



Issue 4  
Jan-Feb 2009

# 308B1 E-Newsletter

Lions Clubs International District 308B1 Malaysia

*Fellow Lions,*

2009 has begun with a bang for District 308B1 - thanks to your wonderful support and initiatives. Some of our District wide projects came to a climax while others are progressing at a scorching pace.

The District signature project, the Lions Eye Clinic has been realized and was officially opened by the Honorable Minister of Health, Dato' Liow Tiong Lai on 7th February 2009 in the presence of Special Guest, 2nd International Vice President Sid Scruggs, International Director Hj. Ellis Suriyati, and Dato' Mohamad Hanifa bin Abdullah, the Chairman of MAHSA College. Also present at the event was Council Chairman Patrick Chew and a glittering array of Lion Dignitaries from MD 308. The packed venue for the ceremony was evidence of the overwhelming support for the project by Lions across the District. This year thus far 342 Lions became District Fellows and Progressive District Fellows to contribute towards the Eye Clinic. This contributed significantly towards fund raising that exceeded the set target of RM 1,000,000.00. To date, we have almost reached RM 1.3 million. The continuing donations further enable us to serve even more needy patients with free and subsidized operations.

The Eye Clinic, which has begun services, has screened more than 60 patients thus far. Patients have already been identified for surgery. We are waiting for the final bacterial counts for the operation theater, to ensure its sterility, for surgery to begin. Fellow Lions, the second part of the project is now ready for take-off. This involves our goal for "Lions Vision 20/20 for our Elders". This is a move to identify those in old folk's homes who are blind due to cataract and provide them with free surgery such that their twilight years may be easier for them and hopefully more productive and enjoyable. C'mon Lions, let us now use our Eye Clinic to bring maximum relief for the needy.



*The Official Opening of the Lions Eye Clinic*



**50** years of *Lionism*

The second signature project for the District, namely the Diabetes Rehabilitation Program with donation of Prostheses to amputees who lost their limbs as a complication of Diabetes is encouraging. Thanks to your good efforts, 15 patients have benefited so far across the district and several more are being screened.

The visit by 2nd International VP Sid Scruggs was successfully coordinated by PCC Dato' Dr. Nagaratnam. Apart from the opening of the Eye Clinic, events he participated in Kuala Lumpur included the 50th Anniversary Banquet of LC KL Host, the officiating of the Pebble Path at Lions Family Park, Ara Damansara and Feeding the Blind project with LC Bukit Kiara. He then visited Kelantan where he expressed his support to LC Kota Bharu for their Down's Syndrome center and officiated the Opening Ceremony of LC Kota Budaya's Kota Bharu Renal Center. This was followed by a visit to Melaka where he participated in a school project. He was granted audiences with HRH The Sultan of Kelantan and TYT The Governor of Melaka. His impression of the Lions of Malaysia was positive and he has assured us of his support in the activities we are undertaking.

We are expecting a visit from Ms Gina Prendki Coordinator - Southeast Asia, Pacific, USA & Canada, Sight Programs Department, LCIF and Past International Director Dr. Konyama from 22 -25th March 2009 in relation to the sight related initiatives by Lions in Malaysia as well as grant applications from LCIF. A meeting has been scheduled with the authorities of the Ministry of Health on 25th March 2009 followed by a visit to Selayang Hospital.

Meanwhile, it is Convention time again. The 47th 308 Multiple District Convention will take place in Johor Bahru from 23rd-26th April 2009. Please access more news about the convention from Organizing Chairman Ln Koo Chi Seng on our website [www.lions308b1.com](http://www.lions308b1.com). The 4th Cabinet Meeting is also scheduled to take place at the same venue on 23rd April to enable as many Lions and Cabinet officers to participate in the convention. Lets make this a truly memorable event.

Fellow Lions, let us keep the momentum going.

