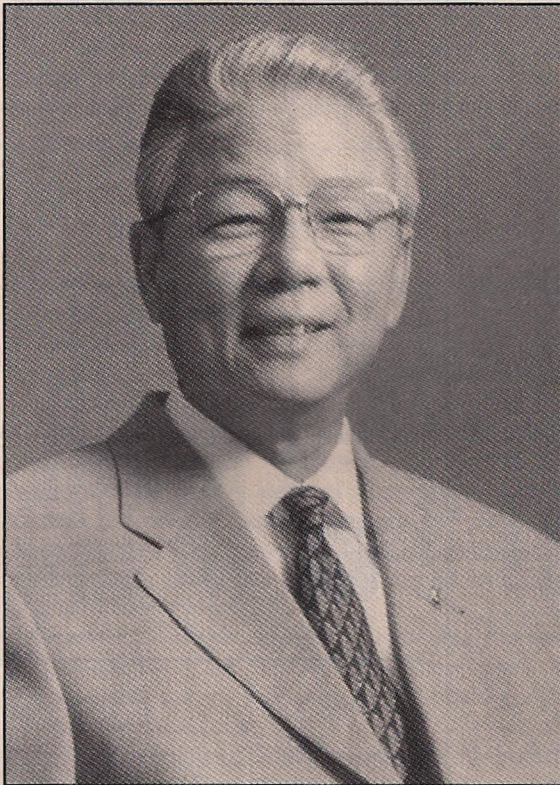


## ▼ Kajit "KJ" Habanananda - International President



**Kajit "KJ" Habanananda**, of Bangkok, Thailand, is the president of Lions Clubs International and served as an international director in 1982-84 and as a 100% district governor, council chairman and district cabinet secretary. He is a charter member of the Bangkok (Cosmopolitan) Lions Club and has recorded 33 years of perfect attendance since becoming a Lion. He has attended 30 Orient and Southeast Asia Lions (OSEAL) Forums and was executive secretary of the 12th forum and chairman of the 26th forum in 1987. President Habanananda has received numerous awards, among them the 100% President's Award, seven Extension Awards, the Senior Master Key, 15 International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow and was the first Lead Gift donor to Campaign SightFirst. International President Habanananda manages business enterprises involving real estate, housing, building management, international consulting, aerospace and telecommunications. He and his wife, Panida, have two sons and a daughter.

## ▼ Judge Howard L. "Pat" Patterson Jr. - Immediate Past President



**Judge Howard L. "Pat" Patterson Jr.**, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, is the immediate past president of Lions Clubs International. He served as an international director in 1975-77 and as a 100% district governor. He is a life member of the Hattiesburg Lions Club and has served as treasurer of his multiple district council of governors, director of Lions World Services for the Blind and president of the Mississippi Lions Sight Foundation. Immediate Past President Patterson is a Key Member and has received two International Leadership awards, the Mississippi Sight Foundation Leadership Award, 13 International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a member of the Mississippi Lions Hall of Fame. He is a Senior Status Chancery Court Judge and a member of his local, state and American Bar associations. Prior to his election as a district judge in 1966, he served as his city's prosecuting attorney and judge. Immediate Past President Patterson and his wife, Brenda, have three children and four grandchildren.



**James E. "Jim" Ervin**, of Albany, Georgia, is the first vice president. He served as an international director during 1992-1994 and as a district governor and council chairman. He is a member of the Albany Lions Club and has been District Leadership Development chairman, Speaker's Bureau chairman and Multiple District Long Range Planning chairman. Vice President Ervin is a past director and trustee of the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation and the Georgia Lions Camp for the Blind. He has also served on the 1996 Georgia Lions Paralympic Committee and represented the association at the 1993 and 1997 International Service Clubs Leadership Conferences in West Virginia and California. Vice President Ervin has been a presenter, moderator and discussion leader at 10 USA/Canada Leadership Forums. He has received the Extension Award, Guiding Lion Award, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, seven International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Vice President Ervin has 26 years of ownership and management experience in transportation and employee leasing companies and is a member of numerous professional organizations. He and his wife, Lion Betty, have four children and four grandchildren.



