

JULY 2015

www.5m2lions.org

DG MARVIN GRIMM



DG MARVIN'S WOOD CUTS

By the time you read this, I will have been installed as your Governor. We left for Hawaii on June 22 and returned on July 1. I will have had three more days of training, finished off with a Luau on Friday evening. Saturday was the Parade. I am looking forward to serving as your District Governor.

The district training went very well. The Region/ Zone training had 100% of the chairs present for the training. The officer training was well attended, although not 100% of the clubs were represented. Thank you to all the elected officers for 2015-16 for accepting your positions. A huge thank you to Steve and Debra Wasserman for the many hours putting together and presenting the training. Also, thank you to the other presenters. It was two good days.

Our new International President, Dr. Yamada is a neurosurgeon from Japan. His theme is Dignity, Harmony, and Humanity. The small crane is his symbol. The crane represents long life. In the Japanese art of origami, the crane is the basic form all children learn to make. The crane is a symbol of peace, not only in Japan, but around the world.

Dignity through Humanitarian services, one of the basic tenets of human service and self respect is the ability to provide for one's self and for one's family. Making a difference through the service to children will be a main focus this year by expanding and strengthening our existing programs with the "Children's Dignity Initiative."

Harmony through cultural exchange and joint global projects. Interacting with members from different cultures and different points of view will broaden our outlook and provide inspiration for activities in our own communities.

Club Presidents hold the key to our success. Our members and clubs are the heart of our organization, and to continue to serve, we must continue to grow our membership and more important, retain our current membership. Have you registered for Jungle Days? The date is August 3 at Shoreland Country Club near St. Peter. Jungle Days is hosted this year by the three Mankato Clubs.

Did you contribute to the 5m2 newsletter? To make the newsletter interesting and a success, we need your club to contribute articles, photos, fliers. Once you see what the newsletter can do for publicizing your club, you will want to contribute. Send your items to <u>5m2newslettereditor@gmail.com</u>.

"Leadership is an elusive quality that is just not the ability to motivate people to do what we want, but to accomplish their own dreams"





DG MARVIN'S WOODY TRAILS

- July 1 Return from Hawaii
- July 4 Happy 4th of July
- July 7 Attend Cologne Leos' Reading in the Park
- July 15 Festag Days in Minnesota Lake
- July 20 Winthrop Lions to Install officers
- July 24 Youth Exchange Picnic in Carver Lions' Park
- July 25 Council of Governor's Meeting St. Cloud

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PENULTIMATE POINTS



1st VDG Steve Wasserman

As you read this, we will be at the Lions International Convention in Honolulu, and will have begun a new Lions' year.

Strengthen The Pride was a great success. Worldwide, membership increased by over 48,000

members, strengthening our pride to over 1.4 million members. There are now over 360 more Lions clubs than there were a year ago. More importantly, we are well on our way to meeting our Centennial Service Challenge, having served over 32 million people in the four Global Service Action Campaign areas (Engaging our Youth, Sharing the Vision, Relieving the Hunger, and Protecting our Environment). That is 32 million people who have experienced firsthand that "Where There's a Need, There's a Lion". Here in District 5M2, we have provided service to 198,719 people (as of June 15). That is certain to reach 200,000 by the time you are reading this.

As we begin this new Lions year, our new International President is Lion Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Minokamo, Gifu, Japan. His theme for this year is "Dignity. Harmony. Humanity". Doctor Yamada will encourage us to make a difference through service to children as he introduces the "Children's Dignity Initiative". We will be encouraged to expand service to children by:

- Supporting and brightening the outlook of children in hospitals
- Responding to the needs of children in refugee camps
- Addressing the needs of hungry children
- Continuing and expanding the Reading Action Program.

Dr Yamada will also be emphasizing how we can attain Harmony through Cultural Exchange and Joint Global Projects. Clubs are encouraged to participate in this initiative through the Lions Clubs International Twinning Program, and also by reaching out to members from different cultures in our increasingly diverse communities.

Of course, our Centennial Service Challenge will continue to be emphasized as we approach our 100th Anniversary of Service to Humanity. As Dr. Yamada puts it: "In serving others, we are changing the world and sowing the seeds of harmony, understanding and peace".

The 2015-2016 Lions' Year promises to be exciting and rewarding. Under the leadership of International President Jitsuhiro Yamada and District Governor Marvin Grimm, the Lions of District 5M2 can look forward to continued success as we strive to serve those in need in our communities and around the world.

