



## District 49A Informer



### Governor's Corner

Fellow Lions, the MD convention in Fairbanks was a great success. All went very smoothly and a great time was had by all. Thanks to PDG Lion Howard Rixie and PID Lion Buster Hall it all came together in a short amount of time and, I think was one of the better conventions that we have had.

I think we were all inspired by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Sid Scruggs III and his lovely wife Lion Judy. They both had a great deal to add to our convention. The trainings all went extremely well. There was good attendance at all of the venues.

Our Lion of the year was Sandra Wilson from Eagle River Lions; Club of the year was Mendenhall Flying Lions; President of the year was Pete Weimer of Spenard; Secretary of the year was Sherie Viera of Palmer; Club Membership was Mabuhay Lions; and, last but not least was Zone chair Marianne Williams from Copper Center Lions. Our DG elect is Jerry Blackburn, First VDG elect is Phyllis Swarner from the Kenai Lions club and Second VDG elect is Dottie Vasquez from the Bethel Lions club. The Council Chair elect is Finis Shelden from the Eagle River Lions. Congratulations are in order to all. Please offer your help to all of these individuals in the upcoming year.

I have been unable to get to all of the clubs in the district before the convention. I was asked not to travel for the first three months and it has really sent me back. I am planning to be on the peninsula in May to visit all clubs there as well as Kodiak on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. Check your books to make sure you are current on dues to International, the district M reports to International and that you get your PU101s in before May 15, 2009.

Membership and teamwork are still the focus for this Lions' year. If each club brings in at least one new member added to the new Mat-Su club and the Anchorage Muldoon club with one more club in the wings, we should more than make our goal. Thank you to all the teams that have worked so hard to bring in new growth and membership to our organization.

If there is any help you need, you are welcome to either contact me or Lion Kris (cabinet secretary) or Lion Karan (cabinet treasurer) for answers. Lion Kris' e-mail is [mydoglot@gmail.com](mailto:mydoglot@gmail.com). We also need to be very careful to keep the District and international dues and our Ms current. Any questions regarding dues can be directed to the Cabinet Treasurer, Karan Hupperten at [karanh@clearwire.net](mailto:karanh@clearwire.net). You are also more than welcome to contact me at [dragonlady1942@hotmail.com](mailto:dragonlady1942@hotmail.com).

I am very proud of the way our district embraces "Miracles through Service". I think we have been doing just that for many years. Thank all of you for what you do for your communities.

Yours in Lionism

Diana L. Cummings  
District Governor, 49A



#### Officers

**District Governor**  
Diana Cummings

**Immediate Past District Governor**  
Mike Barber

**Vice District Governor**  
Jerry Blackburn

**Cabinet Secretary**  
Kris Sharp

**Cabinet Treasurer**  
Karan Hupperten

#### Zone Chairs

**Zone 1**  
Dottie Vasquez

**Zone 2**  
Kurt Weichhand

**Zone 3**  
Vern Watts

**Zone 4**  
Ev Burk

**Zone 5**  
Joy Blackburn

**Zone 6**  
Marianne Williams

**Zone 7**  
Chris Cummins

**Zone 8**  
Willis (Pat) Patterson

District 49A Website:  
<http://49a-lions.org>



SPENARD LIONS CLUB P.O. BOX 90-197  
ANCHORAGE, AK. 99509-4448 907-248-0832  
EMAIL 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.

#### Calendar of Events

Aug 9 '08	49A Cabinet Mtg - Spenard Rec Ctr
Aug 16 '08	49B Cab Mtg, Youth Camp North Pole – Council mtg
Sept 18 '08	USA/Canada Forum - Saskatoon
Oct 23 '08	49B Mid-Winter – Delta Junction
Nov 6-8 '08	49A Mid-Winter – Homer – Council Mtg
Feb 7 '09	49A Cab Mtg. – Eagle River
Feb 14 '09	49B Cab Mtg. – Fox
April 22-25 '09	MD49 Convention – Nome
<b>July 6-10 '09</b>	<b>Int'l Conv - Minneapolis</b>
Sept 24-26 '09	USA/Canada Forum - Memphis
6/28-7/2 '10	Int'l Conv - Sydney
Sept 22-25 '10	USA/Canada Forum - Milwaukee
July 4-8 '11	Int'l Conv - Seattle
Sept ? 2011	USA/Canada Forum - Anchorage



Lion Lee Anne  
Regan

Lion John Regan,  
.Jr.

