



# Lions NEWSLETTER

District 5M7

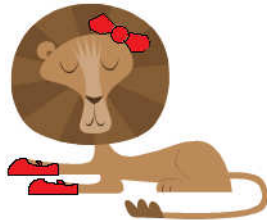
Coon Rapids Lions Club

July 2008

Reminder — Next Dinner Meeting is a picnic on Wednesday, June 25, 6:00 p.m. at the Lion's Park!

## Board Members

- **President** —  
Lion Liz Reiser  
(651) 343-4333  
lizreiser@yahoo.com
- **First Vice** —  
Lion Jason Vaughn  
(763) 421-8491  
jvaughn@istate.com
- **Second Vice** —  
Lion Brian Fitzgerald  
(763) 421-1921
- **Third Vice** —  
Lion Terry Peterson  
(763) 757-2847  
tppeteoff12847@aol.com
- **Secretary** —  
Lion Lyle Goff  
(763) 754-8921  
gofflt@msn.com
- **Treasurer** —  
Lion Steve Asplund  
(763) 757-7231  
sm\_asplund@msn.com
- **Membership** —  
Lion Joe Marvin  
(763) 427-8983  
josephmarvin@qwest.net
- **Gambling Chair** —  
Lion Roger Johnson  
(763) 755-4664  
rogvicki@msn.com
- **Community Needs** —
  
- **Newsletter Editor** —  
Lion Joel Anderson  
(763) 757-2515  
janderson@jemtechnical.com
- **Webmaster** —  
Lion Steve Sims  
(763) 421-2338  
sesims@comcast.net



## Views from Our President...

Lions All, here it is, already time to compose my first newsletter article. By the time you read this I will be on the verge of becoming your first female president. Thank you for your trust and faith in me. I hope that I will be able to lead well and believe that you will help and support me in this endeavor. This is OUR Lions club, a club that I am proud to be a member of. The past six months have brought many changes in my life: a different job that has taken me out of the Coon Rapids community, the death of my mother and the purchase of a lake cabin. I have been asked over and over why I am a member of the Coon Rapids Lions. Why, when I no longer work in Coon Rapids and live in St. Paul, would I continue to drive all the way to Coon Rapids to be a part of a service organization? Why commit to this club, when attendance is difficult for me and times in the club have been difficult? I think that you all are the answer to this question. I believe in what the Coon Rapids Lions have been and done in this community but more than that, I have come to trust in and care deeply about the members of this club....even those who have very different ideologies than I do. OUR club is in a time of transition and change but I believe that WE have a strong core of dedicated and caring individuals. Even during difficult times WE have pulled together and did what some people thought would be impossible for US to do....WE pulled off a last minute pancake breakfast, WE won the Midwinter Convention hospitality suite award, and WE won the Governor's achievement award. WE are a strong club, even in the midst of change that has been very painful for many of us. Now WE must look to the future. How do WE both serve the community and **care for each other**? WE need to mentor and embrace new members as well as acknowledge and heal the wounds and disappointments as people we cared about have left our club. I believe that WE can do this if WE work together.

WE are now a much smaller club. This brings us an opportunity to make **strong bonds with each other** but WE do also need to grow. Lion Roger has issued a challenge to bring in at least 10 new members this year. I believe that WE can do this and I extend the challenge to each of you. As WE bring in new members...remember when you were new....help our new members to feel like they belong in the club. Let them know how important they are and how glad WE are to incorporate their new skills and ideas into our service to the community. I have loved seeing club member's spouses and children helping at OUR events and hope that this continues. I think there is great strength in being a "family friendly" club and great value in teaching our children about serving their community.

On to that service...raffle ticket sales are going well. Please keep in mind the face of that lovely little girl as you work to make this project a success. **I project that WE**

**will sell each and every ticket before the raffle date! Help make this true!**

WE are also on the verge of another great 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and carnival. I hope everyone will be there working with your fellow Lions. I am already looking at shoes on the internet as I expect to have worn out at least one pair of red shoes by July 6<sup>th</sup>!

