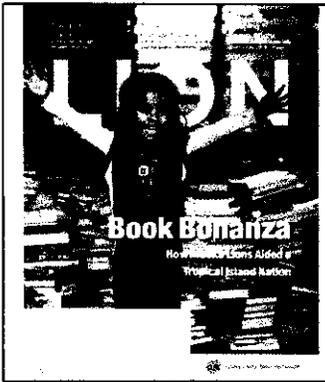


To District 49A Cabinet, Lions International
From: Walt Hays, International Relations Chr.
January 31, 2015



Tonga Library Project. The feature story in the January, 2015 edition of LION salutes Alaska Lions for their role in helping **Kato Haunga Havea** in realizing her dream of establishing two community libraries in the kingdom of Tonga. 50,000 books were delivered by the humanitarian arm of the US Navy, Project Handclasp in June of 2013. Clubs involved in this effort were: Bethel, Anchorage Polynesian, Mt. McKinley, College Station Noon Lions (TX) the Nuku'alofa Lions in Tonga.



Peace Posters. This was a banner year for the contest in 49A. Through the leadership of **Jim LaBau** (Mt. McKinley), an in-service briefing was held with all elementary and middle school art teachers this past August. 19 public and two private schools participated with entries from Anchorage, Girdwood, Eagle River, Kodiak, Unalaska, Wasilla and Willow. The program was enhanced with support from the **Dimond Center** who donated gift cards and bowling/skating passes to the 1st and 2nd placewinners in the Anchorage metro region. This was in addition to the cash awards provided by the sponsoring clubs. Sam Rardin of Stellar Secondary School, Anchorage was selected as the District 49A winner at the Mid Winter Conference. His winning poster has been forwarded for the international competition.



PET Mobility Cart Lions and Leos of the District have joined a number of congregations throughout Alaska to recycle ink-Jet cartridges to assist this humanitarian project. By actual count, **13,408 cartridges have been collected since January of 2009**; this has generated over \$4,400 to assist the PET effort. In July of 2014, a child's PET was delivered to a village in rural Kenya to a four year old girl, Silantoi who has both developmental and physical disabilities. The shipping and delivery was made possible by funds from an auction held at our 2014 MD Convention. Carolyn Teague, an Anchorage career educator, who directs the Lemong'o Project made the delivery on our behalf.



Volunteers in Mission – Guatemala-2015 An Alaskan team of adults, youth and retirees will spend ten days in Guatemala on a humanitarian mission (July 25- August 3, 2015). The team will build on the work of a team that was supported Alaska Lions in 2013 and will repair homes, work with a sewing cooperative, conduct vision screening for children and fund and deliver wheelchairs for handicapped children in the community of Santa Domingo Xenacoj. A section of the team will also conduct four days of rural medical and dental clinics for poor Mayan families near Chichicastenango.

We need physicians, dentists, nurses, dental assistants, persons who are experienced in basic carpentry and use of commercial sewing machines plus other willing volunteers. Cost is \$700.00 for lodging, most meals, ground transportation and insurance plus r/t air fare to Guatemala City.

The mission has been endorsed for participation and support for the clubs of 49A by the District cabinet (May, 2014).