



DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS®
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
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A-15 CONVENTION CABINET MEETING MINUTES
April 12th, 2014 9:00 -10:30 AM & April 13th 2014, 10:45 AM - Noon
Guelph Holiday Inn

Saturday 9:00 AM

1. Call to order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM and a warm welcome extended to all by DG Denis Vinette
Attendance as indicated:

VOTING CABINET

IPDG Dr. Dan Ayim	DG Denis Vinette	1st VDG VDG Tim DeBlock	2nd Diane Smith
CS Dennis Loughheed	CT Peter Oswald	RC Victor Bovingdon	ZC Ajit Manku
ZC Rae Rotchell	RC Paul Anstett	ZC Marg Overveld	ZC Kevin Banfield
RC Wayne Litt	ZC Rick Banks	ZC Jim Davis	

COMMITTEE CHAIR

Lion Ted Bickell	PDG Doug Smith	PCC Tim Cronin	Lion Janet Dawson-Brock
Lion Cindy Grobe (R)	PDG Thom Herrmann	Lion Gord Hufnagel	Lion Ernie Kaethler
Lion Ferne Lindhorst	Lion Pat Mclean (R)	Lion Adam McMurrin	PDG Karen McNeight
Lion Joanne McQuiggan	PRC Robert Montgomery	PID Bruce Murray	PCC Dave Overboe
Lion Penny Overboe	PDDG George Patton	Lion John Pepper (R)	IPDG Norma Peterson
PDG Nancy Ransom	PRC John Rothwell	Lion Mary Rothwell	PCC Dave Rumble
Lion Mary Rumble	Lion Marysa Rumble-Lauriault	Lion Bob Rutter (R)	PCS Ted Rypma
Lion Jeff Sullivan	Lion Raymond Taylor	PZC Charlene Teasdale	Lion Linda Vinette
PDG Larry Wainwright	PDG OJ Wilura	PID Art Woods (R)	

In attendance also were approximately 90 other Lion Members and guests

(R) - Regrets

2. O Canada / Moment of Silence

3. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by RC Paul Anstett and seconded by ZC Kevin Banfield. Carried.

4. Introduction of International Guest

PID Bruce Murray introduced our International Guests PIP Sid Scruggs III and his wife Lion Judy

5. Approval of Minutes of March 23rd 2013 Cabinet meeting.

MOVED by RC Wayne Litt and seconded by IPDG Dan Ayim. Carried.

6. Governor's Remarks

DG Denis praised the membership for their efforts throughout the year, expressed his gratitude for our response to an appeal to support the Howell Family in their time of need as they cope with the ongoing medical issues of their infant son and introduced Chris Howell

7. Chris Howell's Remarks

Chris outlined the history of his son Gideon's health issues since birth February 25th and his gratitude to us, his Lions friends, for helping to make possible his wife's stay at Ronald McDonald House in Toronto so that she can be present every day while their son has undergone several heart surgeries and additional medical complications.

8. Secretary's Report

MOVED by RC Paul Anstett and seconded by ZC Marg Overveld that the bid by the Monkton Lions Club, endorsed by their Board of Directors, to host the 2015 District A15 Convention from March 20th, 2015 to March 22nd, 2015 in Stratford at the Arden Park Hotel be accepted. Carried.

9. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

MOVED by CT Peter Oswald and seconded by ZC Rae Rotchell to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report and Financial Statements. Carried.