CENTENNIAL UPDATE WHERE THERE'S A NEED

By 1st VDG Steve Wasserman, 5M2 Centennial Celebration Chair

Congratulations to the following clubs that have (as of June 15, 2015) earned their Four Diamond Banner Patch for reporting



service projects in all four areas of our Centennial Service Challenge:

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Albert Lea
Albert Lea Lakeview
Arlington
Blue Ĕarth
Brownton
Carver
Cologne
Courtland
Ellendale
Faribault
Glencoe
Hamburg
Jordan

Jordan Jordaness

Montgomery Nicollet Northfield Cannon Valley Plato Prior Lake Silver Lake

Mayer Watertown

Le Sueur

- Π
- Π Stewart
- Π Veseli
- Π Victoria
- Waconia
- Winsted
- Π Winthrop
- Lafayette Π Le Center

Π

Ten other clubs have reported on projects in three areas, and 54 of our 64 clubs have reported on projects in at least one area. The Lions of District 5M2 have provided service to approximately 200,000 people in the four campaign areas ("Engaging Our Youth", "Sharing The Vision", "Relieving The Hunger", and "Protecting Our Environment").

There is still time to report on your clubs' activities, and to earn your Centennial Service Challenge Banner Patch. Activity reporting for the 2014-2015 Lions' Year closes on July 15, 2015, so your club secretary must do the reporting before that date. Remember, you can add any activity you forgot to include, and you can also go back and edit any activity previously entered to check the appropriate box for the Centennial Service Challenge.

Continued on next page



2nd VDG Lion Nancy Mathwig

Amazing! By the time you read this article, the 2015-2016 International Lions Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii will be history; DG Harry and Lion Loretta will have completed a marvelous year and DGE Marv and Lion Ev will be District Governor Marv and his traveling companion, Lion Ev.

DG Marv and Lion Ev will have begun their whirlwind year and each of the clubs in 5M-2 will have new leadership. I look forward to re-acquainting myself with many of you and your clubs. Some of you will remember that my late husband, PDG Darwin, was District Governor during the 2009-2010 Lions year. What an exciting and educational time we had attending the club meetings in 5M-2! I look forward to again hearing and seeing the great service your clubs provide in your communities and beyond.

I would like to take a moment to welcome a new club to our district – the Chanhassen Lions Club. The Chanhassen Lions Club chartered in 1988 and has served in District 5M-5 prior to transferring to 5M-2. Chanhassen was the only Carver county club not in the 5M-2 District and requested a transfer due to the close work they do with the other Carver county clubs such as the Carver County Lions fair booth. They will be joining the Zone 2 clubs. Please welcome them to our great District!

We are beginning the second year of the Centennial Service Challenge, which includes the Lions Club International goals for Engaging Our Youth campaign, Sharing the Vision campaign, Protecting our Environment campaign, and Relieving the Hunger campaign. As the secretary of our club and one who missed the 2014-15 New Officers Training, I was confused on how to record our projects to meet the criteria. How very easy it is once I really read the guidelines. You don't need to have a project in a particular month to qualify; any project you complete and determine it fits one of the areas will give you credit in that particular challenge area. Wouldn't it be great for Governor Marv if all clubs in 5M-2 were eligible for a diamond Centennial Service Challenge banner? Club secretaries can contact First District Governor Steve Wasserman or me if you need more information on how to complete your monthly Service Activity Report for the Centennial Service Challenge or go to <u>www.lionsclubs.org/Lions</u> 100/Programs/Centennial Service Challenge.

I am also serving as your District Historian again this year. As part of that position I plan to include history or trivia on District 5M-2 in this article in the upcoming months. If you have some particular trivia about the district or a club or a member that would be interesting to share, please email me the information at <u>nmathwig@hotmail.com</u>. Also, please refer to the district website under the Historian tab for more information.

History lesson #1: The first Leo Club in 5M-2 was the Sibley East Jr High Leo Club in Gaylord sponsored by the Arlington Lions, the Sibley East Lions and the Green Isle Lions. Club facilitator was Junior High teacher and Arlington Lions member, Lion Dan

Hislop. The club chartered in 1998 and PDG Mary Ferleman was District Governor. PDG Darwin and I were the District Leo chairs. The Sibley East Jr High Leos remain an active Leo club in our district and continue under the guidance of Lion Dan Hislop.





