



DISTRICT 1-A LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL GOVERNOR'S NEWS



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Issue: 7

“THE FLAME OF LIONISM”

January, 2005

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Let us all gather round and cheer,
With a drink of wine or an ice cold beer
Perhaps you're like me and don't drink the swill,
Or your like my grandparents who live on pills.
Maybe this world seems harsh at times,
Or its just that most of us just like to whine.
I'd say that this is a great place to be,
It all depends on how we can see.
True we've had bad things in the past,
But we know in our hearts that these will not last.
If we try our best to be simple and pure,
There's nothing our hopes and dreams cannot cure.
So, I don't know the value this is worth,
But lets all try to be happy and heal Mother Earth!
Happy New Year!

District 1-A's Special Mandatory Session

This session has been
arranged to all club
Presidents and Treasurers on
January 15, 2005 at William
Tell Hotel at Countryside.
Session starts at 8:00 a.m.
Light breakfast will be served.
ADMISSION IS FREE!
RSVP: Lion Harry Barber, PDG
630-920-8547 Immediately

District 1-A Mid Year “Leadership Forum”

At
OAK LAWN HILTON
95th & Cicero Avenue,
Oak Lawn, IL
For Reservation, Please Contact:
Lion Dennis McMillan, VDG
Phone: 708-389-5960
E-mail: dennisrmac@aol.com
Better than ever! People in action to
inspire you to make you a great lion!
Seats are limited, reserve immediately!!
Register New Members and also bring
prospective members.
LET US GROW WITH KNOWLEDGE!

Launching Operation Membership Growth via the Mumbai supply chain

When you travel to India, expect your perspective on the world to change dramatically. What would seem impossible by any western standard is not only possible, but also likely. That three-lane highways really have fine lanes, and that traffic behavior has more in common with insect swarms than traffic rules are things you have to accept very quickly.

What struck me most about India in this visit was how levels of technology and culture spanning 4,000 years coexist there. On my left may be a businesswoman riding in a Mercedes, while on my right there is a man perched on an ox driven wagon. Both are using cell phones.



Such paradoxes were brought to the fore when I found myself at Mumbai's Victoria Terminus railway station in the late morning. There I was able to witness one of the most sophisticated supply chain and demand management phenomena around: the dabbawalahs.

The dabbawalahs (or tiffen-wallahs or tiffen carriers) are part of a 100-year-old system that delivers hot lunches from

homes to workplaces and then returns the containers (the tiffens) back to the homes, sometimes as far as 40 miles away. The amazing part is that nearly 200,000 lunches are delivered (and tiffens returned) every day by 5,000 workers, many of whom are illiterate. Needless to say, there are no computers, nor fancy software.

Rather, each tiffen has a complex coding system: colors identify each suburb and area of downtown Mumbai. Dashes, crosses, and dots indicate the streets, buildings, and floors where the tiffen may be handled by a half-dozen people on its journey via train, cart, human, ox, or bicycle.

The Victoria Terminus is the last large stop on the line. There I saw crowds of men in white caps shouting, “Lafka! Lafka!” (*Hurry! Hurry!*) as they sorted and moved piles of tiffens on the way to their owners. The cost of moving the tiffens is about \$7 a month. *Forbes* did a study of the tiffen-wallahs a few years back and found they had a quality ranking of Six Sigma: one defect for each six million delivered. By the way, the tiffen-wallahs are independent contractors, although they do belong to the local union that guarantees lifetime employment.

The keys to their ability to deliver such high levels of service are reliance on little capital, independent groups that network with each other to achieve one goal, quality meetings once a month, and a credit arrangement permitting them to get through money crunches. Some of the union leaders have started lecture at Indian universities on the techniques of the tiffen-wallahs.

Now think about what you've spent on our latest membership development project. How well does it work? Do we get Six Sigma performance with it? Does it ensure that products and message get delivered on time, all the time? Are our members or leaders as diligent and dedicated as the tiffen-wallahs?

Status quo thinking contends that complex technology is needed to solve complex problems. If you take a look at the tiffen-

wallahs, it may change your mind-and perspective-just a bit.

We are educated people and surrounded with information technology toys. We spend lots of money for our promotion and still we kept "Lions Clubs" a best kept secret in our communities! Is it a failure of our mission?

-Governor Lion Austin D'Souza, Ph.D.

TSUNAMI VICTIMS:



COLOMBO, Sri Lanka, Dec. 28 -- Devastated coastal areas across South Asia struggled Tuesday to prevent hunger and outbreaks of disease as dazed survivors searched desperately for the missing two days after a tsunami surged across the region. The death toll rose to more than 100,000 people, a large percentage of them on this island nation in the Indian Ocean.

