

DISTRICT 33Y MASSACHUSETTS

MEMBER ORIENTATION GUIDE



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On line at: <https://www.lions-33y.org/> (under information)

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On behalf of the District 33Y Membership Committee, I would like to acknowledge some of this information was obtained from the District 33Y, MD33 and Lions International Websites and we want to thank the following Lions for their assistance:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| *PDG Don Adams (Y) | PCST Marlene DeAngelus (Y) | PDG Steve Karch (Y) |
| PCC Jean M. Wilder (Y) | PCC William Rathbun (Y) | PRC Bea Turner (Y) |
| PCST Jim Allen (Y) | Jim Dynes (Y) | Claire Kostro (N) |
| PZC Jonathan Oelrich (Y) | PID L. Doug Sime (S) | PCS Christine Waller (Y) |
| Paul Deame (Y) | PDG Pamela Hodgkins (Y) | PID Chuck Kostro (N) |
| PDG Beverly Prentice (Y) | PCC Arthur Thomas (Y) | PCT Dennis Waller (Y) |
| *PCC Charlie DeAngelus (Y) | *PDG Ted Irvin (N) | Alice Liebenow (Y) |
| PDG Gregor Prentice (Y) | *Judi Thomas (Y) | * Deceased |

Introduction

Massachusetts Multiple District 33 (MD33) Lions is comprised of 5 districts designated Y, A, N, K and S. Western Massachusetts is District 33Y, which encompasses Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties, with 40 Lions, and 1 Leo Club with over 1100 men and women and 100 students--for a common cause of helping others by trying to find a cure for blindness.

At the 1925 Lions International Convention, Helen Keller asked the Lions:

“Will you not help me hasten the day when there shall be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind child untaught; no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness?”

We are identified with sight conservation, eye research, vision surgery and helping obtain eyeglasses for those in need, hearing research and assistance. We also assist in the education and development of our youth, in aid to the elderly, community service, dispelling myths about and the need for organ donation, fighting youth cancer, the environment, and in a multitude of other worthwhile endeavors.

Abbreviations

BOD – Board of Directors
CBLs – Constitution and By-Laws
CC – Council Chairperson
COG – Council of Governors
CS – Council Secretary or Cabinet Secretary
CSFII – Campaign SightFirst II (an LCIF fundraiser)
CST – Cabinet Secretary Treasurer
CT – Council Treasurer or Cabinet Treasurer
DG – District Governor
ESH/ESHF – District 33Y Emergency Sight and Hearing Treatment Foundation
GLT -- Global Leadership Team
GMT -- Global Membership Team
HARP – Hearing Aid Recycling Program
HOBY/HOBYL – Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership
HUGS – Helping U Give Service, or Helping Us Give Sight or Helping Us Grant Sight
IAG – International Assistance Grant (thru LCIF)
ID – International Director
IP – International President
IPDG – Immediate Past District Governor
IPID – Immediate Past International Director
IPIP – Immediate Past International President
IPP – Immediate Past President
LCI – Lions Club International
LCIF – Lions Clubs International Foundation
LEHP – Lions Eye Health Program
LEO – Leadership, Experience and Opportunity (the name for the Lions Youth Program)
MD – Multiple District
MJF – Melvin Jones Fellowship Award
MLER or MLERF or MLERFI – Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.
NEOB – New England Organ Donor Bank
PCS – Past Council Secretary or Past Cabinet Secretary
PCST – Past Cabinet Secretary Treasurer
PCT – Past Council Treasurer or Past Cabinet Treasurer
PDG – Past District Governor
PID – Past International Director
PIP – Past International President
PP – Past President
RC – Region Chairperson
VDG – Vice District Governor (VDG1 and VDG2)
ZC – Zone Chairperson

All State Band

The band was founded by PDG Frederick Blake (33S) in 1980. More than 3,300 Massachusetts students from grades 10-12 have participated, about 100 students each year. The band performs at the State Convention, after 3 days of intensive practice. In 2006 the band won two first prize categories in the International Parade at the 89th International Convention in Boston, Mass. Musicians are selected based on musical ability, achievement and the recommendation of their high school band directors. Directors are encouraged to submit applications of skilled music students who would enjoy working with professional conductors in a disciplined rehearsal situation. The Lions of Massachusetts have an opportunity to expand their service activities by sponsoring a student for \$395. Each student pays a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Applications are due by Dec 1.

The All State Band committee has a member from each district, each for a 5 year term. They rotate committee positions, ending as State Chairperson in their final year. Plans for each band begin immediately after state convention when they select the conductor, makes hotel reservations, arranges meals, transportation, rehearsal space, select music around 2/1, and determine activities for the following year. The Chairperson reports to the MD33 Council of Governors quarterly and the committee raises funds all year. At the Convention chaperones and nurses, are onsite the day before the students arrive until the day after the students depart.

Conductors have been Prof. W. Chestnut, G. Parks, and M. Rowell of UMass. Amherst, Professors T. Everett and E. Rombach of Harvard University, and Lion P. Alberta, Director of Music at Norwood Public Schools, who conducted the band at our International Convention in 1986, and assists yearly as musical advisor.

Awards

Club Awards can be awarded to a worthy recipient from a club, the district or from the community.