 **American Diabetes Association**  
Cure • Care • Commitment™

**Michelle Cassano**  
Executive Director

Alaska Area

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Anchorage, AK 99503  
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everette@toddsfarm.net

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Dear Executive Officers, International Directors, Board Appointees, Past International Presidents and Past International Directors, Multiple District and District Officers and Multiple District and District LCIF Coordinators:

LCIF is thankful for the generosity of our many benefactors at the individual, club, district and multiple district levels that send donations to LCIF via Wire Transfer.

An important banking change has occurred. We are asking your assistance in distributing the information regarding this banking change to your fellow Lions.

Wire transfer donations should no longer be directed to Northern Trust. This bank account will no longer accept donations for LCIF via wire transfer in a couple of months.

JP Morgan Chase is now processing the banking of payments sent via wire transfer for LCIF and LCI. Donation payments and club administrative payments are directed to different accounts. It is important that donations are directed to the LCIF account and not the LCI account. The link below provides specific information and account numbers for the LCIF wire transfers account only and should be used for donations.

[http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/lions\\_lcif\\_donatewire.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/lions_lcif_donatewire.shtml)

Be it a newsletter or online meeting, please activate the communication tools used to “get the word out” in your regions and assist LCIF by including the information in this e-mail.

Thank you for your kind assistance. Questions regarding the change can be directed to [lcif@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lcif@lionsclubs.org).

Lions Clubs International Foundation



**Benton Bay Athletic Lions Foundation, Inc.**

P.O. Box 91395 • Anchorage, AK 99509-1395

UAA Hockey Alumni Association

## 2009 UAA Hockey Alumni Legends Golf Tournament

Proceeds to Benefit Youth Scholarships & UAA Hockey

**Saturday JULY 11, 2009 Moose Run Hill Course**

Registration: (please circle registration type) Cash or check only – no credit cards accepted

Individual: \$ 110.00

Team: \$440.00

Team & Hole Sponsorship: \$550.00 Hole Sponsorship Only: \$150.00

**Two motor carts will be supplied to each team**

Team Name/Sponsor	Captain	Phone/Email

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email

Name	
Address	
Phone	Email

Make checks payable to BBALF and mail registration to:

Benton Bay Athletic Lions Foundation, Inc.

C/O Karan Hupperten

330 Kayak Drive

Anchorage, AK 99515

Phone: 345-3737

Fax: 345-3756

Email: [karanh@clearwire.net](mailto:karanh@clearwire.net), or [hockeyalumni@alaska.com](mailto:hockeyalumni@alaska.com)

### Shotgun Start – Scramble, Awards & Prizes

**7am tee time followed by a Barbecue at Moose Run picnic area**

Benton Bay Athletic Lions Foundation, Inc.  
501c3 ID 94-3057694 Net Tax Deductible

## Food Bank Report

April 12, 2009

The monthly food bank was conducted on Saturday, April 11, 2008 at the Lions Club House in Spenard.

Volunteers at the event totaled 31: 7 Lions from Spenard, 4 Spenard volunteer, 2 Lions from Mt. McKinley, 8 volunteers from the VA Dom, 10 residents of the Cordova Center.

The total number of households served this month was 107 - the total family count was 396 members. There were 27 new families that registered for food. Total number of donated hours was approximately 190 for this project. Having insufficient documentation I'm approximating that 3,000 pounds of goods were purchased by the club or provided for TEFAP distribution to area families. In addition 3 cases of granola bars, 2 boxes of popcorn and 2 cases of cereal were given to Clare House.

Matt Dimmick of Keller Realty supplied his truck for picking up the food from the Food Bank while Rapid Action Mailing Services provided boxes to package the food distributed.

Three members of the Alaska Food Bank were on hand to survey selected food bank participants.

