

# Lions Link

## Lions Clubs International District 37L Newsletter

Volume 9 Number 6 December 2011

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### Newsletter Submission

Deadline: January 20

### Seasons Greetings

I extend to all of you my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and fulfilling New Year.

I encourage all of you in this season of giving to open your hearts to those who need us the most. What better season is there for us to show that "we serve" our fellow man than at this time of the year when so many are in need of a little extra help to make their holiday a special time of the year.

And above all we need to also "serve" our fellow Lions who are alone or are struggling at this time.

Through your courage and commitment to Lionism and to those in need, we will all work together to make this a better world.

I wish all of my Lions family a joyous and happy holiday from myself, my children and my grandchildren.

- DG Donna



*How do sheep in Mexico greet each other at Christmas?*

*Answer: Fleece Navidad!*

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Some of our notable District members hard at work supporting a good cause. Lions Rob and Tammy Coulter and PDG<sup>2</sup> Betty Ann Robson at Grande Prairie Lions Annual Wings Night (club fund-raiser) held at (where else?) the Lions Den Pub.

**Regional Rally  
January 13 and 14  
Ft. Saskatchewan  
More on Pages 8 and 9.**



**District 37L Peace Poster** judging was held Nov.29, 2011 with 32 posters entered from 9 Lions Clubs for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest with the theme "Children Know Peace".

**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – Milene Busieres from Kate Chegwin School, Edmonton – Sponsored by South Edmonton Lions Club. (poster on right held by Lion Jim Ferguson) PDG Claude Carignan

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – Brianda McArthur from Vital Grandin Catholic Elementary School, St. Albert – Sponsored by St. Albert Host Lions Club (poster in centre held by PDG Claude Carignan)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – Nicole Pontikes from Bertha Kennedy Catholic Community School, St. Albert – Sponsored by St. Albert Host Lions Club (poster on left held by the winner)

Celebrity Judges were: PID Dr. Patti Hill, VDG Wanda Coates, DG Donna Wozney, local artist Brenda Christiansen, PID Bill Webber.

The "Peoples Choice Award" went to Milene Busieres as voted by the guests at the reception.

**-PDG Claude Carignan  
District Peace Poster Chair**

*Sometimes I get the feeling that if Christmas, Father's Day and birthdays did not exist, then aftershave too, would not exist.*



Christmas: The time when everyone gets Santamental.



**After a full first year** of operation, Impact has made great strides towards developing a marching band that will represent the Lions organization in a way that will make every one of us proud to declare that we support this endeavour. They have further enhanced their financial situation through a Casino, they have increased the number of instruments that they own, they have acquired a permanent "home" in the old Parkdale School at 116 Ave. & 85 St., they played and did a colour presentation at a Capitals Baseball game, took part in and won a talent contest sponsored by CIBC, are playing at West Edmonton Mall at Christmas, and hosted a pancake breakfast for the Parkdale Community.

We Lions have had minimal involvement in this yet we have received unbelievable exposure through our affiliation with them. Their website alone has had over 30,000 hits meaning the Lions Logo has appeared each and every time. Our large display background has been used several times at appropriate Impact events. They never fail to recognize the assistance they receive from the Lions.

In all honesty there is one very important problem. The ability to grow this band has proven to be extremely difficult. Recruiting activity has not been able to bring teenagers into the group in significant numbers. There is equipment sitting waiting for young people to use, enough to cover in excess of 75. Qualified music instructors are available, the most recently acquired gentleman being a professional trumpet player who was in the past a Director of Music onboard Princess Cruise Ships.

As was the agreed arrangement, Lions 37L offer moral and physical support for Impact, Lions are not required to contribute financially.

**Every member of every club is herein being asked to become involved in**

**solving our plight, HELP Impact grow in membership.**

- *do you have grandkids/relatives of the 14-18 year age group?*
- *do you have connections in youth groups?*
- *do you know teachers who could help?*
- *do you have connections in junior high schools?*
- *are there teens in your neighbourhood?*

Remember that experience is a bonus but the inexperienced are most welcome as well, Impact teaches!

**Impact needs the Lions help, and they need it very soon.....please?**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION: [www.impactarts.ca](http://www.impactarts.ca) 780-246-7228**

--- OR ---

**LIONS VDG WANDA COATES,  
DAVID COATES, JOHN CRAGG**

*- John Cragg*

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# BACK TO THE FUTURE

**37L - 37I Northern Region Rally**  
**January 13-14, 2012 Edmonton, Alberta**  
 Central Lions Seniors Centre

**Mark Your Calendar!!**

*"Where we're going, we don't need roads!"*

DESTINATION TIME: JAN 13 2012 00:00  
 PRESENT TIME: SEP 26 2011 00:00

LionMarkSchmidt@gmail.com

## MD37 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR LIONS LEADERS

*April 26, 2012 (3PM) to April 29, 2012 (1PM), Camp Mak-A-Dream, Gold Creek, MT*

The Lions Leadership Institute focuses on building the skills of Lions leaders to prepare them for leadership responsibility at club, zone, district, and regional levels.

