



The ROARING TWENT-E1



We Serve

The Genesee District of the Empire State

August 2007

www.lions20E1.org

District Governor

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District Governor's Message:

Greetings!

It's hard to believe summer is over and autumn is upon us. I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. I know there are lots of great Lions events throughout the district, including golf tournaments, carnivals, steak roasts, and fairs.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Kendall Lions Steak Roast on August 16th. This year, we broke all previous attendance records with 116 people. The Avon Lions brought the largest contingent with 29 members (and came through some mighty nasty weather to get there). I hope you enjoyed the food and fellowship.

I would also like to congratulate the Churchville Lions Club on the success of their Country Fair. The weather cooperated and they had a wonderful weekend on August 18th and 19th. Cookie and I enjoyed riding in the parade and working in the game booth. It was great to see the entire Churchville club participate, along with a few members from other clubs. Our clubs need to continue to work closely with each other because it makes us stronger, more productive, and adds to the fellowship.

Fall is shaping up to be very busy. The **USA/Canada Forum** is Sept. 6-8 in Grand Rapids, MI. If you've never been, I would highly recommend it. They have some of the best seminars and motivational speakers you will ever see.

It's not too late to register, just checkout the link on our district website: www.lions20E1.org

Our joint **M**(embership) **E**(xtension) **R**(etention) **L**(eadership) seminar with District N will be held at the Batavia School for the Blind on Sat., Sept. 29, 2007. The MD20 Leadership team will be providing the training and although it's open to anyone, Presidents and Membership chairs are asked to attend. The information the Team provides will definitely give you the tools to recruit and retain members. The seminar is free, and food will be provided. See flyer for details.

Please save the date - Saturday, November 3, 2007 - our annual sub-district convention (a.k.a. **Fall Conference**) will be held at the Days Inn Batavia, adjacent to Thruway Exit 48 just off Rt. 98 (behind Bob Evans Restaurant). Our Theme is "Christmas in November", and the guest speaker will be International Director Dave "Santa" Stoufer (and wife Rachel) from Iowa.

For \$15.00 you get a continental breakfast and deli buffet lunch (including dessert), stimulating seminars, a variety of exhibitors, keynote address, an auction, an awards ceremony, the ability to participate in judging the winning peace poster, a Q & A session with the International Director, and a hospitality room!

That evening following the convention, we will take a short trip to Batavia Downs for a night of horse racing and a buffet dinner (price TBD). The Days Inn has agreed to hold a block of rooms for us at \$49.00 per night. We will have a flyer out soon containing all the details.

The seminars will be both interesting and educational. The awards presentation is a great opportunity to recognize outstanding Lions at the District level. So club presidents, please consider awarding a Melvin Jones or Robert J. Uplinger on Nov. 3rd. The 100% President and Secretary awards will be presented as well.

I would also like to mention our annual **Leadership Raffle** is underway. The drawing will be held at the cabinet meeting in Batavia on Nov. 4th. Each club will be receiving (5) \$25.00 tickets to sell. That's 5 chances to win and you'll be contributing to our leadership fund, which provides materials and training seminars for our officers. We need good training programs if we are going to continue to build good leaders, so please consider purchasing these tickets.

I look forward to meeting you as I begin my visitations to your clubs in September.

YIL,

DG Terry



In the News:

Kobe- A dog's love of life, duty, and friendship

Matt Miller, 16, of Westmoreland NY, is an active member of Boy Scouts. When the time came to earn his Eagle Scout Award, Matt knew that he wanted a special project. He said that he wanted a project that was unique and exciting and would also benefit another person. When Matt heard that Freedom Guide Dogs was in need of "puppy raisers", he knew he had found the perfect project. After applying, Matt was given a small yellow Labrador retriever puppy, which he named Kobe. Matt had Kobe for the next 15 months. They enjoyed their time together playing soccer in the yard. As Matt talked about that, he said that Kobe was really good at catching the ball in the mid-air! "Kobe was fun to have around." He said. Besides playing with Kobe, Matt was also responsible for his care and socializing. Kobe was going to eventually grow up and perform an important job. Matt understood this, and put forth good work and care into raising Kobe.

