

District A-16 Governor's Newsletter

December 2022

A message from District Governor Carolyn Stephenson

I can't believe that so much time has gone by already. Whew! Where has the time gone? Our first quarter is on the books and we should be proud of what we have accomplished in such a short time.

Let's take a brief look.

At the *USA/Canada Forum* held in Calgary in September, our District was recognized by International President Brian Sheehan, as one of seven Districts in Constitutional Areas 1 and 2 to achieve the Fast Start Charter Challenge Recognition by chartering one new club in two months and positive 22 members. We are currently in the process of chartering two new clubs, Markham Elite Lions Club and Markham Mantra Lions Club. ***Welcome on board.***



**District Governor
Carolyn Stephenson
Markham Lions Club**

One of our District goals was to achieve 1250 members (official membership status): many people did not think this was possible. Yet we are currently at 1,082 members and as I speak to area leaders and as was confirmed at our last Cabinet session on November 5th, we are inducting 19 new members in Region 18, 6 new members in Region 33, 12 new members in Region 45 and 4 new members in Region 52. Wow!!

That would bring us to approximately 1,125 new members so far. We have increased our number of clubs from 52 to 55. I'm so excited to be reporting this as we are growing at a steady pace amidst the effects of a post pandemic. Let us continue to work together as a team to build on what we have accomplished so far. ***I am so proud of District A16.***

As I look at the many Facebook postings, I'm so proud of our Lions for the many service activities, planned or have already taken place. We are sharing Coats for Kids, we help to keep the Food Bank stocked by continually donating, we are selling Christmas trees, we are baking pies, we are getting ready to join Santa's Parades and so much more. We are being noticed and many are asking to be a part of our organization. "Who would have thought"? Together we are truly making a difference in the lives of others and achieving great things. ***Thank you so very much for your dedication and service.***



As I am writing this message, I'm cognizant of the fact that shortly we will be celebrating the Holiday Season (Christmas to many, Diwali to others). I think it is a time for all of us to reflect on the idea of owning a generous heart and as we do, we can feel proud of our Lions organization and its "We Serve" motto.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your Families, a Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Christmas and the very best for a Happy New Year.

DG Carolyn Stephenson



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District Governor's Holiday Celebration

Ho! Ho! Ho! It's party time! It's social time!

District Governor Carolyn and her Governor Team hosted the Holiday Celebration on December 4th at the Mount Albert Lions Hall.



Merry Christmas, Happy Diwali, Happy Hanukka, Happy Holiday to all!

Here are some snapshots taken at the party.







We had not just Santa visiting us.
We had TWO Santas bringing holiday treats
to everyone!



A Message from the District Committee Chair of Childhood Cancer



Hello Fellow Lions

I thought I would send you an update as to what is happening with Childhood Cancer. We didn't quite reach our goal for the pain pumps but we will be delivering a cheque in the amount of \$10,000. and with the support of another lions club the Pain Pumps are paid for, so this will assist with the care of a terminally ill child and their families. I am so very thankful to everyone for the generous donations.

I also received a WISH LIST from the Certified Child Life Specialist of the Paediatric Outpatient of Oncology of South Lake Hospital, Andrea Fretz.

Here is their list of wishes:

- Craft kits simple to advanced
- Lego Kits simple to advanced
- Craft supplies, markers, pencil crayons, playdoh, colouring books, basic craft supplies for crafting
- Pretend play toys for playroom ex: play kitchen food, construction tools
- Fisher Price Toys garage, house little people
- Games UNO, Connect 4, Guess Who, Candyland
- Treasure Box Toys hot wheels, small dolls
- Small stuffed animals
- PS4 Games
- WWE 3K 22/23, NBA 2K23, Madden NFL 23, NHL 23, FIFA 23, Team Sonic Racing, The Show 22,
- Spiderman DLC's (Miles M), F122
- Fashion Boutique
- An Iron for melt bead crafting this is a big ask and also iPad 2x also a big ask
- Gift Cards \$ amounts up to you, for Mastermind, Toys R Us, Walmart (to purchase distraction toys)

This is a great list to give you ideas.

I had the pleasure of being invited to the New Markham Mantra Lions Club Charter night and was presented with a 100 books. They are for girls and boys which is great. They were donated by Paul Perovich President of Ground X Solutions and Vandit Verma the son of our 1st Vice District Governor Sudha Verma. I want to thank these two gentlemen for their generous donation for the children who are in hospital dealing with cancer. I know these books will bring them lots of entertainment.



Thank you to everyone for caring and helping this very worthy cause.

I wish you all a safe and Very Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Take Care

PDG Chris Weerdenburg

Childhood Cancer Chair





From our District Environmental Chair

The Environment and Your Club

I recently received an email from the Bobcaygeon Lions Club letting me know about what they have been doing for the Environment. This is important to me because I am the District Environment chairperson. This is important to them because they are working on one the five pillars of service.

In case I lost anyone in that last sentence the five refers to five global causes: Diabetes, Vision, Hunger, Environment, and Childhood Cancer. District often refers to global causes as pillars of service.

