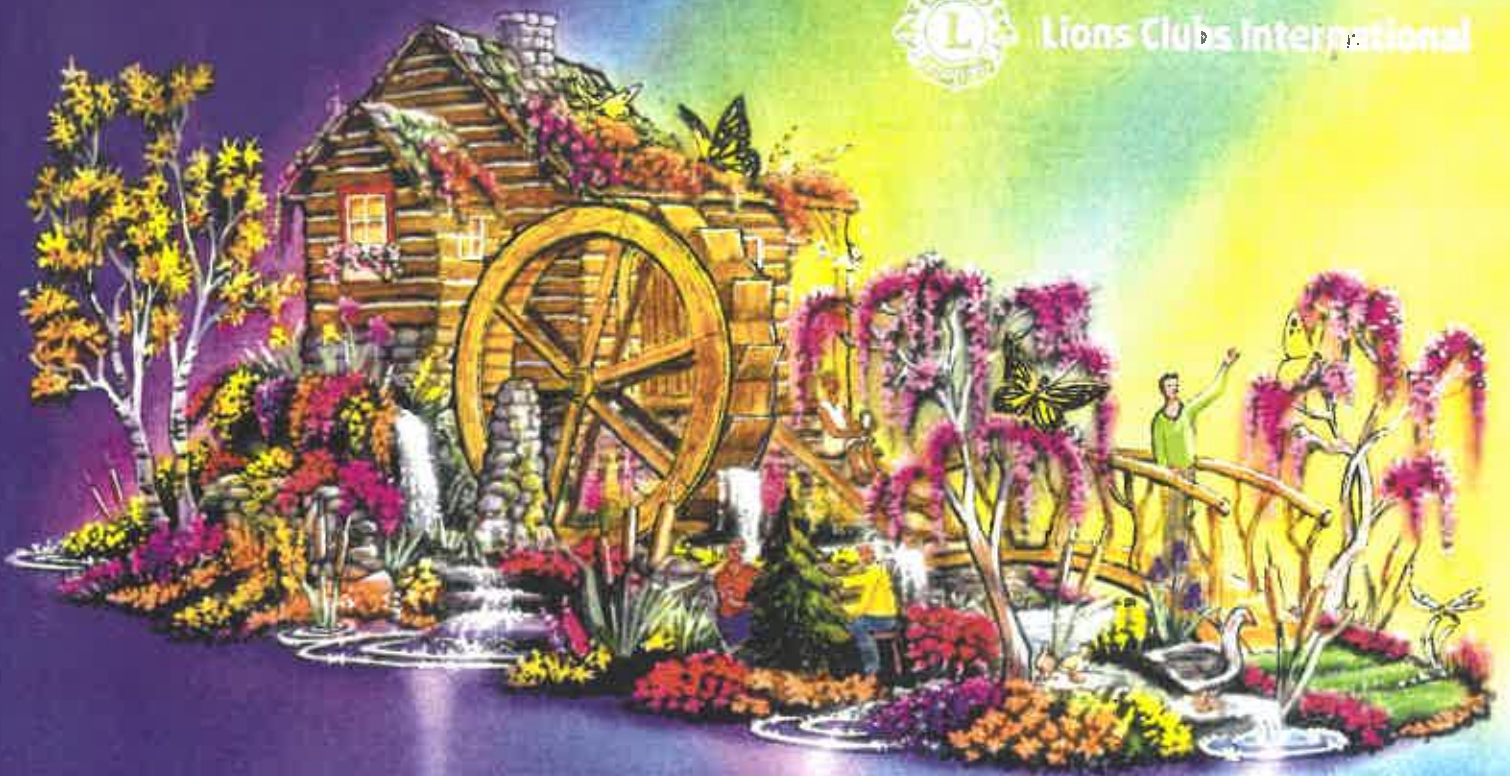




Lions Clubs International



We serve the earth.

Protecting our environment and serving the world
for over 100 years.

Proud participant in the 2018 Rose Parade®.



INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
Dr. Naresh Aggarwal
and wife, Navita

lionsclubs.org





Alice Tana
858-444-5118

For Immediate Release

**"PRESERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT" WITH LIONS CLUBS FLOAT
IN 2018 TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**
*Lions Clubs International President, Dr. Naresh Aggarwal,
of Batala, Punjab, India, Principal Rider on Float*

PASADENA, CA, December 1, 2017 -- "Titled '**Preserving Our Environment,**'" **exclaimed Dr. Naresh Aggarwal**, "on behalf of the Lions clubs members worldwide, I am extremely proud and privileged to showcase the Lions Clubs International float to the nationwide and international audiences of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade."

International President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal, and his wife, Navita, of Batala, Punjab, India, are the principal riders on the Lions Clubs' float. Dr. Aggarwal is currently serving as the association's international president, having been elected at the association's 100th International Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, on June 30-July 4, 2017, for a one year term through June, 2018.

Dr. Aggarwal is a chairman of companies specializing in steel and agricultural products. He is also the chief patron of Dainik Prarthana Sabha, which operates charity projects in Batala.

Founded in 1917 by Chicago businessman, Melvin Jones, Lions Clubs International has grown to be the **world's largest volunteer service club organization**, with over 1.4 million men and women members who serve in more than 46,000 Lions clubs in 210 countries and geographic areas, and is currently celebrating its **centennial year of service.**

Inspired by **Helen Keller** at the association's convention in 1925 and with her challenge for the Lions to be the **"Knights of the Blind,"** the primary mission of Lions Clubs International has focused on aiding the blind and prevention of visual impairments.

(over)

(Lions Clubs International President Aggarwal, page 2)

Keller's rising above her disability continues to resonate with Lions clubs members, who help others help themselves and try to give people at a disadvantage the opportunity to prosper.

The organization has expanded its mission and has grown to be a leader in **community and humanitarian service worldwide**: **Preserving Sight** - with SightFirst projects for quality eye care, controlling river blindness, and local volunteer vision screening projects; **Supporting Youth** - through worldwide Lions Quest, and the local high school LEO (Leadership-Experience-Opportunity) clubs; **Providing Disaster Relief** - immediate needs such as food, water, and shelter with funds from LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation), most recently to hurricanes in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, earthquakes in Mexico, China, Nepal, and New Zealand, tsunamis in South Asia and Northern Japan; **Meeting Humanitarian Needs** - to ease pain and suffering and bring healing and hope to people, curing measles, controlling diabetes, reducing hunger, combating disabilities, and conducting volunteer medical missions.

Since its inception in 1968, the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), as the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, has awarded more than US\$ 949 million in grants to support Lions' humanitarian projects.

"This year's Rose Parade," Aggarwal continued, "affords the members of Lions clubs, the opportunity to **share with the worldwide audiences two of the major projects of the Lions Centennial: Protecting Our Environment and Engaging Our Youth.**"

Members of Lions clubs continue their selfless volunteerism in their communities throughout the world through their motto: **"WE SERVE."** Joining President Aggarwal on the float are members of local LEO clubs and Lions clubs recognized for their generous time, dedication, and contributions.

In closing, Dr. Aggarwal encourages, "Lions clubs are expanding in your area. Visit website, www.lionsclubs.org, and join the 1.4 million Lions members for service in your communities. Lions serving the world wish you all a **'Happy New Year!'**"

#



**NARESH AGGARWAL
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Dr. Naresh Aggarwal, of Batala, Punjab, India, was elected to serve as international president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 100th International Convention, held in Chicago, Illinois, USA, June 30 through July 4, 2017.

Dr. Naresh is chairman of companies specializing in steel and agricultural products.

A lifetime member of the Batala Smile Lions Club since 1974, President Dr. Naresh has served with great distinction as club president and international director. He also served as chairman of the Council of Governors for MD 321 in 1989-90.

Dr. Naresh served as international director from 1998 to 2000. He earned great appreciation by achieving significant membership growth while serving as Global Membership Team area leader. He was a faculty and group leader for DGE Seminars at three International Conventions. He also served as international board appointee three times, and as Global Leadership Team constitutional area leader (CA-6).

Dr. Naresh is trustee and vice chairperson of Lions Quest in India Foundation and has also served on the National SightFirst Committee. He is the chief patron of Dainik Prarthana Sabha, which operates charity projects in Batala. He is vice president of Age-Care India, a charitable society for the care and welfare of elderly people. He has been trustee and patron to many other projects.