Respectfully submitted:  
Bob Nelson  
Project Chair

### Fellow Lions,

Did you know that more than 11 million Americans have common vision problems such as nearsightedness, farsightedness, astigmatism, and/or presbyopia? While this number may sound alarming, the good news is that these problems can be detected through a comprehensive dilated eye exam and are easily corrected with the use of prescriptive eyewear such as glasses or contact lenses.

May is Healthy Vision Month, a national eye health observance in the United States. The focus this year is to reduce uncorrected visual impairment due to refractive errors. Healthy Vision Month is sponsored by the National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP) of the National Eye Institute. Lions Clubs International is a member of NEHEP and works closely with them to promote healthy vision in our communities.

In order to help your Lions Club educate the public about healthy vision month and the role regular eye exams play in maintaining good eye health, NEHEP has developed a variety of resources available in a Healthy Eyes ToolKit. It includes a variety of resources such as web links, e-cards, print and radio public service announcements (PSAs), sample text messages, drop-in articles, fact sheets, and downloadable posters, bookmarks, and stickers that can be used to promote the importance of eye exams. <http://www.healthyvision2010.nei.nih.gov/hvm/> and <http://www.nei.nih.gov/healthyeyestoolkit/>

Lions Clubs play an important part in eye health promotion in their communities. Please join LCI and NEI in our efforts to elevate vision health as a priority. Please let us know if you have participated in an activity to promote eye health in May. We want to hear from you. [lcif@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lcif@lionsclubs.org)

Sincerely,

Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya  
LCIF Chairperson, 2008-09



## Membership Message from President Al

April 2009



### Membership Updates

Lions, Leos and now Lion Cubs. The Lions family keeps growing! At it's March meeting in New York, the membership development committee of the international board of directors approved the Lion Cub program. This will enable family-oriented clubs to include children under the age of 12 in their activities.

The committee also approved extending the entrance fee waiver from six to 12 months for transfer and reinstated members who resigned in good standing.

### 92nd International Convention



Nowhere is the legacy and tradition of the International Association of Lions Clubs more alive than at the annual international convention. Please join me at the 92nd International Convention to be held from July 6, 2009, to July 10, 2009, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Please also encourage the Lions under your leadership to take part in this exciting event and [register for the convention](#).

### Quick Links

- [Member Center](#)
- [PR Tools](#)
- [Lions in the Headlines](#)

Dear Lion Karan,

One of my favorite American football coaches, Lou Holtz, was never too concerned if his team was trailing at halftime. He said this:

"How you respond to the challenge in the second half will determine what you become after the game, whether you are a winner or a loser."

For Holtz, halftime played a special role in his game plan. He saw it as a time to take note of what worked and what didn't work in the first half. It was an opportunity to restore his team's confidence. By making the proper adjustments they could still win the game.

We are now in the second half of our leadership year and, if you haven't done so already, this is the time to review your goals, take a close look at what is working and to make whatever changes are needed to end this year as a winner.

The first half is history. It is what we do now that determines how we've done this year. We have three months left in which to write the legacy of our leadership. Will your legacy be one that you will be proud to pass on to your successor? Will you have left Lions Clubs International better than you found it? Only you can answer that question.

Sincerely,

President Al

## My Review



I have reviewed my own leadership goals and now intend to concentrate on these areas:

**Global Membership Success.** It is vitally important that no part of the Lions world be left behind and that ALL constitutional areas celebrate a net gain in membership in 2008-2009. I will do everything possible to ensure that all Lion leaders emerge from this year as winners.

**Member Retention.** We must keep good and dedicated Lions active and involved with our clubs. When good people stop coming to meetings or let their membership lapse, the fault is not theirs but lies with the association and the club. We Lion leaders must pledge

ourselves to serving not only our communities but also our members, first and foremost. This may mean doing things differently than they have always been done, but it is up to us to ensure that our clubs [create meaningful and satisfying service projects](#) that will allow all Lions to act on their desire to serve.

## Partnerships

My part in creating new and exciting service opportunities will be to build relationships and partnerships with other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and to translate those relationships into programs and projects that Lions Clubs throughout the world can make their own. Lions have a long history of successful partnerships with NGOs, which have similar missions to us. One of the great benefits of being a Lion is that we don't have to reinvent the wheel. We can use the resources and expertise of NGOs to further our service. We can be more efficient and effective by collaborating with NGOs.

