

MICHIGAN LIONS HALL OF FAME



A TRIBUTE TO
EXCEPTIONAL
LION LEADERS

2009 Inductees



JOHN S. NOEL

International President 1923-24
Grand Rapids, Michigan

John S. Noel was elected as International President at the Atlantic City Convention in 1923.

President Noel was a self-made man. He was born on a farm near Grand Rapids, Michigan and earned his way through business school and college. He was a bookkeeper for some years and when his debts were all cleared off, he went into business for himself with a capital of \$200. In a short time, he was comparatively wealthy and the head of several firms.

He was in the Michigan National Guard for years and was a major in the campaign on the Mexican border. In civil life, he was very active. He was a member of the National Council of Boy Scouts, President of the Inter-City Luncheon Clubs, President of the Grand Rapids Civic Committee and an officer or director in a score of other activities.



KARL M. SORRICK

International President 1940-41
Jackson, Michigan

Karl M. Sorrick served as International President during one of the most successful years of the Association's history.

President Sorrick was active in Lions Club work since 1921, when he was one of the original group which formed a Lions Club in Jackson. He held many offices in his own Club, had served as District Governor of the Lions Clubs of lower Michigan and was a Director of the International Association for two years. He was elected to the Third Vice-Presidency in 1937 at the Association's convention held in Chicago, was advanced steadily through the Vice-Presidencies and became President at the Havana convention.

He was born in Grand Rapids where he received his education. After a few years in clerical positions, he became interested in manufacturing and for a time was office manager of an auto wheel company in Lansing. For a year during World War I, he was active manager of a plant in Chatham,

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Ontario which was then manufacturing munitions. In addition to his business interests, he operated a 40-acre farm near Jackson. He was married and had two children.



RALPH M. SHEEHAN

International Director 1944-45
Marquette, Michigan

Ralph M. Sheehan was elected as International Director at the Associations Annual meeting held in Chicago, Illinois in August 1944.

Prior to that, Past Director Sheehan served two terms as District Governor, was Deputy District Governor and Zone Chairman, and held every office

in the Marquette Lions Club. He was a Master Key Member and joined Lionism at Manistique in 1934.

He was in Public Relations for the Michigan State Police and was President of the Boy Scout Council of the Michigan Upper Peninsula, President of the Community Chest, President of the Michigan War Finance Committee, President of the United War Funds of Marquette, General and County Chairman of War Loan Drives a member of the Victory Garden Committee and the Marquette Post War Planning Committee. He was born in Cadillac and was married and had two sons.



S.A. DODGE

International President 1953-54
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

S.A. Dodge was elected International President at the 36th Annual Convention in Chicago, Illinois, July 1953.

President Dodge became a member of the North West Detroit Lions Club in 1926, a few weeks after it had been chartered. He was President, Zone

Chairman was elected Deputy District Governor. He then was chosen as District Governor. During his tenure, he won the 100% Governor's Award which was at the time when all of Michigan was one District. He was one

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of the Founders of Leader Dogs for the Blind and one of the first Chairmen of the newly-created State White Cane Committee. The State White Cane law was enacted by the Michigan Legislature during his term as District Governor. As President, he traveled extensively on all continents of the World visiting Lions Clubs and Conventions. He was decorated by several foreign governments and later was named Ambassador of Good Will.

He was born in St. Clair County and graduated from the University of Michigan School of Business Administration. Immediately upon graduation, he entered the Air Force in World War I as an Officer. He was a Certified Public Accountant and followed his profession either publicly or privately all his life. He and his wife, Verna, had 2 children and 5 grandchildren.



WALTER G. WILSON,
International Director 1956-58
St. Ignace, Michigan

Walter G. Wilson was elected to the International Board of Directors in June 1956 at the International Convention in Miami, Florida, June 1956.

Past Director Wilson held various offices in his home Club, having served for six years as its Secretary. He also served as Deputy District Governor as well as District Governor. He was a Key member and held the District Governor 100% Award, the Extension Award and the Merit Award.

He was born in Rochester, Minnesota and received his education there. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry at the University of Minnesota and was involved in forestry in Upper Michigan. He was active in community, church and member of various other organizations. He was married to Florence.



ROBERT D. WYATT,
International Director 1959-61
Kewadin, Michigan

Robert D. Wyatt was elected to the International Board of Directors in 1959. He held every office in his District except for President and was a Key member. He was

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active in his community and church. He was married to Jane



C. LE VERN ROBBINS,
International Director 1962-64
Battle Creek, Michigan

C. Le Vern Robbins was elected to the International Board of Directors at the Association's 45th Annual convention held in Nice, France, June 1962.

Past Director Robbins had been a Lion since 1936 and held office including Club President and District Governor. He received the International President's Award, the Extension Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award.

He also served in a number of leadership positions, including President of the Boy Scout Council, the Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, instructor/lecturer for the University of Michigan Real Estate Program and was President of the Battle Creek Board of Realtors and the Michigan Association of Realtors. He and his wife, Elizabeth had two children.



HAROLD L. POCKLINGTON,
International Director
1966-68—Algonac, Michigan

Harold L. Pocklington was elected as International Director in 1966 and was a charter and life member of the Algonac Lions Club with 40 years of perfect attendance.

Past Director Pocklington served in all major offices of the Club and was chairman of a committee that built a million dollar athletic complex. He served as a Zone Chairman, Deputy District Governor, 100% District Governor and Chairman of the Blind Activities Committee. He helped organize 46 Lions Clubs in southeastern Michigan. He received 12 International President's Awards, Extension Awards and Ambassador of Good Will Award.

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He was the Vice-President and Executive Director of Leader Dogs for the Blind, Director of the National Bank of Rochester and a member of the National Rehabilitation Association. He was married to Mary.



GEORGE E. DALY,
International Director 1968-70
East Flint, Michigan

George E. Daly was elected International Director at the Association's 51st International Convention held in Dallas, Texas, June 1968.

Past Director Daly served in all offices of the East Flint Lions Club, as well as Zone Chairman, Deputy District Governor and District Governor. He received the Senior Master Key, 9 Presidential Awards, several Extension Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award.

He was active in organizations such as the Boy Scouts and Big Brothers and was a member of the Michigan and National Educational Association. He was Superintendent for Kearsley Community Schools in Flint. He and his wife, Theda had one daughter.



RALPH A. LYNAM
International President 1978-79
St. Johns, Michigan

Ralph A. Lynam was elected International President at the Association's 61st Annual Convention held in Tokyo, Japan, June 1978.

President Lynam was the charter Secretary/Treasurer of the St. Johns Lions Club and held all Club offices. He also served as District Governor, Secretary/Treasurer of his District Cabinet and as a Multiple District Auditor and Treasurer. He also served a two-year term as a member of the Association's Board of Directors and as Treasurer of the Association in 1974. He has served on the Advisory Committee of the Lions International Hearing and Speech Center at the University of

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Minnesota in Minneapolis, on the Board of Trustees for Leader Dogs for the Blind and was a member of the National Association of Hearing and Speech Action.

He was involved in administrative services and served several companies involved in land development and the construction and management of shopping centers and residential housing complexes. He and his wife, Doty, had four children, nine grandchildren and two-great-grandchildren.



JAMES O. FRENDEWEY,
International Director 1983-85
Kingsford, Michigan

James O. Frendewey of Iron Mountain, Michigan, USA, served a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association's 66th annual convention held in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, June 22 -25, 1983. Past Director Frendewey is retired.

A Lion and member of the Iron Mountain Lions Club since 1960, Past Director Frendewey has served as Club President, Zone Chairman, District Governor and Multiple District Council Chairman. For his efforts on behalf of the association, Past Director Frendewey has received the 100% District Governor Award, 2 Extension Awards, a Key Member Award, 3 International President's Awards, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted to a member by the association. Past Director Frendewey received the International Leadership Award from International President Judge Brian Stevenson.

Active in the community, Past Director Frendewey has served on the Upper Michigan Lions Eye Bank Committee and the Bay Cliff Health Camp for physically handicapped children. In addition, he was president of his local PTA chapter, a post commander for the American Legion, a Boy Scout Leader and president of both the Michigan Tech. Local Alumni Association and the Dickinson County Industrial Development Corporation.

He and his wife, Rose, had four children and eight grandchildren.

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KENNETH E. LAUTZENHEISER,
International Director 1985-87
Jerome, Michigan

Kenneth E. Lautzenheiser of Jerome, Michigan, USA, served a two-year term as director of The International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the Association's 68th annual convention held in Dallas, Texas, USA, June, 1985.

Past Director Lautzenheiser has served as a County Commissioner of Hillsdale County for 16 years, 14 of which have been either Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

In 2008, he was elected to a one-year term as President of the Michigan Association of Counties.

Past Director Lautzenheiser is a Charter Member of three Lions Clubs and has over 44 years of perfect attendance. He has held the Association offices of Club President, Zone Chairman and District Governor. He has served on and chaired numerous international, state and district committees. He has served on the faculty of 5 International Governor-Elect schools, USA/Canada Forum Committee and Regional Coordinator for the North American Membership Plan.

For his over 57 years of service in the Association, he has received 7 International President's Awards, 3 Leadership Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted to a member by the Association. He has been awarded with the Wendell E. Doty Award, the highest honor of District 11 B 1. He holds a Master Membership Key and Michigan's highest honor, the S. A. Dodge Award. He was the first recipient of both the Kenneth E. Lautzenheiser Award and the John S. Noel Award, the former established in recognition of his leadership in initiating the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow and recipient of one of the Top Ten International Understanding Awards for his work with the country of Belize. He is one of two PID's that initiated the Michigan Leadership Institute in 1998.

In his community, Past Director Lautzenheiser is a Past Chairman of the Michigan Eye Bank Board. He has served as a member of the Michigan School Business officials for 46 years and it's President in 1980-81. He currently is Chairman of the Tri-County Board of Health, Commission member on the Hillsdale Planning Commission, Community Action Agency Board and South Central Michigan Works. He is past Chairman of

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Lifeway's Mental Health Board, Mid-South Substance Abuse Boards and Michigan Public Health Institute Certification Board.

He and his wife, Rowena, have been married 63 years and have a son, daughter and two granddaughters and two grandsons



WILLIAM C. HANSEN,
International Director 2006-08
Rochester Hills, Michigan

William C. Hansen was elected as International President at the Association's 89th International Convention, held in Boston, Massachusetts, June 2006.

A member of the Rochester Lions Club since 1988, Past Director Hansen has held many offices including Club President, District Governor and Council Chairperson. He also has chaired and

served on a number of district and multiple district committees, including Strategic Planning, Membership, Leader Dog and LCIF.

He has received the Multiple District 11 S.A. Dodge Award, Multiple District 49 Anne Sullivan Award for humanitarian Service, Lions of Virginia Humanitarian Service Award and the District 11-A2 Harold L. Pocklington Award. He is a Life Member of the North Carolina Lions Foundation. Past Director Hansen has received the International President's Medal, 5 International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Ambassador of Goodwill Award, and he is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

He completed a 27-year United States Air Force career, retiring as a full Colonel in 1988. He subsequently completed a career with Leader Dogs for the Blind, retiring in 2007. He is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the International Guide Dog Federation, Assistance Dogs International, and he is a past president and past secretary of the United States Council of Dog Guide Schools.

Past Director Hansen served as commissioner of the Michigan Commission for the Blind, he served on the Rochester Hills Strategic Planning Committee, and he has served as a Board member of the Rochester Chamber of Commerce.

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He and his wife Carole have been married for 44 years, and they have 1 daughter.

Past Director Hansen and his wife Carole have been married for 44 years, and they have 1 daughter.



BILL E. HANEL

International Director 1989-91
East Lansing, Michigan

Bill E. Hanel, of East Lansing, Michigan, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a Director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 72nd annual convention, held in Miami/Miami Beach, Florida, USA, June 21-24, 1989. Past Director Hanel is a retired contractor.

A Lion since 1959 and a life member of the Lansing Host Lions Club, Past Director Hanel has served as Club President, Zone Chairman and

District Governor. He served as State Treasurer for 7 years and served on the Michigan Eye Bank Board of Directors for 13 years and was Board Chairman 2 of those years.

For his dedication to Lions, Past Director Hanel has received an Extension Award, a Membership Advancement Key Award, the 100% District Governor Award and 3 International President's Awards. He has also received the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Active in the community, Past Director Hanel is a Past Chairman of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross and a past member of the East Lansing Building Authority. He has also served on the Salvation Army board and on the East Lansing Planning Commission and City Council for 7 years. He and his wife, Virginia, have three daughters and eight grandchildren.

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WILLIAM "LARRY" YOUNG,
International Director 1992-94
Detroit, Michigan

William "Larry " Young of Detroit, Michigan, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a Director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 75th International Convention, held in Hong Kong, China, June 23-26, 1992. Past Director Young is a retired director of the Bureau of Food Sanitation.

A member of the Detroit Renaissance Lions Club since 1973, Past Director Young has held many positions within the Association, including Club President, Deputy District Governor and District Governor. He was also chairman of Michigan's White Cane Committee and a member of the Board of Trustees for Welcome Home for the Blind. He was past chairman of the PC Honorary Committee of District 11-A1 in 1984. In 1997, he was elected to the Board of Trustees of Leader Dogs for the Blind and subsequently was appointed to the Executive Committee.

Past Director Young has received numerous awards in recognition of his contributions to the Association, including 2 100% Club President Awards, the 100% District Governor Award, a Master Key Award, 4 International President's Appreciation Awards, 4 International President's Awards, 3 Extension Awards, 2 Guiding Lion Awards, the Ralph Lynam Silent Children's Award, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award (the highest Lions award given in the state of Michigan), the Michigan Outstanding Service Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the Association grants to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. He was instrumental in bringing the 2004 Lions International Convention to Detroit, Michigan, USA/Windsor, Ontario, Canada. In 2004, District 11 A1 established the PID Larry Young Leadership Award in his honor.

In addition to his Lion activities, Past Director Young is a member of the Southeastern Michigan Health Directors. He and his wife, Harriet, have two daughters, one granddaughter and one great granddaughter.

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A. CHARLES WEIR

International Director 1995-97
Lansing, Michigan

A. Charles Weir, of Lansing Michigan, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a Director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 78th International Convention, held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, July 4-7, 1995. He is a retired teacher and administrator in the field of education for the visually impaired.

A member of the Bretton Woods Lions Club, Past Director Weir has been a Lion since 1971. He has held many offices within the Association, including Club President, Club Secretary, District Governor and Council Chairman. He also has been a member of many multiple district committees and was Executive Director of the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation for 6 years.

Past Director Weir has received numerous awards in recognition of his services to the association, including the 100% District Governor Award, several District Governor Appreciation Awards, 2 Extension Awards, the Humanitarian Award, the Kenneth Lautzenheiser and the John S. Noel Awards from the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation, the Ralph Lynam Outstanding President's Award, the Len Butler District Editor Award, 3 International President's Certificates of Appreciation, 2 International President's Leadership Awards, 2 International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon a member by the Association. He has also received the S.A. Dodge Award, which is the highest recognition from the state of Michigan and is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Past Director Weir was named a Helen Keller Fellow by the California Lions Foundation and is a Life Member of the Texas Lions Camp. Past Director Weir has served on the Board of Directors for the Michigan Eye Bank and Lions Bear Lake Camp.

In addition to his activities as a Lion, Past Director Weir is active in his church and community. He has received an Award Certificate from the Michigan Association for Deaf, Hearing and Speech Services, an Award

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Certificate from the Michigan Congress of Parent and Teachers, a Certificate of Appreciation from the Council of Governors and the Distinguished Award from Holy Cross School. He and his wife, Frances, have three children and eight grandchildren.



DR. DENNIS D. COBLER,
International Director 1998-00
Muskegon, Michigan

Dr. Dennis D. Cobler of North Muskegon, Michigan, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a Director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 81st International Convention, held in Birmingham, England, June 29-July 3, 1998. Dr. Cobler is an optometrist.

A member of the Muskegon Northside Lions Club since 1980, Past Director Cobler has held many offices within the Association, including Club President and District Governor. In addition, he has served as Zone Chairman, Membership Chairman and Extension Chairman. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In recognition of his service to the Association, Past Director Cobler has received numerous awards, including the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, several International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Guiding Lion Award, 8 Extension Awards, a 150 Member Key Award, a Top Ten International Understanding and Cooperation Award, 8 International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the Association gives to its members.

In addition to his Lion activities, Past Director Cobler is a member of the Michigan Optometric Association and the American Optometric Association. He has also served as a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America and the Armed Forces Optometric Society. Past Director Cobler has been honored by the Governor with the Michigan Special Tribute and the Michigan Volunteer awards. He and his wife, Kathleen, have a son and a daughter.

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JOHN F. WALKER

International Director 2001-03
Sterling Heights, Michigan

John F. Walker, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as Director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 84th International Convention, held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, July 2-6, 2001. Past Director Walker is a retired elementary school principal.

A member of the Sterling Heights Lions Club since 1982, Past Director Walker held many offices within the Association, including Club President, Council Chairperson, Zone Chairperson, Region Chairperson, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer and District Governor. He has served on numerous committees on the club, district and international levels and as a moderator, discussion leader and presenter for the USA/Canada Forum. He was also Trustee and Vice President of the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation.