On the LCI website you can find a short description of the service journey as:

The Service Journey is an approach to living and serving well. To making a real difference people can see and feel. It encompasses four simple phases: Learn, Discover, Act, and Celebrate. We love these words because they transcend organizational formulas. They have no borders. They are the essence of Lions and Leos.

And because we are A-16 we also need to include in that Lioness/Lions.

So why is any of this important enough that I had to put a few words together for the DG Newsletter? Weeelllll..... it's not because the Bobcaygeon Lions did something no other club is doing, not at all. They collect scrap metal and hold bottle drives and go one step further by making the effort to recycle at their Lions Hall. Most Lions Halls are in commercial building so your waste does not get collected curb side, my own hall has the same problem but most of the user groups in our hall make the effort to collect and separate and even take home green and blue bin items.

What the Bobcaygeon Lions did was not sit on the sidelines during COVID and wait for something to come along, instead they went out and found something to do. Bobcaygeon is rural it's cottage country it's a campers paradise and the Lions tapped into that offering to haul off scrap from peoples properties and trailer resorts. So what caught my attention here was that plucky initiative on the part of this club to go find something that they could do and do it.

There are other clubs doing similar things, some years back I remember the Brechin Lions decided to collect scrap metal as a fundraiser for the Legion Hall that was in need of costly repairs. Well Brechin is in farm country and what do you have in farm country??? Farms!

Farms with lots of old equipment sitting off to the side rusting away so the Lions set about to collect as much of that as they could and the project was well received in the community and proved to be hugely successful.



That's thinking outside the box and while I understand that we can't all do the same thing since our clubs are all located in different places from big cities to rural places and even off the beaten path like Fowlers Corners but we can all do something.

In the coming weeks most of us will be busy getting ready for the holidays and by the time that's all over we should be into some real Canadian cold winter weather, not the most ideal time to get involved in an Environmental project but the best time to start planning one. Think outside the box, look at your community and see what's there that your club can tap into. Is there a Horticultural Society in your area? Do they hold a spring plant sale? Can your club or maybe some of its members tap into that? Do you want to try tree planting? You don't have to plant hundreds of trees, instead get a project growing with your local Scouts or Girl Guides by planting seeds or building nesting boxes in February and get them hung up by the start of March.

Still need more ideas? Then I invite you to reach out to me and let's see how I can help you get something off the ground. If your club does do Environmental projects make sure to snap a few photos for the photo contest and tell me about what you did.

On the LCI website there is a quote:
Service is our journey. Let's explore it together.

So let's do that!

Happy Holidays Everyone!
Lion Sylvia McCleave
A-16 Environmental Chairperson
sylviam@lionsa16.com





From Special Olympic Chair Lion David Burnett

Ontario Blind Golf and the Lions of A16

Ontario Blind Golf (OBG) would like to bring more awareness of the game of Blind Golf to the Lions Clubs in District A16 by hosting a Golf awareness day for the Clubs next year.

Many Lions are not aware that people suffering with vision loss are still able to play the game of Golf with the assistance of a sight coach which enables them to enjoy this sport regardless of the level of vision which they may have.

You may recall from the District Governor's newsletter of September, that PDG Barry MacDonald participated with blind golfers during the summer, and he was featured with a photo of himself, Lion David Burnett (a blind golfer) and David's sight Coach, Wayne Cook.

This past summer, The A2 Lions were an instrumental part of the success of the 25th Canadian Blind Golf Open and the Ontario Blind Golf Championships held in Simcoe, Ontario at the Greens of Renton in August 2022.

Next May, specifically Saturday, May 27, 2023 the OBG is inviting members of the A16 Lions Clubs to join them on one of their regular scheduled golf tournament days ; specifically Oliver's Nest Golf Course. This is within striking distance or at least a good "drive" from most of the A16 Clubs. OBG wishes to have Lions participate with blind golfers and later, enjoy a BBQ dinner with them.

More information will be forth coming but we wish to give you advance notice of this event so that it can be put in your Club calendars now.

Lion David Burnett
OBG – Board of Directors
Special Olympic Chair



Lions International Peace Essay Contest

Lead with Compassion

Created to give an opportunity for visually impaired young people to express their feelings of peace, the International Essay Contest is a staple of Lions clubs around the world. Lions work with local schools and area families to identify young people who are interested in participating and who could benefit from this program. One grand prize winner will receive an award and US\$5,000.

This year A16 is proud to have two essays submitted to the Peace Essay Contest for visually impaired students. Our Theme is *Lead With Compassion*.

The A16 winner is Keaton Hamilton from Stonehaven Elementary School sponsored by the Newmarket Lions Club. His essay is titled '*Friends as Leaders*'.

Yashas Bhat from MacLeod Landing Public School, although not yet of age to compete, submitted an essay entitled '*Leading with Compassion*'.

Here are the two articles below for your reading enjoyment!

Submitted by Sylvia Brock
District Youth Opportunities Chair



The A16 Peace Essay from Keaton Hamilton has been selected by MDA as the entry to the LCI Peace Essay Contest representing MDA!

Good Luck Keaton!