I ask for your help in reaching these goals and promise my best effort to support you in yours.

**USA/Canada Forum Cash Raffle Winners**

**4/25/09**

Drawn	ticket #	Name		Amount
1st	139	Dick Jez	Eagle River	\$ 100.00
10th	107	Eagle River Lions		\$ 100.00
20th	171	Finis Shelden	Eagle River	\$ 100.00
30th	255	Mendenhall Flying Lions Club	Juneau	\$ 100.00
40th	105	Bill Roper	Eagle River	\$ 100.00
50th	3	Cleve Bearden	Deadhorse	\$ 100.00
60th	239	Dick & Kathy Webb	Palmer	\$ 100.00
70th	305	Kodiak Lions Club		\$ 100.00
80th	253	Mike Barber & Harriet Hope	Unalaska	\$ 100.00
90th	275	Kenai Lions Club		\$ 100.00
120th	185	Richard Fagg (Tiny & Jack)	Eagle River	\$ 1,000.00
180th	152	Big Lake Aurora Lions		\$ 2,000.00
240th	244	Mt. View Lions Club		\$ 3,000.00
300th	251	Cindy & Dave Beardsley	Seward	\$ 4,000.00
320th	62	Dave Leavy	Anderson	\$ 5,000.00

COME JOIN ZONE 5 BBQ FUNDRAISER  
FOR District Governor Elect Jerry Blackburn  
MT. VIEW LIONS PARK  
MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> 11:00 – 3:00



Original Painting by PDG Owen Saupe and charter member of Mt. View Lion  
Appraised at \$450.00



Handcrafted clock donated by Lion Oscar Herron

Plus many other fine items to be raffled off at the BBQ

Entertainment by the 1<sup>st</sup> Hmong Club.

**\$5.00 Donation for meal**

Palmer Lions Roar  
April 2009

Presidents Message:

Thank you Palmer Lions Club for allowing me to be your president for this last year. It has been an awesome year of projects, great speakers and jobs well done by committees and support groups.

The new Mat Su Campus Lions Club is ready to make a positive impact in 49A. They have some projects already. They are: eye box collection box, math notebook (easy and fun) for libraries which are to aid those looking for help, made a 2 x 4 foot basket to hold donated stuffed animals that will be given to the troopers. 12 inches and smaller will go to the animal shelters, will be helping with the upcoming graduation next month, will help to beautify the campus with hanging baskets and will have a possible fish bowl fundraiser.

This write up by William A Ward says it all:

The opportunity of life is to serve  
The advantage of life is to learn  
The nature of life is to change.  
The challenge of life is to overcome  
The essence of life is to care.  
The secret of life is to dare.  
The spice of life is to befriend.  
The beauty of life is to give.

Lion Velez Ransom, Palmer President

**Board News:**

The board took the following actions:

Reimbursed Lion Jeffery \$15 for bell engraving costs.

Approved adding another Honorary Board Member position. Approved long time Lion Al Okeson for that position.

Approved adding \$405 to the remaining \$970 conference/convention reimbursement funds to cover the \$125 registration fee for the 11 members attending the 2009 MD49 convention.

Approved the donation of a meal to the Palmer FFA Chapter in support of the 2009 State FFA Convention being hosted in Palmer.

Approved continuing the club's Christmas ornament sale project.

Decided that existing club pins would not be sold (available to give to new members as we have been doing and available to club members for trading)'

Approved donating \$250 to GSA Troop 408 in support of a trip to New York in May.

Approved helping the Colony HS Baseball team during the 2009 State Baseball Tournament on June 4<sup>th</sup> thru the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Approved having the 2009 Palmer Lions Club Installation Dinner on Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Approved establishing a benevolent fund of \$5,000 on a trial basis for one year to be added to our budget immediately upon approval and funded from our reserves. The board shall appoint a three member committee to review requests for funding and approve or disapprove the funds. Any balances in the fund will carry over each fiscal year and be replenished from the community earnings. Each year, the new Board will appoint the three member committee. The committee will meet on each request and must agree unanimously or the request will come back before the whole board for action. The committee will report to the board on all approved donations from the fund. The committee's decision on each request will be final.

