

January
2005

41-L NEWSLETTER

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'Gene's note

Fellow Lions,

First of all, I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. It is hard to believe that my term of District Governor is already half over. There are a few things coming up in the future I would like to refresh your memories with.

First of all, does your club participate in Youth Programs? We have Leo Clubs, Peace Poster, and Speak-out Contests available in the district. All of these programs are great programs and all of these help develop young leaders for the world of tomorrow.

SPEAK OUT

The next Youth Program that will be taking place is Speak-out. This public speaking contest is for all High School age teens and we see the best of the best in public speaking. We have about 10 clubs that participate in our district. It would really be great to have some new schools involved. Each club has a speak-out contest and sends the winners on to the region competition. Some clubs do this as a joint meeting. The winners will be sent to the District Convention in April. This year it will be held in Auburn, Maine. This is just one program that our District has to offer for the youth. We should be involved and help to develop the future of the world and world of Lionism.

FIDELCO OPEN HOUSE for LIONS

On April 16, 2005 Fidelco will be having an open house for all Lions. Those that have gone before really enjoy it. Many of our clubs have donated to this guide dog training program in Bloomfield, CT. It is so educational to learn how these dogs are trained and what is expected of them. You can go on a "puppy walk". This is when they blindfold you and you are led through an obstacle course by one of the dogs. All Lions and guests are invited to attend and if we have enough money to sponsor a dog, this is when we will present them with a check.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO, PLEASE CONTACT PDG CLYDE RICKER @

892-2792 OR EMAIL sebagomere@earthlink.net



Gene's note continued.....

41-L and 41-I JOINT CONVENTION

Plans are being made to have our joint convention in Auburn, Maine on April 22-24 at The Hilton Garden Inn on beautiful Androscoggin River. We will be having a great time. On Friday night we are planning on having a wine tasting and following that a Casino night. On Saturday morning we will be having a pajama breakfast, followed by a variety of classes, an auction, Speak-out, and of course the Saturday Banquet. On Sunday, we will be having a Necrology Service and Banquet lunch.

This is an important Convention to attend because we will be discussing and voting on Maine separating from Canada. This could change the direction of Lions in Maine in the future.

The Convention Committee will be working very hard to make this a fun and productive weekend. We are trying to change the conventions and make them more interesting and fun. However, we can not do this without your help. Please try to attend.

CONTEST RESULTS

The contests are only as good as your club reports- It is up to your club to keep me informed of what your club is doing to receive the appropriate points. I can give points if I receive the right information from your secretary. It is not to late to give me that information. You have until April 1st.

The Efficiency contest so far is very close.

1st-Massabesic, 2nd-Eliot, 3rd-York, 4th-Bethel, 5th-Scarborough

Clubs get out and visit and let me know. The Travel results so far are:

1st-Massabesic, 2nd-Lyman/Dayton, 3rd-Falmouth

Growth is Scarborough having 8 new members and 1 transfer

This does not mean that these clubs are the winners. We still have three months to get your club in first place.

Have a great New Year, stay warm and think SPRING!

DG Gene Cross

gmc@pivot.net

DISTRICT 41-L
THIRD CABINET MEETING

February 6, 2005

At

Windham Veteran's Center
795 Roosevelt Trail, Windham
(back of Windham Mall)

MENU

Gray/New Gloucester Lions Club's
"FAMOUS" CHICKEN POT PIE

\$11.00 PER PERSON

PLEASE FILL OUT FORM BELOW AND RETURN BY FEBRUARY 2ND

TO:

CST CAROLYN GILE
105 Gile Road
Alfred, Maine 04002

*****Bring New Members*****Bring Prospective Members*****

and

**BRING YOUR FAVORITE PIE OR CAKE FOR THE
"CAKE AND PIE AUCTION"**

THIRD CABINET MEETING----FEB.6,2005

DEADLINE IS February 2ND, 2005

NAME OF CLUB _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____ X \$11.00 ===== \$ _____ TOTAL

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO DISTRICT 41-L

MAIL TO: CST Carolyn Gile

105 Gile Road Alfred, ME 04002 (207)-324-5994

cgile@adelphia.net



What are lions doing to help with tsunami relief?

*LCIF Tsunami Relief Update
Bulletin 2 – Jan. 5, 2005*

Lions in Action

Supported by LCIF, several thousand local Lions are now providing immediate relief aid such as food, water and clothing from the west coast of India to Thailand and south to Indonesia. Local Lions in hundreds of places are at the scenes of the disaster, helping to organize relief and ensuring that people get vital relief supplies. Lions from nearby nations also have sent volunteer workers. The Taiwan Lions, for example, sent a medical team to Sri Lanka. The service of Lions is enabling communities to take care of their children, elderly, those with disabilities and other especially vulnerable people.

