Albert F. Brandel of Melville, New York, USA, was elected president Lions Clubs International at the association's 91st International Convention, held in Bangkok, Thailand, June 23 - 27, 2008.

He is a retired police detective. For many years he investigated child abuse and neglect, juvenile delinquency, domestic violence involving children and missing children.

As a member of the West Hempstead Lions Club since 1975, and an associate member of the Melville Lions Club, Past International President Brandel has held many offices within the association. He coordinated Lions relief efforts at the World Trade Center following September 11, 2001 and has worked with the Long Island Lions Eye Bank as a transporter. He is currently the chairperson for Lions Days with the United Nations.

In addition to his Lions activities, he has served as a little league volunteer and as a Eucharistic minister. He is a former member of the board of directors of the United Nations Association of the USA.

Past International President Brandel's wife, Dr. Maureen Murphy is also a Lion, Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a recipient of the Ambassador of Good Will Award. Dr. Murphy is an anesthesiologist who has recently retired from her practice after a fulfilling career at a Long Island University Hospital. Both Past International President Brandel and Lion Dr. Maureen Murphy are recipients of the New York State Liberty Medal for their work in Haiti as well as the President’s Call to Service Award from the President of the United States of America.