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- 10. Cabinet Reports
MOVED by CT Peter Oswald and seconded by VDG1 Tim DeBlock to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet reports. Carried.
11. Committee Reports See pages 8 through 11
MOVED by RC Vic Bovingdon and seconded by RC Wayne Litt to acknowledge receipt of the Committee reports. Carried.
12. Award Presentation
12.1. International President's Certificates of Appreciation
Presented at the Opening Ceremonies Friday evening
PDG Dr. Jim Loucks, Lion Gerald Harmer, International Counselor Don Gamble, Lion Doug Kennedy
12.2. Bulletin Contest Winner - St Marys Lions
Honorable Mention(s) - Galt-Cambridge Lions - Fergus Lions
12.3. Club Excellence - Cambridge Highlands Lions
12.4. LFC
12.4.1. Gold
Bridgeport Lions KW Community Spirit Lions
Kitchener Oktoberfest Lions Kitchener Pioneer Lions
Kitchener Lions Waterloo Lions
St Jacobs Lions
12.4.2. Silver
Bayfield Lions Woolwich Community Lions
Fergus & Marsville Lions Guelph Lions
12.4.3. Bronze
Belwood & District Lions Innerkip & District Lions
West Coast Lions St Marys Lions
Wellesley Lions
12.5. VDG2 Excellence Award - DGE Tim DeBlock
13. Elections & Credentials Report - PDG Doug Smith
13.1. Candidate Slate
RC 9 - ZC Ajit Manku, ZC Kevin Banfield ZC9E - no candidate ZC 9S - ZC Rae Rotchell
RC 37 - no candidate ZC 37S - Lion Jim Kerron ZC 37W - no candidate
RC 51 - PZC Charlene Teasdale ZC 51E - ZC Jim Davis ZC 51W - no candidate
VDG2 - RC Wayne Litt VDG1 - VDG2 Diane Smith DG - VDG1 Tim DeBlock
13.2. Constitution & By-Laws Ballot Change
Whereas the proposed Constitution & By-Laws change was published in the Winter Cabinet minutes but not distributed separately thirty days in advance of the Convention,
MOVED by ZC Marg Overveld and seconded by RC Paul Anstett to remove the approval of the proposed change from the 2014 Convention ballot and place it on the 2015 Convention ballot. Carried.
14. International Guest Remarks
PIP Lion Sid Scruggs III outlined a number of issues related to Leadership Development including; an expansion of the program into the Zone Chair and Club Officer Levels of the Leadership Teams, the variation in Zone Chair expectations and the issues that arise as a result, the optional employment of the Region Chair roll and the possible resulting loss in some cases of a training opportunity, the expansion of on-line learning opportunities which are more affordable then on site training as a result of improving LCI technology capabilities. We are encouraged to make use of these opportunities.
15. Adjournment at 10:00 AM until Sunday morning at 10:30 AM.



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Sunday 10:30 AM

1. Call to order – DG Denis Vinette
The meeting was called back to order at 10:42 AM by DG Denis Vinette
2. Remarks From International Guest
Recognition of 51 + years of service to Lion Herman Boehmer.
Recognition of Convention Organization to Lion Gord Hufnagel and PDG Larry Wainwright.
Lion Sid expressed his and Judy’s appreciation for our warm welcome and hospitality and asked that we keep in our hearts the alternative translation of the LIONS acronym; Loving Individuals Offering Needed Service. May we always be that “Beacon of Hope”.
3. Convention Report
Total Registration 535, consisting of 433 Lions and Lioness, 65 Guests and 37 LEO’s. Attendance at the Saturday Luncheon 135 and at the DG’s Banquet, 143. Many who took a room will have received or will receive a rate reduction due to an “error” made by the Hotel. Expressions of gratitude were extended to the many clubs and individuals who assisted the Belwood Lions with the organization and running of the 2014 District Convention.
4. Remarks from DG Denis Vinette
 - 4.1. Thank-you to RC Vaughan Braby for his gift of a knitted afghan and toque
 - 4.2. Presentation of LCI Service Activities Certificates
 - 4.2.1. District LEO Club Chair – Lion Raymond Taylor
 - 4.2.2. Excellence in Effort, Sight Preservation Awareness & action – Guelph Lions
 - 4.2.3. Certificates of Achievement – District Sight Conservation Chair Lion Pat McLean
- District Diabetes Awareness & Action – Lion Cindy Grobe
5. Awards presentations
 - 5.1. Membership Sponsorship Recognition (Membership Maniacs)
Presented at the Saturday Luncheon
 - 5.1.1. Two Member Sponsorship
PID Art Woods – Elmira Lions, Lion Mike Wolfe – Elmira Lions, Lion Annette Kuhn – Paradise & District Lions, Lion Mike Leacy – St Jacobs Lions, Lion Susan Reid – Wellesley & District Lions, Lion Ron Behrendt – Waterloo Lions
 - 5.1.2. Three Member Sponsorship
Lion Debbie Bickerton – St Jacobs & Breslau Lions Clubs
PRC Rob Montgomery – Waterloo Lions Club
 - 5.1.3. Four Member Sponsorship
Lion Phil Hacock – St Jacobs Lions Club
 - 5.2. International President’s Certificates of Appreciation
Presented at the Saturday Luncheon
RC’s Paul Anstett, Vic Bovingdon and Wayne Litt
 - 5.3. District Governor’s Certificates of Appreciation
Presented at the Saturday Banquet
 - 5.3.1. Lions Now! – VDG2 Diane Smith, VDG1 Tim DeBlock
 - 5.3.2. Charting New Waters – VDG2 Diane Smith, PSG OJ Wilura
 - 5.4. International President’s Certificates of Appreciation
Presented at the Saturday Banquet
PDG Nancy Ransom, PZC Charlene Teasdale, Lion Hilda Wainwright
 - 5.5. International President’s Leadership Medal
Presented at the Saturday Banquet
PDG Larry Wainwright



