



The Lions Pride

District 24-E

Happy Valentine's Day !

February 2009



**District
Governor**

**Melvin "Bud"
Chambliss
2008 – 2009**

**A NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT
GOVERNOR 24E**

GOOD MORNING LIONS OF 24E.

I hope you had a wonderful HOLIDAY SEASON. During The period from mid-November until mid-January, there are many events taking place to celebrate different Holidays and religious services. I hope yours was everything that you expected and the New Year will be one filled with great pleasures.

I am sorry for the many medical problems I have encountered over the last seven months. If I could have envisioned these problems, you would be hearing from a different District Governor at this time. My plans are to whip the medical problems and to do the best job as possible for the remaining time that I am your District Governor.

Just a little about my current medical situation. Until January 29th, I am restricted from driving except in emergency situations. I have a number of appointments to address continuing medical issues that include the healing of my left arm; gallbladder surgery in February; and follow up on continuing sinus problems that keep reoccurring.

The best part is I can see a potential end to what has been occurring and look forward to finishing strong.

I feel very badly about having to reschedule visits and events where I am supposed to be. This is not the way I normally do things and I apologize to all of you for this.

Based on statistics and reports – We as a district have done well and I ask you to keep up the good work.

We have tried a number of things and some have turned out well and others, I could have applied more time to accomplish them. To provide a little information on them, a short description follows:

Membership is growing and the Retention rate – A number of clubs have improved and I am excited about the zeal shown by our Clubs to endeavor to maintain their current rosters and increase the number of Lions in their Clubs. The one area where we cannot impact it is the number of members who are deceased. I appreciate all that you have done and will continue to do in this important area.

Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation – I would like to thank all who worked on this effort – especially, Lions Dallas Scott and Gloria Guice. They did an outstanding job on coordinating, writing and supporting the District's Lions Quest Program.

District 24-E Officers

Melvin "Bud" Chambliss, DG
Donald Rinehart
Vice District Governor
John T. Johnson, Jr.
Cabinet Sec/Treas.
Tammie Brightwell
State Sec/Treas.

Reg / Zone Chairmen

Dr. Kent Aikin
Reg I Chair
Burl Bowman
Reg I Zone I Chair
John Getgood
Reg I Zone II Chair

Debbie Chaffin
Reg II Chair
Lila Sullivan
Reg II Zone I Chair
Melvin "Sage" Bassett
Reg II Zone II Chair
Dallas Scott
Reg II Zone III Chair

Dr. Daryl Nash
Reg III
John T. Johnson, Jr.
Reg III Zone I Chair
James "Jim" Miller
Reg III Zone II Chair

Peace Poster Contest – While we did not produce the State winner, we had a substantial amount of participation and I look forward to this continuing into Lion VDG Don's year as District Governor. I owe Lion PDG Jo Nelson for the wonderful effort she put forth to ensure the success of this program.

Services to the Lions' Communities – One area Lions International President Al Brandel spotlights this year is "Serve to our Communities." I am extremely proud of all the services and activities that our Clubs are doing for their communities. Your efforts are noteworthy and bring substantial credit on you and the Clubs you represent. Your community actions depict the true meaning of "We Serve" and what it takes to be an "Everyday Hero." To me, each of you deserves the title of "Everyday Hero."

I wish you all the best and hope to resume my visits to our Clubs soon. For those I have had to miss, I want to visit you on at least an informal basis before May.

Thanks for all you do and your support during my term as District Governor.

Melvin L "Bud" Chambless, District Governor

World Diabetes Day

A message received by LCI from the International Diabetes Federation

1. United Nations to light up for diabetes

The International Diabetes Federation is proud to announce that the United Nations will light its New York Headquarters in blue to mark World Diabetes Day 2008.

This is a first for the United Nations. While in the past the organization has lit particular offices to spell out messages, most notably its own anniversary and 'I (heart) NY', never before has the UN lit to address a specific cause.

The participation of the UN building in the campaign is fitting for several reasons. First, under the banner of the IDF-led unite for diabetes campaign the global diabetes community came together to secure a UN Resolution that made World Diabetes Day, November 14, an official United Nations Day. Second, many diabetes representative organizations assembled last year in New York to celebrate World Diabetes Day at the UN. Finally, the blue colour of the global symbol for diabetes, the blue circle, was inspired by the blue of the United Nations flag – the blue of the sky that unites us all.

