



Governor's Newsletter District A-12

District Governor Chris Lewis

2013 - 2014

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MAY 2014

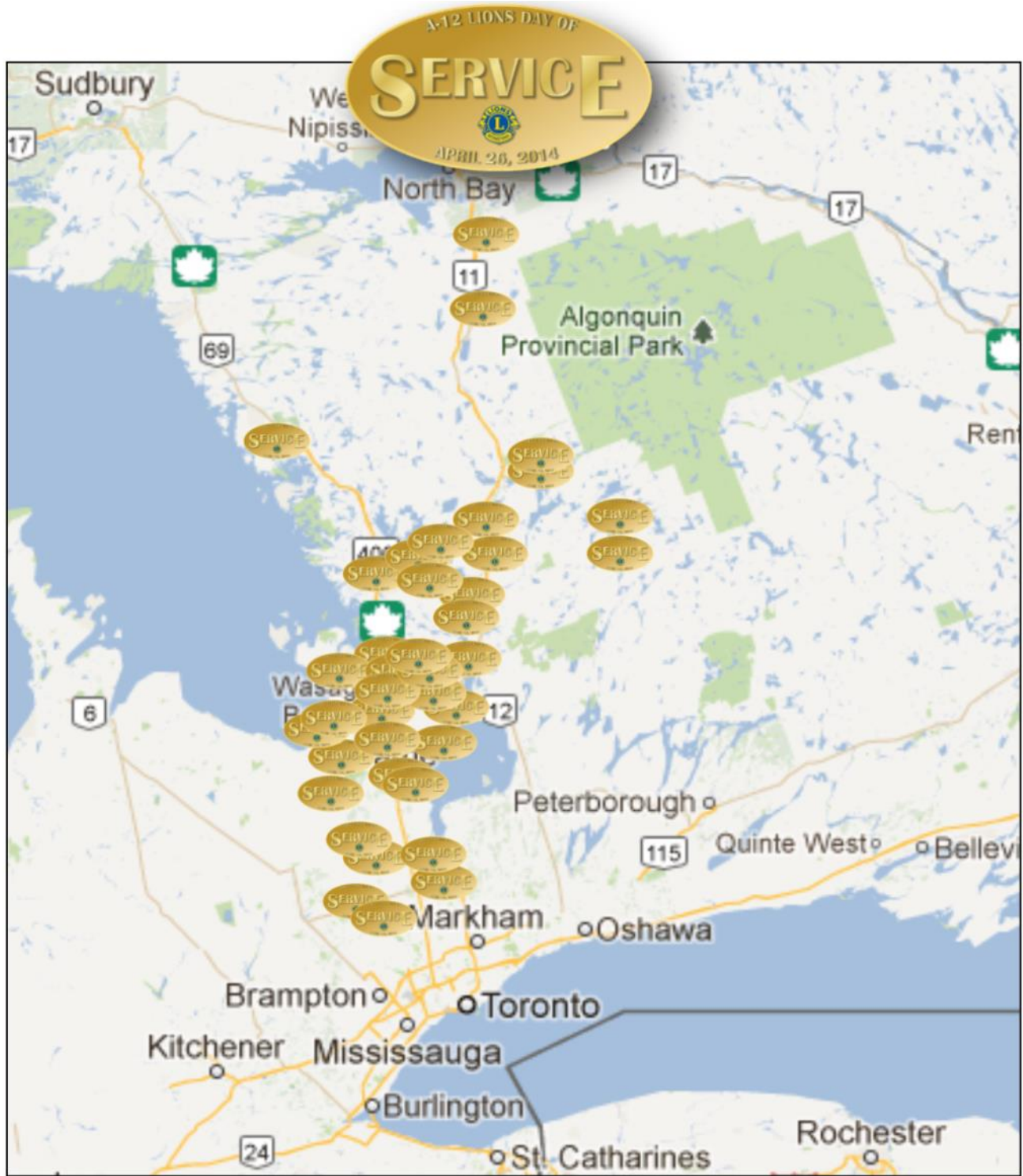
LIONS DAY OF SERVICE

Our International President, Barry Palmer, asked every Lion this year to **have a dream, believe in the dream, and follow the dream**. Because as Walt Disney said, "All our dreams come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." Last summer, at our first District Cabinet meeting, I shared my dream with the cabinet officers and chairs. It was for every club to return to our roots and focus their time, energy and talents on community service for one day. Clubs everywhere across the District do great community service projects, but I believe sometimes the impact we make gets lost in the shuffle. But by conducting service projects all at the same time—a wave of Lions, Lioness and Leos all making their communities better across Central Ontario could occur. At that Cabinet meeting, I asked the District Officers to follow the dream with me and on the Day of Service visit and lend support and encouragement to each club and it's members. They all agreed—and the dream began to inch closer to becoming a reality. We then approached the clubs and asked them to come onboard and develop service activities they could do on the Day of Service. All we asked was that the focus of the day be on helping people and making our communities stronger, and not to fundraise. I've always considered myself as a bit of realist—so my expectation was that perhaps 15 clubs might take up the challenge and participate. However, I grossly underestimated the passion our clubs have, and as time went on, the dream began to take hold. When April 26th finally arrived, 44 clubs across A-12 had committed to following their own dreams in their communities. Marjorie and I started our travels in Alliston at 8 am at their free pancake breakfast and road cleanup and finished up in Powassan at 7 pm with the Sundridge Lions who were visiting with local Sundridge seniors in two retirement homes. In between, 50 service projects, and thousands of people were helped. Environmental projects, barbecues, food drives and so much more. And as you will see in the pictures in this newsletter, great things can happen when we work together.



The Day of Service and the work you did was being followed by Lions and Lion leaders around the world, and there is discussion about expanding it next year beyond our A-12 borders, and have it become Ontario-wide, Canada-wide or perhaps in every country that we serve in. Never have I been so proud to be an A-12 Lion as I was that day.