- Lion of the Year, Citizen of the Year, 100% Secretary Award (criteria set by the club) or any other award they feel is appropriate, as determined by the club
- 100% President's Award (must follow criteria set by LCI, presented by DG)
- Sight Award – See Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund
- Melvin Jones Fellowship – See Lions Club International Foundation
- Charlie DeAngelus Fellowship – See Emergency Sight and Hearing Fund
- Velia Zewski Fellowship Award – See EyeMobile
- **District Awards** are given at district meetings, Midwinter Conference, or the State Convention, are selected by criteria as listed in the directory and chosen by the DG: Lion, President, Secretary, Leo of the Year, Leo Club of the Year, Best Bulletin, Best Scrapbook, District Governor's Appreciation Awards, Best Lion Clubs---1st, 2nd and 3rd places for Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, International President's "We Serve" Awards, MLERF Appreciation Award—presented by Pres. MLERF, & Lifetime Achievement Award (for outstanding service for a Lion's lifetime)

State Award nominees are nominated by each DG and winners are determined by the MD33 PDG Council's committee. Awards presented at the State Convention are: MD33 Lion of the Year, MD33 Leo of the Year, MD33 Leo Club of the Year, and MD33 Best Lion Club Awards---for Best Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, IP Leadership Medal, IP Presidential Medal, and LCI-We Serve Appreciation Awards.

Bulletin/Newsletter

Not all clubs have newsletters and the content is subject to the will of the club. The DG decides about the district bulletin, how often it will be published and what is in it, such as District, State & International news, Awards, club happenings. It is a way for Lions to connect, stay in touch, and support each other.

Cabinet-District

The District Cabinet advises the DG. The voting cabinet is the DG, VDGs, CST/CS/CT, IPDG, the Zone and Region Chairpersons, and they are approve the District budget, banks to be used, bonding, and account signers at district meetings. District chairpersons and 33Y representatives on the state Committees are non-voting cabinet members, who can provide input.

Chaplain

A Chaplain (by whatever name or faith) and their charges are closely linked with the need for sense of meaning and a loving, trustful relationship with their God. They are prepared to counsel anyone and they say prayers and Benediction at Lion's functions. We enjoy thanking our God (by whatever name) for all that is given to us. Chaplains are always ready to serve if anyone needs special words in time of need.

LIONS CLUBS OBJECTS

TO CREATE and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

TO PROMOTE the principles of good government and good citizenship.

TO TAKE an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

TO UNITE the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

TO PROVIDE a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

TO ENCOURAGE service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.

LIONS CODE OF ETHICS

TO SHOW my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

TO SEEK success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

TO REMEMBER that in the building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

WHENEVER a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

TO HOLD friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

ALWAYS to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor, and means.

TO AID others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

TO BE CAREFUL with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS (or COG, MD33 State Council, or the State Council of Governors)

The MD33 Council of Governors is made up of the 5 DGs, 10 VDGs, 5 CSTs, the Parliamentarian, the Council Officers, the sitting ID and the Past International Directors from MD33. They meet monthly, at special meetings, attend all Midwinter Conferences, Testimonials, the State Convention, International Convention and special events. The DGs and Council Officers are the voting members.

The Council Secretary (CS) is a PDG elected from each District on a multiple district rotation: in 2013-2014 the secretary was from District N, in 2014-2015 from District K, etc. The Secretary's duties include recording, keeping all council meeting minutes, maintaining the list of state committees and district rotations associated with those committees, performing duties as listed in the MD33 CBLs and mailing a copy of the audited council financial statement to all clubs in MD33.

The Council Treasurer (CT) moves up from CS and keeps the records of monies collected and distributed, dues, places all incoming bills on a warrant for the Governor's review and approval, submits the books for review at year end and performs duties as outlined in the MD33 CBLs.

The Council Chairperson (CC) moves up from CT and they preside over Council meetings, prepare agendas, schedule all MD33 state committee Chairpersons to present their budgets, proposals and plans and see the CBLs are followed. They perform all duties listed in the CBLs and the MD33 District Policy Manual. In the Chairperson's absence, the Vice Chairperson presides over meetings. This position is on a multiple district rotation: in 2013-2014 the Vice Chairperson was from K, in 2014-2015 the Vice Chairperson is from S, etc.

Cabinet Secretary Treasurer, Cabinet Secretary & Cabinet Treasurer (CST or CS & CT)

The duties of the CST, CS/CT include recording and distribution of minutes of all district meetings, keeps the financial records and list of district committees, notifies clubs of special events and/or elections, sends dues notices for the district and MD33, records dues received for the district, registers delegates at conventions, prepares the budget with the DG, submits the books for review at year end, perform duties as directed by the DG and as is outlined in the MD33 CBLs. It is customary for the CST, CS/CT to attend council meetings, provide some fun and entertainment at the District Midwinter Conferences and at State Convention. They are expected to liven up the event with creative escapades and create a sense of adventure for all involved.

District Directory

The directory is produced by the DG lists all MD33 State Chairpersons, District Chairpersons and committee members, District Cabinet Members, officers of the Council of Governors, Officers of Emergency Sight and Hearing Fund, Mass. Lions Eye Research and the EyeMobile, a history of Lionism in Massachusetts, current New England ID, all PDGs, PIDs and PCST's, Internet resources and addresses, Best Club Competition Guidelines, types of membership, and contact information for all club officers. Content and Distribution is at the discretion of the DG but usually one to each MD33 Council Member, each District Cabinet member, each club president and secretary, and to each state committee chairperson. It is cost prohibitive for each Lion to receive a copy but if you need contact information ask your club officers, or a district cabinet member.

