



Lions NEWSLETTER

District 5M7

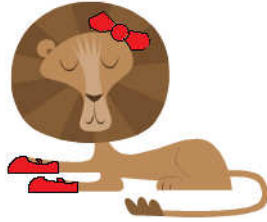
Coon Rapids Lions Club

December 2008

Reminder — Next Dinner Meeting is on Wednesday, November 26, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members

- **President** —
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- **First Vice** —
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- **Second Vice** —
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- **Secretary** —
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- **Treasurer** —
Lion Steve Asplund
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- **Membership** —
Lion Bill Guthrie
(763) 786-8072
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- **Gambling Chair** —
Lion Roger Johnson
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- **Community Needs** —
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- **Newsletter Editor** —
Lion Joel Anderson
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Views from Our President...

It has been quite a month! It was great to have DG Jim and his wife Tina and VDG Clay and his wife, Lion Deb at our *Governor's Night Dinner*. It was an exciting night and what a wonderful way to welcome our newest members Lions Arlene and Aaron. The door prizes and good cheer were flowing.

Then we jumped right into a tremendous *Pancake Breakfast*...could it have gone any better? We had a great crowd, great kids helping and untiring Lion and family member volunteers. Lions Bill and Dan did a wonderful job on this fun event and I think it was enjoyed and appreciated by the Coon Rapids community! Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a successful event! Our new members, Lions Arlene and Aaron really proved that they know what "We Serve" is all about. Lion Arlene was even there and cheerful after working all night the previous night! The Lioness' were out in force with yummy looking baked goods and creative craft items. I think (hope) it was a successful morning for them too!

November has brought us a wonderful new idea from Lion Roger to host a *Golf Tournament* and *Gala Dinner Fundraiser* in conjunction with the city in honor of the *50th anniversary of Coon Rapids*. Not being a golfer, I can't pretend to really understand this, but I think it has the potential to be a wonderful fundraiser and a way to get our name out in front of the community.

We recently had our first meeting to talk about the theme of our hospitality suite at the *Midwinter Convention*. I'm not going to release any of that top secret planning information here but I would encourage anyone who is interested in helping/participating to contact Lion Joel, Lion Lori, Lion Lyle or myself to get involved. All you new Lions...I strongly encourage you to attend the convention, if you can't or don't want to stay overnight you can attend during the day. It is a wonderful way to really learn more about what Lions do and meet other clubs. Coon Rapids has always had a great attendance at this event and we have established a pattern of our Lions and Lioness winning the new Lion/Lioness award. Big pressure but lots of fun! I hope to see you all there! Lion Joel is taking reservations for rooms and for food tickets.

This Thanksgiving, I am thankful for each and every one of you and all you do to make our community and world a better place. Let us be grateful and renew our desire to serve. Get ready to ring those *Salvation Army* bells!

*In gratitude....
Lion Liz (LL)*



RSVP for Dinner Meeting

Please make sure to notify Lion Jack of your intention for each dinner meeting so a meal can be ordered for you. Lion Jack can be reached by calling him with your RSVP at **612-418-6839**.

*Lion Jack Koolmo
612-418-6839*



Coon Rapids Lions Club Holiday Party

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Time: Social 6:30, Dinner 7:00
Place: Coon Rapids VFW
Who: Coon Rapids Lion and Lioness members and their significant others.



If you would like to participate in a new fun-filled activity, then each of you (members and guests) please bring a wrapped gift (value of \$5) — not a *White Elephant* item. Do NOT put your name on it.

Also, there will be a basket for cash donations (suggested amount \$5 each) which will be donated to a local charity.

Please RSVP to Lion Jack Koolmo by Monday, December 1. "Happy holidays to all!"

*Holiday party committee,
Lions Brian Fitzgerald, Bill Guthrie, Marcia Guthrie*

Gambling Update...

The gambling committee is in the process of working on a calendar raffle that promises to be another fun and exciting fundraiser. These are especially important things during these difficult economic times. As a social worker, I am seeing more and more of the effects of people losing their homes and really struggling to obtain and maintain basic needs. I believe that our Lions club will be

asked more frequently for assistance with basic needs in the coming months.

Now for the good and bad news that you have probably already heard — while meeting to plan for the *Midwinter Convention* at Bennigan's so that we could also check out how *Bar Bingo* was coming along there (really picking up nicely), we received the news that along with the sale of Lindees, a new gambling operation has been chosen to replace us. This is a hard blow and will undoubtedly have a large impact on the finances of our club. It is a sad thing, that bar patrons and owners do not really seem to know what we do with our gambling proceeds. Looking at where our money goes and where the money raised by some of the other "charitable gambling" organizations goes was quite shocking to me. I don't know if people care or not but I think it is time to start being more vocal about what we do and where our money goes. I believe that you will see some letters to the editor and hopefully we will have more discussion time with the Mayor and City Council around this issue in the near future. For now....we need to carry on, continue to come up with creative new ideas like the calendar raffle and golf tournament and continue to serve our community as best we can.