**Dr. Jean Behar**, of Sainte-Adresse, France, is the second vice president and served as an international director during 1990-1992 and is a charter member of the Le Havre (Expansion) Lions Club. He served as a 100% district governor and council chairman and chairman of both his district's and multiple district's Activities committees. He is a founder and honorary chairman of Medico Lions Clubs of France, which organizes assistance from French Lions clubs to developing countries. Vice President Behar has been a group leader at District Governors-Elect seminars and a speaker at several seminars at four international conventions. He was a Multi-national Coordinator of Campaign SightFirst for West European countries, the association's representative to UNESCO in 1994-1997 and to UNICEF in 1995-1996. Vice President Behar also served as president of the 46th Europa Forum in 1996. He was a radiologist, chairman of the Department of Radiology at the General Hospital of Le Havre, chairman of the College of Medical Imaging of Upper Normandy and chairman of the union of users of Imaging Technics in France. He is a founder of a private hospital and was an advisor to the Appellate Court of Rouen. Vice President Behar has received the Top Ten Activities Award, six International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Vice President Behar and his wife, Stella, have four children.

▼ *International Directors - Elected in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA*



**Bruno Ahlqvist**, of Gavle, Sweden, is a member of the Gavle Norra Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has been his multiple district's Extension and Development chairman, Long Range Planning Committee chairman and Multiple District Trainer. Director Ahlqvist has received the Golden Lion Award (the highest Swedish award), two Extension awards and two International President's awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Professionally, he is an international marketing manager. Director Ahlqvist's wife, Inger, is also a Lion, and they have one son and one daughter.

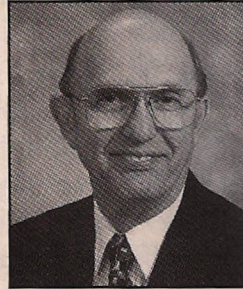


**David Fuertes**, of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, is a member of the Las Palmas Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was also chairman of his district and multiple district LCIF, Leadership and Public Relations committees, Train-the-Trainer and Campaign SighFirst Sector coordinator. Director Fuertes has recorded 22 years of perfect attendance and has received 14 District Governor's Appreciation awards, two District Governor's Extension awards, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation and two International President's awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Fuertes is a board member and director of a promotion and sales company and a member of numerous business, sports, recreational, cultural and social organizations. He and his wife, Blasi, have two children.

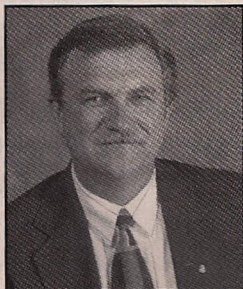


**Libardo Bastidas Passos**, of Santa Cruz, Narino, Colombia, is a member of the Popayan Lions Club and served as district governor and council chairman. At the district level, he has been chairman of the Extension and Membership, Leadership, Constitution and By-Laws and Convention committees. He has also served as chairman of his multiple district's Leadership Committee. Director Bastidas has received several District Governor's Certificates of Appreciation and International President's Certificates of Appreciation. He is a urologist and a member of the Medical Federation of Colombia. Director Bastidas also serves as professor at the University of Cauca's School of Medicine and is a past Dean of the university's School of Medicine. He and his wife Rocio Toro have two

daughters and one son.

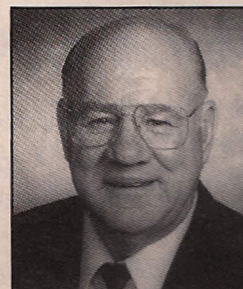


**Edward R. "Ed" Gear**, of Brookings, South Dakota, is a member of the Brookings Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was chairman of his district's Convention, Leadership and LCIF committees, District Trainer, secretary/treasurer of the South Dakota Past District Governor's Association and a member of his state's Lions Eye Bank Task Force from which he was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation. Director Hansen has received the Rebuilding Lion Award, the International President's Leadership Award, an Extension Award and the International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Hansen is a retired educator and is presently a member of numerous community and civic organizations, including the Brookings Chamber of Commerce, Brookings Chamber Agricultural Committee and chairman of the South Dakota Eminent Farmer and Homemaker Committee. He and his wife, Roberta, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children and five grandchildren.