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- 5.6. District Governor's Award of Merit
Presented at the Saturday Banquet
PDG OJ Wilura, PDG Larry Wainwright
- 5.7. First Timers Contest – Lion Tracey Phillips, St Jacobs Lion
- 5.8. Environmental Photo Contest – Lion Mary Ann Ferguson, St Mary's Lions
6. Convention Raffle Results
7. Report from Election Committee
 - 7.1. Results
PDG Doug Smith thanked the many who assisted with the election process.
Assorted credentials "fines" generated \$120 for Lions Quest.
For the position of Region Chair; 52 club votes, 11 at large votes for a total vote possible of 63 with 55 cast. For the Governor's 162 club votes, 34 at large votes for a total possible vote of 196 with 150 cast. For the position of Region Chair 9 the winner is ZC Ajit Manku. VDG1 confirmed as RC Wayne Litt, VDG2 confirmed as VDG2 Diane Smith and DG confirmed as VDG1 Tim DeBlock.
 - 7.2. Motion to Destroy Ballots
MOVED by ZC Kevin Banfield and seconded by VDG1 Tim DeBlock. Carried.
8. DG-Elect Introduction of New Cabinet
RC 9 - ZC Ajit Manku ZC9E – *to be appointed* ZC 9S – ZC Rae Rotchell
RC 37 – ZC Rick Banks ZC 37S – Lion Jim Keron ZC 37W – Lion Tracey Leary
RC 51 – PZC Charlene Teasdale ZC 51E – ZC Jim Davis ZC 51W – Lion Debbie Cserhalmi
VDG2 – RC Wayne Litt VDG1 – VDG2 Diane Smith DG – VDG1 Tim DeBlock
9. Passing of the Campbell, oldest to newest
10. Presentation of Flags to 2014-2015 Convention Host Club
11. Adjournment at 11:52 AM



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TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET
April 12th 2014 - CT Peter Oswald

Financial statements as at February 28, 2014 are enclosed with this report. The accounts have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at that date. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS

- Clubs have paid ALL District Dues for the Lions year.
- Our financial position remains very healthy.
- In our Club Assessment account, there was a transfer of \$1,256.01 made in March to balance the account - relates to the cost of new paraphernalia for Breslau & Oxford.
- To date, total revenue is \$18,703. There is also an additional \$250 in advertising that was not invoiced earlier in the year and will be credited in April. Expenses of \$7,662 have been paid with a number of items normally paid later in the year. Cabinet members are asked to turn in funds from pin sales.

TRUST ACCOUNTS

- The Balance sheet for Trust accounts as at February 28, 2014 is attached. There are a number of relatively small balances for project activity that will be held until later in the Lions year and forwarded to Camps etc together with any further donations received.
- Committee Chairs have been advised of the detailed transactions for their respective committees for the Lions year. The Irish Festival managed by the Culture Committee Chair was completed early in March and financial accounting was updated since this report was prepared.
- Effective Speaking has sufficient funds to cover expenses for the District competition recently completed on March 29 and is in a somewhat better position in 2014. Additional donations are always beneficial to cover normal expenses to take the winners to the MD 'A' competition.



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District "A"-15 Lions - Admin
Balance Sheet
As of 28 February 2014

	<u>28 Feb 14</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	8,153.04
CIBC - Investments	37,500.00
CIBC USD Account	75.77
International Director Fund	4,912.48
New Club Assessment Fund	4,719.92
Total Cash	<u>55,361.21</u>
Total Chequing/Savings	55,361.21
Other Current Assets	
Convention Gifts	450.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>450.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>55,811.21</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>55,811.21</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
A/P USD for LCI	-0.03
Total Accounts Payable	<u>-0.03</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	4,454.83
DGE Partner Travel	1,856.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>6,310.83</u>
Total Current Liabilities	6,310.80
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	4,912.48
New Club Assessment - Contra	3,463.91
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>8,376.39</u>
Total Liabilities	14,687.19
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	6,395.50
Net Income	11,037.98
Total Equity	<u>41,124.02</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>55,811.21</u>



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District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust Balance Sheet As of 28 February 2014

	28 Feb 14
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	3,388.58
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	3,933.05
CIBC - Trust Account	12,442.03
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	18,820.09
Youth Investments	12,339.30
Total CIBC - Youth	31,159.39
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	10,000.00
Investments - Other	5,000.00
Total Investments	15,000.00
Youth Camp Capital Fund	7,645.11
Total Chequing/Savings	73,568.16
Total Current Assets	73,568.16
TOTAL ASSETS	73,568.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	1,550.00
Cultural Festival	-79.00
Diabetes Awareness	325.00
Diabetes Tag Day	180.10
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	3,933.05
Hearing Equipment	553.07
LCIF	200.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Dog Guides	50.00
Leash Free Park	5,055.90
Total Lions Foundation of Canada	5,105.90
LIONS Quest Contra Account	13,388.58
Peace Poster	2,618.90
Sight Conservation	3,893.60
Vision Screening	3,094.46
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	31,159.39
Total Other Current Liabilities	65,923.05
Total Current Liabilities	65,923.05
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	7,645.11
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,645.11
Total Liabilities	73,568.16
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	73,568.16



