



# District 49A Informer



## Governor's Corner

Thank you Zone 6

The Governors fundraiser March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Eagle River Lions Den was a fun event and a great success. It brought in \$2824. This will help with the expenses of my travels greatly! Thank you, thank you, to Zone 6 Chair Nancy Stahly, all the zone 6 Lions and the Bear Mt. Leos. I thank all Lions that attended.

There's a convention coming soon to Anchorage! Be There! We have sooo much planned to make sure you will learn a lot about the Lions Organization. In the meantime please go to [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org). There is a great amount of info. We really need our Lions to move up in the leadership roles and there is a lot of training on this site.

Mentorship:

While I have asked the Lions of 49A to "Share the Heart", this should not stop until that new Lion knows everything possible about our organization. Most of us forget how confused we were as new Lions and that thirst for knowledge we had. I am thankful that some of the district Lions in the know took the time to help me along the way,

Three months to go and STILL TIME TO MEET OUR GOALS!

Our Multiple District 49 Convention will be at the Coast Int'l Inn in Anchorage April 16-19<sup>th</sup>. Our incoming International President Al Brandel and his wife Dr Murphy will be our guests. We are so fortunate in our district to be able to have them. I sincerely hope all the Lions of 49A have a chance to attend this convention.

I truly appreciate all those lions out there that have been serious about my challenge to bring in new members. This is our life blood to keep our district alive and our projects getting done. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

We have some clubs that are behind on their International and district dues and M reports. If your not sure ask our cabinet treasurer, Karan Hupperten. Her email is [karanh@clearwire.net](mailto:karanh@clearwire.net). If you need to contact me the email is [dgmikebarber@arctic.net](mailto:dgmikebarber@arctic.net). Our Vice District Governor Diana Cummings is at [cummingsalaska@gci.net](mailto:cummingsalaska@gci.net).

We as Lions must Appreciate and Celebrate the fact that we are winning the fight against Preventable Blindness in our world today. Sight First II has now surpassed the goal of \$150 million dollars. There is still time to get a Melvin Jones award and have it presented at the Convention.

Share the Heart of Lionism and have fun this year.

Your Governor,

*Mike Barber*

## Officers

### District Governor

Mike Barber

### Immediate Past District Governor

Doc Meyers

### Vice District Governor

Diana Cummings

### Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

Karan Hupperten

## Zone Chairs

### Zone 1

Flor Luna

### Zone 2

Kurt Weichhand

### Zone 3

Lawrence Camp

### Zone 4

Joanne Koss

### Zone 5

Charlotte Jones

### Zone 6

Nancy Stahly

### Zone 7

Teresa Germain

### Zone 8

Tom Philips

On March 24<sup>th</sup> I returned to a blizzard in Dutch from Southeast Alaska. The clubs in SE are doing great. Wrangell is getting ready for their "Garnet Festival", Ketchikan is strong and working on a membership drive, Juneau has just completed their "62 Gold Metal Basketball Championship (this is a huge project). I got a new nickname in Juneau. If you want to know it ask Jan Burke.

Mendenhall Flying Lions have brought in 7 new members. Oh, did I mention the flowers are blooming in Ketchikan? Way to go Southeast Lions.

## EYE GLASS RECYCLING

Please bring all collected eye glasses to the Convention. PCC Howard Rixie can take them up to the Recycling Center.

Coming to MD49 Convention....Got eyeglasses? We will be collecting eyeglasses at the MD49 Convention, and hauling them back to the recycling center in North Pole. If you bring your glasses to convention please make contact either Howard Rixie or Jim Turner, so they can load them up in their pick-up trucks. For more info contact Howard Rixie, Cell 907-378-7797

Folks, I'm not pretending to be blind

Anchorage Daily News, COMPASS: Other points of view by DAVE ARMSTRONG, Published: February 14th, 2008

It's appropriate that Craig Medred's fine piece on the Rachel Scdoris Iditarod controversy appeared Feb. 3, because February is Low-Vision Month in the United States. Scdoris' situation is a reminder that "blindness" is not, despite antiquated preconceptions to the contrary, a black-and-white issue.

Ninety percent of all "visually impaired" people do have some degree of vision. So much for the stereotype of the helpless man in black sunglasses selling pencils from a tin cup, utterly clueless of his surroundings.

The reality is that low-vision people may never use white canes, or they may use them to greater or lesser extent as light availability dictates. Some low-vision people drive cars -- legally. Low-vision folks play sports, read the newspaper, climb mountains, and even race sled dogs. People with low vision exist in a constant state of inconsistency and unpredictability.

