



**DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS®**  
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**Winter A-15 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**

7:00 PM Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Hosted by Kitchener Lions at Lions Arena, 20 Rittenhouse Dr, Kitchener

1. Call to order by DG Tim DeBlock at 7:05 PM

Attendance as indicated:

**VOTING CABINET**

IPDG Denis Vinette	DG Tim DeBlock	1 <sup>st</sup> VDG Diane Smith	2 <sup>nd</sup> VDG Wayne Litt
CS Dennis Lougheed	CT Peter Oswald	RC Charlene Teaasdale	ZC Jim Davis
ZC Debbie Cserhalmi	RCAjit Manku	ZC Rae Rotchell	ZC Kevin Banfield
RC Rick Banks	ZC Jim Keron <b>(R)</b>	ZC Tracey Leary <b>(R)</b>	

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Lion Linda Vinette	PDG Doug Smith	PCC Tim Cronin	Lion Janet Dawson-Brock <b>(R)</b>
Lion Bill Patterson	PDG Thom Herrmann <b>(R)</b>	Lion Maurie Payne	Lion Ernie Kaethler <b>(R)</b>
PRC Paul Anstett	Lion Pat Mclean	Lion Adam McMurrin	PDG Karen McNeight
Lion Joanne McQuiggan <b>(R)</b>	PRC Robert Montgomery	PID Bruce Murray	PZC Mary Ann Ward
Lion Penny Overboe <b>(R)</b>	PDDG George Patton	Lion John Pepper	IPDG Norma Peterson
PDG Nancy Ransom <b>(R)</b>	Lion Aline Chan	PID Art Woods <b>(R)</b>	PDG OJ Wilura
PRC Vaughan Braby	Lion Lorea Boogerman	Lion Bob Rutter <b>(R)</b>	PCS Ted Rypma
PDG Larry Wainwright <b>(R)</b>	PRC Rick Bell <b>(R)</b>	Lion Rudy Boogerman	

In attendance also were approximately 53 other Lion Members

**(R)** - Regrets

2. Moment of Silence, O Canada, Toast, Lions Grace and Dinner

3. Welcome - DG Tim De Block

4. Setting of Protocol – VDG1 Diane Smith

5. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda – No Additions. Carried.

6. District Governor's Remarks

Thank-you to the Lions Club of Kitchener for hosting and to your to caterer. It was a great meal! I would like to share with you about a cup half empty or a cup half full. How we look at it makes all the difference.

Our membership numbers are down. We have several Clubs who are uncertain about their future. Our support of LCIF is probably not where it should be. We only have one declared Zone Chair candidate. It might seem like our cup is half empty.

But...

When I visit the Clubs I have been asking the members how they feel about being a Lion. Most everyone starts with a story about working together, helping someone in need and how positive that is for them. How it warms their heart. That is a good foundation to start with. And there are lots of other conversations going on. I have heard of many good service projects our smaller Clubs are doing and partnering with their communities. We have had Lions coming along side of some Clubs facing challenges with a conversation about what is best for the members, the Club and the community. There has been a meeting between Clubs sharing ideas on how to better cooperate together. Our GMT/ GLT coordinators have developed a membership presentation that has been well received at our Zone Meetings with different requests on how to follow it up. There is work being done on a Committee Resource Document that will help better define roles of our committees and their leaders. I have heard of inter Club meetings to socialize and share ideas. Clubs are exploring visiting other Clubs and ZC Kevin has introduced the "Blind Traveler" visitation book and cane. We have had an individual Club orientation meeting. We have many new service projects or "Babies" as we had hoped for. There are conversations of our Vision Screening program expanding and the same for our hearing program. Quest is in the black and many of our programs are active and supported. So maybe our cup is half full?

The reality is, and I checked with the Governors Team, that even in today's world two halves equal a whole so we are dealing with a whole cup. I encourage us to continue to use the whole cup. Use the resources and energies created in the half full part to deal with the half empty part. RC Char said she has noticed something from her visits, something good, subtle but positive. Maybe it is how we are looking at our full cup??

7. Approval of Minutes of the November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Cabinet Meeting – Carried.

Available at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Directory/CabMinNov2014.pdf>



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- 8. Secretary's Report - *See Page 5*
  - 8.1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary's Report. Carried.
- 9. Treasurer's Report
  - 9.1. Report and Financial Statements 2014-2015 - *See Pages 5 - 8*  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements. Carried.
- 10. Matters Arising
  - 10.1. Student Member District Dues  
Whereas at the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Cabinet Meeting, cabinet endorsed a change in the A15 By-Laws to reduce Student Member dues at the District Level to one-half the Full Members dues and referred the endorsement to Constitution and By-Laws for revision;  
MOVED that the change in wording, shown below in italics, of Section 1 for Article VI be forwarded for a vote at the March A-15 Convention. Carried.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**District Administration Fund**

An Administrative Fund Budget shall be presented for approval at the first Cabinet Meeting to provide revenue to defray the administrative expenses of District A-15.

Section 1. **DISTRICT REVENUE.** To provide revenue to defray the administrative expenses of District A-15, an Annual District Administrative Fund Per Capita Tax of \$8.50 is hereby levied upon each member of each Club in District A-15 *except for members who are full time students where the levy shall be ½ (one half) of the above stated amount.* All Lions Clubs to be billed by the Cabinet Treasurer on the first of September each year, assessment to be based on Lions Club Membership submitted on June monthly Membership and Activities reports. Said tax shall be paid to the Cabinet Treasurer by each Club in District A-15, except Newly Chartered and Reorganized Clubs, which shall collect and pay said Per Capita Tax on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or reorganization, as the case may be. Any outstanding balance shall become subject to interest at the rate of 1%, calculated and payable monthly. Said per capita tax shall be disbursed for administrative expenses of District A-15 and only upon approval by the District Governor's Cabinet.

- 11. New Business
  - 11.1. MOVED to approve changes to Articles IV and IX of the District A-15 By-Law as follows in order to conform to the LCI Standard District Constitution and By-Laws. Carried.

