



Lions Clubs International District A-15

News Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 2015

Lion Bob Pearson, Editor
bulletin@a15lions.org



District Governor's Message



Each year the District Governors for our association are installed at the International Convention. I had the good fortune to be installed in Honolulu Hawaii. The classes we attended were informative, the food was excellent and the weather was hot!

I learned that the challenges Lions face are the same around the world. I met many new people and somehow language never

seemed to be a barrier. There was respect shown to all and at one point as I was coming down an escalator and saw a large crowd below, representing many cultures and beliefs and yet laughing and communicating openly with one another, my thought was: wouldn't it be wonderful if somehow we could package up this spirit and send it to the areas of political unrest and show how to be better to one another.

It was indeed a privilege to become the District Governor for A15. The "ribbon-pulling ceremony" is the official moment at the convention when district governors are installed. I had the honour of having my ribbon pulled by PID Art Woods and my husband Paul had his pulled by Lion Carole. Our friends Lions Wayne and Linda Litt were in Honolulu to share the entire experience with us.

I look forward to being your governor this year. I have adopted as my theme Hope Through Service and I am asking each club to involve themselves in two projects centered on literacy.

Through education we will help others to live in dignity.

I wish all of you well for the coming Lions year.

Yours in Lionism,
DG Diane Smith

District A15 Officers

District Governor

Diane Smith (Lion Paul)

1079 Floradale Rd
Elmira, ON N3B 2Z3
(H) 519-669-1465
dmsmith.dvm@gmail.com
dg@a15lions.org

1st Vice District Governor

Wayne Litt (Lion Linda)

37 Falcon Dr
Elmira, ON N3B 3H8
h:(519) 669-5544
w:(519) 897-4350
vdg1@a15lions.org

2nd Vice District Governor

Charlene Teasdale (Lion Russ)

25 Belcourt Cr
Guelph, ON N1H 7A6
h:(519) 780-1112
w:(519) 824-9050
c:(519) 831-0582
vdg2@a15lions.org

District Secretary

Dennis Loughheed (Linda)

116 Andover Dr.
Breslau, ON N0B 1M0
St. Jacobs Lions Club
(H) 519-213-1397
cs@a15lions.org

Past District Governor

Tim DeBlock

RR 1, Bornholm, ON N0K 1A0
Monkton Lions Club
(H) 519-347-2526
(B) 519-301-2135
ipdg@a15lions.org



Be Proud - Serve With Pride

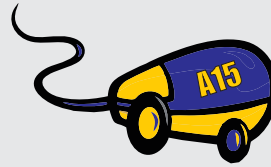
Finding New Lions: They may simply need to be asked to join

Roar Like A Lion!

**Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.**



The Mouse is Moving!



Lion Bob Rutter joined the Royal City Lions in Guelph in April of 2009, it didn't take long for his talents to be put to good use. He soon produced a quality club newsletter, so good in fact he was recognized by Lions International with a honourable mention for his publications. Quite an accomplishment, in the top three of 46,000 Lions Club internationally.



Lion Bob Rutter, Editor Emeritus

Bob assumed the editorial duties of the A15 Newsletter soon thereafter and has been producing quality issues since then.

Health issues have dictated that Lion Bob ease up on his work load and he is stepping aside from the position. It goes without saying the entire membership of the district appreciate his contribution. A big **LIONS ROAR** goes out to Lion Bob!

From the archives: October 2011 Bulletin for full story



Lion Bob Rutter, editor of The Roar, holds a Certificate of Honorable Mention in the Lions Clubs International News Bulletin Contest judged at the International Convention held in Seattle, Washington. Looking on are: District A15 Governor Norma Peterson, left, and International Director Dr. Gary Anderson, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who made the presentation at the St. Marys Lions International Breakfast.

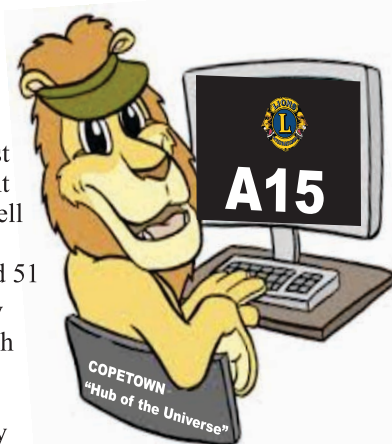
**Check out Bob's new Special Project:
"Gift of Life" more info to follow, see page 12**

New Reporter in Town!

The Copetown Lions are extremely pleased to be part of District A15, **finally**. Enough said!