In recognition of his service to the association, Past Director Walker has received numerous awards including the Lion of the Year, the 100% District Governor Award, District Governor's Appreciation Award, the 100% Secretary Award, numerous International President's Certificates of Appreciation, four International President's Medals, the International President's Leadership Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the Association bestows upon its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a Key Member and a life member of the Association.,

Past Director Walker has continued his service to the Association. He served as faculty member for the MERL Seminar, District Governors-Elect Seminar, Emerging Lions Leadership Institute, Senior Lions Leadership Institute and the MD 21 Faculty Development Institute. He served as chairperson of the Michigan Lions Leadership Institute and a member of 2 Planning Committees of the USA/Canada Forum. Past Director Walker served as National/ Multi-National Coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II and currently serves as an Area Leader on the Global Membership Team.

Past Director Walker and his wife, Karen, also a Lion and a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two children and three grandchildren. Past Director Walker and Karen now reside in Surprise, Arizona, USA and are members of the Sunset Peoria Lions Club, Peoria, Arizona, USA.

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Louis H. (Bud) Zanner
Council Chairman, 1983-84
Au Gres, Michigan

PCC Bud Zanner is a devout family man and an unselfish and dedicated Lion . He often puts others needs before his own without regard for his own wellbeing.

PCC Zanner has served his Lions Club, District and the Lions of Michigan in numerous roles, including Multiple District 11 Convention Chair,

Michigan Forum Chair, Lions of Michigan Personnel Committee Chair, and President of the Past District Governors Association.

PCC Zanner is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received nearly every award offered by our Lions association, including the International President Commendation , the International President Leadership Medal, the Extension Award, the S.A. Dodge Award, the Lions of Michigan Foundation Humanitarian Award, and the highest honor offered by our association, the Ambassador of Goodwill.

PCC Zanner was a driving force behind the creation of the Lions of Michigan Foundation in the early 1980's, and he has been a relentless promoter and supporter of the Foundation from the very beginning. He was the LMF's first President, and no one has worked harder or provided more financial support to ensure the success of the Lions of Michigan Foundation than PCC Zanner and his family.

In addition to his Lions service, PCC Zanner served for 41 years in the United States Navy, and he is a WW II Veteran. He is a Life Member of the Reserve Officers Association and President of his church, and has served on the Au Gres Centennial Committee and the State Harbor Committee. a Charter Member of the Au Gres American Legion. PCC Zanner has served as Deacon, Sunday School Teacher, and President of

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his church, and has served on the AuGres Centennial Committee and the State Harbor Committee



Robert W. Jenkins

Council Chairman, 2009-10
Sterling Heights, Michigan

PCC Jenkins is a hard working, dedicated committed and unselfish person and Lion—he is truly a “Lions, Lion”. He is caring and compassionate, and he is a Lion for all the right reasons. Whether it be leading a project or working in the trenches, PCC Jenkins is always committed to getting the job done.

PCC Jenkins is generally the first person to step forward to help the less fortunate and downtrodden. His passion and desire comes from deep within his soul, and he leads with his heart when it comes to giving so that others may have a better quality of life or more self worth. He never hesitates to step forward and extend a helping hand.

PCC Jenkins is responsible for sponsoring 110 members into our Lions association, and he has compiled a long list of accomplishments in our association that spans 38 years of service in three Lions Clubs.

PCC Jenkins is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has been recognized with six International Certificates of Appreciation, the International Presidents Leadership Medal, five Extension Awards, three Guiding Lion Awards, the 100% District Governor Award, and the S.A. Dodge Award.

PCC Jenkins has also been active in other youth and community organizations. He has served as a member of the City of Warren Beautification Commission, Masonic Home Board of Directors and the Warren Family YMCA. He is a recipient of the Macomb County Commissioners Volunteer of the Year his Big Ideas and his Big Heart.

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Dr. John C. Meyer
Council Chairman, 1995-96
Oscoda, Michigan

“God could not have asked for a man of stronger commitment to mankind or to the Lord Almighty than Dr. John C. Meyer. When Dr. Meyer made a commitment to something, whether it be his family, a club or an organization, all knew he would do it with his whole heart and with 100% effort.”

Dr. Meyer had a significant impact on Lionism in Michigan over a long period of service which began as a Charter Member of the Fairgrove Lions Club in 1956 and continued until his death in 2003.

A review of Dr. Meyers' record of service will show that he often wore many hats simultaneously. However, he always managed to balance a full schedule with work, family, church, Lions and other activities.

Dr. Meyer was a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he received numerous awards for his Lions service, including 100% District Governor, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the International President's Leadership Medal, and the S.A. Dodge Award.

Family was always important to Dr. Meyer. He and Jane were married for 48 years, and they have five children and sixteen grandchildren. They placed a strong emphasis on education and faith.

Dr. Meyer's commitment to service extended beyond Lionism with a deep commitment to his Christian values. During 30 plus years as a member of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dr. Meyer served as an Elder, Deacon, Sunday School Teacher and Choir Member.



Dr. Irving W. Scheel
District Governor, 1983-84
Walled Lake, Michigan

Dr. Irving Scheel was not only a dedicated and committed Lion, he was also a gentleman, a family man and a humanitarian to the nth degree.

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Dr. Scheel was a Charter Member of the Wixom-Walled Lake Lions Club, and he served the Lions Club faithfully until his death. Dr. Scheel was a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received many awards for his Lions service, including the Harold Pocklington Award and three extension awards.

Dr. Scheel was a beacon of leadership in District 11-A2, and he chaired many of the District Committees. It seemed that when no other Lion offered to help, Dr. Scheel would come forward. While District Governor, he appointed six Zone Chairmen, and three of them became District Governors.

Dr. Scheel served on several Lion Of Michigan Committees, and he attended numerous Multiple District 11 Conventions. He was always sought out for his opinion relative to activities of the Lions of Michigan. He is responsible for bringing at least 20 members into our association.

Dr. Scheel was a chiropractor for nearly 50 years, and he treated many of his patients for most of those years. He loved to help people, and he was always going out of his way to help.

Dr. Scheel's community activities were numerous. He was active in his church as a teacher and treasurer. He was a World War II Veteran and a member of the local VFW.

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Al "Big Al" Kassin
District Governor, 1989-90
Lake Orion, Michigan

Al Kassin became a Lion in 1967 in Boyne City, Michigan. A few years later, for work, he relocated to Lake Orion where he has continued his Lions service with the Lake Orion Lions Club for more than 40 years.

Al has held nearly every leadership position at the Lions Club and district level. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and the recipient of numerous Lions district, multiple district and International awards, including the Ambassador of Goodwill Award, the highest form of recognition given by our association.

In 1981, as a resident camp manager at Camp Franklin in Lake Orion, Al recognized a need for a camp where visually impaired children could enjoy all of things that sighted children enjoyed while attending summer camp. Al's thoughts motivated him to travel across Michigan recruiting campers and soliciting Lions support for such a camp, and in 1982, with the support of the Lake Orion Lions, Al held his first camp for the visually impaired at Camp Franklin with 52 campers in attendance.

In 1989, Camp Franklin was sold, and it was scheduled to close in 1990 prompting Al to identify alternative locations for his camp for sight impaired children. In 1992, Al identified a camp north of Lapeer that was for sale, and with the help and support of the District 11-A2 Lions, Al incorporated the Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp (LVIYC) as a non-profit organization, and he secured a 4-year loan for \$1.2 million to purchase the camp in Lapeer.

Due to Al's tireless efforts and the help of many Lions and the Marine Corp of Engineers, Bear Lake Camp opened in 2000, and Al's dream of a permanent home for the LVIYC became a reality. Since 2000, the camp has evolved into a year-round operation which was Al's original vision.

Al has been appropriately labeled with the nickname "Big Al" because of

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Loyst E. Trombley
Council Chair, 1983-84
Rapid River, Michigan

Loyst Trombley is a true humanitarian evidenced through his efforts in promoting Lionism in the town of Rapid River and throughout the state of Michigan. he International President's Certificate of Appreciation and the 100% District Governor Award.

Of Loyst's many accomplishments in Lions, he is most proud of his part in organizing and developing the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation and the foundation's subsequent support of Bay Cliff Health Camp.

It was Loyst and several of his fellow 1983-84 District Governors along with PID Ken Lautzenheiser and Lions of Michigan State Secretary Budd Goodwin who incorporated our Lions Foundation in June 1984. Loyst served as the foundation's first Vice President, and in 1988-89 he served as President. He was instrumental in starting the Lions Mints Program in Michigan which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Michigan Lions projects.



Robert G. Lutze
District Governor, 1997-98
Hillman, Michigan

Bob Lutze served in many capacities during his lifetime, beginning at the age of 17 when he joined the U.S. Navy where he served our country for more than 30 years. Wherever he was stationed, Bob got involved in community affairs. He was active in the Boy Scouts serving both as Scoutmaster and Commissioner, and he was always active in his local church which was often the military chapel.. Bob enjoyed helping as an usher and singing in the choir.

After retirement from the Navy, Bob's search for another outlet to satisfy his need to serve other lead him to Lions, and he became a charter member of the Hillman Lions Club in 1980. He was an active member during his entire Lions' career, always carrying out his assigned duties with faithfulness, and when no one would step forward to accept a job, Bob would always volunteer. He sponsored 27 members into Lions,

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including PDG Mitch Smith who would make Bob proud by sharing in his commitment to serve others.

Bob believed in our ability as Lions to change lives, and when a tornado nearly destroyed Comins, Michigan in 2000, Bob immediately went to Comins to ask how Lions could help. He requested and administered maximum grant awards from both LCIF and the LMF to help rebuild the town, and he subsequently organized and served as Guiding Lion for the Fairview-Comins Lions Club.

Bob served as LMF Trustee for six years, Hillman Lions Mint Chair for twenty years, and District 11-E2 Extension Chair for four years, but the highlight of Bob's Lions' service was serving as District Governor and receiving the District Governor of Excellence Award for his accomplishments and service as District 11-E2 District Governor.



Dr. Wallace "Doc" O'Brien
District Governor, 1959-1960
Rochester, Michigan

Doc was well known around town for providing services regardless of one's ability to pay. Doc treated his patients as if they were family.

In the early 1940's, Doc worked diligently to organize the Rochester Lions Club, and in June of 1944, he was installed as the charter Vice President. His service in Lions spanned 55 years until his death in 1999. During that time, Doc held every club and district office and he served on several multiple district committees. His accomplishments are many, and he received numerous awards to recognize those accomplishments, including the Membership Advanced Key Award for sponsoring twelve Rochester Lions, the International Presidents Award, the International Leadership Award, the International Presidents *Certificate of Appreciation*, the *100% District Governor Award* and the *S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award*.

Doc was a faithful supporter of Leader Dog School for the Blind, and in September 1987 when Mary Pocklington's health failed, Doc stepped up and took over the day to day operations of the school. He served as Managing Director of Leader Dog until Bill Hansen was hired as President/CEO in July 1988. Doc O'Brien was a "A True Leader."

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Granville B. Cutler

District Governor 1984-85
Plainwell Michigan

Granville Cutler served our association from 1967 to 2008 , and he held every club office in the Plainwell Lions Club, including “forever plus one day” as club Secretary.

He served in many district and multiple district positions, including District 11-C1 Song Leader from 1986-2008, 11-C1 District Editor from 1987-2007, District 11-C1 All State Band Chair from 1985-2006 and Multiple District 11 All State Band Chair, and he was a founding member of the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation. However, Granville might be best known for his photography skills. Wherever his Lions travels took him, Granville always had his camera, and he would document and preserve the activity or event in pictures. Many times, he would send those pictures to his many Lions friends and acquaintances throughout Michigan.

Granville received fifteen District 11-C1 Len Barney Publication Awards, fourteen Len Butler Awards (presented to the best district editor), the Multiple District 11 S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award in 1993, the International Presidents Leadership Medal, and the International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation for his service to our association. He was a Melvin Jones Fellow and a Kenneth E. Lautzenheiser Fellow.

In 2002, Granville donated \$10,000 to District 11-C1 to create the Granville & Betty Cutler Leadership Award to recognize 11-C1 Lions who exhibited leadership and service qualities that Granville admired in members dedicated to advancing our Lions association.

2012 Inductees



Stuart Lozon

District Governor - 1984-85
Alpena, Michigan

Stuart Lozon spent many years in Detroit before moving north and joining the Presque Isle Lions Club and later the Alpena Lions Club. Stuart served our association for 25 years, and he held nearly every office at the club, district and multiple district level, including club president, secretary and treasurer and zone chair, region chair, vice district governor and district governor.

Stuart may be most recognized for his service as Mint Chair of the Alpena Lions Club. Stuart, alone, serviced more than 100 Lion Mint accounts that he established throughout Alpena and the surrounding area. He was responsible for selling nearly 70,000 rolls of Lion Mints annually, and he earned the title of Mint King each and every year. Stuart earned thousands of dollars each year for the Alpena Lions Club and the Lions of Michigan Foundation through his dedication to community service and the Lion Mints Program.

Stuart was recognized many times for his outstanding service to our association. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has received numerous awards, including the 100% District Governor Award and the International President's Certificate of Appreciation.

Stuart and Margaret Lozon had two sons (William and David), three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.



Frank Cunningham

Council Chair - 2010-11
Clinton Township, Michigan

Fraser Lion Frank Cunningham of Clinton Township has been a Lion for 25 years. He joined Lions after becoming blind and obtaining a Leader Dog. He is an inspiration and mentor for many Lions, and his work to

2012 Inductees

help others who have disabilities is well documented. Frank has been the “go to” guy for every district governor in District 11-A2 since he was district governor.

Frank has served our association in nearly every capacity. He has served as club president and membership chair, zone chair, region chair, district governor and council chair, and he has served on numerous club, district, multiple district and international committees.

Frank is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and in recognition of his service to Lions, he has received the International President’s Award, the International Leadership Award, the International President’s Certificate of Appreciation, and the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award. Frank has also received many non-Lions certificates and awards in recognition of his community service and work with people with disabilities.

In addition to his service to Lions, Frank is very active in his church, and he serves on many state and local government committees. He has served as a committee chair for the Michigan Commission for the Blind, and he represented people with disabilities on the SMART Bus Committee.



Charles Cone

District Governor - 1994-95
Northville, Michigan

Plymouth Lion Charles Cone of Northville has been a Lion for 29 years, and during that time, he has held nearly every office, served in nearly every capacity and received nearly every award our association offers.

Charlie is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a Progressive John S. Noel Fellow, a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and in recognition of his service to Lions, he has received the International President’s Award, the International Leadership Award, the International President’s Certificate of Appreciation, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award, the William “Larry” Young Award, and the George Bollender Memorial Award.

2012 Inductees

Charlie's life of service began many years before Lions as a naval aviator for the United States Air Force. As he so often does in Lions, Charlie served wherever he was needed, and he was the first person to volunteer for a special assignment. Usually, Charlie was involved in a mission of mercy of one kind or another, and often, he would be called on to transport family members to an unexpected funeral, evacuate people from natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes or fly medical supplies to people in need. It was one of these missions that changed Charlie's life forever when he accompanied the remains of his roommate (a naval pilot who had been killed in a plane crash) back to Milwaukee for burial and met Jo who had been the girlfriend of Charlie's roommate.

In addition to his Lions and military service, Charlie is active in his church and many other community service organizations and charities, including Angel Flight/Air Lifeline, the Upshaw Institute, the Greater Detroit Society of the Blind, the Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Operation Able of Michigan, the Detroit Masonic Temple and Operation Good (Christmas) Cheer. His list of honors for his non-Lions service include a Special Tribute Certificate from Governor Jennifer Granholm, the 2003 Governor George Romney Lifetime Achievement Award - Honorable Mention, the 1999 Neal Shine Ability is Ageless Award and the Federal Aviation Authority Wright Brothers "Master Pilot" Award in recognition of over 50 years of continuous flying without an accident.



James Chipman,
District Governor - 1983-84
Paris, Michigan

Big Rapids Lion James Chipman of Paris has served our association for 40 years, and during that time, he has served as president, secretary, and membership chair of the Big Rapids Lions Club, and he has held every district office besides cabinet treasurer. Jim is a founding member of the Lions of Michigan Foundation, and he was instrumental in developing the guidelines and principles by which our foundation operates today.

2012 Inductees

Jim is the person in District 11-E1 whom everyone depends on when questions or concerns arise in the district, and his mentoring, enthusiasm, leadership and encouragement have been the impetus for many District 11-E1 Lions to seek additional responsibilities at the club, district and multiple district levels. Jim is always willing to help further the cause of Lionism, and he has worked tirelessly as a Guiding Lion to build strong and active clubs in the district. If clubs are in trouble, Jim jumps in and uses all of his energy to bring the club back into the fold as a strong and flourishing asset to the community.

Jim is a Melvin Jones Fellow, a John Noel Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow. He has received numerous awards in recognition of his Lions service, including the 100% District Governor Award and the International President's Certificate of Appreciation



Wayne Schultz

District Governor - 2000-01
Oscoda, Michigan

Oscoda Lion Wayne Schultz joined our association 33 years ago. He has held nearly every office at the club level, and at the district level, he has served as zone chair, cabinet secretary/treasurer, vice district governor and district governor. Wayne has served on and chaired numerous committees at the club, district and multiple district levels.

A man of ideas, information, leadership, vision and commitment, Wayne truly embodies the spirit of Lionism. His knowledge of Lionism has earned him the title "Mr. Lion" in the Oscoda Lions Club. Whenever, an Oscoda Lion has a concern or questions about our association, it is Wayne who has the answer or who knows where to obtain it.

