

DISTRICT A-1 NEWS

FROM THE DISTRICT THAT MADE LIONS INTERNATIONAL

September 2014

District Governor's Message

As I reflect back on the past two months and into the rest of my term I feel very confident in the future of District A1. We ended our fiscal year at 1252 members a net growth of 45 members over the previous year, an extraordinary achievement by an extraordinary group of Lions. We followed our dream and just asked people from all walks of life to become Lions and they did. Now we cannot let up, we need to "Ask One" and "Strengthen the Pride" to 1300 members by June 30th 2015.

As I look over my Cabinet and Committee Chairs I see an amazing group of people who will train, promote, educate, motivate and inspire the Lion in all of us. I am amazed at their dedication to completing the task at hand and devotion to their committees or cabinet position. These are truly an extraordinary bunch of individuals. I invite all Lions to take the time and sit down and talk one on one with any of these people as I did this past summer and you will come away impressed, very impressed. I have a motto that I try to live by each day and you will see me using it in virtually everything I do as your Governor. It is simple and straight forward and is written by a man who devoted his life to how we have evolved. The writing goes like this;

It was not the strongest of the species that survived, nor was it the most intelligent that survived. IT WAS THE ONES MOST ADAPTABLE TO CHANGE. Charles Darwin



District Governor John Johnston addresses first Cabinet Meeting—Wyoming —August 24th

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2014-2015

President's Theme

Strengthen the Pride



through Service.

Service is the foundation of our association, so let's continue to build on it as we approach our Centennial.

[Centennial Service Challenge](#) – Take part in our international service challenge to celebrate 100 years of Lions service!

[Serve Children in Need](#) – Find out how your club can support and empower children in need.

District Governor's message —Continued.

I see within our Clubs, Zones, Regions, and District a reluctance of members to volunteer for positions within their own clubs, zones and district. They feel that with their current workload at home and their volunteering through Lions that they will not be able to do their Lions job effectively. Well I believe we have a plan that will help but it will only work if you are "Adaptable to Change"

Currently we have a web site that was developed by Lion Curtis Marwood and he has done an excellent job keeping it going. However, web based technology has changed and the programme used is no longer effective and no longer available. So we have created new committee which I fondly call the I.T. Committee. It is comprised of Lion Douglas McKessock, Lion Dave Proudfoot, Lion Barb Tuxford and Lion Don Geddy and they have been asked to develop a new web site for our district. This web site will make your reporting as the club Secretary easier to do with a one stop report process. The web site will have your own club events calendar where your club can post your event in your own calendar and it will automatically post it on the district calendar. It will have a district Face book account where you will be able to link it to other district Face book accounts. And that is just the start.

To ensure that the web site is effective to the most people possible we (myself, Mike Tuxford, Eric Dolansky, Douglas McKessock, Dave Proudfoot, Don Geddy and Barb Tuxford) will be attending the first Zone Advisory Meeting in each zone to talk to you about what we are doing and get ideas from you on how to make the web site work better for you. Come and talk to us at a Zone advisory meeting near you. I anticipate that when the site is up and running we will be providing training on its use either at the club level and/or at the district level.

Another upgrade to our district system will be the addition of a District Directory in an Excel format. It is being written by a friend of mine Dave Plumb at no charge to the district. The programming of it should be done in another two weeks. Until full completion we will be posting the directory in parts on the old web site until the document is complete. Gone will be as in the olden days the taking of an old Directory and literally cutting and pasting or scratching out and writing in the names of everyone in their new positions and then creating a new word document and typing all of the names and addresses onto new blank sheets and rebuilding a new directory. A great job if you are retired and have a month to spare! With this new programme and the database that will be created you should be able to create the same document in less than a day.

2014-2015

President's Theme

Strengthen the Pride by Strengthening Your Club.

Make sure your club is on track for success and growing to meet the needs of your community.

[Ask One](#) – Looking for new members? Get the tools you need to energize your membership efforts and spread the word in your community.

[Club Excellence Process](#) (CEP) – Get your club performing at its highest level through an interactive CEP workshop. Now available in two versions – CEP Pro and CEP Lite.

[Club Blueprint](#) – Map out your plan for ongoing club success in three simple steps.

District Governor's message —Continued.

2014-2015

President's Theme

Strengthen the Pride through Creativity.

Use technology to enhance your communications and create new connections with your community

[Online Tools](#) – Find new tools to increase your online presence and club efficiency.

[Social Media](#) – Use the power of social media to promote your club and connect with new members.

We will continue to look for ways to reduce the labour required to handle the tasks of a President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Chair at the club level and Zone, Region and District Chairs at the district level. After all time is valuable and a volunteers time is extremely valuable. My hope is that we reduce the time needed to do our work and leave everyone with enough time to think about becoming a Zone Chair, Region Chair or perhaps the next District Governor.

Finally, I have decided to take the advice of Lions International and not make regular club visits. However, that does not mean that if you have any reason to need me or my team's assistance just contact me and I will make the arrangements to be there weather or previous engagements permitting.

My next report will be available in early November at which time I will report to you as to how we are progressing on our current projects and to highlight some of new initiatives we will be taking in respect to the international presidents theme of "Strengthen the Pride".

Until then, ROAR LIONS.

Lion John Johnston



First Cabinet Meeting Wyoming August 24th

- District Directories will be available online only (at District website, which is being revamped)
- The District Governor will not be making "Official Visits"
- Hosts needed for 2015 Youth Exchange
- Clubs requested to run one fund-raiser for CNIB (Tag Day is a possibility).
- Glencoe celebrating 40th October 18th
- Delaware has Ask 1 a number of times over the summer with 5 new members. A big LIONS ROAR to Delaware
- "Literacy Chair" Joyce Mahovlich is hoping more Clubs will donate books via local Food Bank. Books available from Scholastics Canada at 50% off.



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DISTRICT A-1 CABINET

Next Meeting Chatham Sunday November 16th

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