I have been with the Copetown club since 1988 and have been in most positions within the club over the last 27 years, it seems I have a permanent hold on the secretaries position as well as the bulletin editor.

My wife Pat and I have been married 51 years, she is not a member but **is** my main support person.. We travel south for most of the winter, from early November, returning home for Christmas then back south until early April. Email and electronic file transfers make it relatively easy to keep up.



Over the years I have become fairly comfortable with computers, utilizing word processing, graphics and BASIC web page design. I am inheriting the position from Lion Bob Rutter of the Royal City Lions, it should be a fairly seamless transition, Bob utilizes the same computer program for some of his work and was kind enough to send me some start-up files which have made it easier for me.

Thanks Bob!

It is a learning experience, send your newsletter items and we will strive to keep up with the previous high standard. The position includes being the liaison for the Lions Magazine. Email for both publications is bulletin@a15.org

Bob Pearson

Lion Bob Pearson, Copetown Lions



A15 FOCUS

MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL

**Report prepared by
PDG Lion Larry Wainwright,
Committee Chair**

This committee was born out of the concerns of several Lions that under GMT there was no specific designation or program to investigate the reasons for Lions members leaving Lionism in our District.

A proposal for such a program was put together and presented to District Governor Lion Tim DeBlock. After deliberation and some changes the program was approved and in September a chairperson was put in place. The program was specifically designed for contact to be made by the chair with the Lion who had left his/her club and to confidentially fill out a questionnaire.

The information is strictly between the chairperson and the Lion with no name

or confidences being available to anyone else. The interviewee is given every opportunity to express any concerns or specific reasons why they left their Lions Club. An opportunity is presented by the chairperson to work out any difficulties so the Lion can return to his/her club, be transferred to another local or area club or if there is an interest in building a new Lions Club if there is an opportunity in the surrounding area. If the chairperson concludes there is a specific problem or problems with the club a report is to be made with no reference by name of the source of the information and given to the District Governor only for his/her information and followup if deemed necessary.

Prior to health issues of the chairperson there were some successes with 2 Lions accepting transfers to another club, 2 Lions returning to their club and 4 Lions willing to assist in the building of a new club.

With this program came some problems mainly the list of names of dropped Lions came all at once with only names and in some cases the club names. The program was changed to repair the deficiency and with the co-operation of club secretaries and if possible the membership chair, the information will be sent with the Lions name, club name, address and phone number.

Every Lion is invited to be a member and when this invitation is accepted the individual joins with a good reason and intentions. The reasons individuals end up leaving are numerous but mainly because of poor communication, personality conflicts, poor mentoring, closed thinking plus several others. This program gives those individuals the opportunity to express why this did not work for them and to tell someone what they did like and give them an opportunity to continue to serve and fulfill the reasons and good intentions they had when first they accepted the invitation to serve.

Make sure that for whatever reason a member leaves your club the District Membership Renewal Committee is given every opportunity for that exiting member to be heard and continue to serve as a Lion, for Lions if and where there is a better fit.



50 Year Milestone!

Rockton Lions Club celebrated its 50th anniversary June 16, 2015. Approx 150 present and past Lions attended along with widows of deceased members. They all enjoyed a wonderful dinner and evening where PID Art Woods was guest speaker. Amongst the guests were City of Hamilton Mayor, Fred Eisenberger, District A-15 Governor Tim DeBlock, First Vice District Governor Diane Smith, Second Vice District Governor Wayne Litt and Past District Governor Larry Wainwright.



The club was presented with 50 year plaque shown receiving the award are:
Harvey Wood, Committee Chair, Pat Evangelisto, Rockton Lion Chief,
from Tim DeBlock, District Governor A15 and PID Art Woods, from the
Elmira Lions, the guest speaker for the evening.



Photo courtesy of Lions Club of Kitchener

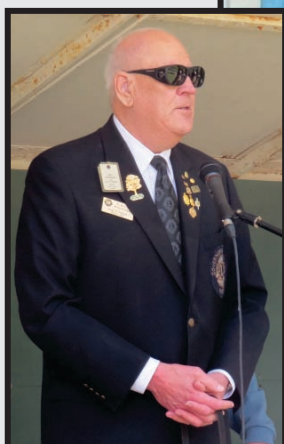


Strengthening The Pride in Fergus! On June 9th A15 2nd V.D.G. Charlene Teasdale inducted Lions Nick Mercuri and Jonathon DeBrabandere, they are shown here with their sponsors: Lion Kara Shaw and Lion Jan Marfaj.

