



N-1 Paw Prints



District N-1 Newsletter

Vol. 12 No. 2

December , 2018

District Governor Jim Aucoin Passes Away

It is with a heavy heart that I must advise District N 1 and all Lions that our District Governor, Lion Jim Aucoin, passed away this afternoon after a short but hard fought battle with Cancer. Please keep DG Jim's wife Linda and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

At DG Jim's request there will be no visiting at the funeral home or funeral. There will be a celebration of Jim's life.

CS Susan

The news came in the brief message from the Cabinet Secretary, Lion Susan Sangster, the news that many of his District N-1 colleagues had been fearing, but knowing would be almost inevitable.

Many of DG Jim Aucoin's family members, colleagues and friends have witnessed his battle with this indiscriminate disease, wishing there was more that could be done, wishing that they could extend his time, but knowing that each day was becoming a greater and greater struggle.

Many are saddened that DG Jim's time....the time that he has worked so hard to achieve....as District Governor of our great District N-1, has been taken from him.

Lion Jim joined the Red Lake District Lions Club in Ontario's Multiple District 5M10 in 1984.

When he finished his 36 year teaching career in 2003, he and his wife Linda returned to Fredericton in 2004. He transferred to the Nashwaaksis Lions Club when he arrived. Lion Jim has held every office in Lions and he was honored to serve his Home Club for 5 terms as President.

He has held various positions at the District N-1 and Multiple District N levels, including Constitution & By-Laws Committee, Peace Poster Contest and NB Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes chair.

Lion Jim has received recognition for his 34 years of service in Lions including:

- Melvin Jones Fellow in 2004
- District N-1 Outstanding Club President in 2011
- Multiple District N Best President in 2011
- District N-1 Lion of the Year in 2012
- Judge Brian Stevenson Fellowship in 2013 and



- District Governor N-1 Appreciation Award in 2014.

Prior to his election as Vice-District Governor 2, the first step on the ladder to the District Governorship, he had attended one International Convention in Toronto and one Multiple District N Convention in Fredericton. He had, since election, attended every District meeting, the Canada/USA Forums and International Conventions, as part of his training regime. He regularly attended District N-1 Cabinet / Fall Rally meetings and Annual Conventions. Lion Jim received Certificates of Appreciation from the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, Canadian Diabetes Association, Canadian Blood Services and the Nashwaaksis Lions Club.

Although Lions Club was his greatest passion, DG Jim had also been a facilitator for the Ontario Teachers' Federation, a volleyball official in his 51st year, a Knight of Columbus and a community activist. Lion Jim was married to Linda for 38 years and they have three children.

Rest in Peace, Lion Jim.



A Celebration of Life

More than a hundred and seventy-five Lions, friends and family members gathered at the Nashwaaksis Lions Den on a sunny afternoon Tuesday, December 11, to bid Farewell to District Governor H. James "Jim" Aucoin. District N-1 Vice District Governor Lloyd Soucie, of the Ft. Kent ME Lions Club, joined Nashwaaksis Lions Club King Lion Art McFadden in leading a Memorial Service, a Celebration of Life. The leaders were joined by a selection of Lions and family members in conducting the ceremony, including Multiple District N Council Chair Lion Paul Cousins, PID Rod Wright, CS/PCC Lion Susan Sangster, CT/PCC Lion Bev Semple, and several members of Nashwaaksis Lions Club, DG Jim's "home club". Family members, son David, and daughters Diane and Katie, also took a role in the service.

The Celebration of Life followed LCI protocol's in some ways, while injecting a casual and personal flavour that matched DG Jim's style.

Three candles were lit during the service, symbolic of Lions' objective of "pushing back the darkness". Club-mate Lion John Murray shared details of DG Jim's Lions Life, closing his remarks with reference to the Lions' Toast, his promise to DG Jim to be "Never **Above** You, Never **Beneath** You, Always **With** You!"....which produced a noticeable catch in Lion John's voice.

