



# Rochester Lions Club

Home Club of Leader Dogs for the Blind  
[www.rochesterlionsclub.org](http://www.rochesterlionsclub.org)

January, 2008  
**NEWSLETTER**

Club Meets 6:30 pm-1st & 3rd Mondays of Each Month at the Rivercrest



## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT..... JANUARY, 2008

As 2007 concludes and 2008 begins we have much to be thankful for and a great deal to look forward to experiencing. The year 2007 presented many challenges and rewards. Our club sadly said farewell to a loyal and dedicated member; David Beane.

We enjoyed success with the food wagon (now the food truck) events, SightFirst II, Festival of Cars, Cruise Nights, White Cane Week, Rock 'N Rods, Memorial Golf Outing, Christmas float, Date Nights, Kids Night, Annual Picnic, Sight and Hearing Conservation Projects, The Peace Poster Contest, Canister Collections, Hot Rod and Custom Car Show and other projects in keeping with our "We Serve" motto. Working on these projects together built many new friendships and further bonded old relationships. These projects required a lot of volunteer hours, but many hands make work light. Our club is fortunate to have so many willing workers. We are truly blessed to be able to help and serve.

The year 2008 will test our ability to fulfill the many requests we are likely to receive to serve others. Our economy is NOT hitting on all cylinders...and perhaps won't be for quite some time to come. Many charitable agencies in our local area are being inundated with requests for food, clothing, extra help...easily doubling the numbers over years past...that they usually see. This, I believe, is the result of our worsening economy (job loss, escalating cost of living, including transportation, food, fuel, healthcare, clothing, etc.) being experienced all across our country. Consequently, our Club should seriously consider in the New Year, discussing how we can effectively continue to support Campaign SightFirst II and the other projects we have traditionally been involved with, while also taking on additional projects to help those in need in our local community.

While many hands make work light recruiting new members would help us to also meet the "Challenge to Change" and help our Club grow and thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. January, 2008 has been designated as Bring a Buddy to the Lions' Events. So...let's each try to bring someone to at least one of our January meetings, show them what fun we have and what good we do for those in need. Then follow up with encouraging your guest to join our Club.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
*Lion President Jim Williams*



## News Flash! New CEO for Leader Dog for the Blind...

Leader Dog for the Blind will welcome it's new CEO, Gregory Grabowski, on January 2, 2008. We plan to devote more space to an in depth article on Mr. Grabowski in next month's newsletter. Ed.



January Meeting Theme



Looking Ahead. .



District Events

\*\*\*\*\*

**January 5, 2008—Lions Leadership Training**  
 Leader Dogs for the Blind  
 10 am to 3 pm  
 \$8.00 (nice lunch provided)  
 Call 586-774-0440 for more info

**March 1, 2008—Michigan Lions Forum**  
 Challenge to Change...Exchanging Ideas  
 Featured Speaker—Wayne Davis  
 Lions International Director  
 Best Western Midway Hotel—Lansing, MI  
 Reservation Deadline—Jan 29, 2008 !!  
 Register at: [www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com)

**January 7, 2008—DATE NIGHT!**

Leader Dog 6:30pm  
 Bring a Guest!

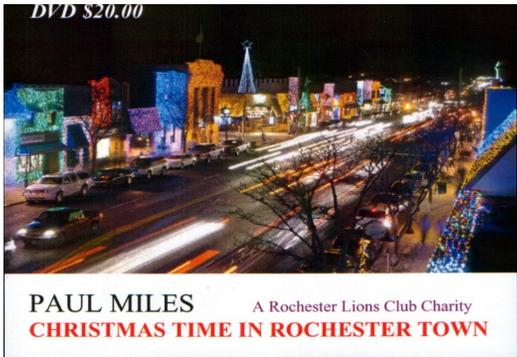
Please **RSVP to Jim Williams 248-651-1845**  
**BEFORE January 3!!**

Or email: [dwilliams1845@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dwilliams1845@sbcglobal.net)

**January 14—RLC Board Meeting—7 pm**  
 Leader Dog for the Blind

**January 21—Regular Meeting—6:30 pm**  
 Rivercrest— Dist Gov Tony Capozzo Visits

**January 25/26—Rochester “Fire & Ice Fest”**  
 RLC will have tent/Need Volunteers  
**Contact David McKenzie or Dennis Scott**  
**For times & To Sign Up**



Christmas Time in Rochester

Lion Ralph Vitale still has a good supply of the popular DVD “Christmas Time in Rochester” featuring Paul Miles, local blues singer and guitarist...who composed and performed the namesake song, on our float, in the Rochester Hometown Christmas Parade on December 2..

In addition, Mr. Miles also played and sang at our Rochester Lions Club annual picnic celebration in August. Paul Miles also has released a second CD (Steppin’ Out) which includes sixteen new songs and was a 2007 Detroit Music Award winner.

“Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year.”