Service Recognition Awards



The St Jacobs Lions honoured three of their members June 18th. From L to R: Lion Murray Aberle, 40 Years of Service, Lion George Ritter, 50 Years and Lion Bruce Schweitzer a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. submitted by Lion Carolyn Parks



BAYFIELD LIONS: Lion Tom Grasby, (right) received the Helen Keller Award from Lion Larry Simpson on June 28th for his dedication to club activities, including eyeglass collections. Also in June Lion Larry Wainright spoke at their Purina Walk for Dog Guides in June and helped raise over \$10,000..



Rockton Lions held their 10th Annual “All You Can Eat Perch Dinner” at the Beverly Community Centre June 6th. It was a record day with over 750 tickets sold. There was both a silent auction with strong support from local donors. A 50/50 draw was worth \$1,250.00 to the winner. Lynden Lions were on board to help. A portion of the proceeds will be directed to the Lions Dog Guide Program, they were on hand with a live display. Other community projects will benefit as well.



“Watch The Rick Mercer’s Report on the Lions Dog Guides”

Cut & paste link into your browser or Google “Rick Mercer Lions Dog Guides.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjVbYES3ygg>



CTC Dollars for Dorset

Lions Camp Dorset has a continuing need for Canadian Tire currency to repair and replace equipment used by dialysis patients
Contact Lion Bob Rutter, rrutter@hotmail.com

Dorset also collecting aluminium pop can tabs, contact Lion Bob



**A-15 Lions
Roar!
With Pride!**





DEDICATION OF THE DAN MOORE PAVILION AT BRESLAU DOG GUIDE BREEDING FACILITY JUNE 13TH 2015 *



*the following are excerpts from the remarks of PID Lion Art Woods at the dedication.

Every once in a while a District Governor comes along who has a special attachment to our Foundation that finds a specific need makes a fulfilment of that need for their year as Governor. One very special project was the construction of this Pavilion by the late Dan Moore D.G. in "A"15 in 2001-2002, from the Paris Lions Club.

Dan had talked to myself and Executive Director Sandy Turney, who approved the project and provided encouragement. So with the financial support of many Clubs in A-15 and the huge support of the Paris Lions, both financially and with volunteer labour, this pavilion came to be. But make no mistake about it, behind every great project there stands a Lion who made it happen and for this Pavilion that Lion is Dan Moore, It was his interest, his drive, his dedication to Lionism and to LFC that made this happen and we are forever grateful. This pavilion is used not only for this our Annual Service but for many other activities held by staff and others .

For his efforts Dr. T.S. Lee, Past International President, awarded Dan an international President's Medal. But today, we the Lions Family, wish to honour Dan by dedicating this pavilion in his memory.



"New Thrones"



On Saturday, July 11th, Lion Russ Dwyer of the Guelph Lions Club delivered 8 brand new toilets for the lower cabins and buildings at Five Oaks Camp which is utilized yearly for the District A15 Bruce Murray Lions International Youth Camp. The cost of the toilets were covered by a three way partnership of the Manufacturer Gerber International, the supplier EMCO Corporation of Guelph and the Guelph Lions Club. Lion Russ Dwyer had arranged for the purchase of the toilets along with all of the hardware & fittings required to install them, but he forgot one important thing....toilet seats.... So we thank EMCO Corporation of Guelph for donating the toilet seats for the new toilets! A great group effort and a project the Guelph Lions Club was happy to help with. In the photo is Lion Russ Dwyer presenting the new toilets to the A15 Youth Camp Co-Ordinator Rudy Boogerman, as well as these 2 Lions "sitting on the throne(s)".



THAMESFORD LIONS – INAUGURAL RECYCLE DAY 2015

The Thamesford Lions initiated a scrap metal, vehicle batteries and end-of-use electronics recycling day in April. There was a steady flow of drop offs from 8am to closing. 13,000 lbs of electronics and 18,715 lbs of metal & batteries were diverted from the Oxford county landfill. The Electronics were packed and shipped under the Ontario Electronic Stewardship Program by our business partner, Green Valley Recycling, London. As a bonus, \$3895.00 was generated for local community projects. This will become an annual spring project for the club.



St. George Lions



Lions Gerry Glaves and Kevin Hewitson.

With the help of the St. George Lions, the St. George Firefighters hosted a Canada Day Community Breakfast. The Lions cooked pancakes and sausage and the Firefighters did the serving. Donations were taken and will go towards helping to pay for next year's "Fire and Thunder", which is always an awesome display of fireworks. Over one thousand people, in various types of Canada Day apparel, were served.