**John J. Daum**, of Newcastle, Wyoming, is a member of the Newcastle Cambria Lions Club and served as 100% district governor and council chairman. At the district level, he has been Leadership chairman and Vision Committee chairman. Director Daum was also president of the Wyoming Lions Foundation. He has been active in leadership workshops and officer school training and served as a LEHP presenter and instructor for Train-the-Trainer and Lions-Quest. Director Daum has received the International Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation and the Advanced Membership Key. He is a Melvin Jones Fellow. A retired middle school educator and coach, Director Daum is also chairman of his local Senior Housing Board. He served as chairman of his hospital

board and was a member of his city's planning board and the local, state and national Education Associations. He and his wife, Katherine, have two daughters.



**Lloyd H. Hansen**, of Brookings, South Dakota, is a member of the Brookings Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was chairman of his district's Convention, Leadership and LCIF committees, District Trainer, secretary/treasurer of the South Dakota Past District Governor's Association and a member of his state's Lions Eye Bank Task Force from which he was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation. Director Hansen has received the Rebuilding Lion Award, the International President's Leadership Award, an Extension Award and the International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Hansen is a retired educator and is presently a member of numerous community and civic organizations, including the Brookings Chamber of Commerce, Brookings Chamber Agricultural Committee and chairman of the South Dakota Eminent Farmer and Homemaker Committee. He and his wife, Roberta, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children and five grandchildren.

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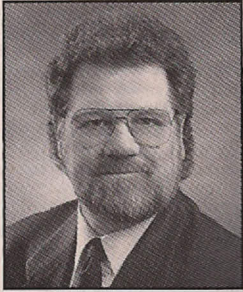


**Peter Y.S. Fu**, of Singapore, is a member of the Singapore (East) Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He also served as chairman of the 10th OSEAL Forum in 1971 and the 24th OSEAL Forum in 1985 and sponsors the annual Lion Peter Fu Charity Golf Tournament. He is also a trustee of the Lions Home for the Elders. Director Fu has received five International President's awards, the Ambassador of Good Will Award and the Melvin Jones Fellowship. Professionally, he is the owner of diversified business companies. Director Fu and his wife, Mary, have four children and six grandchildren.



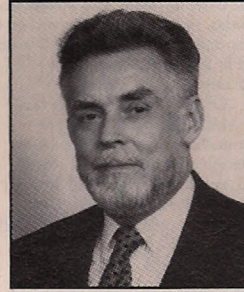
**Burrell Hardan**, of Bellingham, Washington, is a member of the Bellingham (Central) Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has also been chairman of his district's Extension, Contest & Awards and Membership committees and LCIF chairman of his multiple district. Director Hardan has served as director of the Lions Society of British Columbia, charter member and president of the Multiple District 19 Hearing Foundation, and secretary and trustee of Camp Horizon. He is a Brian Stevenson Fellow and has received six District Governor's Appreciation Awards, three District Governor's Extension awards, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, three Guiding Lion awards, 50 Member Key, three Extension awards and the International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Hardan is a distributor of beauty and barber supplies, a member of the City of Bellingham Board of Adjustment, a member of the Whatcom Transportation Authority Advisory Board and a board member of the Salvation Army. He and his wife, Gloria, have three children and a grandson.

## ▼ International Directors - Elected in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA



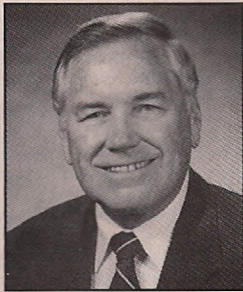
**Jack L. Isaman**, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, is a member of the Calgary (Northeast Eyeopener) Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has served on numerous district and multiple district committees and was president of the Lions of Alberta Foundation. Presently, he is director of the Multiple District 37 Lions Eye Bank and a director of the Lions of Alberta Foundation. Director Isaman has served as director of the Lions Christmas Telethon, was the author of the Multiple District 37 Policy Manual and has made numerous presentations on leadership training at the district and multiple district levels. He has received three International

Award, the International Leadership Award and the International President's Award. Director Isaman is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Professionally, he is an accountant and business manager. His wife, Denise, also is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.



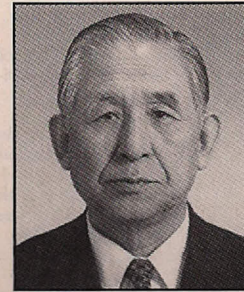
**Ernst A. Musil**, of Vienna, Austria, is a member of the Vienna-Johann Strauss Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has been his district's and multiple district's International Relations, Membership and Constitution and By-Laws chairman. Director Musil was involved in the organization and expansion of Lionism into Eastern Europe and served as Coordinating Lion for Districts 119 (Hungary), 122 (Czech Republic and Slovakia) and 124 (Romania). He has received the District Governor's Excellence Award, the Leadership Award, three International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Musil is an insurance company director. He has been honored for his work with the

Red Cross and his chamber of commerce. His wife, Christine, is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.