I should know. I experience a degenerative eye disease called retinitis pigmentosa. (Contemporary parlance holds we use the word "experience" rather than "suffer from," to eschew pathos.) With "RP," as it's affectionately known among the ranks, my peripheral vision deteriorates from the outside-in. Severe night blindness coincides with an ever-shrinking visual field.

I can still see objects directly before me relatively well, but only in good light with corrective lenses. I reluctantly use a white cane in low-light situations. As one might expect, my condition leads to some interesting confrontations. People can get upset when others fall outside of easily conceived stereotypes.

"You're not blind! No blind man wears glasses!" "Why are you pretending to be blind?"

"If you're so blind, why are you looking right at me!?" (As if the speaker would prefer if I sway aimlessly, bobbing my head to and fro like Stevie Wonder.)

One smart-alecky question I get a lot goes something like this: "Is there something wrong with your leg? I mean, you're obviously not blind, so do you have that cane to help you walk or something?"

I, and every low-vision person with whom I've had this conversation, have encountered people whom I have termed "handicops." These are the self-appointed protectors against poseurs and phonies masquerading as blind people (presumably in pursuit of the bounties and benefits blindness brings).

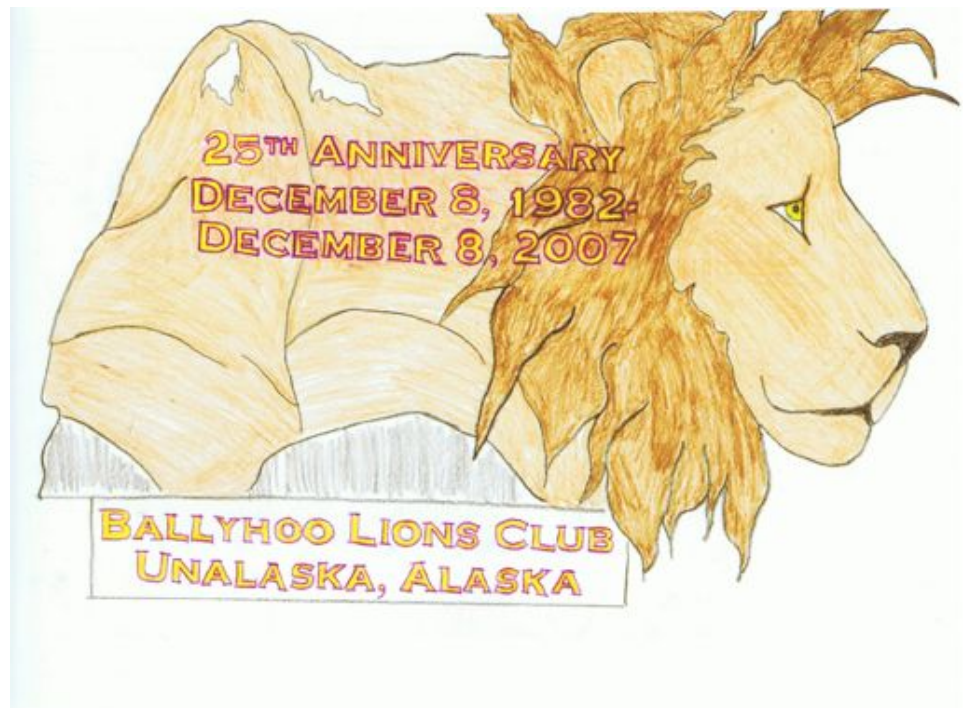
If only these handicops knew just how difficult it can be to admit you need a white cane in certain lighting. If only they knew how hard it can be for a low-vision person to know when she finally needs a white cane and in which situations. A person with no vision whatsoever never has to agonize over whether to take up the cane, and in so doing, broadcast to all she encounters that she is different.

The range of an individual's visual acumen can be incredibly vast. For example, on a sunny day, I can catch a Hail Mary pass from my buddy Jason while running full tilt across the Park Strip. And yet, on dark winter nights, I have been known to walk into the 5th Avenue Mall -- literally. This is the confusing gamut we low-vision folks run, or more accurately, grope, each waking hour. It is limbo: neither here nor there, neither blind nor sighted, neither black nor white.

Whether or not you have a strong opinion about Rachel Scdoris, I hope you will consider the strange and frustrating purgatory in which she and tens of thousands like her find themselves every waking moment. Please try to withhold judgment about what we can and cannot see. Much of the time, we aren't entirely sure ourselves.

"I plan to live my life to the fullest and never give up. I hope all Alaskans with low vision will do the same."