The future...I believe that OUR club will continue to be a model of service to OUR community and our district. I hope that WE will grow and change **but always keep thoughts of service and caring for each other foremost in our minds.** *"It's going to be a bright, bright, bright sun-shiny day!"*

*Yours in service,  
Lion President Liz Reiser (LL)*

## Thoughts from our Past President...



Greetings Lions all,

This is the one article I did not want to write, because it is the last one. It is amazing how fast the year went, it seems like yesterday that we were at Sand Creek Park preparing for the carnival.

Lion Jerry Lyman said this job could be done with your eyes closed. However, Lion Jerry had his other senses to fall back on. To be president of a Lion's Club you need all of your available senses — to hear the members' concerns about club activities and shortcomings, to smell and taste our wonderful steaks dinners, — to feel for others in our community who are less fortunate than us, and finally to see what is happening within the club and community and to guide our goals to a successful outcome.

Thanks to all of the board members, both past and present, and all of my committee chairs, especially the ones who stepped forward when projects looked like they would be canceled. Thanks to Lion John Leggate, for selecting me to be his 2nd Vice President; and thanks to all of the members of the Coon Rapids Lions club for great, but bumpy, year.

Finally, I would like to thank Lion Roger. A little over four years ago, Lion Roger asked me to join the Lions. At first, I was a bit hesitant about joining but talked it over with Wendy, and she said I should join because it would get me out of the house at least once a week (I was

unemployed at the time). My first meal with some of you was fish, being that the dinner night fell on Ash Wednesday that year. I do not remember if I won a door prize or not, but I do remember seeing some people I had not seen for a long time. The next day I gave Lion Roger my check and application, and I'm glad I did because if I hadn't, I would have missed out on the greatest opportunity of my life — to serve as your club president.

Three more people to thank, Missy and Greg for just being the greatest daughter and son a dad could ever have. And the biggest thanks to Wendy, my wife, for all her support and guidance not only during my ongoing tenure with the Lions, but also in almost 30 years of marriage.

*Past President Lion Steve Asplund*



## Parade & Carnival Information...

Remember our club's largest and most important event is coming up very soon! Please make sure to sign up to help with the refreshments and parade. The parade is on Thursday, July 3rd at Sand Creek Park. Parade setup starts at 2:00 p.m. and line up at 4:00 p.m. The parade will begin at 6:00 p.m. This kicks off the carnival which runs through the weekend.



## RSVP for Dinner Meeting

Please make sure to notify Lion Jack of your intention for each of the dinner meetings so a meal can be ordered for you. Lion Jack can be reached by emailing your dinner notice to [jkoolmo@comcast.net](mailto:jcoolmo@comcast.net) or you can call him with your information at **612-418-6839**.

*Lion Jack Koolmo  
612-418-6839*

## Upcoming Events...

- July 3-6 — 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade & Carnival
- August 12 — Ice Cream Social Camp Friendship
- August 13 — Camp NeedlePoint tour

## ? Mystery Lion of the Month... ?

Can you guess who this is?  
You may be asked at the next dinner meeting  
to identify this fellow Lion.  
Be prepared!

### 1. What do you do now or did you do for a living?

*A real description, not just a job title.*

**Answer:** Carpentry and driving a motor coach.

### 2. Tattoos or Piercings?

**Answer:** None.

### 3. Favorite color?

**Answer:** Blue, but I like black on cars.

### 4. Volunteer projects in the community in addition to Lions? *If so please describe.*

**Answer:** Just working with kids.

### 5. Favorite beverage?

**Answer:** Diet Coke.

### 6. Favorite place to travel?

**Answer:** Canada.

### 7. Favorite term of endearment for someone close to you?

**Answer:** Hey Baby!

### 8. Lion you would like to see fined at the next meeting, just on general principal?

*(Your reward for filling this out!)*

**Answer:** Lion Wayne.



### Did you figure it out?

Last month's *Mystery Lion of the Month* was  
Lion Lori Anderson



**REMINDER** — Please send your articles, updates and photos for our monthly newsletter to Lion Joel Anderson by the Friday following the Board meeting each month.

