Wattala North Lions Mega service projects

Lions Club of Wattala North District 306 B1 - Zone 7 of Region 4 conducted a Mega Service Project at the Correctional Centre for Youth Offenders in Pallansena Negombo recently. District Leader, Governor Lion S. Raghavan has given prominence to "Youth Welfare & Development" as youth are considered the assets and the future of a country. Lions have a social responsibility to look into their grievances, President Lions Club of Wattala North, Lion Shamendra Gunasekera said.

President Lion Shamendra Gunasekera and his Lady Lion Dulanthi De Soysa were the project coordinators of this mega multi service project.

District Cabinet Secretary Lion Calistus Jayetilake, Zone Chairperson Lion Dr. Seba Jayamaha, District Chairperson Membership Retention and Vice District Governor Candidate Lion Lakshman Wijesinghe, members of Lions Club of Wattala North Lion Buddika, Lion Shane, Lion Lakmali, Lion Chaya, Lion Palitha, Lion Sisira, Lion Dinesh, Lion Chicao, and Club Treasurer Lion Rajeew took an active part in this service project. The Commissioner General of Prisons Major General Vajira Abeywardena and his dedicated team at the prison gave their umost support to carry out this mega project. Lecture were conducted by Mr. Senadeera of Sarvodaya Vishva Nikethanaya on "Leadership." Mr. Gunasinghe of ADIC on "Drug Awareness, Effects & Prevention," Gamini Amarasinghe a retired Director of Education on "Communication Skills".

The club donated a book cupboard and a large number of books related to leadership, positive thinking, drug prevention, Yoga, novels and organization skills to the prison library.

The club also provided paints to paint the prison hospital, hospital beds and library.

The club donated mattresses, bed sheets, clothes, soap, and shampoo for the inmates. The Lions Club of Wattala City President Lion Dinesh Perera, Lions Club of Mabole Secretary Lion Shanali De Silva, Treasurer Lion Sulari Cabraal, Lions Club of Wattala President Lion Mevan Algama joined hands to make this mega project, a big success,

Donating a Library, from left. Zone Chairman, Lion Dr. Seba Jayamaha, District Cabinet Secretary, Lion Calistus Jayatilleke, President, Wattala North Lions Club, Lion Shamendra Gunasekera, Lion Lady Dulanthi de Soysa, Lion Dinesh Samarasinghe and Lady Lion Surani Jayamaha.

Lion Shamendra Gunasekera, President, Wattala North Lions Club and Lion Dr. Seba Jayamaha, Zone Chairman hand over mattresses to Chief Jailor, A. Tissera. Looking on are District Cabinet Secretary, Lion, Calistus Jayatilleke, Chairperson, Membership Retention, Lion Lakshman Wijesinghe, President, Wattala City Lions Club, Lion Dinesh Perera, President, Wattala Lions Club, Lion Mervan Agama and Lions Palitha Perera, Shane Fernando, Chaya Fernando, Sisira Kumara, Buddhika Marasinghe and Lakmali Gnasekera. *Pix. Beverley Jansz*

District Cabinet Senetary, Lion Calistus, Jayatilleke presenting hooks for the library. Looking on are Zone Chairman Lion Dr. Seba Jayamaha, President, Wattala North Lions Club, Lion Shamendra Gunasekera, President, Lions Club of Wattala Lion Mervan Algama, Survodhaya Vishva Nikethanaya Lecturer Mr. Senadira, Treasurer, Wattala North Lions Club, Lion Rajiv Jayatilleke, Chairperson, Membership Retention, Lion Lakshman Wijesinghe, Lion Dinesh Samarasinghe and Wattala, City Lions Club President, Lion Dinesh Perera, Project Coordinator (Prisons) G.B. Paliphana, and Lion Chiko Corea.

RCS SL felicitates Nobel Peace Prize co-winner Prof. Mohan Munasinghe

Royal Commonwealth Society Sri Lanka, and Central Environmental Authority, have organised a ceremony to felicitate Prof Mohan Munasinghe, Co Winner 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, for his work on Global Warming. Prof Munasinghe is Vice Chairman, United Nation's Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Geneva.