Iditarod musher Rachael Scdoris



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2007-2008

| <u>Date</u>        | <u>Event</u>  | <u>Location</u>                      |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| JUL 2-6            | Int'l Convention  | Chicago, IL                          |
| <i>JUL 21</i>      | <i>49B 1st Cabinet Meeting/1st Council Mtg</i>                          | <i>North Pole</i>                    |
| AUG 4              | 49A First Cabinet Meeting   | Willow Community Center              |
| SEP 6-8            | USA/Canada Forum  | Grand Rapids, MI                     |
| OCT 25-27          | 49B Mid Winter Conf/Cab Mtg.  | Tok                                  |
| NOV 9-10           | 49A Mid Winter Conf./2rd Cab Mtg  | Wasilla                              |
| Nov 10             | 2nd MD49 Council Meeting  | Wasilla                              |
| FEB 2              | 49A 3rd Cabinet Meeting   | Girdwood Community Center            |
| <i>FEB 9</i>       | <i>49B 3rd Cabinet Meeting/3rd Council Mtg</i>                          | <i>Nenana</i>                        |
| <b>APR 16 - 19</b> | <b>MD A &amp; B Convention/4th Cab Mtg<br/>MD49 4th Council Meeting</b> | <b>Coast International Inn Anch.</b> |
| JUNE 23-27         | Int'l Convention  | Bangkok, Thailand                    |



SPENARD LIONS CLUB P.O. BOX 90-197  
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99509-4448 907-248-0832  
E MAIL [livewire@pobox.alaska.net](mailto:livewire@pobox.alaska.net)

When in Anchorage stop in and join us at our clubhouse at the intersection of Taft and Roosevelt in "Beautiful Downtown Spenard". We meet the 2nd Monday of the month at 6PM, a pot luck social, and every Wednesday at noon. Our board meets the 4th Monday at 5:30PM.



Lion Lee Anne  
Regan

Lion John Regan,  
.Jr.

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**Michelle Cassano**  
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#### Memorial Service Requests

Any Lions Club or Lions Family that would like to have a Past District Governor Memorial Ceremony to honor a departed loved one please contact Lion John Regan, Lion Ev Burk or Lion Larry Williams.

e-mail as follows:

Lion John Regan: [iserve@pobox.alaska.net](mailto:iserve@pobox.alaska.net)

Lion Ev Burk: [eburk@gci.net](mailto:eburk@gci.net)

Lion Larry Williams: [lawwill@gci.net](mailto:lawwill@gci.net)

## D49A Lions Clubs

Here's a reminder about the the Memorial Service to be held at the 2008 MD49 Convention. I need the names of any Lions that have died after the last 2007 MD 49 Convention to the present time. Send the Lions name and club to arrive not later than March 31, 2008 so I can include their names in the Memorial program. The names can be mailed or e-mailed to me. Thank you: Lion John Regan





# Coast International Inn

Coast Hotels & Resorts



## RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

With our convenient location, the Coast International Inn is the ideal place to stay for business or pleasure. Our full service restaurant serves hearty American fare. For a casual dining experience, or you just need to unwind from a busy day, try Pipers Lounge. With a big-screen TV, plus many more TV's to select from you are sure to find your favorite sport playing.

All of our guest rooms are comfortable and have well-appointed furnishings with cable TV, pay-per-view movies, coffee makers, hair dryers, iron and ironing boards, dual line speaker phones with data port and voice mail. The hotel also provides a business center with e-mail capability and a coin operated laundry facility. We also offer complimentary airport shuttle service, 24 hours a day.

Group Name **MD 49 2008 Lions Convention**  
 Booking # **1399**  
*(Please use booking # when reserving hotel guest rooms)*

Room Dates **Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, thru Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
 Room Rate **\$59.00 + tax**

**Room with 1 or 2 Queen Beds with 1 or 2 people**  
*(Rate quoted is for a standard room - other charges may apply.)*

Hotel guest rooms are subject to a hotel bed tax not included in the above rate.

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL BEFORE MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2008**  
**RESERVATIONS MADE AFTER MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2008 ARE ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS ONLY**

Room Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Single (1 Bed with 1 or 2 people) \_\_\_\_\_ Double (2 Queen Beds with 2 people)  
*(Additional person or rollaway bed \$15.00)*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPECIAL REQUEST \_\_\_\_\_

***Please indicate smoking / non-smoking etc. All requests (location, non smoking, etc) are subject to availability.***

I would like the hotel to advise me of my confirmation number. PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_  
 TYPE OF CARD \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADVANCED DEPOSIT ENCLOSED – YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ ADVANCED DEPOSIT TO FOLLOW – YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
*(PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH)*

**MAIL THIS FORM TO** COAST INTERNATIONAL INN  
 3450 AVIATION AVENUE,  
 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99502

**CALL** Anchorage Area (907) 243-2233 / Reservation Line (907) 249-4402  
 AK Toll Free 1-800-478-2233 Continental US & Hawaii 1-800-544-0986

**FAX** 907-248-3796 Attention: Jack Perry **E-mail:** [jperry@intlinnanchorage.com](mailto:jperry@intlinnanchorage.com)

**NOTE: Hospitality Rooms:** All Hospitality rooms will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and under the discretion of the Convention Committee.  
**Reservation Policy:** Guaranteed reservations will be held all night. Unless cancellation notice is received by noon the day prior to arrival, you will be billed for one night's accommodation and all remaining days will be released.