District Governor (DG)

The DG is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the District, accountable to their District, MD33 Council and to International for the orderly conduct of District and Multiple District business. To become a DG the candidate must be an Active Lion in Good Standing, served twice on the Board of Directors, been President of a Club, Zone or Region Chairperson or District Cabinet Secretary /Treasurer, has served as the 1st and 2nd VDG and is elected by a majority at the District Meeting at the State Convention.

Their duties include appointing competent Lions to serve on District and MD33 committees, to hold and preside at 4 Cabinet and 4 Advisory Meetings during their term and attend monthly/special meetings of the

MD33 Council to discuss and resolve issues of importance to MD33. The DG promotes Lionism by establishing goals for the District, visiting clubs, public appearances, and communicating the programs of LCI. They serve as the CEO of all District Corporations, oversees District financial business, Federal Tax filings (990, 990EZ or Postcard 990) and turns over a complete District accounting report of operations suitable for audit within 90 days of leaving office to the clubs in the District and to LCI.

District Midwinter Conference (also known as Midwinter Convention)

Each District holds an annual Midwinter Conference in January or February. (District 33Y celebrated their 55th in 2014; other MD33 districts will celebrate their 55th in 2015.) Each Lion and Leo is welcome to participate. Club donations are made, awards presented, new information is shared, friends catch up with each other, and members exchange ideas, accomplishments and goals. There is a themed party on Friday night, Business meetings, committee reports, Youth Speech Competition, sales tables, time to speak informally with the visiting dignitary, the DG's reception and banquet is on Saturday. The guest speakers are informative, encouraging, and vital to our interrelations with others. Hospitality rooms are available for socialization when scheduled events are not in progress and The MD33 Council meets on Sunday. Some districts have Saturday luncheons or Sunday breakfasts or luncheons.

Emergency Sight and Hearing Fund Treatment Foundation (ESH)

The District 33Y Emergency Sight and Hearing Treatment Foundation began in 1973 by PCC Charlie DeAngelus. The ESH Fund is a 501(c) 3 Tax Exempt Corp. owned and operated by the Lions of 33Y. Club, personal or memorial donations and bequests are welcome. Make checks payable to District 33Y Emergency Sight and Hearing Fund and mail to the Treasurer or present at a district meeting.

As of 2008, over 1350 cases have been handled and we have spent over \$135,000 to help needy people with sight and hearing problems, such as eye surgeries, eyeglasses, hearing aids. *The Charlie DeAngelus Fellowship* began in 1990 in honor of PCC Charlie for his tireless efforts to aid the visually and hearing impaired in District 33Y. To receive a Fellowship Award donate \$500 to the fund in the name of the honoree. As of 2020 over 165 Fellowships have been awarded totaling \$80,000.

Extension In July 2011 this committee became part of GMT

EyeCatcher Newsletter

This is the official publication of the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc. (MLERF) and is emailed several times a year to District Governor's for distribution to all Lions in MD33. Each District's Editor writes a story about Eye Research or projects in their districts.

Eyeglass Recycling

Lions worldwide collect used eyeglasses for recycling (approximately 26 million in 2003-2004). The eyeglasses enhance the lives of so many. From 1994 to 2013 District 33Y processed an estimated 184,000 pairs of glasses and sunglasses (about 13,000 a year). Refer to the www.lions-33y.org for the history of eyeglass recycling in 33Y and for an updated club collection site listing.

FDA regulations prohibit used eyeglasses from being reused in the U.S., so we send them to other organizations who travel to third world countries to distribute them. At the International Convention in Hong Kong in 2005, DG Jean M. Wilder (Y) & DG George Hart (S) partnered with DG Rafel "Lucky" Wijeyeweera of 306 C1 of Sri Lanka, to provide them with 30,000 pairs of recycled glasses for distribution to those in need, partially as a result of the December 2004 Tsunami. In June 2008 the project was completed when 45,000 glasses were shipped to Sri Lanka.

What can your club do to help?

- Have eyeglass collection locations in your city or town and report sites to the 33Y webmaster
- List collection locations on our web site by emailing Webmaster33Y@lions-33y.org
- Assist with the sorting, cleaning, counting, and boxing of the used glasses
- Label boxes with club name and # of glasses and turn them in at a District Meeting
- Make sure your secretary reports the # of glasses turned in on the activity report

EyeMobile – Massachusetts Lions District 33Y EyeMobile, Inc.

In 1999 PCC Arthur Thomas sparked the idea of a 33Y EyeMobile, in 2001 we approved the purchase, in 2003 the EyeMobile was registered in Massachusetts as a 501(c) 3 nonprofit corporation. The EyeMobile provides free health screenings for residents of 33Y for vision, glaucoma, hearing, diabetes and blood pressure, which facilitates detection of Eye diseases, Vision loss, Hearing loss and High Blood Pressure. In July 2005 we received a \$75,000 grant from LCIF and began the Velia Zewski Fellowship for \$500 began in memory of Lion Val, who designed the EyeMobile Logo. (1st award presented to: Stan Zewski of the Northampton Lions in December 2009). In January 2007 the BOD of the 33Y Orthoptic Clinic donated \$50,000 to fund remaining equipment and it was put on the road in June 2007. From June 2007- March 1, 2009 we screened over 1500 at 86 events and participated in 14 parades/exhibits. The EyeMobile vehicle was sold in 2020.