**Duties of District Officers/Cabinet**

Section 1. **DISTRICT GOVERNOR** As an International Officer of the Association and, under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, he/she shall represent the Association in his District. In addition, he/she shall be the Chief Administrative Officer in his District and shall have direct supervision over the Region Chairmen, the Zone Chairmen, the Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Treasurer and such other Cabinet Members as may be provided for in this District and M.D. 'A' Constitution and By-Laws. His/her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Oversee the Global Membership Team at the district level and administer and promote membership growth and new club development
- (b) Oversee the Global Leadership Team at the district level and administer and promote leadership development at the club and district level
- (c) Promote The Lions Club International Foundation and all service activities of the association
- (d) Preside, when present, over cabinet, convention and other district meetings. During any period he is unable to so preside, the presiding officer at any such meeting shall be the first or second vice district governor, but if he/she is not available, the district officer chosen by the attending members shall preside
- (e) Promote harmony among the chartered Lions clubs



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- (f) Exercise such supervision and authority over cabinet officers and district committee appointees as is provided in this constitution
- (g) Ensure that each Lions club in the district be visited by the district governor or other district officer once every year to facilitate successful administration of the club and that the visiting officer submit a visitation report to the International Headquarters for each visit
- (h) Submit a current itemized statement of the total district receipts and expenditures to his district convention or annual meeting of his multiple district convention
- (i) Deliver, in a timely manner, at the conclusion of his/her term in office, the general and/or financial accounts, funds and records of the district to his successor in office
- (j) Report to Lions Clubs International all known violations of the use of the associations name and emblem
- (k) Perform such other functions and acts as shall be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors through the District Governors Manual and other directives

Delete in (a) "Oversee the Global Membership Team at the district level and"  
Delete in (b) "Oversee the Global Leadership Team at the district level and"

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Miscellaneous**

Section 1. **DISTRICT GOVERNOR EXPENSES – INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Expenses of the District Governor, in connection with attending the International Convention at the end of his/her year, may be considered by the District Cabinet and will not be a Lions Club International administration expense. Reimbursement for such expenses, if granted, shall be made on the same basis as outlined in the Rules of Audit of Lions Clubs International.

Delete "Rules of Audit" and replace with "General Reimbursement Policy".

- 11.2. MOVED to forward the Cabinet approved changes to Articles IV and IX of the District A-15 By-Law for a vote by voting delegates at the March 2015 Convention. Carried.
- 11.3. MOVED to forward for a vote by voting delegates at the March A-15 Convention to change Article I, District A-15 Convention, Section 1 Lion's Year Convention Supervision of the District A-15 By-Law

FROM

There shall be a Convention Committee advising the District Governor. This committee shall be composed of the District Governor (as Chair), the First and Second Vice District Governor and the Region Chairpersons (if any), a representative of each of the Host Committees for the two prior, the current and next conventions as voting members. The Cabinet Secretary and Chair of the Constitution and By-Law Committee shall serve as ex-officio and non-voting members. The District Governor shall retain supervision over all policies and phases of the District A-15 Convention, with the Convention Committee ensuring that all activities of the convention and directives of the District Governor are carried out. Duties of the Advisory Committee shall include, but not be limited to, site inspection and monitoring; budget and program planning; development of convention program and activities; co-ordination of a final report. The Host Committee's duties shall include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Implementation of the Convention Policy of District A-15;
- (2) Implementation of approved plans and procedures;
- (3) Fiscal responsibility.



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TO

There shall be a Convention Committee advising the District Governor. This committee shall be appointed by the District Governor and its composition shall be defined in Convention Policy and have duties as defined in Convention Policy. The Governor shall also appoint a Host Committee whose composition and duties shall be defined in Convention Policy.

Carried.

- 11.4. MOVED to forward for a vote by voting delegates at the March A-15 Convention to change the Convention Fund Levy Policy

FROM

In lieu of or in addition to a District Convention Registration fee, an Annual Per Capita District Convention Fund Levy of \$1.40 shall be levied upon each member of each club in the District and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club, except newly chartered and reorganized Clubs, on the first day of September each year, assessment based on Lions Clubs' membership on the June Monthly Membership Reports. This levy shall be collected from the clubs by, and remitted to, the District Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) who shall account for such monies in a separate folio.

The funds so collected shall be used exclusively for defraying expenses, detailed below, of the District A-15 Convention and shall be expended only by district cheques drawn and signed by the District Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) and countersigned by the District Governor. Any club which is chartered or reorganized in a current fiscal year shall collect and pay said Convention Per Capita Levy for said fiscal year on a pro-rate basis from the first day of the second month following the date of its (re) organization as the case may be.

Applicable Convention Expenses to be defrayed by this Fund shall relate to the District's International Guest and shall include the following: Registration (2); Pin (2); Accommodation (2 nights); Meals (2 x 5); refreshments, flowers/bouquet; District gift (plus shipment and return of shipping case); ground transportation to and from Pearson International Airport (GTA).

TO

In lieu of or in addition to a District Convention Registration fee, an Annual Per Capita District Convention Fund Levy of \$1.40 shall be levied upon each member of each club in the District and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club, except newly chartered and reorganized Clubs, on the first day of September each year, assessment based on Lions Clubs' membership on the June Monthly Membership Reports. This levy shall be collected from the clubs by, and remitted to, the District Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) who shall account for such monies in a separate folio.

The funds so collected shall be used exclusively for defraying expenses, detailed in Convention Policy, of the District A-15 Convention and shall be expended only by district cheques drawn and signed by the District Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) and countersigned by the District Governor. Any club which is chartered or reorganized in a current fiscal year shall collect and pay said Convention Per Capita Levy for said fiscal year on a pro-rate basis from the first day of the second month following the date of its (re) organization as the case may be.

Carried.

- 12. Cabinet Reports - *See Pages 9 - 11*  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried.
- 13. Committee Reports - *See Pages 11 - 16*  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee Reports. Carried.