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If your club brought eyeglasses to the Midwinter Convention, or made a donation to the Vision Foundation or Leader Dogs for the Blind, that qualifies as "Sharing the Vision". If you supported 5M2 Youth Activities, Youth Exchange, or Quest, that qualifies as "Engaging Our Youth". If you provided holiday baskets or donated to the food shelf, that qualifies under "Relieving the Hunger". If you planted trees or did a highway or park cleanup, you were "Protecting our Environment". You can also designate one donation per year to LCIF to count toward any area you choose within the Centennial Service Challenge.

I will provide a year-end report in next month's newsletter, and continue reporting on our progress in meeting the Centennial Service Challenge in future issues. I am proud to be a Lion, and proud to be your Centennial Celebration Chair. The Lions of 5M2 Rock!

* Register Now *

District 5M-2 Jungle Days

2015 Golf Tournament

18 hole Best Ball Tournament

Monday, August 3rd, 2015

Registration @ 11:00 AM Shotgun Start @ 1:00 PM Dinner approximately @ 6:15 PM

Shoreland Country Club, St Peter, MN

Cost: \$75 per golfer (includes ½ cart, dinner, prizes) Dinner only: \$16 Compete for Traveling Trophy and Male and Female Team Awards

RSVP Deadline: Monday July 27th Earlier registrations appreciated



Name:	
Name:	
Name:	
Name:	

Extra dinner tickets x \$16 per ticket = ____ **Total Payment:__**

Hosted by : Mankato Lions Key City Lions Sunrise Lions Make Checks Payable to: Mankato Lions Box 303 Mankato, MN 56002

For questions call Lion Bill VanderSluis at 507-420-5151 or Email bvander@enventis.net

LIONS' CLUBS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

COURTLAND

Spouses and guests enjoyed a variety of great food on Monday, June 8, as the Courtland Lions held their officer installation and potluck supper. District Governor Harry Klenke inducted the following as the 2015-2016 Courtland Lions officers:

Charlette Abbas - President Brenda Jones - 1st Vice President Rusty Christopherson - 2nd Vice President Mary Johnson - Secretary Lowell Abbas - Treasurer Sharon Retka - Membership Chair Gene Retka - Past President



Pictured are: (front row) District Governor Harry Klenke; Lion Charlette Abbas; Lion Brenda Jones; Lion Mary Johnson;Lion Sharon Retka. (back row) Lion Rusty Christopherson; Lion Lowell Abbas, Lion Gene Retka.

Chevrons were given to the following for their years of service to the Courtland Lions:

Bruce Hendrycks - 20 years Gene Retka - 30 years Duaine (Duke) Feimeyer - 20 years

Pictured are Lion Bruce Hendrycks; DG Harry Klenke; Lion Gene Retka; and Lion Duke Feimeyer





The Courtland Lions installed a new flagpole on the City Park in time for Memorial Day. Dave Ubel, Lion Dennis Schaffer, and Lion Lowell Abbas did the installation.

MINNESOTA LAKE



Paul Gorman installed the 2015-2016 Minnesota Lake officers on May 27, 2015. *Front row: Treasurer Sally Roesler, 1st Vice Pres Debra*

Ramsley, and Tail twister Matt Daly Back row: 2nd Vice President Craig Schroader, President Vern Breamer, Secretary Jim More, and Region Chairman Lion Paul Gorman.

LIONS PRESENT MELVIN JONES FELLOWSHIP TO FAMILY OF HAROLD OLSON Lafayette officers installed and scholarship recipients recognized Submitted by Lafayette Area Lions Club

The late Harold Olson was named a Melvin Jones Fellow and recognized at the annual banquet of the Lafayette Area Lions Club Tuesday, June 9.

Incoming District Governor Marvin Grimm presented the Melvin Jones plaque and pin to Olson's wife Lorraine and daughters Darla Harstad and Paulette Pehling. Harstad, longtime employee and friend Tim Nelson, and fellow Lion Ruth Klossner spoke about Harold's life and accomplishments.

As a member of Lions Club International herself – as a Lioness at Alexandria – Harstad understands the significance of the Melvin Jones award. She related that, when club members made an early presentation of the plaque to Harold in January, he said that he didn't feel he deserved the honor and felt that he was just doing what a good Lion should.