**Charles E. Kostro**, of Acton, Massachusetts, is a member of the Acton Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor. His Lion activities have also included being secretary, director and president of the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc., and chairman of his district's Eye Research Committee. Director Kostro initiated his district's Youth Speech Program and, in 1990-91, set a district record for eye research donations with \$266,685. He has received the Dr. Charles L. Schepens Life Time Award for Dedication to Eye Research, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, awards from the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, the Membership Key, the International President's Award and the Melvin Jones Fellowship. Director Kostro is an

electrical engineer and holds the position of engineering program manager. He has received wide recognition in his profession and is active in school and community youth sports programs. He and his wife, Lion Claire, have three sons and a granddaughter.



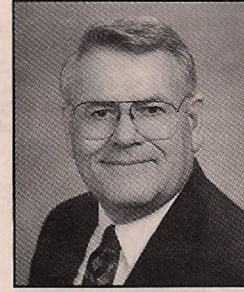
**Yasukazu Oono**, of Morioka, Japan, is a member of the Morioka (Kozukata) Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has been his multiple district's Convention Committee chairman, LCIF chairman and Train-the-Trainer. Director Oono was a member of the OSEAL Forum committee and served as management chairman of the Japan Lions Liaison Office. He has received the 30-Year Monarch Chevron, Advancement Key, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation and the Train-the-Trainer Certificate. Director Oono is the president of a taxi company, vice president of the Iwate Prefecture Taxi Association and president of the Iwate Prefecture Private Schools Parents Society. In recognition of his professional achievements, he received the Certificate

of Commendation from the Minister of Transport. Director Oono and his wife, Taeko, have four children and three grandchildren.



**Gilles J. Melançon**, of Repentigny, Quebec, Canada, served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was a moderator at a leadership seminar, chairman of his district's Extension Committee and chairman of his district's Association of Former Governors. Director Melançon served as chairman of his multiple district's Promotion Committee, co-chairman of the Leadership Committee, co-chairman of the 1979 International Convention in Montreal and senior vice president of the 1996 International Convention in Montreal. His extensive involvement has also included writing procedures for rebuilding weak clubs and writing his district's Constitution and By-Laws. Director Melançon has recorded 32 years of perfect attendance and received six District Governor's awards,

five International President's Certificates of Appreciation, five Extension awards, three International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is a 30-Year Monarch and a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Melançon is a retired manager of labor relations. He and his wife, Denise, have three children and four grandchildren.



**John B. "Jack" Stuart**, of Jacksonville, Florida, is a member of the Jacksonville Riverside Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and cabinet treasurer. He has also been president of the Multiple District 35 Past District Governors Association; president, North Florida Lions Eye Bank; Multiple District Convention chairman; director, Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind and director of the Florida Lions Camp for the Visually Handicapped. Director Stuart is a recipient of the Millard Conklin Crusader Award, three International President's Certificates of Appreciation, International President's Leadership Medal, Guiding Lion Award, Rebuilding Lion Award, two Extension awards, International President's Award with three torches and the Progressive Melvin Jones

Fellowship. He is the president and owner of a computing company and a retired United States Air Force systems analyst and maintenance control supervisor. Director Stuart is affiliated with numerous community and professional organizations, including president of the Retired Association, Florida Air National Guard. He and his wife, Barbara, have a son and a daughter, five grandchildren and one great-grandson.



**Salim Moussan**, of Beirut, Lebanon, is the charter president of the Beirut (St. Gabriel) Lions Club and served as a District Governor and as his district's Trainer and Leadership Development chairman. He is the founder and chairman of the Lions Eye Center in Lebanon and was chairman of the 23rd South Asia, Africa and Middle East Forum, advisor to the 24th forum, chairman of the 1997 Mediterranean Lions Conference and a presenter at two International Relations seminars at international conventions. Director Moussan has received an LCIF Certificate of Appreciation, five District Governor's Extension Awards, three International President's Leadership awards, three Extension awards and two International President's awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin

Jones Fellow. Director Moussan is the owner of an import-export trading company, a member of the American Management Association, past president of the Lebanese American Benevolent Association and active in numerous community activities. He and his wife, Alia, also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children.