Dr. Naresh has received 23 International President's Medals and the Ambassador of Goodwill Award.

He is a major lead gift donor and humanitarian partner of Lions Clubs International Foundation.

Dr. Naresh and his wife, Navita, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have two sons, one daughter and seven grandchildren. Dr. Naresh also shares a birthday with the founder of Lions Clubs International, Melvin Jones.

R-6/17



INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
Dr. Naresh Aggarwal

Lions Clubs International

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



Fact Sheet

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world.

We have more than 1.4 million members in more than 46,000 clubs worldwide.

Where there's a need, there's a Lion. We're men and women serving in more than 200 countries and geographic areas.

Lions serve. Our motto is "We Serve." Founded in 1917, we are best known for saving sight, but we also feed the hungry, aid seniors and the disabled, care for the environment and so much more. Lions are a global service network of volunteers that make a difference in their local communities.

Lions give sight. By conducting vision screenings, equipping hospitals and clinics, distributing medicine and raising awareness of eye disease, Lions work toward the goal of providing vision for all. Through the support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Lions have helped provide more than 153 million treatments for river blindness and 72 million doses of a sight-saving trachoma medication through the SightFirst program alongside our partners. Lions and LCIF have also helped provide vision screenings for more than 22 million children through the Sight for Kids partnership program.

Lions serve youth. Our community projects often support children and local schools through scholarships, recreation and mentoring. Internationally, we offer many programs to empower youth, including the Peace Poster Contest; youth camps and exchanges; and Lions Quest, an LCIF positive youth development program.

Our Leo clubs help young people develop leadership skills while impacting their communities through service. There are 168,000 Leos and 6,700 Leo clubs in more than 140 countries and geographic areas worldwide.

Lions receive grants and the world receives benefits. Since 1968, Lions Clubs International Foundation has awarded more than 12,600 grants totaling more than \$949 million in support to Lions' humanitarian projects. As the official charitable organization of Lions Clubs International, LCIF helps Lions improve the lives of millions of people through four pillars of service: saving sight, supporting youth, providing disaster relief and meeting humanitarian needs. Through the Foundation's generous support of large-scale humanitarian initiatives, Lions are able to extend their reach from local communities to the global community in order to serve those who need us most.

Lions Clubs International

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



Our History

1917: The Beginning Chicago business leader Melvin Jones asked a simple and world-changing question – what if people made a commitment to improving their communities? 100 years later, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization, with more than 1.4 million members in more than 46,000 clubs and countless stories of Lions acting on the same simple idea: when Lions come together for the good of humanity, there's nothing we can't achieve.

1920: Going International Just three years after our founding, Lions became international when we established the first club in Canada. Mexico followed in 1927. In the 1950s and 1960s international growth accelerated, with new clubs in Europe, Asia and Africa.

1925: Eradicating Blindness Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio, USA, and challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind." Since then, we have worked tirelessly to aid the blind and visually impaired.

1945: Uniting Nations The ideal of an international organization is exemplified by our enduring relationship with the United Nations. We were one of the first nongovernmental organizations invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations Charter and have supported the work of the UN ever since.

1957: Organizing Youth Programs In the late 1950s, we created the Leo Program to provide the youth of the world with an opportunity for personal development through volunteering. There are 168,000 Leos and 6,700 Leo clubs in more than 140 countries and geographic areas worldwide.

1968: Establishing Our Foundation Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) assists Lions with global and large-scale humanitarian projects. Through our Foundation, Lions have received more than \$949 million in grants to help meet the needs of their local and global communities.

1990: Launching SightFirst Through LCIF, Lions are restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale with the SightFirst program. Launched in 1990, Lions have raised more than \$415 million for this initiative. SightFirst targets the major causes of blindness: low vision, trachoma, river blindness, childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

2014: Centennial Service Challenge Lions Clubs International began our Centennial Celebration by pledging to benefit 100+ million people through projects impacting youth, vision, hunger and the environment. Lions honor our long tradition of service and look to the future by coming together to strengthen our local communities and the global community.

2017: Centennial and Beyond Lions celebrate our 100th anniversary and prepare to launch a new global service focus for our next century of service!