Global Leadership Team (GLT)

The District Global Leadership Chairperson is responsible for District Leadership/Club Officer Training and they serve on the district & MD33 GLT. The MD33 GLT Chairperson is elected for a 3 year term by the COG, each DG appoints a representative for 5 year terms and the VDGs are members. They conduct Leadership Workshops such as DG/VDG/CST, Zone and Region Chairperson Training, Prospective District Officers Seminar, Emerging Lions Leadership Skills Enhancement Workshop and the Senior Lions Leadership Skills Enhancement Workshop and other trainings as directed by the Council of Governors.

Global Membership Team (GMT)

On July 1, 2011 GMT replaced MERL, and includes Membership, Extension, Retention, and Family and Women's Initiative. In the 90's 33Y had 2,500 Lions and now we have about 1,100. To maintain district status we must increase our membership to >1250, with 35 clubs. We need immediate growth, for which each Lion is responsible for. This committee plans for our future, motivates us, hold Membership Seminars, Orientation, assist Lions in finding prospective members, how to approach them, where to look for them, assist with forming new clubs, etc. An important step is making sure our new and seasoned Lions are well informed and know about all aspects of what we do. They work with Clubs by providing brochures, hold membership/information nights, etc. The District GMT chairperson may be a member of the MD33 GMT which consists of a representative from each District and the MD33 GMT Chairperson. This committee oversees the state extension, membership, retention budgets and works with district GMT Chairpersons to determine how best they can assist in increasing membership. When a Lion finds people who would be interested in joining a club or forming a new club, they should immediately contact the DG, the VDGs or the GMT Chairperson for assistance, if needed.

Habitat for Humanity Program – See Lions Club International Foundation

Hearing Aid recycling

The few hearing aids we get are either shipped to a firm in Colorado or taken to a department in the Berkshire Medical Center. Contact the DG for further information.

History of Lions Clubs

The International Association of Lions Clubs (LCI) began in Chicago, IL by Melvin Jones, on June 7, 1917. At the national convention in Dallas Texas in October 1917, a constitution, by-laws, objects and code of ethics were approved. Lions became international when a club was formed in Canada in 1920. In 1925 Helen Keller challenged us to become “Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness” and we have been actively involved in service to the blind and visually impaired since.

We are now involved in providing services for youth and elderly, working to improve the environment, building homes for the disabled, provide diabetic education, health screenings, and disaster relief around the world. We have grown to over 1.3 million members in over 46,000 clubs in over 200 countries. The great thing about Lions is wherever you go, as a Lion, you are welcomed, there are always friends waiting, and there is always a place for you to assist others.

Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY)

HOBY was founded in 1958 by actor Hugh O'Brien after being with Dr. Albert Schweitzer whose belief is “The most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves.” It is partnered with LCI and is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Reach them at www.hoby.org, Tel: 616-868-0141 or Fax: 616-868-0147. Northampton Lion Hope Martin participated in the International & State Conferences in 2006 and can explain further: email her at hemartin172@yahoo.com

International Association of Lions Clubs (LCI)

The main headquarters of the International Association of Lions Clubs can be reached at 630-571-5466, fax 630-571-8890, on the web at: www.lionsclubs.org, or by writing to them at International Association of Lions Clubs, 300 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60521-8842. Club supplies and awards can be ordered on line <https://www2.lionsclubs.org/> or by calling 800-710-7822.

International Directors (ID's)

The International Board of Directors includes the LCI President, Immediate Past International President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, 32 International Directors and selected past officers who serve as appointees. Fifteen Directors are from the USA: eight are elected one year and seven the next year for a two year term. To be a candidate for ID a Lion must meet the criteria as set forth in the International Constitution and By Laws. The IDs have two responsibilities: (1) to adequately represent the interest of a specific area and (2) to do what is best for the association as a whole. The International Director is expected to:

- Inspire, motivate and educate, stress the importance of Membership
- Promote the international program and its goals, Encourage internationalism in thought and deed
- Promote LCIF and its programs
- Attend International Board meetings and serve on Board Committees as assigned

Insurance

LCI offers free insurance to all Clubs to protect the public who attend our events (it does not cover Lions). Coverage can be obtained at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/resources/insurance/index.php> Not all activities are covered by the LCI insurance so check with legal of LCI or our current insurance carrier if you have questions. (New policy begins 9/1 each year)

International Convention

Each year there is an International Convention where approximately 20,000 Lions and families attend to elect officers and directors (ID's), vote on constitutional matters and attend educational and inspirational seminars. It is held in June or July. MD33 hosted the convention in Boston in 2006, and will again in 2023.

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

LCI's grant arm is LCIF, through which Lions have reached around the world to prevent river blindness, to help children, build schools and hospitals, provide surgeries for glaucoma, cataracts, to assist victims of natural disasters and to help in NY after the Sept 11 terrorist attacks.

For updated info go to <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/lci-foundation/index.php> or www.LCIF.org .