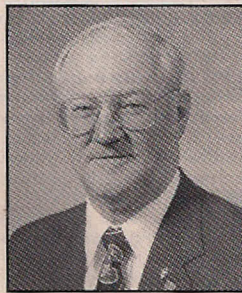
**Gene Vogel**, of Tonganoxie, Kansas, is a member of the Turner Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has served as district secretary/treasurer and his multiple district's Leadership and Membership chairman. Director Vogel served as the president of the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation. Internationally, he has been a member of the Elections, Credentials and Nominating committees. He was a member of the USA/Canada Forum Planning Committee in 1994 and vice chairman of the host committee for the 1995 International Board of Directors meeting in Overland Park, Kansas. Director Vogel has received four International President's Certificates of Appreciation and two International President's awards. He is the C.F.O./manager/stockholder of a research

group and active in numerous community and civic organizations, including the advisory committee of Kansas Specialty Dog Service. He and his wife, Dorcey, are both Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows. They have three daughters and four grandchildren.

## ▼ International Directors - Elected in Birmingham, England



**Naresh Aggarwal**, of Delhi, India, is a member of the Batala (Punjab), India, Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has been directly involved in the implementation of SightFirst projects and served as a Campaign SightFirst coordinator. On the district level, he has been chairman of his Membership Development Committee and was a multiple district trainer. He is the chairman and managing trustee of the District 321-D Students Foundation and a trustee of the Lions Service Trust of India. Director Aggarwal has received Extension awards for the organization of 20 Lions clubs, four International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International President's Leadership Award and six International President's awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. An industrialist, he is the managing director and chairman of two companies and a member of the Hindi Advisory Committee of India's Ministry of Welfare. He currently serves as a trustee of a charitable trust. Director Aggarwal and his wife, Navita, have two sons and a daughter.



**Ronald L. Duffe**, of New Richmond, Wisconsin, is a member of the Roberts, Wisconsin, Lions Club and has served as a 100% district governor and as chairman of his district's International Understanding, Leadership Development and Lioness committees. He has also been his multiple district's Leadership Committee chairman, director and president of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, a coordinator of the Wisconsin Lions Mission to Mexico program, president of the Wisconsin Past District Governors Association and a member of the host committee of the 1996 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Lion Duffe has received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, International President's Leadership Award and International President's Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Duffe is an accountant/controller of a food manufacturing company, a member of the American Legion and a former village trustee of Sussex, Wisconsin. He and his wife, Judy, have two children.



**Carlos L. Almodovar**, of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, is a member of the Mayaguez (Vista Verde) Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor, council chairman, district and multiple district treasurer, multiple district Train-the-Trainer advisor, Leadership Development advisor, chairman of his district's Elections Committee and district Leo Club advisor. He organized and directed a project for the development of potable water systems in the Republic of Haiti and was advisor for two Latin American Leo meetings held in Puerto Rico. Director Almodovar has received three International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International President's Leadership Award and the Melvin Jones Fellowship. He is a professional engineer and consultant and has been the recipient of

numerous honors from professional and civic organizations, including the Exemplary Citizen Award from the Antillian Cultural Association and the Distinguished Engineer Award from the College of Engineering and Surveyors of Puerto Rico. Director Almodovar and his wife, Mercedes, have three children.



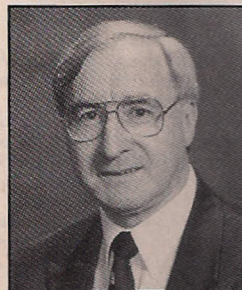
**Jose M. Ribeiro Gorgulho**, of Agueda, Portugal, is a member of the Agueda Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council secretary-treasurer. He also was his district's Leadership Development chairman, a Train-the-Trainer and a participant in the Leadership Workshop in Sao Paulo. He has attended numerous district, multiple district and international conventions and Europa Forums and has been a speaker at many Lions functions. Director Gorgulho has recorded 18 years of perfect attendance and has received the Membership Key, his region's Medal of Merit and many Certificates of Appreciation, including one from LCIF Campaign SightFirst. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Gorgulho is a businessman and the owner and director of his company. He is a member of

numerous professional and civic organizations, including the fiscal committee of Santa Casa da Misericordia in Agueda, a community football association, an automobile club and an education and rehabilitation institute for children. He and his wife, Laura Maria, have two sons.