St. George Lions are spearheading a fundraising for a splash pad. The new water attraction is planned for the summer of 2016 and will be in Sunny Hill Park, beside the playground and pavilion previously established by the Lions. On June 13th, the club hosted a Community Appreciation Day to dedicate the new pavilion and to announce the fundraising campaign. There were free hamburgers and fries, bouncy castles, classic cars, face painting, music and games. The event was well attended and donations for the splash pad have started.



Mayor Ron Eddy cuts the ribbon to officially open the new picnic pavilion. (l-r) Lion Merle Ammerman, Lion Chief Jeff Sullivan, Councillor John Wheat, Mayor Ron Eddy, Lion Tony Davidson, Lion Wray Smith. On the same day a cheque for \$6000.00 was given to the Lions Dog Guide program.



BRUCE MURRAY INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP "The Pride of District A15"



**Photos and text excerpts from St., George Lions, St. Jacobs Lions and
A 15 Youth Camp Coordinators Lions Lorea & Rudy Boogerman, Innerkip Lions.**

The 40th annual Bruce Murray International youth Camp was held again this summer at Five Oaks Camp Near Paris Ontario. Nineteen guests, ages 16 - 19, from Europe - including France, Germany, Austria, The Netherlands, Belgium, Finland, along with two Canadian youths and four volunteer Lions staff. While at camp, they had the opportunity to learn more about Canada and Southern Ontario with day trips including Niagara Falls, Toronto (CN Tower, a Blue Jays game), Canada's Wonderland and a visit to the St. Jacobs area as well as a trip to the Lions Dog Guide Foundation in Oakville.

St. Jacobs Lions Club prepared a brunch for the youth as they spent a day at camp preparing for International Night which is a much anticipated event where the participating youth put on a bit of a talent show including some skits and other performances highlighting their home countries. Each youth has an opportunity to tell the guests about their countries. St. George Lions hosted the International Night dinner on July 19th at the South Dumphries Arena in St. George.



**INTERNATIONAL
NIGHT
DINNER**

Photos from International Night Dinner



Special thanks to Lion Sue Martin, St. George Lions, Lion Carolyn Parks and Karen Cronin, St. Jacobs Lions for their submissions of the photos and event reporting. The appreciation is also extended to Lions Lorea and Rudy Boogerman from for their help in organizing the article.

The success of our 2015 Youth Camp was due to the support of many Lions in District A15. These include 13 clubs that sent 38 volunteers on Camp Clean-Up Days, 26 clubs providing financial support, 12 host families, and 30 Lions/Lioness Clubs supplying meals during camp.

As we begin planning for our 2016 Youth Camp, top of the priority list is the need for Host Families. For more information, please contact Lion Rudy or Lion Lorea, Youth Exchange Program Co-Chairs/Camp Directors.

WOOLWICH COMMUNITY LIONS 2 GREAT EVENTS

Woolwich Community Lions Present...



DRIVE ONE 4 UR COMMUNITY

In Conjunction with
Parkway Ford Lincoln



Enjoy Lunch at
the BBQ!

Fun for the
whole family!

Saturday, September 12, 2015
9:00am to 4:00pm

Come out to the Foodland parking lot anytime between 9:00am and 4:00pm to test drive a new Ford vehicle and earn \$20 for the Woolwich Community Lions Club. For every person to come out and test drive a vehicle, Ford will donate \$20, up to a maximum of \$6,000.
*One Test Drive per household.

**Live Music
Entertainment**

All proceeds go to the
Elmira District Community Living Van Project.

Also be sure to check out:
Classic Car Show & Shine
10am to 3pm
Foodland Parking Lot




Woolwich Community Lions Present...



Classic Car Show & Shine




**Saturday, September 12
2015**
10am to 3pm

With...
Live Entertainment

Location: Foodland Parking Lot, Elmira, ON
(Corner of Arthur St. & South Field Dr.)
\$5 Entry Fee / Dashboard plaque for the first 30 cars
Pre-registration, call Sandy 519-638-2523

Also be sure to check out:
Drive One 4UR Community.
Test Drive any Ford Vehicle, between 9am and 4pm.
Ford will donate \$20 for every test drive
to the Woolwich Community Lions Club.



Proceeds from the event go to support the Elmira District Community Living Van Project.