Thank you to all of you for turning a dream into reality. You have made a difference!





Alliston - Pancake Breakfast



Angus - Road Clean-Up



Barrie - Park Clean - Up



Bond Head - Food Drive



Beeton - Road Clean - Up



Barrie South - Park Clean - Up & BBQ



Bradford - Free Youth Swimming



Bracebridge - Bingo for Seniors

Dorset – Community BBQ



Gravenhurst – Community BBQ



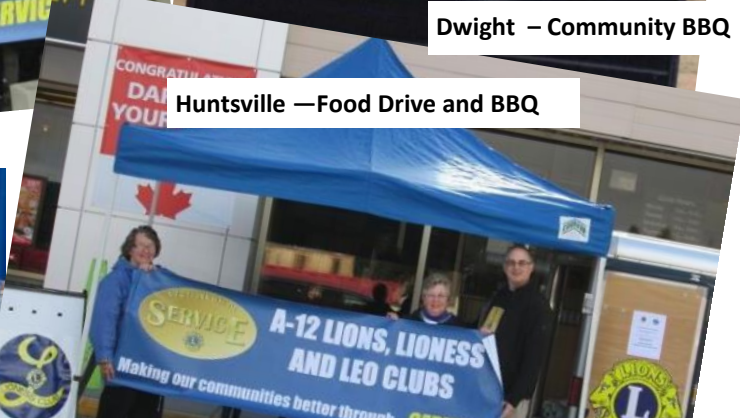
Dwight – Community BBQ



Elmvale – Community BBQ



Huntsville – Food Drive and BBQ



Gilford – Dog Guide Awareness



Midland – Homemade Chili



Orillia – Road Clean - Up



Nancy Island – Community BBQ



Oro – Road Clean - Up



Port Carling – Road Clean - Up



Port McNicoll – Road Clean - Up



Penetanguishene – Road Clean - Up



Parry Sound – Youth Activities at the Local Library



Springwater Vespra – Community Dinner



MacTier – Yard Clean - Up for Seniors





Stayner - Park and Road Clean - Up



Windermere - Road Clean - Up



Sundridge - Visiting Seniors in Nursing Home



Victoria Harbour—Road Clean-up



Washago - Community Wellness Fair



Schomberg—Wildlife Viewing Area Construction



Waubashene - Road Clean - Up



Tiny Township - Freecycle Swap & BBQ

Muskoka Rocks 2014

MD "A" / A-12 Convention, Deerhurst Resort May 2 - 4, 2014



CONVENTION 2014

On the heels of the Lions Day of Service, again we were able to showcase the power of teamwork and collaboration when our District welcomed the Lions family of Multiple District "A" (Ontario and Quebec) to Deerhurst resort in Huntsville. Conventions are a great time to celebrate our accomplishments and recognize some people for the outstanding work they've done in making our District a great one. For the first time ever, we combined our District A-12 Convention with the Multiple District "A" Convention. Both the District and MD "A" were concerned that with the Lions Clubs International Convention coming up in Toronto in July, that attendance would be dramatically reduced at our two separate conventions.

We approached MD "A" with the novel idea of combining them—and to our surprise, nearly six hundred Lions, Lioness and Leos ended up coming to Huntsville to celebrate with us—the largest attendance in years. We had outstanding entertainment, fantastic displays, and some top-notch meals. The comments and feedback I received from the attendees were overwhelmingly positive. But one thing that really filled me with pride was how so many



Lions from outside our District came to me repeatedly and told me how hospitable, friendly and welcoming that A-12 was. They were so appreciative of us for taking on the challenge of hosting the convention. Each of you truly cast a outstanding shadow through your behaviours!