Please include: *event name; # of Lions attending; weather conditions if applicable; and a short summarization of event.* Thank you. Contact: (763) 757-2515 or [janderson@jemtechnical.com](mailto:janderson@jemtechnical.com)



### Stuff to SAVE

Bring to any club meeting:

- ✓ eyeglasses
- ✓ printer cartridges
- ✓ \$\$ for club pins

## Works like a Charm...

- ✓ **Unclog a drain:** Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka Seltzer tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes and then run the hot water.
- ✓ Ants, ants, ants everywhere — Well, they are said to never cross a chalk line. So, get your chalk out and draw a line on the floor or wherever ants tend to march. See for yourself.

## Happy Birthday to...

- Dave Zdon -- July 3
- Marcia Guthrie -- July 25
- John Merriam -- July 27
- Steve Sims -- July 28



## Happy Anniversary to...

- Joe Marvin -- 1992
- Bill Guthrie -- 1994
- Brian Armstrong -- 2005
- Alan Cornett -- 2007
- Lori Cornett -- 2007
- Greg Owens -- 2007





## Lions to the Rescue!...

5M7 District Governor Mary Ellen Storely reported that within one week of the tornado disaster in Hugo, a \$10,000 check was issued. This was from LCIF (*Lions Club International Foundation*). This grant was intended to help with immediate personal needs like soap and water.



## Governor’s Award Night...

At the *Governor’s Award Night* the Coon Rapids Lions Club was awarded overall district winner of the “*Club Activity Contest*.” This is not just for being a very active club, but for turning in all reports to the District on time. Thanks to Lion Lyle for his great job of Club Secretary!

## Sight First II...

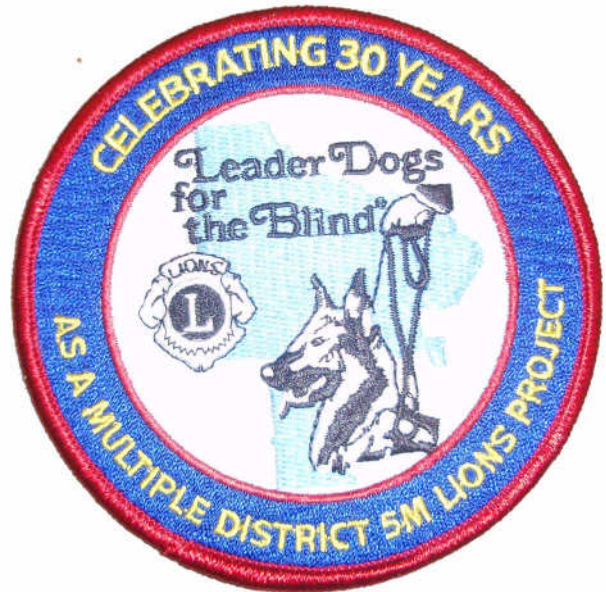
On May 17th, District 5M7 supported the *Walk for SightFirst II*. Districts 5M5 and 5M6 raised a combined total of \$10,000, but District 5M7 raised a whopping total of \$31,000! We are not only a great club, but we belong to a great District.



## Leader Dogs for the Blind...

The patch below was issued to the Coon Rapids Lions Club in celebration of 30 years of support to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Many vision-impaired people have been given a new life style thanks to the support we give.