Lion President Liz



Why are YOU a Lion?

What does being a member of the Lions mean to YOU?

- Friendship and camaraderie?
- Gaining leadership skills?
- Being able to tell others you're a Lion?
- You want to feel important?
- You enjoy helping others?
- You want to have fun?
- It's something to put on your resume?
- You want to make a difference?
- You like being involved?
- It gives you something to do?

Or are you a member for another reason? A Lion's Club is as good as it's members want it to be. How good do YOU want our club to be?



Coon Rapids Lioness Club News

What a nice surprise I had when I drove away from my house the other day and found that the price of gasoline was \$1.88 a gallon! It felt like Christmas had come early! Now, one can only hope it lasts awhile. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Lioness for their hard work preparing for the *Group Meeting*, baking for and working at the *Pancake Breakfast*, and making crafts for and working at the *St. Tim's Craft Fair*, held on November 1st. I'm especially proud of our teamwork and for coming to the assistance of others who may need special help to get things done.

Thanksgiving will be here very soon. In addition to a happy, closely-knit family and the many friends I have, I'm also very thankful for where I am in my life right now. For one thing, it humbles me to be the President of our Lioness Club; also, to assist by giving of my time to the nursing homes, and helping our club to raise the money we donate to needy causes in our community. I'm very thankful that I am able to hop out of bed every morning feeling energetic and ready to "do stuff." My wish for all of us is to be as healthy and well-adjusted as we can be!

Due to the cold weather and low price of aluminum right now, Lioness Ruth is taking a well deserved break from her can recycling for a couple of months. Hopefully things will pick up again this spring so we can resume our efforts. Many thanks to Lioness Ruth for her very successful efforts in contributing to our funds.

Happy Birthday to **Lioness Jan** on **December 8th**.
We have no anniversaries to celebrate this month.

In December:

- Tues. 12/09 -- 6:30 p.m. Potluck/gift wrap/meeting
- Tues 12/16 -- 2:00 p.m. BINGO @ Park River
6:30 p.m. Lioness Christmas party
- Thurs. 12/18 -- 6:30 p.m. BINGO @ Camellia Rose
- Thurs. 12/25 -- Christmas Day
- Wed. 12/31 -- New Year's Eve

Lioness President Marlene Marshall

Happy Thanksgiving!



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

Happy Birthday to...

- Bill Guthrie -- December 3
- Liz Reiser -- December 4
- Wayne Johnson -- December 27



Happy Anniversary to...

- Clarence Norrbom -- 1972
- Dan Galbraith -- 2005



Coon Rapids Lions 55th Anniversary

In March 2009 we will be celebrating 55 years of Lion's service to the community. In conjunction to our 55th Anniversary, the City of Coon Rapids is celebrating it's 50th Birthday! We hope to have a unique and joyful celebration. Please see Lion Joel if you would like to help plan this event.



5M-7 Club Monthly Activities Report

Month: October 2008

Membership: Last Month – 39
Adds – 4 Drops – 0 Current – 43

Lion Dan Thompsen – sponsored by Lion Jim Myers
Lion Ulana Purcell – sponsored by Lion Jim Myers
Lion Aaron Bautista – sponsored by Lion Roger Johnson
Lion Arlene Archangel – sponsored by Lion Roger Johnson –
Total = 400 pts.