2. 628 lightings and 5 days left

We have received 116 confirmations in the past five days. At the time of sending this update, the number of buildings and sites that will light in blue has reached a staggering 628. The full list is available on <http://www.worlddiabetesday.org/activities/wdd-monument-challenge-2008?s=5en>.

3. Friends of World Diabetes Day ride again

> WDD biker triumphs in Dubai

The World Diabetes Day biker Youcef Cummings has returned home safe and sound from his recent desert rally in Dubai. We are pleased to reveal that he completed the event without harm to himself or bike.

In a starting line-up that included top names from all over the world, Youcef raced at speeds in excess of 160 km/hr to finish an amazing 5th in his class and 13th overall. Youcef races to raise diabetes awareness and funds to support the IDF Life for a Child Program (<http://www.lifeforachild.org>). With results like that, Youcef, we'll be hoping for a top-three placing next year. Thanks you for your support to the World Diabetes Day campaign and children with diabetes!

> WDD bug gears up for Baja 1000

So what about that Desert Dingo crew? Will they finish the Baja 1000? Desert Dingo Racing are a team of Silicon Valley professionals who take their super-charged, 1969 VW Beetle out racing across the desert. Some team members have very personal connections to diabetes. Meet the team at <http://www.desertdingo.com/team.html>.

The WDD-branded bug races to increase awareness of diabetes issues worldwide and raise support for the IDF Life for a Child Program. Just after World Diabetes Day, the team will enter their second Baja 1000 race to support Life for a Child.

Officially started in Tijuana in 1967, the Baja 1000 is an off-road race that takes place on Mexico's Baja California Peninsula every year. We wish Desert Dingo all the best in the upcoming race. Follow their progress at <http://www.desertdingo.com>.

4. Campaign spotlight

> CHTS gets mayors to bring diabetes to light

The Centro Hospitalar do Tâmega e Sousa (CHTS), that includes Hospitals in Penafiel and Amarante, Portugal has informed us that they have secured a commitment from the mayors of nine city halls to participate in World Diabetes Day. At least nine city halls have signed on to light up for the day – a total of 16 public buildings and schools. Between them, the nine participating regions represent over half a million inhabitants.

> DKA campaign covers Sweden

In Sweden, the 'warning signs' poster we have prepared with our colleagues from the International

Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) will be distributed to all general practitioners in cooperation with their professional organization. The poster will be displayed at child welfare centres across the country. All school nurses will also receive a copy. In order to increase awareness among the public, a national press release was released and picked up by most newspapers. Let's hope that next year Sweden can report on the impact of the campaign.

> El Salvador and World Diabetes Day

IDF member the Asociación Salvadoreña de Diabéticos (ASADI) have put together a comprehensive plan for their 2008 World Diabetes Day campaign programme. Working with government bodies, healthcare professionals, international agencies and the media, the Salvadorian organization will increase awareness of diabetes, encourage initiatives to reduce diabetic ketoacidosis in children at diagnosis and promote healthy lifestyle choices to prevent type 2 diabetes - campaign objectives that all support the WDD 2008 theme.

The many activities planned by the association include a walk in the capital San Salvador. The walk will make its way to the International Convention Centre, host to the countries fourth national diabetes congress. The 2000 expected attendees will be able to participate in a wide range of activities related to diabetes education and visit the exhibition hall, where industry partners will share the latest available information.

At the same time, ASADI will light the offices of their headquarters and affiliates in blue to help bring diabetes to light.

> Outback town brings light to diabetes black spot

The small outback town of Bourke, Australia has one of the highest rates of diabetes in the country. This World Diabetes Day, the town will show its commitment to the fight against the growing diabetes epidemic. Bourke will place particular emphasis on its indigenous community members, who are 10 times more likely to develop diabetes than the town's non-indigenous community members

The concerned citizens of Bourke will distribute blue light globes to the town's residents to place on their porches and/or in their front windows. The lights will be switched on for the evening of 14 November as a symbol of unity in the global fight against diabetes.

Local businesses have generously donated the support needed to carry out this beautiful local action. Thank you General Practice and the Macksville Mitre 10 hardware store! We thought your generosity was worth a mention.