Here are a few examples of how local Lions are helping victims in South Asia:

- In Sri Lanka, Lions are working 16-hour days in organizing relief aid and are a key partner of the government's relief agency and of the country's president. Enhancing their ability to assist in the relief, Lions hold key positions in the community. The former president is a Lion, as is the current Minister of Housing. District 306-B sent 60 truckloads of food and supplies to several relocation camps. Lions receive police escorts for the deliveries. District 306-A is organizing the installation of tents at new relocation camps in southern Sri Lanka at the government's request.
- In Indonesia, Lions are contributing greatly to relief efforts in some of the hardest hit areas. Thirty clubs near Medan provide logistical support for aid shipments to Bandh Aceh and send out four trucks of materials daily. They also are providing shelter, food, and clothing to refugees who have entered Medan. Lion-doctors from Jakarta and Medan are providing medical treatment. Lions also are making preliminary plans to support the educational needs of orphans.
- In India, 20 Lions' ambulances and a team of 80 Lions volunteer medical doctors are providing first aid near Chennai. Nearly 70 clubs fanned out in the region from Parassalla to Hariad to distribute food and clothes at the relief camps. Lion-doctors conducted free treatment at relief centers.
- In Thailand, Lions in Bangkok have sent water tanks and trucks loaded with supplies to Phuket. Lions are working with government officials and relief agencies to provide for basic needs at relocation camps.

Generosity of Lions

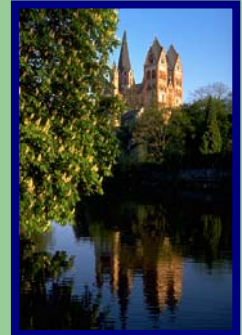
LCIF's grants for the tsunami disaster, made possible, of course, by prior donations by Lions, now total US\$470,000 and will climb much higher as needs are continually assessed and requests for assistance are made. Additionally, Lions throughout the world are making pledges of support, including US\$120,000 from the Lions of Sweden and US\$200,000 from the Lions of Korea.

LCIF
Lions
in
Action

Inside Story Headline

LCIF's Long-Term Aid

LCIF provides immediate relief and long-term reconstruction after a disaster. LCIF is not only helping people stay alive after the tsunami but it also will rebuild communities for years to come. The real impact of LCIF's assistance to South Asia will be fully realized in the next several years as LCIF partners with Lions to rebuild homes, schools and community centers. 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.



How to Donate

LCIF established the South Asia Tsunami Disaster Relief Fund (#5105) for Lions, clubs, districts and others to assist relief efforts by Lions. The funds are supporting immediate needs such as food and water and will support long-term reconstruction needs.

U.S. donors can:

- Mail a check to LCIF. Make the check payable to LCIF and write "tsunami relief" in the memo field. Send the check to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523, USA, Attn.: Donor Services.

Since this is a donation to a specific initiative, it is not eligible for Melvin Jones Fellowship recognition. However, donations for tsunami relief are counted toward an individual's and a club's cumulative giving totals to LCIF, which help qualify an individual and club for various recognition programs. Also, the names of individuals and clubs that make significant donations will be posted on a new Web site LCIF is creating on the disaster.

Why Donate to LCIF

Lions who donate to other relief agencies or Lions districts that donate directly to another district affected by the tsunami are to be commended for their generosity. But donating to LCIF carries several important advantages.

- 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 interests on investments.
- LCIF's grants are often matched by grants from other agencies. Thus donations made to LCIF are eventually leveraged by other grants, maximizing the power and reach of a single donation.

LEO CLUB IN THE MAKING

Forty-five years ago, Coach Jim Graver started the Leo ball rolling. Chances are that the ball was a baseball. Back in 1957, Graver was the coach of the Abington High School, Pennsylvania, USA, baseball team. Graver was also an active member of the Glenside, Pennsylvania, Lions Club.

With fellow Lion, William Ernst, Graver talked about starting a service club for high school boys. "The Kiwanians had their Key Clubs and the Rotarians had their Wheel Club (since changed to Interact Clubs)," Ernst is quoted as saying in an October 1, 1976 newspaper article in "The Evening Bulletin."

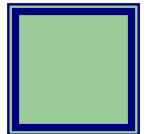
So they asked their fellow Lions for support. Without hesitation, the Glenside Lions agreed that a Lions youth group was a good idea. Graver and Ernst set to work. "We need a nucleus, a group of kids to start with," stated Ernst. "So we got Jim's son to come to the first meeting with his whole baseball team." Nine sophomore, junior and senior boys joined the group of 26d baseball players.

Together, the 35 teens formed a club. On December 5, 1957, the Glenside Lions presented a charter to the Abington High School Leo Club.

As the world's first Leo club, the group created the Leo acronym- Leadership, Equality, Opportunity (Equality was later changed to Experience.) And, the group chose maroon and gold-their school colors- to serve as the Leo club colors.

Today, the Leo Club program is stronger than ever. Community service remains the cornerstone of the program. Like their Lions counterparts, Leo club members enjoy serving their neighbors and watching positive results unfold.

Tomorrow's Lions may be found in the Leo's of today. If your club is interested in starting a Leo's Club, you can get in touch with our District Leo Chairperson: Lion Anne Kustron at jfk@adelphia.net or at 247-3314 contact DG Gene Cross at gmc@pivot.net



COMPANY NAME

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City, State 00000

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WE SERVE