

## **DISTRICT N-1 BEST CLUB AWARD SUBMISSION FROM THE RIVERVIEW LIONS CLUB**

We are submitting for your consideration, this request for the Best Club Award in District N-1, for the Lionistic year of 2015 - 2016. Our club has demonstrated the highest standards of Lionism, based on the following criteria:

**1. President Scott Campagna** attended the following **Cabinet Meetings** that were scheduled: Organizational Meeting in Hampton on August 16<sup>th</sup>; Rexton Club on September 13<sup>th</sup> and Winsloe Club on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Secretary Lion Kathy Belliveau was present for all of these meetings plus the one at the Moncton Club on February 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the following members from our club who serve as District Chairpersons were present for all of these meetings: First Vice-District Governor Lion Brennan Beaumont – GMT Liaison and Guiding Lion for the Shediac and the Moncton Clubs; PSCT Gerry Forsythe – Global Membership Team Co-Coordinator (2 of 3), Zone 5 Chairperson Alert Program Chair; Lion Cindi Beaumont – Canadian Diabetes Awareness NB Chair Liaison and Information & Technology District Facebook. In regards to **Zone Meetings** within our zone, two meetings were held by Zone 5 Chair Gerry Forsythe. President Scott, Secretary Lion Kathy and First VDG Brennan were present at our club on August 27<sup>th</sup> for that meeting. The other Zone Meeting was held at the Magnetic Hill Club on February 7<sup>th</sup>, attended by President Scott and Secretary Kathy.

### **2. District and International Deadlines met as follows:**

- (a) A membership list and a list of our Board of Directors were submitted to DG Doug with a copy to CST Don on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015.
- (b) International semi-annual dues were submitted for payment on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- (c) District semi-annual dues were submitted for payment on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
- (d) All Monthly Activity reports including a section concerning our Membership numbers and status were completed and submitted consistently on the last day of the reporting month.

**3. Increase in membership:** We welcomed six new members in our club to date. Unfortunately, one member passed away and one moved. We began the year with 68 members and as of this date, we have a total of 73. .

### **4. One Fundraising project held each month include the following:**

July to June – we hold Bingos two nights each week; we hold approximately 10 Pancake Breakfasts throughout the year for groups who are fundraising such as the MS Society, various schools in the town or their sports groups, Girl Guides and the Alzheimers Society, to name a few. We also provide catering and bar services to groups with December being the busiest month for our club, having served five groups in two weeks in addition to our Annual Seniors Christmas Dinner in that month alone.

July – We have a large tent on Canada Day located in the midst of other activities organized by town personnel. which we sell BBQ products along with various soft drinks and water to residents of the town during the Town’s Canada Day celebrations from 12 – 6, which generated 122 Lion hours.

October – Pancake Breakfast in conjunction with the Fire Chief was held at the Fire Hall in recognition of National Fire Safety Week and another Pancake Breakfast for the Town's Harvest Festival. Funds raised at the fire hall were donated to LFOC.

June – We provide a BBQ and have members on hand to cook hot dogs and hamburgers for two groups, both on separate occasions, Cystic Fibrosis and the local Ford Car Show event.

Some of the activities included under the next section, could also be included as fund raising projects.

**5. Service projects we held throughout the year, include the following:**

July – Atlantic National Car Show – 45 members, 5 Associate Volunteers and 5 non-Lions worked this event, monitored the exits and entrances to the park as well as traffic control to participants and pedestrians at the main gates in addition to collecting entry fees from the public at the various entrance gates throughout the park. We contributed 805 Lion hours during these two days. We also held a pancake breakfast for participants of the car show on the Thursday morning prior to the weekend (the Town of Riverview sponsors this event), contributing 102 Lion hours. On the Thursday evening, we provide a BBQ for the participants sponsored by the Car Show Organizing Committee, contributing 87 Lion hours. As a reward for our efforts throughout this four-day event, the Atlantic National Car Show expressed their appreciation by making a donation to our club. We, in turn, donated to the local Lion's Sick Children's Fund, a cheque in the amount of \$5,625.15.