Bourke plan to make this an annual activity and hope to light up one their local monuments in blue for World Diabetes Day in 2009.

> AJD bringing light to children and families

The French organization AJD (Aide aux Jeunes Diabétiques) and its family clubs have launched a national awareness and lighting campaign in support of World Diabetes Day. So far they have secured over 30 lightings and are contacting mayors to obtain proclamations. The message that we must do more to tackle diabetes and safeguard the future of our children and future generations is passing quickly from one city hall to another.

Diabetes is different for children. Because of the need to explain the issues that children face, AJD has launched its second book of testimonials. After giving voice to children with diabetes - letting them show that they can learn to manage their diabetes responsibly – AJD is now giving parents a voice.

When a child is diagnosed with diabetes, everything stops and everything starts, the present becomes a blur. Along with the child, the parent will experience everything as new: the stay in hospital, the return home, the first days at school, first holidays, first nights away with friends, the first big oversight, the first mistake... a new life experienced with diabetes.

> Sue carries torch for diabetes awareness

One of the most tireless supporters of diabetes causes we've ever met is Nova Scotia's Sue Boutilier. Last year, Sue launched her United Nations Resolution Torch for Diabetes Advocacy in New York as part of the WDD celebrations there. This year, Sue will take her torch and her personal brand of awarenessraising to the historic town of Lunenburg in her home province of Nova Scotia, Canada. Lunenburg is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sue has been able to obtain a WDD proclamation from Lunenburg. She sent us a copy for our evolving online book (<http://book.worlddiabetesday.org>). This, of course, wasn't enough for Sue. She has numerous other requests for proclamations out there and will be completing a personal 5K walk for diabetes around Lunenburg on the morning of November 14. She has registered this "walk/run" as an event on the WDD website and will try to get us some photos to record her efforts.

Thanks Sue, we can't wait to see and hear how it goes. We'll be looking down the long list of UNESCO sites to guess where you'll be next year.

5. Yahoo for Good onboard again

As you may remember, the Spanish version of Yahoo for Good – Yahoo Solidario – supported WDD last year by including information about the campaign. Yahoo Solidario has confirmed that it will support us again this year. See the support for yourself at: <http://es.promotions.yahoo.com/forgood>.

Yahoo For Good is a service provided by the famous online Yahoo brand. It is committed to making a difference in the world by providing Yahoo users and employees with services that inspire and help make a positive impact.

This year Yahoo for Good UK is showing its support for diabetes awareness by including information on its home page. The level of support is excellent. Thank you Yahoo! Check out <http://uk.promotions.yahoo.com/yahoo-for-good>.

6. Nearly there...

The next update will be on the day itself. In the meantime, whatever you are planning, whether it's a fund-raising fish fry for the 'Feral Catz' in Milwaukee (<http://www.awakening-grace.com>) or blue circles and balloons at the big game in Brazil (<http://www.diamundialdodiabetes.org.br>), we hope everything goes well over the next five days to make your World Diabetes Day a resounding success.

With kind regards

Phil Riley on behalf of the World Diabetes Day team.

Submitted by Lion Bill Brammer, Diabetes Awareness

The Martinsville / Henry County Lions Club

The Martinsville/Henry County Lions will sponsor their annual Bland Music Scholarship Contest on Sunday, February 15th at the First Baptist Church of Martinsville. Come and enjoy some very talented young musicians who will be headed to state convention.

The Martinsville/Henry County Lions Club will sponsor "Mark Templeton and Pocket Change" at their monthly free BlueGrass Concert at the historic uptown Rives Theater in Martinsville on Saturday, February 21st. These "FREE" concerts are held on the third Saturday of every month, and have been a very successful money making project for our club for over a year.

Submitted by Lion O. Cliff Rood, Club Secretary

Edgewood Lions Club

The Edgewood Lions Club has a limited number of 24-E hats for \$8.00 and We Serve Auto Ribbon magnets for \$5.00. Please call Tammie Brightwell at 540-314-0312.

The Edgewood Bland Contest will be held on Thursday, February 19th, 2009, at 6:00 p.m., at the Central United Methodist Church, College Avenue, Salem.