Klossner shared photos of Harold's life and vast community involvement and concluded her remarks with a quote from the old New Ulm Post: "Harold is a quiet, dedicated civic volunteer for organizations ranging from agribusiness to township government, from education to religion. He's served New Ulm, Lafayette, Klossner and Brighton Township."

Harold is the 22nd Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient recognized by the club.



ABOVE: The 2015-2016 Lafayette Area Lions officers are pictured with incoming District Governor Marvin Grimm, back left. They are, front from left: Ruth Klossner, secretary; Bob Wise, president; and Clarence Maidl, director. Back: Grimm; Joe Maidl, 2nd vice president; Mark Dick, past president; Arden DeBoer, tail twister; and Scott Portner, Lion tamer. Not pictured: Elmari Kamm, 1st vice president; Wendy Gjerde, treasurer; and Brad DeBoer and Mary Trebelhorn, directors.

RIGHT: Nine of the ten Lafayette Lions Scholarship recipients attended the banquet. They are, front from left: Alex Portner, McKenna Mages, Loran Dauer, and Brooklyn Stevensen. Standing: Jared Schmit, Tyler Sassenberg, Daniel Hayes, Brandon Beranek, and Evan Atzenhoefer. Not pictured: Tyler Franta. In addition to presenting the Melvin Jones Fellowship, incoming District Governor Marvin Grimm spoke briefly and installed the club's new officers – Bob Wise, president; Elmari Kamm, 1st vice president; Joe Maidl, 2nd vice president; Ruth Klossner, secretary; Wendy Gjerde, treasurer; Scott Portner, Lion tamer; Arden DeBoer and Mark Dick, tail twisters; and Clarence Maidl, J. Maid, Brad DeBoer, Mary Trebelhorn, Portner, and Dick, directors.

Ten incoming college freshmen were recognized as recipients of \$500 Lafayette Area Lions scholarships. Lafayette Lions club have made a significant contribution toward higher education, having awarded 210 scholarships, totaling \$108,800, over the past 20 years.

BELOW: Incoming District Governor Marvin Grimm presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship plaque to Harold Olson's family members, from left: daughter Paulette Pehling of Rochester, daughter Darla Harstad of Alexandria, and wife Lorraine Olson of rural New Ulm. Daughter Nancy Rumsey of Longmont, Colorado was not able to attend the event.





ARLINGTON LIONS DONATION A "HOME RUN"

Sibley County and the City of Arlington are putting the final touches on the first leg of a bike and walking trail that now stretches from the city limits through the Sportsmen's Park, which is in a picturesque area in the nearby countryside. The trail will eventually be lengthened to link the other towns in Sibley County and will attract bikers to the area.

Due to this development, the City of Arlington has been hard at work refurbishing the park, which had experienced a little neglect over the years. Part of the work has involved a complete redo of the park ball field. The city knew the work would be expensive, so its park committee sought out donors. They were fortunate enough to receive a \$10,000 Minnesota Twins Fields for Kids grant, receipt of which was dependent on the community contributing the matching dollars. To achieve their match, the city approached the Arlington Lions Club, which, over the years, has been the principle donor to most community projects.

The Arlington Lions Club was eager to once again step up to the plate and contribute to this team effort. The club voted to use the proceeds of its Wine and Beer Tasting and its upcoming Fish Fry event to match half the needed amount with a \$5,000 donation. In most such cases, the club has chosen to give an amount that makes it the primary giver without shutting out other groups who might wish to contribute as well. As part of the fundraising process, the club advertised its Fish Fry as an effort to raise money for the matching grant. The club always attempts to link the fry to a specific need, as it believes that it helps the community to see the need to support the event. In addition, the linking of the event means that individuals and groups in the community who are strong supporters of the donation are more than willing to volunteer to help at the fry. This in exactly what happened, as the park committee members and extended family were hardworking volunteers at a very successful fry.

Lion President Eunice Rucks presented the check to the park committee at their recent meeting. At its June club picnic, Lion President Rucks announced that a formal thank you had been received from the City of Arlington and a Lions sign will be installed at the field. Other groups did contribute to the match, as the club anticipated, and the full matching amount was achieved. Lion Eunice also noted that the club received excellent publicity in a front-page article in that week in the Arlington Enterprise.