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14. Committee Structure Resource and Policy Development – VSG1 Diane Smith  
A through review of District A15 Committees and their mandates, the creation of a resource document containing the results of that review along with the formulation of a policy mandating annual review is underway. This document will serve as a resource to the DGE when structuring the District for their Lions year and for the appointed chairs in order that they may better understand their roles.
15. Special Presentations & Awards
  - 15.1. Club Excellence – IPDG Denis Vinette  
Thamesford Lions & West Coast Lions
  - 15.2. Guiding Lion Certificates – DG Tim DeBlock  
ZC Tracey Leary, Stratford Lion & ZC Deb Cserhalmi, Woolwich Community Lions
16. Good & Welfare
  - 16.1. Upcoming Events
  - 16.2. Adjournment – 9:05 PM

**SECRETARY'S REPORT TO CABINET**

Clubs are reminded that officer elections for the 2015/16 Lions year must be completed by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. For Lions Clubs, this information must be reported through MyLCI no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. For LEO and Lioness Clubs, please report directly to the Cabinet Secretary no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Note that beginning with this year, the ONLY source of contact information for Lions Club officers and members that will be used to produce the District Directory and for publication on the District Web site, will be the information recorded at MyLCI. LEO and Lioness Clubs should continue to report this information directly to the Cabinet Secretary, by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Where Lions Club information has not been updated on MyLCI or LEO and Lioness Club information not been updated directly with the Cabinet Secretary for the 2015/16 Lions year, that information will be left blank in the Directory and on the Web site as we do not wish to publish unconfirmed or incorrect information.

Please note that Convention Voting credentials, notification of proposed By-Law revisions and other related information will be sent to the official District A15 Email address assigned to your club or in the case of PDG's to the email address we currently have on file for you. If that address is incorrect, take steps to correct our record immediately.

**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial records have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at December 31, 2014. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

**ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS**

- At the time of writing this report, there are 2 Clubs with District dues owing totalling \$414.80. Respective Clubs and members of Cabinet were advised.
- Expenses are well within Budget at this point in the Lions year
- Reminder for money from pin sales should be turned over to the Cabinet Treasurer.

**TRUST ACCOUNTS**

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as at December 31, 2014.

A reminder that when paying LCI invoices and to protect yourself in times of fluctuating exchange rates, you have three avenues available;

- Pay the invoice Canadian amount within the month and your payment will probably be honored at the invoiced amount,
- Use the Toronto Postal drop,
- Use a personal or club credit card.



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District "A"-15 Lions - Admin  
Balance Sheet  
As of 31 December 2014

	31 Dec 14
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	9,363.91
CIBC - Investments	35,616.25
CIBC USD Account	20.08
International Director Fund	5,304.23
New Club Assessment Fund	3,463.91
Total Cash	53,768.38
Total Chequing/Savings	53,768.38
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	621.80
Total Accounts Receivable	621.80
Total Current Assets	54,390.18
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>54,390.18</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
A/P USD for LCI	-0.03
Total Accounts Payable	-0.03
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	4,033.67
DGE Partner Travel	1,856.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	5,889.67
Total Current Liabilities	5,889.64
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	5,304.23
New Club Assessment - Contra	3,463.91
Total Long Term Liabilities	8,768.14
Total Liabilities	14,657.78
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	2,536.95
Net Income	13,504.91
Total Equity	39,732.40
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>54,390.18</b>



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

	Jul - Dec 14	Budget	Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Advertising	250.00	500.00	-250.00
District Directory	515.00	250.00	265.00
District Dues			
Dues - Collected	13,319.50	13,345.00	-25.50
<b>Total District Dues</b>	<b>13,319.50</b>	<b>13,345.00</b>	<b>-25.50</b>
Interest Earned	205.80	200.00	5.80
Leadership Seminar Income	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.00
Membership Assessment	2,350.50	2,355.00	-4.50
Pin Sales	300.00	1,000.00	-700.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,340.80</b>	<b>19,050.00</b>	<b>-709.20</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>18,340.80</b>	<b>19,050.00</b>	<b>-709.20</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Awards</b>			
Awards - Other	0.00	500.00	-500.00
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>-500.00</b>
Badges & Patches	317.58	700.00	-382.42
Bank Charges	53.28	158.00	-104.72
Cabinet Expense	683.98	500.00	183.98
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Global Leadership & Membership	-180.64	1,100.00	-1,280.64
<b>Total District Chair Expense</b>	<b>-180.64</b>	<b>1,600.00</b>	<b>-1,780.64</b>
District Directories	1,570.26	1,750.00	-179.74
Governor's Newsletter	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Internet	94.26	100.00	-5.74
Leadership Institutes	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Leadership Seminar	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Liability Insurance	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pins Purchased	1,768.33	1,800.00	-31.67
Postage & Telephone	130.48	200.00	-69.52
Printing & Stationery	38.00	150.00	-112.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.39		
USA / Canada Forum	360.00	1,800.00	-1,440.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4,835.92</b>	<b>10,858.00</b>	<b>-6,022.08</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>13,504.88</b>	<b>8,192.00</b>	<b>5,312.88</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Other Expense</b>			
Exchange Gain/Loss	-0.03		
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>-0.03</b>		
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.03</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>13,504.91</b>	<b>8,192.00</b>	<b>5,312.91</b>



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District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust  
Balance Sheet  
As of 31 December 2014

	<u>31 Dec 14</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	5,052.28
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	1,688.98
CIBC - Trust Account	10,114.71
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	15,242.18
Youth Investments	12,512.05
Total CIBC - Youth	<u>27,754.23</u>
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	10,000.00
Investments - Other	5,000.00
Total Investments	<u>15,000.00</u>
Youth Camp Capital Fund	<u>7,645.11</u>
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>67,255.31</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>67,255.31</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>67,255.31</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Cultural Festival	137.11
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	1,688.98
Hearing Equipment	553.07
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Dog Guides	50.00
Leash Free Park	5,055.90
Lions Foundation of Canada - Other	165.00
Total Lions Foundation of Canada	<u>5,270.90</u>
LIONS Quest Contra Account	15,052.28
Peace Poster	2,395.63
Vision Screening	6,758.00
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	27,754.23
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>59,610.20</u>
Total Current Liabilities	59,610.20
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	<u>7,645.11</u>
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>7,645.11</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>67,255.31</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>67,255.31</u></b>





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**CABINET REPORTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG – Diane Smith**

