



5M7 Team News



November 2008



News and Views from Governor Jim: “Movin’ Forward”



It is hard to believe, but it is only 2 months until the mid winter convention. This year your convention should be more fun than ever. By now, your club presidents should have the convention information booklet. There is no better place to make new friends than at your mid winter convention. This year there are a few changes. Starting Friday night at 7:00 PM there will be a 30 minute concert by the Command Performance Girls Choir from Elk River.

They will stay and help with the opening flag ceremony and the memorial ceremony. So, you will want to be seated by 7 PM. On Saturday night, right after the Governor’s Banquet, we will be having a live band and you will want to be wearing your dancing shoes. We will have the traditional club displays, the hospitality room contest, a club brochure contest and several informational displays along with the pin traders. The best part is that your convention is one of the most economical of local mid winter conventions. The convention committee has negotiated outstanding prices on the meal booklet and the rooms. I think it is a great idea for clubs that can afford it, to help send their delegates or new members to the convention. And, speaking of new members, we will once again be having the “first timers” contest which will be done this year by VDG Clay O’Flanagan. See him right after the memorial ceremony on Friday night. On Sunday, for brunch, we will have a double treat that should not be missed.

One of my goals for the year has been for all 5M7 clubs to average a plus one in membership for the year and wind up with over 2000 members as of next June 30th. I am hoping for 2 new clubs for the year. Well, you have really been doing an outstanding job of recruiting. As of the end of Oct. we are up 52 members, which includes 28 members from the new Nowthen Lions Club. Now we just have to get those club membership committees activated and improve our retention. We have always done a great job of recruiting, but we lose too many out the back door. I call this the “Catch and Release” program. Let’s start a new program and we can call that one “Let’s get ‘em and let’s keep ‘em”. And, unlike fishing, there is no limit on how many we can keep and we don’t need a license, just our Lions lapel pin.

It has been an exciting year and Tina and I are having a terrific time visiting clubs in 5M7. However, there are a few clubs that have not scheduled their club visit night, so I am asking that those clubs contact me and get on the schedule.

And as always, my wish for all of you is for, “Generous shares of health, wealth, and happiness”.

**Yours sincerely in Lionism,
DG Jim Mulroy “Do for, not to”**

Message from VDG Clay



October was an extremely busy month. On Oct. 9-12 I traveled to the leader dog facility in Rochester, Michigan. WOW! They have a wonderful program that I wish every Lion member could see and enjoy. They graduate and place approximately 250 dogs a year. They are truly making a difference in visually impaired people's lives. They have introduced portable GPS units to further the capabilities of the guide dog and their new owner. While I was there, I had the opportunity to take a walk around the room blindfolded with Buddy, one of the dogs, to give me an idea of what it would be like to be blind or visually impaired. This was really an eye opener (pardon the pun) and I really enjoyed this. It was really hard to rely on a dog controlling all of my walking movements; this is what you call putting all of your trust and faith in your new friend and relying on all of their training that Lions started and continue to support. Please invite our District Leader Dog / Hearing and Service Dog Chairs - Lion's Steve Linder or Lion Jim McGee - out to your club to hear more about this program.

Later in the month Lion Deb and I went to VDG Training in Mahanomen, MN. This was a very busy three days where we learned a lot and had a GREAT time. All of the other VDG's and spouses from the Multiple District 5M were there. We shared stories, lots of laughter and ate meals together. This was another fantastic experience in our journey as Lions.

Lion Deb and I have traveled with the District Governor Jim and his wife Tina to several Governor Nights where we have met a lot of HERO'S that unselfishly give of their time to create miracles through service. Lion Deb and I look forward to meeting you at upcoming Lion events that your club may be having.

I hope your club has sent in, or will be sending in soon, your registration for the Mid-Winter Convention for January 16-18, 2009 at the Marriott in Bloomington, MN. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Remember all of the things that you are thankful for and have been blessed with in your life as there are many who are less fortunate and need our help. VDG Clay & Lion Deb "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give"

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to send me an e-mail at LionClay@bwig.net or give me a call at 763-682-2389 (before 8 PM). I'm here to help!