Over twenty members of DG Jim's Home Club, Nashwaaksis, answered the call to "chime the gong". PID Rod Wright chimed the gong on behalf of Lions Clubs International. CC Lion Paul Cousins chimed the gong on behalf of Multiple District N. VDG Lloyd Soucie rang the bell for District N-1. And then more than forty Lions chimed the gong, each on behalf of their own club, with clubs representing PEI and ME clubs, as well as many from around NB. VDG Lloyd shared messages of condolence from fellow District Governors unable to attend, and advised that the Canadian District Governors would collectively be placing a Memorial Tree in DG Jim's memory in the Lions' Memorial Forest.

The ceremony moved towards its conclusion with the leader "opening the podium" for Lions or others to share memories and anecdotes of times spent with DG Jim. Tales were shared -- and new facts and habits revealed -- as several Lions and a representative of the NDP party shared remembrances and recognition of DG Jim's passion and dedication to any cause that he adopted.

The afternoon ended with a reception, hosted by Nashwaaksis Lions Club, providing an opportunity for everyone to chat and share further comments, and perhaps for many to resolve to rededicate themselves, to match the commitment demonstrated by our departed colleague.



Rest in Peace, DG Jim.....we've got it from here !!

1st VDG Lloyd Soucie

As we enter the season of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, EID or whatever our respective religions celebrate, it is a time to reflect and offer our thanks for all that we have, family and friends being at the top of the list. We must also cherish our health for it is often said: "Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is a Mystery, And Today, Today is a Gift, that's why we call it the Present." (Babatunde Olatunji) This takes a little more meaning this year as our prayers are offered for our departed District Governor Jim. DG Jim was totally devoted to N1's mission. We, as a District, must see to it that his goals and objectives for us are met.

After my first Portage Christmas visit, I came back more than impressed as to the challenges each of the young men and women face. I met with each with a Merry Christmas, a handshake and offered them best wishes and good luck as they face their battles head on. All expressed their appreciation and gratitude for all that the Lions of N-1 do for them.

We will move on with DG Jim's agenda, which includes his goals and objectives to grow and strengthen District N-1 Lions Clubs throughout New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and our 3 border clubs in Maine. With the help and mentoring of many of our Past District Governors, I am becoming better versed in the handling and day to day operations. CS Susan Sangster had also gone above and beyond the call of duty acting as a liaison between myself and DG Jim and along with Lions Clubs International.

As I stated at the Sussex Cabinet meeting, I am asking for your patience as we enter these uncharted waters in expansive N-1. With the help of many, all clubs WILL be visited throughout the year and be given DG Jim's message. Please help us by filing your service reports to give us a better understanding of goings on in District N-1. As I get this On The Job Training, I ask also for your help as I fill my Cabinet for next year. If you know of any energetic Lion willing to take on and tackle any Committee Chair, please forward their name for me to contact. I also ask that you complete the Survey that CS Susan has circulated to the Clubs; I seek your input on key things, including site of 2020 N-1 Convention, Saturday vs. Sunday Cabinet meetings and a couple of other issues. As our clubs become more experienced (aged), please consider asking friends and relatives, young and more experienced, to possibly join us in our Venture to Serve People.

I end by wishing one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2019.

As a prelude to my theme for next year:

See Something,

Say Something,

Do Something,

Be the difference in someone's life!

Respectfully,

Lloyd Soucie, 1st Vice District Governor, District N-1

To the members of the Nashwaaksis Lions Club, President Art McFadden, to Past International Director Rod Wright, Council Chair Paul Cousins, and everyone who took part in and attended the program Celebrating the Life and Service of District Governor Jim Aucoin...on behalf of the District N 1, Linda and the family of District Governor Jim Aucoin, we want to express a deep heartfelt gratitude for all the support given to both DG Jim and his wife Linda over the past few months and days. It has made the very difficult easier.

To Lions Clubs International, all the Lions Clubs and individual members who have sent kind words of condolences and support, thank you. They are comforting. To everyone who has helped us honour District Governor Jim's wishes as closely as we could, thank you. DG Jim was so good at giving credit and praise, it's our turn to say "Thank you for your service. Your work is done! Rest in Peace. "

Again from the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!

First Vice District Governor Lloyd Soucie and Cabinet Secretary Susan





Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year to all.