To donate on line go to www.LCIF.org/donate

LCIF has approved >\$332 million in grants for humanitarian services, disaster relief and vocational assistance, including grants from SightFirst 1 in 1990 (which raised over \$144 million US \$). Since 1996 the Lions in Massachusetts have received over \$1,648,000 and 33Y has received \$171,402 thru August 2011. Campaign Sight First II (2005-2008) raised over \$200 million to target cataracts, river blindness, glaucoma, trachoma, and diabetic retinopathy. 33Y raised > \$50,000 for Campaign Sight II.

GRANTS

Districts can apply for a standard grant {up to 50% of a project's total cost up to US\$75,000}, a Core 4 grant, an emergency grant, an International Assistance Grant (IAG){from US \$5,000 - \$10,000}, a major catastrophe grant, a designated grant or a SightFirst grant, depending on the project. Most grants require the participation of a district, but the IAG allows a Lions club or district to partner with a host club or district in the country where the project will take place. Monies come from donations from Lions, individuals, interest on investments, and gifts, not from membership dues. Operating expenses, administrative & promotional expenses are paid from interest on investments only. With over 1.3 million Lions in over 200 countries in the world, Lions are on site almost immediately whenever a natural disaster occurs. Here are a couple of natural disasters where 33YLions and LCIF made a difference:

September 11th 2001-the World Trade Center Disaster: Lions helped at ground zero immediately and the LCIF Sept 11 Disaster Relief Fund was raised US\$3 million+ to address the social and emotional needs of families impacted, to help rebuild the lives of the victims, sponsored 15 bereavement camps in 6 states with Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, provided short term financial assistance, job training and assistance for the disabled. The **Extended Family Program** by MD33 provided personal, emotional, and logistical support to victims by developing supportive relationships to families, be a shoulder to lean on, provide lawn care, transportation, odd jobs, etc. in conjunction with the LCIF Disaster Victims™ Relief Fund. PID Chuck Kostro (33N) is our Relief Coordinator.

In 2020 several districts in MD33 obtained \$10,000 Emergency Grants from LCIF for the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (masks, etc) for healthcare workers who were on the front line in treating patients with the COVID-19 virus. 33Y's grant was administered by IPDG Art McConnell, and we used the grant for the Berkshire Medical Center, in Pittsfield. The grant was closed in March 2021.

Other grants include, but are not limited to, the following:

Standard Grants

- *Construct, expand or upgrade Schools:* US=IL, MA, Afghanistan, Columbia, India, Japan
- *Purchase Emergency Equipment &/or Vehicles:* Canada, Japan, South Africa, Taiwan,
- *Upgrade facilities or Equipment in Clinics/hospitals/centers, Blood Banks:* US=MO, NJ, NM, SC, Brazil, Canada, Honduras, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Taiwan, Uganda

Core 4 Grants

- *Lions-Habitat Homes:* Many throughout the United States (33Y: Springfield & Northampton)
- *Implement or Expand Lions-Quest Programs:* Cyprus, Canada, Italy
- *Implement Rural Diabetes Eye Care Program:* Pennsylvania

Emergency Grants

- *Tornados, typhoons, hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, & natural disasters:* USA=CA, OH, LA, MA, MI, MN, MS, FL, NC, MD, TN, VA, Australia, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, India, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Turkey
- *Flooding:* US=FL, IN, KY, MA, MD, OH, WV, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, South Africa, Thailand

International Assistance Grants

- *Medical Mission* in Philippines to California District 4-L6, in Philippines to Japan 334-E
- *Construct Water Wells* in Mali to France 103-CS

Sight First Grants

- *Cataract Surgery Campaigns:* Argentina (2,000), Ethiopia (6000), India (75,000), Madagascar, Mexico (>1,000), Peru (1,000)
- *EyeMobile:* District Y, A, N, K and S in MD33 Massachusetts
- *Onchocerciasis Control Program:* Katanga, Congo
- *Upgrade, New building at Barton Center for Diabetic Education, 33A Massachusetts*
- *Upgrade Hospitals:* Ethiopia, two in India, Sri Lanka

Melvin Jones Fellowship Award (MJF) is named after our founder, Melvin Jones. The fellowship is an honor given to someone by clubs or individuals who contribute US \$1,000. The fellowship is the foundation's highest (purchased) honor and represents humanitarian qualities such as generosity, compassion and concern for the less fortunate. MJFs provide over 70% of LCIF's revenues. A Melvin Jones Fellow receives a lapel pin and a distinguished wall plaque. Personal donations, club donations, or bequests of deceased are welcome.

Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP)

LEHP is a Sight First program supported by grants from LCIF, Allergan, Inc, and Eli Lilly and Co. LEHP is a community based education program to promote healthy vision in the US. It aims to raise awareness of the causes of preventable vision loss, encourages those at risk to undergo a dilated eye exam and educates those with low vision about the condition. Clubs should appoint a club LEHP chairperson to obtain publications about eye diseases and distribute the literature to senior centers, public libraries, city & town halls and other high traffic areas. The publications are available at low cost from www.lehp.org or free from www.maclearringhouse.com, www.lighthouse.org, and www.nei.nih.gov

Leo Program

Leos began in 1957 for students/adults age 14-28 and are sponsored by a Lions Club. The acronym Leo originally stood for Leadership, Equality and Opportunity, and later Equality was changed to Experience. In October 1967 LCI's BOD adopted the Leo Club Program as an official program. There are more than 5,600 Leo Clubs in 137 countries. Alpha Leos are 12 – 18 and Omega Leos are 18 – 28. Leo clubs are like Lions Club doing community service, raising funds, and making friends. Leos develop confidence and organizational skills through hands-on experience. 33Y has 3 Leo clubs: Easthampton, Hoosac Valley, and South Hadley. If you are interested in assisting or organizing a Leo club please contact the District Leo Advisor, the GMT Chairperson or the District Governor.