A successful fish fry, a great cooperative venture, a mission accomplished, and a thankful community made this donation not just a "home run", but a "grand slam" for the Arlington Lions Club and the community it serves!

WASECA LIONS

Lion Don Zwach, Waseca Lions, has been recognized for his extensive community service in Waseca. International Lions President Barry Palmer congratulated Don on his 40 years as a Lion when he wrote, this "... is the perfect opportunity to celebrate your accomplishments as you follow your dreams." During his Lions tenure, Don has been president of the local organization 4 times and was on the Lions Board for many years. He was instrumental in helping to start the local dictionary project for 3rd graders, and recruited about 15 new members for Waseca Lions.

Community service has not been limited to Lions as he has been " ... a strong advocate and former board member of the Waseca Area Foundation as well as serving as Chair," according to WAF Executive Director Karen Buum. Another service to the local area has been his work for the Waseca Historical Society.

Public school education is another aspect of his service to Waseca since he taught business education at Waseca High School for 29

years with innovative elective classes. In 1914 he received the Minnesota State Retired Educators Award for community service and leadership. Don also finds time to be politically active.

The International Lions President thanked Don for his dedicated service on behalf of the 1.35 million Lions worldwide. Don commented, "I am proud to be a part of our Lions Club of service-minded women and men who are working together to strengthen our Waseca community." (Photo by Lion Karen Buum)

CARVER LIONS



\$2,000 given in Scholarships – Scholarship winners from Carver Lions Brad Bramigk Scholarship Fund. Jim Weygand, scholarship Chair, Charles Farris, Jackson Bramigk, and Abby Shanahan. Not pictured, Quinn Lanners.



This is Hanna Elshoff with her Elf. DG Marvin escorted her to Anna Wickenhauser's house in Cologne. See following page for more information about Hanna.





CHANHASSEN LIONS

We had a very valued member, Jim Lyon pass away on May 8th at the age of 67. Jim was diagnosed with

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a brain tumor in January 2015. His diagnosis and sudden decline was a shock to us. Jim was a Melvin Jones Fellow, Helen Keller Award recipient and Past President. He was a tremendous Lion and an all-around great person will he be missed dearly.

5M2 DISTRICT CHEERS Cheers to Club Officers and wishing a suc-

Cheers for 100% attendance for Region & Zone Chair training.

cessful year to Club Presidents for 2015-16.

Cheers to Lafayette Area Lions for a very exciting, fun, meaningful awards Banquet and signing up 2 new members.

Cheers to all the Clubs that have received the Four Diamond Centennial Service Patch.

Cheers to all the volunteers and sponsors for a successful De Feet walk. Bigger than ever!!

Cheers to PDG Harry and Lion Loretta for a great year of Service as District Governor and Spouse

MEET HANNA ELSHOFF

By Mark W. Olson | editor@chaskaherald.com

Elshoff, from Chatfield, Minn., is living her lifelong dream of biking across America, in a solar- and pedal-powered tricycle.

In May, she was hosted by the Carver and Cologne Lions Clubs. Her destination? By November, she hopes to be in Plains, Ga. to visit former President Jimmy Carter.

Elshoff emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1961. She was 18 years old and didn't speak English. "All I had was a bike," she said.

After a few years, she thought it would be fun to bike to Texas to visit friends. "I thought, 'I'm footloose and fancy free, I'm going to ride my bike to Texas," she said. She thought she'd visit small towns along the way.

However, she was told, "'Oh Hanna, you can't do that, it's too dangerous.""

"And I didn't and I've regretted it all my life. Then life takes you this way and that way, and whatever. You can't do stuff like that until you're footloose and fancy-free again, which I thought would happen when I'm 80, if I lived that long," she said.

"So I was kind of dreaming and thinking, and then I saw a bike with a motor at Menards." Then Elshoff began wondering if there were solar-powered bikes. She found a manufacturer in Durham, N.C., flew down and bought an ELF electric bike from Organic Transit.

Then, a year ago, she set May 1 as the beginning of her journey.

Why visit Jimmy Carter? While living on Chatfield farm, Elshoff recalled a TV political ad, where Jimmy Carter stated: "'I'm an American farmer and I'm running for president."

"I thought, 'What? A farmer running for president? Only in America, I thought.'"

