



1974/2014

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

**RUBY ANNIVERSARY
OF CHARTER**

JUNE 2014

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

When I suggested to Tom Restall that we should put up our profiles on the monthly newsletter, I little thought that I would be the first one to contribute! In the past we used to announce birthdays, anniversaries, marriages and births, but these profiles will now give more information to our members, enhancing our Lions experience with more personal friendships.

This month many of us will be in Sardinia, where we shall be meeting with members of Lions Club Quartacciu and Lions Club Villacrido. Besides giving us a good break and allowing us to enjoy the hospitality of our friends in Sardinia, these meetings provide an opportunity for promoting our international projects such as our "Gathering" and the forthcoming Mediterranean Lions Conference.

Our Club members have many opportunities to visit other clubs abroad. Our twinned clubs always invite us to their Charters and ask us to visit for other important events. Unfortunately, such invitations are often received too late for us to take them up. In this regard, it is good to note that last month two of our members PP. George O. Attard and Membership Chairperson Vivienne Zammit attended the Bosco Marengo Santa Croce's Charter while Zone Chairman Lion Tom A. Restall also attended District MD108YA Congress when the incoming Directors were elected. During these visits members promoted our activities, especially our 5th Gathering and 40th Charter Anniversary celebrations.

Talking of our Charter Anniversary we are seeking sponsorships to meet the expenses of organising such an event. It would be good for our sponsors to note that while these celebrations are not philanthropic, they give us the much needed exposure that, in turn, would help us in seeking support for our projects. Hence we are appealing to members to let us know of potential sponsors we could contact through their kind intervention.

Lion Victor Borg Barthet

WE SERVE

PEACE POSTER COMPETITION

Our Club will once again be participating the Peace Poster Competition. The scope of this international competition is to encourage youth in our community to express their feelings of peace, while gaining exposure for our Club.

The theme of this year's competition, which incidentally is the 27th contest is ***"Peace, Love and Understanding"***. The Club is in contact with the Ministry of Education & Employment to attract as many students as possible to participate in this competition.

Members may recall that for two consecutive years a Maltese youngster from Gozo had an honourable mention in similar contests. This was quite an achievement when one considers that thousands of children from all over the world participate in this annual contest.

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40th ANNIVERSARY OF CHARTER

Lions Club Sliema will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary of Charter on Saturday November 8, 2014, with a Gala Dinner at the Palace Hotel, Sliema, when it is hoped the current International President Barry J. Palmer, who by then will be the LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) Chairman, will honour us with his presence.

A Sub Committee under the chairmanship of Lion President Victor Borg Barthelet has been meeting to make this occasion memorable.

During the period 5 to 8 November, we will be having various overseas Lions visiting Malta for the bi-annual Lions Gathering organised by our Club. To date several Lions from our twinned Clubs have signified their intention to come to Malta to join us in our celebrations. Invitations in various languages have been sent to Lions friends overseas who are not members of our twinned clubs. It is hoped that several will coming to Malta during this week.

Club members will be kept informed of this important event



CLUB MEMBERS AT BOSCO MARENGO SANTA CROCE

Past President Lion George O. Attard and Membership Chairperson Lion Vivienne Zammit attended the Charter celebrations of our twinned club Bosco Marengo Santa Croce on May 17.

During their visit both Lions were guests at a Prize Giving ceremony and Lion George was also invited to present one of the prizes. Both Lions were well received by our twinned Lions and had words of praise for their hospitality. IPP Lion George was also seated at the head table (second from left). Others at the head table are (from left to right): Lion Francesco Ricagni, Lion Claudia Balduzzi, who is LCIF MDC for Malta, District Governor Vittorino Molino, Lion Marie Ciapuzzi, President of our twinned Club, Colonel of the Town Carabinieri and the Mayoress of Bosco Marengo. It is hoped that Lions from our twinned Club will be in Malta in November.

PROFILE: LION PRESIDENT VICTOR BORG BARTHET

Lion Victor was born on 31 March 1951 and was married to Stella nee Galea on 3 June 1973. They had 3 sons, and are now grand parents of 2 grandsons and a grand daughter. Lion Victor is now a semi-retired business man.

Lion Victor joined Lions in 1981 and is serving as President of the Club for the third time having served a two year term as President between in 1987 and 1989. His **second term of office as President was during the Club's golden anniversary of Charter in 1999/2000 and will now also be President for the Club's ruby anniversary.** Lion Victor spent one year as Treasurer and another as Membership Chairman. He was also responsible for International Relations for a number of years. Moreover Lion Victor is a Melvin Jones Fellow.

During his years as President, Lion Victor saw the completion of various Club projects such as the restoration of the frescoes in St. Agatha Catacombs, the restoration of priceless books kept in the National Library and the restoration of various niches found in street corners at Sliema. Lion Victor humbly states that *"the projects completed during his time as President were not all due to me, but through the efforts of all members. These projects just happen to have finished in that year"*.

Asked about his future plans as a Lion, Lion Victor said: *"I will work to maintain a strong club through social events and the participation of all members in club functions and decisions. I also would like to have more non-Lions attending our monthly speakers meetings as this will lead to possible new members joining us. I would also like more female members as such members are great contributors to our club efforts."*



Besides fishing, Lion Victor is a keen stamp collector having started his collection at the age of 10. He enjoys reading especially historical novels and loves travelling. Lion Victor is a member of Bird Life and has supported their efforts to stop illegal and spring hunting and trapping.