When Kobe turned 18 months old, it was time for Matt to say goodbye. Kobe was now a full-grown yellow who was ready for his guide training. Kobe returned to Freedom Guide Dogs and was placed with Eric Loori, Freedom's founder and head guide dog trainer. Eric said that Kobe had a zest for life, which shined throughout his training. He loved his new work. Thanks to Matt's attention and play, Kobe had become a very people oriented him dog. He loved to greet new people. So, during his training, Kobe not only had to learn how to guide a human through traffic, sidewalks, and pedestrians, but also an important rule for all guide dogs to follow. Kobe had to learn to ignore the people who walked past him on the street! Although this was tough for him at first, Kobe did manage to learn to keep at his work. He realized that those pats of praise he loved so much, would come in the end. After 6 months of training with Eric, Kobe was finally ready for real guide work.

On October 2, 2006, Kobe was placed with Curtis Chaltain, 43, of Webster, NY. Curtis works at his local Goodwill store as a cashier trainer. Kobe assists Curtis, who is totally without vision, as he travels. Although Kobe does not help Curt on the job, he does guide him to and from work. One of the things that made Kobe a good match for Curt is his ability to handle traffic so well. Walking to and from work, Curt must pass through a 5 lane crossing each day to get to and from work. Kobe learned to safely navigate their way through this heavy traffic section. "Kobe is very good with the traffic checks and making the many crossings we face everyday." Curt said.

After the first few months of working with Curt passed, Kobe was faced with a new challenge...snow and ice! Curt said that as winter hit, Kobe had to learn how to handle maneuvering around snow banks and patches of ice. He laughed as he remembered how Kobe's first experience on the ice resulted in his 4 feet slipping out from beneath him and landing like Bambi on the frozen pond. Fortunately, Kobe's outgoing personality enables him to bounce back from such experiences and keep moving forward. "He handles new things really well. He's tough and smart and you can always see him working things out" said Curt. "The only thing he doesn't like is getting his feet wet."

When Curt and Kobe are home, Kobe is a real couch potato! Although he loves to sleep, he also loves to have fun! Curt and Kobe go to the park with Ruth, Curt's girlfriend, and her Jack Russell Terriers. "He loves those little terriers" Curt said. "I'd like to try taking him swimming sometime. I think he'd love that." Since Curt likes to be active, Kobe's love for life has made him a perfect companion!

Having a guide dog has been such a blessing to Curt. He not only has a trustworthy guide, but also a companion in his travels. He walks with more confidence and independence than he felt he could with a cane. Curt said the biggest difference in having a guide dog instead of a cane is that you know you're following an intelligent creature with good training. "I can rely on his training and know he'll get me where I need to go. Having a dog is more

responsibility, but the confidence he gives me outweighs the extra work. Everyone should have one."

It is so exciting to see a successful match like Curt and Kobe. The happiness they are able to receive from one another is incomparable. Such match-ups are not possible without the sponsorships we receive for each of our guide dogs. Kobe's placement was sponsored by the Webster Lion's Club in Rochester.

"This was such an exciting story by itself" said David Bardusch of the Webster Lion's Club. "We were looking for a guide dog school to support, we knew that's what we wanted to do." David said that he was standing in a Holland Farms Bakery when he spotted a little plastic dog sitting on the counter. It was a coin collection bank for Freedom Guide Dogs. He wrote down the information and later called the number. He spoke with Eric Loori, who was thrilled to hear that David was calling from Webster.

"We're placing a dog there in just a few weeks!" Eric told him. It was perfect timing. Not only was the Lion's club able to donate to a guide school like they had hoped for, but they funded a dog that was being placed within their own town! "This was very exciting how it all worked out" said David. The Webster Lion's Club sponsored \$5,000 for Kobe's placement. "And we will continue to support Freedom in the future as well" he said. "Freedom is a fantastic group and the people have all been great to work with. This has been a great experience."

For more information and to see this article as well as photos of Kobe, Matt, Curt and the Webster Lions Club, please visit the Freedom Guide Dogs website at:

www.freedomguidedogs.org

and look at the Freedom Forum for Spring of 2007

Around the District ..



Webster Lions Camp Smile

The Webster Lions Camp Smile has completed another successful year of camping fun.

Camp Smile has been servicing the needs of blind and visually-impaired children ages 5-18 for over 35 years.

Our 1:1 camper ratio allows our campers to try new experiences with confidence. This year's campers got to go to Sea Breeze, do some skating and biking, get up close and personal with some reptiles, visit the Rochester Public Market not to mention swimming and everyday camp and craft fun.

Long-lasting bonds are created between our campers and counselors. Our counselors are so affected by our campers that they often go on to careers in health and special education. Some of our former counselors have even created a fundraising event in the form of a pig roast for the past several years with the proceeds going to Camp Smile.