September – Our club cooks and serves cobs of corn for residents of the Town's annual Labor Day Corn Boil at the park or arena, generating 106 Lion hours. 100 dozen cobs of corn were husked by members with all of them being served.

October – Lion Lisa MacKenzie organized another successful Chinese Auction, generating 740 Lion hours and raised funds of \$7,113.00 that were donated to our local P.R.O. Kids Organization.

November – We prepared ham dinners served to 250 Veterans and their families on Remembrance Day and cleaned the hall after this event. This event was coordinated with the Fire Chief, generating 255 Lion hours. We involved the Boy Scouts who assisted with the clearing of the tables and the cleaning of the dishes.

December – We give up one of our regular meeting nights to hold our annual Seniors Christmas Dinner this year being our 48<sup>th</sup> year having done this, serving a roast beef dinner to 250 guests, generating 225 Lion hours. There is no charge to guests but for those who are willing, donations to the local food bank are welcome. The guests contributed \$1,796.20 plus our annual budgeted donation of \$2,500.00. Totaling \$4,296.20 was donated to the Albert County Christmas Aid Program. It was noted by the Food Bank representative on hand for the evening, that our club is the largest supporter of the Albert Count Food Bank.

Fifteen members, one Associate Volunteers and two non-Lion delivered Christmas food boxes to less fortunate families in the town on December 19th to support this cause organized by the Albert County Food Bank, generating 52 Lion hours.

February – We sponsor two sleigh rides during the Town's Winter Carnival for two days attended this year by 300 town residents so that residents can take advantage of this

family time with no cost to them. We also have the only Canteen on site from which residents can purchase hamburgers or hot dogs, hot drinks and sodas at reasonable prices. Our club at the request of the Town caters to their Annual Mayor's Luncheon held during the Winter Carnival. We served a ham dinner to 340 guests which were served by the Mayor and Town Councillors. We included the local Scout & Ventures Groups to assist with clearing the tables and the cleaning of the dishes. Eighteen members, one Associate Volunteer and 22 non-Lions contributed 211 Lion hours to this event.

**Eyeglass Collecting:** As of this date, our members have collected, sorted and packed for distribution 2,142 eyeglasses and 326 sunglasses.

June – We award two scholarships annually to two graduating Riverview High School students.

Throughout the year we have a fund established with Reconnect Services through the YMCA for which we provide \$6,000.00 to be utilized for Riverview residents who are experiencing financial difficulties. Reconnect reports to us quarterly on the assistance they have provided to families on our behalf.

Throughout the year:

We provide our hall for no charge to groups who are fundraising for their groups such as pancake breakfasts and other fundraising events, noted as follows: the local Scout/Ventures Group; Girl Guides; the local chapter of the MS Society; the Lioness Club for their meetings and their fundraising events; NBACL; Muddy River Rollers; Tri-County Search & Rescue; Riverview Sea Cadets; families who organize fundraisers for one of their own family members or one they know and the New Years Eve Party.

From the meals we serve to the Riverview Sea Cadets whom we are a major sponsor of, we charge them only the cost of the food served to them, so they can utilize their funds towards their needs.

One of our members serves on the Board of Directors of the Lions Sick Children's Fund with meetings taking place weekly to review the cases submitted for assistance.

To date, we have donated \$54,804.04 to various local and area groups, schools, hospital and wellness campaigns, etc. of the \$73,000.00 we have budgeted for service charities and projects throughout 2015 – 2016.

#### **6. Make a donation to Lions Foundation of Canada:**

To date, we have donated \$3,122.77 to LFOC. From the pancake breakfast we held during National Fire Safety Week at the Fire Hall in October 2014 and \$1,185.00 held in October 2015, the funds from both were dedicated to LFOC.

We are in the process of organizing a Walk-a-Dogathon to be held on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at which time the funds raised from that project will go to LFOC.

