and \$515.00 in cash donations. Not bad for a first kick at the can and having the courage to try something new, making a change. AND.....the best thing, a resident who will very likely become a new Lion! See how that works. Put a project in motion, TALK to people, tell them what you do, and they may become a member! Congratulations Thorhild Lions. I look forward to seeing your club grow, in members and Service.

I had a chance to recently visit the community of Vimy. While going through town I saw the outdoor skating rink that the Vimy Lions Club are currently raising funds to repair and put back into use. As I understand it, over \$6000.00 has been raised by the club for the project. Now this is a big project for a small Club in a small community. But, the Vimy Lions saw a need, and where there's a need, there's this small Lions Club ready to do big things for their community. Thank you, Vimy Lions, for making the amenities in your community a place to be enjoyed by all the residents. These are just a few examples of Lions Clubs continuing to find ways to Serve, to try something new, to make an impact in their community. I love it when I get a call or email from a Club with their latest project story. You can hear the excitement in their voice, feel the excitement in their written word because they are out there doing SOMETHING! I hope all our Multiple District Clubs will be out this summer, making a difference.

Another type of Service is Lions helping Lions. The 2022 USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum is coming to Calgary, and the organizing committee is looking for volunteers to help at the event. With close to 3000 Lions from Canada, the U.S., and U.S. affiliates, this is one of the best Lions learning experiences I have ever been to. A great way to meet other Lions, hear what other Clubs are doing for Service and membership and enjoy three days of fellowship. You can find the volunteer form at www.2022lionsleadershipforum.com See you at the Forum in September 2022.

I recently had opportunity to join the Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre's Annual General Meeting in June. Even though

I've known about the workings of CLERC for some time, it was an eyeopener to hear the work they've been doing. Even in a pandemic year, CLERC still managed to ship out over 250,000 pair of recycled glasses, giving someone less fortunate a chance to see clearly for the first time. Even more astounding, CLERC recently sent out it's 6 millionth pair of recycled glasses. What a milestone! Of course, this is made possible by the Lions Clubs who are collecting used eyeglasses in their communities. Please keep up the good work and I encourage you to find even more places to set up collection boxes. However, this good Service also comes with a price for equipment, vehicles, building expenses, supplies, etc. I know many Clubs have little in their bank accounts because of the year we've had, but as your fundraisers ramp up again, please keep CLERC on your donation list so this good work can continue for years to come. Every little bit helps. As a side note, Clubs in District C-2 out-donate Clubs from District C-1 by quite a margin. Hopefully things can get evened out by the end of this new Lions year.

Out with the old, in with the new.....or maybe just "normal" times. Things are opening up, communities are itching to get together at public events, be around other people again, socialize, have fun. Is your club ready to reap the benefits of fundraisers, the great feeling of helping out, the joy of fellowship with your members and other clubs? Don't take the summer off. Kick your Club into high gear and get into your community to SERVE.

*Lion Dave Leshchyshyn MD C Service Co-ordinator
District C-1 Service Co-ordinator*

THE CLUB DIGEST

A MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE
LATEST LION NEWS

[VIEW JUNE](#)

[VIEW ON-LINE](#)

FROM NAMI TO GMA

In the last year most of us were introduced to the North American Membership Initiative (NAMI). This acronym belongs to another organization and since Lions Clubs International desired to take this effort world-wide it became Global Membership Approach (GMA). While our District had signed on at the start of last year, I was unable to help introduce the program during the last year. Also like most everyone, I had little idea how the initiative worked. However, while convalescing over the winter I gained some insight and knowledge on the GMA.

Zone Chair Barb Riley and the clubs of 7 served as one of the North America Pilot Zones. Like the vast majority of the pilot zones, zone 7 had an overall membership increase last year. This is with some of the clubs not participating. Three of the 6 clubs in this zone will qualify for the Club Excellence Award which is based on more than membership increases. While increasing Membership is a desired goal, the GMI seeks to do more than that for our clubs.

GMA Seeks to revitalize the clubs not only with new members, but increased fellowship within the clubs, undertaking new service projects and by taking advantage of some of the numerous learning opportunities available through LCI our Multiple District and our District Learning Chairs. In general we are seeking to make our clubs stronger.