Non Guaranteed reservations will only be accepted in the winter months, and will be released at 6:00pm on day of arrival.

**All reservations during May thru September must be guaranteed with a major credit card or an advance deposit.**

**We look forward to your stay with us at the Coast International Inn in Anchorage.**

**AGENDA**  
**MD 49 LIONS CONVENTION**  
**Coast International Inn, Anchorage, Alaska**  
**April 16-19, 2008**

**Wednesday, April 16th**

|                    |   |   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM  | Registration                            | Coast International Inn Lobby   |
| 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM  | Lions Store                             | Located in Suite 188, see schedule hours of operation in this booklet |
| 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM | Ice Breaker<br>(Girdwood Turnagain Arm) | McKinley Room East  |

**Thursday, April 17th**

|                    |                       |                                |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 6:00 AM – 7:00 AM  | Wake Up Wagon         | Sponsored by Kodiak Lions Club |
| 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM  | Registration          | Hotel Lobby                    |
| 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM  | 49A, ID Meeting       | McKinley Room                  |
| 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM  | Coffee Service        | Sponsored by Spenard Lions     |
| 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM | General Session MD 49 | McKinley Room                  |

**Opening Session**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Opening Ceremony                                     | CC Doc Myers                                    |
| Star Spangled Banner                                 | CC Doc Myers                                    |
| O'Canada   | PDG Billy Williams                              |
| Lions Prayer   | PDG John Regan Jr.                              |
| Welcome by Convention Committee                      | PDG Dennis Cummings                             |
| Introductions  | Council Chairman Doc Myers                      |
| Welcoming Remarks                                    | Mayor Mark Begich                               |
| Distinguished Guest                                  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Int'l Vice President Al Brandel |
| Past International Director                          | PID Buster Hall                                 |
| District Governor 49B                                | DG Lisa Conrad                                  |
| District Governor 49A                                | DG Mike Barber                                  |
| Council Chairman                                     | CC Doc Myers                                    |
| <b>General Session Called to order</b>               | CC Doc Myers                                    |
| Rules of Convention                                  | PCC Bob Niebert                                 |
| Appointment of Sergeant-At-Arms                      | Council Chairman                                |
| Appointment of Parliamentarian                       | PCC Pete Hupperten                              |
| Credentials Committee Report                         | Credentials Chairman                            |
| Resolution Committee                                 | Resolution Chairman                             |
| Roll Call  | 49A Sec - 49B Sec                               |
| Seating of Delegates                                 | Council Chairman                                |
| Minutes of 2007 MD Convention                        | CST Larry Williams                              |
| Treasurer Report                                     | CST Larry Williams                              |
| <b>MD Committee Reports</b> (Submit Written Reports) |   |
| Constitution & By-Laws                               | PCC Pete Hupperten                              |
| Elections & nominations                              | Lion Peggy Shoemaker                            |
| Leadership   | PDG Shirley Littleton                           |
| Membership   | PDG Jim Turner                                  |
| Retention  | PDG Hollis Hall                                 |
| Extension  | PCC Phil Hill                                   |
| CSF II   | PCC Howard Rixie                                |
| 2008 USA/CANADA Forum                                | PDG Dennis Cummings                             |
| 2011 USA/CANADA Forum                                | PID Buster Hall                                 |
| 2009 MD Convention - Nome                            | PCC Howard Rixie                                |
| 2010 MD Convention                                   | PCC Phil Hill & CC Doc                          |
| 2011 MD Convention                                   | PDG Jim Turner                                  |
| 2012 MD Convention                                   | PDG Billy Williams                              |
| Other committee Reports                              |   |

**Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>-continued**

|                    |   |                     |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM | Leader Dog Lunch  | McKinley Room       |
| 1:30 PM – 4:40 PM  | Registration  | Lobby               |
| 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM  | Forest Gump Takes A Look at Lionism                                   | McKinley East       |
| 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM  | Club Officers   | McKinley East       |
| 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM  | MERL Teams & VDG's  | McKinley West       |
| 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President Dinner<br>(PCC's, PDG's, DG's & VDG's) | Kinley's Restaurant |

**Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>**

|                    |                                |                              |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6:00 AM – 7:00 AM  | Wake Up Wagon                  | Sponsored by Kodiak Lions    |
| 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM  | Registration                   | Lobby                        |
| 8:00 AM            | Coffee Service                 | Sponsored by Bethel Lions    |
| 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | District Convention 49A        | McKinley East                |
| 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | District Convention 49B        | Susitna Room                 |
| 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | Joint Lunch, Buffet Style      | McKinley West                |
| 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM  | District Conventions Continued | McKinley East & Susitna Room |
| 2:00 PM            | Snack Service                  | Big Lake Aurora Lions        |
| 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  | Social Hour                    | McKinley East & Susitna Room |
| 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM | Awards Banquet 49A             | McKinley East                |
| 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM | Awards Banquet 49B             | Susitna Room                 |

**Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>**

|                    |  |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM  | Voting & PDG Breakfast                   | Pipers Lounge                                     |
| 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  | LEO'S Training                           | Prospector Room, see<br>Schedule inside this book |
| 9:00 AM – 9:50 AM  | Necrology Service                        | Susitna Room                                      |
| 10:00 AM – 12:00   | <b>MD Convention Continues</b>           | McKinley Room                                     |
|                    | Call to order                            | CC Doc Myers                                      |
|                    | NW Symposium Speech                      | CC Doc Myers                                      |
|                    | Final Credentials Report                 | Credentials Chairman                              |
|                    | Final Committee Reports                  | Committee Chairs                                  |
|                    | Resolution Committee Report              | Resolutions Chairman                              |
|                    | Elections Report                         | Lion Peggy Shoemaker                              |
|                    | Acceptance Speeches                      | Candidates (ID & CC)                              |
|                    | Adjournment                              | CC Doc  |
| 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM | Melvin Jones Lunch                       | McKinley Room                                     |
| 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM  | Zone Chairman Training                   | Pipers Restaurant                                 |
| 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  | Alaska State Gaming                      | Susitna Room                                      |
| 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  | Low Vision                               | Prospector Room                                   |
| 3:00 PM            | Snack Service (lobby)                    | Sponsored by Palmer Lions                         |
| 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM  | New Cabinet 49A                          | Pipers Lounge                                     |
| 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM  | New Cabinet 49B                          | Pipers Restaurant (Alcove)                        |
| 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM  | COG Meeting                              | Prospector Room                                   |
| 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM  | Tour-Center For The Blind (for everyone) | Meet in Hotel Front Desk                          |
| Area               | ..6: 00 PM - 7:00 PM                     | Social  |
| McKinley Room      |  |   |
| 7:00 PM – Till?    | MD Reception & Banquet                   | McKinley Room                                     |

**“We hope you enjoyed the convention and had a memorable experience”  
God bless you for all that you do in your communities -2008 MD 49 Lions Convention Committee**

MD 49 LEO'S  
SCHEDULE CONVENTION  
APRIL 18 & 19, 2008  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

APRIL 18, 2008

7 PM – 10 PM DISTRICT 49 A & DISTRICT 49 B AWARDS BANQUET

APRIL 19, 2008

10 AM -12 AM OFFICER TRAINING

10 AM – 10:30 AM SHERI - PRESIDENTS & VICE PRESIDENT SEMINAR

10:30 AM – 11 AM JOY – SECRETARY SEMINAR

11 AM – 11:30 AM MARYANN & ANGIE - TREASURER SEMINAR

11:30 –12 NOON SHERI - DIRECTORS SEMINAR

12 NOON – 1:30 MELVIN JONES LUNCHEON

1:30 – 2:00 NORM JONES - LEADERDOG

2:00 – 4:00 LOW VISION SEMINAR

5:00 – 6:00 TOUR – CENTER FOR THE BLIND

7 PM – 10 PM MD 49 BANQUET

**Subject:** Multiple District Convention Info

Greetings,

As part of the Ice Breaker activities for 2008 Multiple District Convention, I would like to invite the District 49A and 49B Cabinet members to participate in the challenging and highly skilled game of "International Potato Hockey".

This game was first observed by Lions John Trautner and Pete Hupperton in one of our sister clubs in Russia. The rules are deceptively simple and will be explained to you at the time of the event. If you feel you are unable to meet the challenge, you may elect a delegate.

The coveted prizes: unending esteem and respect from your fellow Lions, a framed photograph of a majestic African lion from Canyon Creek Photography and a premium bottle of Russian vodka.