Friends as Leaders

By: Keaton Hamilton, age 11

Right now, wherever you are at this moment, I would like you to imagine that you are a new student in grade 5. You are 5 feet tall, like video games, play sports, and you're just like an ordinary kid. But there's a wall between you and the rest of the students, in this class (not literally of course). You can't see that well. Not the writing on a white page, but the objects around you. Not the colours of anybody's eyes, but the colour of desks, chairs and markers. Now, a short kid with black hair looks at your white cane, hanging on a hook by the door. "Uh, what is that like a spear or something?" he says with the intent of making others feel sad. "No, it's ... my cane," you say in a small voice. "Don't they tell you no weapons at school?" "It's not a weapon it's my white cane." "Do you know it's white or..."

"Stop being rude," says a strong voice coming from another student. "It is what they use to know what's around them, no need to think they can't do anything when they are blind! Don't bully them about something they can't control."

That student who stood up for you. That was completely their choice. They could have said nothing, or ignore you all they wanted. But, they went out of their way and stood up for you.

This is just one example of "leading with compassion", and even without this example you could probably think of a time in your life where someone looked out for you, assisted you with something, gave you a general hint, etc. When you were in school, maybe your teachers lead with compassion by giving you work in a form that was best for you, whether that be on a computer, on paper with pencil, or upside down. Your friends lead with compassion. After all, somebody who does not is bossy and only thinks about themselves.

We all know the feeling of being looked out for, and having friends to fall back on. Knowing that someone has your back while accomplishing any difficult task and achieving goals is one of those shiny diamonds in life.

We all play a role in ensuring that our peers feel welcome and safe in learning environments, groups and while alone. While being a best friend is not required, at least look out for people and make sure to help if they ask for it. Everybody in a community is responsible, should feel like they belong, and should try and assist any one in need of a helping hand. Even if it's just another local citizen that seems troubled, you can at least smile or offer guidance. That's how new friends are formed. And remember, there's no harm in reaching out for help. A good person would respond and you can look out for each other. That is what friends would do, and that's what leading with compassion is all about.

Leading with Compassion

By: Yashas Bhat

What does leading with compassion mean?

Leading with compassion is when you show kindness, help and care for others and not just yourself. An example of this is when in a sport someone gets hurt and you give them a helping hand. This is what compassion is.

What makes a good leader? A leader is simply someone you can follow normally in sports or in clubs. It's when they are encouraging to others and use kind criticism like saying "you were this close, focus on your posture at the start of a race". Or in soccer everyone has a role so a good leader is willing to switch it up so everyone is happy.

Leading with compassion is when you are kind, caring and helpful to your team. Another example is when someone gets hurt you don't say "GET UP AND KEEP GOING"! You say "If you can still run and you want to keep going but take it easy." This is what leading with compassion is.

Therefore it's important to lead with compassion so the people around you will feel supported and inspired. This will make a better world.

Lions International Peace Poster Contest

Lead with Compassion



Leadership is not just some empty formula, but establishing deep connections at soul levels through service, integrity and equanimity which leads to peace.

First Place

Zaynab Abdullah

Kedron P.S

North Oshawa Lions Club

LILA LAMBERT AND CHARLEY ELEDAM TIED FOR SECOND PLACE



“Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding” - Albert Einstein

Tied for Second place

**Charley Eledam
Cartwright P.S**

Blackstock Cartwright Lions Club



If there were peace in the world, our world would be a better place.

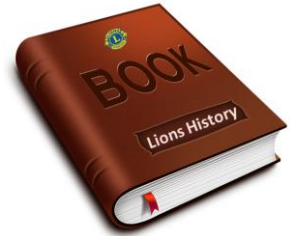
Tied for Second place

**Lila Lambert
Coronation P.S.
North Oshawa Lions Club**

***Submitted by Sylvia Brock
District Youth Opportunities Chair***

Greenbank 30th Charter Anniversary

Happy Charter Anniversary



Lions Larry Doble and Dale St. John pose for a special photo as they did nearly 30 years ago at the Recent District Cabinet Meeting on November 5th, 2022. Lion Dale is wearing the same jacket (yes it still fits) that he wore during the formation of the club during his year as Governor in 1992 – 93.

Thirty years later, much to the credit of ZC Larry, the Greenbank Lions Club is alive and well.

Lion Larry wants us to believe that his plum jacket is the same one he wore back then.

Nevertheless, please watch for more information on the Greenbank Lions Club's 30th Charter Anniversary.



An Interview with Lion Stanley So

Ontario York Region Heritage Lions Club



The District Governor's Newsletter editor was happy to have the opportunity of talking with Lion Stanley So. Lion Stanley is serving in different roles as a District Committee Chair and a Guiding Lion of a newly chartered Lions Club in A-16.

Thank you Lion Stanley for taking the time talking to us.

Editor: How did you start your Lion journey?

Lion Stanley: My Lion journey started with a Dragon Boat team. I was invited by Lion Don Ho to join the Heritage Lions Club Dragon Boat team. It was a fun team experience I started meeting the Lions. Paddling together in one boat built our friendship, and started my volunteer service journey as a Lion as well.



Editor: You are our District Mental Health committee chair for 2022-2023. You also took up the role as one of the two Guiding Lions for our newly chartered Markham Mantra Lions Club. Can you share some of your experiences in serving these two roles?