Ferrum, Rocky Mount, and Smith Mountain Lake Lions Clubs

Ferrum/Rocky Mount/Smith Mountain Lake Lions Bland Contest will be held on Sunday, March 1, 2009 , at 2:00 p.m. in Grousbeck Hall on the Ferrum College campus.

Region III, Zones I and II

The Region III, Zone I and Region III, Zone II Bland Contests will be held on Sunday, March 29, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. on the Ferrum College campus.

Submitted by Lion Daryl Nash, Region III Chairperson

Region II

It is my pleasure to announce the Region II Bland Contest to be held Sunday, March 22, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the Inn at Trivium, 7821 Bellevue Road, Forest, VA. Hope to see you all there.

Submitted by Lion Dallas Scott, Region II Chairperson

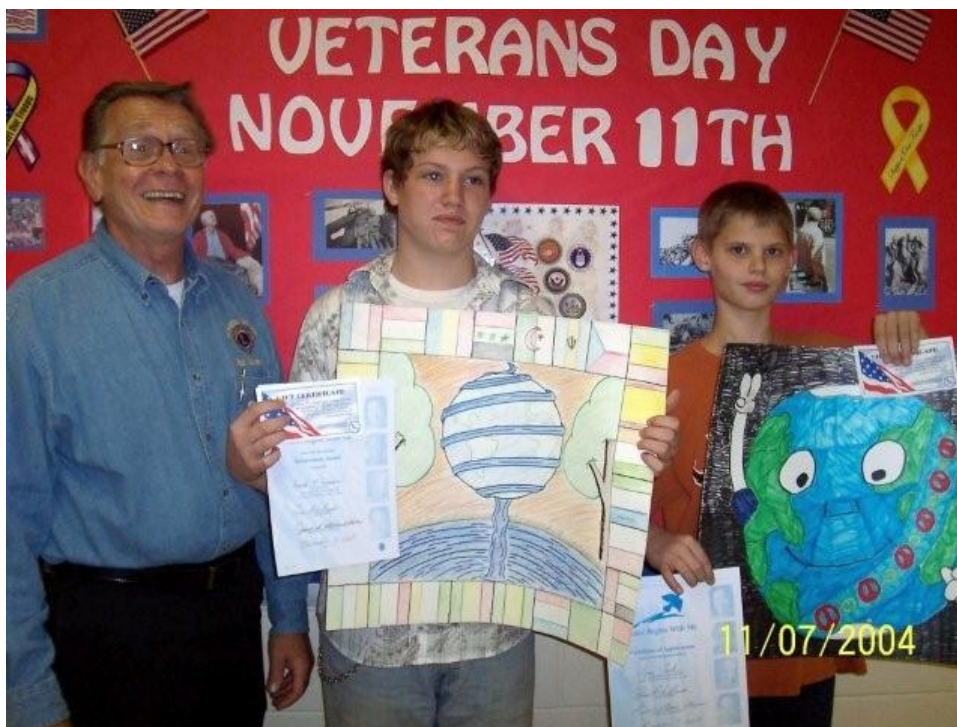
Moneta Lions Club



The Moneta Lions Club members were honored to have District 24-E Governor, Lion Melvin L. "Bud" Chambless, as their guest speaker at their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday November 6th. Lion Governor Chambless was formally introduced to the club by Region Chair Lion Dallas T. Scott. The Governor spoke on various subjects, including Diabetes Awareness, and Camp Too Sweet, a summer camp for Juvenile Diabetics. The District Governor also presided over the induction of a new member. Pictured from left are, new Lion Gordon Larson, District 24-E Governor Lion Chambless, and Lion Chuck Dideon, who sponsored the Club's newest member.

MLC-Lions International Peace Poster Contest

Each year Lions clubs from around the world proudly sponsor the "Lions International Peace Poster Contest" in local schools, and varied youth groups. This Contest encourages students worldwide, ages 11-13, to artistically express their visions of peace. The theme for 2008-2009 is "Peace Begins With Me". Posters advance through several judging levels, starting with the local club, moving on to district, multiple district, and finally to the international level, where judges from the art, peace, youth, education and media communities select one grand prize winner. The international winner will receive a trip to a special award ceremony with the sponsoring club president and two family members at Lions Day with the United Nations in New York City, New York, and will receive an engraved plaque plus a cash prize of \$ 2,500. The Moneta Lions Club Youth Services Chairperson Gloria Guice, who was instrumental in starting the contest at the local level had received more the 200 entries this year from the young artists, under the direction of instructor Judy Whitehead, at the Staunton River Middle School. Lion Rob Senoski, shown left, Co-Chairperson for Youth Services presented a Certificate of Achievement and Savings Bond Certificate to local first place winner David Morrison, and runner up Aaron Tuck.