The Felicitation ceremony will be held at BMICH on Thursday April 24, commencing 4.00 pm, followed by a Public Lecture on "Global Warming and Sustainable Development". The Royal Commonwealth Society in London recently celebrated Commonwealth Day Observance 2008, at Westminster Abbey, Prof. Munasinghe was the Guest Of Honor.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Chief Guest at this function, congratulated Prof. Mohan Munasinghe on his great achievements in this field. This function was attended by more than 1200 Guests, from the 53 Commonwealth Countries around the world

The Royal Commonwealth Society Sri Lanka founded in 1948, has been involved in the promotion of Culture, Social, Historical values and awareness, Peace and Friendship among all Communities and Countries among the Commonwealth.

The Secretary, Royal Commonwealth Society Sri Lanka, S. Yogendranathan states that another Important function to be held this year-the "Commonwealth Day Observance" to be held at the Galle Face Hotel on May 12, 2008, at 7.00 pm, in the presence of High Commissioners and Consuls General, of 14 Commonwealth Countries, represented in Sri

Lions District 306C2 distributes wheel chairs

Sri Lanka is considered by the IMF and the World Bank to have a Human Development Index (HDI) high enough not to warrant assistance to uplift the needy in its society.

However, the social disparity becomes obvious when we consider the large number of disabled citizens in need of a wheelchair to overcome the handicap of immobility. Ironic as it may be, hope in the form of voluntary efforts of Lions committed to improve quality of life of the needy is apparent when we witness a large number of wheel chairs being distributed by Lions Clubs dedicated to community service.

Thalapathpitiya Siddhartha School ground was the venue for such a major service project, which was chaired by Lion Lalani Fernando. She was instrumental in procuring more than six hundred wheel chairs in the last two years and aims to launch a one thousand wheel chair project in the next Lionistic year beginning in July 2008. The recent event saw the distribution of wheel chairs to the most needy identified by many Lions Clubs in District 306C2 in far-flung areas in Sabaragamuwa, Uva, Central and Eastern Provinces. The recipients included Army Personnel who have sacrificed their limbs to uphold liberty and freedom of our nation, objectives closely shared by over 1.3 million Lions of the world in 202 countries led this year by International President Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya.

District Governor of 306C2 Lion Dr. Priyanka Baddevithana and Lady Lion Lalani Baddevithana were Chief Guests at the Wheel Chair Distribution Project, which was chaired by Zone Chairperson and member of Lions Club of Thalapathpitiya Lion Lalani

Project Chairperson Lion Lalani Fernando and spouse Dushantha Munasinghe (extreme right) handing over a wheelchair to service personnel in the presence of the District Governor Lion Dr. Priyanka Baddevithana and First Lady Lion Lalani Baddevithana.

DG Kamal Seneviratne achieves "Challenge to Change" with MDC

Lions Clubs International District 306A2 held a series of Regional Conventions in its Six Regions instead of individual club charter celebrations.

This was a novel concept introduced by the District Governor of the Lions Clubs International District 306A2. Lion Kamal Seneviratne implementing a challenge on par with the International President's "Innovative Changes" criteria under his theme "Challenge to Change".

District Governor's theme is "Challenge the Future Today" and he called a Region as a Mini District and the Region Chairman as a Regional Governor to develop the quality of leadership and administrative capabilities in him to become a prospective leader in the District. Regional Convention was a combination of all charters and held once with the participation of all 12 clubs which is highly cost cutting. Regional Chairman was given the responsibility to organize various programmes throughout a week called "Lions' Week" giving due publicity through posters, banners, print and electronic media until the day of the convention. The convention commenced with a colourful Street Parade with the participation of the District Governor, Cabinet Officers, Club Officers, Lions, Lion Ladies, Leos and Invitees ending at the convention venue where five community welfare service projects implemented.

