

# Denver Lions Club celebrate Christmas

BY BOB SWEENEY  
PUBLISHER

Denver Lions are celebrating the 100-year anniversary of Lions across the United States and in more than 200 countries—with a mission of assisting blind and vision-impaired people. Known as the “Denver Den,” the club filled the community room at Lion Pastor Brian Henderson’s First Baptist Church to greet Santa Claus and dine on a delicious buffet prepared by members. Lion David Lambert, owner of AllWell Rents, supplied elegant china dishes that were quickly filled with turkey, ham, salads and pecan pie. New President Dwight Steen, who welcomed Lion members, had a very successful year working with outgoing President Fletcher Brown. Steen authored the history of the Lion Den, dating back to 1917—Denver being one of two dozen clubs founded 100 years ago. Lions also produced a video on the history of the club and its impact on Denver.

The Denver Lions had a successful centennial dinner in October at Wellshire Event Center, with Ambassador Christopher Hill from the University of Denver as guest speaker.

Denver Club projects include a long history with Savio House, a facility that educates and invests in troubled youth with love and care, rather than incarceration, working closely with Denver social services.

The Lions also own Rude Park, an affordable daycare center for lower-income families and working mothers.

Lions provided more than 1,912 volunteer hours, including for eye screenings at Denver schools, and recycled 50,000 pairs of glasses.

International Lions Club headquarters is located in Oak Brook, Ill. It recently adopted diabetes as a new worldwide project. This new program recently had Denver Lion District Gov. Steve Kinsky working with new member Emily Fay-Enriquez, regional American Diabetes director, on a successful fundraising walk. The event is supported by area Lions from Denver, Englewood, Littleton, Centennial and Highlands Ranch.

Denver Lions finished the year ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Macy’s at the Cherry Creek Mall.

Denver Lions meet the first and third Tuesday at noon at the downtown Maggiano’s. Guests are always welcome.

For more information, visit [DenverLions.org](http://DenverLions.org).



Betty McKenzie and Dr. Claudia Folska



Lion Emerson Bails wishes tides of joy, laughter, family and vision for the Lions’ future. The hat was the hit of the White Elephant gift exchange. It came from Senegal during a Lions eye trip.

Photos by Bob Sweeney



Steve Kinsky plays the guitar for the Lions Choir and fellow Lions join in the singing.



Santa kept the party lively!



Merry Christmas Lions, Christine and Denny Holmes help show off the decorations prepared by Dottie and Russ Lynn (center).



ABOVE: Santa told glorious Lion tales of magic, sight and vision. LEFT: Merry Christmas from Danielle and Greg Osterloth with family and friends.