Since our last Cabinet meeting I have been able to make club visits on behalf of our District Governor to Hickson and Wellesley. I had the pleasure of inducting a new member at the Wellesley and District Lions Club. I have attended zone meetings for 37W hosted by Exeter and for 51W hosted by Linwood. As always I am impressed by the energy within the clubs and the variety of service projects Lions in our District are involved in. I am equally impressed with the talent that resides in our clubs. Many members have the potential to be leaders. It will soon be time to select your club executive for the coming year, so carefully consider a position with your club executive or ask someone whom you feel could make that contribution to your club. At the District level, we are always in need of individuals moving forward. The District needs structure to insure clubs are connected to International and are functioning well. It is a rewarding experience to be on Cabinet and I encourage each of you, who have been club President, to look seriously at taking on the role of zone chair. It is a fulfilling experience for you as an individual and you will be making a great contribution to the world of Lionism.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VDG – Wayne Litt**

On behalf of the Governor’s Team, I would like to thank all Lions for the efforts made so far this year to support DG Tim in his “A Wake in Service” challenge. New Service initiatives have been started throughout the District. This does provide the positive energy in us, in our communities and wherever we reach to those in need. We must now focus on where we want our clubs to be in the next few years; World Wide and Canada. We find that membership in Service Clubs is on the decline. I do not believe that this is a result of people not caring, but, rather that they have not been asked and shown how they can be of service. With this in mind, I would ask that each of us make a special effort to introduce someone to the World of Lionism. I look forward to seeing you at Convention March 20th to 22nd, 2015 at Stratford. Be sure to watch the Convention Video on or District A15 Web site.

**IPDG – Denis Vinette**

Nothing to report.

**RC 9 - Ajit Manku**

I have crisscrossed Region 9 visiting clubs, attending meetings and sharing ideas with terrific Lions in their communities. I attended zone meetings and listened to clubs share projects they have completed:  
Cambridge Highlands - Shopping for gifts for knitters and caterer  
Glen Morris - Annual Turkey Roll  
Paris - Held a Diabetes Tag Day  
Rockton – Rockton Days.  
St George – Apple Fest Days.  
Kitchener Oktoberfest - Vision screening  
KW Community Spirit – Skating  
Galt Cambridge Lions - Bingo and Vision screening  
I heard Lions talking about or planning their future projects and strengthening the membership. We do need to be more boastful about what we are doing. Region 9 Lions continue to serve and “SET THE PACE”.

**ZC 9E – Kevin Banfield**

I am pleased to report that we had a fairly successful first zone meeting in November. Having it offsite from a host club, all the clubs of the zone had an assigned task for that meeting. We also had 100% club attendance. Our guest speakers for the evening were Waterloo Region Police Chief Bryan Larkin and Waterloo Region Chair Ken Seiling. Both delivered great messages about our community and shared with us an update on The Spur Line Trail which will run between Kitchener and Waterloo. They talked about how we as Lions may be able to assist in this project. At our January zone meeting we had Bethany Galbraith, Public Education Coordinator, Alzheimer Society of Waterloo Wellington who spoke to us about the difference between Alzheimer and Dementia. Julie Laderoute Inclusion Coordinator Program and Resource Services with the City of Kitchener made a presentation to the clubs asking for support for accessible golf carts for the local city courses. We also had an open “chat” about membership lead by PDG Lion OJ. There was a great deal of dialog. I am very thankful for the hospitality that I have been shown while attending club meetings and events. I would like to thank the Paris Lions Club and ZC Ray for hosting 9 South’s Zone meeting. Great night had by all.



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At the January zone meeting I introduced a new idea/challenge for the members of Zone 9E. It is called the "Blind Traveler" who has a long folding cane in a bag with a journal. This program is designed to promote Lion Club visitations. The object is for the cane to be taken by a visiting club with expectation that another club will visit theirs to continue the travel of the cane amongst clubs in our Zone. The Blind Traveler Cane program is to promote fellowship, a sharing of ideas, and social interaction between clubs, each of who compete to see how long their club can be in possession of the Blind Traveler's Cane. Follow-up of the implementation of this social activity will be forthcoming.

**ZC 9S** – Rae Rotchell  
No submission.

**RC37** – Rick Banks

Once again both Zone chairs held well-attended Zone Chair meetings this past week. ZC37W Tracey held her meeting in Moncton and ZC37S Jim held his meeting in New Hamburg. Both were attended by GMT District Co-ordinator OJ who presented a slide show outlining the various ways to retain new members. I was very pleased to visit Plattsville in November and induct new members Anna Lackenbauer and Gayle Ostrom. On December 10th I was very pleased to attend the Drumbo club with Governor Tim and ZC37S Jim to induct a number of new members into that club. It was a fun evening. The Monkton club is working on the Convention and there many service activities in the planning stages for the next few months. A report from Lion Jack Broadfoot gave a report on fund raising activities for the Sakura House Generator. From memory, I believe they have raised over \$50,000 towards this worthwhile goal. Even with all the great efforts to attract and keep new members, the fact remains that this region has dropped from 478 members to 472. Please remember that this is not a numbers game, it is a service game. With fewer members it is harder to do more service. Lets keep both oars in the water! A big thanks is extended to all the members in Region 37 who are doing great service.

**ZC 37S** – Jim Keron

The Zone is making great strides on the Governor Tim's challenge for two new service projects with the zone average now just above two projects per club. While Woodstock and Plattsville took an early lead in the zone with two new projects last September, before they knew there was a challenge, come January, Thamesford has come from behind and now has five new projects. Ingersoll and Drumbo are in second place with three new projects but I could see Drumbo giving Thamesford a run for the money. The service wake is spreading out in our zone's communities. A major zone initiative in this respect is the Sakura House generator which now stands just short of \$54,000 and Sakura House has commenced initial investigations towards getting a hard estimate.

It's also been great to see zone clubs working together on projects. Drumbo and Woodstock combined to support an event supporting diabetes last fall. We have a number of clubs involved in the Sakura House generator project. Also Drumbo, looking at a community splash pad approached New Hamburg who are further along in their planning on a similar project. I suspect a lot of this is an offshoot of the close planning and teamwork that the eleven 37S clubs put into the Canadian Outdoor Farm Show.

