

Lions Reach Out to Deaf and Blind Student

A project known to many as “MD20 District 20-Y2 Region O Collaborative Project” began last summer with a request to Lion District 20-Y2 District Governor Tom Nowicki for assistance in providing an Interpreter for a student who is both deaf and blind for a class trip to Italy in February 2008.

District 20-Y2, Region O includes Lions from the following clubs: Albany & Troy, Bethlehem, Guilderland, Greater Ravena, Waterford, Duane, Richmondville-Cobleskill, Rotterdam, and Town of Wright-Schoharie Valley. The Lions from the clubs chose as a collaborative project endeavoring to raise the money for the expenses of Pam Masick, long-time Interpreter for student Quinn Burch. Quinn is a student at Guilderland High School. District 20-Y2 Zone Chairpersons Lions Ruth Sano and Mary Grimm worked with clubs in their respective areas to coordinate the project.

Lion Sue Shipe, Region “O” Chairperson, and Executive Director of the International Institute For Human Empowerment, Inc., helped bring together the expertise of all involved toward the success of the project.

The success of the project represented the work of local Lions Clubs, individual Lions, the Lions Foundation/Lions Eye Institute at Albany, NY Inc. and the International Institute For Human Empowerment, Inc.

On Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at the Lions Eye Institute Albany, NY Inc. in Slingerlands, New York a check in the amount of \$1650.00 was presented to student Quinn Burch for expenses of Pam Masick, long-time Interpreter for Quinn. Participating in the presentation was PDG Lettie Saheim, 20-Y2 Region O Chairperson, Lion Sue Shipe, District 20-Y2 VDG Joan Scott, 20-Y2 District Governor Tom Nowicki, and District 20-Y2 Lion John McDonald, President of the Lions Foundation at Albany, NY, Inc. Accepting the check were Mrs. Burch, Quinn Burch and Pam Masick.

The Lions Foundation at Albany, NY Inc. Board of Trustees and the Lions Eye Institute at Albany, NY Inc Board of Directors consists of Lions from MD20 Districts 20-W, 20-Y2 and 20-O.

Lions work together locally as well as nationally and internationally to address many and varied issues in their communities, especially related to sight and hearing impairments. The International Institute For Human Empowerment works through networks such as Lions Clubs International and others to accomplish its mission of empowerment.



Check presentation to Quinn Burch - Left to right PDG Lettie Saheim, Asst. Treasurer Lions Foundation; Region O Chairperson Lion Sue Shipe and Executive Director of the International Institute For Human Empowerment, Inc.; District 20-Y2 VDG Joan Scott; District 20-Y2 DG Tom Nowicki; Mrs. Burch, Lion John McDonald, President of the Lions Foundation at Albany, NY Inc.; Quinn Burch and Interpreter Pam Masick.



Lion John McDonald, President of the Lions Foundation at Albany, NY Inc. welcoming those in attendance



Region O Chairperson Lion Sue Shipe speaking about the project and thanking those for coming.