Thank you for your service to the less fortunate and to those who need assistance. Enjoy family, friends and above all, be safe and happy!

CS Susan and PDG Boyd



Here's wishing one and all Lions, Lionesses, and Leos

A very Merry Christmas

And a Happy and Healthy New Year!

VDG Lloyd & Lee

From the Desk of VDG-2 Paul Gauthier.....



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Lions of District N-1 and their families.

Thank you, for all the work you have done and will do in your communities.

District Activities

District Activities

Information Update

With the guidance of Lions International, District N-1 is beginning the process of following the steps necessary to name an Interim District Governor to complete District Governor Jim's term of office. Updates will be provided as soon as available.

District N 1 GLT Report

MD N Fall Conference

This GLT report is a brief overview of activity and plans to date.

As coordinator, I have applied for and received approval to receive the funds available, \$200 US, for the training of Zone Chairs in the spring of 2019. Training will take place at a site(s) to be determined after the April Convention of 2019 in Fredericton.

- At our first meeting, GST chair Lion John Bettel provided us with N1's vision for service activities.
- At our November Cabinet meeting in Sussex, I am planning to have a presentation put on by the GMT team. This is a work in progress.
- We will hopefully have a presenter on Diabetes at the Harvey Station meeting in February 2019.

I would like to see some presentation at the Convention on the shift of reporting from MyLCI – administrative reporting to MyLion – Service Reporting.

For local officer training, we will seek teams to present Presidency, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership training at 3 sites as in the past 2 years, one on PEI, one in each of Eastern and Western New Brunswick. Zone Chair training will be done as well with location (s) and dates to be determined. These will all be scheduled and announced at our 3rd Cabinet meeting, prior to Convention. There will be some training available at the Annual Convention as well

Individuals who have helped in the past or feel capable of helping, please contact any member of the GLT:

Lion Lloyd Soucie – GLT Coordinator

Lion CS Susan Sangster

Lion PDG Larry Barton

Lion PDG Doug Small

Lion PID Rod Wright

I am looking forward into providing the training needed and requested by the clubs and District.

If any Club or Zone feels a need for specific training in an area, please let any team member know and we will do our best to accommodate.

I want to thank PDG Doug Small and PDG Larry Barton for presenting an Orientation session at the MDN Fall Conference on November 3rd.

November Cabinet Meeting -- Sussex



During the Cabinet Meeting in Sussex, in November, VDG-1 Lion Lloyd Soucie serves as Chair. In the lower photo, PID Rod Wright shares information with those attending the meeting.

Charter Chatter

Harvey Lions Club recently marked their 50th Anniversary Charter.



PID Rod Wright presents Lion Larry Hanselpecker with his life membership to Lions Clubs International.



PID Rod Wright presents Lion Denzil Bernard with an International President's Award. This is the 4th highest award a Lion can receive from Lions Clubs International.



Lion Richard Phillips also receives an International President's Award from PID Rod Wright

Service Shorts...

Quispamsis Lions Club



The Quispamsis Lions Club recently donated a AED defibrillator to the Quispamsis Middle School. Pictured are students from the school with several Lions members during the presentation.

A "Christmas Parade" Time of Year

Quispamsis



Quispamsis Lions were awarded the "Spirit Award" for their first-time entry to the Kennebecasis Valley Christmas Parade.

Simonds Lions Club



Meanwhile, Simonds Lions Club took part in the Saint John Santa Claus Parade.

Participation in local events such as these is a great way to promote awareness of Lions Clubs....and just plain have FUN !

Upper Miramichi Lions Club



On December 1st, the Upper Miramichi Lions Club, in Boiestown N.B., held our 23rd Annual Seniors Turkey Dinner. We served 130 + Seniors at the club, and prepared 50 take outs which were picked up or delivered to people who were not able to get to the Lions Club.

The seniors in the area love this yearly event. They have a great time chatting with friends whom they haven't seen for awhile!!

St. Eleanor's Lions Club



See caption, next page

St. Eleanor's Lions sell Christmas trees to support their Christmas Hamper Project. An annual average of 50 hampers are distributed.

