

The Nevada Lion

Born to Lead, Raised to Serve

Vol. 2, No. 3

The Official Newsletter of Lions Clubs International - District 46

Feb.–May 2015

Lions SightFirst Foundation Appoints Dr. Peter DeBry President



The Lions SightFirst Foundation of Southern Nevada announced on December 12, 2014 the appointment of Lion Dr. Peter DeBry as president of the ten-year-old charitable foundation. The position was left open by the resignation of Lion Barry Temple on November 10, 2014.

Lion Dr. DeBry has been providing advice and ophthalmologic services to the foundation almost immediately after its inception in 2005. In 2010, IPDG Noni Rybka organized the Las Vegas Vision Partners Lions Club, with Dr. DeBry as charter president, and the club became the major provider of vision services to LSF. Dr. DeBry remains the club’s president, as well as the foundation’s medical director.

Dr. DeBry completed medical school at the University of Utah in 1996, where he was honored with induction into the prestigious Alpha Omega Medical Honor Society, reserved for the top physicians in each graduating class. Next, he spent three years of residency focused on medical and surgical eye care in Madison, Wisconsin, where he became chief resident in charge of resident training.

Later, he was selected as one of only four doctors in the country to attend one of the country’s top fellowships in eye surgery techniques: the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, Florida. He later moved to Kansas City, Missouri where he taught up-to-date surgical techniques to new surgeons as Associate Clinical Professor at the University of Missouri. Finally, he relocated to Las Vegas in 2003, where he provided glaucoma, cataract, and refractive lens surgery to Nevada patients.

In September, 2013, Dr. DeBry opened the NV Eye Surgery at 2390 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy., Henderson, NV 89052. A key feature of his new office is an in-office surgery suite, which enables him to continue to donate his services to the Lions SightFirst Foundation of Southern Nevada.

Lions Walter and Linda Stocker receive the prestigious President’s Leadership Medals from PID Vince Vinella at the Fall cabinet meeting in Mesquite, NV



L-R: DG Cliff Cooper, Boulder City Lions Mem. Chair Walter Stocker, Pres. Linda Stocker, & PID Vince Vinella (photo by 2nd VDG Josie Harrison)

LV Los Prados is 15-years-old!



Front L-R: Lions Bernice Sheppard, Ada McArthur, Harry Carrubba, Linda Williams, Josie Gaines; Back L-R: PDG W.J. Fields, IPDG Noni Rybka, Lion Ed Petterson, King Lion Sam Thomas, PDG Audrey Williams, Lion Corrine Chavez, 2nd VDG Josie Harrison, PCST Dennis Hugh.
Photo by 2nd VDG Josie Harrison

Las Vegas Los Prados Lions Club was officially chartered under DG Sal Ruiz (deceased) on November 3, 1989 with 51 members. But it was on November 30 that then PID Kay Fukushima (deceased), who later became International President, conducted the impressive candlelight induction ceremony at the Los Prados Clubhouse, with 200 guests in attendance.

Of these 51 members, only 2 had previous experience as Lions: Charter President Herm Williams (deceased), the club's organizer who had been a Lion in California and Hawaii, and Lioness Carol Wollenberg, a Lioness from Illinois. The other 49 new energetic Cub Lions were oriented by the LV Breakfasters (sponsoring club), then Region Chair (PDG) W. J. Fields, and PDG Dick Grilz, with the help of District trainers PCST Doug Mickelson and then District Governor candidate, (PID) Vince Vinella, as well as President Herm and Lion Carol.

LV Los Prados continues to uphold King Lion Herm's passion for our motto "We Serve," and to this day, the Club still takes on each month, many of the different service projects envisioned by King Lion Herm.

Happy Birthday Melvin Jones! 1879-1961

How did an ordinary boy from Fort Thomas, Arizona grow up to found the largest service organization in the world? What do we know of his formative years, his hopes and dreams; the motivations and purposes that eventually gave shape to the man we now honor and hope to emulate?