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1:50 PM

16/03/14

Accrual Basis

District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2013 through February 2014

	Jul '13 - Jun 14	Budget	Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Advertising	250.00	500.00	-250.00
District Directory	260.00	250.00	10.00
District Dues			
Dues - Collected	13,438.50	13,472.00	-33.50
Total District Dues	13,438.50	13,472.00	-33.50
Interest Earned	333.06	240.00	93.06
Leadership Seminar Income	1,375.00	1,375.00	0.00
Membership Assessment	2,371.50	2,377.00	-5.50
Pin Sales	675.00	1,500.00	-825.00
Total Income	18,703.06	19,714.00	-1,010.94
Gross Profit	18,703.06	19,714.00	-1,010.94
Expense			
Awards			
Awards - Cabinet	70.88	1,000.00	-929.12
Awards - Other	197.75	500.00	-302.25
Total Awards	268.63	1,500.00	-1,231.37
Badges & Patches	662.16	700.00	-37.84
Bank Charges	56.23	200.00	-143.77
Cabinet Expense	1,074.25	1,400.00	-325.75
Convention Expense	0.00	1,100.00	-1,100.00
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Global Leadership & Membership	723.78	3,600.00	-2,876.22
Leo Clubs	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Total District Chair Expense	723.78	6,600.00	-5,876.22
District Directories	1,656.85	1,750.00	-93.15
Governor's Newsletter	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Internet	88.20	25.00	63.20
Leadership Seminar	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pins Purchased	1,764.36	1,800.00	-35.64
Postage & Telephone	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Printing & Stationery	167.90	750.00	-582.10
USA / Canada Forum	1,200.00	2,000.00	-800.00
Total Expense	7,662.36	19,675.00	-12,012.64
Net Ordinary Income	11,040.70	39.00	11,001.70
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
Exchange Gain/Loss	2.72	0.00	2.72
Total Other Expense	2.72	0.00	2.72
Net Other Income	-2.72	0.00	-2.72
Net Income	11,037.98	39.00	10,998.98



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CABINET REPORTS – April 12th 2014

1st VDG – Tim DeBlock

We can celebrate “Follow your Dream” and “Spice Up Your Service” as we hit the $\frac{3}{4}$ pole. The Club member’s support and belief in DG Denis’s initiatives and the work of the District Team have proven to be successful as we have positive membership growth and have reached out to support our programs as only A-15 can. And we have a $\frac{1}{4}$ length to go, let’s find our second wind and finish strong!

The life of 1st Vice District Governor is a busy and rewarding one in preparation for the year ahead. All of the training, planning and visiting creates a huge learning curve and I would like to share one thought that I am struggling with.

A Tale of Two Districts

I am always in awe of the great things that are being accomplished by the members of the Clubs in A-15! There are many good people doing great service in their communities and through the support of our Lions programs. You are truly leaders in your communities, and your Clubs! The second part of the story leaves me a little confused. There seems to be a hesitation to explore sharing these gifts and energies with the rest of the District and our Association. We have vacancies for three Zone Chair candidates and one Region Chair heading into convention. We have many good programs, which you value through your support, but have we trouble finding new Chairpersons to facilitate and promote them. The continual cycle of new people with new ideas in these roles has fostered the evolution of our Association and one of the reasons why, while other traditional institutions seem to be faltering, we will be celebrating our 100 anniversary in three years. I have met many Lions with interests, passions and energies that would feel so rewarded if they ventured into any of these opportunities. So would our organization and the people we serve! Just ask.

2nd VDG – Diane Smith

Since our cabinet meeting of February 2nd I have had the privilege of visiting the St. Jacobs, Kitchener-Pioneer, Rockwood and Ayr-North Dumfries Lions clubs as the District Governor’s representative. I have also campaigned at several clubs in my effort to advance to the position of 1st VDG.

During these visits, as well as the Joint zone meetings in Stratford and Paris, I have been continually impressed by the variety of service projects that abound as well as the enthusiasm with which they are carried out. I am, however, concerned that many club members are reluctant to travel beyond the comfort of their own club meetings.

The second of the Lions Now events was held on February 24th and provided a great opportunity to learn about the history of Lions Quest as well as other district committees.

I attended the MD A council meeting on March 1st and I am getting to know many more Lions in the multiple district and the workings of their clubs.

A highlight of this Lions year for me occurred when I attended the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute in Chicago from March 7th –March 10th. It was an opportunity to meet Lions from other parts of Canada and the United States. We shared many ideas and had fruitful discussions on some of the challenges the Lions organization faces.

