Lions’ Den Article for August 1, 2016

Crews of Lions have been kept very busy setting up and taking down tents, tables and chairs so far this summer and we’re only half way through! Currently we have 56 members, which helps, as many hands make light work.

Our next big event is our annual Salmon bake on September 4 at Dinner Bay. This is a great day for family and friends to gather in the park, visit several booths, enjoy a fine meal and a beer garden. Of course there is great entertainment to listen to as well. Tickets for the “222” draw are now being sold by members of the club at $20 each, and these are always pre-sold before the draw. The grand prize is $800, and many draws for lower amounts happen during the afternoon with the final grand prize draw at 3 pm.

Last month, Alan Guy, who is a past president of the Mayne Island Lions, and a tireless worker in many capacities, attended the 99th Lions International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan, with his wife, Janet. He had been the Zone Chairman for Zone 3 in our District, and while in Japan, was installed as District Governor for Multiple District 19-I which covers a territory from Port Hardy to Northwestern Washington.

Alan and Janet spent 10 days in Japan before Alan’s installation. There were photo ops, including ones with the in-coming International President, Bob Corlew and his wife, some training for Alan, and a chance for Janet (a recent new member on Mayne Island) to get out and do some sight-seeing with one of the other wives. At the end of the first week there was a formal banquet followed the next day by a two hour parade of the many delegates who had by then come for the actual convention. It was a very colourful affair with members from many countries dressed in their national costumes. The members from our District looked smart in their white pants, shirts and shoes with red fringed vests and large white Stetsons. They carried a large banner and were flying the flags of both Canada and the U.S.A.

For your information, the Lions are the largest service club in the world with 1.4 million members in 47,000 clubs. 736 District Governors and their spouses, past and present International directors, past District Governors, and about 30,000 delegates from around the world.

Now that he is back in Canada, Alan will be working hard during his term, July 1, 2016 through June 30th, 2017. He will be visiting and supporting 56 clubs covering Vancouver Island and Northwest Washington. He will need to work around our ferry schedules and the various clubs’ meeting dates, of course, but he is ready for the challenge and eager to promote the name of our Mayne island Lions Club wherever he goes!

Submitted by David Chase

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