Wayne's commitment to Lionism has always extended well beyond the club level, and few, if any, individuals work harder to support and market our Michigan Lions projects and programs. Wayne's dedication lead him to create the "You Changed My Life" brochure which is used by the Lions of Michigan Foundation and Lions Clubs throughout the state to market our achievements as Michigan Lions, and Wayne recognized the importance of the Sight & Hearing Sweepstakes to the success of our foundation, and he challenged the Oscoda Lions Club and the clubs in District 11-E2 to sell more tickets to support the foundation. Through

2012 Inductees

Wayne's guidance, the Oscoda Lions have sold more than 600 Sight & Hearing Sweepstakes tickets each year for several years, and District 11-E2 has been the top selling district every year. It was also under Wayne's guidance, as chair of the foundation's Fund Development & Marketing Committee, that the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame became a reality.

Wayne is a Melvin Jones Fellow, a John Noel Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow. For his Lions service, Wayne has been recognized with the International President's Award, the International Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the 100% District Governor Award, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award, the Membership Growth Award, the Michigan Outstanding Governor Award and the Lions of Michigan Foundation's Outstanding Service Award.

Wayne was an educator by profession—a teacher, administrator, and mentor to many fellow teachers. He is a member of the Oscoda United Methodist Church having served over the years in many church offices and on many committees. He has also served in many community organizations over the years, including the United Way and Boy Scout Troop 959. Wayne holds a lifetime membership in the Air Force Association.

Wayne and Lion Carole Schultz have been married for 41 years, and they have two children and two grandchildren. Together, Wayne and Carole comprise a dynamic team that travels throughout District 11-E2 promoting Lionism and working with troubled Lions Clubs to ensure that communities continue to benefit from the humanitarian services provided by our association.



Budd R. Goodwin
State Secretary - 1966-88
East Lansing, Michigan

Lansing Host Lion Budd R. Goodwin of East Lansing began his long career as Lions of Michigan State Secretary in 1966 after working in retail for many years. Budd used his vast knowledge of marketing to promote Lions and increase membership in Michigan. He is

2012 Inductees

responsible for organizing 243 Lions Clubs in Michigan, and under his direction, Michigan Lions membership grew to 600 Lions Clubs and nearly 24,000 members. Michigan led the United States in the organization of new clubs through Budd's leadership.

Budd played a major role in the development of many of our Lions of Michigan programs and policies, including the Who's Who in Michigan Lions, the Lions Policy Manual, the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation, the Lion Mints Program, the Lions All State Band and Michigan Braille Transcribing. He supervised leadership training for all Lions State Secretaries in the United States; he was appointed by Governor William Milliken as Service Club Chairman for "Jobs for Youth"; and he worked with the staff at the White House and First Lady Nancy Reagan as Lions Clubs International's coordinator for the "War on Drugs".

In recognition of his exemplary service to our association, Budd has received all of the highest awards given by the Lions of Michigan and Lions Clubs International. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received the Ambassador of Goodwill Award, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award and twelve Presidential awards.

In addition to Budd's accomplishments in Lions, he was chairman of East Lansing's Retail Promotion for six years; he established the East Lansing Sidewalk Art Show; and he developed and coordinated Michigan State University Homecoming with East Lansing merchants. Budd was featured by "McCall's Magazine" as Imaginative Retail Innovator in recognition of his retail prowess.



Dr. Gary Anderson
International Director - 2010-12
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Dr. Gary Anderson of Grand Rapids was elected to serve a two-year term as director of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's International Convention, held in Sydney, Australia in 2010.

2012 Inductees

Gary is a Doctor of Optometry and the owner of Anderson Eye Care.

As a member of the Grand Rapids Lions Club since 1979, Gary has held many offices within the association, including club president, district governor and council chair. He also served as CSFII district coordinator, chair of the 2007 USA/ Canada Forum Grand Rapids Host Committee, and twice as a member of the USA/Canada Forum Planning Committee. Gary has participated in 22 Lions vision missions to Central and South America, and India.

In recognition of his service to the association, Gary has received numerous awards including the Henry Voet Grand Rapids Lifetime Achievement Award, the Lions of Michigan Foundation Humanitarian Award, the Grandville and Betty Cutler Leadership Award, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award, 10 International President's Certificates of Appreciation, an International President's Leadership Award and three International President's Medals. Gary is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Gary is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the American Optometric Association and the Michigan Optometric Association.

Gary and Cheryl, who is also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have one son and two daughters, all of whom are Lions and whose spouses are Lions. They have two grandsons.

2013 Inductees



John Cioroch
District Governor - 1980-81
Temperance, Michigan

John Cioroch joined the Bedford Township Lions Club in 1970, and his passion for service blossomed. For over 40 years, John has lived and breathed Lions, and during that time, he has sponsored 25 new Lions members.

John has held every position in the Bedford Township Lions Club, and he has been instrumental in developing many of the club's most successful service projects and fundraisers, including the 300 Club, the Matt Stacy Telethon (raising \$90,000 for Matt's Liver Transplant), the Bedford Twp. Lions Resale Shop (raising \$75,000 annually, and Bedford Heart Heroes (raising \$20,000 in nine months to place Automatic External Defibrillators in all Bedford Twp. sheriff vehicles, school buildings, the library, athletic field and Senior Center).

John is a Life Member of the Bedford Township Lions Club, and he is a Melvin Jones Fellow, Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow and John S. Noel Fellow. His list of Lions accomplishments and awards are many, and include: Senior Master Key, International President's Commendation, International Leadership Medal, International Presidential Certificate, Michigan Distinguished District Governor, MD 11 Net Membership Increase Award, Extension Award, 100% District Governor, District 11-A1 Larry Young Award, 100% Club President, 100% Club Secretary, and Michigan State Fair Lion of the Year.

John's Lions service has always extended beyond his Bedford Twp. Lions Club. He has served District 11-A1 in all leadership positions, and he has chaired the Multiple District 11 Membership and Extension Committees. In addition, John served for 9 years on the Michigan Eye Bank Board; serving as Secretary, Chairman, Vice Chairman and interim CEO, and he has served for 11 years on the Lions of Michigan Foundation Board, serving as Secretary, Vice President and President.

Beyond Lions, John has served on several local government committees, and he is a charter member of two chapters of the Knights of Columbus. John has served his church as a member and usher for over 50 years

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John is a graduate of Wayne State University's Department of Mortuary Science, and he is a successful businessman, operating John Cioroch Funeral Home, JC Promotions and Bedford Mini Storage. John and wife Camille have been married for 56 years, and they have 7 children, 12 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.



Bill Whippen

Council Chair - 1985-86
Munising, Michigan

It was 1926, prior to the Great Depression - a time when we had stay at home moms, and we had dads who went to work every day. It was a time when men wore the pants, and women wore the jewelry, and it was the beginning of Bill Whippen's wonderful life as a teacher, politician, Lion and public servant.

After graduating from the University of Toledo in 1958, Bill attended Eastern Michigan University where he obtained a teaching certificate for the Mentally Handicapped. During his teaching career, he was instrumental in helping hundreds of needy children build their skills for proper job placement and useful career opportunities.

Bill's extensive Lions service, spanning over 40 years, began when he and wife Janet moved to Munising. During that time, Bill has served in nearly every leadership position at the Lions Club and district level, including Council Chair for Multiple District 10 in 1985-86 and District Parliamentarian and Constitution & By-laws Chair for many years.

Bill may be best known by many Lions for his long-running "Cracks From The Whipp" editorial in the Single District 10 Lions Magazine. Bill once wrote "Few people are born to be leaders". Bill is one of those few, and he has paved the way for so many people through his efforts of serving others.

Bill is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received numerous awards for his Lions service, including the District 10 Ralph M. Sheehan Award, 100% District Governor and 100% Club President.

In addition to Bill's Lions service, he is active in his church and local

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government. He served the city of Munising as its top executive, he served as President of the Michigan Conservation Clubs, and he chaired the Alger County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Bill is largely responsible for much of the success within the city of Munising and the surrounding areas.



Paul Frederick

District Governor - 1983-84
East Leroy, Michigan

Paul Frederick's service as a Lion began in 1975, and he is the charter President of the Athens Area Lions Club. He has served as Club President 5 times, and he has sponsored 81 new Lions members.

Paul has served in nearly all leadership positions within his club and District 11-B1, and he has served on numerous club, district and multiple district committees and Lions State and District Project Boards, including as chair of the District 11-B1 Membership Committee and the Global Membership Team, charter Secretary of the Lions of Michigan Foundation and President of the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund. Paul believes his work on membership is his most important achievement in Lions, as he believes membership is the key to a successful Lions Club.

Paul is a Melvin Jones Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow. He is a State Membership Key holder, and a recipient of the International President's Commendation, International Leadership Medal, International Presidential Certificate and 100% District Governor Award.

In addition to Paul's Lions service, he is a Hunter Safety Instructor for the NRA, and he has taught Hunter Safety for 36 years. He is serving his 12th year as a member of the National Honor Guard's Friday Lions Squad at the Fort Custer National Cemetery (missing only 6 Fridays of service); he is the Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3519; and he is the charter Secretary and former President of the Athens Area Community Foundation.

Paul is a retired education with 38 years of service as a counselor for Pennfield and Athens Area Schools. He is married to PDG Shirley, and they reside in East Leroy, Michigan.

2013 Inductees



Stuart D. Goodrich

District Governor - 1982-83
Holt, Michigan

“Vision for the Future” has been and continues to be an apt description of Stuart Goodrich’s approach to many of the goals he has sought to achieve in life.

1968 saw not only the birth of the Holt Lions Club, but it was also the beginning of Goodrich Optical. 45 years later, Stuart still puts in a full day at work, and he is the sole remaining Charter Member of the Holt Lions Club.

Serving his profession as a Certified and Licensed Optician, Stuart is a former President of the Opticians Association of Michigan, Chairman of the Commission for Opticianry Accreditation (U.S. Department of Education), a Director on the Opticianry Advisory Committees at both Ferris State University and Southern Michigan State Prison. He still serves, after 18 years, as a Board Member of the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund.

His service to his community includes positions on the Boards of Holt and Ingham Intermediate School Districts. As founding Chair of the Delhi Downtown Development Authority, his service helped bring many new businesses to the community. He continued that service with election to the Delhi Township Board in 1992, and concluding in 2012 after serving 10 years as Township Supervisor.

Along the way, Stuart has received the “Unsung Hero” award from WLNS-TV, Community Service Person of the Year from The South Lansing Business Association, and an “Appreciation Award” from Radio Talking Book, WKAR Radio, Michigan State University, being “The Driving Force In Saving The Program By Involving Lions”

Concurrent with his other community service, Stuart has served Lionism with 45 years of perfect attendance as a Holt Lion. He has served in every position within the club, at one point or another, some multiple times, and he has sponsored 45 new members. Stuart helped build not only the Holt Lions Club, but the community of Holt as well.

Stuart served on the MD 11 International Convention Committee for 20 years, nine of those as Chairman. He is a Melvin Jones and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has been recognized with numerous awards, including 100% President, 100% District Governor, the S. A.

2013 Inductees

Dodge Distinguished Service Award, International President's Commendation, International Leadership Medal, International Presidential Certificate, and three times, he has been awarded with Life Membership in Lions Clubs International.



Ray DeWitt

Council Chair - 1974-75
DeWitt, Michigan

Raymond DeWitt was born Nov. 5, 1921 in St. Joseph Co., Indiana, along with his twin brother Rexford who unfortunately died shortly thereafter. He and his five brothers and sisters were raised on his parents' farm in Buchanan, Michigan. Ray helped on the family farm, and he enjoyed obtaining his driver's license at the age of 14 so he could drive the farm truck to and from the market. After graduating high school, he briefly

attended college before being called back to the farm to help with duties there. At the age of 21, an accident with a corn-picker caused him to lose parts of several fingers. Hence, instead of a typical "high-five", his son would declare "gimme three and a quarter"!

After working as Executive Secretary of Michigan Allied Poultry and Executive Secretary of Michigan Dairy Association, he began working as a salesman for Franklin Oil in the late 1960's, selling oil lubricants to stamping and machining plants. He retired after 37 years as Senior Sales Consultant and Vice President at Franklin.

During the 1950's Ray was a member of the Nationally known barbershop quartet, "The Four Bards", singing tenor. One of their highlights was traveling to New York to perform on the Arthur Godfrey Radio Show. Ray continued to sing, alongside his wife Dorie, with the DeWitt Reflections chorus during the 1970's and 80's.

Ray had a strong interest in Genealogy, and during the 1970's and 80's, he and Dorie managed to trace the DeWitt lineage back to The Netherlands in the 1400's. Along the way, he visited the DeWitt family homestead in Kingston, New York, built in the late 1700's.

Active in Michigan Lionism since 1968, he received five Lions

2013 Inductees

International Extension awards and the MD 11 S. A. Dodge award. Ray was also elected as Michigan's candidate for International Director, until a job promotion necessitated a short move to Ohio.

Ray passed away May 31, 2006 at the age of 84, and Dorie, his wife of 42 years, also passed 5 months later. He is survived by his 2 sons Dr. Dana of Jackson and Lee (Ruth) of Howell, and his 3 daughters from a previous marriage; Cathy Paradise and Mary (Jack) Smallwood of Buchanan. Michigan and Nancy (Jerry) Sain of Cape Coral, Florida and numerous loving grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.



Albert Van Thomme
District Governor - 1966-67
Fraser, Michigan

Lion Al joined the Fraser Lions Club in 1956, and he served tirelessly for 38 years. He might be best remembered by his campaign slogan, "Six foot Six in 66".

As a Fraser Lion, Al quickly moved through the ranks serving as a Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President, and Club President.

At the District level, Lion Al served as a Zone Chairman, Deputy District Governor, and finally District Governor. He was a member of numerous District and MD-11 Committees. He believed in being active at all levels of Lions, and he was involved in organizing and promoting our State Projects, including Leader Dogs for the Blind, the Michigan Eye Bank, and the Lions Bear Lake Camp.

Al was a Melvin Jones Fellow, a Life Member, 100% District Governor, 100% Club President, and he was the recipient of the International Presidential Certificate.

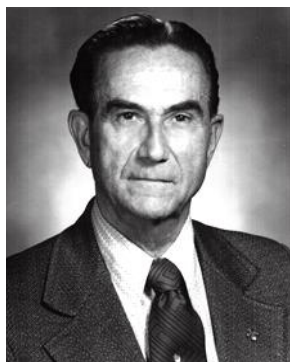
Outside Lions, Al served several terms as a Fraser City Councilman, and he was a member of the Fraser Volunteer Fire Department which later became a full time job.

As for membership, Lion Al sponsored approximately 10 members into the organization, and he was instrumental in establishing and chartering

2013 Inductees

the Sterling Heights Lions Club. Al was always willing and able to offer help wherever needed. He quietly mentored many Lions as they progressed through the ranks to become District Governors.

Lion Al was a true Lion to the very end.



Wendell Doty

District Governor - 1941-42
Battle Creek, Michigan

Very few, if any, Lions could match the accomplishments that Wendell Doty achieved in his 69 years of service as a member of the Battle Creek Host Lions Club. He was instrumental in developing Lions Clubs throughout Southern Michigan and the state. He and his Battle Creek Host Lions Club are responsible for chartering 10 new Lions Clubs in Michigan, including the Cereal City Lions Club and

the Bellevue Lions Club.

Wendell was personally acquainted with Melvin Jones, and during the 1930's and 40's, he was appointed by Lions Clubs International as an International Counselor for District 11 which is now Multiple District 11.

Wendell helped organize and structure Lions Clubs throughout Michigan during the early years of Lions. He is personally responsible for sponsoring 109 new Lions members, earning the **Key of Nations**.

Wendell and wife Huberta visited Lions Clubs in 22 different countries and every state within the United States, except Alaska. Together, they attended 22 International Conventions.

Wendell was a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he seemingly achieved everything during his years of Lions service. He received many awards and other forms of recognition for his Lions service and volunteer work, including the 1st District 11-B1 Wendell Doty Award in 1995, the S.A. Dodge Award, the William Spurgeon III Council Award and State of Michigan Volunteer of the Year.

Wendell and Huberta's efforts to help people in need extended well beyond

their service to Lions, and one of their greatest charitable acts was the donation of their former home which included 5 acres of valuable land and 4 houses to the Leila Arboretum Society for a children's garden. The Doty home now serves as the office for the 80 acre wooded park and children's garden.

2014 Inductees



Roger LaMothe
Council Chair - 2011-12
Jackson, Michigan

Roger LaMothe was a natural leader, and he was a source of inspiration and guidance to many others. He served our association for 28 years, and he had a strong impact on every level of the organization, applying his leadership qualities to advance Lionism in Michigan and beyond.

Among his many Lions accomplishments, Lion Roger served as 11-B1 District Governor in 1997-98, President of the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund, President of the Lions of Michigan Foundation and MD 11 Council Chair in 2011-12. Roger was a popular presenter at several USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums, and his expertise in photography gained him notoriety in many publications of the Lion Magazine.

Roger's dedication to Lions earned him numerous awards and recognition. He was a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, John Noel Fellow and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he was the recipient of two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International President's Guiding Lion Award and the LCI Scouting Service Award.

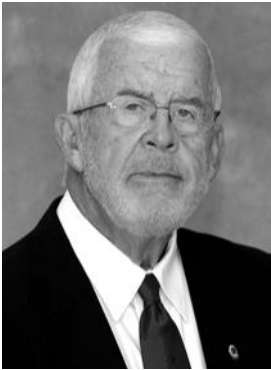
Roger's commitment to service extended well beyond Lions. He earned the James E. West Fellow and the District Award of Merit for his service in the Boy Scouts of America, and in the Jackson community, Roger worked with the United Way and co-chaired the Adult Vision Council. He was the Paragon School Board President for ten years, and he served on the Jackson Children's Initiatives Committee.

Roger graduated from Michigan Technological University in 1965 with a

2014 Inductees

Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, and he earned a Masters in Finance from Central Michigan University in 1968. Professionally, he worked in the Rate Administration Department at Consumers Energy for 33 years designing and supporting utility rates and regulations before the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Lion Roger and wife Esther were married for 43 years, and they have two sons, Joseph and Robert. Together, Lions Roger and Esther traveled the world spreading Lionism, attending 15 International Conventions and 12 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums.



Jerry Hinton
Council Chair - 2003-04
Gibraltar, Michigan

Jerry Hinton Joined the Dearborn Heights Lions Club in 1985. He felt like he had found a home right away. He worked his way thru the chairs and committees, becoming Club President in 1995. Zone Chair, Region Chair and Lion of the Year would soon follow.

In the Spring of 2011, PID Larry Young visited the Dearborn Heights Lions Club with the purpose of asking Lion Jerry to consider running for Vice District Governor. PID Larry explained that Jerry's leadership qualities had been noticed throughout the District, and District 11-A1 needed his guidance, and of course, Lion Jerry answered the call.

Lion Jerry was sworn in as District Governor at the Lions International Convention in Denver, Colorado in 2003. At his Council's first training session, Jerry was elected Council Chairman, and he was steadfast in the dual role of District Governor and Council Chair.

Lion Jerry improved membership numbers, and he retained all District 11-A1 Lions Clubs during his year as District Governor. In addition, his Council brought the publication of the Lion Pride Magazine in-house, presided over the hiring of the magazine's editing and layout staff, and negotiated the new lease agreement for the Lions State Office; accomplishing all while being very involved in the planning of the 2004 International Convention in Detroit.

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After retiring from AAA Michigan in 2000 as a Claims Investigator, spending over 20 years investigating fraud, arson and theft, Lion Jerry and Sue moved downriver to fulfill their dream of living on the water. Shortly after the move, Lion Jerry transferred his membership to the Trenton Lions where he immediately hit the ground running, chairing the Annual Koeze Nut Sale and Golf Outing.

Lion Jerry is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he is a recipient of the International Presidential Award, International Leadership Award and International President's Certificate of Appreciation. However, Lion Jerry is proudest of his Larry A. Young Award, District 11-A1's highest honor.

When not helping others or supporting his community, Lion Jerry spends his "spare" time gardening, hunting, camping and, whenever possible, fishing. Lion Jerry and his best friend Sue have been married for 51 years, and they are blessed with 3 wonderful children and 5 outstanding grandchildren ranging in age from 14-22.



David Bennett

District Governor - 1991-92
Holt, Michigan

David Bennett is a charter year member of the Holt Lions Club, and he has been a tireless promoter of Lionism for nearly half a century, amassing 46 years of perfect attendance. He has held nearly every position in the Holt Lions Club, and he is a three time Holt Lion of the Year. Lion Dave lives by the motto "Strengthen the Ties to Lionism Thru Service."

Lion Dave has shown his leadership, dedication and enthusiasm for Lionism at the Club, District, Multiple District and International levels. Of his many accomplishments, he was 100% District Governor in 1991-92, and he helped build the airplanes and develop the legendary District 11-C2 Lions Air Force, piloting 180 missions during his flying career.

Lion Dave has served on many District and Multiple District Committees, and he has chaired many of those committees, including All State Band, White Cane and Multiple District 11 Convention. He has served as President of Welcome Homes for the Blind and the Lions of Michigan

2014 Inductees

Foundation, and he has served as Building and Property Advisor for the Lions of Michigan State Office since the current building was purchased by the Lions of Michigan Foundation in 1998. Over the years, Lion Dave has managed two complete renovations of the Lions State Office and many smaller remodeling and landscaping projects.

Lion Dave is a roll-up-your-sleeves Lion, and he is always there to lend a helping hand. He was a member of the planning committee and crew for five Eye Care Missions to Latvia, and he was a team member for five additional Eye Care missions to Peru and Honduras. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has received numerous awards and recognition for his Lions service, including the International Presidential Award, International Leadership Award, S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award, the Lions of Michigan Foundation Humanitarian Award and the MD 11 Outstanding District Editor Award.

Lion Dave's life revolves around serving others. He is a veteran of the United States Navy (Helicopter Squadron #5), Eagle Scout, former Cub Master of Pack 743 and former Scoutmaster for Troop 112. Additionally, Lion Dave takes handicapped and slow learning 4th and 5th grade children swimming each week; he serves on the Board of the Methodist Children's Home; and he is an active member of his church, singing in the Chancel Choir for over 55 years.

Lion Dave worked for 35 years in the Quality Control Department for the Oldsmobile Division of General Motors, and he and wife Linda have been married for 49 years. Lion Dave and Linda have two children, four grandchildren and one great-grandson.



Dennis Bellinger
Council Chair - 1982-83
Clio, Michigan

Dennis "Denny" Bellinger was born August 6, 1924 in Thetford Township. He lived in Clio his entire life, and he was a driving force in the Clio Lions Club serving in every Club office except Treasurer.

Lion Denny's dedication to Lionism steered him to serve beyond the Club level. He served on numerous District and Multiple District Committees, including District Convention,

2014 Inductees

USA/Canada Lion Leadership Forum, Membership Development and Retention, Officer Training, Nominations, Constitution and By-Laws, Membership Orientation and Reorientation and District Governors Advisory. Lion Denny's ascent through the ranks of Lionism culminated with his service as District Governor and Council Chair in 1982-83. His calming influence was essential to the success of unifying the Lions of Michigan during the early 1980's, a time when many Michigan Lions Districts were moving in opposite directions.

Lion Denny credited his success in expanding the reach and improving the Special Needs Vision Clinic as his crowning achievement in Lions. Through his leadership, the clinic grew from a small floundering organization to a viable District 11-D1 Lions Project serving sight impaired children with multiple disabilities. Lion Denny served as Board Secretary and President of the Special Needs Vision Clinic, and he was the spokesperson for the organization for many years.

Lion Denny was a veteran of WW II, serving in the Army Air Corp. He was a charter member of Bethany United Methodist Church, and he was a member of the Clio VFW Post #1452, American Legion Post #158, Vienna Masonic Lodge # 205 and Chapter #28 of the Order of Eastern Star.

Professionally, Lion Denny spent 38 years working for the Chevrolet Division of General Motors, retiring as a supervisor. He passed up the position of Plant Superintendent to serve as District Governor in 1982-83.

Lion Denny married wife Myra in 2008, following the death of his first wife Helene in 2005. He has 6 adult children, Denis "Mitch" Bellinger, Denise Bellinger-Jabboury, Howard "Chum" Hobson, LaRee Hobson, LaVar Hobson and Vanessa Hobson; 16 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.



Paul Hemeryck
Council Chair - 1991-92
Warren, Michigan

Paul Hemeryck began his life of service as a Lion in 1976 in the East Detroit (Eastpointe) Lions Club, and to say that he has accomplished amazing things during his 37 years of service to the Lions association would be an understatement.

2014 Inductees

Lion Paul has served his Lions Club, District, Multiple District and Lions Clubs International with great pride and commitment. He has served in all but one Club office, and he has served in nearly every capacity beyond the Club level.

Lion Paul served as District Governor of District 11-A2 in 1991-92 with great honor, receiving the 100% District Governor Award. In addition to his District Governor duties, Lion Paul was selected by his peers to represent the Lions of Michigan as Council Chairman.

Paul's leadership and commitment to Lions continued to grow and develop following his service as Council Chair. He has served as Lions of Michigan State Treasurer since 2005, and he has served for 12 years as Multiple District 11 Leadership Chairman, coaching, training and mentoring newly elected District Governors. Additionally, Lion Paul has co-chaired the Michigan Lions Leadership Institute for 14 years, and he is one of only a few Michigan Lions who have been invited to present at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Lion Paul has attended 21 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums and 12 Lions International Conventions.

Although Lion Paul has amassed a long list of accomplishments throughout his years of service, it is the feeling he derives from helping people and serving others that he cherishes most. Paul is truly a Lion's Lion. He encourages others, and he lifts them up so that they are able to achieve more.

Lion Paul is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received countless awards and recognition for his Lions service, including the International Presidential Award, International Leadership Award, International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award and the highest form of recognition awarded by the Lions of District 11-A2, the Harold L. Pocklington Distinguished Service Award.

Lions has always been a family affair for the Hemeryck's, and Lion Paul shared his passion for Lions with wife Lion Frankie, until her death in 2010, and their children Annette, Michele and Michael.

2014 Inductees



Robert Gray "R.G." Barnum

District Governor - 1987-88

Millington, Michigan

R.G. Barnum is a District Governor's "Ace in the Hole." He is always willing to serve without regard for how daunting the task seems, and he has remained active at the Lions Club, District, Multiple District and International levels throughout his 34 years of perfect attendance as a member of the

Millington Lions Club.

Lion R.G. has held nearly every office and served in nearly every capacity at all levels of the association, and he has served on and chaired numerous Club, District and Multiple District committees. He is a recipient of the Senior Master Key, and he is credited with forming the Kingston Lions Club in 1985 and starting the Vassar Lions Club in 2003, and in addition, he played a major role in rebuilding the Mayville and Pinconning Lions Clubs, serving 3 years as Rebuilding Lion.

Lion R.G. wears his heart on his sleeve, and his service to his fellow man speaks for itself. He has been a team member on 7 Eye Care Missions to Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, Mexico and the Dominican Republic; for 12 years, he has collected returnable cans and bottles for the Tuscola County Christmas for Kids Program; he chaired the Building Committee for the Blind Outdoor Leisure Development bike trailer; he chaired the Building Committee for the 11-D1 sight trailer; and he spearheaded the Building Committee for the bleachers for Millington Area Schools.

Lion R.G.'s resume reads like a "Who's Who" of Lions. In 1988, he worked on the campaign committee for Mike Butler for International 3rd Vice President and represented the Lions of Michigan during Lions Day at the United Nations; In 1997-98, he served as Campaign Chairman for Dr. Dennis Cobler for International Director; In 2007, he served as Campaign Chairman for Dr. Dennis Cobler for International 2nd Vice President and served as Vice Chair for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Grand Rapids; In 2009-10, he served as Campaign Chairman for Dr. Gary Anderson for International Director; and in 2013-14, Lion R.G. served as Michigan Campaign Chairman for Mike Butler for International 2nd Vice President. Over the years, Lion R.G. has hosted 9 International guests, and he has attended 14 International Conventions, 17 USA/Canada Lions

Leadership Forums and 4 International Forums in Rome, India, Columbia and the Philippines.

Lion R.G. has received every prominent award and form of recognition for his Lions service. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and the recipient of the International Ambassador of Goodwill (the highest form of recognition bestowed by the Lions association), the International Presidential Award, 3 International Leadership Awards, 12 International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award and the 100% District Governor Award.

Lion R.G. and wife Gloria are the owners and operators of R.G. Barnum Auto Salvage in Millington, Michigan.

2015 Inductees



Esther LaMothe
International Director - 2013-15
Jackson, Michigan

Lion Esther LaMothe, sponsored by her late husband, PCC Roger LaMothe, became a Lion in 1995. She joined the Jackson Eye-openers Lions Club, and in 2011, she transferred to the Novi Lions Club where she continues her membership today. Esther was elected to serve a two-year term as International Director in Hamburg, Germany, in July 2013.

Esther is a retired secondary school administrator, educational consultant, and teacher, spending 33 years in education in Jackson County. She was married to Roger for 43 years and they have two sons: Joseph, who lives in Lexington, Kentucky and Robert, who lives in Las Vegas, Nevada with his wife, Christine. Both sons followed in their mother's footsteps with careers in education.

Esther has held numerous club offices, district offices and served as the MD 11 Council Chairperson in 2001-02. She has served on the Lions Clubs International Faculty for numerous Leadership Institutes and webinars since 2002, and she presented and served as a moderator at several USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums and International Conventions. In addition, Esther chaired the Leadership Development Committee on the International Board of Directors, and she served on the

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Family and Women's Action Committee during her tenure as an International Director.

For her dedication and service, Esther has received the Ambassador of Good Will Award (the highest form of recognition bestowed for Lions service), 3 International Presidential Medals, 2 International Leadership Medals and 4 International President's Certificates of Appreciation. Esther holds the Lions of Michigan S.A. Dodge Award and the District 11-B1 Lions Wendell Doty Award. She is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow and a John Noel Fellow.

Esther serves on the Board of Directors of Eversight, and each year, she volunteers for the Wendy Charity LPGA Classic, which supports adoption programs. When she is not conducting Lions business and serving others, Esther likes to read, walk, play word games and cards with her friends, and of course, she enjoys travelling. Esther has visited 75 countries, all 50 states and every continent except Antarctica.



William "Doc" Barr
District Governor - 1992-93
Novi, Michigan

Lion William "Doc" Barr first became acquainted with Lions in the fall of 1955 when he was an elementary school principal in Rochester, Michigan. Doc had observed red vans discharging individuals and dogs outside his office window, and he was compelled to ask a van driver what was happening. The van driver indicated that they were transporting blind people who were learning how to handle their prospective Leader

Dogs. Doc asked "what is a Leader Dog," and that afternoon, Doc visited Leader Dogs School for the first time. From that point forward, Doc made sure that all students in his elementary school took a field trip to Leader Dogs School.

In 1956, Doc was appointed Superintendent of Schools for the Kimball Unit School District located just west of Port Huron in St. Clair County. The following year, Doc joined the Sparlingville Lions Club.

In 1966, Doc moved to Highland Park and accepted the position of

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Assistant Superintendent of Schools. In 1967, he transferred his membership to the Highland Park Lions Club. The move to Highland Park enabled Doc to continue his education, and in 1972, he earned his Doctorate in Education from Wayne State University. Later in 1972, Doc moved to Novi, and upon realizing Novi did not have a Lions Club, Doc organized the Novi Lions Club in May of 1973. To date, Doc has amassed 58 years of perfect attendance as a Lions member, and he has served as a 100% Club President in all three of his Lions Clubs (Sparlingville, Highland Park and Novi).

In the 1980's, Doc began his progression through the District 11-A2 leadership positions, serving as Zone Chair, Deputy District Governor, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, and District Governor. In addition, Doc has served on and chaired several committees, including Drug Awareness, Extension, Membership, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Welcome Homes for the Blind, and Madonna University's Lions/Lioness Hearing Program.

In 1993, Doc was selected by the Lions of Michigan Council of Governors to become the MD 11 "Train the Trainer" representative. During his four year term with the "Train the Trainer" program, Doc conducted training sessions statewide for Michigan Lions. Later, the MD 11 Council of Governors selected Doc as the lead person to develop a Business Plan for the Lions of Michigan, which was completed in 2005.

For Doc, service was an integral part of his life. He served on the Board of Directors of the Upshaw Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Welcome Homes for the Blind, and since 1996, the Michigan Eye-Bank (now called Eversight) where he served as Chairman of the Board. Due to Doc's dedication and commitment to Eversight, they created the William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellowship, which is awarded for donations of \$1,000 or more to Eversight.

Doc Barr certainly epitomizes the Lions motto "We Serve," and he has received numerous awards and forms of recognition for his service to others and dedication to our association of Lions Clubs. Doc is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and the recipient of several District Governor Appreciation Medals, the International Leadership Award, two Extension Awards, a Guiding Lions Award, the District 11-A2 Lions Harold L. Pocklington Distinguished Service Award, the Lions of Michigan S.A. Dodge Award and the prestigious International 100% District Governors Award.

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Doc retired from his career in education in 1992 to spend more time with his loving wife Patti and their family. However, his dedication to Lions and commitment to humanitarian service has continued to grow.



Dale Hart
District Governor - 1976-77
Horton, Michigan

PDG Dale Eugene Hart was a charter member of the Hanover Horton Lions Club in October 1964. He served his club faithfully until his death in June of 2011.

During his tenure in the Hanover -Horton Club and District 11-B1, Dale Hart was a quiet over-achiever. He held every office in his club (at least one term), but he was Club President three times.

Approaching the 1976-77 Lions Fiscal Year, Dale was one of four Lions seeking the position of District Governor in the newly reorganized District 11-B1, and Dale prevailed, winning the nomination on the second ballot. Operating with minimal resources, Dale quickly utilized the expertise of numerous Past District Governors to get the district off to a roaring start. It is unknown if any other has ever had four Lions seeking the position of District Governor simultaneously, however today, it would be extremely rare.

The District 11-B1 Lions appeared to have made the right choice when Dale put into place his membership and extension team of Charles St. John and Ken Lautzenheiser. That year, the unprecedented number of seven (7) new clubs were chartered. In fact, as Dale attended zone meetings and club visitations, he began to get feedback to slow down the growth. Clubs were expected to provide a financial gift or some piece of club paraphernalia for newly chartered clubs, and it was affecting their club budgets. That year, District 11-B1 was recognized with Michigan's only **Supreme Membership Award** for their efforts. Dale and his membership team were all recognized with the International Presidential Award at the next MD-11 Convention.

Dale served on many Lions committees, including Hearing and Speech, Hearing Conservation (2 years), Sight Conservation, Activities (5 years), Rules (2 years), Extension (5 years), Membership and Retention (7 years),

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Braille Transcribing (3 years). Additionally, he served as Zone Chair and Deputy District Governor.

For his Lions work and service to others, Lion Dale received the Melvin Jones Fellowship, and in 1993, Dale was recognized with the International Leadership Award (the second highest award from Lions Clubs International.) Dale also acquired three International President's Certificates of Appreciation and one Extension Award, and he was a Key Member, sponsoring 12 new members.