Lion Stanley: As a Lion, working within my own club has been my primary activity. However, I am always interested to learn how other Lions serve the community in their clubs. I am feeling grateful that I am able to involve more in the District. It was great opportunity to learn about Lions in different clubs how they serve, and also learn from their experience on how they overcome their challenges. Serving as a Lion in a club can learn a lot, but in the District we can learn from the collective experiences from more than 50 clubs.

Editor: What are some of your favourite memories or events that you have had as a Lion?

Lion Stanley: I have a lot of fond and enjoyable moments with our fellow Lions. One of my most memorable experiences came from organizing the Effective Speaking Contest. As an annual contest, we have contest participants



returning to the contest. I was seeing some Grade 4 junior participants, speaking nervously the first time, evolve into a confident public speaking contestant in just a few years. Witnessing the youth in our community grow and developing their skills, and knowing we Lions are helping in their journey, was my favourite memory.

Editor: You are a young professional working full time. How do you balance your work and volunteer in Lions?

Lion Stanley: I have to admit it is not always easy to balance between work life and volunteer work. Thanks to modern technology, there are more tools available nowadays helping us to juggle between the different works. I do enjoy in-person meetings which always provide a richer communication experience; however, video conferencing does provide us more opportunity to reach out to each other especially on weeknights that I have to fit with the work schedule.

Editor: Are there any other things that you would like us to know about you?

Lion Stanley: My lion journey is not long comparing to many experienced Lions. It has been a rewarding experience that gave me lots of opportunities to develop, explore and rethink how to serve the community better. I do hope we can all work together to attract more like minded service oriented people into our Lions community.



Two Lions Clubs recognized with the Queen Jubilee Pins

Congratulations to Aurora Lions and Newmarket Lions

From Aurora Lions Club

In late October we received an email from the office of our Member of Parliament Tony Van Bynen. I have included some of his message below:

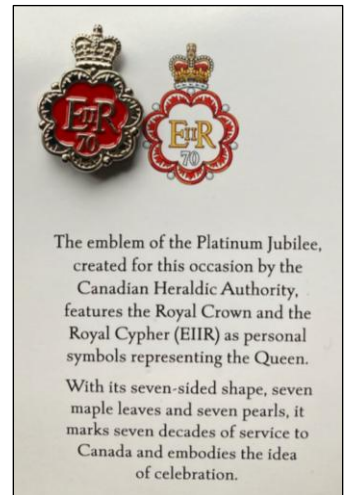
“We build great communities through the diversity of compassionate citizens and caring organizations. In Newmarket-Aurora we are fortunate to have both groups in such large supply. Earlier this year I held an event to recognize citizens of our community for their extraordinary efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of so many. Now, I want to acknowledge the work being done by the not-for-profit community and first responders.

I hope you and a colleague will join me on Tuesday, November 8th at 2:45 pm at the Aurora Legion. At this event, I wish to recognize and award the Queen’s Jubilee Pin to the Aurora Lions Club for the leadership and compassion provided in Newmarket-Aurora.”



We are so very proud to be included in this group. Our President Lion David Burnett attended the presentation and accepted the Queen’s Jubilee Pin on our behalf.

Submitted by: Lion Kathi Lewis



Two Lions Clubs recognized with the Queen Jubilee Pins (Continued)

Congratulations to Aurora Lions and Newmarket Lions

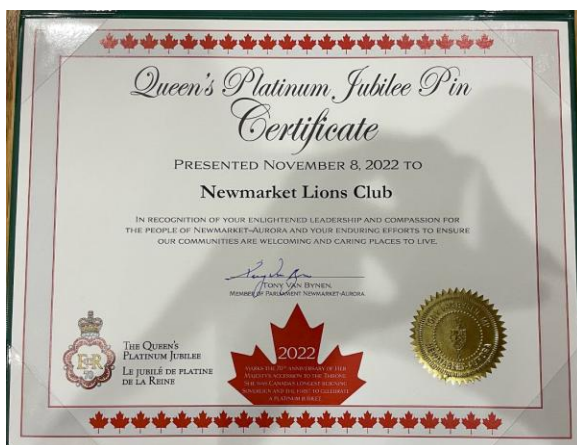


From Newmarket Lions Club

On November 8th, 2022, our Member of Parliament Tony Van Bynen held a reception to acknowledge the work being done by the not-for-profit community and first responders in the Newmarket-Aurora area.

The Newmarket Lions club was recognized and awarded the Queen's Jubilee Pin for the leadership and compassion they have provided in Newmarket-Aurora.

Submitted by: Lion Sylvia Brock



The LION Magazine

The latest issue of The LION Magazine is a digital version available now on the MDA Lions website.

You can click [here](#) to go to the MDA Lions website to view or download a copy of the magazine.

Or you can go directly to: <http://mdalions.org/pages/Events/TheLionMag>



We have another New Club in A-16 Markham Mantra Lions Club

A brand new club in the District that comes with a name that speaks for itself - Mantra is an instrument of the mind -- that takes us beyond the mind into the transcendent realm of experience. That is what Mantra Lions have come forward for and have taken the commitment to Serve the community with a passion into Lionism.