As we come out of the Covid Pandemic there is no better time to rediscover who we are and to start building towards a brighter future. We have almost 100 clubs in our District, so it will be difficult to get everyone going at the same time. I also realize that not all Clubs will seek to take the GMA on at this time. It is my goal to try to aid as many Clubs and Zones as possible over the course of the next year. Hopefully some Zone Chairs will take advantage of this opportunity to help build up the Clubs in their Zone. And as I said I hope to aid Clubs without Zone Chairs.

Throughout our District, our Multiple District and North America (as well as other parts of the world) Clubs face similar obstacles.

- Declining Membership
- Aging Membership
- Same Club Officers year after year
- Unable to attract New and Younger Member
- And the list goes on.

Hopefully we will be able to deal with some of these issues in the this year.

I am also the District Membership Chair and as such will work with clubs that don't feel comfortable undertaking the Global Membership Approach. Right Now Club Membership Chairs can google Lions Clubs International Membership ebook and see if there are any ideas they can start on. On Youtube you will find short Membership videos mixed in a group of videos if you search Lions Clubs International Videos for training.

Look for more information In the coming months.

For now you can find me on facebook as Adrian Skrepnyk.

LIONS IN ACTION

STONY PLAIN LIONS CLUB



The Stony Plain Lions recently presented Wags Cookies with a donation of 1000 freebies for them to distribute as they visit local dog parks and area functions to promote inclusiveness and acceptance among those who are challenged in a variety of ways. Seen here are members of the Stony Plain Lions Club presenting Wags Cookies with the freebies.

PDG Joan Lubbers

CITY OF CHAMPIONS LIONS CLUB



Lions Rick, Kathy, Lorraine and Stacey of the City of Champions Lions Club dropping off 20 more hygiene bags at the West Jasper Place Wellness Center for the homeless. May 31, 2020.



Christina Russell

REDWATER LIONS CLUB.



The Community Services Department of the Town of Redwater promoted Senior's Week with a number of initiatives including a drive by parade of the downtown core, senior housing complexes and extended care area of the Health Center. In response to the request for community groups to help support the drive by parade the Lions Club of Redwater undertook to put together a float and a flotilla of decorated golf carts for the event. In total 10 members attended the outside event and travelled throughout the Town following the public works equipment and fire apparatus. The parade was a big hit with the seniors who eagerly waved from their windows, their porches and balconies.



Lion Dave

THORHILD LIONS CLUB

Thorhild Lions Club conducted a food collection event at the Co-Op in Thorhild June 25, 2021.



two Lady lions sitting at the table

We set up a table close to the entrance into the store and had three lions man the table starting at 12 PM and shutting down at 6PM. The lions working all day were Lion Irene Rettman, Lion Carolyn Barnes and Zone 8 Chair Brian Barnes. Lion Carol Kassian joined us at the table at 5 PM.

We solicited customers entering the store asking them to purchase an extra item to donate to the Lions Club for a local food bank.

We collected six shopping cart loads of various grocery and sanitary items. We also collected \$515.00 in cash donations.

We also collected a few pairs of eyeglasses and a few hearing aids with all the chargers and associated parts.

We were well received by most customers entering the store and had excellent support from the store staff.

We also received enquiries about the Lions clubs functions and have some interested persons wanting to Join the club to provide service to the community.

*Brian Barnes
Zone 8 Chair,*

STONY PLAIN LIONS CLUB



The Stony Plain Lions held 50/50 cash draw with the proceeds going to Dog Guides. The winner was Cliff Goetz of the Stony Plain area Pres. Joan Lubbers and Dog Guides chairperson Lion Pat Jensen presented Cliff with a check for \$1,775

A check for the same amount was sent to Dog Guides of Canada. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets.

PDG Joan Lubbers

REDWATER LIONS CLUB.



Photo by Lion Dave McRae

Last year the Lions Club of Redwater planted 105 white spruce seedlings in an area of the Redwater Community Golf Club. The following week the community experienced torrential rains and overland flooding that adversely affected many of the seedlings. This year the club had 30 white spruce seedlings donated as well as 10 Laurel Leaf Willows to supplement the surviving trees from last year. On Wednesday June 2nd many of the club members attended to the nursery area and planted the seedlings. Left to Right are Lion Henry, Gerald, Jason, Larry, Les and Angel.

Lion Dave

EDMONTON HOST LIONS CLUB

The Edmonton Host Lions Club teamed up with Alberta Avenue Community League's Hub Night Event and made 125 take-out meals to feed the line-up of people in attendance.