Victor Borge

## Happy Birthday to You!



The following Lions have a birthday in January:

**Kate Hurst—January 1**  
**Chris Elkins—January 2**  
**Ralph Vitale—January 2**  
**Chris Devilling—January 4**  
**Ted Reynolds—January 7**  
**Bob Reid—January 9**  
**Art Carlson—January 17**  
**Dave Smith—January 19**  
**Steve Shelton—January 19**  
**Joe Vigliotti—January 22**  
**John Cadieux—January 24**  
**Herb Marawe—January 27**

Wishing each of you...a very Happy Birthday!

## Skinny Dipping

An elderly man in Louisiana had owned a large farm for several years. He also happened to have a large pond on the back of his property. Coincidentally, it was perfectly shaped for swimming, so he fixed it up nice...picnic tables, horseshoe pits, and some apple and peach trees.

One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit from the apple and peach trees. As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women "skinny dipping" in his pond!

He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end of the pond...not knowing what his intentions were. One of the young women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man frowned, "I didn't come down here... to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked." Holding the bucket up..he said, "I'm here to feed the alligator."

*Some old men can still think fast on their feet*

## Campaign Sight First II Update

Lion Larry Cole, Chairperson of our club's Campaign Sight First II, presented the latest information on the progress being made..at our Dec 17th regular meeting. More than \$108 million has been raised toward the overall goal of \$150 million so far. Some 6,841,028 at risk children have been screened through thirty Sight First II/ World Health Organizations (WHO) and pediatric eye care centers.

One of the main causes of blindness in children, "River Blindness" ,occurring when individuals routinely bathe in contaminated river water, has been greatly reduced. The need remains great and much more need to be done. Lions are leading the way worldwide in this area. Our club,

The Rochester Lions Club, is a "Model Club" which means we have chosen to donate a minimum of \$400.00 for each of our respective members this year! And, our 11A2 district is ranked the "Number One Contributor" in North and South America to Campaign Sight First II!



## Your club wants YOU!



Events don't just "happen", they take some planning and a little work. Won't you help make YOUR club a better one?



## Salute to Dave Padilla January 2008 Lion of the Month

*Dave is a Life Member of the Rochester Lions Club....having joined our Club in 1971. Dave was selected as our Club's "Lion of the Year" in 1981 and was elected Club President the following year, 1982.*

*But, the fellow Lion who has probably been influenced the most by Dave Padilla over the years...is*

*Lion Don Westphal. Thus, it's only fitting that Don express his thoughts, in his own words, on our Lion of the Month:*

*"I was Dave's sponsor. At the time he was my neighbor on Freer....Wayne Mickelson and Mike Gendich, both also residing on our same street, were already Lion members. Dave joined to "please me" thinking that he wouldn't last long in a "WASP organization" like the Rochester Lions Club. The rest is history. Like many of us, the Lions Club introduced Dave to some great Rochester men who he counts as his closest friends today.*

*Dave has 11 children, 9 boys and 2 girls...each unique and successful (corporate presidents to diplomats, doctors and college presidents) in their own right. In addition, Dave and Betty..alone have more than 42 grand and greatgrandchildren between them! Dave spent his business career as treasurer and partner in Kaufman Window Company..and when Marshall Knecker retired ...Dave bought a portion of the company with some of his sons who were already working with the company at the time. He passed his great work ethic down to his children. He has been a great fund raiser in the church he left in the Pointes...when he moved out to the "country" in Rochester. Dave loved (and hated) the frustrating game of golf, but since his accident..has been unable to play. And, Dave has been blessed with two wonderful women in his life, Irene and Betty. Their combined offspring number in the dozens! (what kind of diet is Dave on??). He has wintered in Florida for the past few years, but I don't know what their plans are for this winter." Sincerely, Don Westphal*

*And, according to the many fellow Lions offering their opinions of our Lion of the Month, Dave Padilla has always come through when he was needed the most...regularly volunteering each year to work on our Christmas float...standing in the cold during White Cane Week, and regularly assisting Bob Reid with the Lowes/Sutton Memorial Golf Outing.*

*A Sincere and Hearty "Thank You" to Dave Padilla as our January, 2008 Lion of the Month!*

## Lion Herb Mann Steps Down...Temporarily

Our 1st V.P. Herb Mann announced his resignation from his 1st V.P. seat on our Board at the RLC Board Meeting on Dec 10...effective immediately...due to medical issues. We sincerely wish Lion Herb a speedy recovery...his leadership and contributions to the overall success of our Club... will be sorely missed. Lion Ralph Vitale has volunteered to assume Herb's Board responsibilities in the interim.

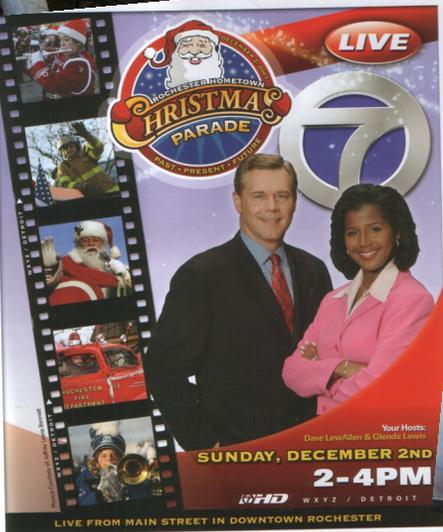




# Rochester Hometown Christmas Parade—2007



**2nd Place Adult Float Award!!**





# The Leader's Role in Retention...

As leaders in our respective clubs, district and multiple, each of us has an obligation to play a strategic role in retention. For years, we have been saying that we do not have a membership problem, we have a retention problem. In the 2006-07 Lions year, our multiple added 1,230 new members but lost 1,804 members! On the average, 15% of those are from death...the rest just left us! We need to ask ourselves why?

