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Newsletter from District Governor Rob Fowler to the Lions, Lionesses and Leos of District 410B, Southern Africa

P.O. Box 27784
Yeoville
2143

Tel: 011 487 1613
Fax: 011 487 1611
lionszab@icon.co.za

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Message from International President Jimmy Ross

A year of great opportunity for your Lions club

Last year was an exciting year, especially for our service in Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII). When I think of what lies ahead for Lions in 2007, all I see is opportunity and countless ways our service will touch lives.

This January, as we look to the New Year, one full of possibility, I ask for your personal support for CSFII. Saving sight is personal to Lions, and we have no better way to do it than through SightFirst. It is how we, as individuals and as an organization, have saved or restored the sight of tens of millions of people. "We serve" through our SightFirst program.

SightFirst is Lions' calling card. I have seen firsthand the value and gratitude people feel when they receive the gift of sight. Among our many contributions and services to the world, SightFirst is the one that makes the largest impact.

We enter 2007 with a healthy to-do list for CSFII. We have raised more than US\$60 million for CSFII to continue our SightFirst program, but we need to raise another US\$90 million to reach our minimum goal of US\$150 million and save the sight of 37 million people.

To keep our focus on CSFII, I want to suggest we use our collective Lion Power for an ambitious goal. I challenge you to join me in the pursuit of more than US\$90 million raised by our 90th Anniversary at the International

Convention, in Chicago (USA), this July.

We reached many milestones in our first year of fund raising for CSFII, but reaching more than US\$90 million by our 90th anniversary will be a true homecoming for our association. Rallying all Lions around this target will put us in a prime position to soar past our minimum goal and even reach our challenge goal of US\$200 million, Lions' "Vision for All."



As Lions, we give the gift of sight and a world of opportunity by continuing SightFirst, our very best program. CSFII is an opportunity that starts with you and your club this month, so shoot for the stars. Remember, it is you and your fellow club members who will make the difference.

The stakes are very high. The sight of 37 million people can be saved through your service as "Knights of the Blind." This year, you and your Lions club determine how we will fulfill our ultimate New Year's resolution, to save sight and achieve success for

CSFII in 2007.

My rallying goal for the International Association is "US\$90 million by our 90th Anniversary".

Individuals and clubs can also designate Melvin Jones Fellowships for CSFII and thereby recognise great community service in your town and also contribute towards CSFII.

Go for it in 2007!

Sincerely
Jimmy M. Ross

International President
International Association of Lions Clubs



Upcoming Events

Please diarise the following Lions events:

8 - 11 February - "All Africa" Forum in Bulawayo
11 February - Alfa Romeo Classic Rally - Edenvale

10 March - Region 1 Buddy Day
 For details contact CCE Lion Tony Scheffel

24 March - Lions Operation BrightSight Boat Race at Zoo Lake

31 March - LC Nelspruit day trip to Maputo

25 - 30 April - MD410 EGOLI 2007 CONVENTION at BIRCHWOOD CONFERENCE CENTRE - Boksburg

20 May - proposed **Cabinet and Club Officers** Training

3 June - proposed **Club President's Instruction Day**

June 2007 - 90th International Convention - CHICAGO, USA

November 2007 - 35th ISAAME Forum - Colombo, Sri Lanka

"EGOLI 2007" LIONS MD410 CONVENTION PLANNING WELL UNDER WAY

The pressure is on for Lion Wendy van der Schaaff (LC Northcliff) and her team of EGOLI 2007 Convention convenors. We wish them all great success with all the many detailed arrangements!

The Convention program is as follows:

Tuesday 24 April
COUNCIL DINNER - 19h00

Wednesday 25 April
MD 410 COUNCIL MEETING - 08h30
PDG's DINNER - 19h00

Thursday 26 April
CABINET MEETINGS - 08h30
WORKSHOPS - 15h00
WELCOME EVENING FUNCTION - 19h30

Friday 27 April
DISTRICT CONVENTIONS - 09h30 for 10h00
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - 16h00
MD410 BANQUET - 19h00

Saturday 28 April
MD410 CONVENTION - 09h00
MELVIN JONES LUNCHEON - 12h30
FAREWELL THEME EVENING - 19h00

As far as the District activities are concerned Friday the 27th is "The" day! If you are short of time and can only attend for a limited time then that is the day to diarise. Stay for the day and attend the Banquet with our International guests 2nd VP Al Brandel and Dr. Maureen Murphy!

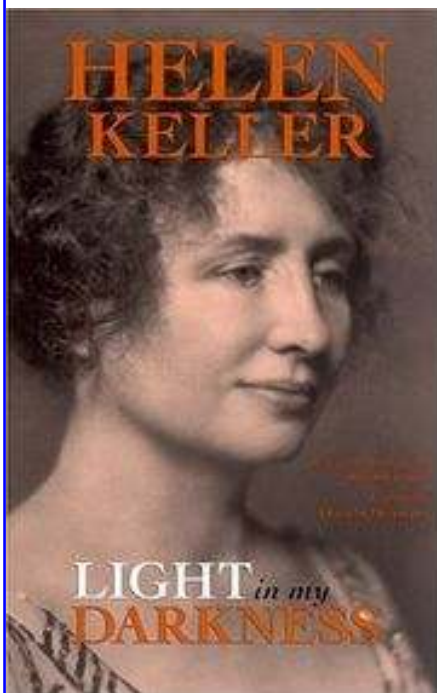
Our 410B District Awards ceremony will be held during the District Convention proceedings.

Full and Partial Registration forms are available from your President or www.lionsmd410.org.za

LCI EXCHANGE RATE = 7,03 February 2007

We hope that your District 410B newsletter will continue to stimulate your service activities and encourage a flow of interesting information of relevance to Lions.

Kindly forward any articles and best quality .jpg or .tif images for publication to DG Rob Fowler at rob@iafrica.com and we'll do our best to get them circulated in future editions.



Those Lions that attended the District's "Helen Keller - Miracle Worker" evening and the showing of the film "The Miracle Worker" last Saturday evening certainly got a different impression of this amazing woman and her teacher Anne Sullivan.

A very special thank-you to everyone that

attended and helped make this a very memorable and enjoyable event for LL Marion and I. The few moments spent in absolute darkness and silence holding a braille card cannot even come close to our really understanding what it must be like to be either deaf and or blind! We really have so much to be grateful for and so much to do as Lions "Knights of the Blind!" for the sight and hearing impaired.

Visit http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helen_Keller