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News and views from District 4-C6 California Lions



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Issue 1 July 2017



**2017-2018 Team**

**Bob Stewart, District Governor**

**Thelma Batilo, First Vice District Governor**

**Rick Silveria, Second Vice District Governor**

## District Governor Bob Stewart

"2 equals 1, and 1 is nothing" is a Navy Seal motto that refers to the critically important team concept and mutual aid mind-set of our most elite military units.

"Two equals 1, and 1 is nothing" also applies to Lions. We serve, not I serve. Together we Lions are empowered as a club, a District of clubs, and an international movement of hands-on community service to those in need. This is the core of who we are and why we are Lions.

### District 4-C6 commitments for this year:

- We will include Leos in our service projects.
- Every District Cabinet meeting will include a brief service project at the close.
- We will post all club service projects on the online District newsletter to encourage Lions from other clubs to participate.

Together we will track and celebrate service successes, including in every Club and District newsletter and Cabinet meeting. We will post photos of those whom we are serving, and their testimonials.

Let's do this!

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## District Centennial Installation and New Club Charter



On Friday evening, July 28, our District will be honored by the presence of a very special international dignitary. Judge Haynes Townsend from Georgia, newly elected Third International Vice President of LCI, will be our distinguished guest at the Installation of all Cabinet and Club Officers.

Our hosts will be DG Bob Stewart, VDG Thelma Batilo, and 2VDG Rick Silveria. This is a first for our District, and will be a Centennial event not to be missed.

Other MD-4 Lions dignitaries from all over California will be attending.

Further, our new Centennial Sunnyvale Everest Lions Club will be chartered. From 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., expect a festive dinner buffet at the beautiful and scenic **San Jose Country Club, 15571 Alum Rock Avenue**. Live music, Nepalese folk dancers, and a Centennial photo booth will be just a few of the highlights of the special evening.

**If your club has new Lions members to install**, please plan to have International VP Townsend install them that evening. It will be a unique and unforgettable experience; we are already assembling a list.

Please plan to attend this important and celebratory Centennial event. Show our District's dedication to Lions Clubs, our community, and to our great Association- Lions Clubs International.

## **We Serve!**

Purchase tickets from any Past District Governor or [click here](#) to buy online with credit card.

Tickets: \$65/ Person, Payable to "Council of Past District Governors" Mail check to: PDG Larry B. Hidalgo, P.O. Box 3763, San Jose, CA 95156. Tickets will be available at "Will Call" that evening.

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### **First Vice District Governor Thelma Batilo**

Just got back from 100th Lions Clubs International convention where Dr. Naresh Aggarwal was installed as the 101st International President and Bob Stewart as our 55th District Governor. This year, we would continue to hear and learn more about LCI

Forward, Women In Lions, LEOs & Young Lions, Social Media, Service in the Next Century and IP Naresh's theme "The Power of We."

As we went back to Lions' birthplace for our Centennial Celebration, we were reminded that on June 7, 1917, our founder Melvin Jones met with 27 business clubs at a Chicago hotel to unite and focus on community service. Along the way, were some momentous times:

- 1925, Lions accepted Helen Keller's challenge to be Knights of the Blind
- 1945, LCI invited to help draft of United Nations charter



- 1957, first LEO Club started in Pennsylvania
- 1968, LCI Foundation was established
- 1987, amended Lions By-Laws to invite women to be members of the association
- 1988, Peace Poster contest began.
- 2016, Lions served more than 100 million people in first 2 years of Centennial Service Challenge Program (ends on June 30, 2018)
- 2017, LCI Forward is launched as the Lions' Roadmap to the future. We now have 5 Global Service Focus Areas: Vision, Hunger, Environment, Cancer and Diabetes as the main signature cause for the next 5-10 years. Also, we continue our commitment to youth and children. Our new goal is to serve 200 million people per year by 2021.

