



Jungle Jottings



Lions Day at the United Nations

Article submitted by PP Bob Lovell

The 29th Annual Lions Day with the U.N. was held on Friday, March 9th at United Nations headquarters in Mid-town Manhattan. Our club was represented by President Helene Thompson, 1st Vice President Keith Beaver, Past Presidents Lyn Meyers and Bob Lovell and Lions Joan Bielizna and Mark Stirling with guest Bonnie Jacobson. As always, the moderator was Past International President Joseph Wroblewski of Pennsylvania. International President Jimmy Ross was side-tracked by an emergency at home, but he was represented by International 1st Vice President Mahendra Amarasuriya of Colombo, Sri Lanka, who gave a report on the goals and status of Campaign SightFirst II.

The morning session speakers were Dr. Abiodun Williams, Principal Officer of the Executive Office of the U.N. Secretary General. Dr. Williams read a greeting to all Lions from newly installed Secretary General Ban Ki-moon of South Korea and then gave an outline of the duties and responsibilities of the Secretary General. Dr. Williams was followed by Mr. Georg Kell, Executive Director of the U.N. Global Compact who outlined the current programs of the United Nations worldwide. Our own Lion Mark Stirling pointedly asked Mr. Kell what the U.N. was, or intended to do, about the current situation in Darfur, Sudan, as a follow up to our recent club speaker. While acknowledging the gravity of the situation, Mr. Kell could give no definitive answer.

After the speakers, the 2006-2007 Lions International Peace Poster Contest winners were presented. Each of the three runners-up was awarded plaques. The Grand Prize Winner, who received a plaque and \$2,500, was Min-Ji Yi, sponsored by the Tarzana, California, Lions Club. Miss Yi, age 13, was born in South Korea and came to this country with her parents four years ago. She gave an eloquent speech thanking the Lions for the award and stressing the need for world peace.

Proclamations were then read from New York State Governor Eliot Spitzer and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, recognizing the work Lions Clubs do in the interest of our communities, states and nations.

The afternoon session began with a question and answer period addressed to V.P. Amarasuriya. That was followed by a report from Ms. Stephanie Bunker of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs who outlined their programs worldwide.

UN article is continued on page 2, right hand column.

Election Meeting

This is a call to all **Active, Privileged** and **Life Members**. Please make plans to attend the Election Meeting on April 19th. As you can see, we have a contest for 3rd Vice President. The candidates have been campaigning for several weeks and deserve your support. Don't disappoint them! Candidates for all positions are

- Immediate Past President.....Helene Thompson
- President.....Keith Beaver
- 1st Vice President.....Gerald Hofmann
- 2nd Vice President.....Bernadette Kallas
- 3rd Vice President.....Joan Bielizna
- 3rd Vice President.....Cathy Golankiewicz
- Secretary.....Bob Lovell
- Treasurer.....Lyn Meyers
- 1 yr Director.....Tom Nolan
- 1 yr Director.....Eric Nadeau
- 2 yr Director.....J. Roger Schmiedel
- 2 yr Director.....Mark Stirling
- 3 yr Director.....Nancy Manion
- 3 yr Director.....Mike Kallas
- Tail Twister.....Steve Tullino
- Lion Tamer.....Warren Levy
- Membership Chairman.....Frank Molinaro

State Convention

The dates for the 86th MD-23 State Convention are Friday, May 18th through Sunday, May 20, 2007, at the Cape Codder Resort & Spa in Hyannis, Massachusetts. The Cape Codder is a full service spa that features two "award winning onsite" restaurants and an indoor wave pool complete with 2 foot waves. There is a state-of-the-art fitness center, tennis, volleyball, 24-person whirlpool, 2 saunas, nearby golf, beaches and Historic Hyannis Main Street Waterfront District. There are several meal packages available:

Plan A features Friday Dinner, Saturday Banquet, Saturday and Sunday Breakfast Buffet and Sunday Luncheon. The Plan A cost is \$188.00 per person.