Our Logo says it all -- "SERVICE IS OUR MANTRA"



Mantra Lions celebrated their Charter Night on the 26th of November 2022. We had a great celebration with our District A16 Honorary members attending and in attendance with many clubs in the District who helped us make the event successful. The Charter Night started with celebrating the Induction of 23 members into Lions. It was well attended and also encouraged by family and friends.

Mantra Lions as committed to Service added the Lion Services Causes to celebrate -Service is our Mantra by - Donating 100 books/toys for children suffering with Childhood Cancer to be distributed in the Hospital, and 250 more books and toys were shipped to the Childhood Cancer Committee Chair for service. For the Vision Cause, 1000 pairs of Eye Glasses were collected and given to the Vision Committee chair for Service. For LCIF. a donation Cheque for US \$1000.00 was presented for Humanitarian Causes.

Mantra Lions are proud to Serve and are Fun Loving Lions committed to their name, and are moving forward with enthusiasm to Serve with the Causes - Hunger, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Environment, Vision, and LCIF.

Submitted by:
Lion Sudha Verm
1st Vice District Governor



Markham Lions Club

Honouring Lion Tom Goldring



The Markham Lions Club's Merry Makers hosted 'Get Your Jolly' on Friday December 2nd in the Upper Hall of Grace Church in old Markham Village. The Social and Convention Committee worked diligently to make sure the evening was a success which it most assuredly was.

On behalf of the Markham Lions Club, President Elizabeth Price presented Lifetime member Lion Tom Goldring with a framed Letter of Intent indicating that the cabin, which Markham Lions built at Camp Kirk, would be dedicated to him. The plaque on the cabin will read:

*Markham Lions Club
dedicated to
Lion Tom Goldring PDDG
For long & distinguished service*

PID and LCCKF Chair Carl Young and IPDG Barry MacDonald made a presentation to Lion Tom Goldring, on behalf of LCI and LCCKF. This included Lion Tom receiving the LCI President's Medal. He was honoured with two standing ovations from his fellow Lions.



Angus Glen Lions Club

An Open House to recruit new members

In Focus

Club
News

Angus Glen Lions Club held an Open House on Saturday, December 10th, 2022 to invite service-minded members of the community to join our club as Lions.

There were 14 potential members attending. Angus Glen Lions were available to share their own personal experiences in why they became Lions. There were a lot of discussions on what Lions do, and how Lions are helping to make our community and the world a little better every day.

At the end of the session, we were happy to have three new members signing up to join our club.

More hands, more
service.
Together, We Serve!

Submitted by:
Lion Patty Ko
Membership Director





Omemees Lioness Lions Club

Apple pies, and apple pies, and more apple pies

The Omemees Lioness Lions report the end of another successful year of apple pie making. Thank you to everyone who supported us by buying pies. Enjoy!



Is it a pear or an apple!?

Submitted by: Lioness Lion Pat Aitken

Bobcaygeon & District Lions Club

A super busy club



The Bobcaygeon & District Lions Club came out of COVID as I'm sure many other clubs did. We had been isolated for so long that it was difficult to get up and running. Well that was what we had thought, but in reality not so much! We as a club had decided that we would only do a project or event if there was a lead and some members to help. That sounded like a great plan, right?

Well before we could do any BBQs, our trailer had to have a whole over haul to accommodate all of the necessary fridge, freezer, grills, and equipment. We also found out that to cook on Federal land, we had to have a portable wash table with hot and cold running water under pressure, 2 sinks (1 for hand washing), disinfectant bowl and rinse bowl, and a tank to take the grey water. So \$2000 later and some great skills, it was made and passed the Health Inspection. Then before we knew it, we were helping the Kawartha Charity Riders over the summer with their *Bikefest, Show and Shine*, and poker run. All of these events were to raise funds for the Food Banks and Childrens' Charities.

We worked with the Bobcaygeon Music Council who was holding concerts every Thursday evening for July and August in the park by the locks. We served cooked food, ice creams, popsicles, chips and beverages to the grateful audiences. We helped our local Pickleball club to run a tournament to raise funds for the Kawartha North Family Health Team. We also donated \$1,000 as well from our club. We set up our cooking booth at the Bobcaygeon Fall fair for 3 days serving very hungry attendees. (We were the main source of food.)

We decided to start up Bingo again after 2 years in October for the many citizens who kept asking us when it would happen. It has been quite successful, more so as a service. We held a very successful raffle through the Fall and the money made will go to families in need in our community. We had a bake sale and country auction at our Hall to help support Bobcaygeon's Mingle Jingle in November.

This month a few of us have been helping the Salvation Army with their kettle drive. During all of this time, we have had to change the Hall, especially the upstairs to accommodate all of our rentals and Bingo players because we had rented out our lower floor to the Food Bank that was in desperate need of a new place . This came at the best time during COVID, because we were in danger of losing our Hall, thanks to the monthly bills.



We also have a few teams of dedicated members, who have been going out weekly to pick up scrap metal from various businesses, trailer parks, and citizens then taking it for recycling. The one achievement I am so happy with is our wee Library. It finally got made and is now attached to the outside wall of our Hall for anyone to take a free book. (Thanks, Lion Ted!)