Back at home base, we need more helping hands as we serve our local communities. How about in honor of our Centennial Year, our District adds 100 men and 100 women, with 100 of those between 18-30 years old? At the end of the day, it's the power of WE, it's more people willing to serve, it's more people willing to give.

Next time, we'll share & learn more about Global Action Team, until then, you may check out [www.LionsClubs.org](http://www.LionsClubs.org), [MyLCI](http://MyLCI), [MyLion](http://MyLion), [www.LCIF.org](http://www.LCIF.org), [www.MD4Lions.org](http://www.MD4Lions.org), [www.4C6Lions.org](http://www.4C6Lions.org).

Thanks,  
-Thelma Batilo

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## **Second Vice District Governor Rick Silveria**

First of all I want to thank all of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your second Vice District Governor. It is an honor and I will do my best to serve District 4-C6.

As many of the articles in this newsletter, I will be talking about information from the International Convention just concluding in Chicago. There were many seminars offered over the 5 days of the convention.



The one I would like to share with you is about the direction of LCI is moving to in the future. Lion David Martin and I attended this seminar and it was apparent from the start that if we wanted to survive the next 100 years we were going to have to change the way we do business to attract the younger generation.

The problem is we also need to retain the members we have now, after all we are 1.4 million strong and this is using the Service Model we have been using for the last 100 years. The answer they came up with is to run two service models at the same time one that would appeal to the younger generation and the one we are using now to maintain the members we now have.

The new model is based on technology and hands on projects. Doing the service we have always done, but communicating through technology to get the word out and not so much with holding meetings. The new [MyLion](#) App which was rolled out on July 2 allows club to communicate with fellow Lions and the general public by posting service projects and allowing a wider audience the opportunity to participate in the event. You can download this App now through Play Store or the App Store.

Hands on service is the goal of DG Bob Stewart and [MyLion](#) is a tool to get us there.

Rick Silveria  
2nd Vice District Governor

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## Cabinet Treasurer Jeff Bosshard

### HOW LIONS CLUBS PROMOTE DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM

Anyone who is already a member of a Lions Club will already know why I chose to join my local Lions Club more than two decades ago. I wanted to be of service to my community. That is what Lions do, as do other service clubs such as Kiwanis and Rotary, and local associations such as the Chamber of Commerce or civic improvement association. We install equipment on local playgrounds and parks, help maintain them, provide reading glasses for free to those in need, and raise money to support local youth groups and provide college scholarships, just to name a few things of value.



Because our associations do these things voluntarily and free of charge, our government does not have to do them, nor raise taxes to pay for them. And because we are acting locally we know better than any state or federal agency exactly what is needed, and by whom. In some other countries, these tasks

might be left for government to create and administer centrally with a "one size fits all" approach that usually costs too much and fails to quite fit the actual need. Our club activities thus promote freedom, which is one reason why our country's Founding Fathers included freedom of association as one of our fundamental rights in the First Amendment to our Constitution, along with the freedoms of religion and speech and press.

Perhaps equally important is that, by doing these things together, the members are collectively "practicing democracy". When they meet they bring their individual ideas and collective experience to bear to solve problems together in such a manner as to become educated us in the ways of democratic government. If some of us become good enough at that, we may find ourselves running for public office, such as city council, planning board, or school board, and the like. In any case, it is necessary that we join, promote and support the private associations that serve our local communities - and get others to join us - if we wish to keep our communities vibrant, and our country truly free and democratic.

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## **District GST Coordinator Becky Stewart**

### **WE SERVE**

#### **What's Behind the New Global Service Framework?**

The Global Service Framework was introduced to Lions from all over the world at the 100th Lions Convention in Chicago as part of the LCI Forward Initiative. A five year plan, it is seen as a way to enter our second one hundred years focusing on our most important goal and asset: SERVICE.