GIFT OF LIFE



This is literally a program that saves lives. It is an organ donor program managed and coordinated through the Trillium Gift of Life network. This year it is a program that has been adopted by our MDA. We are fortunate to have Lion Bob Rutter from Guelph Royal City Lions Club acting as our District A15 coordinator. Please contact him at rrutter@hotmail.com. or giftlife@a15lions.org if you have questions. You may register at beadonor.ca

See next page for more info.

Special Olympics

MDA is also championing the Special Olympics for mentally challenged athletes. The chairperson for this program will be our MDA representative, Lion Bob Tanner. He may be contacted at specolymp@a15lions.org

More info to follow.....



GIFT OF LIFE



District A15 has joined with MDA and the Trillium Gift of Life Network to provide awareness and to encourage residents in the communities we serve to consider registering to be organ donors. The Trillium Network tracks donation registrations by postal code and reports southern Ontario has a low response rate; the GTA, for example, has a registration rate of only 17 %. Compared with Northern Ontario where some small communities have registrations of 50 % or more. There is no question that organ transplants save lives., on donor can save as many as eight people from the prospect of early death, a lifetime of blindness or kidney dialysis.

Ontario has a great need for organ donations. As of July 1st, 1,603 residents, friends, neighbors and family, were listed as requiring a transplant. Of the number, more than 1,100 of these need a kidney. One patient on the wait list in Ontario dies every three days.

Traditionally, organs have been donated by deceased persons, most often young people killed in traffic accidents. But in the past half century, improvements in automobile safety have changed the demographic. The supply of vital life-saving organs has dropped, because of a welcome decrease in fatal accidents. To offset this, the program has turned to live-donations which account today for nearly 40% of all transplants for organs where the loss of one organ does not impair the body's ability to function; and the use of what is termed, "marginal" organs. These are organs that in the normal course of treatment might otherwise have been discarded as not suitable because of age or minor medical concerns. They are still functional and provide an improvement for older patients that can be life-changing.

All clubs in A-15 are urged to support the recent approval by Cabinet to appoint the writer co-ordinator for the Gift of Life program and to create a web page to monitor the efforts by all Lions in the District and to encourage the clubs to appoint chairs from within.

All Lions are asked to consider embracing support of MDA and District A-15 Cabinet to join in the Gift of Life awareness program; to work with their friends, neighbors, family and supporters to get the word out about the need for organ donations. Clubs can consider holding an awareness event or combining the organ awareness program with an existing event. Whatever materials are required to hold these events can be provided.

Please inform me of the appointment of local club chairs so I can ensure Trillium and MDA provide the necessary support needed. Requests for materials or to inform me of events you wish to hold, please contact me at: giftlife@a15lions.org. The next person you make aware of the organ donation need, may just be the one person who provides a life-changing organ to a person within your community.

Lion Bob Rutter, Co- Chair,
Gift of Life Committee

A15

@ Canadian
Diabetes
Association

DIABETES AWARENESS

Lion Rick Bell
from the Sweaburg
club is the chair for this
committee. His contact
info is: diab@a15lions.org
(519) 342-8815

Lion Ralph Gordon from
Ingersoll looks after the
annual ride, dates and
locations are not set yet.
Contact Ralph at:
linda_gordon@hotmail.com
519-485-3638

Ralph's Annual Ride In Support of Diabetes Research



Once more the Ingersoll Lions are asking all the Clubs in A15 to consider Ralph, and his ride for Diabetes, when it's time to make your donation to the Canadian Diabetes Association. While your support for Ralph in previous years has been generous, we ask that you find it in your hearts to dig even deeper this year. In a year when our new International President, Dr. Yamada, has asked Lions for a greater emphasis on humanitarian service, what better way to answer that call than through helping one of our own in his battle to help defeat this terrible disease.

Little Known Facts About Diabetes:-

- ♦ Diabetes now effects one in every four Canadians.
- ♦ 13 million Canadians will be living with diabetes or prediabetes in 2025.
- ♦ 1 million Canadians have type 2 diabetes...and don't know it.
- ♦ 30% of strokes, and 40% of heart attacks are caused by diabetes.
- ♦ 50% of kidney failures requiring dialysis are caused by diabetes.
- ♦ 1 Canadian is diagnosed with diabetes every 3 minutes.

Your donation can make a difference.

District A-15 Bulletin Deadlines

District A-15 News Bulletins will be published
each month of the 2014-2015 year ending in June.

Submissions should be made prior to the 15th of
the month preceding publication. The Bulletin
will be published on or about the 1st of the next
month. Send to: bulletin@a15lions.org.

Submissions CAN be made in
PDF, Word and Word Perfect
formats for text, for best results

