June 2015



Rochester Lions Club



Club Meets 6:30 pm-1st & 3rd Mondays of Each Month at the River Crest Banquet Facility corner of Avon and Livernois www.rochesterlionsclub.org

Club Officers:

President Steve Rapotec

Immediate Past President Lowell Gladd

1st Vice President Chris De Villing

2nd Vice President VP. Karol Leach

3rd Vice President Jamie Nummer

> Secretary Arnold Sell

Treasurer John Cadieux

Tail Twister Jim Leach Sr.

Lion Tamer Jim Kemler

Membership Chairman Tom Lower

> Directors. John Benczik Mike Maegawa John Reamsma David McKenzie

ROCHESTER LIONS CLUB

P.O. Box 80393 Rochester, MI 48308

Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind

Rochester Lions President's Message.

It is amazing that I am writing my last newsletter article as President of the greatest Lions Club in the world. This past year has gone by at the speed of light. Next month we will have new leadership who, I am certain, will do an extraordinary job.



I hope my year as President has been as positive for our club as it has been for me. Together, we faced the challenges of all service clubs; and aging membership and difficulty bringing in younger members to take up the cause. If all goes well, our club will have one more member as I leave the Presidency compared to when I started. It may not sound like much of a feat but it took 8 new members to make that happen. This year, and well into the future, we can expect to lose members through moves to warmer climates, health reasons and death. I will elaborate at the installation dinner the second meeting in June, but it is reasonable to project that our club could have 50% fewer members ten years down the road. Should this become reality, we will not be able to support our charities in the same way we have been accustomed to doing. Shortages for help at fundraising events are already a problem as displayed by Lion Jim Leach's email pleas to fill vacant slots just days before the Memorial Days car shows.

Our only hope for the future is to continue to bring in new, younger members. With that requires an openness to change and not expect the next generation to do things "the way they've always been done".

Based on the input from the membership at large, the Board is seeking ways of supporting new members and officers with appropriate training. The challenge is to find a way of raising the necessary funds within the guidelines allowed by Lions International without placing the entire burden on our members. I'm certain our incoming President will have more to say about this in the coming months.

Thank you all for allowing me the honor of being the President of the greatest Lions Club in the world.

Yours in Lionism,

President Steve

Thanks for a Great job as President, Lion Steve!



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Hard at work at the District Convention!



Lions work hard but also play hard during the Trivia Contest on Date Night



Lion Karol Leach giving out \$1000 donation to the Madonna University Lions/lioness Hearing program.



President Steve presenting District Governor Tom Hill with a check for William Beaumont Silent Children

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Past District Governor and Rochester Lion James Leach Sr. has received the S.A. Dodge MD-11 Distinguished Service Award at the Multiple District Convention. This is the highest award given by Lions of Michigan. *This award was named after S.A. Dodge who was Michigan's 2nd Lions International President in 1953-54 as well as a founder of Leader Dogs for the Blind. He was one of the first Chairmen of the newly created State White Cane Committee. The State White Cane law was enacted during his term as District Governor.*

Lion Jim Leach Sr. has been active on many State and District committees including the district Honorary Committee, District Editor for the Lions Pride Magazine, International Convention, Madonna University and Penrickton Center committees.

Jim is a Harold "Poc" Pocklington Award winner. He is also father of our new District Governor James Leach Jr. and Cabinet Secretary for the 2015-2016 Lionistic year.

Most important of all though, Jim is our beloved "Tail Twister" and married to our new First Vice President, Karol.

From: Lion Steve Rapotec 850 Oakwood Dr. #194 Rochester Hills, MI 48307

To: