



District A-1 "LIONS LINES"

December 2008



LIONS LINES

is Published by District A-1

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Governor's Greeting

Hello Lions Family!

Margaret and I would like to wish all our Lions family a very Merry Christmas! Wishing people a Merry Christmas is not seen by some as "politically correct" these days. However, we like to send this greeting, not to impose our beliefs upon you, but because it is for us the most genuine way to express to you all the joy, peace and happiness we wish for you and your families at this time of year.

You should know that we also send this same "Merry Christmas" greeting to our Jewish and Muslim friends and it is received with the love that sends it. The Lions family embraces Lions who come from many diverse backgrounds. We treasure each one. Our greatest delights have been to receive Hanukkah or "Happy Holiday" cards from those who do not espouse our Christian faith. They do share our love and friendship.

To all our Lions Family...it is our time of year,
a time to give.. a time to serve..
A big hug to you all

Peace On Earth
DG Don



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Lions Web Sites

- Lions International
www.lionsclubs.org
- A-1 Lions
www.a1lions.tripod.com
- MD 'A'
www.mdalions.org
- Leader Dogs
www.leaderdog.org
- Lions Foundation of Canada
www.dogguides.com
- CNIB Lake Joseph
www.cnib.ca/lakejo

Second Zone Advisory Meetings

ZONE 1	LOCATION	DATE
West	Harrow-Colchester	22-Jan-09
Central	Kingsville	06-Jan-09
East	Stoney Point	03-Feb-09
ZONE 2		
South	Rodney	13-Jan-09
North	London Central	26-Feb-09
East	Thorndale	04-Feb-09
ZONE 24		
South	Poplar Hill	20-Jan-09
North	Lucan	19-Jan-09
West	Petrolia	05-Jan-09

District Events



8 Core Values that Identify Lions

A message from International President Al Brandel

Dear Lion,

You won't find a more dedicated Lion than my wife, Maureen, but when we began dating it was another story. I told her I was "a little involved with Lions." She responded, "What's a Lion?"

That shows you our challenge in getting our name out and attracting new members. People are bombarded with so much information and advertisement and so many appeals for help and volunteerism that it's easy for Lions Clubs to get lost in the clutter. That's why we need to present a clear image of who we are. We need to speak with one voice. So we've "rebranded" Lions. We've taken a long look at who we are. After conferring with many Lions worldwide, we've identified eight key characteristics of Lions.

- We are global.
- We serve where we live.
- We give 100 percent.
- We do it ourselves.
- We are rich in heritage and pride.
- We are in good company.
- We're open.
- We are dedicated to sight – and more

You will help your club grow and become more diverse by communicating these key characteristics.

Al Brandel

The Story Of The Governor's Pin

Hello Lions! I probably knew the design of my District A-1 Governor's Pin long before I knew I was going to be a Governor. As long as I can remember, I have been fascinated by rocks... their form, texture,

colouring, and of course... their endurance... I know, there are many readers out there who are going to say "I knew his head was full of rocks!"J

Several years ago, as Margaret and I traveled the north shore of Lake Superior, we noticed small stone monuments had been erected along the highway. Most were built to resemble human forms. I soon discovered that these were called "Inuksuk" (pronounced Inukshuk) (1). Such monuments have been built by Inuit for centuries. They serve primarily as navigational guides, but also as spiritual guides or historical markers.

So it was no wonder that I could not get the idea of an Inuksuk symbol out of my head. The role of a District Governor is not unlike that of an Inuksuk. A District Governor acts primarily as a guide too. With the support of many fine Lions, it is an incredibly fun job! Unfortunately, unlike Inuit custom where Inuksuks are not to be torn down, a Lions District Governor serves for only one year. What a shame.

The colour of the Inuksuk on the Governor's Pin is "amethyst". It is a blend of the Lions' purple and gold colours. The Inuksuk stands with outstretched arms to symbolize the Governor's motto "Reach Out". More on this motto in our next bulletin.

The Inuksuk on the Governor's pin is modeled after the one shown in the photo. The first reader to inform Governor Don where the original Inukshuk is located will receive a Governor's Pin. The Governor's Inuksuk has no name.. that will be decided in a contest at the A-1 Convention in April 2009

DG Don

(1) the human form of the Inuit's stone monuments is should really be called an "inunnguaq", but "Inuksuk" has become is the popular anglicized name.



A-1 Peace Poster Contest

Congratulations to Megan Kuhn, a 13 year-old Grade 8 Student at School Faith Christian Academy in St. Thomas. She is the winner of the District A-1 Peace Poster Contest with the entry "Now is the time for peace"

Schools in St. Thomas and Parkhill participated. The entry shown here is "All People Should Get Along", submitted by 12-year old Josie Toonen. Josie is a Grade 7 student at Sacred Heart in Parkhill.