Dale's education was not simply a high school diploma. His advanced degree came from the school of hard knocks. Dale owned his own business for over twenty years. He began with DeLaVal Milking Equipment, and when they became part of the Surge Corporation, Dale began to sell Milking Parlors as well, and due to his sales expertise, Dale earned a trip to Hawaii for he and his wife, Lion Lola.

Throughout his life, Dale enjoyed hunting and playing softball, but when he developed a heart problem, he started raising and showing California Giant Rabbits. When that got to be too much, Dale became a highly respected judge, traveling throughout the country judging rabbits. As he always enjoyed competition, he later took up raising and racing homing pigeons.

Dale married his high school sweetheart, Lola, to whom he was wedded for over 50 years. Together, they had four sons and a daughter, 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Dale was quoted as saying, "The final and most important lesson I took away from my year as District Governor is that it takes dedicated people working with you to be successful. I was so fortunate to have such great Zone Chairs, Region Chairs, and committee chairs that came together as a team to help our district grow. To all these fine people, my eternal thanks, for all of you became an important part of our Lions' family."

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Dale "Tom" Thompson
District Governor - 1988-89
Flushing, Michigan

Dale "Tom" Thompson has been married for 50 years to his beautiful wife, Lion Judy, and they have two children and five grandchildren ages twelve to twenty-two.

Tom's impact on Lions began the moment he joined the East Flint Lions Club 42 year ago. He quickly immersed himself in club projects, and then he began to take on leadership positions, serving in every position at the club

level.

Next, Tom volunteered for roles at the district level, serving on numerous district committees and chairing many of those committees. He moved through the leadership ranks, serving as Zone Chair, Region Chair, Vice District Governor and District Governor. Driven to do more to advance Lionism in Michigan, Tom pressed on to chair several Multiple District 11 committees, and he took on the job of a Guiding Lion.

Tom is the "go to" person in District 11-D1 for advice on almost any Lions topic. He is a subject matter expert in convention planning, protocol, retention, training, conflict resolution, membership and so much more, and he is always willing to lend a helping hand to his fellow Lions. Tom is known affectionately throughout District 11-D1 as the "Godfather" for his wisdom, council and passion for Lions.

As a Lion, Tom has always exceeded expectations, helping not only those we serve but also those that serve. Tom is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has been recognized with every noteworthy Lions award and honor, including the International Presidential Award, International Leadership Award, International President's Certificate of Appreciation, and the S.A. Dodge Award. However, no award could ever fully capture the spirit of this generous, giving, caring Lion.

If you asked Tom about his most important accomplishments as a Lions member, he would surely mention his service on the Board of Directors of the Special Needs Vision Clinic in Bridgeport, Michigan or his service as an Honorary Trustee for Leaders Dogs for the Blind where he received the prestigious Leader Dogs President's Award, honoring a Lions member who "exemplifies the spirit and passion of Lionism through advocacy,

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volunteerism, and philanthropy."

Tom is truly a gift to Michigan Lionism. To this day, he continues to support, guide, and mentor Lions as they move into leadership roles. Though he could easily say "we already tried that..." or "that's not how we do it in 11-D1," instead Tom encourages Lions to try new things and different ways of doing old things. He looks to the future while learning from the past, and in doing so, his impact reaches back into history, but it will also be felt for decades to come.

Lions was a full-time job for Tom, however, somehow he managed to retire in 2006 with 40 years of service as a Skilled Tradesman at General Motors Corporation.



Duane Farnsworth
District Governor - 1980-81
Otter Lake, Michigan

In the mid-1960's Duane Farnsworth traveled to Michigan from Illinois to work on Flint's Whiting Auditorium Project, and in 1968, he joined the Otter Lake Lions Club after visiting Leader Dogs for the Blind with a group of Otter Lake Lions members.

As a Life Member of the Otter Lake Lions Club with 46 years of perfect attendance, Duane lived the Lions motto "We Serve" to its fullest extent. He has served in numerous positions at the Lions Club, district and multiple district levels, including Club President, Club Secretary, Zone Chair, Region Chair and District Governor. He served on the Multiple District 11 Leader Dogs for the Blind Committee for 33 years, and he served on the Leader Dogs Advisory Board for 20 years. Additionally, Duane was an active member of the Liaison Committee, Constitution & By-Laws Committee, Project KidSight Committee, District Convention Committee, Lions Mints Program Committee and District Pin Committee.

For his dedication to Lions and his service to others, Duane received the highest honors at both the state and international levels. He was a Melvin Jones and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he held the coveted Master Key Award for sponsoring 22 Lions members. Additionally, Duane was the recipient of the International Presidential Award, the International

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President's Certificate of Appreciation, the coveted International 100% District Governor Award, the S.A. Dodge Award, and the first Leader Dogs President's Award.

Duane will be remembered as a mentor to many Lions and as a trusted advisor to the numerous District Governors who followed him. He was admired by his peers for his commitment and tenacity to serve others and to advance the cause of Lionism.

Duane married the love of his life Margaret "Peggy" Martin on March 27, 1971. Duane and Lion Peggy have 4 children, 12 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.



Harry Johnson
District Governor - 1999-00
Bitely, Michigan

Lion Harry Johnson has spent a lifetime serving others, and his commitment to service extends well beyond Lions to other organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, the Masons (Moslem Shrine Temple, Scottish Rite and the Ionic Blue Lodge), Head Start, the Bitely Homecoming Celebration, the White Cloud Homecoming Festival - 35 years, the township Zoning and Planning Board - 25 years, the Special Olympics

Opening Eyes Program - 15 years, and the Baldwin Assembly of God Church.

While working full-time as an engineer for C&O Railway, Harry began studies at Ferris State University, earning a degree in Graphic Arts. In 1988, Harry was recognized as "Outstanding Student of the Year."

As a Lions member, Harry has served in countless positions at the Lions Club, district and multiple district levels, including Club Secretary, Treasurer, and President; Zone Chair; Region Chair; Deputy District Governor (1979); Vice District Governor; and District Governor. Furthermore, Harry has chaired multiple committees at every level of the association, including Extension, MERL, Lioness, Quest, Youth Outreach, International Convention, District Convention, Project KidSight, District Pin and Leos.

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Harry has attended 12 Lions Clubs International Conventions and 12 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums. He served as Sergeant of Arms and as a volunteer at the District Governor Elect School for the 2004 International Convention in Detroit, and he served on the Host Committee and as Forum Store Supervisor for the 2007 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Grand Rapids.

Harry attributes his participation in 13 Lions Eye Glass Mission Trips to Central America as some of his most rewarding experiences as a Lions member. Since 2002, Harry has served as an Mission Eyeglass Dispenser under the direction of Past International Directors Dr. Dennis Cobler and Dr. Gary Anderson.

Harry is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow and a John Noel Fellow, and for his dedication to Lions and his commitment to serving others, he has been recognized extensively. Of note, Harry has received the International Presidential Award, the International Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the District 11-E1 Lions Louis Braille Award, Lion of the Year Awards (Bitely-Brohman Lions Club-1977, Baldwin Lions Club-1979 and 1985 and White Cloud Lions Club-2003), Bitely Citizen of the Year, White Cloud Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, and Bitely Senior Citizen of the Year.

In 2010, Harry retired from the USPS to spend more time with his loving wife of 45 years, Lion Laura, and their family, including their three sons. Since retirement, Harry has increased his Lions service. He has spent so much time assisting the Mt. Pleasant Lions Club with their Chicken BBQ and Chili Dinner, they have considered making Harry an Honorary Member.



Al Kelpinski
District Governor - 2001-02
Hale, Michigan

When it comes to Lionism, Lion Al Kelpinski can best be described by two words - total commitment. Day in and day out, Al truly lives our Lions "We Serve" motto. His service extends to all levels of Lionism. He is often found wearing several hats simultaneously, keeping up with local club activities and commitments while also serving in key roles at the Lions district and

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multiple district levels.

A key measure of any leader is that of inspiration, and Al has a unique ability to persuade others to take on challenges and solve problems. He is often sought out to help Lions Clubs in District 11-E2 with membership issues and other matters. He readily goes from one end of the district to the other, which is no small feat when one considers that the district is 9,200 square miles, which is similar to the size of Vermont or New Hampshire.

Over the years, Al has served as a Guiding Lion for multiple clubs in District 11-E2; he served on the Michigan Eye Bank Committee; and he served for three terms as a Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee. From 2006 to 2010, Al was a member of the MERL Committee, and from 2008 to 2011, he served as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Al served on the Orientation Committee in 2009-10, and it was Leadership Development in 2002-03 and again in 2005-06. However, Al has served on the Membership Committee for the longest period, serving for eight years and as State Membership Chair in 2010-11.

Al is a Melvin Jones, John Noel and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and for his service to others and dedication to advancing the cause of Lionism, he has received numerous awards and other forms of recognition. Of note, Al is a recipient of the International Presidential Award, the International Leadership Award, eight International President's Certificates of Appreciation and the Lions of Michigan S.A. Dodge Award.

Professionally, Al earned a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of Detroit and did Masters level work in Personnel Administration. He worked briefly for Chrysler Corporation and the Budd Wheel Company before moving on to Ford Motor Company where he worked in finance and operations. Al worked in management for 22 years at Ford, and he retired in 1991 with 33 years of total service.

Beyond Lions, Al has been involved in many community and youth projects both in the Detroit area and in the Hale, Michigan area. He served for three years on the Parks and Recreation Committee in Inkster, and he was the first President of the St. Kevins School Parent-Teacher Organization. He was a Cub Scout Leader for two years, an Assistant Scoutmaster for two years, a Scoutmaster for three years, and a District Scouting Chair for two years. In Iosco County, Al served as the 4-H Livestock Leader for five years, and he served on the Winter Carnival

Committee, the Elections Committee, and on fundraising committees to help cancer patients.

Al is a Korean War Veteran, and he was born and raised in Bay City, Michigan. He married the love of his life, Lion Florence, in 1957, and they have three children and many grandchildren.

2016 Inductees



James Leach, Sr.
District Governor - 1985-86

James (Jim) R. Leach Sr. was born on North Broadway in the Village of Lake Orion on March 13, 1939, and he lived all of his life in Lake Orion. Jim served in the United States Army from 1956 to 1964, and he continued to serve others with the Lake Orion Police Department for 55 years and as Police Chief for 19 years, until his retirement in 2001.

Jim's dedication to serving others expanded well beyond his career in the military and law enforcement. Jim served as a Firefighter for Orion Township for 19 years; he was a Charter Member of the Lake Orion DeMolay, serving as Master Counselor and as a State Officer; he served as the Cub Master of Cub Scout Pack #37; he was a Coach for Little League Baseball; he was a member of the Lake Orion/Oxford Knights of Columbus Council #4764 for 49 years; and Jim was a member of Amvets Post 108 in Oxford.

Jim's service and commitment to the International Association of Lions Clubs spans 55 years, serving as President of three Lions Clubs - Rochester, Chesterfield Bay and Lake Orion and in multiple District offices, including Zone Chair and District Governor. Jim's untimely death left him a month shy of 55 years of perfect attendance, exceeding his sponsor's, his father's, 54 years of perfect attendance. Jim was instrumental in starting the Madonna University Hearing Program; he served on the Board of Directors for Penrickton Center for Blind and Handicapped Children for 32 years, serving as Board President in 1989-90, and he was one of the founding members of the Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp (Lions Bear Lake Camp).

Jim is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and he received numerous

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awards and forms of recognition for his service to Lions and others, including the 2011 Rochester Lions' Lion of the Year Award, numerous Lions of Michigan District Editor Awards in recognition of his chairing the District Editors Committee for more than 30 years; multiple District Governor Appreciation Awards for his work in District 11-A2, the Leader Dog President's Award, the Multiple District 11 Lions S.A. Dodge Award, the Lions International President's Leadership Medal and the United States President's Lifetime Volunteer Service Award.

Jim loved Lions for our achievements and service to others. His wife Karol, son James, Jr. and daughter-in-law Kim are amount the 49 Lions members that Jim sponsored during his lifetime. For father, grandfather and great grandfather Jim, Lions was not just an important part of his life, it was his life.



Gerald Griffin, Sr.
District Governor - 1981-82

Gerald (Jerry) R. Griffin Sr. was born in Addison Township, Michigan in 1928, one of seven children of Charles & Lottie Griffin. A lifelong resident of Oxford, Jerry graduated from Oxford High School in 1946, and he earned an accounting degree from the Detroit Business Institute in 1951.

Following his retirement from General Motors in 1984, after 36 ½ years as an accountant, Jerry started to work “part time” for the Bossardet Funeral Home in Oxford in February 1957, and he maintained active employment at the funeral home for over five decades. Jerry worked in all phases of funeral home service, and he was instrumental in helping the funeral home maintain a positive reputation within the community. In 2005, the funeral home honored Jerry with its “Outstanding Service Award” for his exemplary contributions towards servicing the families of Oxford.

Jerry was very active in the Oxford community, serving on numerous boards and committees. He was a member of the Oxford United Methodist church for over 50 years; he was Past President of the Oxford Veterans Association; he was a Life member of the Oxford American Legion and Veteran of Foreign Wars; he served on the Oxford Elections Board, Tax Board of Review, and 27 years on the Oxford Area Cable Commission; he was Past President and Curator of the Northeast Oakland Historical

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Society; and he served on the Advisory Boards of the Oxford POH Health Care Center and the Beaumont Silent Children's Fund.

In addition to his many other roles serving the community of Oxford, Jerry served as an active Lions member for 51 years. He took a lead role in organizing three Lions Clubs - Addison Township, Goodrich and Ortonville, and in 1977, Jerry co-founded the Beaumont Silent Children's Fund with the Royal Oak Lions Club.

While serving as District Governor of District 11-A2, Jerry made the Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp (Bear Lake Camp) a District 11-A2 Project, leading to the camp's recognition as a Multiple District 11 Lions Project.

For his service to Lions, Jerry earned numerous awards and other forms of recognition. Jerry was a Melvin Jones Fellow and the recipient of the District 11-A2 Harold L. Pocklington Distinguished Service Award, the District 11-A2 Ralph Lynam Award, the International 100% District Governor Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the International Leadership Award and the International Presidential Award.

While battling many health issues, Jerry maintained an active role in his Lions Club at the age of 88. He shared his love for Lions with his wife of 66 years, Evelyn, and their children: Gerald Jr., Jayne, Jeffrey and Jonathan.



Harold Geppert
District Governor - 1979-80

Harold (Hal) A. Geppert has been serving his community and Lions International with great distinction for 58 years, and he holds the prestigious Grand Master Key for sponsoring 60 Lions members. Many of Hal's earlier years were spent in the Lathrup Village area where he was a Branch Manager for the Lathrup Village Capital Savings and Loan and a driving force in the Lathrup Village Lions Club where Hal served as Club President three times, Secretary twice and Membership Chair six times.

In recent years, Hal had to scale back his very active presence in Lions due to his wife's terminal illness and his own severe health issues.

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However, Hal is still a vital member of the Dexter Lions Club, attending almost every Lions Club meeting and representing the Dexter Lions Club at Zone and other District meetings. In addition, Hal still volunteers for many of the Dexter Lions Club's fundraisers, including those at the high school basketball and football games and the Club's Christmas Tree sale.

Over the years, Hal's contributions to our Lions association have been remarkable. Hal is responsible for the International Lions Day with the Detroit Lions, Tigers and Pistons; he was instrumental in helping start the Beaumont Silent Children's Fund; he chaired the committee that was responsible for District 11-A2 and the Lions of Michigan receiving three Lions International "Top Ten" Activity Awards; he chaired the Lions of Michigan International Convention Committee from 1986 to 1991; he served for five years on the Lions of Michigan All State Band Committee; he served for six years on the Lions of Michigan Youth Exchange Committee; and Hal served three years on the MD 11 Elections Committee. Moreover, Hal has attended 30 District 11A-2 Conventions, 20 Lions International Conventions, 26 MD 11 Conventions, and 3 USA/Canada Lions Forums.

Throughout his life, Hal has served Lions and his communities with distinction. Hal is a Melvin Jones and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow and a Life Member of Lions Clubs International. For his service, Hal has received nearly every major award and form of recognition offered for Lions service, including 3 International Presidential Awards, twelve international President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International President's Commendation Medal, the International President's Hearing and Speech Medal, three "Top Ten" Activity Awards, the International 100% District Governor Award, the S.A. Dodge Award, the Michigan Outstanding District Governor Award, four All State Band Awards, the District 11-A2 Harold L. Pocklington Distinguished Service Award, the 11-A2 Ralph Lynam Award, the Madonna University President's Citation Award, four District Governor Appreciation Medals, and two 100% Club President Awards,

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Harold Anderson Council Chair - 1990-91



Harold "Hop" Anderson served as a Lion for 50 years. During those years, he never turned down a request to fill an office or chair a committee, at any level. Hop was a charter member and a driving force in the Clarklake Lions Club, which was chartered on March 24, 1965. He utilized his position as "the local grocer" to not only supply the residents and tourists with groceries, gifts, beverages, and hardware but to also promote and recruit Lions, which earned him a Senior Master Key Award.

During his 85 years of life, Hop epitomized the Lion's motto "We Serve". He joined the United States Marine Corp after graduating from Tecumseh High School, and he was a member of the American Legion for 65 years, a Boy Scout leader and a volunteer fireman.

While running a resort lake grocery store, Hop drove a school bus and also processed deer. He was the first male president of the Foote Hospital Auxiliary, and after selling his business, Hop worked for the US Postal Service, retiring after 20 years. Hop's retirement dream was to serve Lions as District Governor, and his desire to serve grew and grew throughout his 40 years of perfect attendance in the Clark Lake Lions Club.

