New Lions join District 306A2 to serve the needy

Beverley Jansz

The month of October is the new Lions Recruiting Month world over. In line with this, Lions District 306A2 District Governor S.K. Karunasekera organised a mass induction ceremony of 173 new Lions. This is one of the largest recruitments in the recent years.

Oaths for the new Lions were administered by Past International President, Mahendra Amarasuriya at a Solemn Ceremony held at Horana last week.

PIP Amarasuriya said that participation in membership growth is another commitment to service. 'The stronger our membership stands, the stronger our ability to serve others' Lion Amarasuriya said.

In a world in which the tragedies of poverty, pain, loneliness and despair remain, constantly, Lions should ensure that their humanitarian endeavours too remain a constantly and vigilant effort, Lion Amarasuriya said.

Past International President Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya paid a tribute to District Governor 306A2, Lion S.K. Karunasekera for inducting no less than 173 new members to his Lions District.

The new Lions who joined District 306A2 to serve the needy.

Lion Mahendra Amarasuriya (left) presenting the Melvin Jones fellow award to District Governor, 306A2, Lion S.K. Karunasekera. *Pictures by Beverley Jansz*

McCain inaugurated Marriott Club for Corporate Accounts

The US Republican Presidential candidate Senator John McCain visited Sri Lanka in the company of other US senators in 1993 to inaugurate the Marriott Club for Corporate Accounts, when the Marriott chain began operations in Colombo. This file photo was taken by our journalist, Beverley Jansz. In the picture from left are Senator John McCain and his wife, the then General Manager of the Marriott Hotel, Frank Keenan, Mrs. Hughes, Senator Hughes and the then Resident Manager of the Marriott Hotel, Chandra Mohotti who is the present Vice President of the Galle Face Hotel Management Co. Ltd.

306 C2 launches massive drive on Pre and Post Natal Care

In keeping with the ten point programme of the District Governor of District 306 C2 Buddheni de Z. Gunasekera, a massive project has been launched throughout the Lions District spanning through Colombo, Sabaragamuwa, Uva, Central and Eastern Provinces in providing milk food, baby items such as milk-feeding bottles, basin clothing, vitamins etc to pregnant mothers.

A project was conducted by Lions Club of Nawala at the Castle Street Maternity hospital to 300 expectant mothers. In addition a group of doctors provide necessary advise regarding. Pre and post natal care to the mothers as to how they should lookafter the babies after birth both in terms of medical care and diet on a long term basis.

Lions District 306C2 comprising 12 regions and ninety seven clubs have launched this project in maternity wards, dispensaries and villages spanning through the district benefitting thousands of pregnant mothers.

This is a clear example of the saying "The Hand That Rocks the cradle, Rules the World".

The structure of the District Cabinet has provided a District Chairperson to each of the Regional Council in charge of Pre - and Post Natal Care who in turn co-ordinates with the clubs in conducting such projects effectively. On 18th October a project was launched at the Castle Street Maternity Hospital under the chairmanship of Lady Lion Mangalika Maddumage who is the chairperson Region 6 in charge of Pre

DG 306C2, Buddheni Gunasekera alongwith Chairperson, Pre and Post Natal Care of Region 8, Mangalika Maddumage at the project at Castle Street Maternity Hospital.

Lanka's long standing Leo Club celebrates 39 years

The long standing Leo Club in Sri Lanka, Leo Club of Colombo (Host) celebrated 39 years of unbroken service on October 25. The Club was inaugurated in 1969 under the guidance of the Lions Club of Colombo (Host).

It was great to see some of the Past Presidents participating in a small but touching ceremony. The event was graced by Chief Guest Lion Sepala Amerasuriya who incidentally was the Charter President of the Leo Club of Colombo (Host) 39 years ago.

Nine other past presidents, the present President, members of the Club, visiting Leos & Lions were among the gathering. The Leo Club of Colombo (Host) has produced 5 District Presidents and 2 Multiple District Presidents in the last seven years which is an outstanding achievement, said Past Club President and present Multiple President Leo Ricky Simms. He further stated the Club has been the most outstanding Leo Club in district 306 A1 four times in the last five years, and in the last year it achieved its highest glory when it won the award for the most outstanding Leo Club in the world at the Lions International Convention in Bangkok.

This year too it is led by a very dynamic leader Leo Sumudu, and undoubtedly it will be another fantastic year of service, said Leo Ricky.