Plan B features the same as above except for the Sunday Luncheon. The Plan B cost is \$163.00 per person.

Plan C features the Saturday Banquet, Sunday Breakfast buffet and Sunday Luncheon. The Plan C cost is \$122.00 per person.

Plan D features the Friday Dinner, Saturday Banquet and Sunday Luncheon. The cost for Plan D is \$153.00 per person.

State Convention article is continued on page 2.

State Convention Continued

A \$30.00 registration fee is included in all packages and is required to participate in any Convention Program.

The Lions Convention room rate is \$129.00 per night plus 9.7% room tax. Room reservations must be made directly with the Cape Codder at 1-888-297-2200. Rates are guaranteed through April 27, 2007.

As usual, there will be a golf tournament prior to the opening of the State Convention. Last year, the Danbury Lions fielded a team consisting of Kate Shea, Helene Thompson, Frank Molinaro and Joan Bielizna, and to no one's surprise, our team won the coveted Bob Petrie Trophy. This year, the Danbury team has yet to be announced, but the Jottings Editor is sure that the Danbury team will repeat and again bring home the coveted Bob Petri Trophy.

The course chosen to host the tournament this year is the Hyannis Country Club at 1840 Route 132 in Hyannis, MA. The greens fees are \$55.00 and the cart fee is \$18 per rider. Tee times have been scheduled beginning at noon on the 18th. The chairman of this year's State Convention Golf Tournament is PP Frank Molinaro, a member of the Danbury Lions Golf Team.

(For more information or official registration forms, please see the Jottings Editor.)

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**Connecticut Lions, Organization**

The **District Governor** is elected annually at the State Convention by delegates from each Club within the District. A District Governor, duly elected, takes office at the close of the annual International Convention and serves for a one year term. Under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, the District Governor represents the International Association in his or her District. In addition, the Governor is the Chief Administrative Officer within the District and has direct supervision over the Region Chairman, Zone Chairmen, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer and such other Cabinet members as provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws and/or as may be appointed during the term of office. Specific responsibilities of the office are:

- a. to further the purposes and objectives of the Association,
- b. to supervise the organization of new Lions Clubs within the district,
- c. to preside over all Cabinet, Convention and other District meetings; and
- d. to perform all functions required by Lions Clubs International in promoting the International Programs and Objectives.

The District Governor is given absolute authority for all appointments and action to accomplish the desired results and is an indispensable part of our Lions Organization.

*Connecticut Lions Organization continued from previous column*

The **Vice District Governor**, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be the District Governor's Chief Administrative Assistant and shall perform those duties as set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Multiple District, and as requested by the District Governor, so as to promote the proper and efficient administration of the District.

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Attendance Contest

The Attendance Contest always brings back the Past Presidents to preside over the meetings. This year, we will see the following past presidents' return to the podium.

March 15th - Lyn Meyers
 March 22nd - Fran Evans
 March 29th - Eric Nadeau (Nominating Meeting)
 April 5th - Kate Shea
 April 12th - Eric Erdmann
 April 19th - Tom Frizzell (Election Meeting)

Moderating the contest has been Ken Saloom. The captains charged with getting the members out to the meetings are Berni Kallas of the **PRIDE** team and Mike Kallas of the **TITAN** team. The winning team members will be treated to dinner by the losing team members on May 17th at Chuck's Steak House.

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*UN visit article continued*

The session ended with a discussion of the relationship between LCIF and UNICEF by Lion Robert Kline, Past International Director and Lions Representative to UNICEF and Ms. Kate Weber of the United States Fund for UNICEF. This included the presentation of a check for \$6,500 to UNICEF from LCIF. Recognition was then given to various Lions clubs for their support of the Lions-UNICEF School-in-a-Box Program, including the Windsor Locks High School LEO Club, which presented a check of the proceeds from their fundraiser to UNICEF for \$375.00.

As has been tradition in years past, the members of our Club passed on the opportunity of lunch with the U.N. Ambassadors in favor of an excellent repast at Sparks Steak House on East 46<sup>th</sup> Street.