IPDG – Dan Ayim

Nothing to report.

RC 9 - Vic Bovingdon

No Submission



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ZC 9E – Ajit Manku

JUST ASK! is campaign in Zone 9E to help increase membership in the Lions clubs. It has worked very successful and continues to do so. Let's look at some of the examples of the great work the campaign has done. The Breslau Lions club has inducted three new members: Susan Domiczi, Ellen Saunders and Debbie Bickerton; the Waterloo Lions club has inducted five new members: Lana Jenks, Anne Lefebvre, Mike Miller, Aimee Quelette and Blair Rowden; and the Galt Cambridge Lions have welcomed back Pat McLay. How wonderful it is to have all these members join us!

The Kitchener Pioneer held a membership information night recently, and the Bridgeport Lions will be holding a membership information session in April. The clubs will also return to their spring and summer service projects as they have done in the past. Kudos to the clubs for their commitment and dedication to community service.

I want to thank the clubs for the welcoming reception and support they provided to me during my visit! It is a joy and pleasure to share your enthusiasm for Lionism.

ZC 9S – Rae Rotchell

Thanks to the clubs of Zone 9S for their combined involvement in the Zone 9 Hospitality Suite.

RC37 – Paul Anstett

In spite of this winter of old, I've; attended the second Zone 37S meeting in Drumbo on Wed. Jan. 29/14, continued appeal with the Three Free Tees project for Lions Qwest with RC's 9 & 51 where we are close to 100% District participation, attended the second Zone 37W meeting in St. Marys on Tues. Feb. 18/14, attended the second Lions Now Event in Innerkip, Mon. Feb. 24/14 and conducted a CEP meeting with RC51 Wayne Litt in Monkton on Sun. March 16/14.

The Clubs in 37S & 37W continue to be active in their respective communities. Some clubs have been growing with the addition of new members while a few clubs have struggled with some dropped members. On the whole there are 9 clubs showing an increase in membership, 8 clubs suffering a loss and 3 clubs have maintained their current level.

ZC 37S – Marg Overveld

I am proud of the way that the Lions Clubs in 37S continue to reach out to their communities, the District and Lions Clubs International. They are making a huge difference in the lives of those in need. Thanks to all the clubs for submitting their membership plans. I was excited to hear that 37S may be welcoming some more new members this year. Keep up the good work!

Thanks to Stratford Lion Chief David Meek and the Stratford Lions Club for hosting the Combined Zone Meeting for 37S and 37W on March 20th. It was evident that the Clubs in Region 37 make a great team. Thanks for chairing the meeting ZC Kevin. We were blessed with a lovely setting, a delicious meal, awesome fellowship and excellent guest speakers. Sandy Turney, Executive Director of Dog Guides Canada / LFC, gave an overview of the Dog Guide Program and Beverley Berger, spokesperson for Dog Guides Canada shared her experiences owning a canine vision dog guide.

I attended Lions Now-Part 2 in Innerkip which promoted the District programs and the Irish Cultural Festival in Cambridge which highlighted talented young Irish dancers.

It's hard to believe that District A-15 Convention has arrived. Congratulations and best wishes to Lion Chief Jim Keron of Thamesford on his nomination for Zone Chair 37S for next year.

ZC 37W – Kevin Banfield

In 37 West we have had St. Mary's host our zone meeting and all but one club was represented. We had two guest speakers that night – Lion Joanne McQuiggan with Lions Quest and Lion Ernie Kaethler chair of the districts Effective Speaking program. Two great messages were heard that night. During the zone meeting we addressed some of the issues the club and zone are facing today. Leadership and Membership were the two hot topics. Great dialogue from everyone in the room that night!

37 West was the host of the Regions joint zone meeting and it was held in Stratford. We had as our guest speaker - Sandy Turney, Executive Director at Lions Foundation of Canada/Dog Guides Canada and Beverly Berger and her guide dog Jasper. Sandy talked about the great things happening at our foundation. Bev entertained us with some great stories about her experience with her dogs over the years.

I had the opportunity to travel to Chicago to attend The Advanced Lions Leadership Instituted (ALLI). It was a great weekend filled with lots of great discussion, learning opportunities, and networking with Lions from all over Constitutional Area 2.



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RC 51 – Wayne Litt
No Submission

ZC 51E – Jim Davis
No Submission

ZC 51W – Rick Banks

I have completed all visits to clubs and submitted reports on those visits to Cabinet. I enjoyed visiting the clubs and seeing all of the good work that Lions are doing in the Zone and the District. We have had one Zone Meeting in the fall at Milverton and one joint Zone Meeting in Ariss. The second Zone Meeting in January was cancelled due to bad weather, and timing was not right to re-schedule.