### Participant Qualifications

1. Candidates for this institute from Alberta, Northwest Territories, British Columbia and Montana will be given priority.
2. Candidates must be Lions in good standing. Candidates do not have to hold a position currently.
3. Candidates must be willing to commit to a three day institute including group mealtime activities. Attendance at all classroom sessions and scheduled meals is mandatory.

### COST OF THE INSTITUTE

Registration Fee: \$100.00

MD 37 will pay for meals and lodging during the actual days of the institute. Participants are responsible to pay for their own transportation and related travel expenses to and from the institute.

### SELECTION PROCESS

Acceptance into the institute is not guaranteed. A maximum of fifty applicants will be accepted. The Institute staff will review applications and notify the applicants of the results. If applications received exceed the capacity of the institute, unaccepted applicants will have first priority for acceptance to the next institute to be held the following year.

### RETURN APPLICATION TO:

PDG Mary Kay Flanagan  
MD37 GLT Leader  
3615 Nelson Road  
Bozeman, MT 59718-7718  
Ph/Fax: 406-388-1262

### Application Procedure

Prepare the following items and submit them as indicated below. Your application will be considered

only when all completed forms are submitted.

1. Application form
2. Candidate's Lions history
3. A minimum of two letters of nomination from a Lions leader who knows you from the following list:

International President  
Past International President  
International Vice President  
International Director  
Past International Director  
Council Chair  
District Leadership Development Chair  
District Membership Chair  
District Extension Chair  
District Retention Chair  
District Governor  
Vice District Governor  
Past District Governor  
Zone Chairman  
Club President  
Lions Club Board of Directors

### DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 15, 2012

The supplementary materials you will require:

### Nomination Letter Personal History form Application Form

are available from Mary Kay:  
[mkflanagan@theglobal.net](mailto:mkflanagan@theglobal.net)

## Edmonton Millwoods Lions Club Donates \$4,000 to Millwoods Hockey Association

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 during the visitation of DG Donna Wozney, Dean Stefanic and Doug Brown of the Millwoods Hockey Association presented an update on their club's activities. A formal request of financial support of \$8,000.00 was made to Edmonton (Millwoods) Lions Club for continuing support for community hockey in Millwoods.

Dean and Doug presented the prospects and programs of their club to members of the Edmonton (Mill woods) Lions Club. There are approximately 650 children between the ages of 4 and 15 involving 54 teams. These programs have been ongoing for 6 years and can train and nurture the young hockey players for future development.

After a convincing presentation by both Dean and Doug, a cheque of \$4,000.00 was presented to the Millwoods Hockey Association by the Edmonton (Millwoods) Lions Club to assist with the Association's cost of operation for the year 2011/12.

The Lions Club is happy to support community based programs which can foster such activities; and wish Millwoods Hockey Association to continue building on this opportunity for the children and youth in the Millwoods community.

- *Wilma Raman-Nair*

## Reminder: His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell

**Please join us at our club luncheon on Thursday January 19, 2012 as he addresses the Edmonton Host Lions.**

Tickets by Advance Reservation by either:  
Calling Lion Bessie Goldstick at 780-483-9137  
Or by email to [lionkaren371@shaw.ca](mailto:lionkaren371@shaw.ca) - subject line: Lieutenant Governor

***Christmas is in my heart twelve months a year and thanks to credit cards, it's on my Visa Card Statement twelve months a year also.***

## Lions Eye Bank Update

*The Lions Eye Bank of Alberta Society (LEBAS) has been in a period of challenge and transition in recent years. The Board of Directors wishes to report that these challenges have been addressed with a renewed commitment to the future.*

A major issue requiring much time and effort was of our own making for we failed to provide the necessary financial reporting required by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). This resulted in the CRA withholding our charitable status and the right to provide tax deductible receipts for donations. Thanks to our new treasurer, Lion Bill Busst, all annual financial records are now current and have been audited and submitted to the CRA to their satisfaction and our charitable status has been returned. We are well aware of the consternation this situation has caused many clubs and we want to assure you that all is now in order. We sincerely regret these circumstances and are confident it will not be repeated. We also acknowledge delays in recognizing contributions and requests for Fellowships in the past year. We apologize for these delays and assure you that steps have been taken to correct this.