## 5M-7 Club Monthly Activities Report

**Month:** May

**Membership:** Last Month - 42

Adds - 0 Drops - 0 Current - 42

### Upcoming activities with dates:

*55 Alive* - June 2<sup>nd</sup> @ Coon Rapids VFW

*Carp Fest* - June 7<sup>th</sup> @ Coon Rapids Regional Dam Park

Joint *Dinner Meeting* with Andover Lions Club - June 25<sup>th</sup>

City of Coon Rapids *4th of July Carnival, Parade and*

*Fireworks* - July 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> @ Sand Creek Park

### List activities completed, include the total hours and the number of members participating in the activity:

CR Lions Newsletter sent to DG, VDG, Region Chair, Zone Chair, and 5M7 Gram Editor

DG inducted new Club officers and Board members at Club dinner meeting

DG swore in new Club member at Club dinner meeting

District Cabinet members made presentation at Club dinner meeting

13 Lions volunteered at Hooked On Fishing - 52 hrs

2 Lions attended Multiple District Convention - 32 hrs

2 Lions attended Anoka Lioness Waffle Breakfast - 4 hrs

2 Lions attended Columbus Lions Pancake Breakfast - 4 hrs

1 Lion worked with the Blaine High School Marching Band - 3 hrs

2 Lions transported individuals to and from home for appointments - 11 hrs

3 Lions attended Nursing Home Men's Club - 18 hrs

3 Lions assisted CR Lioness with bingo at Park River Estates - 5 hrs

2 Lions collected eyeglasses - 13 hrs

1 Lion volunteered for Meals on Wheels - 13 hrs

1 Lion instructed at ATV safety training course - 36 hrs

4 Lions helped elderly neighbors - 14 hrs

1 Lion volunteered at Senior Center - 5 hrs

1 Lion working with Humphrey Institute Exchange Fellow - 47 hrs

2 Lions visited VA Hospital and Mercy Hospital to see patients - 6 hrs

2 Lions acted as scout leaders for Boy Scouts - 27 hrs

1 Lion acted as scouting liaison between Club and Troops/Packs - 11 hrs

1 Lion worked as part of the Salvation Army Mediation services - 4 hrs

1 Lions worked on Miss Coon Rapids May '08 events - 2 hrs

2 Lions volunteered at Coon Rapids Athletic Association - 200 hrs

2 Lions coached youth sports - 41 hrs

1 Lion worked on planning for upcoming Missionary trips - 12 hrs

1 Lion maintained Lions Memorial Garden - 9 hrs

11 Lions volunteered at local churches - 57 hrs

1 Lion volunteered at Daycare - 3 hrs

1 Lion donated blood - 2 hrs

17 Lions worked on CR Lions Committee activities - 104 hrs

1 Lion worked on CR Lions Newsletter - 6 hrs

1 Lion worked on CR Lions Website - 2 hrs

1 Lion worked on CR Lions Secretarial activities - 21 hrs

### Cash Donations:

City of Coon Rapids Celebration - \$2,700

BANGO for Books - \$1,100

ACBC Food Shelf - \$1,000

Boy Scout Troop 415 - \$188

Disabled Bowlers - \$449

**Total Volunteer hours donated in May '08:** 764 hrs

**Total Dollars donated in May '08:** \$5,437

*Signed: Lion Lyle Goff  
Club Secretary*

*Lion Steve Asplund  
Club President*





# Coon Rapids Lions July 2008



| Sunday   | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|---|--|--|----------|
|  |        | 1       | 2<br>Community Needs Mtg<br>Fire Station #1<br>7:00pm | 3<br><br>Parade - 6 pm | 4<br> |          |
| 6<br> | 7      | 8       | 9<br>Board &<br>General Mtg<br>CR VFW<br>7:00pm       | 10<br>Park River<br>Men's Club<br>10:00 am   | 11   | 12       |
| 13   | 14     | 15      | 16<br>Gambling Mtg<br>Gambling<br>Office, 7:00pm      | 17   | 18   | 19       |
| 20   | 21     | 22      | 23<br>Dinner Mtg<br>CR-VFW, 7:00pm                    | 24<br>Park River<br>Men's Club<br>10:00 am   | 25   | 26       |
| 27   | 28     | 29      | 30  | 31   |  |          |