Sri Lankan officials said Tuesday that the freakish, earthquake-driven waves had killed more than 18,700 people here, a dramatic increase from earlier calculations. They said many more were injured or missing and appealed for international aid to cope with a disaster they declared was beyond their ability to handle on their own while southern and eastern portions of Sri Lanka were among the hardest-hit areas, the tsunami killed people in 10 countries from Malaysia -- near the epicenter of the quake that struck Sunday morning off the coast of the Indonesian island of Sumatra -- to Somalia, on Africa's east coast more than 3,000 miles away. The International Committee of the Red Cross warned of the potential for waterborne diseases such as cholera.

There were warnings throughout the affected area that the death toll might spike sharply higher.

Fellow Lions: Holidays just passed and during this celebration, more than 60, 000

people lost their lives to Tsunami -- a natural disaster, which hit eleven countries coastal lines. Let us keep up with our motto "We Serve" and help these needy people from extending our helping hands. Send your charity to any authentic group or you can make your checks to: Lions Clubs International Disaster Fund and mail them to my home address, Thank You!



THE VISION FIRST SAGA: A PARTNERSHIP IS FORMED

On December 21, 2004 District Governor Austin D'Souza met with representatives of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), their non-profit affiliate Chicago Communities in Schools (CCIS) and LensCrafters. A public/corporate partnership was established to provide on-going Vision First/Gift for Sight program to Chicago public school students.

All agreed that the challenge was to systematically reduce the large backlog of Chicago public school student needing exams/glasses. All agreed that the need was beyond any one party's available resources but by bringing our skills together it was thought that a significant reduction of the pending backlog could be accomplished over the next 3-4 years.

Governor Austin pledged that the 91 clubs in District 1-A stood willing to provide manpower and financial resources to assist the effort. He indicated that it must be a joint effort in the critical areas of publicity, fundraising and on site assistance clinic administration/assistance.

LensCrafters lead spokesperson, Mr. Patrick Gibson, challenged the team with the following offer: "We will hold a clinic in the City of Chicago in April 4-15 in partnership with the Lions Club and will exam and provide glasses to a minimum of 2,500 students BUT as part of the partnership we need the Lions Club to help us defer part of our costs." Our District 1-A goal for 2004/05 was pegged at \$25,000.

Governor Austin has always suggested a keystone to Vision First was that we (a) get corporate sponsors (b) and that the program be a MATCHING grant program. **But none of us envisioned that we would have a 4-1 matching offer from a corporate sponsor.**

LIONS, LensCrafters has provided us the one opportunity to pull off what was the unthinkable when we started this program in July 2004--BUT WE CANNOT DELIVER WITHOUT YOUR HELP NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

Presently, we have checks in the Vision First account totally \$6, 300 (Lyons, Beverly ridge and Broadview Kala Sampath) and we have pledges from Englewood, Westchester, Rogers Park, Columbia totaling another \$3,500. In sum we are at nearly \$10,000 with \$15,000 to go.

For your convenience I have include in this mailing a pledge card that should be filled out and return to me at:

Johnson Research Group, 343 South Dearborn, Suite 502, Chicago, Illinois-- 60604

johnsonresearch@comcast.net.

Governor's Note: *Fellow Lions: This is Holiday Season -- celebrating lights in our lives. Let us think about these small kids who are waiting to wear eyeglasses so that they can see well just like you and me. Let us contribute our gift of love towards "VisionFirst" ASAP. Give Lion Ron a call and mail your gift checks.*

Governor's Club Visit?

Call: 708-771-3177 or E-mail: kalasampath@aol.com to schedule your club's Governor's Visit for Lionistic year 2004-2005 immediately.

**Schedule now, before it is too late!
Must for 100% Awards!!**



District 1-A

"Knowledge is Priceless"

Leadership Team

The District Leadership Team hopes that you enjoyed a fantastic Christmas & look forward to an even better 2005 Lionistic Year. Half of the 2004/2005 Lionistic year is over and much has been accomplished in many areas. One of those areas has been with the leadership programs that were presented from July to November 2004 for the Region & Zone Chairpersons and the Open University. The plan is to continue on with offering special meeting/training for the current RC's & ZC's as well as the Open University. These are simply great

learning opportunities for advancement not only in Lionism but in your own occupation.

On January 13, 2005, there is a special Roundtable Meeting at the Lighthouse for the Blind exclusively for Region & Zone Chairman. The meeting will start at 6:30 P.M. sharp. From 6:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. snacks & refreshments will be available. This meeting is important for current RC's & ZC's as it is for current & future leaders of District 1-A. Please plan on attending and call in or e-mail your RSVP to me.