We shopped, chopped, cooked, packaged and distributed a take-out meal which consisted of pork with pineapple sweet and sour sauce over rice, stir fry vegetables, marinated carrot salad and a butter tart for dessert



Personal items and toiletries are usually not supplied by food banks, so we also distributed 60 Lions Personal Care Kits to those who needed it. Thirty more Care Kits were donated to a



member of Water Warriors Yeg, an organization that brings water, food and supplies directly to people living rough on the streets of Edmonton's inner city. Thanks very much to Alberta Avenue Community League for having us participate again!



We did this as part of our Lions Clubs International 2021 Convention celebration where Lions worldwide are challenged to complete a hunger project to reach a goal of feeding one million people by the virtual convention date of June 25.



Pictured in the photos below are Lions Donna, Harry, Anthony, Janet, Carol, Lois, Emille, Darcy, Bernie, President Jim (not pictured) and friends Rick, Katerina, Louisa, and Robin (not pictured).

Janet Robinson, Service Chairperson

BLINDMAN VALLEY LIONS CLUB



It has been such a beautiful Spring. So grateful to be once again enjoying each other's company and finally meeting face to face. We were able to safely participate with a couple of projects so far. We have a small community within our service area that has a colourful history. Bluffton Alberta is one of those towns that was booming in the early to mid 1900's but sadly, once the highway was built and the trains stopped coming it experienced a decline.



This small village still has a great community spirit and it was at their beautiful community hall that we pitched in to help. We were able to paint their flag poles thanks to paint donated by **Evergreen Co-op**. We hung new flags donated by our MLA Jason Nixon , our MP Blaine Calkins and the County of Ponoka.

We painted their community bulletin board thanks to **Lowes Home Improvement** in Red Deer. We also repainted their Welcome to Bluffton sign with Paint from Lowes. This sign

was originally placed on the highway by the business members of the town back in 1993.

The community's gratitude for these projects has been truly heartwarming. While we were busy doing these tasks we also participated in the million meals challenge and collected food for Rimbeys food bank.



The people of this community and our members generously donated 222 lbs of food and \$125 in cash. This was also gratefully received by the food bank. All in all it was a great project that was very well received. We will be on the lookout for other projects to help this community.



Trudy Rangen





June 28/21 the Edmonton Host Lions Club sprang into action when an urgent request came from an inner city

church for bottled water and groceries for bag lunches. Extreme heat and days of record breaking temperatures in Edmonton have caused an even greater need for water and food supplies in the inner city neighbourhoods

Our club delivered car loads containing bread, ham, bologna, and cheese for sandwiches and over 900 bottles of water.



Thanks very much to Lion Bernie for getting this organized so quickly and Lions Anthony, Lois, Emille, John (Santa), Janet and friends Rick, John, Ken, Michelle and Jacob for all their help!



*Lion Janet Robinson
Service Chairperson*

In Memoriam

PDG FERN BILODEAU

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of PDG Fernand (Fern) Bilodeau, father to VDGE Lion Suzanne Leshchysyn.

Survived by his loving wife Solange of 61 years, his children Alphonse (Dolores), Suzanne (Dave), Joanne (Randy) and Elizabeth (Weldon).

He leaves to mourn his grandchildren Michelle (Russell), Karlin, Callie, William (Nicole), Michael (Jess), Christopher (Sarah) and great-grandchild Declan.

He graduated from Vermillion School of Agriculture in 1956. He was an active member in his community. Involved in the Vimy parish council, numerous farm boards, 4-H club leader and district council, Lions club member and was District Governor in 1996-97 in District 37-B. He lived his whole life on the family farm which he operated with Solange and their children. On their mixed farm they raised beef cattle, milk cows, sheep, chickens and grew mixed grains. In 1977 they were awarded with the Alberta Farm Family Award. After retirement in 2008 from cropping the land, they enjoyed numerous trips abroad, visiting many countries and historic sites.

Special thanks given to Dr. Fourie and Dr. Frigon and the staff at the Westlock Continuing Care for the care and compassion he received in his last months.

Donations may be made to the Westlock Continuing Care or a charity of one's choice.

Please visit westlockfuneralhome.com for more information and to view service recording.

Expressions of sympathy may be forwarded to the family by visiting westlockfuneralhome.com. **Westlock Funeral Home & Crematorium Ltd. 780-349-3474.**

PDG Christine Lank