All the clubs in the Zone are involved in meaningful community work, are striving to hold membership levels current and wherever possible to grow. The Clubs are well organized, are submitting their monthly reports, have their financial commitments up to date and in most cases have a full complement of officers. There are some significant projects being undertaken by Clubs with budgets as high as \$250,000.

I was fortunate to help with the investiture of new members in Atwood, Elmira and Wellesley. I will be travelling back to Linwood in late April for an investiture as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – April 12th 2014

NOTHING TO REPORT AT THIS TIME OR NO SUBMISSION

Constitution & By-Laws – PDDG George Patton, **Diabetes Awareness** – Lion Cindy Grobe, **District Bulletin** – Lion Bob Rutter, **District Historian** – PDG Nancy Ransom, **District International Relations** – PID Art Woods, **Five Oaks Liaison** – Lion Marysa Rumble –Lauriault, **GLT District Coordinator** – PDG Karen McNeight, **GLT Liaison** – VDG1 Tim DeBlock, **GMT Club Success Team Leader** – RC Paul Anstett, **GMT Lions Opportunities For Youth** – Lion Jeff Sullivan, **GMT Family & Women's Membership** – Lion Ferne Lindhorst, **Information Technology** – PCS Ted Rypma, **LEO** – Vacant, **Lions Quest** – PCC Tim Cronin, **Peace Poster** – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock, **Membership & Club Growth Team Leader** – PDG Larry Wainwright, **Hearing & Speech Action** – Lion John Pepper, **Honorary Committee/A15PDGA** – IPDG Dr Dan Ayim, **Lions Opportunities For Youth** – Lion Jeff Sullivan, **Long Range Planning** – PDG Thom Herrmann, **MDA Lions Magazine Liaison** – Lion Bob Rutter, **Public Relations & Club Visits Liaison** – PDG Norma Peterson, **Protocol** – PID Bruce Murray, **Youth Camp Exchange Director** – RC John Rothwell & Lion Mary Rothwell, **Youth Camp Meal Chair** – Lion Ted Bickell, **Youth Camp Outgoing Youth**– Lion Marysa Rumble –Lauriault

Alert – Lion Adam McMurrin

At this time I have nothing to report other than I am busy working on a District Alert Directory.

Camp Coordinator – PRC Rob Montgomery

We are in full swing getting the camps ready for a new season. The Clean Up Weekend at CNIB Cap Jo is May 30th to Sunday June 1, 2014.

Accommodation provided with Snacks on Friday night, meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. (Spaces are limited) Projects will include, but not limited to: Cleaning out all flower beds, Working on the mini putt course, Nature Trail Clean Up, Beach Clean Up (big job), Patio Furniture Cleaning, Vehicle Cleaning, General Site Clean Up

Please confirm attendance with:

Jacqueline Harrison Manager

CNIB Lake Joseph Centre

1 877 748 4028 x 5505

jacqueline.harrison@cnib.ca

If any one is interested with regards to the other camps and what is taking place as to cleanup please contact the camp personally. They will give you all the information and dates for their cleanup.



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Convention Host 2014 – Lion Gord Hufnagel

Updates will be provided throughout the convention.

Cultural & Community Activities – ZC Ajit Manku

The Irish Festival was a fun and successful event. We raised \$658.71 of which \$500.00 will be donated to the Lions Quest on the approval of the Cabinet.

Thanks to Lions Janet Dawson-Brock, Dan and Charlotte Gamble, and my wife Surinder for making the festival possible. A big thanks to Kara Shaw for the musical entertainment provided on the piano and the Doyle Academy of Irish Dance for the traditional Irish dances they performed.

Thanks to all who came and enjoyed the evening with us. For those who could not attend, we hope that you will join us next year.

Effective Speaking – Lion Ernie Kaethler

What teamwork,... what energy,... what service with an "educational Spice". Anyone who was at the finals in St George could feel the creative and cooperative spirit. Thank-you to the Lions of A-15, all speech Judges, volunteers, contestants, parents and especially the St George LC for hosting this event. The 6 winners of English/French Junior, Intermediate and Senior will compete at the MDA provincial finals on Fri/Sat May 30/31, 2014 in London, Four Points on Sheraton, Wellington Road South, hosted by the St Thomas Lions. I am grateful to report that the budget for this Opportunity for Youth, Effective Speaking program is considerably healthier than last year. Thank you Lions Clubs of A-15. I have enjoyed this Service 'with an educational Spice' and trust it will have continued success.

Elections & Credentials – PDG Doug Smith

Updates will be provided throughout the convention.

Environment – Lion Linda Vinette

I've received wonderful Photo's for the Environmental Photo Contest. Voting will occur at our 2014 District A-15 Convention. The winning photo will be sent to the 2014 MD "A" Convention at Deerhurst.