Past Presidents of the Club

Lions Clubs of Wattala City and Mabole conducted service projects to help flood victims in Galagahaduwa and Palliyawatta areas in Hendala last week. Lions Club of Mabole (above) distributed lunch packets in Palliyawatta area with the parish priest of Palliyawatta R. C. church Rev. Fr. Nihal Liyanage and Zone Chairman Shamendra Goonasekera and Lions Club of Wattala City (below) distributed dry rations in Galagahaduwa area by their President Dinesh Perera, Treasurer Nadeera Goonawardana and Board member Dr. Maithree Perera. *Pic by Nimal Perera Wattala group corr*

Battle for supremacy at The Management Club (TMC) Wisdom 2008 Quiz

Beverley Jansz

An enthraled audience witnessed a team of exceptionally talented quizzers led by Mahesha Weerasinha edging out a team of their friends captained by Indika Jayasinghe and clinching the WISDOM Challenge Trophy and Rs. 50,000 in cash plus certificates, WISDOM 2008 Quiz Competition conducted recently by The Management Club. The second and third runners up slots were secured by another two teams of individuals led by Lathika Niriella and Riyad Rifai who received Certificates of Excellence in addition to their cash awards.

Wisdom 2008 was open to four sectors - Schools & Educational Institutions, Mercantile Firms, Banks & Financial Institutions & Teams of Individuals. There were 34 teams who took part at this quiz organized by The Management Club for the third year in succession.

The quiz was conducted as a team event with five members in each team who had to answer five rounds of questions on - Current Affairs, Sports, General Knowledge, Space & Astronomy & Arts/Literature and Entertainment - with each round consisting of 10 questions. After a tough battle with two tie-breakers, the schools category award was won by Royal College 'A' team.

Seylan Bank, who incidentally became one of the top five teams, emerged winners in the Banking sector, whilst Dialog Telekom emerged the best among Mercantile teams. The sector award for the Individuals' category was also won by Mahesha Wirasinha's team.

Leading schools such as Ananda, Nalanda, Royal, Stafford International, Wycherly International as well as a team from the Colombo Medical Faculty, competed on an equal basis with teams of 10 top companies representing the Mercantile sector, 9 teams from management clubs of Banks and 8 teams formed by individuals, at Wisdom 2008.

Every contestant was presented with a certificate of participation, a unique feature in TMC's WISDOM series, and trophies and certificates of excellence were awarded to the four sector winners.

A high standard was maintained as usual - in keeping with the tag line of the event - the ultimate quiz challenge - and the quiz was conducted by Ruwan Senanayake, Sri Lanka's representative of the International Quizzing Association UK, who is also a founder member and the Official Quiz Master of TMC.

With 30 seconds to answer each question and an extra minute given at the end of each round for participants to review their answers,

The Management Club envisages enhancing the knowledge base and retention ability of teenagers to help them in any career path they embark upon in later years while also grooming young executives at middle management levels to take quick decisions as and when situations so demand.

TMC hopes to repeat the WISDOM Quiz Competition in September 2009.

Winners, Mahesha Weerasinha's team being awarded the Wisdom 2008 Trophy by Chairman, The Management Club, Galle Face Hotel Senaka Abeyakoon.

Runners-up team led by Indika Jayasinghe

Best mercantile team - Dialog

Awards for services to the Blind

Past President, Lions Club of Colombo West, Lion Ashroff Hussain (Second from left) and Lion S. Sekar, Regional Coordinator 306 A2, (extreme right) were recognised by The Sri Lanka Association for the Blind and presented Appreciation Awards for the services rendered to the blind. Also in the picture are, Secretary SL Council for the blind Ms. Mangala and Secretary SL Council for the Blind, S.L. Hettiarachchi.

Biyagama Lions Club donated 24 cubs uniform kits to the Yabaraluwa Kanista Vidyalaya clubs team at a function held at the Udupila Village last week. Here the 306B02 Lions District Governor P. Jeyarajan hands over cubs uniform kits to cubs Lakshan Weerasinghe. President Lion Lady Lekha Korale and Treasurer Ajith Korale were also present. *Malwana group correspondent, Mahanama Vithanage*

Sameen - 1st Lankan to lead Int'l Service Club meets Japanese PM

Jaycees World President 1989 Isfahani Sameen made a special trip to Japan to congratulate Taro Aso, the newly elected Prime Minister of Japan. Mr. Aso who was the 1978 National President of Japan Jaycees had been a close associate of Sameen for over thirty years and had worked very closely with him in the International Arena of the Jaycees. Mr. Aso through the Japan Jaycees, extended his fullest support to Sameen in every position he held in JCI and finally to be elected to the prestigious office of World President of the Jaycees in 1989 thereby becoming the first Sri Lankan to lead an International Voluntary Organization. Here Prime Minister Taro Aso with JC Isfahani Sameen.

Project Manager Commonwealth Essay Competition, Zoe Wilson who visited Sri Lanka to participate as the chief at the Commonwealth Essay Competition (SL) was accorded a warm welcome at the Taj Samudra Hotel. Here Zoe Wilson with (from left) Past President, Lions Club of Colombo West, Lion Ashroff Hussain, Secretary, RCS, S. Yogendranaden and Gen. Tilak Puranagama, Vice President RCS. *Pic. BJ*