As a retired educator, I also belong to the MARSP (Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel). They, like us, are having a difficult time with retention...as are many other social-service organizations serving our communities. In the most recent publication of MARSP, the Vanguard, the following article "Ten Commandments of Membership" appeared. It's worth sharing with you.

- A MEMBER is the most important person in any organization.
- A MEMBER is a part of our organization...not an outsider.
- A MEMBER is not a cold statistic—he/she is a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own.
- A MEMBER is not dependent on us—we are dependent on him/her.
- A MEMBER is not an interruption of our work—he/she is the purpose of it.
- A MEMBER does us a favor when he/she calls—and we are doing him/her a favor by serving him/her.
- A MEMBER is the life blood of this and every other organization
- A MEMBER likes to associate with the progressive organization that supports the community.
- A MEMBER is a person who brings us his/her wants—it is our job to fill those wants.
- A MEMBER is deserving of the most courteous and attentive treatment we can give him/her.

As leaders **AND members** of our respective clubs...let's set an example and practice these simple guidelines to help us keep our hardworking and valuable fellow members.

By: Esther LaMothe, Leadership Chair

## Leader Dog Canister Collections

Lion Arnold Sell has collected a total of \$674.00 from the various Leader Dog collection canisters located throughout the Rochester-Rochester Hills area...for the period October 23 through December 17, 2007. Way to go Arnold!!

**2nd ANNUAL HERITAGE ROD & CUSTOM CAR FESTIVAL**  
 OCTOBER 18, 1901  
**ROCHESTER MUNICIPAL PARK - ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2008**  
 8am - 5pm  
 Rain or Shine

**LEADER DOGS**  
 2008 Heritage Rod and Custom Car Festival - 31st Rochester Heritage Festival May 24 & May 25  
 Trophies in classes for: Custom Cars, Hot Rods, Street Rods, Street Machine / Pro Street, Muscle Cars, Corvettes, Pre 1950 Classics, Sports Cars, 50s' Classics, 60s' Classics, 70s' Classics, Trucks, Specialty Vehicles  
 • The Oakland Press Award  
 • Music by Beth  
 • Pancake Breakfast at the Community House  
 • Pride of the Lions Award  
 • Pick of the Litter Award  
 • 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes  
 • Walter Elmer Memorial Award  
 • Food & Refreshments Available  
 • Cool Posters & T-Shirts

**Proceeds to Benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind and other Lion Charities**  
 Mail Registration to:  
 Heritage Rod and Custom Car Festival  
 2301 Kingsford Road,  
 Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
 Show limited to the first 200 vehicles  
 Please Register early  
**CARS MUST BE 1983 and OLDER**  
 Gates Open at 7:00 a.m.  
 All vehicles parked by 10:00a.m.  
 \* No holding parking spaces  
 Registered vehicle owners receive Dash plaques and goodie bags.  
 Pre-registration only by May 19  
 \$15 per car  
 For More info Call:  
 Eric Bothwell (248) 379-9467  
 Bill Claussen (248) 375-5096  
 I accept and assume full responsibility for any injury or loss to me or my property, agents or employees at any time, and from any cause on the premises of the show. I expressly release the management from liability for such loss or injury and agree to provide and pay for my own insurance.  
 Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 Model \_\_\_\_\_ Miles Driven to Show \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 T-Shirt Size(s) Available M L XL XXL \*\*\$10 each or \$15 each at the show Registration \$15.00  
 Make check payable to: Rochester Lions Club Charities Inc. \$10 T-Shirt(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*\* Please Enclose a Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelope for Registration Confirmation (\$15 @ the show)  
 www.rochesterlionsclub.org www.rochesterheritagefest.org Total Enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Memorable Quotes

**"Don't worry about avoiding temptation as you grow older, it will avoid you."**  
 Sir Winston Churchill

## Sweatshirts...Still Available from 2007 Car Events

Lion Eric Bothwell recently announced that he still has a few sweatshirts left from our 2007 car events. This snazzy apparel can be purchased for ONLY \$10.00 each! Contact Lion Eric directly to purchase while supplies last.





# Annual Christmas Party—2007

## Some Kinda Fun...at the Rivercrest



**“By all means, marry. If you get a good wife, you’ll become happy; if you get a bad one, you’ll become a philosopher.” - Socrates**



**You...**



**...have a GREAT Day!!!**

**Life is short!  
Break the rules! Forgive quickly! Kiss Slowly!  
Love Truly. Laugh uncontrollably...**

**And never regret anything that made you smile.**

The Rochester Lions Club Newsletter is published monthly as a service to our members and those interested in Lionism—Editor: Lion Randy Whitmire 248-930-6420

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