



Georgetown LIONS

Serving with pride in a proud community



Dedicated to serving

The International Association of Lions Club motto is simple, yet rich in meaning: "We Serve".

The Lions Club is the largest single service organization in the world, with more than 3,600 clubs serving their respective community's - and in fact, world - needs in over 170 countries.

This international order of community service-minded members took root in Georgetown 63 years ago, on February 6, 1931.

The inaugural meeting saw 20 members recognized and the proceeding were overseen by Lion Joe Sheedy, Commissioner of Lions International in Chicago.

It was an auspicious occasion, heralding the start of a venture dedicated to bettering the community, and its residents, through service to the community.

Members who accepted positions in the newly-installed Georgetown Lions Club executive were pillars of the community in every sense of the word.

The Honorary President was Mayor J. B. McKenzie. W.V. Grant was the first President. The 1st Vice-President was A.H. Feller. The 2nd Vice-President was J.D. Kelly.

G.W. McLintock served as Secretary-Treasurer and the Board of Directors included: H.R. Mimms, Ed McWhirter, A.W. Beaumont, D. Crichton, Lion Tamer, W. Bradley and Tail Twister, C. Burnside.

The official charter night dinner and dance was held on April 24, 1931 and the new club's first official fundraising effort involved sponsoring an amateur boxing tournament at Georgetown Memorial Arena with festivities including a street dance and a draw for a new Chevrolet coach.

On December 28, 1931, the Lions Club and local businessmen entertained over 700 children at a movie showing of Huckleberry Finn at the then, Georgetown Theatre.

The Georgetown Lions Club was off - and roaring.

There have been some memorable moments for both the Georgetown Lions Club and the community as a whole in the intervening

63 years. 1932: The Lions Club became the first Canadian service organization to present "White Canes" to the visually impaired and three guests attended a special dinner.

1936: It was revealed that despite the harsh economic times, the Lions Club had provided \$1,064 to Georgetown Hospital, donated \$338 to community causes, allocated \$272 for the Lions Club-sponsored Boys Band and spent \$278 on Christmas trees and on the Santa Claus parade. The club also laid plans for a paper drive in aid of underprivileged children.

1937: The Lions Club-sponsored Georgetown Maple Leafs midget hockey team was honored as Ontario's Little NHL champions at a special banquet.

1945: The Georgetown Lions Clubs spearheaded a successful campaign which raised \$2,500 for the building fund of the Toronto Sick Children's Hospital.

1951: The Georgetown Lions Club organized the Erin Lions Club, with Lion Don Barrager receiving an extension award for his excellent work.

1956: The Georgetown Lions Club celebrates its 25th anniversary in February and held a monster Bingo at Memorial Arena which raised over \$1,000 for the pool fund.

1958: The Georgetown Lions Club-Dick Licata Pool was officially opened to the public on June 21. Just in time for residents to beat the heat. The pool's official opening was held on August 16.

1959: The Georgetown Lions Club, in support of the Georgetown Hospital Association, pledged \$25,000 to the association's building fund.

1960: The Georgetown Lions Club sponsored the new Acton Lions Club.

1968: Christmas welfare baskets, headed by Lion Walter Gray, were distributed to 44 needy area families.

1972: The first annual Lions Club sponsored Citizen of the Year dinner was held, with Peggy Treahy honored for her dedication to the community.

1983: The Georgetown

Invitation to dinner

The Georgetown Lions Club will set a special dinner place at the Lions Club Hall (located behind Memorial Arena on Mill Street) on Tuesday, Oct. 19, for those members of the community wishing to learn about Lionism and what it does for the community in general, and individuals and organizations in particular.

Dinner is scheduled for 6:45 p.m. and the evening has been planned as a special informative event.

To reserve a place for the dinner or to obtain more information on the special informative evening, please telephone either Jim Akers at 873-6744; Mark Rush at 877-8769; Tom Colton at 873-8707 or Al Watt at 877-8674.

Community commitment

As a Lions Club member, you join a fraternity that truly represents a cross-section of you community, your country, and indeed, the world.