This year's roast will be September 22, 2007 from 4 p.m. until sold out at the Braddock Bay Park off the Lake Ontario State Parkway. There will be music and food - all for a good cause.

The Webster Lions wish to thank the local Lions and Lioness Clubs, especially the Avon Lioness Club, for their continued support and remind Lions that we are always looking for new campers.

Visit our website at
www.campsmile.org
for additional information.

Below Left: Camper "VJ" takes his first ride on a bike with a little help from his counselors, Kelley Couch on his left and Sara Parton on his right.

Below Right: Camper Thomas F. gets really up close and personal with a friendly snake thanks to Scott, The Reptile Guy from Captive Life Forms.



by PDG Jon LeGro,
20- E1 District Coordinator

The Region Coordinators for the coming year are: Greg Lund, Marv Hankinson, Jr., PDG JoAnn Rodgers, Steve Brandt, Dick Corrigan, Roger Drumm and PDG Jon LeGro. They will be contacting club presidents during August.

A lot of data about the millions of people whose sight has been saved or improved has been distributed over the past two years. When we think in terms in the millions it is almost more than we can comprehend. But suppose you knew the children or elderly people that needed your help.

Let's say in your community there were little children losing their sight from River Blindness and many older people suffering from blurred vision due to cataracts from a lifetime of field work. Through Sight-First you could save the sight of a child for only \$6 or have a cataract operation performed for about \$20. How many people would you or your Lions club decide to help?

For less than what you may pay for raffle tickets in the next three years (and reap no reward) you could personally save the sight of 20 little children or give clear vision back to 6 elderly citizens.

Think about your commitment to Lions. Make a pledge which CSFII will bill you for over the next three year. We do a lot in our own communities but the only way we can help fight worldwide preventable blindness is through the combined efforts of the International Lions Clubs.

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Vietnam Wall Replica

The Vietnam Wall replica will visit Gates from 8:00 AM on Friday, September 7th through 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 9th at the Gates Memorial Park. The display will be open round-the-clock during this time, and will be manned by Gates Lions Club Members.

Free to a Good Home !

The Hilton Lions Loan Closet has more items than room to house it. I have a large number of hospital beds, walkers, crutches and commodes that are free for the taking. Would appreciate any extra wheel chairs anyone has. If interested, please contact Lion Andy Kelley at (585) 392-3042.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

On September 30, 2007 at Frontier Field in Rochester, Churchville Lion Leslie Rheinwald will be participating in **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer**.

Lion Leslie would like to invite all Lions to join her in the walk to honor the many brave women who have faced this disease. If you would like to join Lion Leslie's team contact her at LeslieRheinwald@yahoo.com or 585-293-2108. Once you sign up Lion Leslie will mail you a pledge form and specific information about the day of the walk.

**Together we can make
a difference.**

EVENT CALENDAR

DEADLINE FOR ALL ISSUES IS THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH.
Plan at least two months ahead in announcing your event dates.

September 2007

- 1: Oakfield-Alabama Lions
Pig Roast
- 6-7: USA/Canada Lions
Leadership Forum
- 7-9: Vietnam Wall Replica Visit
- 8: Brockport Cruise In
- 8: Cuba Lions
Lobster Steak Bake
- 29: Scottsville Lions Club
50th Anniversary

October 2007

- 1: Casino Night in Hamlin
- 25-28: MD20 Lions Leadership
Institute - Binghamton



**For the Latest Information
and More Detail visit
www.lions20E1.org**

If you have an event you wish to add to this calendar or to the district website, please go to www.lions20E1.org and fill out the Event Submission Form. All events should also be submitted to District 20E1 Activities and Special Events Committee Chair PDG Leo Lejeune at lejeunl@alfredstate.edu

Meet Your Cabinet:

**DG Terry Bliss
VDG Terry Loucks
CST Randy Unterborn**

Zone and Region Chairs:

Region 1 Zone 1 Zone 2	RC John McElwain ZC Keith Countermine ZC John McElwain
Region 2 Zone 3 Zone 4	RC Edd Kuhn ZC Gred Lund ZC Bernadette Rabideau
Region 3 Zone 5 Zone 6	RC Dan Rodgers ZC Wayne France ZC Ken Lafferty
Region 4 Zone 7	ZC Leo Lancer
Region 5 Zone 10	ZC J. Fred Easton