Melvin was born on January 13, 1879 in Fort Thomas, Arizona, three years after General Custer was killed at the *Battle of the Little Bighorn*. His father, Calvin Jones commanded scouts who fought in bloody battles against Native Americans. His mother lived in constant fear for her husband and her children. One wonders if growing up in war-like conditions where his family had to band together and fend for each other, was at the root of his need to look out for one another – not just for one's own family but also for others.

Fast forward to Chicago, 1917, the year LCI was founded: Melvin was now happily married and a successful owner of an insurance agency. However, Chicago was a city in turmoil. It was the year USA entered the First World War with good young Chicagoans being shipped overseas to possibly never return. Prohibition was still in full force and organized crime bosses had a relatively free rein of the city. Race riots, arson, looting, and murder were rampant in the streets; the poor and the disabled were either avoided or just simply ignored. It might have felt to then 33-year-old Melvin very much like the war-like conditions he grew up in at Fort Thomas.

We may never really know what this great man's motivations were; except that as inheritors of his legacy, we know and feel in our hearts what we're sure he knew and felt in his: we're all here to be of service to mankind.



A message from

Lion Cliff Cooper
District Governor 2014-2015



Volunteer Opportunities

A recent article in a national publication cited Nevada as ranking near the bottom in the nation when it comes to volunteerism, ahead of only New York and Louisiana. The results of the three-year moving average show Nevada having a 20.3% volunteer rate...or about 1 in 5. Utah leads the nation with over 45%; Louisiana has only 17.8%. Overall, as of 2013, Nevada's percentage represents 422,990 volunteers; 58.5 MILLION (!) hours of service and 27.6 volunteer hours per capita.

What does all this mean, or, does it mean anything?

How many Lions, how many people served and how many hours could Lions "brag" about by using the web tool, MyLCI? Only about 2/3 of our clubs report their activities on a monthly basis. In traveling the District the past 4 months, I know that the clubs I visited and the Lions I met deserve to be recognized for their efforts in their communities. As we attempt to affect 100,000,000 people worldwide through service, let's not cheat ourselves by not recording all of our activities. If your club secretary is not utilizing MyLCI to report club activities, or if they need training in navigating the web-site, please contact your Zone or Region Chair for help.

All year long, but specially this holiday and winter season, we are aware of the dire issues of the less fortunate; hunger (hunger doesn't take a holiday), homelessness, and lack of skills and resources to allow them to become productive members of society. Lions can't attend to all a given community's needs, but we are often called upon to help. "Where there's a need,

there's a Lion" is our 100-year anniversary theme; and with those "needs" ever growing, our own need is for more Lions! As LCI President Joe Preston said in his "Strengthen the Pride" video, "More hearts, more hands, equal more service."

With the 4 Global Service Action Campaigns: "Engaging our Youth," "Sharing the Vision," "Relieving Hunger," and "Protecting the Environment" as the backbone of the Centennial Service Challenge, Lions will be working to achieve the goal of affecting 100,000,000 people worldwide. These Campaigns are not seasonal; these needs are year-round.

"Just Ask" and "ASK 1" are programs that LCI has made available to clubs to enhance membership growth. I have come across only 1 Lion who joined because they asked about Lions at a meeting. When I induct a member at a club meeting, I give an "ASK 1" pin to the "newbie," explaining how I received the pin in Toronto, and then I ask the newbie to wear it until they recruit a new member.

Then they can give the pin to their recruit, asking them to do the same; it's a program that will keep on giving in the form of new members!

Referring back to the original question, "What does it all mean?" With the low percentage of volunteers in our state, the opportunity to add to our membership is greater. Remember the feeling you had when you helped someone who needed it? Let's spread that feeling far and wide as we continue to live our motto, "We Serve."