On the membership front we have seen a number of inductions around the zone. In December, DG Tim assisted by RC37 Rick banks and ZC37S Jim Keron inducted seven new members to the Drumbo club! Well done Drumbo! In January, ZC Jim inducted a new member to Thamesford using the Helen Keller ceremony. The speaker for the evening was Lion Dawn Crockett from Lambeth who is blind and a CNIB spokesperson. She had brought enough blindfolds for the entire club so everyone was blindfolded for the first part of the ceremony along with the new member, obviously, excepting the people who were reading portions of the ceremony ☺ It was quite a moving ceremony. The new Lion Cub, Andrew was presented with several pins including two from PDG Len Taylor of the Lambeth Lions in A2 who was visiting with Lion Dawn.

The second Zone meeting was held Weds Jan 21 in New Hamburg with the main speaker being PDG OJ Wilura with a presentation on new member attraction and retention. His presentation was well received and will be forwarded to the zone clubs. There was lots of good advice. The most prominent problem with scaring away new members is a poorly run meeting. Research has shown that people thinking of joining mostly have a positive predisposition towards Lions Clubs but can be chased away by bad experiences in their first exploratory meetings. Even if that happens they still think of Lions positively but not the specific club they attended. After they do join, they need to be quickly and completely integrated into the club operations since failure to do so leads to a high initial dropout rate. Many thanks go to OJ and Denis Vinette for putting this presentation together.



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**ZC 37W – Tracey Leary**

On January 20th, 2015, we had our second 37 W Zone Meeting held in Monkton. I have to say that it was a very good turnout. PDG OJ Wilura was our guest speaker, talking about Membership. The presentation was very informative for all of the clubs and brought up some very good discussions. All of the clubs had something to share. This was a great thing to see. I really appreciate all of the hard work from each of our clubs in Zone 37 W. I'm looking forward to the Joint Zone Meeting, for some fun and interaction with all of the clubs in Region 37.

**RC 51 – Charlene Teasdale**

Well here we are in 2015 already. As 2014 is in our “rear view mirror” we can take a moment to reflect on where we’ve been and now focus on where we are going. I am encouraged by the in depth Membership Plans coming in from the Clubs here in Region 51, it is exciting to see our Clubs also bringing in new members. Zone Chair 51W Lion Deb and Zone Chair 51E Lion Jim are working on their Zone Meetings to create a fun and informative gatherings for our Lions. I have had the privilege to attend meetings in Fergus and Woolwich Community Lions Clubs. I believe when we work together, anything is possible, we are a Lions family and when we work together not only do we strengthen our Clubs and grow our membership, the communities we serve benefit as well as our Lions International Out Reach programs. I am excited for our future as our GMT/GLT team is always creating new information and tools for our Clubs to utilize in their plans for membership growth and retention. I can’t tell you how excited I am to see our University of Guelph Lions Campus Club charter, this is a wonderful group of enthusiastic young people and our future looks very bright in deed. Congratulations to our Clubs celebrating milestones this year, I wish you many more years of service. As I travel and visit with the Clubs along the way, I can feel the “wake”....can you?? I am always here for you to help in any way possible; I am honoured to serve alongside all of you.

**ZC 51E – Jim Davis**

Greetings fellow Lions. We are now at the halfway point of our Lions fiscal year. I would like to congratulate everyone on your accomplishments to date, however there is much more for us all to do. I would like to ask each of you to consider the following. Membership: Are you working your plan? Are your members satisfied? These are 2 of the Topics which we will discuss at our Zone meeting on Feb 25. I would ask that you come prepared for a discussion on these topics.

We are pleased to welcome the University of Guelph campus club into our organization. A special thanks to PDG Denis, Lion Char and Lion Thom Herman for there efforts in organizing and guidance of this new club. Remember Lions; the younger generation is the future of Lions.

**ZC 51W – Debbie Cserhalmi**

From eye screening programs to brand new ice skating rinks; Zone 51W clubs have been very busy this year. The clubs have taken our District Governor’s message to heart and have all tried finding two new service projects this year. The clubs have been busy with various projects such as; food drives, tree lightings, sponsoring scholarships, and roadside cleanup.

It always surprises me what a handful of dedicated people can do when they work well together. Many of our smaller communities owe their Lions Clubs a big debt of gratitude for many of their recreation areas. Parks, rinks, walking trails, recreation complexes and community services buildings are just some of the major projects our clubs contributed to in Zone 51W. Yet, they always manage to support all the Lions programs in the District as well.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**NOTHING TO REPORT AT THIS TIME OR NO SUBMISSION**

**Alert** – Lion Adam McMurrin, **Constitution & By-Laws** – PDDG George Patton, **Diabetes Awareness** – PRC Rick Bell, **District Bulletin & MDA Magazine Liaison** – Lion Bob Rutter, **District Historian** – PDG Nancy Ransom, **District International Relations** – PID Art Woods, **Effective Speaking** – Lion Ernie Kaethler, **GLT Liaison** – VDG1 Tim DeBlock, **GMT Club Success Team Leader** - PRC Paul Anstett, **GMT Membership & Club Growth Team Leader** – PRC Vaughan Braby, **GMT Membership Renewal** – PDG Larry Wainwright, **Hearing & Speech Action** – Lion John Pepper, **Honorary Committee/A15PDGA** – IPDG Denis Vinette, **Information Technology** – PCS Ted Rypma, **LCIF** – Lion Penny Overboe, **LEO** – PZC Marry Ann Ward, **Lions Opportunities For Youth** – VDG2 Wayne Litt, **Long Range Planning** – PDG Thom Herrmann, **Police Check Gatekeeper** - PDDG George Patton, **Protocol** – PID Bruce Murray,



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**Camp Coordinator** – PRC Rob Montgomery

Our Lions Camps are getting ready for another fabulous season and they would like to thank the clubs of A-15 for their support and donations.

If the clubs of A-15 are looking to help the camps in any way please feel free to check out their websites as they all have a Wish List of items that they are in need of or would like to have.

I will be travelling to Rockton to explain what the various camps do and who they assist i.e.; Diabetes, Kidney, Sight etc.