*See you at the Convention !*

**'SERVE WITH DIGNITY'**

**Dr. J.P.Kamalanathan**  
District Governor

# Hospital KL - Lions Eye Bank

## History

The Lions Eye Bank started way back in February 1998, when it brought corneas over from Sri Lanka for local hospitals to perform corneal transplants.

Since then we have helped establish the Hospital Kuala Lumpur-Lions Eye Bank in 2002 in co-operation with the Department of Ophthalmology, Hospital Kuala Lumpur. The ultimate aim was to procure corneas from the local population. The Committee of the HKL-Lions Eye Bank is as follows :

Chairman	Pengarah, Hospital KL
Vice Chairman	Dr Chin Yoon Hiap (LC Sentul)
Secretary	Dr Shymala (Ophthalmologist, Sungei Buloh Hospital)
Treasurer	Lion Bernard Cheong (LC KL West)

## Present Situation :

The Hospital KL-Lions Eye Bank is situated in a room outside the Eye Ward, 5th Floor of Hospital Kuala Lumpur and is fully equipped to do all eye banking procedures.

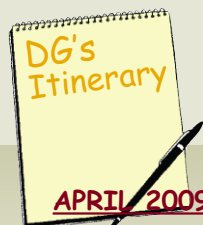
The Hospital KL-Lions Eye Bank obtained 12 local corneas from the local patients who died at the Kuala Lumpur Hospitals in the year 2004. Local corneas obtained from donors in Malaysia are as follows :

2005 - 19 corneas; 2006 - 25 corneas; 2007 - 22 corneas; 2008 - 31 corneas

The Medical Expertise to conduct the activities of the HKL-Lions Eye Bank comes from the Ophthalmologist and other staff of Hospital Kuala Lumpur. The Lions Eye Bank provide the funding for these activities, namely payment of the part-time staff, cost of the Optical media used to preserve the corneas from local donors and upkeep of the equipment and premises. This cost comes to about RM20,000 annually. In addition, the Lions support the HKL-Lions Eye Bank by providing one free cornea a month to the Government Hospitals. This free cornea obtained from North West Lions Eye Bank, USA, at a cost of RM1,200 each. This is not the cost of the corneas. THUS, the current annual expenditure of HKL-Lions Eye Bank comes to about RM35,000. If we supply 2 corneas per month, that will mean another RM14,000 more. The demand for more corneas is there. If we have more funds the blind can be helped more.

Unfortunately, the funds at the Eye Bank have dwindled over the years and we have stopped the monthly free cornea since October 2008. We need urgent donations to continue our work. Please make donations to Lions Club of KL west if you need a Tax Exempt Receipt, otherwise all crossed cheques can be made payable to **Lions Eye Bank** and sent to :

**Dr Chin Yoon Hiap**  
Suite B515, Pantai Hospital  
8, Jalan Bukit Pantai  
59100 Kuala Lumpur



- 02 1st Cataract Operation at the Lions Eye Clinic
- 04 Johor Jaya Renal Centre Fund Raising Floral Extravaganza
- 10 Press Conference at the Lions Eye Clinic 10am  
Zone 6 Clubs Visit
- 11 JB Desa Cemerlang Charter Night
- 12 LCs Tj Bidara & Jasin Club Visit
- 17 KL Host Thanksgiving Dinner for 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee
- 18 LC Kota Budaya Anniversary
- 23 Cabinet Meeting 2pm  
Cabinet Officers Fellowship Dinner 7.30pm
- 24-27 Lions District 308B1 Convention & MD308 Convention

**At the coming MD308 Convention in Johore Bahru, there will be a display board for each district to display & promote their signature projects and district endorsed projects.**

**Space is limited and as such we would look for the best photographs (hi-res preferred) to represent category projects, eg Renal Centres etc. or Down Syndrome Centres etc. Individual signature club projects will also be considered. Entries will be selected by the District Governor.**

**The theme for the display board is "50 years of Lionism"**

**Please send photos electronically with captions by 10th April, 2009 to : lions.bulletin@gmail.com**

**Please send with Subject matter "MD308 Convention Display Board"**



**50 years of Lionism**