Lioness Program

Prior to 1987 ladies were not eligible to be Lions, they were able to develop Lioness Clubs sponsored by a Lions Clubs. In 1987 Lions women could join Lions and the Lioness program was disbanded. The Lioness Bridge Program acknowledges former Lioness' years of service, and recognition of offices held as Lions service. A special pin featuring the Lioness "L" is available to Lions who were Lioness. A former Lioness club may become a Lions club, and Lioness in their name.

Lions Organ Donation Awareness committee (LODA) previously known as Lazarus

The goal of the program is to promote awareness of the need for organ donation, and to dispel myths about organ donation. We work with the New England Organ Donor Bank (NEOD). Contact your district committee for a speaker including a video or display for a club meeting. Donations are not necessary at this time.

Lion Magazine

All Lions receive a subscription to the monthly "Lions Magazine". (If enrolled in the family dues program only one magazine is sent to each house.) The magazine is printed in eleven languages. There are informative stories about Lions Club activities, upcoming conventions/forums and stories of interest. Any Lions or Leo Club can submit articles, but it could take more than six months for publication. Contact the editor listed in the front of the magazine to determine how to submit an article. Now available on LCI website.

33Y Lions Orthoptic Clinic of Western Massachusetts or LOC

The Lions Orthoptic Clinic was founded by Lion Russell A. Koch of the Springfield 16 Acres Lions and was approved April 13th, 1951 by the State of Massachusetts. The clinic served patients from Districts Y & A in Mass., Vermont, NH, NY and Connecticut. Orthoptic treatment is for persons who have muscle imbalance issues such as: lazy eye, crossed eyes, double vision, amblyopia, strabismus, etc, and patients may be treated with temporary prisms for their glasses or intensive eye muscle therapies. The clinic was closed in December 2008, with the approval of the Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices. All medical records were destroyed on 1/1/2021. PCC Jean M. Wilder has all remaining financial records.

Long Range Planning

Each DG appoints a five-year representative to this MD33 Committee. The first year rep is the Secretary, the fourth year is the Vice Chairperson, and the fifth year becomes the Chairperson. The second & third year representatives do various other duties. The Committee has the responsibility of evaluating new proposals for MD33, can be from any Lion and is prioritized by the State Council. The Committee has interpreted the spirit of the CBLs into a Policy Manual designed to help guide the clubs, the Districts and the State Council. The Manual is available MD33 website at <http://lions-md33.org/downloads.html>

Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc. (MLER or MLERF or MLERFI)

In 1950 DG E. Daniel Johnson 33N and DG Harry Hartford 33K had sons born prematurely and were blind. In 1950/51 they asked Lions to assist in raising funds to combat retinopathy of prematurity/baby blindness, and our initial grant was \$5,000. In 1953 we became the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc, a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt corporation owned by the Lions of Massachusetts. For \$1,000 above the previous year's donations a club can purchase a **Sight Award** to present to deserving persons. Club donations, personal donations, memorial donations and bequests are welcome. Make checks payable to MLERF, Inc. and send to the District Chairperson. See our website at: <https://www.mlerfi.com/>

The Lions and Leos of MD33 hold projects to aid the sightless and prevent blindness through MLERF.

Journey for Sight is a program to induce clubs to hold fundraisers on a specific weekend each spring, with all proceeds to go to MLERF. Every penny donated is used for eye research through grant requests for research for diabetes, macular degeneration and glaucoma, etc. Since 1953 almost \$27,000,000 has been raised. Grants have averaged more than \$700,000 yearly, and some beneficiaries are Boston Univ. Medical Ctr, Joslin Diabetes Center, the Schepens Eye Research Center, Mass. Eye & Ear Hosp., NE Medical Center at Tufts Univ., Boston Children's Hosp. & the NE College of Optometry.

MLER Board members are appointed by the DG's for four year terms. Any Lion in good standing can be appointed for no more than two terms, or eight years, unless they are elected to the Executive Board, when they may serve until their commitment to the Executive Board is fulfilled.

Mission Statement from LCI

To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

Officer Duties

Board of Directors (BOD) consists of the elected board members and all officers of the club. The Board authorizes expenditures, executes the policies of the club, reviews the financial records, approves the bank to use, appoints delegates, approves the budget and oversees the running of the club.

Lion Tamer is responsible for the club's property and paraphernalia: banner, gavel, gong, etc. They set up before the meeting, and store equipment after the meeting. They assist in distribution of materials and act as a sergeant-at-arms. If the property is "lost" the Lion Tamer must determine which club has found the item and to arrange a visit to that club to reclaim their "lost" articles.

Membership Committee is made up of three members serving staggered terms. They are responsible for developing a membership growth program, encouraging members to bring in new quality members, ensure proper recruitment methods, installation and orientation events.

President (Pres.) is the CEO of the club, sets the agenda and conducts each meeting, is an ex-official member of all committees, and represents the club at District Advisory and Cabinet meetings, and District, State and International Conventions and Forums.

