



DISTRICT A1 GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

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2013 - 2014

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Usher in a New Era of Lions
- Oct. Action Campaign
- From the Governor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Share the Experience **2**
- Coming Events **2**
- October Is! **3**
- Leaderdog **3**
- Flyer **4**

Usher in A New Era for Lions

It's easy to be awed by athletes and entertainers, but the most impressive people I know are the women who have been part of my life. My dear mum, now 97, was loving and caring and a great role model as well, volunteering at church and school and for Scouts. As a Realtor, I hired and counted on middle-aged women. I quickly learned they were particularly determined to grow their skills and be success-

ful. As a Lion, I've been amazed by the generosity and gifts of women. As just one example, Australian



Lion Pauline Henebery has run the remarkable Education Builds Bridges, enabling

Lions to help disadvantaged children in Indonesia.

Perhaps the greatest move ever made by Lions Clubs International was to admit women. Probably the second-best initiative would be to swell our ranks with them. We're laggards in this regard. Fifty-two percent of the world population is female, yet only 24.5 percent of Lions are women. My dream is to increase female membership by 5.5 percent this Lions year to bring us up to 30 percent and then to achieve a 50/50 ratio by our

"Sharing the Vision" Global Service Action Campaign

Somewhere in the world, a person goes blind every five seconds, and your efforts can help to stop this trend. Each October, Lions have an opportunity to show the strength and impact of our global network through participation in a special service action campaign,

"Sharing the Vision."

Take Action

During October, we invite you and your club to join Lions around the world to lead the fight against blindness. Help us raise awareness of the importance of healthy connection with

World Sight Day, recognized each October. Or, organize projects throughout the month that mobilize your club members to make a difference in your community ... by helping those who live with blindness and visual impairment.

SHARE the EXPERIENCE



PDG Bill Sasse pulling Governor Bob's "Elect" ribbon in Hamburg

As I toured the District for the last 4 years I have seen many incredible things being done by Lions. As Lions we need to learn how to share with each other, share with other clubs and share with our communities. These ideas and practices that I have seen can make all Lions in district A1 better and our communities, clubs and members more informed. Currently about 1/3rd of the clubs send Activity reports and Membership reports to

International and the District Officers. Only 6 clubs have been sharing their newsletters. I am hoping that this will improve now that we are past the summer hiatus.

Our district web site is going to be rebuilt this year so that it shows what are clubs are doing front and center, and information about our district will be found in tabs on a side bar. <http://allions.tripod.com/>

Did you know our district has a Facebook Page [@www.facebook.com/DistrictA1LionsClubs](http://www.facebook.com/DistrictA1LionsClubs)

I encourage all members and clubs to tell their great stories! Please forward any ideas you have to any of our sites, myself or any District Officer so that we can share them too!

District Governor

Bob Tanner

Coming Events (check A1 web site for complete details)

Oct 19/2013- Lambeth Lions Memory Box Fundraiser

Oct 19/2013- Lakeside Lions of Tecumseh, 11th Anniversary.

Nov 2/2013 Lighthouse Cove 30 Anniversary

Dec 5/2013 Leaderdog Tour and Cheque Presentation. (see flyer on last page) Hope to see your clubs there!

OCTOBER IS!

Vision Awareness Month

Oct 10th

“World Sight Day” lions all over the world are bringing awareness about blindness and vision impairment.

Oct 15th

“White Cane Safety Day”

Remember Helen Keller urged all Lions to become “Knights of the Blind”, for Lions every day is World Sight Day.



International Presidents Growth Month

Awards are being offered from International for

membership growth on all MMRs issued by Oct20th.

5 Things You Should Know About Leader Dogs for the Blind

“TO CATCH

- in 1939 Leader Dogs for the Blind was founded by 3 Detroit area Lions Club members
- 270 clients attend the Leader Dogs for the Schools 26 day, residential training program each year with costs completely covered by Leader Dogs for the Blind
- \$11 million annual operating budget for Leader Dogs for the Blind is funded entirely by philanthropy and fundraising (this is where Lions Clubs donations come in to play)
- Do not pet - when you encounter a Leader Dog, do not pet a dog in harness and ask the owner's per-

mission before touching or making eye contact. Interact with the person not the dog

- A person using a Leader Dog is independent. If it appears the person needs help, ask first, then approach the person on their right side, as the Leader Dog is usually on the left, never startle then by grabbing their are,

Do not take hold of the Leader Dog or its harness

I look forward to hearing from the clubs if they would like to have someone come out and talk to them at a meeting or make arrangements to go to the school for a tour, any

connections that they would like. As well any donations that they want sent to support Leader Dog for the Blind will be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Leader Dog Chair

Lion Val Burningham

<http://www.leaderdog.org>

KICK-FF

Thursday, December 5, 2013

at the **leader Dog Campus** located at:
1039 S. Rochester Road • Rochester, MI 48307

Come celebrate and hear the latest Leader Dog news

Bring a donation that is at least 10% more than the donation your club contributed to the 2012 Kick-off parade of checks last year and earn a special kick-off patch for your club banner.

Pre-event Activities

- 4–6 p.m. Kennel Tours every 15 minutes (last tour 5:45 p.m.)
Working Leader Dog Demonstrations
Gift Shop opens (closes at 7 p.m.)
6 p.m. Cash Bar

**Dinner/Program/Parade of Checks
starts at 7 p.m. – Tickets \$17**



**SEATING IS LIMITED TO
THE FIRST 300 PEOPLE!**

Please RSVP by NoVeMbeR 25, 2013

888/777.5332 ext. 2056

Please fill out and return with check made **payable to:** Leader Dogs for the Blind
Mail to: 1039 S. Rochester Road • Rochester Hills, Michigan 48307

Club Name: _____ Number Attending: _____ X \$17 = _____

Names of Attendees (please print): _____

Please use other side for additional names of attendees



Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____