Special Dates to remember are;

Earth Day Tues. April 22nd , think about planting a tree along a Trails way so it can be enjoyed by everyone or doing a roadside or park cleanup

Breslau LFC facility replacement of damaged plaques and stands Wednesday May 28th Noon to 5pm

Breslau LFC facility cleanup on Wednesday, June 4th 2014 from Noon to Dark. Please plan to participate as many hands make quick work at the cleanup.

Memorial Forest Rededication service on Saturday June 14th 2014.

Essay For Visually Impaired / Peace Poster – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

I am pleased to report that the Peace Posters Kits are here for 2014-2015, The Theme this year is PEACE, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING. The contest is open to young people between the ages of 11-13. Why not contact your school this spring and see if they would like to get involved. It is a great opportunity to introduce young people to the World of Lionism. PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE FALL, DO IT NOW, WHILE IT IS FRESH IN YOUR MINDS. So far the clubs who have asked for Peace Poster Kits for 2014 are; New Hamburg Lioness, Glen Morris Lions, Woodstock Lions, Ingersol Lions Thamesford Lions. I am pleased to report that the New Hamburg Lioness entry for this year is the winner. Greg Yeoman of Forest Glen Public School received a cheque for \$250.00 from the District. Thank you Elmira Lions, Ingersol Lions, St Agatha Lions, Ariss Lions and Thamesford Lions for being involved this year. I look forward to working with you next year and if you would like a kit please just call me or send me an email. Please consider making a donation to The Peace Poster Contest c/o District A 15



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GMT District Coordinator – PDG OJ Wiliura

Since my last report, 3 more clubs have completed CEP and 4 are scheduled with the possibility of an additional club. Should this come to fruition it would bring our total to 23 clubs completing this process. That number, considering we have 56 clubs in the district, is great and it keeps A15 strong and ready for growth and new challenges.

A CEP power point presentation has been delivered at three (3) Zone meetings. We are also going to attempt to bring 2 clubs, which are in close proximity and both with fewer than 15 members, into the process together on a trial bases to examine the issues that plague small clubs and have an exchange of ideas.

All clubs should have the Just Ask and Membership Satisfaction publications as they have been distributed throughout the year by the Zone Chairs and GMT. Some of our Zone Chairs have been using these within their meetings.

Plans submitted by clubs this year are a 3 year plan and we will not be bothering those clubs next year but those who have not submitted one, beware! 😊

Our GM< group also remind you to take a look at or even complete the “How are your Ratings?” at least once a year to make sure your club is excelling.

Your District team is always available to help, in any way.

LCI Convention 2014 –PDG OJ Wiura

Should you wish to register for the above noted Convention, the registration form is on the LCI website www.lionsclubs.org and under the Convention Tab. If you wish to volunteer and help out in the many areas requiring assistance, you can complete the volunteer form noted in the www.lionsconvention2014.ca site.

This volunteer form does not register you for the Convention. Upon completion of the form you will get notification thanking. It will also provide a link to the Volunteer Host Registration form. This gives you a rate of \$110 US until to May 1st. April 1st the registration fee is \$170 US. All volunteers will be issued a “host vest” at no charge, to wear while conducting their duties and it is theirs to keep.

Many clubs have asked about putting their float in the parade. Under Parade Rules and Regulations on the LCI website (or you may get a copy from me) on page 8 is the Non Competitive application for the parade and this goes directly to LCI for their approval. They then notify us.

We require approximately 600 volunteers and as of this submission we have 510 signed up to help.

The guest lineup for the Convention includes:

Plenary Session 1 at the Air Canada Centre – Dr. Oz

Plenary Session 2 at the ACC – Ruchira Gupta – Child Trafficking

Plenary Session 3 at the ACC – Olivia Newton-John

International Night at the ACC we will have entertainment by Neil Sedaka

This year’s Humanitarian Award will be given to Canadian producer and song writer David Foster.



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LCIF – PCC Dave Overboe & Lion Penny Overboe

LCIF (Lions Club International Foundation) is built on the basic principle of Lionism - Helping Those Who Cannot Help Themselves.

Millions of dollars are donated to LCIF annually by Lions around the world. Your dollars are dispersed worldwide to meet needs almost as varied as the Lions who raise the money. Grants can be made to assist in recovery from a local disaster, or for a long-term need like a new Research or Medical Centre in a community like yours and mine.

A very unique concept about this foundation is that not \$1 donated is used for administrative expenses - 100% of the dollars given is returned to those in need. Now that is what makes Lions Proud.

District A 15 can be very proud this year as of the last report from LCI in donating \$13,210.44

We have a number of clubs in A 15 who have donated in this and other years and carry an unnamed balance. Should the Club choose to do so, for every \$1000 US donated, they can thank a Lion, Lioness, Leo or deserving person in their community by awarding a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Truly a win! Win! opportunity, LCIF gets the donation the Clubs gets to say thank – you! How great is that!!

