



**Past International President
Mahendra Amarasuriya**

Mahendra Amarasuriya of Colombo, Sri Lanka, was elected president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 90th International Convention, held in Chicago, Illinois, USA, July 2-6, 2007.

He is a graduate of the University of Ceylon with a Bachelor of Science degree. He has participated in the Top Management Course at the International Institute of Management in Lausanne, Switzerland. He has also acquired considerable experience in the field of management over the last 40 years as a director and chairperson of many prestigious companies in Sri Lanka.

Past International President Amarasuriya is the chairperson of the Commercial Bank of Ceylon Limited and three other blue chip companies, as well as a board member of many other blue chip companies in Sri Lanka. He is also a past chairperson of the International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka, Employers' Federation of Ceylon, the Employees' Trust Fund Board, the Institute of Management of Sri Lanka and the National Agribusiness Council of Sri Lanka.

A charter member of the Lions Club of Galle (pronounced Gaul), he has held many offices within the association, including district governor from 1978 to 1979, council chairperson from 1979 to 1980 and international director from 1991 to 1993.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including many membership awards, the Master Key Award, eight International President's Certificates of Appreciation, eight International President's Awards, the Leadership Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He has also received the 100% District Governor Award, the Extension Award and the 15-Year Perfect Attendance Award. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Past International President Amarasuriya resides with his wife, Lion Kushlani, also a Melvin Jones Fellow, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



New Lion Leaders Elected in Chicago

Delegates to the 90th International Convention in July in Chicago elected the Lion leaders for 2007-2008. Mahendra Amarasuriya of Sri Lanka was elected international president, Albert F. Brandel of New York, United States, international first vice president and Eberhard Wirfs of Germany international second vice president. Immediate Past President Jimmy Ross of Texas, United States, became chairperson of LCIF. (Full convention coverage will be in the October issue.)

Delegates also elected 17 international directors—two from the India/South Asia/Africa/Middle East constitutional area, one from Canada, three from Europe, two from the Orient/Southeast Asia, one from South America/Central America/Mexico/Caribbean Islands and eight from the United States. The directors serve for two years.

The second-year directors are Jan-Ake Akerlund, Hollviken, Sweden; Pedro Botello Ortiz, Monterrey, Mexico; Pei-Jen Chen, Taipei, Taiwan; Sung-Gyun Choi, Seoul, Republic of Korea; Joseph Gaffigan, Maryland, USA; William Hansen, Michigan, USA; Leland Kolkmeier, Missouri, USA; Georgios "Kokos" Nicolaidis, Nicosia, Cyprus; Francisco "Fabricio" de Oliveira Neto, Catole do Rocha, Brazil; K.G. Ramakrishna Murthy, Coimbatore, India; Russell Sarver, Illinois, USA; Ken Schwols, Colorado, USA; Steven Sherer, Ohio, USA; Djoko Soeroso, Jakarta, Indonesia; David Stoufer, Iowa, USA; and Toru Tanino, Shimonoseki, Japan.

(Visit the Web site of Lions Clubs International for biographies of the first-year directors as well as for the biographies and photos of the four international officers and second-year directors, elected a year ago.) ■

First-Year International Directors 2007-2008



Malik Khuda Baksh
Director



Dana Biggs
Director



Ermanno Bocchini
Director



Wayne E. Davis
Director



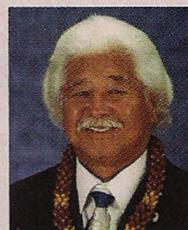
Ryuichi Goto
Director



Dr. Patricia Hill
Director



Larry G. Johnson
Director



Maurice Kahawai
Director



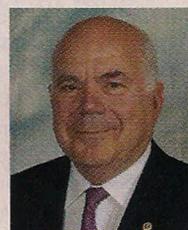
Vinod Khanna
Director



Ed Lecius
Director



Dr. Harold R. Ott
Director



Georges Placet
Director



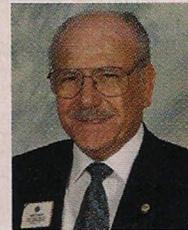
Tapani Rahko
Director



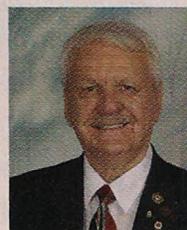
Yoshitsugu Shigematsu
Director



Dr. Nelson Vidal
Director



Vince Vinella
Director



William B. Watkins, Sr.
Director