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Street Cleaning

The Adopt-a-Street, street cleaning project is set to resume on Saturday, April 21st. Please see 1st VP Keith Beaver if you want to join in. Meet at Hatters Park at 8:00 o'clock on the morning of the 21st. Keith will furnish bags, you supply the manpower and gloves. This is the same day as Clean City Danbury Day that has been established by the Mayor.

Dues Payment

Dues are due when billed. Please pay your dues promptly. The Treasurer will greatly appreciate it.

Board Notes

At the March 29th Board of Directors meeting, the Board decided to include the Membership Roster with each dues billing instead of including it with the monthly Jungle Jottings. Each issue of the Jungle Jottings is not only mailed to the membership, it is also mailed to Cabinet members and to some non-Lion members as well. Please review your copy of the Roster when you get it, and should there be any changes to your phone, fax or e-mail address, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary.

Also at the Board meeting, the date for the Annual Installation and Awards Banquet was set for June 28th at Anthony's Lake Club on Vespucci Drive and the annual Steak Roast will be held on Thursday, August 9th at Bennett Memorial Park in Bethel. More information will be forthcoming shortly.

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### District News

IPD Otto Strobino, 80, of Cheshire, died early Sunday Morning at the Hospital of Central Connecticut, New Britain. Otto was elected as a Director of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the associations 73<sup>rd</sup> International Convention held in St. Louis, Missouri, July 11-15, 1990. In recognition of his many contributions to the Association, he received numerous awards, including the 100% President's Award, the 100% District Governor's Award, three rebuilding Lions Awards, four extension awards, five International President's Appreciation Awards, a Presidential Leadership Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He was the Associations representative to the United Nations Narcotics And Substance Abuse Committee where he served as Chairman. He will be sorely missed by the Connecticut Lions as well as the International Family.

District Governor Joseph Porier has accepted the resignation of Zone Chairman, Gail Redenz of New Fairfield. Gail, and her husband, PCC Bob Redenz, will be relocating to Virginia and then on Germany where Gail will be on assignment for Boehringer Ingelheim. As a replacement for Gail, DG Porier has appointed PP Lyn Meyers of Danbury as an interim Zone Chairman, until a permanent replacement can be found.

Vice District Governor Rose Marie Spatafore is starting to appoint Lions to her Cabinet. One of her many tasks is to resurrect the District Pride which has not published in several months. Danbury Lions Frank Molinaro and Ernie Harrington have been charged with the task. Joyce Wruck of the Yalesville/ Wallingford Club will be in charge of the project.

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Brain Tease

What do these words have in common: Banana Dresser, Grammar, Potato, Revive, Uneven, Voodoo, Assess? A correct answer could earn your team points.

Campaign SightFirst II Is Off and Running

by Nancy Manion, Chairman

At the January Board of Directors meeting, the Board voted to become one of the worldwide Model Clubs and lead the way in the fundraising efforts for the LCIF Campaign SightFirst II, setting a goal of \$50,000 for LCIF. Having no Chairman for the Campaign, President Helene Thompson, called me while on my honeymoon and invited me to accept the position. I reserved my decision until I could get back to Connecticut and learn what the Campaign was all about and what raising that kind of money would entail. However, before I returned, I emailed President Helene with the names of those I felt would give me a great deal of confidence as part of the Campaign Committee. (Yes, I suppose I was already leaning towards accepting...)

The Campaign, was first announced to the club membership the following Thursday, January 25th, by Frank Molinaro, in order to get a jump-start, in hopes I would accept President Helene's invitation upon my return.

By the time of the next meeting – only one week later – our club already had 12 commitments, reaching 25% of the goal. I still hesitated. I wanted to wait until our Mid-Winter Conference that weekend where I could learn more.

At MidWinter, President Helene, PP Frank and I attended a seminar on the Campaign. I was extremely impressed. Before the hour was over, I leaned over and whispered one word to Helene, "Yes."

As of March 25th, our club stands at 66% of our goal or \$33,000 in pledges. Most people have already completed their Melvin Jones Fellowship applications and submitted them along with full payment or first installment.

Your Campaign Committee is made up of these Lions: Nancy Manion, Chairman; Frank Molinaro, Secretary/Treasurer; Keith Beaver; Tom Frizzell; Rick Gottschalk; Jerry Hofmann; Warren Levy; Lyn Meyers; Noel Roy; Ken Saloom; Wayne Shepperd, Advisor; Helene Thompson, Ex-Officio

The committee has tremendous confidence in our club that we can bring in at least \$40,000, and perhaps even the entire \$50,000, almost entirely from our membership. We are, however, preparing to reach out if it becomes necessary. Committee members are already researching corporations we can contact and fundraisers we can hold.

As time goes by, the club will hear more and more about the Campaign as we get speakers to shed more light on the importance of this worldwide effort.

The Board and your Campaign Committee are heartened and grateful for the marvelous response to date.

You truly live the Lions motto of "We Serve"!

Roster Change

The correct e-mail address for Dr. Paul T. White is doc@drpaultwhite.com. Sorry about that!

Arbor Day/Tree Planting

Please add the names of Winifred Hayes Frade, Lynn Campbell and Richard Nolan to the list of family members to be honored with a tree planting on Friday, April 27th on Lions Way in Rogers Park. Winifred, the mother of Bernie Kallas passed away last April, Lynn, the sister of Mark Meyer was felled by leukemia some months ago and Richard, the son of Tom Nolan, suffered a fatal heart attack on Saturday, March 3rd while hiking the Adirondack Mountains. His funeral was held on Friday, March 9th in Penfield, NY.

News from Kuwait

PP Lyn Meyers sent Bob Rifenburg an e-mail this week and Bob sent Lyn the following reply:

Lyn: I appreciate the email - nice to know someone still remembers me - quick update I will be returning to the states in June so I am looking for jobs within an hours drive Danbury so I hope to become active again next year - things here are going well and I have been doing quite a bit of travel - since August have been to Oman, France, Bahrain, and will be going to India in a couple of days - the position here has given me the chance to travel and to see things I probably never would have had the opportunity to see - please give my best to everyone – Bob

Future Speakers and Calendar of Events

Apr.	12 th	Dixon Mitchell – US Marine Corp.
Apr.	14 th	FIDELCO open house
Apr.	19 th	Attendance Contest ends
Apr.	19 th	Election Meeting, Eric Jacobsen, CSFII
Apr.	20 th	Salvation Army Breakfast
April	21 st	Street Cleaning
Apr.	23 rd	Board of Directors Meeting
Apr.	26 th	Collette Anderson, CFS II
Apr.	26 th	Annual Lions Charities Meeting
Apr.	27 th	Tree Planting
May	3 rd	Michael Malone, Danbury Westerners
May	7 th	Golf Tournament at River Oaks
May	17 th	Attendance Contest Dinner, Chuck's
May	18 th -21 st	State Convention, Hyannis, MA
June	27 th	Mayors Cup Golf Tournament
June	28 th	Installation & Awards Banquet
July	2 nd -6 th	International Convention, Chicago, IL
Aug.	9 th	Annual Steak Roast
Sept.		Annual Installation & Awards Banquet

The \$33.54 mailing cost for this April issue of the Jottings has been paid by the Club Treasury. If you or your company is interested in donating the mailing costs for a future issue, please contact the Editor. Please help us cut administrative costs. Thanks.

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Officers

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Keith Beaver 1st VP
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Val White..... 3rd VP
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Kurt Miller Treasurer
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Tom Nolan 2 Yrs
Eric Nadeau 2 Yrs
Cathy Golankiewicz..... 3 Yrs
J. Roger Schmiedel..... 3 Yrs
Frank Molinaro Membership

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Frank Molinaro ..... Jottings Editor  
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