He is also a member of Din I-Art Helwa and supports its activities

Photo: Lion President presenting a Club bannerette to Past President Lion Urmastav of LC Talinn Est 1 (Estonia) who was recently on holiday in Malta .

ZONE CHAIRMAN AT MD108YA CONGRESS

Lion Tom A. Restall represented our Club at the 18th Congress of MD108YA which was held in Praia a Mare, Calabria, from 16 to 18 May 2014.

The Congress is held annually in mid May to confirm the incoming District Governor and the Cabinet. The District Governor for the Lionistic Year 2014/2015 is Lion Liliana Caruso who hails from Matera in Basilicata. The Congress was well attended with 319 delegates casting their vote to elect the incoming 2nd Vice President. The vote was a close one with the winning candidate obtaining a majority of just 7 votes. Though the incoming District Governor had already been nominated and had received support from all Clubs in the District, she too had to face final approval from the delegates entrusted to vote. As a matter of fact though obtaining a large majority of votes, there were a few delegates who cast a vote of disapproval.



It may be recalled that District 108YA had organized their 2011 Winter Congress in Malta. For the congress which was held at the Hilton Hotel, over 250 persons attended. Lions who had attended that Congress remember the event well and all recollected the pleasant sojourn in Malta.

Lion Tom A. Restall addressed briefly the congress and augured that the friendly relations existing between the District and our Club would continue with possible twinning. Lion Tom also met Lion Paola Gattola who together with his brother Lion Danilo is a member of our Club. Both brothers will be visiting Malta in the near future and hopefully will attend one of our meetings. Moreover Lion Paolo has been asked by several of his colleagues from District MD108YA to organize a visit to Malta to coincide with our 40th Anniversary celebrations in November 2014.

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LIONS PRAYER: Lord, listen to our hearts. Guide us in the things we do and say. Let love and understanding be the foundation for our dedication and the binding cords between us.

Enable us **TO SERVE** those who call upon us and to give ourselves to those in need. Amen.



REFRESHING ONE'S MEMORY—THINGS TO KNOW AND REMEMBER:

In the May issue of the newsletter we published the names of the 2014/2015 Board of Directors. A few of our Club's new members asked what were the precise functions of the members occupying certain posts on the Board. Hereunder we are listing a few of these duties:

- **Lion Tamer:** the Lion Tamer is an optional officer and is responsible for club property (such as flags, banners, gavels, etc.). The Lion Tamer also keeps order at meetings and distributes materials at meetings.
- **Tail Twister:** The Tail Twister is optional and serves to promote harmony, good fellowship and enthusiasm at club meetings through the judicious imposition of "fines" on members. The Tail Twister may not be fined except by the unanimous vote of all present. Any funds collected by the Tail Twister are immediately turned over to the Treasurer.
- **Membership Chairperson:** The Membership Chairperson serves on the Membership Committee. Responsibilities of the Membership Chairperson include development of membership growth programmes, implementation of recruitment and retention programmes and preparation of orientation sessions.

Awards: Lions believe that service is its own reward, but special accomplishments and milestones should be recognized and celebrated. New members may think that awards and recognition is a long way off, but as a new Lion, you can aspire to some awards almost immediately. An awards is presented for inviting new members to join a Lions Club.

Chevrons: Chevrons are awarded for ten, twenty, thirty etc. years of service. The chevron can be attached to the Lions badge which incidentally should be always worn especially during club meetings. A fine is imposed for members failing to wear the badge at meetings.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

Members are reminded that the Membership fee for the Lionistic Year 2014/2015 becomes due on July 1st, 2014. The fee is Euro one hundred (100) which also includes free attendance for the Charter Night Gala Dinner when members will only have to pay for their partners.

Members are requested to send their membership fee by cheque payable to Lions Club Sliema at their earliest convenience so as to avoid being chased by our Membership Chairperson Lion Vivienne Zammit to affect payment.

Members are reminded that the Club has to send membership dues to Lions International by July and January each year and hence it is important that they pay their membership fee in time.

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WANTED—SPONSORSHIP

On the occasion of 40th anniversary of charter, the Club will be publishing a commemorative booklet highlighting the Club's activities during these years. To realize this project the Club requires sponsorship from firms and members. Lion President has already mentioned this project during the May meetings and encouraged members to find sponsors. The intention is to have the back inner cover dedicated to Acknowledgements of firms which give a sponsorship to cover the cost of printing. We are looking for sponsors (firms and/or individuals) to donate 50 or 100 euros. A small logo of sponsoring firms will be inserted next to the company's name.

Members are requested to help out in this project to publish the booklet by obtaining sponsorship. Kindly contact Lion President or Lion Tom A. Restall who has been entrusted to compile and publish this booklet if you find a sponsor.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BBQ at The Terrace, Malta Campsite, Dahlet ix-Xmajjar (White Tower Bay) near Armier on 6 JUNE 2014 from 7.00 p.m.

SPARE RIBS NIGHT— 12 JULY 2014 at MARSJA SPORTS CLUB
Further details will be made known in due course.