Summerside Lions Club



The Summerside Lions hosted a Christmas dinner on Nov 24th, for seniors and the blind in Summerside. Centre: The Lions getting ready to serve dinner. Lions Greg Deighan, Don Reid, Keith Small, Edwin Gallant and Andrew Gallant. Some of the 70 seniors and blind who got to enjoy Christmas dinner, and Lion Roger Richard with some of the gifts that were handed out in top photo.

Fort Kent Lions Club



The Fort Kent Lions Club continued its years old tradition of putting up lights at the Town's Monument Square tree. On Saturday, Nov. 24th, the tree lighting took place with Santa arriving in the Fire Truck to deliver gifts to the 175+ children that had congregated to see Santa. This is co-sponsored with the Fort Kent Chamber of Commerce. Lion Chad Pelletier had a great time as Santa.



New Maryland Lions Club



The New Maryland Lions Club kicked off its 23rd annual Food and Toy Drive with Breakfast with Santa – and Mrs. Claus – at the local pub. The project includes a “different” type of Santa Claus Parade, as Lions assisted by the local volunteer fire-fighters, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, High School youth group and many others complete three evenings of winding through Village streets, gathering non-perishable food and toy donations.

The project concluded with 220 food baskets, including turkey and vegetables for Christmas dinner, being distributed. Donations are also provided to local shelters and surplus donations are shared with two local food banks and the community kitchen.

All told, hundreds of volunteers commit close to a thousand hours during the week-long activities.



More....

Service Shorts...

Summerside Lions Club....



Lions Allan Landry, Greg Deighan, Keith Small, Edwin Gallant, Andrew Gallant and Arlene Woodworth.

Students from Three Oaks high school who helped out (centre) and some of the over 500 hundred who enjoyed a roast pork dinner put on by the Summerside Lions. on October 27th

Summerside (cont'd)



King Lion Edwin Gallant being presented with an award from Canadian National Institute for the Blind in recognition for service to the CNIB the award was presented by Kathleen May from CNIB.

New Maryland Lions Club



New Maryland Lions were joined by volunteer members of the NM Fire Dept, along with several members of the Fredericton High School "We Club", including school mascot "Black Kat". A Community Breakfast raised over \$2500 to assist the school's FreshStart meal program. Many of the students later joined the Lions once more to help with the Food & Toy Drive collection.



Summerside Recognitions



Summerside King Lion Edwin Gallant being presented with his fifteen year service pin. Presenting the pin is District Representative Lion Bev Semple and Zone chair Lion Cleve Rix.



Summerside Lion Arnold Van Vliet presented with his twenty year service pin, by Lion Bev Semple District Representative and Zone Chair Lion Cleve Rix.



**Lions Quest
Canada**

The Centre for Positive Youth Development

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

It is the time of year when many of us are celebrating traditions with family and friends. We feel connected to others and we demonstrate our caring for our community.



Let's check in to see how Lions Quest Canada is doing so far this year:

Fundraising

To date we have raised just over \$36,000 toward our goal of \$150,000. We know that the postal disruption has had an impact, and we are confident we will see a bigger increase in December and January through our promotional contest. As a reminder - you can use activity funds for the contest as it is a donation. Also, if the winner is unable to attend the convention, we can honour the flight to Milan (or similar destination) at another time - so don't let that be a barrier.

Our special offer for 5 Q-bear Fan Club memberships when you purchase a Lions Quest Fellowship wraps up on December 31. If you'd like to present a Fellowship this year - this is a great time to order it so that you can also honour 5 other people in your club or community.

Activity

We held two Building Community Capacity Train the Trainer sessions this month - one in Eastern Passage, NS that also included an orientation to our school-based programs, and one in Fort McMurray, AB supported by Lions of Alberta Foundation as part of their response to the 2016 fire and a contribution to the social rebuild that was needed. In addition, we facilitated a one-day training using the Skills Bank

resource for students at Cathedral Secondary School in Hamilton through a partnership with Hamilton Public Health. Finally, Joanne was one of the presenters at a workshop offered by the RCMP for Youth Officers with police services from across Northwestern Ontario. The RCMP strongly believe that this work is an effective approach to preventing the criminalization of youth and keeps them away from participating in criminal activity.