**Cultural & Community Activities** – RC Ajit Manku

International Festival is approaching fast - less than two months to go -. This will be a great opportunity for you and your club members to buy tickets (\$20.00 per person). It will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2015, starting 6:00 pm at United Kingdom Club of Cambridge, 35 International Village Drive, Cambridge

Bring your family and friends with you. Get excited! Just email me and let me how many tickets are required. You can mail the payment or pay at the door. Make cheques payable to District A15 Lions.

For more details you to A15 website <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/meditfest.pdf> Come and dance away your winter blues!

The A -15 International Cook Books are sold out. Thank you for your support! If any member of your club still wants a cookbook, please let me know as I can get them reprinted. Cost \$6.50.

**Convention Host 2015** – Lion Maurie Payne

With Governor Tim choosing a theme of “A Wake in Service” for this year’s convention, the Monkton Lions have been very busy. The Monkton Lions Club have been making several club visits to spread this message and that we welcome their participation.

We are running three draws on Sunday, March 22nd for three get away packages. We are also selling advertising space in the convention program to help offset some of the costs for this year’s convention.

Registration has been a little slow in coming in than what we anticipated, hopefully this will pick-up. With having only one hospitality room booked to date, we are anticipation four or five more to be booked soon.

View the Convention flyer at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/ConventionPoster2015.png>. Download the registration form at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/2015ConventionRegistration.pdf>.

**Elections & Credentials** – PDG Doug Smith

At the time of writing there are no candidates for 1st VDG and for all 6 Zone Chair positions. See anyone of the Cabinet or myself if you are interested. I have nomination forms with me. Don't wait to be appointed because you might be DISAPPOINTED!

Demonstrations and speeches by ZC and RC Candidates will be at their respective upcoming Joint Zone Meetings.

Candidates for 2nd VDG, 1st VDG and DG will be introduced by name only.

At the Convention on Friday evening Demonstrations and Speeches will by 2nd VDG, 1st VDG and DG Candidates. All others will be introduced by name only.

Saturday Cabinet Meeting all candidates will be introduced by name only.

Voting Delegate forms will be emailed to Club Secretary's address. No excuses about not receiving them. In order to vote, delegates must be from a club that is in good standing - i.e. do not owe any outstanding balances to LCI, MDA or A15. You must have your signed delegate form and your signed Membership card. Or else 2 Bucks, 2 Bucks 2 Bucks.

See you all at the Convention.

**Environment** – Lion Linda Vinette

This January a request was sent to all Clubs in District A-15 to participate in the Environment Photo Contest. The criteria for this contest is; Local 8”X10”photo of Animal Life, Plant Life, Landscape (Urban or Natural) or Weather Phenomenon. Please submit your photos to me by March 15th so they can be displayed and voted on at our District A-15 Convention on March 20th. The winning Photo will be sent to MD”A” in Kingston for Judging on May 22nd. The winning Photo from MD”A” will be sent to Lions Clubs International.

Protecting our Environment is one of the Centennial Service Challenges. All Centennial service activities must be reported through MyLCI's Service Activity. Your club can earn up to four Centennial Banner Patches by participating in each year of the Centennial Service Challenge. Plan environment projects to make your community a better place for everyone. During April, remember your environment by preparing an event on Earth Day April 22nd.



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Dates to remember are the Breslau LFC facility cleanup on Wednesday, June 3rd 2015 and the Memorial Forest Rededication service on Saturday June 13th 2015. Please plan to participate as many hands make quick work at the cleanup.

**GLT District Coordinator** – IPDG Denis Vinette

Since my last report, I have had the opportunity to present information about the service available to clubs from both the GMT and GLT at our Lions Now Event and at other club and zone meetings.

I gave out a Club Training Needs survey at the Lions Now event in October and have already received a substantial number completed. The training needs survey asks clubs to review and report on their training priorities. I hope to use this information to align our focus on the training that clubs require. At this point, I have received approximately 25 surveys from clubs, as well as a few from individual members and members of Cabinet. From the initial sample, it appears that the needs are various, with most surveys highlighting a need for a more comprehensive and standard curriculum for Club President, Secretary and Treasurer positions. In addition, I am reviewing the possibility of regional training to help make the process more personal and “hands-on”.

As GLT leader for MD“A” (West), I had the opportunity to attend the first Canadian GLT/GMT Summit held in December in Winnipeg. It was a very informative weekend with a great deal of review and dialogue regarding leadership and membership issues. As I have previously indicated to Cabinet, there is a new impetus to provide more discrete training for our District and Club Leadership roles. This will be an ongoing effort to help develop resources to develop a more informed leadership team in the years to come. Succession planning and member mentoring were other items discussed in some detail at this event.

Since January, GMT Coordinator OJ and I have had the opportunity to present some new and not-so-new information regarding Membership Growth at four of our six Zone Meetings in A-15. The information appeared to be well received and we look forward to providing additional support to the clubs if requested.

I am looking forward to reviewing the club training surveys and discuss various options which we have to provide the training topics and schedule that would best reflect the club concerns and needs. In addition, I plan to take every opportunity to promote the benefits and value of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum and of the new and well-received Lions University “degree” program.

Members are strongly encouraged to consider taking on a Leadership position within the District and are invited to attend an MDA sponsored Leadership workshop in Woodstock on Saturday February 21<sup>st</sup> to explore District and Multiple District needs and opportunities. Contact your Zone Chair or IPDG Denis Vinette directly to express your interest. Members are also considered attending the annual Canada USA Forum from September 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Rapids Missouri.

**GMT District Coordinator** – PDG OJ Wiliura

Sponsoring a new member is more than just a one step process. Recruiting a new member is the first stage, followed by being a Host and a Mentor.

By being a Host, we mean making a prospective member feel welcome and wanted. This can make the difference in their decision to become a member. As a Host you should:

- Offer to accompany them to a meeting.
- Make them feel comfortable at the meeting. Introduce them to other members and seat them next to enthusiastic members.
- Ask your club officers to make a special effort to welcome the prospective member.
- Suggest that they get involved in one of the club activities discussed at the meeting, any thoughts or ideas.