The Global Service Team (GST) is the all-important missing piece of the puzzle now joining Global Leadership and Global Membership Teams (GLT and GMT). After all, Lions Clubs International is the largest service organization in the world. Doesn't it make sense to have a team of people dedicated to giving Lions and Leos new opportunities to serve?

As your new District Global Service Coordinator, I have asked Lions Robert Caballero (San Martin) and MariCris Benitez (Milpitas Executive) to join the team. Together we will assist clubs who might be behind on their service goals, offer new District and multi-club opportunities in which to serve, offer motivation and support, and encourage reporting of service activities on MyLCI.

An important part of our job is to work collaboratively with the GLT and GMT to provide retention and membership growth strategies to clubs. As DG Bob believes and states often, "Service will drive membership." Invite a friend to a service project, and perhaps you will hook them.

We will need every club and every Lion to become involved to achieve our goals. Much more will be forthcoming; I urge you to attend the July 29 District Cabinet meeting at the Santa Clara Valley Blind Center, 9 a.m. to Noon, to learn more.

In addition, we will offer an opportunity to complete our first "All-District Service Project." Come prepared to roll up your sleeves and clean the kitchen, a 30-60 minute project after lunch depending on the number of volunteers. If you or your club would like to volunteer, please respond to [becky@lionstewart.com](mailto:becky@lionstewart.com) so I will know what and how many cleaning products to bring.

The GST looks forward to working with you, and most of all to join you as

**WE SERVE!**

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**WOMEN IN LIONS  
CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS (1987-2017)  
by Becky Stewart**

Such a fuss has been made about our Centennial and 100 plus years of Lionism (and rightly so), that many members have forgotten that in 1987 women were finally admitted into Lionism once again. We should all celebrate that historical thirtieth anniversary occasion. And yes, I write "once again." Did you know that in 1917 when Lionism began, women were Lions members?



At that time, many male members wanted their wives to become Lions, and some Lions Clubs encouraged female membership. Dr. William Woods, first International President, elected in October 1917 at the first convention, advocated for female membership. It wasn't until the following year a resolution was adopted to exclude females. It is rumored that it was because of that resolution, Dr. Woods resigned his Lions membership.

It took a federal law and nearly seventy years before women were invited back. In July 1987, at the Lions International Convention, delegates voted to open the association's membership to women around the world. Just two months after the vote, 3500 women had joined the organization. Bringing fresh perspectives and more hands for service, Lions had 55,000 women members within five years.

Today the proportion of women in Lions Clubs has grown significantly. Women account for about one third of Lions membership worldwide. In some areas of the world the numbers are even higher. In Latin America female membership constitutes more than 44 percent. At last count District 4-C6 was at just about 37 percent.

In 2016, Lions celebrated the election of their first female vice president, Gudrun Yngvadottir from Iceland. Lions strong service model attracts women who wish to volunteer and serve their communities. Lions Clubs today are more vital because of female membership, and as we move toward another century of service, we look forward to complete gender parity that will contribute to an even more thriving global organization.

(Each issue of the 2017-18 District 4-C6 newsletter will include a short article on "Women in Lions." Articles will be historical and current in content. If you would like to contribute, please contact Lion Becky Stewart at [becky@lionstewart.com](mailto:becky@lionstewart.com))

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## This and That

### In the News

**Urgent! Mariposa Fire Assistance Needed**  
**by Lion Kevin Johnson, Los Gatos Lions**

July 23, 2017

Sonora Lions is requesting 5-6 Lions to assist with sorting and packaging existing product for distribution.

Call me if you are interested in heading up to assist. Accommodations can be made at the Inns of California - 350 South Washington Street, Sonora, CA 95370 - phone 209-532-2633

I would like 5 additional Lions that have no asthma or other breathing issues, can be on their feet or seating position for a five to six hour shift, and can handle the heat - it's a bit warm at the command post - "Mother Lode Fairgrounds" 220 Southgate Dr Sonora, CA 95370

I plan on staying for at least 2 days, possibly 3, but I will continue to send updates. My phone remains 408-623-9205.