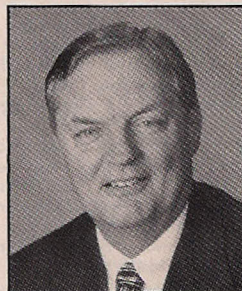
**Carl L. Battistone**, of Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, is a member of the Bethel Park Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor. He has been his district's LCIF Chairman and Coordinator of Blind Activities, and at the multiple district level was council chairman, State Convention Chairman and chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Lions Hearing Research Foundation and is presently a director of the Western Pennsylvania Hearing Foundation. Director Battistone also served as a Campaign SightFirst Sector Coordinator. He has recorded perfect attendance since joining in 1981 and has received the Lions of Pennsylvania Foundation Fellowship, an Extension Award, the Advancement Membership Key, the

International President's Certificate of Appreciation, two International President's Leadership awards and two International President's awards. Director Battistone is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. He is a highly decorated retired United States Marine Corps fighter pilot and a member of numerous organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Marine Corps Aviation Association. Director Battistone and his wife, Ruth, have six children and 15 grandchildren.



**G.A. "Tony" Hanning**, of Dunedin, New Zealand, is a member of the Green Island Lions Club and served as a district governor and council chairman. He was also chairman of his district's LCIF and Constitution and Insurance committees and his multiple district's Long Range Planning Committee. In addition, he was a trustee of the Lloyd Morgan Lions Clubs Charitable Trust. Director Hanning has received the 20-Year Chevron, several District Governor's Certificates of Appreciation, the Guiding Lion Award and the International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Hanning is the director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Dunedin, and he is an associate of the New Zealand Educational Institute. For four years he has served as secretary of

Camp Quality South, a camp for child cancer patients and their families, as well. He is a member of the National Finance Committee for the Association of Proprietors of Integrated Schools. He has also been affiliated with a number of other professional organizations. Director Hanning and his wife, Genny, have six children and four grandchildren.



**Dr. Dennis D. Cobler**, of North Muskegon, Michigan, is a member of the Muskegon (Northside) Lions Club. He served as a 100% district governor and as his district's Membership Chairman and Extension Chairman. He has also given hundreds of presentations at meetings and conferences at the club, district and international levels on membership, leadership, vision missions and LCIF-CSF. Director Cobler has received the Ken Lautzenheiser Award, the John S. Noel Award, the S.A. Dodge Award from his state and the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation's Humanitarian Award. He has also been awarded several International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Rebuilding Lion Award, the Guiding Lion Award, two Extension Awards, the 40

Member Key and the International President's Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Cobler is an optometrist specializing in low vision. He is a member of the Michigan and American Optometric associations, the AOA Low Vision Section and VOSH. He has received the State of Michigan Special Tribute from Governor J.J. Blanchard and the State of Michigan Volunteer Award from Governor John Engler. He and his wife, Kathleen, have a son and a daughter.



**Il Yun Kim**, of Seoul, Republic of Korea, is the charter president of the Seoul (Dae Sung) Lions Club and served as a district governor and council chairman. He has been president of the Korea Lions Parliamentarians League and a member of the Nominating Committee at the 75th International Convention in Hong Kong. Director Kim also organized the Moscow Lions Club, the first Lions club in the Republic of Russia. He has received the Medal of Distinction, two Extension awards, three International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Kim is a member of the Korean National Assembly and the founder and later president of Kyongju University. He has also served as president of the Korean-Brazilian

Parliamentarians Friendship Association and as a member of the Korean Committee for UNESCO. He and his wife, Soon-Ja Lee, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have six children.

## ▼ International Directors - Elected in Birmingham, England



**Nilson Martinez**, of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, is a member of the Santo Domingo (Naco) Lions Club and served as the first district governor of District R-2 and as council chairman. He has also served as director of his district's Lions Leadership Training Center and has, for 14 years, been chairman of the Lions Information, Leadership and Personal Growth seminars. Director Martinez was guest speaker at three FOLAC forums and has recorded 22 years of perfect attendance. He has received numerous recognitions for his endeavors as a Lion, including six International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the Master Key and the International President's Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Martinez is a civil engineer

and president and director of two engineering firms. His fields of study have also included personnel relations, human resources and psychology. He and his wife, Hilda, have three children and two grandchildren.