A message from

Lion Josie Harrison
1st Vice District Governor
2014-2015

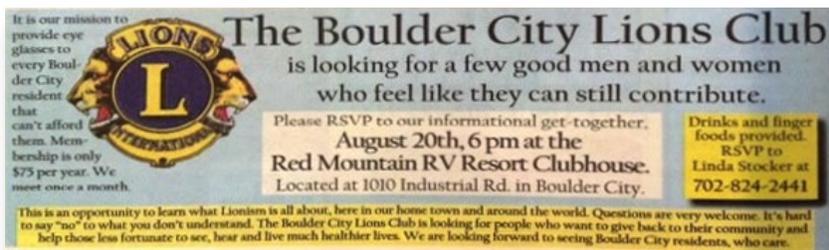


Successful Membership Drive

In The Nevada Lion newsletter’s last issue, I discussed my district governor’s goal and theme for 2015-2016 which is Bringing Awareness to Lionism. I, also, enumerated several ways to achieve this goal.

The month of November has shown the results of our Clubs’ remarkable efforts, as well as some simple ways of recruiting new members. One of those simple ways is through Facebook. By posting pictures of Lions Clubs’ activities, several people have shown interest in joining Lions. The November 2014 MMRs show the following increase in membership: Boulder City – 2, Ely – 1, Summerlin – 1, Lovelock – 1, Reno Host – 2, LV West Charleston – 1. KUDOS to these clubs for working so hard to make this happen.

I would like to acknowledge the exemplary performance of the Boulder City Lions Club under the stewardship of Membership Chair Walter Stocker. For years, the Club had persevered with only seven (7) members. They had worked tirelessly to keep their “good standing” with Lions Clubs International, and never wavered in their quest to recruit and sign up new, fresh members. This year, they organized “Open House” events, placed announcements in local newspapers (a copy of their ad is shown below), and conducted visible fundraisers and community service projects. They got the word out and several people responded to their efforts.

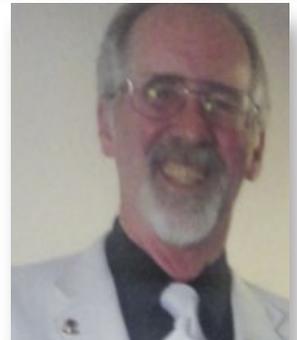


Currently, Boulder City Lions Club has 37 registered members—from seven to thirty seven in one year—a milestone! This is what LIONISM is all about; a pure and simple demonstration of cohesiveness in action!

Our Winter Cabinet Meeting will be on January 23-24 at the Gold Coast Hotel in Las Vegas. As chairperson of the Long Range Planning Committee, I hope to have all the Clubs in both North and South join forces and work together in Bringing Awareness to Lionism. I urge Lions to place the Lions Decal on their windshields; these stunning and fine-looking self-sticking decals can be bought for only \$2.00 from LCI, and is a great way to show who we are to the world. They will also be available for sale during the cabinet meeting at the Gold Coast, for your convenience. Thanks to the following clubs who have already ordered: LV Breakfasters, LV Summerlin, Pahrump Valley, and Ely.



A message from
Lion Cal Bushek
2nd Vice District Governor
2014-2015



Look Inside Your Tool Box

To continue my comparison of the District to a tool box from my previous article, we have a lot of quality tools available for our use. A good example of a quality tool is our Guiding Lions. They are not only important to new clubs, but also necessary to maintain the health of clubs that may be having a hard time recruiting new members, retaining current ones, and other problems that all clubs encounter at one time or another.

Because Guiding Lions, like any good tool, require care and maintenance, we will be having a Guiding Lion training at the Fall Cabinet Meeting in Las Vegas. This training is for Lions who'd like to be certified, as well as for those current Guiding Lions who wish to hone their skill.

I urge you to make every effort to attend the Guiding Lion training at the Cabinet meeting or go online at Lionsclubs.org. Remember that all Guiding Lions must recertify every 3 years.

President Joe Preston Launches “Keep1”



(Excerpted from President Jose Preston’s Message in the January, 2015 Lion magazine.)

The fundamental focus of my theme this year is Strengthen the Pride through Service, and you have responded well. You are reporting a record number of service activities. We are trending well in membership growth, and by all indications we are doing a better job at identifying and developing leaders.