Secretary (Sec.) serves on the BOD, is the primary contact for club, the district, MD33, and LCI, correspondence, records minutes of meetings, records dues, and the payment of District, MD33 and LCI dues. They submit monthly membership reports to the DG and LCI by the 1st of the month, an Annual Report to the DG and LCI by June 30th and a monthly activity reports to the DG, 1st VDG, 2nd VDG, CST, RC and ZC by the 1st of the month. They are responsible for tracking attendance, record keeping and ordering awards earned by members.

Tail Twister(s) are responsible for promoting harmony, good fellowship and enthusiasm at club meetings by appropriate stunts, games and a judicious imposition of fines on members. The primary task of the Tail Twister is to extract humor and laughter with jokes, puns, witticisms, mimicry, acting, singing or by whatever means to make the meetings fun, as long as it's in good taste.

Treasurer (Treas.) serves on the BOD, is the financial officer of the club, Chairperson of the finance committee, in charge of all incoming funds and paying of bills and dues as approved by the BOD, maintaining good financial records, monthly reports to club and obtaining the annual audit/review as directed by the BOD.

Vice Presidents (VP) serve on the BOD and handle such duties as assigned by the President. Often there is more than one VP, and in the absence of the President, the highest-ranking VP conducts the meeting. It is the VP's responsibility to oversee the committees, encourage performance of the tasks they were assigned and to assist in assuring that the club runs smoothly.

Other Organizations we support

The BOD of each club decides how much and to whom they will donate. Some organizations are local to the clubs, district, state or globally. Please go to: <http://www.lions-33y.org/LionsLinks.html> and go to the bottom of the page for the listing (or to the 33Y website and go to benefactors if this link doesn't work.) Here are some organizations Lions support.

The Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc.
Berkshire Talking Chronicles
Clarke School for the Deaf/Ctr for Oral Ed.
Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc.
NEADS (National Education for Assistance Dogs Svcs)

Perkins School for the Blind
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
Talking Information Center (TIC)
Willie Ross School for the Deaf

Pin Committee (International and State)

The committee consists of a representative appointed by each DG in MD33. They design a state and an international convention pin to represent Massachusetts. The designs are presented to the Council of Governors for approval. Pin Traders/Lions trade or use the pins as tokens of friendship. Monies raised from pin sales fund the Massachusetts reception at the International Convention.

Peace Poster Contest

The Peace Poster Contest began in 1988 to offer students an opportunity to express their feelings about peace through visual means. Over 1.8 million students have participated from over 57 countries. Each year a topic is picked and clubs order the Kit from LCI or the District Chairperson. The kits are provided to their local schools to use. Students ages 11-13 are eligible to participate, however the contest must be sponsored by a Lions club in a school or with an organized youth group, such as Scouts, YMCA, etc. The deadlines for the competition will be available from the District Governor or on LCI's website. There is a grand prize winner and 23 runners-up. In 2003 and 2005 students from 33A were runners-ups.

Quest Program

The Quest program is under the Lions Youth Outreach program and is a drug abuse, violence prevention and life-skills program. It is designed to help young people acquire the skills and self-confidence necessary to make healthy, positive personal decisions and to resist negative influences such as drugs and gangs. This program includes Skills for Growing for children in grades K– 5, Skills for Adolescence for children ages 10-24, and Skills for Action for students ages 14-19. To learn about the Lions Quest program, contact the Youth Programs Department at LCI at 630-571-5466.

Region Chairperson (RC)

The Region Chairperson is appointed by the DG, and is an optional position. They are responsible for overseeing the Zone Chairpersons, and are the liaison between the clubs, the ZC and DG. The Region Chairpersons perform such other duties as assigned by the DG, and visit clubs.

Reports

Each Lions club secretary is required to submit periodic reports to the DG, VDGs, RC, ZC and LCI. The **PU101 New Officer reporting form** must be submitted by April 1st annually, and includes the officers, the date, time and place the club meets. The DG and LCI use it for the District and International directories. The **Annual Report** must be submitted by June 30th. It lists all the fundraisers, community service projects, etc. that have been done by each club for the past year. This report is used by LCI to record service by clubs worldwide toward overall report of what Lions do. The monthly **Membership report** must be submitted by the 1st of the month to record new, dropped, deceased or transferred members. LCI uses these reports to determine the viability of the club, the district and at the International level. The monthly **Activity report** was created by the DG's of MD33 to inform district officers of fundraisers, community service projects, and meetings. It tallies membership, who attends district and state meetings, dues payments, and upcoming events. The information is used for club assistance, the district newsletter and to determine points for the annual Best Club Competitions.

Retention As of July 1, 2011 this committee is part of GMT

Spouse Responsibility guidelines (ID, PID, DG, Council Officer) (*Per Lions International*)

- Further the purposes and Objects of Lions Club International;
- Actively promote the community service objectives of LCI, including major service initiatives;
- Meet with heads of government at all levels to further international understanding;
- Conduct sessions, deliver speeches during official engagements on subjects of interest (Ex: "what it means to be a spouse of an officer, "care of the elderly and young people," etc.);
- Provide support to their spouses in carrying out the constitutionally mandated responsibilities;
- Maintain membership in a duly chartered Lions club, if feasible, and donate personal time, thereby sacrificing other activities, including personal interests, employment, or business activities.