While Elshoff wanted to vote for Carter, she was still only a resident alien. She was prompted to apply for citizenship. However, when she received her citizenship document, it had former President Gerald Ford's signature.

So, Elshoff hopes to get Carter's signature. She's tried before, with bad winter weather disrupting an airplane trip to Georgia.

Other than reaching her destination in November, Elshoff doesn't plan to travel straight to Georgia. She'll stay in a tent, or at the homes of Lions Club members. She plans to visit Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan along the way. Elshoff was in Iowa when she received an invitation to speak at the Midwest Solar Expo in Minneapolis this week, where she received a standing ovation.

She's planning to take short trips, heading down the side of less-traveled roads. Her ELF tops out at 30 mph.

Born in northern Germany in the midst of WWII, Elshoff credits American soldiers for saving her life.

After the war, she learned her neighbor belonged to the Nazi SS, according to a letter to the editor Elshoff wrote to the Rochester Post-Bulletin. The man had received orders to haul her family away, because they were members of an independent Lutheran parish and her father was not a Nazi sympathizer, Elshoff stated. "God bless the United States of America, my home," she wrote.

Elshoff wants to thank WWII veterans along the way for their service. She's also spreading the word about the Lions Leader Dog Program, which trains seeing-eye dogs. And she's happy to espouse the virtues of the Lions and Toastmaster clubs, to which she belongs.

"I've had this dream of touring rural America for all my life. If you have a dream, set a date. Don't just say some day, set a date. If it doesn't happen, OK. But if you don't set a date, it will never happen," Elshoff said. "Someday never comes, so follow your dream. I'm having the time of my life."



MN Lions Vision Foundation

Greetings, Lions all, from Lions Diana Kroells and Mary Spille. We are current directors, 5M2, of the MN Lions Vision Foundation. It is our goal to share a tidbit of info about MLVF with you each month. You will really want to watch this little corner of our newsletter!

In 1960, Lions partnered with the University of Minnesota forming the MN Lions Eye Bank. Now the U of M Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences appreciates our contributions to the Eye Bank, research projects, eye surgeries, eyeglasses collection, and Children's Vision Center. You may want to visit MnLionsEyeBank.org. When enjoying the State Fair, you will want to stop by the foundation's booth in the Education Building and chat with fellow Lions there!

If you need collection boxes, eyeglasses turned in, a presentation this year, or whatever, give one of us a shout. Lion Diana <u>dianakroells@embarqmail.com</u> or Lion Mary <u>mkspille@embarqmail.com</u>



5M2 LIONS' NEWS



MORE THAN 20,000 LIONS ROARED INTO HONOLULU, HI, USA, JUNE 26-30, 2015

More than 20,000 members of Lions Clubs International and their families gathered in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, as part of the association's 98th Lions Clubs International Convention. Convention events were held Friday, June 26 through Tuesday, June 30 in the Hawaii Convention Center (HCC).

Highlights of the convention included:

- A spectacular Parade of Nations with 10,000 Lions from over 120 countries and geographic areas, many in native dress, along with bands and colorful floats. The parade began at 9:00 on Saturday, June 27 and took place in downtown Honolulu on Kalakaua Avenue in the Waikiki District. The parade route is approximately 1 mile (1.5km) long.
- Recognition of the young winners of the 27th Lions International Peace Poster Contest and Our World, Our Future Essay Contest for blind and visually impaired students.
- A colorful flag ceremony with the flags of Lions nations from around the world on Sunday, June 28.
- Presentation of the 2015 Lions Humanitarian Award, the highest honor of the association, to Carolyn Miles, President and CEO of Save the Children, on Tuesday, June 30. The award includes a US\$250,000 grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation for continuing humanitarian activities. Previous recipients include composer/singer/songwriter David Foster, former U. S. President Jimmy Carter and Mother Teresa.
- Election of Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Minokamo, Gifu, Japan, as the 2015-2016 Lions Clubs International president on Tuesday, June 30.

Presiding over the convention was 2014-15 International President Joseph Preston, from Dewey, Arizona, USA. President Preston has led the association through the first year of the Lions Centennial Service Challenge to benefit 100 million people through service campaigns to impact youth, sight, hunger, and the environment. Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world. Our 1.4 million members in more than 46,000 clubs are serving communities in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the globe. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired, championed youth initiatives and strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects. For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit lionsclubs.org

For more information about convention events, visit facebook.com/lcicon