A great gift idea - Q-Bear Fan Club

Many individuals have asked how they can support our work - so here is a great gift that you could give this holiday season. A membership in the Q-Bear Fan Club is just \$100. The recipient will receive this beautiful artwork by a Lions Quest student, a lapel pin, and charitable tax receipt. The proceeds help us expand our positive youth development work across Canada.

All the best for the holiday season!

On behalf of the Board and Staff of Lions Quest Canada, we wish you a very merry Christmas and all the best for the holiday traditions that you celebrate at this time of year. Together we all wish for a prosperous new year for the important work of Lions, Lioness and Leos across Canada, and especially our work that impacts children and youth.



Portage Atlantic Christmas Celebration

Bright sunny weather, although cold, was all it took to encourage a great turn-out of Lions on Sunday December 9, to help the residents of Portage Atlantic celebrate their Christmas. The sunny, blue skies provided an inspiring view over the frozen expanse of Cassidy Lake, an ideal back-drop for the day's event. As Lions arrived, representing clubs from throughout District N-1, Nashwaaksis Lions Club's "Huggy" mascot, encouraging "Try Hugs, Not Drugs", circulated among arrivals (with PDG Larry Barton animating him), greeting guests and residents alike. Many "photo opps" were provided.

As the room filled with more and more Lions – more than sixty members attended - and a growing circle of gifts was placed beneath the Christmas tree, the residents buzzed with the excitement of being the centre of attention...in a good way!

VDG-1 Lloyd Soucie, making his initial visit to this wonderful facility, opened the proceedings by bringing greetings and Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas to all the residents, from the Lions of District N-1. This was followed by the members of the Portage Leo Club, the female residents, sharing their rendition of "Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer". This was followed by two of the male residents who harmonized beautifully in providing their rap song which, if you listened closely, provided a brief look into some of the challenges of their "former" world. Both performances were met with hearty applause from the Lions, and boisterous encouragement and appreciation from their fellow residents.

The arrival of Santa Claus (PCC Brennan Beaumont) and Mrs. Claus (Lion Cindi Beaumont) ramped up the excitement level quickly, and as the couple chuckled and greeted their way through the gathering to the Christmas tree and Santa's armchair at the front of the room, the residents could hardly contain themselves.

Santa settled into his armchair, and as Mrs. Claus passed him the gifts and called each name, a resident would bound towards the North Pole couple....some excitedly, some, almost shy. A few quickly jumped onto Santa's lap, and the guests could see a few whispered last-minute wishes; others were more shy and stood nervously with Mrs. Claus....but each of the thirty-two current residents received their gifts gratefully and returned to their seat.

Once all the gifts had been distributed, the emcee offered an opportunity for residents or any of the guests to provide a few comments. Several residents

stepped to the front and expressed their gratitude to the Lions for the support, occasionally providing a glimpse into the sadness (helplessness?) of their lives prior to entering Portage. A few reveal that this is the first Christmas that they can remember. One of the newer staff members spoke briefly about the emotion of the Christmas "gift" that Lions provide. Portage Board Chair, Dr. Russ King, spoke briefly, expressing the importance of the support of the Lions, and to the value of that support and participation, to the Board, to the staff, and most importantly to the residents. The afternoon closed with social time, and too many sweets, prepared by the Portage staff. Lions had an opportunity to meet and chat with the residents and staff, as well as with other Lions.

The dedication and caring of the staff for their charges is evidenced in the fact that at least two of the staff came to share in the celebrations, even though this was one of their days off. The beaming greeting they received from the residents shows that they recognize the care that they have.

A heart-felt **Thank You** to Lion Lorraine Pollack, who also serves as Lion mentor to the Leo Club, for organizing this event.

The opportunity to visit Portage, and to share some time with the staff and especially with the residents, is usually ALL that it takes to re-energize ourselves, and to see that what we do DOES make a difference !

Merry Christmas !!





District Governor H. James "Jim" Aucoin

Memory Gallery

Rest in Peace, DG Jim ...Your Work is Done !!