Hop is a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has been recognized extensively at all levels of Lions for his service to others. Hop received the International Presidential Award and 100% District Governor Excellence Award, however, he was never prouder than when, alongside his wife and daughter, he was presented with the International President's Certificate of Appreciation for saving a man drowning in a pool while at the Lions Clubs International Convention in Hawaii. The accolades were the benefit of Hop's desire to serve others.

Harold "Hop" Anderson loved Lions, and he wanted to pass on his knowledge and love of Lionism to others. Hop's wife Nancy, daughter Angela, and son Eric are all Lions members, and his grandson Ian was a member of the Lions of Michigan All State Band during high school. With his family at his side, Hop attended 26 International Conventions and 2 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums. One could always find Hop at a Lions District or State Conventions taking advantage of the education,

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training and good fellowship. Lions was right for Hop and he for them.



Dr. Thomas Doyle
District Governor - 2001-02

Dr. Thomas (Tom) J. Doyle is a charter transfer member of the DeWitt Breakfast Lions Club. For 37 years, Tom has been a private practice optometrist in DeWitt, Michigan, and currently, he provides eye care to inmates at three prisons in Ionia. Tom has been married to Julie for 29 years, and he has four children: Scott, Shelby, Kelly and Abbey.

In 2001-02, Tom served as District Governor of District 11-C2, earning LCI's 100% District Governor Excellence Award and the Lions of Michigan Outstanding District Governor Award. In 2005-06 Tom served as President of the Lions of Michigan Foundation, and he held the position of LMF Trustee for three 2 year terms. In District 11-C2, Tom has served as Zone Chair and Region Chair two times each and as Cabinet Secretary (1994-95). Tom has chaired the District 11-C2 GLT Committee since 2005, and he also chaired the MD 11 Leadership Development Committee. In addition, Tom has participated in eleven and directed multiple overseas mission trips to provide eye care to the needy in Haiti, Nicaragua, Honduras (twice), Latvia (five times), Romania and recently to Fiji.

Tom is a Melvin Jones Fellow (1995) and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow (2006), and he has sponsored 21 Lions during his more than thirty years in Lions. In 2013, Tom received MD 11's highest honor, the S.A. Dodge Award, and he is the recipient of four International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International Leadership Award and the International Presidential Award.

Tom has presented five times at the Lions of Michigan Forum and two times at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums in Memphis and Tampa. He is a Charter member of the DeWitt Lions Air Force Squadron with nearly 90 missions over the streets of North America. He was a graduate of the Lions of Michigan Leadership Institute in 2004 and a member of the initial MD-11 Faculty Development Institute in 2007.

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William Erickson **District Governor - 2003-04**

William "Bill" Erickson joined the Bay City Lions Club in December of 1985, and since the Club had established criteria for the office of President, Bill spent the first few years qualifying for that leadership position, serving for two years on the Sight and Hearing Board, two years on the Board of Directors, one year as Tail Twister and one year each as 3rd Vice President, 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President.

Bill has always been a team player, and in 1997-98 when IP Patterson offered a banner patch to any club that didn't drop any members, Bill voted with the Board to not have any drops. Bay City got their Banner Patch, but incoming President Bill was faced with dropping 21 members in the first month of his term as President, thereby starting his year at a -21 members. Using Leadership by example, Lion Bill sponsored 5 new members that year, and the Bay City Lions Club went on to have a plus in membership, and Lion Bill was a 100% President.

While coming up the ranks in the Bay City Club, Bill served on several District 11-D1 Committees. Among these was Eye Bank Sub Station Chair which became unnecessary, so the substation chairs became the Lions Eye Bank Advisory Committee. Lion Bill still holds a seat on that committee with Eversight Michigan.

After serving as Bay City's President, Lion Bill went on to serve as Zone Chair, 2 years as Region Chair, Vice District Governor and then District Governor in 2003-2004. During his year as District Governor, Lion Bill also took on the role of Secretary of the Bay City Lions Club, and he held the position as a 100% Secretary until he transferred to the new Auburn-Williams Lions Club where Bill took on the same Club Secretary role with the same result.

Beyond the Lions Club level, Bill took on many other roles in Lions. He served as a Trustee for the Lions of Michigan Foundation and as the foundation's Vice President and President. He served as Cabinet Secretary for 11-D1, MD 11 Council Tail Twister and District Coordinator for Campaign Sight first II, and currently, Bill serves as Multiple District Coordinator for the Lions Clubs International Foundation.

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Bill is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, a John Noel Fellow and a Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has sponsored 25 Lions members, earning several Key Awards. In recognition of his extraordinary service, Bill has received several District Governor Appreciation Awards, the 11-D1 Bulletin Editor of the Year Award, the Bay City Past Presidents Service Award, the 11-D1 Crystal Lion Award in 2005-2006, a Certified Guiding Lion Award, two extension awards, three International President's Certificates of Appreciation, two International Leadership Awards, and an International Presidential Award.

Bill is always willing to share his knowledge of Lions to assist others, and he and wife Pat are always willing to lend a hand to help others. Bill's commitment and dedication to the advancement of Lionism is inspirational.



Wayne Kreitner
District Governor - 2009-10

After being encouraged by a longtime family friend, Wayne Kreitner made the decision in 1971 to join the Coloma Lions Club in District 11-B2. During his 10 years with the Coloma Lions, Wayne held offices as a Board Member, Treasurer and President, and he also served on many committees. Wayne started the Coloma Lions' Pancake Breakfast with Santa which. Delighting many children, Wayne played Santa for many years, and his son, Michael, who was very young then never knew that his dad was Santa.

In 1983, Wayne was transferred to New York with his job at Indian Summer to complete a yearlong project. Wayne and his family lived in a small town near Lake Ontario, and Wayne transferred his Lion's membership to the Lions Club of North Rose in District 20-E2. He served on the Fly-in Committee and helped harvest maple syrup for the club's maple syrup sale. After the New York project was completed, Wayne was transferred back to Coloma where he resumed his Lion's activities in Coloma and District 11-B2. He took on the role as the District Lioness Chairman, and he chartered three Lioness Clubs: Coloma, Brandywine and Kalamazoo. Wayne also resumed his duties with the Coloma School Board on which he served from 1978 to 1987, and he served as a Coloma

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Police Officer for six years and with the Coloma Fire Department of ten years. While on the school board, Wayne was instrumental as a negotiator between the school board and the teachers, helping to resolve a situation that had left teachers without a contract for several years.

Wayne transferred to the Greenville Lions Club in the fall of 1987 when his job relocated him to Belding. He became the Plant Manager at Indian Summer two years after moving to Greenville, and he also accepted the position of Treasurer of the Montcalm County Commission on Aging where he was instrumental in helping the "Partners Advisory Board" obtain a 501 (c)(3) designation.

In the Greenville Lions Club, Wayne served Club Treasurer for 19 years, and served on many committees, including the trailer, 4-H Fair and finance committees. In addition to his many Lions Club responsibilities, Wayne served the District 11-E1 Lions as Zone Chair, Guiding Lion and District Governor in 2009-10; he chaired the MD 11 District Editors Committee, Publication Advisory Committee and Public Relations Committee; he served as MD 11 Vice Council Chair; and he served as MD 11 GMT Coordinator for two years, presenting membership and retention seminars throughout Michigan. Wayne attended the Lions Leadership Institute and Leadership Graduate Institute at Higgins Lake, and in 2011, he completed the Lions International Faculty Development Institute in Oak Brook, IL.

Wayne is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he received countless awards and recognition for his Lions service and helping others. Wayne held five Key Awards; he was Coloma Lion of the Year in 1978 and Greenville Lion of the Year in 1997; he received the Lioness Club Sponsorship Certificate from International President Ralph Lynam; he received 11-B2 and 11-E1 District Governor Appreciation Awards, the 11-E1 Rebuilding Lions Award, the 11-E1 Leadership Award, the MD 11 District Editor of the Year Award, the International 100% District Governor Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the International Leadership Award and the International Presidential Award.

Wayne served our Lions association for 44 years. He and wife Debbie were able to attend two USA Canadian Forums and the 2009 Lions International Convention in Minneapolis. The Kreitner's enjoyed meeting Lions from all over the world., and Wayne, Debbie and their son Michael, who joined the Greenville Lions after his graduation from Ferris State University, have served as Lions for a combined total of 108 years.

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William F.G. "Bud" Weber District Governor - 1966-67 and 1973-74

Bud Weber joined the Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club in 1938, just three years after the Club was chartered. For the next 66 years, until his death, Bud remained a "Guiding" Lion, mentoring more Lions than can likely be tallied.

Bud spent his whole life volunteering, living our Lions "We Serve" motto. In addition to his 66 years of service to the Sault Ste. Marie Lions Club where he sponsored more than 50 Lions members and personally serviced more than 100 Lion Mint Trays, Bud served the community of Sault Ste. Marie and the surrounding area in so many different ways that his name is synonymous with "Good Samaritan" in Chippewa County. Bud was instrumental in starting the United Way of Chippewa County and served as a campaign volunteer for more than 45 years. In 1951, Bud helped draft the Sault Ste. Marie City Charter that is still in effect today, and his tireless volunteerism has not only impacted our Lions association, but also the Bayliss Public Library, Chippewa County International Airport, American Cancer Society, Hospice of Chippewa County, Salvation Army, First United Presbyterian Church, and many more.

Bud was one of a very small group of Lions who served as District Governor twice, and he was also one of very few Lions to have served in every office at the Lions Club, District and Multiple District level. Bud was a Melvin Jones Fellow and a 100% District Governor, and in recognition of his Lions service, he was honored with every major Lions award available at the Lions Club, District and International levels, including the highest honor granted by his District, the Ralph M. Sheehan Award, and our Lions association's highest honor, the Ambassador of Goodwill.

At the age of 91, Bud received one of his final honors when he was recognized in 2003 by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm with the George Romney Lifetime Achievement Award. His legacy lives on in Sault Ste. Marie in many ways, including the Bud and Gretchen Weber Scholarship at Lake Superior State University, Weber Park located next to the Ashmun Street Bridge near the Power Canal and the city of Sault Ste. Marie annual Weber Award presented to a local business to honor its efforts toward beautification of the city.

2017 Inductees



William "Bill" Klingensmith
District Governor - 1990-91

Bill Klingensmith began his Lions career 52 years ago when he joined a local Lions Club not really knowing where his membership would lead. Well, 52 years later, it has been quite the adventure.

Among his many accomplishments, Bill has amassed 52 years of perfect attendance, served his Lions Clubs in all officer and committee chair positions, and he has chaired eight Hearing Aid Missions to Mexico, dispensing over 2,959 hearing aids, including batteries, to men, women and children.

For the 2004 Lions Clubs International (LCI) Convention, Bill was selected as the General Chair for the Lions of Michigan. This was the first time that two countries; Detroit, MI and Windsor, Ontario; co-hosted an International Convention. For his diligent effort and just plain hard work, Bill was awarded LCI's highest honor, the Ambassador of Goodwill.

Bill received the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award for his exemplary service to the Lions of Michigan and his genuine concern for people in need. He has also been honored with the Harold L. Pocklington Award and Founder's Tribute Award for his continued support of the ideals and mission of Leader Dogs for the Blind and the Ralph Lynam Award for his long-term support for and commitment to the Beaumont Silent Children's Program.

For Bill, service is not about awards or recognition, it's all about doing the right thing for the right reason and not expecting anything back other than knowing someone is seeing, hearing better or just plain has a better quality of life. Bill is truly a Lions, Lion and a great example of what our founder Melvin Jones envisioned when he established protocol for how a Lions member should act and live his or her life.

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Gerald "Gary" Babcock
District Governor - 1999-00

Gary Babcock has been a Lion for 37 years, and he has served in several offices in his Lions Club, and he served as District 11-B1's District Governor in 1999-2000. Gary has been married to Lion Linda for 48 years, and they have four grown children, eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Gary received his Accounting Degree from Ferris State University in 1966, and he retired from Consumers Energy after 35 years of service in December 2000.

During his Lions career, Gary served as Treasurer of the Lions of Michigan Foundation for 14 years, and he currently serves as Assistant Treasurer. He also serves on the Eversight Board of Directors; he is the immediate past chair of the Eversight Michigan Board of Directors; and he serves on the Eversight Midwire Board.

Gary is a Melvin Jones, A. Charles Weir, John Noel, Helen Keller and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and in recognition of his many accomplishment and service to our Lions association, Gary has received the International Presidential and Leadership Medals, the Lions of Michigan S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award and the District 11-B1 Wendell Doty Service Award.

Gary has made extraordinary contributions at every level of Lionism, but among his most cherished achievements was serving as Esther LaMothe's campaign chairman in 2011 when she was elected to the Board of Lions Clubs International.

Like many Lions, Gary's service extends beyond Lionism. He is a Trustee and committee chair for the Napoleon United Methodist Church where he has volunteered for eight humanitarian mission trips to Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi; he is a current Board Member of the Napoleon Betterment Fund and the Napoleon Chamber of Commerce; he is a past member of the Napoleon Township Long Range Planning Committee and the Napoleon Medical Facility Board; he is member of the Harrison Moose Lodge and a Life Member of the Delta Sigma Pi Professional Business Fraternity.

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Glen Dings
District Governor - 1992-93

Glen Dings has been a Lion for 38 years, and he remains active in his Lions Club and at the District, Multiple District and International levels. Glen is a proud member of the Watervliet Lions Club, and he is once again serving as Club President. Over the years, he has held almost all Lions Club offices, and he has served on most Watervliet Lions Club committees.

At the District level, Glen served as District Governor of District 11-B2 in 1992-93, and he also served as Cabinet Treasurer and Guiding Lion for multiple Lions Clubs throughout the years. In addition, he served on countless District committees.

At the Multiple District level, Glen served as Trustee of the Lions of Michigan Foundation for several terms, serving as Board Secretary and Vice President during his time on the Board and on several committees, including Grants and Assistance, Audit and Finance and Fund Development and Marketing. For two years, Glen served as President of Welcome Home for the Blind, and over the years, he served on numerous Multiple District 11 committees, including as chair of the Nominations Committee.

At the International level, Glen served two times as regional chairperson for Campaign Sight First. He has attended numerous International Conventions and USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums, and in 2006, he participated in a mission trip to Latvia to provide eye care.

Glen is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a John Noel and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow. Over the years, Glen has received numerous awards, including the 100% District Governor Excellence Award, the International Presidential Medal (2004), International Leadership Medal (1997), several International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Harold Pendergast Award of Excellence (1997-98) and the S.A. Dodge Distinguished Service Award (2009-10).

On a personal note, Glen and PDG Nancy have been married 60 years,

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and they have two sons, Bruce and Bryan. Glen is a deacon at his church, and he serves on the Board of the North Berrien Senior Center. He is retired from the Michigan Department of Transportation, after 35 years of employment.



Rodney "Rod" Prys **District Governor - 2002-03**

Rod Prys was one of those "once in a life time" people to meet and call a friend, if you were lucky enough to have the chance. He was a larger than life character who devoted his entire adult life to serving others, and he would still be serving today had his life not been cut short by cancer. Rod served our country during two tours of duty in Vietnam, and after 20 years of service, he was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army.

Following his military service, Rod continued his service at the local, state and international levels of Lions, faithfully serving our association for 33 years until his death in 2012.

Rod immersed himself in the Marne Lions Club, and after serving in all of the Club's offices, Rod chaired several of the Marne Lions Club's largest community projects. In 1999-00, the Marne Lions Club set a goal to purchase property for the purpose of constructing a Memorial Park in Marne, and through Rod's constant efforts, leadership and contacts within the community, the Marne Lions were able to secure enough funding to defray the cost of demolition, excavation and building of the park with a pavilion and veterans memorial wall. Rod's dream became a reality with the park's dedication on Memorial Day in May of 2000.

Rod served the District 11-C1 Lions as Zone Chair, Region Chair, Vice-District Governor and as a very successful District Governor in 2002-03. Rod worked tirelessly in the District trying his best to not only increase membership but extensions as well. He had an energy that was second to none when it came to these sometimes thankless tasks. In addition to his commitment to District 11-C1, Rod was a strong advocate for Welcome Home for the Blind, serving for several years as the State Committee Chair for this worthwhile project.

In recognition of his exemplary service, Rod was recognized with District

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11-C1's highest honor, the Granville and Betty Cutler Award, an International Leadership Award, the International Presidential Medal and several International President's Certificates of Appreciation. Following his death, the District 11-C1 Lions created the Rod Prys Spirit Award in his honor. The Spirit Award is given each year to a District 11-C1 Lion who embodies the joy of service.

Rod was a familiar face at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, and he was an integral part of the Host Committee for the first Grand Rapids Lions Forum in 2007. As Protocol Chair, Rod facilitated the transportation of every LCI officer, ID, PID and staff member from the airport to their hotels and back, personally greeting each of the 142 dignitaries as they departed their plane.

One of Rod's most cherished achievements occurred in 2005 when he was named as one of the Guiding Lions for the Grand Valley State University Campus Club. Under Rod's direction, the Campus Club thrived, reaching membership as high as 97 members. Rod's enthusiasm, joy of life and love of leading young Lions is one of the reasons the Club continues to thrive today.

There is no telling what else this great Lion would have accomplished or what further awards would have come his way had he not been taken from us so prematurely. Rod was the gold standard for what a Lion's life of service and leadership should be.