MD A has not been left out receiving a number of grants both emergency and standard grants.

Most recently, at the March board meeting, the Woolwich Lions Research Centre was presented and approved.

LFC – PZC Charlene Teasdale

As usual the ever-growing demand for our Dog Guide Programs is ever increasing. There is currently at least a 4-page waiting list for the Autism Assistance Dog Guide. If your Club is looking for a great idea for fund raiser, this could be it. To sponsor an Autism Team is \$12,000. Maybe a number of Clubs could band together to help raise a sponsorship. The need is truly great for this program.

The renovations to the training facility in Oakville are nearing completion and everyone is excited for the Open House Saturday April 5th. A very important fund raising project is looming in the near future, that being the LFC Purina Walk for Dog Guides held in over 200 cities across Canada Sunday May 25th! I hope that you will be able to host a Walk or work along with another Club who is hosting! We hope to beat the \$1.1 million dollars raised last year!

Thank you Lions, Lioness & LEOS for your support of our Foundation, as most of you are aware of the difference these programs are making in the lives of disabled Canadians! I have been honoured to visit some of your Clubs and area events to speak and promote the Lions Foundation of Canada. It has been my honour to serve as your District A15 Chair for LFC. From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU ALL!!!

You can help open the door to independence for people with disabilities by supporting the Opening Doors to Independence campaign. With your help, Lions Foundation of Canada will increase its service and provide more Dog Guides to those in need. Your support will ensure that Lions Foundation of Canada continues to be a leader in its field, assisting a growing number of Canadians with a broad range of disabilities. To learn more, please visit <http://dogguides.com/odti.html> or call 1(800) 768-3030.

Lions Services For Children – Lion Joanne McQuiggan

Some preliminary conversations have taken place with two organizations – Early Literacy Alliance and Strong Start – that have very active and successful reading programs for children across our District. There may be opportunity for Lions to partner with their work under the Reading Action Initiative. It is still at the exploratory stage, but hopefully we will have some concrete ideas over the next few months.



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Sight Screening & Conservation – Lion Pat McLean

Vision screening is winding down for the year and has been very successful again. This is because of the hundreds of volunteer hours given by the club members and the cooperation we get from the school boards and individual schools. Final numbers are not available yet.

The Guelph Lions and Guelph Royal City clubs screened 2280 children this past year and referred 830 to an Optometrist. Many thanks to Bill Hocken and his team at Guelph Royal City and the team at the Guelph Lions The Fergus club with David Whitehead in charge, are still finishing up their screening at the Upper Grand schools. Bruce Faulkner of the Paris club is also screening at 4 schools in his area.

The Waterloo Region numbers are not finalized yet, information is still being collected. My thanks to Vaughn Braby and Ray Derouin who have stepped up to provide assistance at the district and the Kitchener club level to ensure that vision screening continues in that area.

I have taken the new refractor, the PlusOptix S12 to many of the clubs and it has been received enthusiastically. It is much more volunteer friendly to use and volunteers are excited about the speed with which we get results. We look forward to having more of them to use in the coming year.

Youth Camp Chair – PCC Dave Rumble & Lioness Mary Rumble

As of this report we have accepted 17 applications from youth visiting A-15 this year and are expecting to receive more in the next weeks. Youth accepted are from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, The Netherlands and the Slovak Republic. We will be sending an email to some of the countries that are regular participants and that we haven't heard from.

We need your assistance as host clubs and host families. The involvement of the Lions Clubs in the hosting process is a vital priority to the success of the program. We need your financial assistance as well in order to operate the camp efficiently. If you have donated to the camp then we thank you for that. If you have not donated we ask that you consider a donation to the youth from around the world, both in-coming and out-going. Please keep in mind that each \$400.00 donation entitles you to name a Bruce Murray Fellowship recipient, to honour a member of your club or to honour an individual within your community.

We need your support also in supplying meals for the week of camp. Most of the meal requirements have been filled and it is just a matter of confirming the balance of the volunteers. If you would like to be involved and are unable to muster the manpower, perhaps you can donate the funds and we can purchase a meal. We ask that you contact Lion Ted or Lion Darlene Bickell from the Paris Lions Club <ycmeal@a15lions.org>. They are looking after the booking of the meals.

We need your assistance with the camp spring clean-up which is scheduled for Saturday May 17th. Details will be forwarded to the clubs. Shingling, wood to cut up and move, cleaning, painting, raking, and a general clean up.

We would also like to ask the Cabinet Members to assist in the search for volunteers to help with the camp. Even if they have children at home they can help and they are more than welcome to bring the children with them to be a part of the camp and meet the youth from around the world.