Over this calendar year we have given out thousands of dollars to Food Bank (some for Diabetic Clients), Hospitals, SCAW, Kids Help Phone, Families in Need, LCIF, Camp Kirk, Bobcaygeon Public School, Festival of Trees, Big Brothers and Sisters, A Place Called Home, Bobcaygeon Music Council, Bobcaygeon Kinettes, Legion, gift cards for Senior Food Bank Clients, and to Pinecrest and Case Manor Nursing Homes for Christmas.

Yes, we are a very busy club, for sure and we still have 6 months to go!

Yours in LIONISM,

Lion Lynda Darling, Secretary of the Bobcaygeon Lions Club

Cannington Lions Club

Supporting the Peace Poster Contest

The Cannington Lions held their annual Peace Poster Contest at McCaskill's Mills Public School.



The contest winners are:

1st Place: Macey Ball

2nd Place: Nicole Wilson

3rd Place: Avery Picco

Submitted by: Lion Bo Enss



Cannington Lions Club *Annual Santa Clause Parade*



The Cannington Lions Club held their annual Santa Claus Parade on Nov. 26th. There was quite a crowd downtown to welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus. Children enjoyed the free balloons courtesy of the Cannington Lions as well as the Brock Student marching band sponsored by the Club. The parade also featured the Cannington Lioness Lions float. Afterwards children visited with Santa at the Fire Hall.



Submitted by: Lion Bo Enss

Fowlers Corners & District Lions Club

Fowlers Corners Lions Distribute Proceeds of Summer Cruise Nights!

After two years of limited local cruise nights due to COVID-19, the Fowlers Corners and District Lions Club had a very successful “Cruise Night at CraftWorks” 2022 season. Great weather, live music and beautiful automobiles at the Craftworks Barn just east of Fowlers Corners, made it the place to be on Thursday evenings May through September. With the support of our many local business sponsors, donations from those attending, and proceeds from 50/50 draws, the Lions Club recently passed on donations totaling \$25,000 to the following organizations:

- Five Counties Children’s Centre
- Hospice Peterborough
- Boys & Girls Club of the Kawarthas
- Camp Maple Leaf
- Lions Camp Kirk

Our Club President Herb Lang stated “What a great summer and opportunity to return to outdoor activities. The Lions Club enjoys hosting a weekly community event for everyone to enjoy, while at the same time helping local organizations who support children with various needs, and individuals and families dealing with end-of-life stress. We are very fortunate to have community support for our many projects and activities.”

Plans will soon start for the 2023 Cruise Night season.

Submitted by: ZC Gail Neiman



Lions Honour Veterans



In Sunderland - Submitted by: ZC Larry Doble

This year was the 100th Anniversary of the Cenotaph in Sunderland, Ontario.

The Sunderland Lions donated funds so that the cenotaph could be cleaned and sealed for this special commemoration since the original unveiling in 1922. They also worked with the Sunderland Legion, the Sunderland Historical Society and the students at Brock High School to create a booklet and online presentation.

The project presented biographies and pictures of all 44 veterans on the cenotaph. The slide show is online at www.sunmus.ca on their home page. A grant from Veterans Affairs Canada supported the project.

Together we can do so much more.



In Markham - Submitted by: Lion Charles Herriot

Markham District Veterans' Association Remembrance Day Service 2022-11-05

On behalf of the Markham Lions Club, Lion President Elizabeth Price and fellow Lions Bill Hosking and John Bell were proud to lay a wreath, at the Veterans' Square Cenotaph, in honour of all those who have fought for our country. Jacqueline Medland Bell, soon to be an Markham Lions Club member, accompanied them.

Lloyd Robertson was the excellent MC on what was a beautiful Autumn morning. Attendance was very good, speeches were heartfelt, and emotions were high.



Markham Lions Club

We have been busy over the past quarter



Take a Walk, Diabetes – Markham Lions Club

On Sunday November 6th, members of the Markham Lions Club rose to the occasion by participating in a special fundraising 5 km walk at Milne Dam Conservation Park in Markham. It was called “Take a Walk, Diabetes” and together, Markham Lions generated \$750. The money will be donated directly to Camp Huronda, a summer camp facility owned by Diabetes Canada that is located on the shores of Lake Waseosa in Huntsville, Ontario. Camp Huronda runs a full summer program geared for young campers of 7 to 15 years old who are living with type 1 diabetes while discovering ways to manage it. Young campers can safely enjoy their summer camp experience while being supported by trained counselors and instructors who are certified in Standard First Aid and CPR Level C.



Markham Lions Club Adopt-a-Park

The Markham Lions Club has now officially adopted Swan Lake Park in Markham.

As a club, we are committed to doing our best to keep the park free of litter, report any vandalism to the City of Markham and serve as park ambassadors within the community. We encourage all of our members to regularly visit Swan Lake Park, monitor its upkeep, report any maintenance requirements and enjoy the environment with others in the community. As part of our stewardship plan, our club will continue to support the local Friends of Swan Lake environmental advocacy group that is working hard with the City of Markham to regulate the nearby geese population and alleviate the excess algae that forms in the lake during the hot summer months. However, our next step will be providing habitat-friendly birdhouses in the area while helping to make the environment an inviting place for pollinators to visit and thrive.