But there is one major area of global concern: the number of dropped members. There is little use in recruiting new members if we let our existing members slip out the back door. In hindsight, I wish that I had put more emphasis on retention. Rather than living with regrets, I decided to do something about it. We have launched “*Keep1*.”

Very few Lions will ever be involved with chartering a new club, and for many of our members asking someone to join is very hard. But every Lion in some way can help our members actively involved. It is important to welcome our members, value them, train them, encourage them, and mentor them. There is an old saying: “People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.” To reach our full potential, we have to give more effort in keeping our members.

A Scene from Camp Lotza Fun: Sleeping Beauty and Roo

Bob Knipes, Rachel Lions Club



*Sleeping Beauty and Roo after a day
of activities at Camp Lotza Fun*

Photo by Lion Lisa Schaffer, LV Summerlin Lions Club

I volunteered at Camp Dat-So-La-Lee for seven plus years. And at every camp I come with a story worth sharing. For a variety of reasons Camp Dat-So-La-Lee did not happen this year.

Not to be deterred, a group of Lions, led by the Summerlin Lions Club, organized and opened a camp—for at risk children—called Camp Lotza Fun. (For more info, open your browser and copy Lotza Fun Summer Camp into your search engine.)

I did not volunteer for camp. However! I did get a story: It's about a little girl with the camp name of "Sleeping Beauty" and a performing pooch named "Roo." Sleeping Beauty is a shy introvert. She doesn't smile and she doesn't seem to make friends with the other children.

Roo arrives at camp with his owner, "Rae Erickson" founder of "Those Left Behind Organization" of Las Vegas. Roo runs through his repertoire of tricks to the delight of the children. A small mutt (not too small and not a mutt), Roo performs his act flawlessly. When he finishes the children want to pet him. Ignoring them, Roo goes to Sleeping Beauty and snuggles in her lap.

"Tears streamed down her face," Rae says, "Roo is content." "What is so wonderful about that," you ask? After that episode, Sleeping Beauty opens up and mingles with the other children, and makes friends.

Nice story huh? But wait! That's not the end! At the archery range, Sleeping Beauty doesn't want to participate and you can see why. Lo and behold!

Along comes a young Leo Boy Scout with the camp name, Tigger. Tigger's name in the real world is Matthew Schaffer, son of Lions Darren and Lisa Schaffer of Las Vegas Summerlin Lions Club. "Keep everyone away," he tells his mom, "I think I can help her." He takes Sleeping Beauty to the side and works with her. Not only does he teach her how to use a bow, but she makes a couple of bull's eyes. From then on, Sleeping Beauty participates in more activities: archery, rifle, swimming, arts and crafts, canoeing, and many more. Oh! In case you didn't notice in the picture, Roo has stubs for front legs, and Sleeping Beauty is missing a part of her left arm.

(Editor's note: Due to lack of space, Camp Dat-So-La-Lee will be featured in the next issue.)



Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) News

Affordable Hearing Aids

Hearing impairment is one disability issue that has actually gotten worse in the past several decades. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that 360 million people worldwide have disabling hearing loss. When people are not able to pay the high cost of quality hearing aids—which cost an average of US \$3,600 each and are often not covered by insurance—they are left with poor-functioning hearing aids, or, even worse, in silence.

Thirty-six million Americans have hearing loss, and the 7 million Americans who cannot afford hearing aids have become an underserved population. Lions and LCIF are working to address this issue through a pilot program of the Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Project (AHAP).

Lions have worked for many years to help the hearing impaired, collecting thousands of hearing aids and volunteering thousands of hours for hearing-related service projects. LCIF has awarded 124 grants totaling US\$5,021,448 for hearing-related projects around the world.

Through the Affordable Hearing Aid Project, Lions are reaching hearing-impaired people of limited income in almost every community in the United States. AHAP's continuum of care model involves providing high-quality, low-cost hearing aids as well as services of hearing care professionals to conduct tests, fit the aids and provide follow-up care. Since 2009, 768 hearing aids have been provided to people who otherwise could not afford them.