**Dr. Fernando Rojas**, of Juarez, Mexico, is a member of the Juarez Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He has also served as his district's Drug Abuse Awareness chairman and at the multiple district level as SighthFirst Region chairman and Leadership Committee chairman. He has also been an official speaker at three Latin American and Caribbean Forums and three cabinet meetings and participated in the last 12 international conventions. He has received five International President's Certificates of Appreciation, the International President's Leadership Award, the Drug Awareness Program Recognition Certificate and two International President's awards. Director Rojas is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Dr. Rojas is a hematology consultant and the general manager of a laboratory and hospital supplies company. He is retired from the hospital division of the Mexican Social Security Institute. He is presently a member of the Juarez Medical Association, the Mexican Hematology Association and the Juarez Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Rosalba, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children and eight grandchildren.



**Richard D. Myers**, of Fremont, Nebraska, is a member of the Elkhorn, Nebraska, Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was also his multiple district's secretary, a member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Planning Committee for 1996 and 1997, a forum presenter in 1995 and 1996 and chairman of the 1991 International Convention Elections Committee. Presently, he is director of Radio Talking Book Nebraska, Inc. and chairman of the Nebraska Lions Foundation. Director Myers has received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation, International President's Leadership Award, the International President's Award and is an Ambassador of Good Will. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. He is

an attorney-at-law and a member of the Omaha and Nebraska Bar Associations and a member of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. Director Myers' wife, Marsha, is also a Lion and a Melvin Jones Fellow.



**Philip Y. Tom**, of Des Plaines, Illinois, is a member of the Chicago (Central) Lions Club—the "Mother Club" of the association—and served as a 100% district governor, district chairman for the Lions of Illinois Blind Activities Committee and District 1-A Convention Committee chairman for 20 years. He has also served on the Credentials Committee at the international conventions for 25 years, 20 of them as chairman. Director Tom has received the 40 Year Charter Monarch Award, three District Governor's Extension awards, 21 District Governor's Appreciation awards, the Master Key, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, six International President's awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Tom is a retired executive administrator of production control for a Chinese food canning and manufacturing company. He is a member of numerous professional organizations, a trustee of the Norwegian American Hospital Community Trust Fund, affiliated with the Chinese American Civic Council and a life member of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. Director Tom and his wife, Betty, have four children and six grandchildren.



**Motoaki Ono**, of Kawaguchi, Japan, is a member of the Kawaguchi Lions Club and served as a district governor and council chairman. He was chairman of his district's Environmental and Eye Health committees and chairman of his multiple district's Credentials Committee from 1986 to 1996. Director Ono has received eight International President's Certificates of Appreciation, three International President's Leadership awards, the International President's Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Ono is the president of a general services company. His wife's name is Yoko and they are the parents of a son and a daughter.



**Peter A. Vuurens**, of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, is a member of the Delft (Prinestad) Lions Club and served as a district governor and as chairman of his district's Membership and Extension, International Relations, North Sea Lions District Twinning, Leadership Development, Internet and Webmaster, and Club Activities committees. He has been his multiple district's treasurer, chairman of his multiple district's Membership and Extension Committee, treasurer of the North Sea Lion District Twinning Alliance and a member of his multiple district's Committee on Information and Communication Technology. He is presently chairman of the North Sea Lions District Twinning Alliance. Director Vuurens was a member of the academic staff of the Institute for Political Science, University of

Amsterdam; deputy secretary of the University of Amsterdam; and secretary and state councillor of the Delft University of Technology. He was also a floor leader of the Municipal Council of the city of Amstelveen. He is a member of numerous academic university organizations. Director Vuurens and his wife, Marion, have two sons and a daughter.



**Jay Patel**, of North Charleston, South Carolina, is a member of the North Charleston Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and as chairman of his district's Membership, Drug Awareness, Twinning, Activities, Youth Exchange, Extension and Care and Eyeglass committees. He has also been affiliated with the South Carolina Eye Research Center and served two terms on the Board of Directors of South Carolina Lions, Inc. Director Patel has received numerous recognitions, including the District Governor's Excellence Award, the International President's Leadership Award, the International President's Certificate of Appreciation and two International President's awards. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a member of the

South Carolina Lions Hall of Fame. Director Patel is a businessman. Active in his community, he is a member of his chamber of commerce, vice president of the North Charleston Property Association and a member of the Citizen Advisory Council, along with involvement in a number of other organizations. He and his wife, Kamini, have four children.