If your prospective member becomes a Lion, remember to schedule his or her induction ceremony.

The final stage is being a Mentor. A sponsor’s responsibilities do not end when a prospect is inducted. Helping them grow in the organization means they will stay a member. As a mentor you should:

- Continue to introduce the new member to Lions they have not met, helping them feel part of your club.
- Carry on in accompanying them to meetings. Stay in touch.
- Make sure that they are encouraged and allowed to express their views and opinions.
- Serve as a source of inspiration and advice.
- Consider entering into the Lions Mentoring Program, where you and the new member can continue to grow as Lions.
- Encourage the Lion that you sponsored to be active and to live up to the Lions’ motto: “We Serve”.

Don’t forget to speak to your Club’s Membership Chair for any further guidance and assistance.

Another tool available would be to review the Mentoring Guide on the LCI website:



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<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/membership-and-new-clubs/index.php>

**LFC – PZC Charlene Teasdale**

Wow, where did 2014 go? What a year it was for our Lions Foundation of Canada. The ever growing demand for our Dog Guide Programs has increased and with the new expansion of our training facility in Oakville, we are ready to meet the need. I am happy to report that this past year our Foundation graduated the following 153 teams:

Vision – 6 Classes and graduated 38 teams

Service/Special Skills – 4 Classes and graduated 21 teams

Hearing Ear – 4 Classes and graduated 22 teams

Seizure Response – 2 Classes and graduated 9 teams

Diabetic Alert – 3 Classes and graduated 9 teams

Autism Assistance – 7 Classes and graduated 54 teams

I sincerely thank all of our Lions Clubs here in District A15 who sponsor a Dog Guide Team, hold fund raising events and many other creative ways to support our Foundation. Thank you also to our Lions who have taken on the very important role of Foster Parents, you are truly angels in the journey of providing a Dog Guide to a disabled Canadian. I was invited to Marsville & District Lions Club to accept a donation to LFC as well I had the honour to attend the Hillsburgh Lions Club's annual Christmas dinner and present 2 Judge Brian Stevenson Fellowship Awards as well as accept a cheque for a donation on behalf of the Club for a lovely couple celebrating 50 years of marriage. Thank you to all of those who have purchased a copy of the Oakville Firefighters/Lions Foundation of Canada 2015 Calendar. These calendars are only \$10/each and I still have some left if you would like to purchase one. Thank you for all you do and please consider hosting an LFC Purina Walk for Dog Guides, it is a fun event for folks and their favorite canines and a great way to promote Lionism.

**Lions Quest – PDG Thom Herrmann**

Since the Fall Cabinet meeting the Lions of A15 have once again be extremely generous and almost \$11700 dollars have been donated to Quest. The five-year drive to eliminate the Lions Quest debt has been successful and Lions Quest is now debt free! Thank you Lions for your support.

If you have not sent you donation yet please do to help keep Lions Quest Canada health and vibrant. Without the weight of a crushing debt Quest is once again a vibrant and helping organization. Your donation allows we Lions to change lives in Communities across Canada.

On January 31st a Community Workshop was held in Fergus. These workshops are the future for Quest. They are sponsored by Community Groups of the Police (such as the OPP) and so far are wildly successful. Thank you Fergus Lions for your support.

Another workshop is planned for the spring in the Kitchener area. All are welcome to attend. Thank you to the Kitchener Area Lions that will make this happen.

The Tickets for a vacation to Bali are going well but please remind clubs on you visit or at meeting that these are donation not raffle tickets that anyone can donate to. IF your club wins this summer's draw you can use the prize to hold a draw of your own. For those who have sent your tickets in Thank You, for those who still have them...donate and send them in.

It's time to think about rewarding club members for their service. How about a Quest Fellowship; a beautifully engraved object d'art that anyone would be proud to have and display. See the Lions Quest web site for more information.

Once again thank you for what you are doing, have done and will do for the future of our children.

The happy story of Quest continues in A15

**Lions Services For Children – Lion Joanne McQuiggan**

A reminder to clubs to share their success stories – perhaps there are ideas that other clubs can adapt for their own communities. Some great ideas already in action in our District include helping with a school lunch program, providing much needed items for young mothers and their babies, vision screening at community health fairs, volunteering with reading programs, setting up a “free little library”, and of course the many playgrounds and other community facilities that we support. Congratulations to the many clubs who organize special community events for Family Day.

Some projects for clubs to consider – organize a community toy/games exchange refurbish bicycles and provide them to children in need, prepare back to school kits, provide hygiene kits for street-involved youth. Follow DG Tim's lead – his “new baby” a couple of years ago was the Monkton Fishing Camp for Kids – and it has continued to grow. As we look for the “new baby” in our clubs, consider a project that will benefit kids in need. We know they are out there, and we know we can make a difference.



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## **Literacy Chair** – Lion Aline Chan

The MD'A October 2014 magazine refers to the Read and Rise Literacy Project as a Lions and Scholastic Project, using the word RAP that stands for READING ACTION PROGRAM. We have targeted children in pre-school to Grade 3 because children who do not have a good grounding by Grade 3 may never catch up. Forty-two percent of Canadians between the ages of 16 and 65 have low Literacy Skills.

We are suggesting that Lions Clubs in our District donate money for us to buy books to be donated to the Kindergarten classes where we do our vision screening. An order of 20 books cost us \$100.

I will soon be making my rounds to visit the Clubs in our District.

'You are never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.' Dr. Seuss

## **Peace Poster & Essay For the Visually Impaired** – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

A very special thanks to all the Lions/Lioness Clubs who entered the Peace Poster Contest. I know it is a lot of work and it is sometimes hard to work with the schools. We have 26 kits out this year which is a bit of a record, unfortunately only five clubs were successful in getting the schools involved.

Governor Tim and a committee had the pleasure of judging the contest and this year's winner was,

Lydia Wilson

Park Manor Public School

Elmira Lions Club.

Her quote was "A song of peace - a melody of love, a chorus of laughter, a beat of belief can lead us to understanding.

Congratulations Lydia. We will be sending her a cheque for \$250.00 for winning District A 15 Lions Peace Poster Contest.