The second challenge impacts the operational side of the Lions Eye Bank. In 2001 the Health Information Act was proclaimed. The Act deals with patient confidentiality and access to patient files became an issue for everyone outside of the health system. Although the Act did not immediately impact LEBAS staff we were advised in 2008 that non-hospital employees would not be allowed access to the patient files in future. This meant that Lion Eye Bank staff could no longer review the patient files of donors as part of the tissue evaluation process. In addition, changes to Health Canada Regulations were implemented between 2003 and 2008 that made a non-hospital operation of the Eye Bank increasingly impractical and costly. Both LEBAS and AHS recognized the need for change and a new agreement was negotiated. Although the transition was not complete until

2009 the effective date of April 2008 resulted in Alberta Health Services assuming full responsibility for the operation and staffing of the eye bank while retaining the name "Lions Eye Bank". The Lions Eye Bank is now a part of the Southern Alberta Organ and Tissue Donation Program (SAOTDP). SAOTDP is an integrated program with Southern Alberta Organ Donation Program (previously HOPE) coordinating organ donation, Southern Alberta Tissue Program coordinating non-ocular tissue donation and Lions Eye Bank coordinating ocular donation. The Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society has assumed responsibility for donor awareness and the supply of special equipment and training over and above AHS operational standards.

There has been very significant change for all parties and we feel that it has been positive change. The following examples indicate the progress being made:

- 2008 –equipment purchased to support DSAEK technology. This allows the surgeon to transplant the cornea using a less invasive, faster healing procedure. Our Eye Bank was the second in Canada (after Vancouver) to provide this advanced procedure. Overall cost of training and equipment was \$74,000. This was a shared financial commitment of Alberta Health and Wellness funds, those of Dr. Demong and \$46,000 from LEBAS.
- LEBAS funding supports attendance of the Transplant Coordinator at the annual meeting of the Canadian Ophthalmological Society. In 2011 this was held in Vancouver. These conferences bring together surgeons, eye bank representatives and other agencies to ensure all are kept informed of the ever changing techniques, technology and standards being utilized across Canada.
- LEBAS ensures that a representative of the Lions Eye Bank participates in the EBAA Annual Conference, this year in Tucson, Arizona. The Lions Eye Bank is accredited by the Eye

Bank Association of America (EBAA) and attendance at these conferences is one element of the accreditation procedure.

- 2011 – Surgeons adopt latest procedure where outer layer of donor tissue is transplanted over the recipient cornea. This is again less invasive and faster healing than a complete corneal transplant. This also removes some compatibility issues thereby expanding the number of acceptable donors.
- The primary source of donor tissue is dependent on health care workers who make the effort to discuss donations with the next of kin of a potential donor. We believe it is of critical importance that these individuals be recognized and thanked for their actions. LEBAS and HOPE (Human Organ Procurement Exchange) hosts the Tissue Advocates Reception to accomplish this on an annual basis. In 2011 we had 105 health care professionals attend the function.
- 2011 -The Eye Bank Association of America audited the operation of the Lions Eye Bank and once again has given it one of its highest ratings for another three years. They were impressed that an operation of our size should have DSAEK equipment.
- 2012 – LEBAS is now investigating a "cutting edge" specular microscope. It is anticipated that this equipment would provide more accurate tissue evaluation and better patient outcome. The cost is over \$32,000.

These are some examples of how your Lions Eye Bank continues to touch the lives of the visually impaired. We firmly believe that the high standard of tissue procurement and cornea transplants in Alberta would not be at this level without the Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society. Your continued support does make a difference and we thank you.

(Attached is a current Fellowship application should you wish to recognize a member of your community.)

**-LEBAS Board of Directors**



# BILL WEBBER FELLOWSHIP

The Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society

Canada Revenue Agency: Registered Charitable Organization:  
#13505 0938 RR0001

## Recipient *(Please complete one form per recipient)*

Recipient's Name:

Address:

City/Town:  Province/State:  Postal Code/Zip Code:

Recipient's Lions Club:

The recipient is not a Lion.

## Donor

Same as recipient, or

Lions Club	District	Multiple District	Individual	Corporation	Other
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Donor's Name:

Address:

City/Town:  Province/State:  Postal Code/Zip Code:

Email Address:  Phone Number:

## Shipping Instructions *(Please allow 6 weeks for recognition to arrive)*

Please ship plaque and lapel pin to: Same as donor, or

Name:

Address:

City/Town:  Province/State:  Postal Code/Zip Code:

Email Address:  Phone Number:

Date Fellowship is to be presented (if known):

## Donation *(Please make cheque payable to "The Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society")*

Please mail completed form and a \$500 cheque/bank draft/money order to:

The Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society  
c/o Rockyview General Hospital  
7007 – 14th Street SW Calgary, Alberta T2V 1P9

Feel free to contact The Lions Eye Bank  
(Alberta) Society by email at:  
albertalionseyebank@gmail.com

# MIA's

PDG Bernie Gribben is looking to find out if the following PDG's are still active, alive etc. and members of District 37 L.