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

Newsletter sent to DG, VDG, Region Chair, Zone Chair, and 5M7 Gram Editor via E-mail – 50 pts.
Club Website kept current – 50 pts.
Club had articles appear in the *Coon Rapids Herald* – 2 articles – 50 pts.
Club *Monthly Membership and Activities* reported submitted via e-mail by 21st of month – 100 pts.
Held *White Cane Days* event at local grocery stores – 13 Lions – 24 hrs – 700 pts.
Held *Books for BANGO* event at University Elementary – 4 Lions – 20 hrs – 150 pts.
Acted as Guiding Lions for the *North Metro Leos Club* – 4 Lions – 12 hrs – 250 pts.
Attended *Fall Forum* – 2 Lions – 7 hrs – 100 pts.
Attended Spring Lake Park Lions fundraiser – 2 Lions – 7 hrs – 100 pts.
Attended Spring Lake Park Lions Breakfast – 2 Lions – 6 hrs – 100 pts.
Collected eyeglasses from Lions collection boxes – 2 Lions – 16 hrs – 100 pts.
Attended Nursing Home Men's Club – 3 Lions – 15 hrs – 125 pts.
Assisted Lioness with BINGO at Park River Estates – 3 Lions – 5 hrs – 50 pts.
Worked on Lions Coon Creek Memorial Garden – 1 Lion – 4 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Coon Rapids 50th Anniversary* planning committee – 1 Lion – 2 hrs – 5 pts.
Volunteered on *ARCC Scholarship Committee* – 1 Lion – 2 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Volunteers of America Back Pack* project – 1 Lion – 2 hrs – 5 pts.
Donated blood to *Memorial Blood Center* – 1 Lion – 2 hrs – 5 pts.
Volunteered on ATV trail maintenance and training – 1 Lion – 7 hrs – 5 pts.
Working with *Humphrey Institute Exchange Fellows* – 1 Lion – 67 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked with the *Blaine High School Marching Band* – 1 Lion – 13 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked with the *Coon Rapids High School Marching Band* – 1 Lion – 5 hrs – 5 pts.
Volunteered with local candidate campaign – 1 Lion – 18 hrs – 5 pts.
Transported individuals to and from home for appointments – 2 Lions – 13 hrs – 10 pts.
Volunteered for *Meals on Wheels* – 1 Lion – 12 hrs – 5 pts.
Volunteered at *Senior Center* – 1 Lion – 3 hrs – 5 pts.

Visited *VA Hospital and Mercy Hospital* to see patients – 2 Lions – 6 hrs – 10 pts.
Acted as scout leaders for Boy Scouts – 2 Lions – 47 hrs – 10 pts.
Acted as *scouting liaison* between Club and Troops/Packs – 1 Lion – 15 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked as part of the *Salvation Army Mediation Services* – 1 Lion – 9 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked with *WWI Rangers* – 1 Lion – 8 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Eyeglass Mission* planning and preparation – 1 Lion – 4 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Susan G. Komen Foundation* event – 1 Lion – 26 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Anoka-Hennepin schools committees* – 1 Lion – 12 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Miss Coon Rapids October '08* events – 2 Lions – 8 hrs – 10 pts.
Volunteered at *Coon Rapids Athletic Association* – 2 Lions – 200 hrs – 10 pts.
Coached youth sports – 2 Lions – 81 hrs – 10 pts.
Volunteered at local churches – 13 Lions – 69 hrs – 65 pts.
Volunteered at *Daycare/Elementary School* – 2 Lions – 13 hrs – 10 pts.
Worked on *Lions Committee activities* – 20 Lions – 89 hrs – 100 pts.
Worked on *Lions Newsletter* – 1 Lion – 5 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Lions Website* – 1 Lion – 6 hrs – 5 pts.
Worked on *Lions Secretarial activities* – 1 Lion – 21 hrs – 5 pts.

Cash Donations:

Books for BANGO - \$2,000 – 25 pts.
City of Coon Rapids Celebration - \$1,651 – 25 pts.
ACBC Food Shelf - \$1,000 – 25 pts.
LCIF - \$200 – 400 pts.
CR Lions Foundation - \$150 – 25 pts.
Leader Dog - \$150 – 300 pts.
Hearing and Service Dogs of MN - \$150 – 300 pts.
Lions MN Eye Bank - \$150 – 300 pts.
Lions Hearing Foundation - \$150 – 300 pts.
Alexandra House - \$150 – 25 pts.
Cub and Boy Scouts - \$347 – 25 pts.
Needy Family – \$3,000.00 – 25 pts.
Coon Rapids Senior Center - \$2,000 – 25 pts.
Volunteers of America - \$80 – 25 pts.
WWII Rangers - \$50 – 25 pts.

Upcoming activities with dates:

Salvation Army Bell Ringing – November 28th & 29th

Total Volunteer Hours donated in October '08: 874 hours

Total Dollars Donated in October '08: \$11,228.00

Total Governor's Contest points achieved in October '08: 4,515


*Signed: Lion Lyle Goff, Club Secretary
Lion Liz Reiser, Club President*





Coon Rapids Lions December 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Community Needs Mtg Fire Station #1 7:00pm	4 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	5 Nowthen Charter Night	6
7	8	9	10  Christmas Party CR VFW 6:30pm	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Gambling Mtg Gambling Office, 7:00pm	18 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	19	20 Mid-Winter Convention registrations due to club
21	22	23	24	25  Christmas Day	26	27
28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve			