



# THE INSIDER

March 2004, Volume 11, Issue 3

## LIONS EYE BANK REPRESENTATIVES MEET AT LCI

**H**elen Keller said, "There is no better way to thank God for your vision than to give a helping hand to those in the dark."

On January 27th, 42 representatives from 28 Lions Eye Banks participated in the Lions Eye Bank Conference here at headquarters. In spite of adverse weather conditions, the participants came, as it was important to them to discuss issues facing their eye banks. One of the outcomes of the conference was the formation of a volunteer committee of seven Lions Eye Bank directors who will study and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of forming a Lions Eye Bank association.

There are more than 50 Lions Eye Banks worldwide that provide quality eye tissue for corneal transplants, research and education. The purpose of an eye bank is to obtain, medically evaluate and process eye tissue. When an eye bank receives notification that a death has occurred and the immediate family has agreed to donate the eyes, the Certified Eye Bank Technician (CEBT) drives to the location to procure the tissue. CEBTs are extensively trained to procure eye tissue according to strict Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) medical standards. Because they may receive a call at any time of the day or night, the eye bank is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with CEBTs. Once procured, the cornea is placed in a solution that will keep the tissue viable for 14 days. Transplants generally take place within seven days. When tissue cannot be used for transplant, it is used for research and education.

Often Lions volunteer as couriers to transport corneas for surgeries here or abroad. One of the most important characteristics of a Lions Eye Bank is that, if an individual needing a transplant does not have insurance or funds to cover the surgery, the Lions Eye Bank will arrange for financial assistance.

Lions Eye Banks report to the Program Development Department at the conclusion of a fiscal year. In 2002-03, Lions Eye Banks reported that they provided 23,935 corneas for sight-saving transplants and nearly 16,000 eyes for research and education.

March is "National Eye Donor Awareness Month." Lions and Leos will be providing eye donor information to community members. Compared to all other transplants, corneal transplants have the highest success rate: 90-95%. While the United States is not experiencing a shortage of quality corneas for transplant, there are many developing countries that do have a shortage. International outreach is another area in which the Lions Eye Banks are involved. Recently Lions in Georgia and the Central Florida Lions Eye & Tissue Bank provided a sight-saving cornea to a young man (age 17) in Ghana, West Africa, who plans to study medicine.

For more information on Lions Eye Banks and eye donation, please contact the Program Development Department.

*Submitted by Debbie O'Malley, Program Development*

### WELCOME

**Jindalle Beeck**, St. Charles, Membership Operations, ext. 319

**Tanja Saarinen**, Oak Park, Eurafican, ext. 504

### ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following staff members who are celebrating employment anniversaries:

**Kathy Ryan**, Travel & Administrative Services, 30 years on March 25

**Vana Krishnan**, Stat. & Membership, 10 years on March 21

**Lisa Venegas**, Purchasing, 5 years on March 17

**Anthony Garst**, Ibero-American, 5 years on March 29

### OFFICE DIRECTORY

#### UPDATE

Please make the following change in your Office Directory:

**Mika Sato-Foley**, Pacific Asian, ext. 353

### RETIRED LAST MONTH

**Diane Jakl**, District & Club Administration

### ROUTING GUIDE UPDATE

Anything in the Routing Guide referring to Club Supplies Sales is now on ext. 400 and anything referring to LCIF Donor & Financial Services on ext. 404

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

- Congratulations to **Barbara Chmelik**, LCIF Donor and Financial Services, this month's winner of movie tickets from the Employee Activities Committee.
- Congratulations to **Rebecca Daou**, LCIF Humanitarian Programs, this month's winner of the reserved employee parking spot.
- Congratulations to **Christy Jacobs**, Graphics, and her husband Jeff on the birth of their first child, Griffin Jeffrey. Griffin was born on January 20, 2004, weighing 9 lbs 14 oz and measuring 21 1/2 inches.
- Congratulations to **Debbie O'Malley**, Program Development, and her daughter Katy for their participation in the University of Iowa Dance Marathon. This was Debbie's second year and Katy's third year participating in the fundraising event. Debbie participated as a spirit dancer (dancing for four hours), while Katy participated as a dancer and morale captain (dancing for 24 hours). Money raised from the marathon goes to the Children's Hospital of Iowa at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics to support families with children who have cancer. For more information or to make a donation, contact Debbie O'Malley.
- Congratulations to **Becky Maiman**, Info Systems, first place winner of the Employee Activity Committee (EAC) Make Your Own Valentine Contest. Becky won a flower delivery (choosing a small rose bush), which she sent to her valentine (husband) at his work. Congratulations also to the winners of the Valentine's Candy Count (**Donna Helfert**, Registration & Housing, and **Ellen Pilarczyk**, Accounts Receivable) and of the Valentine's Trivia Contest (**Ann Lipscomb**, Accounts Receivable).
- Congratulations to Steven, son of **Bob Kleinfelder**, THE LION Magazine, and the other four members of his team from the Technology Center of DuPage on placing first at the Chi-Town Tear-Down Pit Crew Competition at McCormick Place. The team dismantled and rebuilt a 5.4-liter Ford engine in 12 minutes, 11 seconds without any errors, beating out 18 other teams from northern Illinois and northern Indiana. The five boys attend four different high schools but attend the Technology Center as an elective class for half of the day.
- Congratulations to **Tangie Speer**, Stat & Membership, on the birth of her first grandchild. Tangie's new granddaughter, Cailin Riley Speer, was born on February 4, 2004, weighing 7 lbs 13 oz, and measuring 20 1/2 inches long.
- Congratulations to **Alma Baer**, Program Design & Development, on the birth of her third grandchild. Her son David and daughter-in-law Lisa welcomed their first-born child, David John, into the world on February 5, 2004. David weighed in at 8 lbs 1 oz, and measured 22 inches long.

## INSIDER POLL

### What is your hidden talent?

Please e-mail your answers to Kristopher Kempfski, Public Relations.

The following is in response to last month's Insider poll.

### The 76th Annual Academy Awards will be presented on Sunday, February 29. Which celebrity absolutely does or does not deserve an award and why?

"Benicio Del Toro does deserve the best supporting actor award for '21 Grams.'"

– *Josh Friedman, LCIF Sight Programs*

"I think Johnny Depp finally deserves some recognition for the great job he does in every movie he is in. Even if the movie stinks, I walk away thinking what a great job he did. If she were nominated, I'd say Nicole Kidman does not deserve to win. I'm tired of her."

– *Michelle Bell, English Language*

"If Charlize Theron does not win the award for her role in 'Monster,' there is something terribly wrong with the academy."

– *Kristopher Kempfski, Public Relations*

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### Quick Chicken Soup

- 3/4 lb cooked chicken cut into 1/2 inch pieces (2 cups)
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- 2 medium celery stalks, sliced (1 cup)
- 2 medium carrots, sliced (1 cup)
- 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 4 cans (14 oz each) reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh parsley (or 1 tsp parsley flakes)
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme leaves (or 1 tsp dried thyme leaves)
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 1 dried bay leaf
- 1 cup uncooked gemelli or rotini pasta (4 oz)

- Heat all ingredients except pasta in 4-quart Dutch oven.
- Stir in pasta.
- Heat to boiling, stirring occasionally. Then reduce heat.
- Simmer uncovered 10 to 15 minutes, stirring occasionally, until pasta and vegetables are tender.
- Discard bay leaf and serve.

– *Submitted by Nicole Brown, THE LION Magazine (courtesy of Betty Crocker)*



## ABOUT THE INSIDER

The *Insider* is a newsletter for Lions Clubs International Headquarters' employees. It is published and posted on the intranet once a month. Employees are encouraged to submit news items such as story ideas, department happenings, births, weddings, anniversaries, awards received or any other information regarding International Headquarters' employees or their families to Kristopher Kempfski, Public Relations Department, at ext. 371 or by e-mail. **The deadline for submitting information for the April issue is Monday, March 8.**

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/3	Margaret Latronica	Stat. & Membership
3/4	Stephanie Foster	English Language
3/5	Anthony Garst	Ibero-American
3/5	Christopher Hetzel	Extension & Membership
3/7	Carole Bodenstab	New Clubs & Marketing
3/7	Rebecca Teel Daou	LCIF Humanitarian Programs
3/8	KaSondra Byrd	LCIF Humanitarian Programs
3/9	Vivian Swiszc	Stat. & Membership
3/12	Stephen Yearson	LCIF Sight Programs
3/14	Elaine Miller	Information Systems
3/15	Patricia Guzman	Club Supplies Sales
3/17	Patricia Augustine	LCIF Donor & Financial Services
3/17	Donna Helfert	Registration & Housing
3/19	Daniela Salas	LCIF Humanitarian Programs
3/20	Insook Kim	Budget & Auditing
3/22	Jeannine Meyer	Club Supplies Shipping
3/25	Lynn Oliva	Travel & Administrative Services
3/26	Jindalle Beeck	Membership Operations
3/26	Ginny Costello	Travel & Administrative Services
3/28	Patricia Barborka	Stat. & Membership
3/28	Joan Hlach	Membership Operations



## LIONS DAY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

This year, Lions Day with the United Nations (UN) is scheduled for Friday, March 12, 2004, in New York City. This marks the 26th annual Lions Day with the United Nations, which celebrates our relationship with the UN Lions Clubs International has had Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Observer status since the 1940s and is the only non-government organization with a permanent seat at the UN. Lions Day with the United Nations draws more than 500 attendees, the majority of whom are Lions. The day's program consists of several speakers, a luncheon with ambassadors to the UN and a tour of the building. For many, the luncheon is the highlight of the day; as an ambassador is seated at each table to dine and speak with the attendees. This mingling is a great way for Lions to learn about other countries and for the ambassadors to learn more about Lions. Another highlight is the award ceremony honoring the Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contest grand prize winner. This year's winner is 12-year-old Vittoria Sanebastiani. Vittoria will be traveling from her hometown of Novi Ligure, Italy to New York City along with her mother, sister, the president of the sponsoring Lions club (Novi Ligure Lions Club) and the district governor (District 108-IA2).

For more information on Lions Day with the United Nations, please contact Christie Klingsporn, Program Development or visit the Lions Web site for the tour.

## NEWS BRIEFS

- 2003 Federal and Illinois tax forms are available in the Finance Division on the first floor, behind the Budget & Auditing Department across from Kim Hugo. If additional information is needed, please see Kim or call Ext. 214.

## EYE BANK CONFERENCE

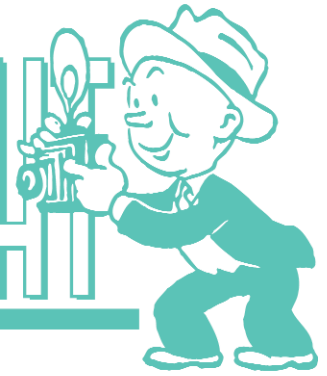


*Executive Administrator and Secretary Gary La Petina addresses the 42 representatives at the January Lions Eye Bank Conference held at Lions Clubs International Headquarters.*

*International Director Scott Neely, Eye Bank Conference moderator, speaks to conference attendees.*



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



JOAN HLACH

Department Assistant  
Membership Operations

**Year started at LCI**

2001

**Job duties**

Prepare reports, correspondence, assist Lions members, provide program information and maintain department information and supplies

**Education**

Two years of college

**Hometown**

Tinley Park, Illinois

**Family**

Son, daughter, son-in-law and two grandsons

**If I were in the witness relocation program, my new name would be**

Holly Golightly

**My most memorable moment on the job is**

Coming back to work after a medical emergency to find so many cards, flowers and good wishes

**Something people would be surprised to know about me is:**

I went to Europe all by myself for six weeks before I was married and went to a French cooking school

**Most unusual item in my cubicle**

A picture of a polar bear napping

**If I could be someone else for a day, I'd be**

Michelle Kwan

**My very first car was a**

Mercury Comet Caliente

**If I weren't working at LCI, I would be**

Working at the Field Museum

**In my free time I**

Read National Geographic, mysteries, romances and travel books

**If I could only eat one food for the rest of my life, it would be**

Soup

**Last good show I went to was**

"The Nutcracker"

**My dream vacation is**

To travel around the world

**Favorite book**

"Katherine" by Anne Seton

**Favorite television show**

"West Wing"

**Favorite cartoon**

"Peanuts"

**Favorite song**

"Unforgettable" by Nat "King" Cole

**If there were a movie about me, I would want to be played by**

Annette Benning

**The four guests at my fantasy dinner party (alive or dead) would be:**

Fred Astaire, Queen Elizabeth, Julia Child and John Glenn

**My "Claim to Fame" is**

Bringing good treats for parties

**The title of my autobiography would be**

"What's Next!"