- Gerry Repecka
- Lorenz Wiens
- George Mair
- Joe Taylor
- Jeremy Bentley
- Barry Lazoruk
- Lou Newell
- Ted Dupilka
- Walt Skrepnyk
- Ernie Canning
- Rene Jones
- Edward Hay
- Henry Kai Kwong Lung
- Theodore Witzel
- Bill Mercer
- Frank Wilson
- Lou Newell
- Thurston Talbot
- Fern Bilodeau
- Noel Edey ? Not sure what district
- Merlin Leibel
- Fritz Van Der Kley

[gribbenb@shaw.ca](mailto:gribbenb@shaw.ca)

## Winners of the Lions Foundation of Canada Maple Leaf Weekend

**raffle** as conducted in Alberta by the Grande Prairie Lions Club on behalf of the Foundation;

- \*1st prize: Rose S. McKay, Bonnyville
- \*2nd Prize: Bow Island Lions Club
- \*3rd Prize: Rycroft Lions Club

Please note all winners will be contacted directly by our Foundation.

Thanks to everyone who participated.

Merry Christmas from the Grande Prairie Lions Club

***What did the Eskimos sing when they got their Christmas dinner? "Whale meat again, don't know where, don't know when "!***

## Camrose, Alberta

That's where the MD 37 Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes Awareness Campout, Parade and BBQ will be held on June 8 - 10, 2012.



Camrose has facilities for RVs, Motels, Shopping, Restaurants, Golfing and is located on Highway 13 east of Highway 21. Come on out and join us for a great time.



Watch your district newsletters and check on our website for further information as it is available.



Our website address is <http://cavalcade.md37lions.org>



## District Calendar

### 2012

1	13-14	Northern Rally	Edmonton	Mark Schmidt <a href="mailto:LionMarkSchmidt@gmail.com">LionMarkSchmidt@gmail.com</a>
5	17-19	MD37 Convention	Westlock	PCC Gordon Topps <a href="mailto:ghtopps@msn.com">ghtopps@msn.com</a>
6	22-26	International Convention	Busan, Korea	Lions International <a href="http://lionsclubs.org">lionsclubs.org</a>
9	14-16	USA/Canada Forum	Tampa Bay, FL	Lions International <a href="http://lionsclubs.org">lionsclubs.org</a>
10	12-13	37N Convention	Kalispell MT	
11	2-3	37L Convention	Edmonton	Edmonton Northgate

### 2013

7	5-9	International Convention	Hamburg, Germany	Lions International <a href="http://lionsclubs.org">lionsclubs.org</a>
11	?	37L Convention	Westlock	Vimy & District

### 2014

7	4-8	International Convention	Toronto	Lions International <a href="http://lionsclubs.org">lionsclubs.org</a>
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### 2015

5	14-16	MD37 Convention	Bozeman	
6	26-30	International Convention	Honolulu	Lions International <a href="http://lionsclubs.org">lionsclubs.org</a>

# **Oh No! Time is Running Out!!**

**37L and 37I Northern Region Rally**

**'Back to the Future'**

**January 13 - 14 2011**

The clock is ticking, have you registered yet? We need to get accurate numbers for the caterer and so far registrations have been coming in at a mere trickle. Please help us out - **SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION TODAY!!**

Get Ready to Have Fun !!!

Friday night is 60's Night! We will be reliving that era with groovy music, psychedelia, Name That Tune contests. **There will be prizes for the Best Dressed Hippies so scrounge around your attic for your old Flower Child duds.**

We've got a real treat for you Saturday night - internationally renowned hypnotist and motivational speaker Wayne Lee will entertain us after dinner. Be prepared to have a great time - and yes, there is definitely audience participation!

All food will be provided by Ela Euro Catering - your tummies will be very happy.

As mentioned in previous issues of the Link, we've got many interesting sessions to choose from. If you want to learn about:

- Technology, Gadgets and Social Media
- Online Safety
- Reforestation and Trees/shrubs that are suited to our area
- Leos
- Lions as Family
- Yoga (bring comfortable clothes and a yoga mat if you have one)
- Archiving and Document Preservation
- Retirement
- Recycling
- And more!

then this is definitely an event you won't want to miss.

**Looking forward to having you come Back to the Future with us!.**