Remember: (from Lion Claire Kostro, spouse of PID Chuck Kostro-33N): You are not a co-international director (or co-officer). You were not elected to these responsibilities. Keep your opinions discrete and private. You are a "support system", which includes sounding board, you may suggest ideas, gentle critic, mood lifter, and total ally. Always be prepared to speak, or make a presentation at a "moment's notice". Smile until your face cracks! Keep any slights, offenses to yourself-share when the officer does not have a million other things to think about and do. This worked for me, more or Less!

State Convention

MD33 hosts an annual convention in April or May. Events include banquets, sales tables, two Business meetings, the All State Band Concert on Friday and Saturday, a Necrology Service on Sunday, 5 District business meetings at which the two VDGs, DG, Council Sec. and candidates for International Offices are elected, as well as constitutional matters and any state business for the Association is handled. Individual state and International awards are presented at Saturday's banquet, the Best Club awards are presented at the luncheon on Sunday, and the current and incoming Council of Governors meet on Sunday.

Toasts (*to be done with water or holding hands*)for MD33 only

Lions: Not Above you, Not Beneath You, But with You!

USA/Canada Forum

An annual event held in the USA or Canada in September. It is two and a half days of educational seminars (Ex: Conflict Resolution, How to Run a Meaningful Meeting, Time Management, Fund Raising Ideas and many professional motivational speakers). The purpose of the forum is to:

- Promoting the principles and objectives of Lions Clubs International
- Training, educating and motivating district and club officers
- Providing for exchange of information and discussion of service activities, including opportunities for cooperative service projects
- Advancing the interests of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

Vice District Governor (VDG1 and VDG2 or 1st VDG and 2nd VDG, as of 7/1/08)

These positions promote an orderly transition to DG, and for someone to serve as DG in the event of a vacancy until the International BOD can appoint a DG. The VDGs are charged with getting to know the clubs by visiting them, assisting at their fundraising or community service projects, and assisting GLT and GMT. A VDG must be an Active Lion in Good Standing, must have served twice on the BOD, been President of a Club, ZC or RC or District Cabinet Secretary Treasurer, and is endorsed by their Club. A VDG is elected by a majority of the delegates present and voted into office at the District meeting at the State Convention. To serve as VDG1 the candidate will have to have served as the VDG2.

MD33 Youth Speech Competition

The MD33 Youth Speech Competition provides an opportunity for students to speak publicly and freely on a designated topic, chosen by the MD33 Speech Committee. The competition is performed at the school, club, zone, region, district and finally at the Annual State Convention in the spring. The competition is open to all students, including foreign exchange and home-schooled students in grades 10 - 12, provided a Massachusetts Lions or Leo Club sponsors them. The sponsoring Club, at its discretion and at the club level only, may impose eligibility requirements such as residency or school location. A student may participate in only one club competition in a school year. Each Club may sponsor one student beyond the club level competition.

The committee works with advisors, assist at school competitions, runs/assists with all competitions, and help prepare the students. Each DG appoints a member to the State Committee on a 5 year term with duties specific for the year of term to ensure the successful completion of the State Competition, serving as State Chairperson in their fifth year. The State Chairperson runs the state competition, keeps the Council of Governors updated, running all state committee meetings, etc. There are prizes and/or awards for each contestant at every level. The prizes at the State Competition are: Winner-\$1,500, each runner up-\$500. Prizes at other levels of competition are at the discretion of the Clubs and District Speech Committee. Check out the MD33 Youth Speech Website at <http://www.lionsyouthspeech.org/>

Website

All 5 districts in Massachusetts and MD33 have websites for Lions, Leos and the public, which include district officers/projects, a calendar of clu/district events, committee members and other aspects of Lionism. Some clubs have web pages, and your club may be contacted with new members thru this media.

You can email comments, questions, calendar events or concerns to our Webmaster, the DG or the VDGs directly from the 33Y website. In 33Y we maintain a District email listing which allows us to contact about 25% of our membership with information about upcoming meetings, specific personal or community needs as the result of a disaster, bereavement & sick notices, what is going on in Lionism, etc. Contact the District webmaster @ Webmaster33Y@lions-33y.org to be added.

District 33Y Website: <http://www.lions-33y.org>

MD33 Website: <http://www.lions-md33.org>

Lions Clubs International Website: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.shtml>

Youth Exchange

Since 1961 Lions have sponsored the Lions Youth Exchange Program which provides students age 15-21 with a unique opportunity to experience another culture by living with a family in one of 68 countries in the world. Contact the District Chairperson or the Youth Programs Dept at LCI for more info. Refer to the MD33 Youth Exchange website for additional information: <http://md33lionscamp.org/>

Zone Chairperson (ZC)

Zone Chairpersons are appointed by the DG, they visit their clubs 3 times a year to applaud successes, help resolve problems or refer them to District officers to help solve problems. A ZC is a liaison between the DG and the clubs, and many assist at projects and fundraisers. They know the DG's goals for the year, goals of the District or State Committees, upcoming district and state events and International projects of LCI.

Closing

More information regarding our history, motto, slogan, Lions emblem and colors meanings can be obtained from district officers, on the websites and in publications from LCI. If you would like assistance setting up an orientation for your club, or need help with membership, we are here to assist you

HUGS!!!!

Jean M. Wilder, PCC

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