There are no barriers - artificial or otherwise - to membership and people of different races, color and creeds are welcomed.

All that is required is a commitment to serving the needs of the community.

In a similar vein, at a typical Lions Club meeting, you will encounter people from all walks of life and the varied professions in the community.

A retiree could be in deep conversation with a fireman; a doctor sharing his thoughts with a small business owner; a shift worker discussing possible future club projects with a lawyer or a truck driver trading sports stories with a police officer.

As individuals they are respected for the roles they play within the community.

As Lions Club members they share a common bond of commitment to serving the community. Lions Club members don't expect to be thanked for their good works.

The betterment of the community is what counts and that is thanks enough.

A positive community force

Since the inception of the Georgetown Lions Club way back on February 6, 1931, the service-minded organization has touched almost every aspect of community life in Georgetown in a most positive way.

It has sponsored the local Santa Claus parade for over 60 years; has sponsored the Citizen of the Year dinner since 1972; sponsors an annual high school Effective Speaking program and annually sponsors minor sports teams in minor hockey, minor baseball and minor soccer.

For years, the Lions club sponsored the very popular Crazy Boat race down the Credit River.

The Lions Club sets the tables for the annual Pioneer Days pancake breakfast and is a supporter of the annual Georgetown Fall Fair.

While these projects raise the profile of the club, needy individuals are also helped, far from the glare of the public spotlight.

The local club similarly is there when help is needed outside the immediate area: in 1954, for example, money was raised to help the victims of Hurricane Hazel, which ravaged southern Ontario.

In a similar caring vein, the club has always been a staunch supporter of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind,

and is a major sponsor of the association's Canine Vision program - a program which matches a visually impaired individual with a trained seeing-eye dog.

Camp Dorset, in Haliburton, is another major project of the Georgetown Lions Club and members spend work weekends at the location helping out.

Camp Dorset is now a national camp which allows those with kidney-related health problems to spend a summer vacation with their families away from the confines of hospitals.

There is a 10-unit dialysis clinic and a full medical staff of doctors and nurses is on hand throughout the camp's months of operation from early June through September.

Young people have benefited in many ways from the Lions Clubs' projects and one group in particular - with health problems - have champions at their side.

Hearing impaired children, with other handicaps, such as cerebral palsy, blindness, emotional and mental disorders have been taken under the Lions Club's collective wing - under the Ontario Mission for the Deaf - which provides group home settings for these youngsters who have been particularly stricken.

Meeting community and individual needs

Continued from opposite

Lions Club donated \$10,000 to Dialysis Camp Dorset to build and furnish an efficiency unit at the camp and donated \$1,300 to Georgetown Library for the purchase of large printed books. A project was initiated to collect used eyeglasses for cleaning, grading and packaging for distribution to Third World Countries.

1984: The Georgetown Lions Club pledged \$30,000 to the Bennett Health Care Centre, purchased a \$1,700 slide for the Dick Licata Pool and donated \$2,500 to the Canadian Lions Foundation.

1988: The Georgetown

Lions Club donated \$8,996 to the Multiple Sclerosis Society and \$1,700 to the Downs Syndrome Association. The money was raised by the Lions Club-sponsored Crazy Boat Race.

1990: The Georgetown Lions Club donated \$1,200 to the Canadian National Institute For The Blind; gave \$20,000 to the Georgetown Agricultural Society towards the erection of a new exhibit building at the Fairgrounds; donated \$3,000 to the Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department for the installation of lights at the baseball batting cage and

provided \$500 in financial assistance (each) for two Georgetown District High School students selected for a world tour with the Up with People organization.

These are some of the highlights involving the Georgetown Lions Club's service not only to our community but also to people throughout Ontario, Canada and the world.

The motto "We Serve" represents more than an empty promise or oath to members of the Georgetown Lions Club.

It represents an ongoing dedication to people and causes in their times of need.

- I would be interested in becoming a member of the Georgetown Lions Club
- I would like to have more information about the Georgetown Lions Club

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Mail to: Lions Club of Georgetown Inc.,
P.O. Box 73, Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4T1
Tel. (905) 873-9020

63 YEARS



OF SERVICE