Markham Lions at the Markham Santa Claus Parade 2022

The Santa Claus Parade was held on Saturday November 26th. The Markham Lions Club was delighted to enter their float with their Lions Mascot and their President, Lion Elizabeth Price on it; drive their festively decorated golf carts; and walk handing out wrapped candies to the children along the route. Spirits were high; Mother Nature cooperative; crowds were large; and camaraderie flourished.



Markham Lions Club Donates Hundreds of Dollars Worth of Food

The Markham Lions Club donated to the Markham Food Bank, and to 360 Kids, a youth based organization focused on homeless and at-risk youth. The Markham Food Bank received a hot breakfast option such as oatmeal, fruit snacks and granola bars for school snacks, and after school snacks such as chicken noodle soup packages and hot chocolate. 360 Kids were given frozen items of hamburgers, wieners and French fries. Condiments and buns also were included. These items would be distributed to the two Markham residential homes.



Submitted by: Lion Charles Herriot

Newmarket Lions Club

Season of Giving



The Newmarket Lions Club began their Season of Giving by purchasing, assembling, and delivering 30 full size toiletry kits to Leeder Place family shelter. The adult and infant kits were much appreciated by the staff. Members of the club then purchased 71 special gifts for residence of local senior residences: Mackenzie Place, Southlake Village, Eagle Terrace, and New Market Health Centre. The recipients of the gifts were individuals who would be alone at Christmas. Over 20 of our Lions also wrote Christmas cards for over 200 residents at Southlake Village. We are making a special trip to Newmarket Residence a facility for vulnerable adults with physical and cognitive impairments. These 67 residents will receive packages of hat, gloves, socks, and special treats as a special surprise on Christmas morning.

Finally we are preparing to provide a free lunch with Santa for approximately 500 Newmarket family members. This event is by invitation for all families who are recipients of our 364 Food vouchers which will be distributed over the next few days. Our Newmarket Lions Club feels fortunate that they have been able to give a helping hand to those in need during the Christmas Season.

Submitted by: Lion Sylvia Brock



North Oshawa Lions Club

Celebrating 50 years of Providing Youth Programs in the Community



In October, 2022 the North Oshawa Lions Club, through its Murray McKinnon Foundation, celebrated 50 years of providing service to the youth of the community. It has been estimated that approximately 30,000 youth have been served during that 50-year time span.

It all began in 1972 when Judge Harold McNeil of the Oshawa Family Court identified a need for a residence to house young people in trouble with the law as they awaited appearance in his court room. To meet this need the North Oshawa Lions Club opened the Harold McNeil House as a “detention -observation home” for juveniles.

As a result of the success of the first home, the North Oshawa Lions Club was asked, by then Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, to open a second facility that opened in 1986, the Murray McKinnon House.

Both Houses are pictured below:



In 1987, the North Oshawa Lions Club was asked to take on another programme, which then become their third facility, known as Oakwood House.

In 2005, the McKinnon Attendance Centre was opened to house Community Based Day Programmes and in 2013, the Ajax Alternative Classroom Programme was started. In 2021, the Anti-Human Traffic facility was opened.

All Programmes and facilities operate under the umbrella of the Murray McKinnon Foundation. The Board of Directors and the CEO of the Foundation are pictured below:

Lion Peter Stephenson, Lion Steve Bedley, Lion Ross Hartwig, Melissa Redden, Lion Joan Pumphrey, CEO Suzette Lewis, Lion Kevin Pumphrey, Lion Eric Buss, Lion Sarah Moir and Lion Lyle Hargrove.



Submitted by: Lion Kevin Pumphrey



Oshawa Airport Lions Club

Harvest Tea

The Oshawa Airport Lions were thrilled to host their traditional Harvest Tea this year on Sunday, October 26th. This is a major fundraiser for our club and was well supported by the public. As well as high tea, we had a 50/50 draw and draws for several beautiful gifts. Thank you to all who attended and made this event such a great success. Your participation enabled us to continue our aid to the Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre, this year our donation goes to pediatric support.

Thank you also to the Lions and friends who sold tickets, donated gifts, made the sandwiches and sweets, did the set up and the clean up. Your hard work is so very much appreciated.

Great job!