Robert "Bob" Sturgis
District Governor - 1999-00

Bob Sturgis has been a dedicated member of the Lennon Lions Club for 42 years, and he has amassed 42 years of perfect attendance. Bob has served as President of the Lennon Lions Club 4 times, and he served as Club Secretary for 25 years. He is the Lennon Lions Club's Bingo Chairman, Christmas Trees Chairman, Car Show Chairman, Lion Mints Chairman, and he chairs the Club's Christmas Food & Gifts for the Needy

project.

Bob's drive to serve led him to accept the position of 11-D1 Zone Chairman in 1985, and in 1986, he became the District 11-D1 LCIF

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Chairman. Bob has served as the 11-D1 LCIF Chairman/Coordinator for 30 years, and under his leadership, over 300 Melvin Jones Fellows and 24 Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows had been added in 11-D1. Bob also served as 11-D1 District Coordinator for Campaign SIGHT First, raising more funds per capita than anyone in his Sector, and he served as Group Coordinator and Co-District Coordinator for Campaign SIGHT First II.

Bob progressed up the District 11-D1 Lions leadership ladder in 1997, accepting the position of Region Chair. In 1998 he was elected Vice-District Governor, and in 1999 he served as District Governor of 11-D1.

Following his service as District Governor, Bob was pursued to serve Lions at the state level. He was appointed to the Multiple District 11 Convention Committee in 2002, and he has chaired the committee for the last 10 years. Under Bob's direction, the convention has been moved around to many more new and exciting locations, including Mackinac Island, Shishewana, and Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City.

Bob was also elected to the Michigan Eye Bank Board (Eversight) in 2002. Through the years, Bob has served as Secretary of the Board (2003 and 2004), Vice Chairman (2005 and 2016) and Chairman of the Board in 2006 and 2010. He recently accepted the reins again as Board Chair of Eversight Michigan for the 2017-18 fiscal year.

Bob has attended 10 Lions International Conventions, and he served as Co-Chair of the District Governor Elect School at the 2004 International Convention in Detroit/Windsor, serving 750 District Governor Elects. Bob also served on the 2008 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Committee for the Grand Rapids Lions Leadership Forum.

Bob is highly respected and a very popular leader in District 11-D1, and he is frequently asked to induct new members, install Lions Club officers and serve as MC of Lions Club and District events. He is a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a William "Doc" Barr Fellow, and in recognition of his Lions service, he has been honored with two International Leadership Medals, an International Presidential Medal and multiple International President's Certificates of Appreciation.

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Don Seifried
Council Chair - 1973-74

Don Seifried was born in 1926, and he was raised in Upstate New York in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains. He graduated from Oswego State Teachers College after a 2-year interruption to serve in the United States Army. Don spent his military service in the Philippines and as part of the Japanese Occupational Forces in Japan.

Don moved to Michigan in 1949 and accepted a High School Principal/Teacher position. He spent 17 years in Education, including teaching Eskimo children on Shishmaref Island in Alaska. Don retired from teaching in 1967 and accepted a position as Plant Manager of the DeStaco Division of Dover Corporation in Central Lake where he again retired in 1991 after 24 years as Plant Manager.

Don joined Lions in 1966, and in 1973 he was elected District Governor of District 11-E and selected to serve as Chairman of the Multiple District 11 Council of Governors. Don has served in numerous positions at all levels of our Lions association, and he has served on many Lions committees and as a Trustee of the Lions of Michigan Foundation.

Don is a Melvin Jones, John Noel and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow. He was awarded LCI Life Membership in 1990, and he has received many awards for his Lions service, including the International Presidential Medal and the International President's Certificate of Appreciation.

During his 51 years as an active Lions member, Don has also been involved in many other civic and community activities. Don held the office of Central Lake Village President for 24 years, served as President of the Central Lake Chamber of Commerce, President of the School Board, and Chairman of his Church Board.

To Don, being a Lion is being a part of the community, and after 50 years, he continues to strive to do his share in his Lions Club and the community.

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JENNIFER WARE

International Director - 2016-18

Jennifer Ware, from Rapid River, Michigan, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 99th International Convention held in Fukuoka, Japan, June 24 through 28, 2016.

Director Ware is a psychiatric nurse. She and husband Jeff have one daughter.

A member of the Brampton Township Days River Area Lions Club since 1993, she has held many offices within the International Association of Lions Clubs, including Club Secretary, Club Director, District Governor, Council Chairperson, District GLT Coordinator and District Sight Preservation and Action Chairperson.

In recognition of her service to the association, she has received numerous awards, including the Membership Key Award, an International Leadership Award and an International President's Award. She is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.



RONALD PAPA

District Governor - 2004-05

Ron Papa joined the Sterling Heights Lions in May 1989, and he has served in every office of his club. He has been an active member since he joined Lionism. His proudest achievement is having worked every White Cane and Candy Cane fundraiser for nearly 30 years. His wife, Lion/Lioness Lorie, joined the Sterling Heights

Lioness Club in 1991, and she is Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Lion Ron has served on the District level as Zone Chair, Region Chair, Cabinet Secretary, Vice-District Governor, 100% District Governor and of course, the coveted IPDG position. He has served on or chaired most of the District 11-A2 committees.

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Ron has chaired several MD 11 and Lions Project committees as well, including Leader Dog for the Blind, Retention, Membership, White Cane, All State Band and Lions of Michigan Foundation Fund Development and Marketing. Twice, Ron served as the Co-Chair of the Manpower Committee for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums in Grand Rapids in 2007 and 2015.

Most recently, Ron served as the Region Coordinator for the Leader Dog Canine Development Center Project, and for the past 12 years, he has served on the District 11-A2 Leader Dog Committee, chairing the committee several times. He has also served on the Lions/Lioness Beaumont Silent Children's Advisory Board for a number of years, most of them as Advisory Board Secretary; he served on the Lions of Michigan Hearing Center Board for six years when it was first started; and he was the District Coordinator for LCIF in 2013-15.

Ron is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and for his Lions and community service, he has received numerous awards and other forms of recognition, including the International President's Award, International President's Appreciation Certificate, Harold L. Pocklington Award, Leader Dog President's Award, Beaumont Silent Children's Ralph Lynam Award, numerous Sterling Heights Lions Club awards, and Macomb County honored him with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Ron earned a Master's Degree from Central Michigan, a B.S. Degree from Wayne State University, and an Associate Degree in Business from Macomb County Community college. In his professional life, he worked for Daimler-Chrysler for 33 years, retiring in February 2001 from the Market Forecasting Department at age 55. He served as a Director, Area Chairman, and Vice-Chairman of the Multi-Mac Committee in the Chrysler Center Management Club for 20 years. Ron is a Dale Carnegie Graduate, receiving their Highest Award for Achievement in 1999.

For 18 years, Ron served as a Religious Education Instructor at St. Rene Goupel Church in Sterling Heights. For 12 years, he has been singing in the church choir.

Ron enjoys athletics, working out and staying in shape. He tries to work out four days a week at the L.A. Fitness Center, and for 15 years, he coached his three sons in the Sterling Heights Softball League. He likes to

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play softball as well, continuing to play until age 51 when he became too young for the team (they moved up to 55 and over league).

Ron and Lorie have been married for nearly 52 years, and they have three married sons; Lion Ron Jr. (Dina), Ken (Geraldyn) and Larry (Heather). They have four grandchildren; Caitlin, Justin, Ireland and Mei Li.



CLEM RUIZ

District Governor - 1996-97

In college, Clem Ruiz joined the Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity. I guess you could say “We Serve” is in his blood.

In 1979, Clem joined the Clarklake Lions Club, later transferring his membership to Michigan Center in 2003. He has been very active in both Lions Clubs over the years, holding various Lions Club offices, as well as serving on many committees.

At the District level, Clem started out as a committee member, and then he moved up to chair several District 11-B1 committees. He went on to serve as Zone Chairman, Region Chairman and Deputy District Governor. In 1996-1997, Clem was installed as District Governor of 11-B1 at the Lions International Convention in Montreal, Canada. That year, Clem was 100% District Governor.

Chairing District committees, led to Clem’s service at the Multiple District level and to his movement up the ladder as a Michigan Lion. He chaired the MD 11 International Convention Committee for the International Convention in Hong Kong, China, and most recently, Clem held various positions within the Lions of Michigan Foundation, working his way up to serve as Chairman of the Board and Foundation President in 2015.

However, one of Clem’s proudest moments and most fulfilling achievements as a Lion was working on the Committee for the 2004 Lions International Convention in Detroit/Windsor (a first for the convention to be hosted by multiple countries at the same time). Clem was responsible for organizing Lions from both countries to supervise a 4-hour parade route that started at Comerica Park in Detroit and ended at Cobo Hall. For his involvement with the Detroit/Windsor Convention, Clem received an

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International Presidential Certificate, one of five he has received over the years.

Clem is a Melvin Jones, John S. Noel, Helen Keller, and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has received nearly every notable award for his Lions service, including the 100% Club Secretary Award, Extension Award, Certified Guiding Lion, Wendell Doty Award, Lion of the Year (Lions Club, Zone, Region and District) and the International Presidential Award. In addition, Clem has achieved 37 years of Lions perfect attendance, and he is a Master Key Member.

Lion Clem has been married to Lion Vicki for over 51 years, and they have one daughter (Marie) and a son (Jeff), 5 grandchildren and a great granddaughter.



DON BROWN
Council Chair - 2012-13

Don Brown is a Lion's Lion and then some! Since his youth, he has committed himself to serving others, first as a Boy Scout (he earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1966) and then, when he became an adult, as a Lion. As a long-time automobile sales associate (48 years), he has continuously

organized his fellow employees in participating in community service activities.

His community activities have earned him many awards, including (but not limited to) Grand Marshall of both the Paw Paw Christmas Parade and Paw Paw Grape and Wine Festival Parade, Paw Paw Volunteer of the Year (1999), Paw Paw Rotary Club Outstanding Service Award (2009), and Paw Paw Citizen of the Year {1996}.

As Fundraising Chairperson of Paw Paw Kids' Paradise, Don has helped raise over \$200,000 for the project. He has served as Paw Paw Christmas Basket Chair for over 35 years, first chairing the project for the Boy Scouts and now with the Paw Paw Lions Club. Don works with the Paw Paw Rotary Club as an auctioneer for their fundraisers; he has helped with the community Duck Regatta for the past five years, and he was instrumental

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in bringing together the Paw Paw Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs for the event. In 2017, Don coordinated the first annual Spaghetti Dinner to raise funds for Eleanor's Pantry, raising over \$4,000, and as a member of the committee for the Paw Paw Festival of Trees, Don serves as auctioneer, raising funds for Senior Services of Van Buren County.

Don has dedicated a large part of his life to youth activities and services, coaching and mentoring countless boys and girls, as a coach for his community's youth baseball program, AYSO soccer, and high school soccer. He coached youth baseball for over 20 years, AYSO soccer for 11 years, Girls' Select Soccer Travel Team for three years, both boys' and girls' high school soccer for 14 years. In 1993, Don was named Michigan High School Athletic Association Girls' Division 3 Soccer Coach of the Year, and in 1998, his boys' high school soccer team earned the Michigan High School Athletic Association Men's Division 3 State Soccer Championship.

Don has been an active member of Boy Scouts of America for over 50 years, serving as Cub Scout leader for five years and leader of Boy Scout Troop 169 for thirteen more years; 53 of his troop members went on to become Eagle Scouts. In 1984, Don graduated from Wood Badge Training, and in 1992, he earned the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award in Boy Scouts. In 2012, Don received the Lions Scouting Service Award, and he currently serves on the Boy Scouts of America Board.

Don's career in Lions Clubs International began 30 years ago, when he joined the Paw Paw Lions Club. He quickly began a long record of service to the club, serving as President three different times. Don has also served as Membership Chair for three terms and Tail Twister, and he has served on the Paw Paw Lions Board since 1990. The club recognized his many contributions through Life Membership and by naming him the Lion of the Year three times.

Don began to expand his Lions service in 2007, serving as the District 11-B2 Convention Chair, a position he has held since that time. In 2010-11, he took another step forward, serving as District Governor of 11-B2, and since that time, Don hasn't looked back. He has continued to serve the District on the Global Membership Team (2011-2016), on the MD 11 Convention Committee and the International Convention Committee.

Don's expanded role in his District led to his service at the state level. While serving as 11-B2 District Governor, he also served as Vice Council Chair, and the following year, Don was elected Council Chair. He chaired

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the Michigan Eye Bank Committee from 2011-2016, and when the organization rebranded as Eversight, Don continued to serve and represent Eversight. In 2017, Don also helped organize and facilitate the first service project for the Lions of Michigan Forum.

Over the years, Don has attended nearly 20 International Conventions and nearly as many USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums. In 2015, Don served on the USA/Canada Forum Host Committee as Chair of Facilities and Chair of the Sergeant-at-Arms Committee. In 2016, he served as a member of the Forum Planning Committee for the Omaha, Nebraska Forum, in 2017, he was a Project Leader and organized a Strides Walk for the Portland, Oregon Forum; and currently, he serves on the Forum Planning Committee for the Columbus, Ohio, Forum.

Don has been recognized extensively for his Lions service. He is a Ken Lautzenheiser, John S. Noel, A. Charles Weir Sight Conservation and William "Doc" Barr Knights for Vision Fellow, and he is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In 2016, Don received the S. A. Dodge Award from MD 11; he is the recipient of an International Leadership Medal; and he has received the International President's Award twice (once from the Multiple District and in 2015, International President Jitsuhiro Yamada personally presented Don with the award for his USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum service).



RICHARD FOUST
State Treasurer - 1991-2005

Richard "Dick" Foust joined the Holt Lions Club in 1985, and for the last 33 years, he has been a very dedicated Lion at all levels of the Association.

Lion Dick served 14 years as State Treasurer and 12 years as Michigan Lions Foundation Treasurer. His role as Treasurer for these two organizations covered 17 years, several of which he served as Treasurer for both organizations. During his tenure as Treasurer with approval of the governing bodies of each organization, he established investment programs for the excess funds that were in CD's and Saving Accounts with low rates of return. Dick was given sole responsibility for

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these investments, and it wasn't until the Michigan Lions Foundation received a very sizable donation from a trust fund that each organization established Investment Committees.

Dick served as Foundation Treasurer before he became State Treasurer. At the time of his appointment as State treasurer, not all the Michigan Lions Districts were members of the Foundation. However, Dick's diplomacy enabled him to faithfully and successfully serve both organizations.

During his 17 years of serving at the Multiple District Level, Lion Dick also served on the International Convention Committee, Multiple District Convention Committee, Redistricting Committee, Strategic Planning Committee and various other committees. He has attended 20 International Conventions and 4 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums, and he served as Host Committee Treasurer for the 2007 Forum in Grand Rapids.

Through the years, Dick has remained very active at the Club and District level as well. He worked his way through the chairs of the Holt Lions Club, becoming Director, Membership Chair, Treasurer and Club President, and he has sponsored more than 15 members, including his daughter Kristin, the first woman in the Holt Lions Club. Dick was also Lions District 11-C2 Treasurer for one year; he chaired the Membership Committee for three years; and he served as the chairman or a member of various other committees, including the Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund Committee and Board.

The Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund is a project of Districts 11-B1 and 11-C2, and it is located in a minimum security prison in Jackson. The MBTF employs 47 inmates who are certified to produce braille, primarily K-12 school books that are sold nationwide. Dick has served on the MBTF District Committee and MBTF Board of Directors for approximately 18 years, holding several different positions, including Board Chair twice.

In recognition of his service to the Lions Association, Dick has been recognized extensively. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received the International Presidential Award, 4 International Presidential Certificates, the S. A. Dodge Award, the Holt Lion of the Year Award and numerous Certificates of Appreciation from MD 11, District 11-C2 and the Holt Lions Club.

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CHARLES FREDERICK

Council Chair - 1996-97

Charlie Frederick was born on September 13, 1934 in Highland Park, Michigan. He spent most of his adult life in the Byron, Michigan area, where he owned and operated Precision Metal Spinning in Fenton for 20 years, before retiring in 1990.

Charlie believed in Lions, and he was a strong and vocal advocate for the association and Lions Projects. He served on many committees and in numerous capacities for his Lions Club, District and Multiple District 11, including President and Secretary of the Linden Lions Club, Zone Chair, Region Chair, 11-D1 District Governor in 1996-97 and Chairman of the Council of Governors that same year. During Charlie's year as President of the Linden Lions Club, the club was voted Service Club of the Year by the Linden City Council.

Through the years, Charlie and wife Glenda hosted 35 students through the Lions Youth Exchange Program, and they also enjoyed providing financial support for the program and many of their other favorite Lions Projects, including the All State Bank, Bear Lake Camp, Leader Dogs for the Blind, the Lions of Michigan Foundation and the Saginaw Special Needs Vision Clinic. It was important for Charlie and Glenda to give back to their community and provide a helping hand to people in need.

Charlie never wanted recognition for his Lions service or his humanitarian efforts, however, throughout the years, he received Lion of the Year from the Linden Lions Club, the 100% Club Secretary Award, the 100% Leader Dog Award, the George E. Daly Award, the Lions Clubs International Foundation Contributing Member Award, the Lions of Michigan Foundation Benefactor Award, the 100% District Governor Award, the Membership Advancement Key and the International President's Award. Charlie was a Progressive John S. Noel and Melvin Jones Fellow.

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DAN GIBBONS
District Governor - 2001-02

Dan Gibbons has been an Onekama Lion for 27 years, and he has sponsored 10 members. He has served on the Onekama Lions Club's Board for 26 years, and he served as Club President twice. At the District level, Lion Dan served as Governor of 11-E1 in 2001-02; he served as Trustee for the Lions of Michigan Foundation for two terms, and he has served on numerous District and MD 11 committees.