Around the District in pictures and words



and Steve Brown(behind camera).

On Saturday November 15, the Albertville Lions gave assistance to the City of Albertville Maintenance Dept. by installing parking lot posts in City Central Park. The parking lot was realigned after a land acquisition near the RR right of way offered the opportunity for more green space without the loss of parking spaces. Lions participating were (L to R) Rick Kleist, Mike Jenkins, Scott Pierson, and Club President Dan Myers. The young man in the blue jacket is Lion Mike's son Lucas. Not pictured are Lions Lee Kasper (shy)

Howard Lake Lions

Pictured is Past President Gary Hagemann of the Howard Lake Lions Club presenting a check to Tim Mattson along with his parents Tony and Laura Mattson. The donation will be used to help pay some of Tims medical bills that were from the heart surgery that he had. The Lions sponsored a Hot Dish supper to raise the funds, which turned out very well. Lion Gary was chairperson of the fund raiser and would like to thank everyone who participated or helped.



Chisago Lakes Lions Food Drive

Cedar East Bethel Lions Club



Pictured on left is past club president Lion Gary Larson receiving the crystal pin award from Lion club president Ruth Dutchak on the right. This award is presented for achieving positive net growth for the Cedar East Bethel Lions Club for the past year. The membership growth benefits our local club and community through increased numbers of volunteers working to make a difference and serve those who need help.



Anoka Lions Club roared during the Anoka Halloween Parades. Costumed Lions danced, chanted and roared as they spread the Lions' story from their lion cage float. They participated in both Friday's Big Parade of Little People and Saturday's Grand Day Parade. Billed as the Halloween Capital of the World, Anoka sponsors perhaps the largest parade celebrating the spooky holiday. The streets are jammed with some 50,000 spectators on the Saturday before Halloween. The mammoth parade features numerous brightly decorated floats, fire trucks, high school marching bands, and costumed characters. It was a perfect way for Anoka Lions Club to have some fun and get some good visibility for the club and its mission



The Howard lake Lions recently inducted its newest member Chris Main. (center) Performing the induction ceremony was Past District Governor Darrell Main.(left) Chris' sponsor is Lion Mike Main. (right) The Lions are always seeking new members who like to have a little fun while helping those less fortunate.

2008 LEO Leadership Forum Kimball MN October 16-18

What a great three days it was! Forty -six Leos, ten advisors and five Lions worked to make this first time event a great success. Leos enjoyed sessions on public speaking, successful meetings, promoting Leos and service learning. At the end of the forum, each Leo club went away with a service program for their community which they developed through the process learned at the forum. The Leos also enjoyed team building challenges both physically and mentally. A portable climbing wall was one of the most popular physical challenges. Highlight for the Leos was the socializing and networking with Leos from other clubs. The dance on Friday night was awesome!

The facilities at the Kimball High School were suitable for both indoor and outdoor activities. Plenty of space for sessions and for free time as well as an excellent cafeteria. Sleeping in the gyms was not everybody's first choice for accommodations, but it did keep the participants on site and quick for assembly. The Leo advisors also had sessions on service learning and promoting Leos. Club member retention and problems specific to Leos were also discussed.

Evaluations were all very positive. Participants enthusiastically endorsed the idea of a forum next year, same time frame, same place. Planning has already begun!

In addition to a repeat performance, it was suggested that a special event for Leo chairs, advisors and any Lions interested in Leos be organized. This event will be tentatively set for April, possibly a Friday night- Saturday format. There will be more details and information once plans are in place.

The leadership forum theme of Reach In, Reach Out was evident as many Leos personally tried many things for the first time and, at the same time, challenged themselves to reach out with and to others. I anticipate that next year's event will be even bigger and better.

PDGJim Martindale, MD5M Leo chair.