Submitted by: ZC Gail Bates



Stouffville Lions Club

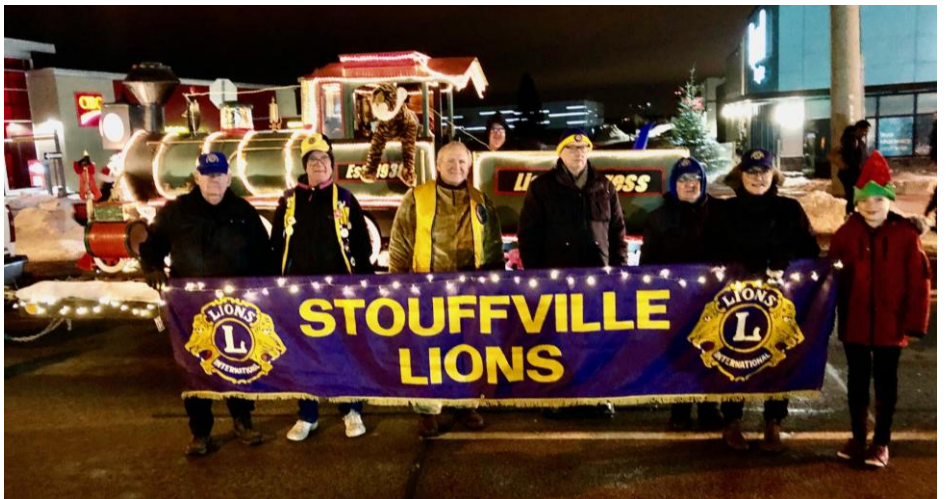
Stouffville Lions Train in The Santa Claus Parade



Members of the Stouffville Lions Club built this little *Choo Choo Train Engine*, based on a Disney model, back in 1989. The intent was to use the Train in local parades in Stouffville to increase the visibility of the Club and its support for the Community.

Following several public appearances, but lacking at that time, an adequate storage location for the Engine, the Club sold it to Markham Lions. In 1997, Lion Joe Cote, a new member of Stouffville Lions, initiated a search to track down the whereabouts of the Engine which had moved on from the Markham Club. Lion Joe discovered that the new current owner of the Engine was the York

Durham Heritage Railway, which had carefully stored it in an old barn for many years. The Heritage Railway donated the Engine to the Stouffville Lions Club. With Lion Joe's leadership, a suitable Stouffville storage space was found for the engine. The Club has used, very successfully, the engine in Santa Parades and other venues.



Submitted by: Lion Joe Boll



Stouffville Lions Club

Christmas Tree Sales



The Stouffville Lions Christmas Tree Sales, led by Lion Chris Larkin, have always been the largest fundraiser of the year for the club. All profits for this project are used throughout the year to give back to the community of Stouffville. Whether it be by sponsoring Scouts, SDSS Band Trips, Library March Break and Summer Reading programmes, SDSS Grade 12 Honorarium, SR. Kindergarten Vision Screening and so many more. Residents have created a family tradition of coming to the Lions Tree Lot with kids and parents in tow to debate which tree is the best for their home and shared many smiles, stories and laughs along the way.



Lots of hours are spent on this project and many hands are needed by members and volunteers including high school students earning Community Service hours as required by their school prior to graduation.



Submitted by: Lion Joe Boll



Uxbridge & District Lions Club

Uxbridge and District Lions Receive Durham Region Accessibility Award

The Region of Durham was on hand at Elgin Park on Oct. 31 to present an Accessibility Award to the Uxbridge Lions for their work in bringing the first fully accessible, universal playground to life in Durham Region North.



The Uxbridge Lions Club is committed to creating a space where families of all ages and abilities can participate together. The project has been a community effort, partially funded through community fundraising and designed with community feedback and input considered. “In 2020, a local family came to our Dream a Playground event, one child in a wheelchair and another one without mobility issues,” said Jean Doucet, president of the Uxbridge Lions Club. “They were so excited and so thankful at the idea of having a place where both of their kids could play together - and that’s what this is all about.” “The design will allow people of all ages and all abilities to play together.” “If you have a grandparent with a walker or in a wheelchair you can bring them in to the playground instead of sitting on the edge looking in,” added Bob Armitage, chair of the Lions playground committee. “This was on our minds for a long time, and it’s been a long haul from approval to breaking ground.

We never expected to receive such an award, but we are very honoured to be recognized.” The Uxbridge Lions Club continues to champion inclusivity for the town of Uxbridge. The group broke ground on the new playground in early October, and it is expected to be completed in the spring of 2023. A grand gala is planned to bring the community together in celebration at Elgin Park. “The concept of having a universal or inclusive playground is to ensure children who have all different abilities can all play together,” said Sally Kotsopoulos, a Lions volunteer who also has a background in early childhood education. “It’s a fine line to marry what is safe and what is challenging enough to keep kids interested, but I think we’ve hit it,” said Kotsopoulos. “I think we’ve come close to creating some really great places to play amongst friends.”



Submitted by: Lion Jean Doucet

Thank You for reading the December 2022 issue of the A-16 District Governor Newsletter!



We hope you enjoyed the many articles submitted by Lions of A-16 to this issue.

*The **DG Newsletter committee** welcome two Lions joining the committee: Lion Joe Boll of Stouffville Lions Club and PDG Eleanor Colwell of Blackstock and Cartwright Lions Club.*

We received excellent support from Clubs in our District on the Newsletter with over 30 submissions to this issue.

*We “**Thank You**” for your support!*

We hope that you enjoyed what you have read!

As always, we welcome your comments and feedback on how we can make the DG Newsletters more interesting to you to read.

Please do drop me a line on what you think about the Newsletter, and how we can make it even better for all. Send your feedback via email to me at tcheung@lionsa16.com

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

Lion Tim Cheung

DG Newsletter Editor