Approved appointing Lions John Taylor, Mari Jo Parks and Ron Cole with Lion Robin Bumgardner as an alternate to the benevolent fund committee. This committee may start acting on each request for funds after having established board approved criteria for fund requests.

New Club officers for the year 2009/10 are:

President: Bob Morigeau	First VP: Janet Kincaid
Secretary: Sherie Vieira	Second VP: Ron Cole
Treasurer: Monty Hotchkiss	Third VP: John Taylor
Tail Twister: Jeffery Lisa Charvet	Lion Tamer: Ken Pysz
IPP: Valez Ransom	Membership: Josie Smith
Director: Tom Myre	Director: Bob Shoemaker
Director: Dick Webb	Director: Helen Dolenc
Director: Sue Smith	Honorary Director: Clyde Oberg
Honorary Director: Al Okeson	

A few interesting figures. In the last nine years, we have donated a total of \$176,000. In that time span, we have had a total of \$1,400 net income.

## Upcoming Events and Volunteer Hours:

Volunteer Hours: 560 hours were reported to LCIF, but with the gun show hours included, we had a total of 1007 hours.

Eye screening: We screened 739 children at 20 valley schools during the 08/09 school year. We screened 32 at the Baby Fair on Saturday. Lion Esther West also had the district camera and screened an additional 15. We screened a total of 819 since we got our camera in July/August of 2008.

## INTERESTING THINGS:

We have a new Palmer Lion. His name is Michael Kelly. He is an Account Executive for Country Legends 100.9 FM. If you haven't listened to this station, do it, it is awesome.. Paul Felthouser is his sponsor. Welcome Michael.

The Multiple District 49 convention is in Fairbanks, April 22 thru the 25<sup>th</sup> at the Wedgwood Resort,. The following Palmer Lions will be attending: Velez Ransom, Sue Smith, Jeffery Lisa Charvet, Sherie Vieira,. Josie Smith, Dick and Kathy Webb, Ron and Linda Cole and Bob and Peggy Shoemaker

On Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, the fundraiser for our District Governor, Diana Cummings raised approximately two thousand dollars. Way to go Lions.

On Sunday, the 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Palmer Moose Lodge, we had a very successful charter afternoon for the new Mat Su Campus Lions Club. Lion Velez worked really hard bringing this club in. All the club officers were in attendance. The club has 28 members. There were approximately 80 people in attendance. It was really nice to see our very own Lion Tim Breeden helping set up and take down. Tim works in Anchorage, so we seldom get to see him. But he is always there to help with special things when we need him.

## Speakers:

April 21: Kerry Aquire, Mat Su Regional Hospital

May 12; Peggy Hunk, Alaska Forestry

May 19: Pat Kilmain, Palmer Public Library

May 26: Richard Williams, Military Families

## Members Update:

Lions Jerry and Aedene got stuck in Portland for about a week. They were on their way home from Phoenix when Mt Redoubt raised its head. But we are glad they are finally home. Next time you see Jerry, ask him about his Speedo, better yet, ask Aedene.

We are glad to see Lions Giles and Jeanette Mc Donald and Daryl Jones. They all spend the winter outside. Lion Kusum Nor just returned from three months in New Zealand. Welcome back.

Lion John Combs has been hired on at Alaska Family Services as Human Resource Manager. He is still part time Palmer Mayor.

Our very own Lion Dee Hilbert received the Alaska Center for Resource Families 2008 Mat-Su Volunteer of the Year award on April 5<sup>th</sup> during the award ceremony at the sixth annual Light of Hope event at Wasilla High School. This award was in recognition of her work in gathering donated holiday gifts from local individuals, businesses and agencies for children in foster care.

## .Editor comments:

If anyone has any news, please let me know and I will include it. Volunteer hours can also be sent to me and I will make sure they are turned in. Any suggestions or comments are very welcome: 745 6521 or [pshoemaker@mtaonline.net](mailto:pshoemaker@mtaonline.net) THIS IS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS. Lion Peggy