October M&A Reports

CLUB NAME

Albertville

Almelund

Andover

Annandale

Anoka

Becker

Big Lake

Blaine

WHAT CLUB REPORTED

Donated \$1,227.30 to Camp Friendship for remodeling a cabin

NO REPORT

NO REPORT

Club worked 30 hours at Lampi Parking

22 members volunteered 16 hours for the ACBC Food Drive

Donated \$300 to Becker schools for supplies for needy students

Six members plus Leos volunteered 60 hours on fall road clean-up project

Donated \$2,500 for Thanksgiving meals for seniors and families in need

Buffalo	Five members spent 81 hours building a wheelchair ramp for a disabled person
Buffalo Noon	NO REPORT
Cambridge	Seven members spent seven hours doing road clean up
Cedar East Bethel	Seven members volunteered 95 1/2 hours on cardboard recycling
Centerville	35 members volunteered between 600-700 hours at a haunted house
Chisago Lakes	40 members volunteered 320 hours at a pancake breakfast
Circle Pines Lex	18 members volunteered 174 hours at the Booya event
Clear Lake	25 members volunteered 38 hours for highway clean up
Clearwater	NO REPORT
Cokato	Eight members volunteered 24 hours at the DC Football homecoming
Columbia Heights	16 members volunteered 40 hours on their Adopt-A-Highway clean-up
Columbus	NO REPORT
Coon Rapids	Four new members joined their club
Coon Rapids Cardinals	NO REPORT
Coon Rapids North Star	Turned in 400 pairs of glasses
Delano	NO REPORT
Elk River	NO REPORT
Forest Lake	Five members along with 4 guests volunteered 48 hours to serve dinner to residents & staff at the Ronald McDonald house
Fridley	Eight members volunteered 24 hours for highway clean up.
Fridley Five Stars	Turned in 64 pairs of glasses
Grandy	NO REPORT
Ham Lake	15 members volunteered 90 hours at their Booya event
Hanover	Eight members volunteered 72 hours at a benefit for local citizen
Hanover Crow River	M&A e-mailed by 21st of the month
Howard Lake	One new member joined their club
Hugo	Donated \$1,000 to the Hugo food shelf
Isanti	NO REPORT
Lino Lakes	Donated \$2,000 to Centennial Food Shelf
Livonia Towhship	Three members attended the Zone Meeting that the Zimmerman Lions hosted
Maple Lake	NO REPORT
Monticello	Donated \$1,000 to youth bowling scholarship
Montrose	Ten members volunteered 30 hours for ditch pick up on Highway 25
North Branch	NO REPORT
Oak Grove	Five members volunteered 36 hours for French Toast breakfast
Orrock	Sent in monthly M&A report
Otsego	8 members volunteered 5 hours for the holiday shopping fundraiser
Ramsey	Donated \$1,000 to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society & \$1,400 to the Wellness Van
Rockford	Donated \$1,700 to the Santa Anonymous program
Rush City	17 members volunteered 164 hours at the Rush City Lions/Fire Dept. Golf Tournament
Santiago	NO REPORT
Spring Lake Park	Donated \$10,000 for holiday food baskets
St. Francis	Five members volunteered 35 hours at a brunch - proceeds went to fire prevention materials
St. Michael	NO REPORT

Stacy
Taylors Falls
Waverly
Wyoming
Zimmerman

35 members volunteered 172 hours at their annual Booya event
Inducted a new member into the club
Donated money for peace posters to local elementary school
NO REPORT
Donated \$50 to the Zimmerman High School homecoming

Governor's Travels

December

- 3 Governor's Night Buffalo Lions, Lioness, Noon Club & Rockford Lions
- 4 Governor's Night Howard Lake
- 6 Governor's Night Maple Lake
- 9 Midwinter Convention Meeting
- 11 Region 2 Zone 5 Meeting
- 13 Governor's Night Andover
- 15 Governor's Night Stacy
- 16 Governor's Night Cambridge