**Dr. Maw-Hsiung Wang**, of Tachia, Taiwan, Republic of China, is a member of the Tachia Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and cabinet treasurer. He has received the Guiding Lion Award and three International President's awards. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Lion Wang has been on the staff of two hospitals as an obstetrician and gynecologist and is presently the president of the John-G General Hospital. He is a board member of the Taiwan Medical Association and formerly served as chairman of the Medical Association of Taichung. Director Wang has received the Minister Award of Health for his work in SighthFirst, the Minister Award of the Interior Affairs Department for Social Service and the President Lee Award for Outstanding Social

Services. He and his wife, Hsu-Chuan Kang, have a son, three daughters and three grandsons.

# Information

## Please Note:

The biographies of International Directors Edward R. "Ed" Gear, of Eugene, Oregon, and Lloyd H. Hansen, of Brookings, South Dakota, might have caused some confusion to readers because Director Hansen's information was printed twice. Please note that the following photos of Director Gear and Director Hansen and their accompanying biographical information are correct. THE LION regrets the error.



**Edward R. "Ed" Gear**, of Eugene, Oregon, is a member of the Eugene (Downtown) Lions Club and served as a district governor, council chairman, chairman of his district's Leadership Committee and chairman of his multiple district's Leadership Committee. He has also served as district chairman for Campaign SightFirst, multiple district Train-the-Trainer and trustee of the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation. Director

Gear has received the District Governor's Extension Award, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, International President's Leadership Award, International President's Award and the Melvin Jones Fellowship. He is a retired U.S. Army officer and a retired real estate executive. Director Gear has received the Legion of Merit from the army and the Distinguished Service Award from the governor of Oregon. His past civic duties have included membership on the Salem City Budget Committee and a number of posts related to veterans groups. Director Gear and his wife, Elaine, have three children and eight grandchildren.



**Lloyd H. Hansen**, of Brookings, South Dakota, is a member of the Brookings Lions Club and served as a 100% district governor and council chairman. He was chairman of his district's Convention, Leadership and LCIF committees, District Trainer, secretary/treasurer of the South Dakota Past District Governor's Association and a member of his state's Lions Eye Bank Task Force from which he was awarded a Certificate of

Appreciation. Director Hansen has received the Rebuilding Lion Award, the International President's Leadership Award and an Extension Award. He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow. Director Hansen is a retired educator and is presently a member of numerous community and civic organizations, including the Brookings Chamber of Commerce, Brookings Economic Development Committee and chairman of the South Dakota Eminent Farmer and Homemaker Committee. He and his wife, Roberta, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have four children and five grandchildren.

## Convention Countdown

- 1999 San Diego, Ca  
June 28-July 2
- 2000 Honolulu, HI  
June 19-23
- 2001 Indianapolis, IN  
July 2-6
- 2002 Osaka, Japan  
July 8-12
- 2003 Denver, CO  
June 30-July 4
- 2004 Detroit, MI/Windsor,  
Ontario, Canada  
July 5-9
- 2005 Hong Kong, China  
June 27-July 1

## For the Record

As of May 31, 1998, Lions Clubs International had 1,439,798 members in 44,037 clubs in 735 districts and 185 countries and geographical areas.

## National Diabetes Month

Of the 16 million Americans with diabetes, almost half will develop diabetic eye disease, a leading cause of blindness. During National Diabetes Month in November, community leaders and health professionals are encouraged to provide sight-saving information to people with diabetes.

The National Eye Institute, one of the federal government's National Institutes of Health, offers a free National Diabetes Month Kit that contains a variety of educational materials to use during November.

To request a kit, please call toll-free 1-800-869-2020 or write: National Eye Health Program, 2020 Vision Place, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-3655. The kit is available in English or Spanish.

## New Clubs on the Rise

During the month of June, 192 new Lions clubs were organized worldwide. A total of 39 past district governors assisted with the organization of these new clubs.

## Correction

The San Diego (Hillcrest-Mission Valley), California, Lions club was incorrectly named in the Anniversaries section of the May 1998 issue. THE LION regrets the errors.