Congratulations to all who participated! Our children have much to teach us if we listen. The winner from MDA will be selected next month. Good luck Megan!



District Events

**“No Child Without”
MedicAlert bracelets**

Lions Clubs in Canada and the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation are working to protect elementary school-aged children from unforeseen medical emergencies through the ‘No Child Without’ program.

Through this partnership, children aged four to 14 with pre-existing medical conditions or allergies will receive a free MedicAlert bracelet and membership, ensuring that first responders will have access to the students’ vital health information during a medical emergency.

Sarnia Township Lions and Glencoe Lions announced their support for “No Child Without”. “With our support, children will have access to this important and potentially life-saving program,” says Sarnia Township Lions Club President Koert Nieuwenhuis and Glencoe Lions President Douglas Reycraft. “The Lions Clubs of Canada are proud to be able to play a role in expanding the No Child Without program.”

Lions Clubs across Canada are working to provide funding and community-based support in order to expand and implement “No Child

Without” in their local schools.

In the event of a medical emergency, parents are immediately notified by MedicAlert when the Emergency Hotline receives a call about their child. Many parents of children who wear MedicAlert bracelets have

**The Sarnia Township Lions Club
have directly funded students
from the Confederation Central
Elementary School.**



Involved in the Sarnia Township Lions Club MedicAlert program for Confederation school are from left to right Lions Club President Koert Nieuwenhuis, soon to be recipients of MedicAlert bracelets Jimmie Toyne and Brody Lapointe and Lion Al Taylor, Chair, Boys & Girls Committee. Picture taken by Lion Joyce Doucet, Bingo Chair.

found it reassuring to know that they will be informed if their child has a medical emergency and that proper care was provided quickly.

The Glencoe Lions and donor Van Heck Funeral Home have directly funded students from Ekcoe Central School and St. Charles School.



Involved in the Glencoe Lions MedicAlert program for Ekcoe and St. Charles schools are l. to r. Lions Club President Doug Reycraft, Ekcoe principal Sue Bandeen, Lions District A-1 NCW Chair Lion Bruce Edwards, St. Charles principal Joanne Hogan-bakai and Alex Van Heck. TFP photo by Marie Williams-Gagnon

COMING DISTRICT EVENTS

<p>Ilderton Curling Bonspiel—31-Jan 2009</p>	<p>519-666-2823 mcdonaldrm@gmail.com http://a1lions.tripod.com/Ilderton_Bonspiel.pdf</p>
<p>Eyes Right Annual Meeting & District Cabinet —Strathroy—25-Jan-09</p>	
<p>Chatham Breakfast—01-Mar-09</p>	<p>519-352-8732 seppok@vianet.on.ca http://a1lions.tripod.com/Breakfast_flyer_2009.pdf</p>
<p>Chatham Lions 60th Anniversary—Chatham 02-May-09</p>	<p>Watch for coming details soon.</p>

A-1 Heroes

Lambeth Melvin Jones Awards

Lambeth Lions Club recently honoured two long serving Lions. In the picture below are Lions Cliff Faulkner (right) and Adriaan Van Dongen (left) receiving their “Melvin Jones Fellow Awards”.



Newsletter Distribution

To ensure that every Lion in District A-1 has access to the Governor’s Newsletter, Clubs are asked to print copies of the Newsletter on the web site for those who still need hard-copy Newsletters.

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Zone 24W Working together for results!

Lions from Zone 24 West in District A-1 recently donated over \$7300 to Canadian Diabetes Research.

The 10 lucky winners were from all over SW Ontario. Lions Eugene Graham (Petrolia), Don Godfrey (Sarnia), Doug Dew (Petrolia) and Al Taylor (Sarnia Township) look on as Project Chair Lion Manfred Altmann presents a cheque to Sharon Cathcart at the Canadian Diabetes office in Sarnia.



Lucan Lions Family

Talk about a Lions Family! Lucan Lions Club can boast of four generations of Lions. DG Lion Don McKessock is pictured with Lion John Young (left) and grand-dad Jim Young.



London Central Lions pledge \$50,000 to St. Joseph’s Healthcare Foundation

London Central Lions Club was recognized for their \$50,000 pledge at the Annual Meeting of St. Joseph’s Healthcare Foundation on June 19, 2008.

Pictured above are Lion Brian Nicholds, Club President Jim Balicsak, Lion Ed Busko, Lion Sandy Leadlay, Dr. Tom Sheidow and Lion Stu Rayner. Dr. Sheidow is a specialist in treatment of macular degeneration and made a presentation at the meeting.



Lion Heroes

Send photos and a brief description of your “heroes” to the editor at curtis.marwood@gmail.com

Please attach photos as separate JPG files.

A-1 Web Site

Go to the web site (www.a1lions.tripod.com) for more photos, resources and useful Lions links.