Conventions are not the end of a year of service—but instead are a beginning. When we came together, we renewed our enthusiasm and committed ourselves once again to go forward and lead our communities into the future. We elected new officers who will bring in new ideas and creativity, and who will carry on the legacy of those who came before us for nearly one hundred years.

Throughout the Convention, Marjorie and I were so thrilled to meet with you and to thank you for what you do. Together we have accomplished so much. You are the number one District in the world, and it has been a privilege and an honour to serve with you.

Looking forward to seeing you all around the District!



Lions Ken & Estelle Ness



Lions Doug, Gillian, Marian & Sandra



Congratulations Lion Nancy Watt-Durant on receiving the International President's Leadership Medal - the 3rd highest recognition awarded to Lions!



DGE Barb Ennis & PDG Dave Hewitt at the International Banquet



Social Time with ZC Joe Deniet, Lion Kathy Deniet & CS Kathy Daoust at DG Chris' Reception



Lion Peter McCague & Lion George Bik at the Past District Governor's Dinner



Photos Courtesy of PDG Dave Durant



Lioness of the Year Award
Congratulations Lioness Sophia!

**A-12
Luncheon
Sunday
May 4th**



Thank You !! PDG Dave & PDG Jim on three years of your hard work & dedication towards the GL & GM Teams for District A-12



Congratulations Lion Murray Rogers - Sundridge Lions Club on receiving the District A-12 Environmental Photo Contest Award. Good Luck next year at the MD"A" Convention Photo Contest!



International President's Certificates of Appreciation



Thank you RC Randy Hargrave for your innovation, creativity & dedication to increasing awareness of Diabetes and to PDG Len Day for your commitment to developing young people through the Leo Program, Youth Exchange & Mentoring.



Photos Courtesy of PDG Dave Durant



International Guests
1st VP Joe & Joni



Lion Mary
Ratensperger



IPDG Maureen Hilt getting
ready for the Registration
Desk



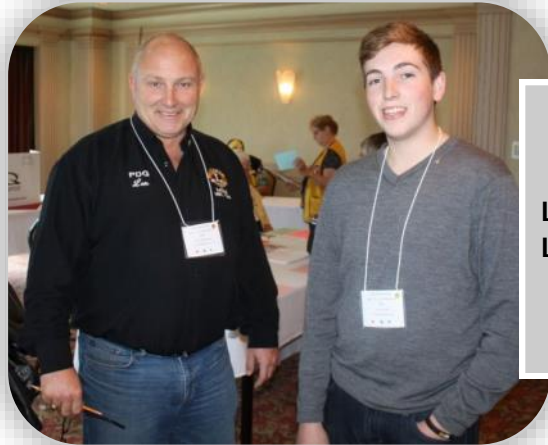
CT John Squire taking care
of the 50/50 Draw



Photos Courtesy of PDG Dave Durant



Lion Lety &
Lion / Lioness
Estelle
Helping Out



Lion Len &
Lion Zac



Lion Marj Lewis receives a Shadow Award (and a day at the spa!) from DG Chris



Thank you 1st VDG Elect Richard for taking care of protocol over the weekend so that we all knew where we were supposed to be!



DGE Barb Ennis introduces her District Officers with the help of her RHM (right hand man).

Photos Courtesy of PDG Dave Durant and Paul Bennett



Lioness Pat Bowen (and Deerhurst employee) making sure the weekend is flawless.



Thanks to Lion Paul Bennett of Windermere for giving me a makeover in my year-end portrait!



District Officers for the Lions Year
2014 - 2015

DISTRICT A-12 LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2014-2015

- District Governor**—Barb Ennis, Port Carling Lions Club
- 1st Vice District Governor**—Richard Ratensperger, Nancy Island Lions Club
- 2nd Vice District Governor**—Barry Hackett, Alliston Lions Club
- Region 8 Chair**—Gavin MacLean, Bradford Lions Club
- Region 21 Chair**—Joe Deniet, Dwight Lions Club
- Region 36 Chair**—Bryon McLellan, Lions Club of Barrie
- Zone 8 North Chair**—Janice Campbell, Wasaga Beach Lions Club
- Zone 8 South Chair**—Robert Gwalchmai, Schomberg Lions Club
- Zone 21 East Chair**—Chris Tonge, Bracebridge Lions Club
- Zone 21 North Chair**—PDG Bill Copeman, Sundridge Lions Club
- Zone 21 West Chair**—Keith Gardner, Parry Sound Lions Club
- Zone 36 East Chair**—Peter Shelswell, Oro District Lions Club
- Zone 36 West Chair**—Randy Hargrave, Penetanguishene Lions Club
- Cabinet Secretary**—PDG Kathy Daoust, Gravenhurst Lions Club
- Cabinet Treasurer**—Sheila Webb, Tiny Township Lions Club
- Immediate Past District Governor**—Chris Lewis, Gravenhurst Lions Club

See you next year in Minett,
April 24-26, 2015!