Currently, Lions AHAP is distributing three types of affordable hearing aids through a partnership with Rexton, Inc. Rexton generously provides discounted and in-kind hearing aid contributions. LCIF's partnership with Rexton allows Lions clubs, districts and hearing programs to order one or both aids from Lions AHAP.

How the Affordable Hearing Aid Project Works

Local Lions clubs work with individuals to determine their eligibility (based on income) and arrange testing by a partner hearing care professional. The Lions club communicates with Lions AHAP to request and arrange shipping of the hearing aid(s). The selected hearing care professional then ensures proper fit of the aid, and provides follow-up care to make adjustments as needed.

Lions AHAP has also established an agreement with HearUSA for audiologists at the company's 170 stores in 10 states to provide fittings and screenings at a negotiated reduced rate. To find a store, visit HearUSA's website.

How to Participate in AHAP

LCIF will consider matching grants for districts or multiple districts where at least two or more clubs are financially involved, per the regular grant criteria. They can apply for a Standard Grant in amounts between \$10,000 and \$100,000 to purchase, replace, or upgrade devices, and put in place other program infrastructure. LCIF has already awarded \$2,199,990 in grants since fiscal year 2000–2001 to help districts and MDs in the USA start KidSight and Children's Eye Screening programs.

Materials

Download our Hearing Aid forms, overview brochure and descriptions of the hearing aids.

<http://www.hearusa.com/>

<http://www.lcif.org/EN/about-us/partners.php#Rexton>

www.lcif.org/EN/lions-center/materials/forms.php

www.lcif.org/EN/lions-center/materials/publications.php

www.lcif.org/EN/lions-center/materials/publications.php



District 46-2015 Convention, Elko, NV
April 30-May 2, 2015
Welcome International Director Esther LaMothe
Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Lion/Lioness Name: _____ Current Position: _____

Club: _____ Badge Name Preference: _____ First Convention: Y N

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Other Attendee's Names: _____

Badge Name Preference: _____ First Convention: Y N Lion/Lioness Position: _____

Registration Required for All Attendees and Guests

Registration forms must be received no later than **April 15, 2015**. Make checks payable to **“Elko Lion’s Club”**

Mail completed Registration Form and check to cover all selections below to:

2015 Lions Convention, Attn: Mark Paris, PO Box 13, Elko, NV 89803

| Date | Event Description/Location | Prior to: April 16 | After: April 16 | # Attending | Total |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|
| April 30 | Lion's Club Golf Ruby View Golf Course Contact Lion Jon Wahrenbrock (775) 340-0094 | | | | |
| April 30 | Lion's Club Bowling Telescope Lanes Contact Lion CC Swafford (775) 934-3555 | | | | |
| | Convention Registration Including Convention Pin | \$5.00 | \$5.00 | | |
| April 30 | First Nighters Dinner — Northeastern Nevada Museum Smoked Tri-Tip | \$25.00 | \$28.00 | | |
| May 1 | Awards Banquet Western Folklife Center — Basque Food | \$35.00 | \$38.00 | | |
| May 2 | International Director's Luncheon Elko Convention Center Corner Deli Lunch Buffet | \$21.00 | \$24.00 | | |
| May 2 | District Governor's Banquet Elko Convention Center Chicken Cordon Bleu and Tri-Tip | \$40.00 | \$43.00 | | |
| Total Amount Enclosed | | | | | |

Hotel Accommodations can be made at the following locations. A Hospitality Room will be provided at Red Lion Hotel and Casino in the Lamoille Room for all convention attendees:

Host Hotel: Red Lion Hotel and Casino
2065 Idaho Street
Elko, NV 89801
(800) 545-0044
\$77.28 Incl. Tax when Reserved by April 16

Marriott Towneplace Suites
2625 E Jennings Way
Elko, NV 89801
(775) 738-9900
\$109.99 plus Tax