Her entry was sent to M.D."A" and unfortunately Lydia did not win. The winner this years was District A 9, Jack Bradley 13 years old from Caledon, Ontario.

If you are attending the M.D."A" Convention be sure and look at the display of Peace Posters, and you will see Lydia's Poster.

Once again thank you Lions/Lioness, don't give up, start planning in May this year. The NEW POSTERS FOR 2015 are now available from International.

## **Public Relations & Club Visits Liaison** – PDG Norma Peterson

We began the Lions year with PDG Larry Sales and myself co-chairing this portfolio. Lion Larry has had to step down for personal reasons. Previous travelling commitments for myself as well as other unexpected issues meant that many of the tasks associated with this position have been delayed.

Work being done on a Committee Structure Resource Document has resulted in a clearer job description of responsibilities and shortly after the Winter Cabinet meeting I expect to be able to work more fully in my capacity as Diabetes Awareness Chair.

## **Sight Screening & Conservation** – Lion Pat McLean

### VISION SCREENING

Teams of Lions volunteers have been busy testing the eyesight of kindergarten children in the schools, since early last fall. A team in Fergus, two teams in Guelph, and teams in Cambridge, Kitchener, Elmira and St. Jacobs have tested nearly 6,000 children to date. Between 30 and 35% of those children have been referred to an Optometrist for further testing. The testing program will be completed by March.

Volunteers have been using the new PlusOptix refractors which were purchased this year with the generous donations by clubs and individuals. Although there were of course, some initial challenges learning a new machine, they are working well now and are allowing for a much faster screening time. Christian Schmidt of PlusOptix Germany met with screening volunteers in Kitchener in December to provide further training and answer questions.

At the Waterloo Region Public School board, our new contact person is very interested in this program and has planned to visit with all the Waterloo Region teams. She has already seen Richard Green and his team in Cambridge in action at the Moffat Creek School and sent a warm email thanking him for their dedication to the program. She has two more visits planned, one in Kitchener and another in Wellesley in February.

### OUTREACH

I spoke to the Rockton Lions club last fall who were very interested in being part of the screening program in their area. They have now contacted the Hamilton School board and meetings are planned to discuss this further. I also visited the Brantford Lions club this past month, and hope to see a screening program start there as well.

Charles Little, the Vision Screening chair from District A9 reached out to discuss a possible partnership between our two districts for the schools of the Avon Maitland board. Further discussions are needed to recruit the volunteers necessary in



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the clubs, provide the equipment and training needed and to resolve the differences in our screening program. Looking forward to a successful project.

EYE GLASS COLLECTION BOXES

After a wait of many months, I did receive a shipment of these boxes just before Christmas. I did have several names on my list wanting boxes, but if other clubs are interested, please let me know.

**Yearbook Editor** – PDG Karen McNeight

Please forward pictures of your Clubs Activities, Events, or Service Babies (new or otherwise) to yearbook@a15lions.org It is my ambition to put together a 2014-2015 Yearbook for our Governor...and I'm hoping to pull together pictures from every Club to showcase your year.

I'm currently hoping to have one (1) page per Club. So capture your Clubs special moments. Put the Club Name in the Subject line of your email. Also include the Name of the Activity, Event or Service in the email. Committee Chairs are welcome to submit pictures of their special Committee moments too along with Committee name, and event details. If enough Lions, or Clubs, are interested, I could look into the cost of a softcover volume purchase.

**Youth Camp & Exchange** – Lions Rudy & Lorea Boogerman

PROMOTING YEP - We have attended the Lions Clubs of Ariss, Brantford North, Bresleau, Fergus, Ingersoll, Innerkip, Sheffield, St Marys and Zurich, as well as the Zone Meeting for 51W to promote the YEP. Eight more clubs have been contacted/booked for the month of February.

OUTBOUND YOUTH - Three (3) clubs have submitted applications for Youth going abroad. Kitchener LC (Italy – confirmed), Milverton LC (Japan – confirmed) & Thamesford LC (Italy – pending)

Any club interested in sending a youth out needs to move on it right away. Contact Lion Marysa Rumble-Lauriault at ycout@a15lions.org or text at 1-519-861-1073 (please text or use e-mail).

INBOUND YOUTH - So far twelve (12) applications have been received: eight (8) have been accepted, (1) is pending & (2) did not qualify. Several countries have made contact, requesting to reserve spots at the camp with applications to be forwarded. Our Dist. A15 camp is expecting a complement of 20-24 youth.

HOST FAMILIES/CLUBS - Three (3) families have expressed interest in hosting a youth this year.

**MORE FAMILIES ARE NEEDED!!!!**

Go back to your clubs and set Youth Exchange Hosting up as a 'Club Project' – it's not difficult! Do not hesitate to contact either Lion Rudy or Lion Lorea for more information (pg. 28 in Dist. Directory)

Youth arrive June 27 & depart July 25, 2015 - Camp dates: July 11 - 21, 2015

Camp is held at the 5 Oaks United Church Camp – Summer Centre, Paris, Ontario

CAMP CLEAN UP - Date(s) is Friday, May 22 (late p.m./early evening - stay overnight available) and Saturday, May 23, any time/all day starting at 9:00 am.

On the 'needed list' are: Electricians, roofers, tree fallers, a mason, etc. Two members or more from each club would be ideal. There's something to do for everyone. Remember high school students need their 'community service hours'. If you can hold a rake and move it at the same time, you qualify!

MEALS - Clubs who supported the meal schedule last year (Thank You) will be contacted shortly, if not already approached. Lions Allison and Mark Henkell, Oxford LC, have taken on the task of organizing the meal schedule. Thank you to Lion Ted Bickell, Paris LC, who performed this task for the past three (3) years.

COUNSELLORS - Two (2) Counselors wanted. If a full camp complement is realized, a staff of six (6) will be required.

Tentatively, March 28 will be the date to conduct a walk around at the Five Oaks Camp to determine necessary work to be done. This is over and above what has already been identified and (2) On April 11/12, 2015, the MDA YEP Directors will be gathering at Five Oaks Camp for their Spring Meeting. Anyone interested in attending should contact Lion Rudy or Lorea well in advance of the dates. It is an overnight retreat.