For our annual Awards Night Celebration in June, normally one or two Fellowship Awards for members being recognized for their contributions and service are ordered from this organization such as a Judge Brian Stevenson Award.

**7. Make a donation to LCIF:**

We have selected two individuals to receive a Melvins Jones Award, which will be presented at our Awards Ceremony in June. In addition, we presented a Melvin Jones Memorial Award in the memory of our last year's President, Lion Lori Snider to Lion Wayne Snider at our Charter Night on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The applications for these three awards have not yet been completed but will be submitted within the next week, as the committee only met this past week.

Our club has funds in reserve with Lions International designated to these awards for a total of approximately nine awards.

We are in the process of purchasing a LCIF Life Membership for one of our members which will be presented at our Awards Night in June.

**8. We did not sponsor a new Lions Club.**

**9. We have not sponsored another Leos Club since 2013.** That club did not survive as members were in their last year of high school and had no additional time to continue as members.

**10. Participate in District, Multiple District and/or International activities:**

We have completed and submitted registration forms for 13 members and one Lioness who will be attending the District Convention in Fredericton in April 2016.

Five members attended the Organizational Meeting in Hampton in August 2015.

First VDG Brennan and Lion Cindi attended the USA Forum in Michigan in September 2015 as well as the Summer Meeting in Halifax in August 2015.

The Zone 5 Meeting chaired by Lion Gerry Forsythe was attended by four of our members in August 2015. The other Zone 5 meeting was held at the Magnetic Hill Club with five members in attendance in February 2016.

Two members attended the Eye Glass Collection Training in Charlottetown in September 2015.

Seven members and one Lioness attended the First Cabinet Meeting in Rexton in September 2015.

Seven members, one Lioness and one Associate Volunteer attended the Fall Rally in Summerside in November 2015.

Eight members, one Lioness and one Associate Volunteer attended the Second Cabinet Meeting at the Winsloe Club in November 2015.

Three members and one Lioness attended the Portage Christmas Celebration and presented gifts to two of their residents in December 2015.

Nine members, one Lioness and one non-Lion attended the Annual Smelt Fry at the Moncton Lions Club in January 2016.

Six members attended the Cabinet Meeting at the Moncton Club in February 2016. We had returned the District Awards we had received in the prior year, as requested.

We are one of four clubs in the District that has accepted the Lions Sick Children's Fund as a Sub-Committee of our club.

We have a budgeted amount of \$2,000.00 which will be presented at the upcoming Cavalcade in the spring.

CDA Chair Lion Cindi Beaumont organized a Tag Day held at the mall on October 31<sup>st</sup> and sold hamburgers and hot dogs at two of our Bingos, which generated a donation of \$351.00.

We support Portage Atlantic in their programs. In October 2015, we donated \$1,000.00 to the Lewis Fitness Centre and will be releasing the budgeted amount of \$2,000.00 in May of this year which will be delivered to them by club members.

Lion Jerry Kirkpatrick, our Speakout Chairperson attempted to generate some contestants for the District Speak out however the schools indicated to her that there was no interest in these competitions. He made an appearance at an assembly and conducted a presentation on this subject. He also approached other youth groups without success. Some of the Service and fundraising projects mentioned in Questions 4 & 5 do support Protecting the Environment, Relieving the Hunger, Engaging Youth and Sharing the Vision Campaigns through Lions International.

### **11. Publicity & Public Relations:**

We have had photos of cheque presentations to the groups we supported appear at least once or twice monthly in the Times and Transcript throughout July to present.

Photos accompanied by comments relating to the event we are hosting are included in each monthly edition of a publication with the name "SNAP" that is shared with businesses and groups within the Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview area. Occasionally, the front copy will feature one of our activities.

When socials are planned, members are encouraged to invite friends, family or anyone they believe maybe interested in joining our organization. On occasion there have been potential members express interests in joining.

On behalf of our club, we would like to thank you for the opportunity to share these details with you.

Respectfully submitted, Lion Kathy Belliveau, Secretary  
Riverview Lions Club