

From the Lion's Den

Vol. 17, December, 2009
Lion Terry Bliss, editor

The President's Corner

Another month has come and gone it seems like the year just flies by. We had a eventful November with the spaghetti dinner on election day, it was another success. We also presented Lion Sonny Mowers with a career Lion award. It was nice to be able to surprise Sonny with this with his family in attendance. I would just like to repeat what was said that night on how much Sonny has done for this club in all the years of him being in the club, especially with the conventions. Congratulations again to Sonny.

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and we are now on to the Christmas holiday. We are sponsoring a couple of events for the holiday. We are again having the home decorating contest, we will be going to homes in town and judging who has the best decorations. I would like to thank Lion Ray for doing this again with Lion Dan's help. Lion Becky is sponsoring a door decoration contest for the town and the proceeds from this will go towards new decorations for the town. So I hope everyone will enter or let your neighbors know so they can enter these contests.

We will be having a business meeting on the 3rd and also having a program, with Sarah Collier talking to us about financial investing and retirement investments. Also don't forget to mark your calendars for the annual Christmas party on Dec. 19th at the fire hall, more details will be at the Dec 3rd meeting. We also will be doing the lighting of the Christmas tree on Dec. 9th. With that said I would like to wish all Lions and their families a happy and safe holiday.

Lion President Steve

Dates to remember:

- Dec 3 – Regular Mtg – program on Retirement and Investments by Sarah Gaylord Collier .
- Dec. 9 - Christmas Tree lighting at the town park followed by refreshments at the Town Hall – 7 PM
- Dec. 17 – **No meeting**
- Dec. 18 – Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Save-a-lot in Albion (see schedule below)
- Dec 19 – Annual Lions Christmas Party at Firehall – 6:00 PM – bring a dish to pass
- Jan 7 – Regular Mtg. – program is DG Marv Hankinson Jr.
- Jan 20 – Visitation to Brockport Lions Club – 6:30 PM at Vets club on West Ave. in Brockport
- Feb. 6 – Annual Chicken BBQ to benefit Olivia Faith Johnston (Larry Rowles' granddaughter)

District 20E-1 Fall Conference – Saturday, Nov. 7th

Our annual Fall conference was held at the Batavia Holiday Inn on Sat., Nov. 7th and was attended by 82 Lions throughout the district. The Kendall Lions were represented by Pres. Steve Cliff, ZC Randy and Helen Unterborn, and Sec. Terry and Cookie Bliss. The keynote speaker was International Director Debra Wasserman from Minnesota. Testimonials were provided by those who had been helped by Lions. Among them was a 19 year old boy with a sight disorder who had benefitted from spending several summers at Camp Badger, courtesy of the Medina Lions. A neurology service was conducted, and deceased Lions Bill Maher, Scott Hardenbrook, and Bob Wilson were honored. Lion Randy Unterborn was presented with a Robert J. Uplinger award by Lion Terry Bliss for outstanding service to our district.

Following the Fall Conference, the Albion Lions 85th Anniversary Celebration took place at Hickory Ridge . Lions Ev and Shirley, Bob and Debbie, Randy and Helen, and Terry and Cookie were in attendance.

Annual Election Day Spaghetti Dinner - Tuesday, Nov. 3rd

The Annual Election Day Spaghetti Dinner was once again a successful event. 283 dinners were served. Lion Frank Downey and his committee would like to thank all Lions who helped and brought desserts.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing – Friday, Dec. 18th - Save-a-Lot in Albion

- 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM - Cliff Provost
- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM - Jim Carroll
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM - Craig Lape
- 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM - Bob Furness
- 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Phil D.
- 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Chuck Rapp
- 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Paul Gray
- 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Jack Linehan
- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM - Todd Young & Eileen Young
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM - Terry Bliss & John Wing

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Anyone interested in working on our 35th Anniversary Committee should contact Lions Randy and Helen Unterborn.

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Lions Clubs International Recognized at 20th World Diabetes Congress

OAK BROOK, IL, November 4, 2009 – Lions Clubs International recently earned honorable recognition for its outstanding service in diabetes from the International Diabetes Federation. At the 20th World Diabetes Congress, October 19-22, in Montreal, Canada, Professor Martin Silink, 2006-2009 president of the International Diabetes Federation, presented the award to Lions Clubs International during the General Council assembly of its more than 200 member associations representing more than 160 countries. The award recognizes Lions Clubs International formally as one of the prominent global leaders in humanitarian and community services, and for its consideration for diabetes as a growing global concern.