The main object of this concept was to attract more public participation and make them aware of the Lions' services to the community giving them an opportunity to express their views and opinion.

It became and image and confidence building process of the Lions who made this an opportune event to invite many prospective members in the public to join this great movement which is the largest voluntary organization in the world led by a proud son of Mother Lanka.

The ceremonial session of the Regional Convention was held at Piliyandala followed by a Convention Night where outstanding Lions and Eminent Persons of the Region nominated by the clubs in the Region were recognized for their service.

Lion Kumara Rodrigo of Lions Club of Kesbewa receives District Governor's special recognition award from DG Lion Kamal Seneviratne. Region Chairman, Lion Mohan Withanage is also in the picture. *Pix. Beverley Jansz*

Region Chairman, Lion Mohan Withanage lights the oil lamp.

District Governor, Lion Kamal Seneviratne inducting new Lion members to the District Clubs, at the Regional Convention of Region two - District 306A2.

Toastmasters International Speech Contest -2008

Toastmasters International Speech Contest, 2008 was held at Waters on Edge on March 30.

Dharshana de Silva

Twenty Five clubs participated in the contest. The winner Dharshana de Silva (CTM) of Millennium Toastmasters Club will compete with Indian Toastmasters at ovation 2008 in Bangalore in May this year.

Dian Abeywardena (Second)

Panthea Elagavan (Third)

The trophies and certificates were from Toastmasters International. The Canadian High Commissioner Angela J Bogdan distributed the awards.

Criteria for judging was on speech development, structure, effectiveness, achievement of purpose, value, body language, voice flexibility, manner, enthusiasm and pronunciation.

The project Chairman was ATM Yuthi Gunasekara of the Colombo Toastmasters Club.

Courtesy for publication - CTM Romayne Diasz Public Relations and Media Convenor.

Colombo Summerset and Kelani Valley Lions donate ICU beds

Colombo Summerset and Kelani Valley Lions jointly presented a consignment of ICU (Intensive Care Unit) beds to Warakapola Hospital. The ICU beds were donated by the Laksaviya Foundation in Australia.

Chief Guest at the occa-

Here DMO Warakapola Hospital Dr. Prema Jayantha addressing the gathering. MOH Warakapola, Dr. Wijayapala, District Governor, 306 B2, Lion Mahesh Pasqual, District Chairperson/Project Chairman, Lion Lalith Hewage, Kelani Valley Lions Club President, Lion Lakshman Weeraratne and Lion Asanga Jayatilleke, Secretary, Kelani Valley Lions Clubs were also present.

Colombo (Host) Lions Half a century of mother club

This year, the Lions Club of Colombo (Host) completes 50 years of serving the community.

Being the Mother Club of the Lions Movement in Sri Lanka, the club has proudly watched the numbers grow from just one to 433 clubs with 12,323 members in the country as at end of February 2008. The result has been that the Lions are now the largest voluntary international Community Service organization in Sri Lanka. There is not a town of any significance in the nation which does not have a Lions Club. Lions Clubs are active in the North and the East, too. In the Jaffna Peninsula, there are 17 clubs, and one each in Mannar and Vavuniya on the East there are 10 clubs. All of them are highly active. Lions are the most active of such organizations int he island. Humanitarian service should be intrinsically neutral, and free from ethnic, religious and gender biases.

The Colombo (Host) Club was inaugurated in 1950 through the sponsorship of the South Indian Lions with the support of Lions Clubs International. The local initiators were Onally Gulamhussain, well-known businessman and Zain Markar, a senior executive in Esso Inc. It then had 25 members, all of them leading citizens in the Professions, Vocations and Business. The first President was Col. C.P. Jayawardena.

The first project successfully completed by this pioneering club was the introduction of the White Cane to assist the blind. Five hundred White Canes were distributed. The roster of projects completed by the club in 50 years of service runs into the hundreds. The Lions Club of Colombo (Host) continues to be a 'Beacon of Service' to the community and looks back with pride and satisfaction on the high regard the Lions Movement