Lion Dan has a passion for the KIDSight Program. He traveled to Vanderbilt University to learn about the program before we started the program in Michigan, and he has worked with our Michigan KIDSight Program since the very beginning. Over the years, Dan has volunteered thousands of hours to KIDSight, and a few years ago, he donated a utility trailer to KIDSight to help District 11-E1 conduct more vision screenings at outside events.

Dan exemplifies our Lions motto "We Serve," and for his service to our Lions association, he has received numerous awards and other forms of recognition, including the Onekama Lion of the Year Award, Lions of Michigan Foundation Outstanding Service Award, an International Membership Key, an International President's Appreciation Certificate and the International 100% District Governor's Award. Dan is also a Melvin Jones, John Noel, Helen Keller and Kenneth Lautzenheiser Fellow.

Dan's service extends well beyond Lions. He volunteers numerous hours working with special needs children at the Pathway Equine Group; he served as a Boy Scout Troop Leader; he has served as Chairperson for Onekama Days for 8 years; he is a member of the Portage Lake Association; and he has attended the Special Olympics Opening Eyes Project for the past 17 years. In 2017, Manistee County recognized Dan as "Best Volunteer of the Year."

2019 Inductees



JOHN MORGAN
District Governor, 1979-1980

Lion John Morgan believes a Lion should be identified as fostering the successful operation and the growth of their Lions Club. Our mission statement and vision statement define where and how, while our objects and ethics serve as our value system. A current guide is provided by the Club Excellence Award Program, and the road map is the Global Leadership Team, forums and mentoring. "We can't do membership without leadership. We can't do leadership without membership." To be successful, there has to be a balance in achieving our motto "We Serve" in the communities we support and in fulfilling the administrative functions of our association. "Man shapes events; events do not shape the man."

John has sponsored into membership 51 Lions, and he received the Grand Master Key in 2012, as well as the 50th year Monarch Award. While serving as District Governor, John chartered five new clubs, and he received a Lions Clubs International Net Increase Growth Award, achieving the second best results in the United States.

John is a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, and he has received seven International Extension Awards. In 1993, while serving as an Extension Consultant for Multiple District 10 and 11, he received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation from James Coffee

John has served in many leadership positions. In 1984, he chaired the District 11-A1 Convention Committee; in 1993, he chaired the MD 11 Convention Committee; in 1995-96, he was the MD 11 Extension Committee Chair, and in 2004, John was elected as Vice Chairman to the MD 11 International Convention Ad-Hoc Committee.

John's fundraising experience and leadership is extensive, including two Sight First campaigns, two campaigns for Leader Dogs, the All State Band, the Lions of Michigan Foundation, the Michigan Eye Bank, Penrickton Center, the Beaumont Silent Children's Fund and the Northwest Detroit Lions Club.

In February 1998, working with PDG Marco Rivera and the San Felipe

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Lions Club in Lima, Peru, John served as chairman of an eyeglass mission to Peru. With assistance from the Muskegon Northside Lions Club, the Northwest Detroit Lions Club and the Northville Lions Clubs, the group provided 3,000 pairs of eye glasses and six cataract surgeries in four 12-hour days. The project was partly financed through a \$30,000 LCIF grant written by John, and for his efforts, he received the District Governor's 1997-98 Award of Merit.

At the club level, John has served a number of years as the Case Referral Chairman for the Northwest Detroit Lions Club, and at the multiple district level, John worked with the Michigan Eye Bank and former Michigan State Senator Jackie Vaughn to pass legislation to allow for the solicitation and procurement of corneal tissue from morgue in Detroit. These efforts led to the passing of legislation that allowed for a processing fee to be charged to insurance companies for the placement of harvested corneal tissue used for corneal transplants, creating an over abundance of corneal tissue, while helping secure financial stability for the Michigan Eye Bank.

John also worked with Leader Dogs for the Blind, hosting DG's from districts outside of Michigan to acquaint them with the work of the school. He chaired the district bowling tournament with the Goebel Bowling team, raising over \$10,000 for Leader Dog, and in 1979, he orchestrated an LPGA tournament that raised \$20,000 for the school and \$3,000 for the Northwest Detroit Lions Club.

John has been instrumental in developing leaders in his club, and seven members have gone on to become district governors. Four Lions that John mentored have received the SA Dodge Award, Multiple District 11's highest form of recognition. For his efforts, John received the International President's Leadership Award

From 1973 through 2006, John served on the Lions Youth Exchange Committee. He has hosted 85 children from Peru, Japan, Europe, South America and Africa. John also helped secure a \$200,000 LCIF Core 4 Grant to provide quest training for teachers in Michigan.

John has received a number of awards and honors, including the Lions Clubs International Ambassador of Goodwill Award from Dr. James Fowler, IP 1983-84 and three International President's Awards; the MD 11 SA Dodge Award, Outstanding DG Award and Net Increase in Membership Award for an increase of 249 members; the District 11-A1

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Achievement Award, Wm. "Larry" Young Award and District Governor's Award of Merit.



TONY CAPOZZO

District Governor, 2007-2008

District Governor Tony Capozzo joined the Richmond Lions Club at an early age, following in the footsteps of his Dad and Uncle. He served the Lions for over 41 years until his passing in 2018. His son Charlie, daughter-in-law Barb, and his late wife Kathy also served.

Tony served on the District level as Zone Chair, twice as Region Chair, Vice-District Governor, and District Governor from 2007-2008. Throughout the years, he served on numerous District 11-A2 and Multiple District 11 Committees, including the Credentials Committee and the Multiple District Convention Committee. Tony also on the Bear Lake Committee, Lions Hearing Center Board, the Lions of Michigan Foundation Board of Trustees and as District Chair for LCIF. He chaired the Richmond Lions Club's Good Old Days Tractor Pull for over 20 years.

Tony received many awards and other forms of recognition for his Lions service, including the International Leadership Award, the International President's Appreciation Certificate, the Guiding Lion Award, and he was a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In his professional life, Tony owned and operated Capozzo and Sons Excavating Company since 1970, and he was a member of the Operating Engineers Union Local 324. He was a United States Army veteran, serving in Vietnam, and he was a lifetime member of the St. Augustine Catholic Church in Richmond.

Tony is survived by his three sons; Charlie (Barb), Scott (Jessica) and Nick (Amy), and he was a special grandfather to six grandchildren; Madison, Taylor, Peyton, Dalton, Britton and Rylee.

Tony was the person who was always in the background doing the work that needed to be done without regard for recognition. He served to help his fellow man, and he performed quietly, effectively, and always with professionalism.

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GEORGE COLE **District Governor, 1988-1989**

Lion George Cole joined the Three Rivers Lions Club in November of 1975. He became a life member in May of 2007. Lion George remained an active Lion right up to his death in March of 2015. He spent his entire 40 years of Lionism as a Three Rivers Lion, dedicated to the community and the Michigan Eye Bank.

George was awarded the Lion of the Year in 1979 by Three Rivers Lions. He served as Club President from 1982 – 1983 and again from 2001 – 2002. He served the District and held the offices of Zone Chair, Region Chair, First and Second Vice District Governor and District Governor of 11-B2 from 1988 - 1989. After serving as District Governor, Lion George went on to represent District 11-B2 on the Board of Trustees of the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation

PDG George was the recipient of several awards and fellowships in recognition of his service. He received both a Melvin Jones Fellow and the Lions of Michigan Foundation's Ken Lautzenheiser Fellowship.

PDG George was passionate about serving the Michigan Eye Bank, and he was a transportation volunteer for the Eye Bank for several years, transporting donated corneal tissue throughout the state. He served as a member of the Michigan Eye Bank Board from 1992 - 1998, and he received the Eye Bank's District Governor Award in 1989 and its Special Service Award in 1999. In 2007, George was awarded an Honorary Paver Brick on the Sidewalk of Honor.

In 2011, PDG George was chosen as the Three Rivers Bruce C. Snook Citizen of the Year, and in June of 2015 the entry road into the Three Rivers Lions Service Center was renamed and dedicated as "George Cole Drive".

PDG George was not only a visionary, he was also a role model and mentor to many Lions in District 11-B2 and to many Michigan Eye Bank representatives. District of 11-B2 can think of no Lion more devoted to Lionism and our "WE SERVE" motto than PDG George Cole; District 11-

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B2 and our state was blessed to have such a dedicated Lions member.

PDG George is survived by three nieces, Kathleen Wagner, Lorraine Anderson and Karen (Anderson) Bogerd and two nephews, Joel Brooks and Dennis Tokarski.



JAMES DUNN
Cabinet Secretary, 2001-2002

Lion Jim Dunn has been involved in service all his life; to his country, his family, and his community. During his teen years, he joined the Civil Air Patrol, and while attending MSU in 1954-1958, Jim was involved in the AFROTC. After graduation from MSU, Jim began his Air Force career, serving from 1958-1987 as a navigator. He was recognized extensively and earned many awards during his years of service.

In 1984, Jim became a charter member of the Bluewater Bay Lions Club in Niceville, FL, where he served as Secretary and Vice President. At the District level, he served as Zone Chair and on the Hearing Committee.

After retirement from the USAF, Jim transferred his membership to the DeWitt Breakfast Lions Club, and over the last 32 years, he has served as Club Trustee, Vice President, President, Treasurer, Secretary and on various committees and fundraising events.

At the District level, Jim has served as Zone Chair, Cabinet Secretary, Michigan Eye- Bank (Eversight) Committee Chair, District Convention Chair, and Elections Chair. He served as District 11-C2 Campaign Sight First (1&2) District Chair, and he has been Secretary Trainer extraordinaire for 20+ years.

At the State level, Jim served on the Michigan Eye Bank (Eversight) Committee for 22 years and on the Lions of Michigan Foundation Board for eight years as a Trustee and two years as Board Secretary. Jim continues to serve the foundation on its Fund Development and Marketing Committee and Audit and Finance Committee, and he personally packs and ships all of the foundation's Mints for Military packages to the men and women serving our country all over the world. The care packages of mints help build morale

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amongst our service men and women, and they help build goodwill with local children.

Jim co-founded and helped build the planes for the Lions Air Force, and he has 200+ flights to his credit over the streets of North America, including five Lions Clubs International parades. In addition, he has served on eye care missions to Peru, Mexico and Latvia.

Jim is a Melvin Jones Fellow, Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and an A. Charles Weir Fellow. He has received three International Presidential Certificates of Appreciation, and in 2017, he was awarded the Eversight Shared Vision Award. In 2018, Jim was named Outstanding Citizen of DeWitt Township.

Jim's non-Lions affiliations include the Air Force Association (Past State Treasurer for 15 years), Military Officers of America Association (Past President and Past Treasurer), Masonic Lodge (Past President), Gift of Life volunteer, and Meals on Wheels volunteer (25 years).

Jim and Janet, his lifelong partner since 4th grade, have enjoyed 62 years of marriage. They have one son, Jeffrey, daughter-in-law Jacqueline, and one granddaughter, Jessica.



ALICE ZAJAC **District Governor, 1997-1998**

Lion Alice Zajac joined Lions in 1988, and she has been a very active member since that time, continually moving up the leadership ladder year-by-year.

Alice has served as President of the Kingston Lions Club 3 times; she served 22 years as Club Secretary; and she has served on and chaired most of the club's committees. She served as the first female District Governor of District 11-D1 in 1997-1998, and she was one of the first three female District Governors in Michigan. In addition to her time serving as District Governor, Alice has served as Vice District Governor, Region Chair, Zone Chair, and Committee Chair for several District and Multiple District committees, including the All State

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Bank, Leadership and Membership Committees. She has served multiple terms on the Board of Trustees of the Lions of Michigan Foundation, and currently, Alice is serving on the Board of Directors of Eversight.

Alice is a Melvin Jones and William "Doc" Barr Fellow, and she has been recognized for her dedication to serving her community and Lions in a variety of ways. She has received the International Presidential Award, the International Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, the International 100% District Governor Award and the MD 11 S.A. Dodge Award.

Beyond Lions, Alice has always found the time to serve her community in other areas, including serving as a Medical First Responder for the Kingston area, serving for 20 years as local Secretary for the Michigan Milk Producers Association and helping with Red Cross Blood Drives, food bank distributions and community beautification projects.

Lion Alice is a dedicated Lion, and she demonstrates an unwavering commitment to serving her community and helping others. Each and every day, she lives our Lions motto by serving others and helping make her community a better place to live.



TERRY BOWERMAN
Council Chair, 2008-2009

PCC and Lapeer Lions member Terry Bowerman holds both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Arts Degree in Agricultural Education from Michigan State University. His professional career includes nearly 32 years of teaching in the traditional classroom setting, vocational education, and Cooperative Extension. Terry was a FFA Advisor, and he is an Honorary Michigan and American

Farmer Degree recipient.

Locally, Terry received the Lapeer County Teacher of the Year Award, and the Mason's presented him with the Edgar A. Guest Award. Terry served as President of the Michigan Association of Agriscience Educators and represented the association at many Regional and National Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association conventions.

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It was while teaching Adult Enrichment Classes at the Lapeer County Vo-Tech Center in 1992 that Terry was invited to join the Imlay City Lions Club. By 2005-06, he held all the positions required to become the District Governor of 11-D2, and due to his many years of teaching Parliamentary Procedure, Terry was named Parliamentarian for the 2005-06 Council of Governors.

Terry's service includes membership in the distinct Lions Clubs International Key Club and designation as a Certified Guiding Lion. He has served on the MD 11 Constitution and By-Laws, Liaison and Public Relations Committees, and he has served as a member of both the Bear Lake Board of Directors and MD 11 Bear Lake Committee. Terry served as Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee for six years, including one year as Board Secretary. In 2008-09, Terry was selected as the MD 11 Council Chair.

One of Terry's most cherished areas of Lions service is as a mentor and supporter to many District Governors and other future leaders in District 11 -D2. He was the first recipient of the District's Pete Lapka Leadership Award. He is a Melvin Jones and Ken Lautzenheiser Fellow, and he has been recognized with several International Presidential Certificates of Appreciation.

In addition to his professional and Lions service, Terry has been a 4-H Leader and President of the local fair board. He has served on the Board of the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel and in many other roles in his church and local community.

Terry has been married to Lion Patricia for 52 years. Terry and Pat have four children, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.



LYNN MAST
District Governor, 2006-2007

Lion Lynn Mast has been a dedicated Lion for 49 years. He has immersed himself into the most needed area of Lions - membership. He could be called Mr. Recruiter, having served as Guiding Lion, Retention Chair, Extension Chair and Membership Chair and personally recruiting over 100 Lions for

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clubs throughout District 11-E1.

Lynn began his service as a charter member of the White Cloud Lions Club and later transferred to the Fremont Lions Club. During his tenure in both clubs, he served as President twice, Secretary for ten years, Treasurer for ten years, and a Lions Club Board Member for 37 years. Lynn has been the Membership Chair for too many years to count, and he has participated in so many Lions fundraising activities and events that he cannot recall them all, varying from being Bingo Chair to working on food wagons and countless raffles. His commitment to our Annual White Cane Drive has earned him the Outstanding Lion of the Year Award four times.

Lynn was a successful District Governor from 2006-07. He has worked relentlessly in District 11-E1 to retain clubs and increase membership, and he currently serves as Guiding Lion to over five clubs. In one year, he recruited 15 new members for Lions Clubs in the District, and the following year, he encouraged 12 new Lions to join. Lynn continues to work hard at building clubs and membership, and he has likely attended more Lions meetings than any other Lion in District 11-E1.

Lynn has worked with the Eye Bank/Eversight for over 30 years, serving on the Advisory Board and working at donor sites. He devotes time to working with anyone or any group that wants to get involved, and in one year, he signed up over 1,000 eye and tissue donors. Over the years, he has also served as the Welcome Homes and Anatomical Gifts Chair and on the Leader Dog Committee and Merlo Team.

Lynn is also very active outside of Lions, serving on the White Cloud City Council, White Cloud Athletic Boosters, White Cloud Centennial Committee, Fremont Area Foundation, Newaygo County Fair Board, the Great Lakes Buckskin Association Board, and as 4-H Leader for 33 years in the Horse Division. Through his volunteerism, he earned Fremont – Outstanding Citizen, Volunteer of the Month for Newaygo County and many 4-H Certificates of Appreciation.

During his 49-year Lions career, Lynn has received numerous awards, including the International Presidents Leadership Award and multiple International Presidential Certificates. He is a Melvin Jones, Ken Lautzenheiser and John S. Noel Fellow and the recipient of the Eye Bank Shared Vision Award and the Gift of Life Appreciation Award. Lynn's goal is to empower Lions to serve their communities and to continue Melvin Jones's motto, "We Serve".

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Lynn and his wife Jan have been married for 56 years, and they have three daughters. He is a farmer, a horse breeder, and he and his wife have operated a Greenhouse for 25 years. Lynn was a First Responder for 32 years and a Police Sargent for 19 of those years, receiving Deputy of the Year in that role.

Hall of Fame Nominations

The Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame is a project of the Lions of Michigan Foundation. Our goal is to recognize and honor those individuals who have had a significant impact on Lionism in Michigan and to preserve a record of their service.

Nominations for the Hall of Fame will be accepted annually, no later than March 1. Nominations may be initiated by an individual, a club or a district, however, all nominations must have the endorsement of the District Cabinet of the district where the nomination was initiated. Nominees not selected for induction will be reconsidered in the following year upon submission of a written request from the seated District Governor.

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