The diabetes epidemic will affect close to 440 million by 2030 if the current trend is not addressed. On behalf of Lions Clubs International, President Eberhard Wirfs states that the association “will continue to encourage its membership to become increasingly involved with diabetes-related projects and activities in response to this growing epidemic.”

The International Diabetes Federation is a not-for-profit organization that advocates for the more than 285 million people with diabetes, their families and their healthcare providers. Its mission is to promote worldwide diabetes care, prevention and a cure.

Lions around the world will join together to celebrate Diabetes Awareness Month in November and World Diabetes Day on November 14, a campaign led by the International Diabetes Federation and its member associations. World Diabetes Day was created in 1991 by the IDF and WHO in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat that diabetes now poses.

Lions Dedicate Chinese Village Rebuilt After Earthquake with LCIF Support

Oak Brook, Illinois, USA, November 12, 2009 – Lions formally dedicated Peng Hua Lions Village in Sichuan Province, China. A total of 80 homes were handed over to families during a ceremony attended by LCIF Chairperson Al Brandel and his wife Dr. Maureen Murphy, Second Vice President Dr. Wing-Kun Tam, nearly 50 Lions clubs members from throughout China and Hong Kong & Macau, and the local vice mayor, other local dignitaries. The dedication marks 1.5 years since the earthquake and is part of a two-phase project to construct more than 150 homes.

“This is a good day for the local people and fellow Lions. I can see with my own eyes the changes that have been made here by Lions,” said Vice President Tam, who led the organizing committee for reconstruction projects.

The village was completely destroyed during the devastating May 12, 2008 earthquake in central China. Lions responded immediately, setting up tents for residents of this village and other hard-hit areas, establishing make-shift schools and providing other needed relief items such as blankets, food and medicine. Through generous contributions from Lions around the world, Lions Clubs International Foundation provided more than US\$3 million for long-term reconstruction projects, such the Peng Hua Lions Village.

Many Lions have visited the village over the last 1.5 years, helping with reconstruction, driving supplies, overseeing the building process and ensuring funds were well-spent. Some Lions made the difficult trip over rough roads more than 10 times. A plaque above the door of each home recognizes Lions and includes the Lions logo and reads: “Hand in hand, heart in heart, to rebuild our home.”

I am enjoying my new life in my new home,” said Nang Chong Chen. Her family of three received a new Lions’ house. They lost everything in the earthquake and lived in tents provided by Lions until the government set-up temporary prefabricated homes.

The village is well-known throughout China for its artwork on the sides of all buildings, drawing thousands of tourists annually. By helping rebuild the village, Lions also helped re-establish the local economy by enabling the return of visitors. One of the rebuilt buildings houses a village gift shop of local handiwork.

LCIF Chairperson Al Brandel and LCIF staff, along with local Lions, first visited the affected areas in July 2008 to assess the needs and discuss long-term reconstruction efforts. Most other reconstruction projects in the area are also completed. Lions rebuilt three primary schools in Gansu Province. The schools were completed in July 2009 in time for the 2009-2010 school year. Lions rebuilt another village, Shinzi Village, near Yangjin, purchasing the land, relocating graves, building a road, and constructing a school, hospital and homes.

CONGRATULATIONS ! CONGRATULATIONS ! CONGRATULATIONS !

Lion **Sonny Mowers** on being the recipient of the Career Lion Award .

Lion **Randy Unterborn** on being the recipient of the Robert J. Uplinger Award.

FUNNIES !

What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month ?

The letter "D" !

What do you call a letter sent up the chimney on Christmas Eve ?

Black mail !

What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas ?

Thanks, I'll never part with it !

How do snowmen travel around ?

By iceicle !

What do snowmen wear on their heads ?

Ice caps !

What do you get if cross a snowman and a shark ?

Frost bite !

What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees?

Horn-aments

What do you give a reindeer with an upset stomach ?

Elk-a-seltzer !

Did Rudolph go to a regular school ?

No, he was Elf-taught !

What bird has wings but cannot fly ?

Roast turkey !

Whats happens if you eat the Christmas decorations ?

You get tinsel-itus !

Whats the best thing to put into a Christmas cake ?

Your teeth !

Merry Christmas to All !