The event will take place at about 8:00 p.m. ( whenever the band takes a break). Please let me know if you will be attending the Ice Breaker and feel you are up to the challenge! If you will not be able to participate, name your delegates now.

See you there~

Lion Kristin Shindle

Please put this in the informer if you think it is appropriate.

Thanks, Kurt

President

Kachemak Bay Lions

Kachemak Bay Lions announces the beginning of their second annual Harley-Davidson raffle. We are very excited about this years bike. The Soft Tail Cross Bones is the newest addition to the Harley family. Tickets are \$100.00 each and there are only 399 sold. Drawing will be held in conjunction with Homer's Street Fair in July. Contact Lion Beth VanSandt at 299-0301, Lion Kurt Weichhand at 399-4090 or write to KBay Lions, PO Box 1824, Homer AK 99603. Happy Riding.



Hello fellow Lions,

At our last meeting, some decisions were made regarding upcoming projects and expenditures. Remember, we meet on the first Monday of every month at the Stikine Inn at 7 pm and would love to see you there!

**Health Fair** We will be participating with the eye sight checks again this year and will need volunteers to take shifts manning the booth. Please let me know if you will be available to help out with this on Saturday April 5th, 7 am - 1 pm

Now that the Lions also have a hearing aid program, we inquired about having the audiologist also attend the Health Fair. He will have a booth, however will not be able to do testing for logistical reasons. We will have information on this new program available to distribute at his booth.

**Garnet Festival Fundraiser** We will be "Winging It" (serving chicken wings) at the SNO building during this year's Garnet Festival. They have asked us to switch from our original date of Saturday to Sunday due to a scheduling conflict with the community clean-up event. Therefore we will be serving wings from 3-6 pm on Sunday April 26th at the SNO building.

We also need volunteers to help with this event. We would like to have someone available to man a table for membership information.

**Pats Lake Project** The Forest Service is completing their NEPA evaluation for this project which needs to be complete before funds can be released and the work started. The official application process for the use agreement with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office is in the works. As sponsors of this project, the Lions Club will pay for the application fee, to be reimbursed to the club once funds are released from the USFS. The cost of the application fee is \$500.

Other expenditures:

Hearing Amplification System assistance - Stikine Elementary School      \$500

Storage for Lions Club materials and booth

KSTK program sponsorship/PR

Little League/Sports Program

Wrangell Recreation Department - pool programs

Thanks for your continued support in serving our community!

Marie Oboczky

Wrangell Lions Club Secretary

Please put this in the newsletter. These are the Hmong Dancers and they will be dancing at the Convention.

Mike, DG



## Food Bank Report

March 9, 2008

The monthly food bank was conducted on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at the Lions Club House in Spenard.

Volunteers at the event totaled 22: 7 Lions from Spenard, 5 Spenard volunteers, 2 Lions from Mt. McKinley, two veteran volunteers, and 6 volunteers from the VA Dom.

The total number of households served this month was 74 - the total family count was 215 members. Total number of donated hours was approximately 135 for this project. Approximately 3,000 pounds of goods were purchased by the club or provided for TFAP distribution to area families.

Boxes for packing the food were donated by Rapid Action Mailing Service and Matt Dimmick donated the use of his truck to transport the food.

Respectfully submitted:

Bob Nelson, Project Chair

No Presidents Message

Board News:

We will again be doing the cooking (or June will) for Camp Abilities this year. It is on July 9th thru the 14th.

A check for twenty dollars a member will be sent to LCIF.

We will be paying for a six hundred coffee break at the upcoming Multiple District Convention in Anchorage in April instead of doing a gun show ad.

We have submitted an application for a grant for a new digital eye screening camera through the Mat Su Regional Health Foundation. This would include both the camera and the computer needed

Membership Chairman Linda Cole will be reimbursed two hundred dollars for expenses she incurs when she makes the two quilts per year to be given to the Lion who brings in the most new members.

.National News:

A new partnership between Lions Club International and Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America has been formed. The two organizations share a common goal, to provide young people with the skills they need to reject drugs and live healthy, productive lives.

District News:

The Multiple District Convention is going to be held at the Coast International Inn in Anchorage this year. It is located out by the airport. The dates on it are April 16th thru the 19th. To make a reservation for a room, call 1-800-478-2233. Rooms will be \$59.00 plus tax. That is a really good deal. Be sure to tell them you're with the Lion's convention.