January

- 9-11 Midwinter 5M5 5M6 5M9
- 12 Governor's Night Fridley 5 Star & Coon Rapids Cardinals
- 15-18 5M7 Mid Winter
- 24 Midwinter 5M4
- 28 Governor's Night Chisago Lakes
- 30-31 Midwinter 5M1 5M11

February

- 2 Governor's Night Livonia & Zimmerman
- 4 Governor's Night Centerville @ Columbus
- 5 Governor's Night Lino Lakes & Circle Pines
- 6-8 Midwinter 5M8 & 5M10
- 13-14 Midwinter 5M2
- 16 Governor's Night Montrose
- 17 Governor's Night Elk River
- 20-22 Midwinter 5M3
- 24 Governor's Night Fridley

March

- 10 Governor's Night North Branch
- 12-15 Lion's Day @ U.N.
- 20 Council of Governors
- 23 Cabinet Meeting @ Lions Park
- 24 Governor's Night Clearwater
- 25 Governor's Night Annandale
- 26 Governor's Night Rush City

Club Events

December

4-6 Spring Lake Park Lions Bell Ringing @ Cub Northtown

5 Nowthen Charter Night

7 Howard Lake Lions Bkfst @ Lions Hall

7 Monticello Lions Holiday Brunch @ Little Mountain School

7 Spring Lake Park Lions Mystery Trip

10 Coon Rapids Lions Holiday Party @ VFW

12 Buffalo Lions Wine Tasting @ Camp Friendship

18 Spring Lake Park Lions Christmas Party

January

February

1 Coon Rapids Northstar Waffle Breakfast @ VFW



International Director Bev Stebbins from Texas will be our
guest and

the MidWinter

Convention in January.

PROJECTS WITHOUT SIGNAGE ARE INCOMPLETE

by Al Brandel, President, The International Association of Lions Clubs

I've seen firsthand some wonderful Lions projects in my travels as international president. But let me tell you about something I have not seen—or at least not enough of. Lions often fail to identify their projects with the Lions logo or signage with a Lions identity. Or they do not wear their vests, which is another way to tell the public who is responsible for the valuable event they are witnessing.

Modesty is an admirable trait. But this is really not about modesty. It's about telling the public how important Lions are to their community. It's about gaining visibility and making it easier to recruit new members and network with other people and groups in our communities. We perform service because we believe in the value of giving back. But visibility is one of the benefits of community service. Let's take advantage of that and relish the chance to increase the recognition level of Lions and what we do.

Honestly, I think sometimes we don't take enough pride on who we are and what we do. We're not "just another community group." We're the world's largest service club. We're the Knights of the Blind. But we also crucially important to youths, those with disabilities and people affected by disasters. Can you imagine the world without Lions? Or even just your own community? Our miracles of service enable countless people to live more productive and happier lives. Lions are the everyday heroes in our communities who selflessly fill in the gaps not filled by government or charities.

In this day and age, cluttered with information and advertisements, it's more important than ever for Lions to take it upon themselves to publicize our efforts. Innumerable other groups are vying for attention. Our projects should give us a leg up. They touch people's lives in a deep and lasting way. Let's not fail to capitalize on our ties to the community and subtly remind people that Lions are one of the best features of their neighborhood.

It doesn't take a lot of time to erect a sign or a plaque. But the sign or plaque could have a lifetime effect on the person who becomes curious about Lions and then decides to join. That person in turn can affect many, many people as a Lion. So please, as a sign of your dedication to Lions, sign up for duty as a promoter of all things Lions.

Please submit your articles by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next issue. Email submissions are preferred to

jkelly1945@comcast.net Or

bjkelly1949@comcast.net

Snail Mail Address:

Jim and Barb Kelley

15111 Bluebird St NW

Andover 55304

Club Presidents!

Watch for an abbreviated version of the newsletter in your (snail) mailbox soon.

Please make copies for those of your members that don't have internet access