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## 4-C6 LION OF THE MONTH

Our Unsung Heroes

"It's the best job in the Lions Club!"

Lion Stephen "Steve" Benson of Santa Cruz Host Lions is truly an unsung hero in our District. Working quietly behind the scenes and with no fanfare, in the last twelve years he has personally brought in over 100,000 pairs of



used eyeglasses which are then donated to the Lions In Sight facility in Vallejo, California. This year he surpassed the all-time collection record with just over 11,000 pairs collected. Lion Steve follows a regular weekly routine collecting from a list of thirty-five donors and facilities in the Santa Cruz area. Filling the back of his pickup truck, he has made friends across the county who call him when their boxes and store rooms are overflowing. If he doesn't hear from them, he calls with

reminders. Such dedication!

If that isn't enough, Lion Steve counts, inspects, and sorts each pair. He has a box for each: non-prescription sunglasses, prescription sunglasses, reading glasses, and prescription eyeglasses. He also saves cases that are in good condition for giveaways at the local semi-annual Project Homeless Connect.

Lion Steve, who joined Lions in 2004, enjoys working on other club projects- performs SpotVision eye screenings at the schools, cashiers at the Christmas tree lot, and heads up the parking team at the annual Nisene Marks Marathon. But his favorite service is the eyeglass collection.

"You meet so many nice people. After all these years they have become like extended family." And speaking of family, we are all proud of having Lion Steve Benson in our Lions family.

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## Centennial Lions Celebration in Chicago

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**Watch this video of one of the best conventions ever! Next year - Las Vegas.**



2017 Chicago Centennial Lions  
Celebration

## Learn about MyLion

Ready to revolutionize the way you serve? LCI is unveiling MyLion—a world-class mobile app designed just for Lions! MyLion will take your Lions experience to the next level, giving you new tools to connect and serve like never before.

Contact Technology Chair [Linda Pugliese](#) to set up a demo for your club.



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## Lions Eye Foundation

Submitted by Aiko Matsuyama, President  
Seaside Lions Club



PDG Louis Milani and Seaside Lions president Aiko Matsuyama honored with Don Stanaway Fellow from Lions Eye Foundation at mtg June 22. Lou for his dedication and support of the Eye Foundation and as past Foundation Director, and Aiko as outgoing president and Vision Aid Chair.

## **Status of Trustees and Advisors**

**Submitted by PDG Joe Pugliese, LEF Trustee**

Passing along this e-mail from LEF President John Posey. The Lions Eye Foundation has a vacancy of three advisor positions in this District. Please contact Lead Trustee Virgil Williams, Trustee Joe Pugliese or Trustee Linda Pugliese if you have any questions. Click the link below for more information.

*There has been some confusion over the years about the total number of Trustees and Advisors allowed and the total number allowed per district under our Bylaws. Attached you will find a summary entitled Requirements and Current Status Of Trustees And Advisors. Hopefully, this will help bring greater clarity and assist as a future guide in filling Trustee and Advisor positions. One of our goals this year will be to fill all our trustee and advisor positions.*

[Text Link](#)

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# Name the Newsletter Contest

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## We Need Your Input

**In order to have a "branding" of District 4-C6 Lions, we need to have a consistent name for our District Newsletter, such as the newsletter for Multiple District 4 is The Leader and remains the same year after year.**

**What are your ideas for a name for our District Newsletter?**

[\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#)

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## [District Event Calendar](#)

Click on the link above to view the events in the District. This is a public calendar. To add your event, click on the little +Google icon in the lower right side. Be sure that the calendar you are adding your event to is District 4-C6 Events.

Linda Pugliese, Editor | (408) 406-8509 | [Email](#)

Bob Stewart, District Governor | (831) 475-1999 | [E-mail](#)

District 4-C6 Lions of California

[Website](#)

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