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Hours:

We are still meeting at the Palmer Moose Lodge until further notice. June Oberg has been doing the cooking and bringing it in. When a club member cooks the meal, it has been decided that all club members will pay five dollars (whether you eat or not). This will pay for the food consumed and rental on the Moose lodge. Anything over and above will go to the cook. On Tuesday, the 18th, the North Star Bakery will be catering the meal. The charge will be eleven dollars. If you have ever had any food from the bakery, you will be excited as they have really good food.

The total profit from the gun show is approximately \$18,000. The gun raffle brought in \$2,100, it will be divided evenly between the Palmer Food Bank and the Palmer Salvation Army. Approximately 53 Lions worked the gun show this year. We borrowed two vans from the Palmer Senior Center and took patrons back and forth to the purple gate. There is a donation box that the Senior Center puts in, 441 dollars was donated, plus the club filled the gas tanks on the vans. We got a lot of rave reviews again this year on the gun show.

We have new Lions in charge of next years gun show. Bob Morigeau will be the gun show chairman. Jeffery Lisa Charvet and Sue Smith will be in charge of the table registrations and Dave Fuller will be in charge of the gun raffle. Way to go, guys!!

Eye screening in the schools is finished for this school year. This school year we screened a total of 626 students. A total of thirty different people participated.

Volunteer Hours: January hours 611; February hours 449

I realize a lot of our hard working Lions volunteer a lot of their time and are unable to make it to the meeting. If you would like to send me your hours and where it was you volunteered, I will make sure they get counted in our count. All hours are given to the district, then on to International. Make us look good. Call me at 745 6521 or peggyjoy@gci.net. Thanks.

Speakers:

March 18: Carol Cross, Youth Probation Officer

March 25: Nancy, American Red Cross

Items of Interest:

There is going to be a fund raiser for our District Governor Mike. It will be held in the Lions Den in Eagle River on March 15th which is this Saturday night. Cocktails will start at 6 pm, dinner at 6:30 to 7:30. The cost will be \$10 a person. There will be a St Patrick's Day theme, so wear your green. There is a silent auction, door prizes, games and split the pot. It will be a fun night. Be sure to mark it on your calendars. If you need a ride, I'm sure some carpooling will take place. Just let us know.

We have a new Palmer Lion. Her name is Devone Hasara. She and her son are morticians and have their own business in Anchorage. Welcome Devone.

Member Profile:

The member profile this month is on Jerry and Aedene Arthur.

Jerry was born in Portales New Mexico. He has one sister and three brothers. His dad at that time was working on construction jobs. They moved to Lubbock Texas when Jerry was a baby, and stayed there for four years. From there, the family moved to Hood River Oregon. After graduating from high school, Jerry went on to college at the Oregon College of Education in Monmouth Oregon. After college, Jerry went into the Army; among the places he served was Italy where he spent eighteen months as a "personnel clerk".

Aedene was born in Eagle Point Oregon. She has two brothers and one sister. They always had large gardens which helped feed the family. School was Aedene's safe place. She always wanted to be a teacher, so she worked extremely hard in school and did a lot community service work and as a result was able to go through college on scholarships. She attended Southern Oregon College in Ashland Oregon.

Jerry and Aedene met in Oregon City, Oregon. Jerry was teaching fifth grade and coached most of the sports. Aedene taught third and fourth grades. They got married in 1967. One year later, they moved to Anchorage where they taught for one year.

They taught many places out in the Bush in the next few years, including Tanana, Ruby, Galena, New Stuyahok, Dillingham and Seldovia. They moved to Palmer in 1982 where Jerry taught both in Palmer and Wasilla. He retired in 1990. Aedene, in the mean time had gotten her Masters as an Education Media Specialist. She was the librarian at both the Butte School and Sherrod School until she retired in 1995.

They had three children, Beth, Aaron and Tana. They lost Aaron in 1999 and Beth died in 2000. They have one surviving child Tana, who lives in Anchorage and has three kids: Zaya, Aaron and Isabelle. Another grandchild, Beth's daughter, Brenna lives in Anchorage along with Jerry and Aedene's three great grandchildren.

Jerry and Aedene love to travel, especially they love their cruises. At the moment, they are on Waikiki Beach for five weeks.

Aedene's main comment was: She was so lucky to have met Jerry; she was able to go to exotic places with the family and have lots of adventures. She is continuing to have great adventures with friends through community service work. Aedene was the first chairman of the photo eye screening for the Lions and worked at that for several years. She also worked state wide with Avalanche Awareness.

Jerry and Aedene have been married forty years, family being the most important thing in their lives.

Jerry has been president of the Palmer Lions once, tail twister, Lion tamer and Director for countless years. He has been in charge of the gun raffle at the gun show and is in charge of the Kiddie Park in Palmer. He is a Melvin Jones recipient.