MLC-Martin Luther King Day

Recently an e-mail memo was circulated to Lions Clubs from International President Lion Al Brandell urging all clubs to do something extra on Martin Luther King Day, which was celebrated on Jan 19th, with special emphasis on assistance to local food pantries. Acting on this suggestion, the Moneta Lions Club discussed the subject at their regular board meeting January 13th, agreeing to donate \$100 to the cause, and an e-mail was sent out to all club members by Lion Secretary Pat Bailey, asking for a voluntary out of pocket donation of up to \$5.00 per member in attendance, which would be collected at their regular meeting on January 15th, this effort raised an additional \$104. Lion Sarah Hunt contacted Jim Cameron, director at the Moneta Lake Christian Ministry (LCM) Center, and it was noted that their immediate need was "toiletry items" which government funds do not cover, and is often overlooked by many businesses and individual donors. A shopping committee was formed and a trip was made to the Dollar Tree Store in Bedford to purchase \$204 worth of tooth brushes, tooth paste, hand soap, toilet tissue, dish soap, shampoo, and deodorant. Pictured from left, LCM Director Jim Cameron accepts the donated items presented by Lions Jim & Sarah Hunt, George Just, and Rob Senoski on behalf of the Moneta Lions Club.

Several club members also gave up time on the holiday volunteering at the Roanoke Lions Center, reading and recording used eyeglass prescriptions, to be distributed in the future to those in need.



Submitted by Lion Rob Senoski, Moneta Lions Club

Smith Mountain Lake Lions Club News – School Vision Testing

The Smith Mountain Lake Lions Club has recently embarked in its yearly school vision screening project that benefits many Franklin County school children. The Club has been involved in this activity for the past twenty years. The ongoing project, which involves thirteen County schools, is staffed by thirty six Lions Club volunteers under the direction of Co-chairmen Bill Timmins and Tom Merriman and is expected to be completed during the 08-09 Club fiscal year.

As of this writing, the group has screened 2,968 children in grades 1-5, 7 and 10 in the County School system. Additionally, the goal is to screen approximately 400 private and home schooled children in Franklin County this school year.

The volunteers, working in small groups, visit each school and, with the cooperation of the administration and nursing staff, screen the students using six vision testing machines. All students are screened for a minimum vision capability of 20/30. Those students not meeting this threshold are recommended for re-testing by the school nurses and other vision professionals.

As expressed by a member of the team, “It is truly a pleasure when we can perform a satisfying service that gives an immediate response to our community”. “It is our hope that the students recommended for rescreening will receive more time and attention to their vision needs as a result of our efforts”.



SML Lions prepare to conduct vision tests at the Franklin County High School. Standing, left to right, are: Tom Smith, Ray Lenco, Janice Payne, Tom Merriman (Co-Chairman), Debbie Farthing, John Porter, Lorrie Witcher and Peter Coriasco. Sitting down: Bill Telford and Bill Timmins (Co-Chairman)



Lion Robert Kosel conducting a vision test.

Submitted by Lions Peter Coriasco and Jim Miller

Cave Spring Lions Club



Lion Noel Cosby (with U. Va. umbrella) and Lion Jane Nash (with Va. Tech umbrella) put aside their school loyalties for the Cave Spring Lions White Cane Collection on a rainy November 15th.



Santa Claus (Lion Chuck Jordan) presents "T'was the Night Before Christmas at the Cave Spring Christmas dinner.



Lion President Larry Nash presents check to Jenny McCormack, Director of the Salem - Roanoke County Food Pantry.



Peace Poster winner Jetal Patel with principal Archie Freeman and art teacher Anne Fournier of Woodrow Wilson Middle School.

*Newsletter Editor
Lion Noel Cosby*