We will start off the Open University on **Saturday, February 19, 2005** with Pub 101 and that's all about publicity. Attendees will be treated to publicity techniques by professionals from the communications world. Remember, the University is for ALL LIONS in District 1-A and that means past, current and future leaders in your club. On March 19th, you will have an opportunity to learn about fundraising at its best by attending Fund 101. And, on **April 16th** Off 101 will be offered and this should be attended by all incoming officers. This is also an opportunity for past officers to attend as you are immediate past officers in your club and are looked upon for assistance and guidance by the new officers. Please share the above information at your meetings and encourage attendance at the Lions Open University and remember it's at no cost to you or the club. Call Lion Ray Jachim at **708-496-1996** or e-mail at RJMJ3@aol.com to make your reservations for any of the above events.

*-Lion Ray Jachim,
Leadership Chairperson.*

From Vice District Governor:



Fellow Lions of District 1-A

This is certainly one of the busiest times of the year for most people. With the New Year just around the corner, it's time to take a look at our recent accomplishments and continue to plan for the future challenges for Lions in our District.

It's a comforting thought as a Lion to know that we have clubs that are purchasing winter coats, boots and gloves for needy children in our District. Many families were recently the recipients of large food

baskets and toys that couldn't have arrived at a more symbolized time of the year. Yes, Lions, we made it happen and you have every right to be proud of our accomplishments whether you participated directly or not! "Through Sight First, Lions have restored sight or prevented serious vision loss for 24.6 million people. We've improved eye care services for hundreds of millions." Sight First and other LCIF initiatives succeed because of the exceptional contributions of many Lions. These are definitely some positives that we can hang our hats on.

During this Holiday Season, many clubs have had their individual club parties, but a district-wide party was recently held for everyone in the District. It was a wonderful time to renew old friendships and make new ones.

Everybody enjoyed the Holiday Spirit, as well as the Governor's new attire and his latest dancing moves.

We must not focus on our recent accomplishments, but prepare for the second half of the Lions year by attending the Attorney General's meeting on January 15th to assure that our clubs are on solid ground. Our annual mid-year forum is the next week and is jam-packed with information to benefit all Lions. Don't miss out! Encourage your newer members to attend so they can appreciate what Lions really do when we say, "We Serve."

Join the excitement in the District and "Get On Board." Here's my question: What is the name of the program that restored sight or prevented serious vision loss for 24.6 million people? The first Lion to call my home at (708) 389-5960 with the correct answer will receive a special gift. (We have voicemail that gives us the date and time of all calls received).

Remember....."KNOWLEDGE IS LION POWER"

Yours in Lionism,

-Lion Dennis McMillan,

*From the Desk of the
Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer*

From the works of Grace E. Easley:

The greatest gift at Christmas time, is one we all may give a friendly smile that helps to make life easier to live.

A KINDLY THOUGHT, A HELPING HAND, TO SHOW SOMEONE WE CARE AND LET THEM KNOW HOW MUCH IT MEANS, FOR US TO HAVE THEM THERE.

THE GREATEST GIFT AT CHRISTMAS TIME, COSTS NOT A LOT TO BUY

IT'S BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR, AS DAYS AND MONTHS GO BY; IT'S OFFERING A SHOULDER, WHEN SOMEONE NEEDS A LIFT AND SO I PRAY- THIS CHRISTMAS DAY, THAT THIS MAY BE YOUR GIFT!

Lion John R. Coleman CST

Did you pay Candy Day money to your Foundation yet?



Dear Lion Presidents and Secretaries:

October month came and gone and we completed our candy day sale collection. However, candy day collection report from Lions of Illinois Foundation shows that many of our clubs in District 1-A still did not send their collection and statement to your foundation.

December 31st was the last day to send your checks to receive your awards for our collection. If you missed, please remit your club candy day collection immediately. We collected this money in the name of visually and hearing impaired people in our communities and it should go back to that cause. Please approve this amount and send to your foundation immediately.

The Lions of Illinois Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization and the means used by your Lions Club to provide statewide services for the blind and deaf. It was founded July 1, 1974, is registered with the office of the Illinois Attorney General, and qualifies as a tax-exempt organization.

All programs are approved by Lions at the annual membership meeting during State Convention in May. The Foundation is governed by a 24 member Board of Trustees of which 12 are Lions District Governors and 12 Lions District Trustees. It is an organization of, by, and for Lions.

The Foundation is devoted to the highest Lions ideals of service to those with vision or hearing impairments.

Through the Foundation, your community and club benefit from these services:

1. Camp Lions for Children
2. Camp Lions for Adults
3. Lions Low Vision Clinic, Jacksonville
4. Lions of Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Low Vision Evaluation Clinics.
5. Diabetic Eye Center
6. Mobile Diabetic Eye Clinic
7. Mobile Hearing Services Unit
8. Infant Hearing Screening
9. Cochlear Implant Program
10. Used Hearing Aid Bank

11. Used Eyeglasses/Hearing Aid Collection
12. Social Services and Referral
13. Lions of Illinois Funds for Emergency (L.I.F.E.)

Your Foundation also awards grants to non-Lion service agencies.

It is funded mainly by club contributions from Candy Day, Sight and Sound Sweepstakes, Lioness Tootsie Pop Day, personal and corporate contributions.

Your Foundation led the campaign to raise \$5 Million to finance construction of the Lions of Illinois Eye Research Institute, Chicago, as well as the campaign to raise \$1.1 Million to finance The Charles I. Young Professional Chair.

Your Foundation located at:
Lions of Illinois Foundation
2814 DeKalb Avenue
Sycamore, IL 60178
Phone: 815-756-5633

About Hadley

Hadley has a course for you if you are:



THE HADLEY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

- A blind adult (14+ years of age);
- A relative of a blind or visually impaired child;
- A family member of a blind or visually impaired adult;
- A professional in the blindness field.

The Hadley School for the Blind offers more than 90 distance education courses to eligible students completely free of charge. From "Braille Reading for Family Members" to "Birdsong Tutor," you can select from a wide variety of Hadley courses. You can study in the comfort of your own home at a time convenient for you. Course materials arrive in the mail (a few are downloadable), and for students in the U.S. and Canada, instructors are just a toll-free call away.

Course Catalog

To obtain a Hadley course catalog in Braille, cassette, large print or computer diskette, call 1-800-323-4238 or [submit the online Catalog Request form](#). When you do, specify which version of the catalog you want. You can also [download the Catalog in PDF](#) (Adobe Acrobat Reader required) or [TEXT](#) version. All the information you need to begin your studies with Hadley is contained in this Web site.

From: Lion Terry D'Sonza Editor 906 Dunlon Avenue Forest Park IL 60130-2059

Mailing List

You can now [sign up](#) to receive newsletters and announcements from Hadley via email. For those of you already on our e-mail list, please keep us apprised of your most current e-mail address.

Contact Us:

The Hadley School for the Blind
700 Elm Street
Winnetka, IL 60093-2554 USA
Telephone: 1-800-323-4238
Fax: 847-446-0855
Info@Hadley.edu



Research in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences contributes to a greater understanding of

the visual process and the causes of vision loss. Investigations are laborator and patient-based, ranging from studies



ofvisual process to evaluations of rehabilitation therapy for people living with impaired vision.

The basic sciences represented in the Department include cell and molecular biology, chemistry and biochemistry, electrophysiology, immunology, microbiology, nanotechnology neuroscience, pharmacology, physics, physiology and psychophysics. Vision research is supported by more than 35 sponsored programs, including an NEI Core Grant for Vision Research, which provides state-of-the-art equipment and technical expertise.

Ways to Give
...so that others may see.

Giving to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences supports our efforts to advance medical practice and basic research in identifying the causes of vision loss and blindness, improving treatments for blinding eye diseases, slowing disease progression, and - someday - discovering cures. Whether it is through support of our research and training programs, or of our clinical services, your gift to our department is one that may help others to see.

Illinois Eye Fund

The Illinois Eye Fund helps to enable the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences fulfill its mission to improve the treatment of eye diseases, discover the underlying causes of disease, and identify the mechanisms of normal visual functioning at the molecular level - all in an effort to prevent vision loss and blindness. Gifts to the fund directly support the department's research, education and patient care programs and activities. The fund is comprised of contributions from individual donors, corporations and private foundations.

The Illinois Eye Fund was established in 1986 and is overseen by a board whose members include those with special interests in eye research, alumni of the department's residency program, and members of the department faculty. The board is instrumental in guiding the department's philanthropic efforts.

PR Corner:

(submission for Governor's January 2005 newsletter)

"No pessimist ever discovered the secrets of the stars, or sailed to an uncharted land, or opened a new heaven to the human spirit." – Helen Keller

Lions International, Channel 5, Oldies 104.3 and LensCrafters. What do they all have in common? Public relations/publicity needs, of course! And where/when could YOU find out the details of how they deal with these publicity needs and issues, you ask; at the **February 19th "Open University"** session entitled **"Public Relations 101"**.

Be there (the Lighthouse for the Blind; 8:30am registration), or be square!
-Lion Di Johnson, District PR