Members Update:

Note from Mike Shults: I have lost 119 pounds in five and a half months. A video was made by his Doctor, Dr. Michael Todd, trying to convince insurance companies to cover the cost of intestinal bypass surgeries. Michael was chosen, along with others, because of his success.

Lion Kay Omer just had elbow surgery on Wednesday, March 12th. Hope you get to feeling better Kay.

Lion June Oberg was selected Alaska Mother of the Year in 1976. This year, Palmer Lion Carol Oberg Kenley is representing the mothers of Alaska at the National American Mothers Conference held in Lincoln Nebraska.

Our very own Palmer Lion, Janet Kincaid has been elected to serve on the MEA board. .

Editor comments:

If anyone has any news, please let me know and I will include it. Any suggestions or comments are very welcome: 745 6521 or [peggyjoy@gci.net](mailto:peggyjoy@gci.net). Lion Peggy

THE NEWSLETTER OF YOUR SOLDOTNA LIONS CLUB

Meeting the Second and Fourth Thursdays 6:30 P.M. Don Jose's Restaurant in Soldotna

LION TIM MUSGROVE, PRESIDENT

March 2008

Hello again and time for your "gentle" reminder that it's time for a meeting. Thursday, March 27. Will be good to see you at Don Jose's!

Great news this time. Come in and meet a new member. Barbara Booth of Soldotna has asked to join our little band. Now all I got to do is remember to bring a membership application! Drop in and say hello to Barbara.

On a sad note, I need to mention the passing of Lions Brock and Jan See's friend "Buster". For all of us that are fortunate enough to be blessed with the love and devotion of family pets we send our sympathies. Those of us that had the good fortune to meet "Buster" knew he was as good boy.

April 4th and 5th are our next big dates. Central Peninsula Hospital has moved it's Health Fair back to the High School and we have a booth reserved for our eye screening project. Set-up is Friday, April 4 beginning at 4:00 P.M. I have the camera and all its attendant apparatus and we will need to set up the tent.

Volunteers are not only welcome but also needed. Please contact President Tim or myself so we can establish a schedule for the actual event. It will be on Saturday, April 5.

Please mark your Red Circle calendars for the "Relay for Life". The dates are May 30 and 31. Lion Daughn attended the sign-up last meeting date and we will be organizing our team.

From the minutes of the meeting of March 13: Lion Jan reported that the So-Hi nurse has referred a student to your Lions Club. He is in need of eye care (exam and glasses). Our rules permit immediate referral for any student identified by school nurses.

Lion Tim recovered the eyeglass collection bucket from Dr. Canava's office. The good Doctor is now retired so we have a bucket to relocate. Any suggestions?

There were 175 pair of used eyeglasses turned in to Lion Jan. I have a "sack full" of reading glasses and sunglasses to take to LeeShore if anyone is going that way. Also, I have a very good supply of cases if anyone knows what we can do with those.

We decided on ordering the same kind and type of guns for our annual "gun raffle". Also we will raffle another Bar-B-Q. Other prizes on the gun raffle will be a gas card and a gift certificate to either "The Crossing" like last year or Mykals. We will print 1200 tickets for the guns and 800 tickets for the Bar-B-Q.

Time to start thinking about the annual garage sale. Don't throw anything out! Remember, one man's garbage could be another man's treasure.

Remember: Recruit, recruit, recruit! And remember the blood bank and remember the food bank. Each of us may need either or both one of these days.

See you Thursday.

Lion Ed Sleater, Secretary  
262-7913



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### " GIVE 'TIL IT HURTS "

Camp Abilities has been operating since 2004 when 14 visually impaired and blind children attended the weeklong camp and since then 60 others have enjoyed this venture, meeting and getting acquainted with others facing the same challenges.

The Lions of Alaska have slowly increased support of the camp and culminated that effort in 2007 when it became a completely "LIONS FUNDED" camp.

However this year the camp and we face the daunting prospect that there will be no camp in 2008. The District 49A Foundation in the past has been able to offer a matching grant for funds donated by Lions and their clubs but the foundation's gaming contract was not renewed by the operator and thus the foundation is short of funds that could be used for matching funds for CAMP ABILITIES.

With a projected budget of \$42,000 this year and income received to date of just over \$19,250.00 there is shortfall of what will be needed to conduct the camp.

Our challenge is that in order for the July 10 -15, 2008 camp to continue we must make up that shortage and do that by the MD49 Convention in mid April.

I ask that as the year draws to a close you consider donating as much as is possible in other words "GIVE 'TIL IT HURTS " because if we don't then we will hurt those that we need to help the most, visually impaired and blind children.

*John G. Regan Jr.* 17 Mar 08