



# Lions NEWSLETTER

District 5M7

Coon Rapids Lions Club

November 2007

Reminder — Next Dinner Meeting is on Wednesday, October 24, 7:00 p.m.

## Board Members

- **President** —  
Lion Steve Asplund  
(763) 757-7231  
sm\_asplund@msn.com
- **First Vice** —  
Lion Brian Fitzgerald  
(763) 421-1921
- **Second Vice** —  
Lion Tom Marcotte  
(763) 757-9070  
tsmmarcotte@aol.com
- **Third Vice** —  
Lion Jason Vaughn  
(763) 421-8491  
jvaughn@istate.com
- **Secretary** —  
Lion Lyle Goff  
(763) 754-8921  
gofflt@msn.com
- **Treasurer** —  
Lion Paul Knorr  
(763) 755-2676  
phenryk@msn.com
- **Membership** —  
Lion Diane Buszta  
(763) 754-8002  
dianebuszta@yahoo.com
- **Gambling Chair** —  
Lion Roger Johnson  
(763) 755-4664  
rogvicki@msn.com
- **Community Needs** —  
Lion John Leggate  
(763) 757-4971  
jslcotton@comcast.net
- **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...

Greetings to my fellow Lions,

Thank you all for singing “Happy Birthday” to me at the September dinner meeting; thank goodness we are a Lions club instead of a glee club! And thank you all for the cards and assorted gifts. But let’s not forget the other September birthdays — Lions Paul, Roger and Terry are the first to come to mind, if I have forgotten anyone, my apologies. Fifty years is quite a milestone, to think I was born shortly after this club was founded and to become its president. Thanks to Lion Liz for the fancy hat she gave me at the September dinner meeting, however the hat fits Wendy better than me. I guess it’s all the information I gained at the Forum, which made my head too big to fit it properly.

*Governor’s Night* was a great success and thanks to all the Lions who made it possible. Team effort has a way of making tasks a little bit more bearable. Also, earlier in the month our club had its first *Books for BANGO* event at University Elementary School. It was the second BANGO event I was involved with, and to see how happy this club can make a child by giving him/her a simple little book is heartwarming. Who knew a little book could make a child so happy? If only life could be that simple again.

**Thought for the month:** “Only those with narrow minds fail to see that the definition of impossible is ‘lack of imagination and incentive.’” — Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson – “Dune – The Butlerian Jihad”

## Upcoming events:

- Zone meeting – November 13 – American Legion – Anoka
- Bell Ringing -- Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving (23 and 24) – Wal-Mart
- Books for BANGO – L.O. Jacobs – 9:30

*Lion President Steve Asplund*

## Don’t Forget to 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:jkoolmo@comcast.net) or you can call him with your information at **612-418-6839**.

*Lion Jack Koolmo*  
612-418-6839

## ? 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 for a living?

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

**Answer:** In the past, I've worked at a bowling alley and I've flipped burgers at McDonald's.

### 2. Tattoos or Piercings?

**Answer:** None, I'm kind of boring in that sense.

### 3. Favorite color?

**Answer:** Blue is nice, but not as nice as the Gold and Purple of Lions Clubs International! And who could ignore those bright red vests and shirts of the Coon Rapids Lions?

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

**Answer:** I've always volunteered to help out with my student's school activities and helped out with local civic events.

### 5. Favorite beverage?

**Answer:** Right now, I like Miller Chill for an alcoholic beverage. Otherwise, I'm a simple water or soda pop kind of person.

### 6. Favorite place to travel?

**Answer:** Any place different and unique! I've enjoyed New Orleans, Memphis, Las Vegas and even Los Angeles!

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

**Answer:** Honey, 'cause she's so sweet!

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

*(Your reward for filling this out!)*

**Answer:** Lion Jim Meyers.



### • Did you figure it out?

Last month's *Mystery Lion of the Month* was Lion Jerry Lyman.

## Vision and Visionaries

The courage to change requires vision and visionaries. Lions are all about vision. Are we also visionaries?

This month we celebrate *White Cane Days*, during which we share our commitment to vision with the community. This is an exciting time, letting others know what we are really about, our courage, our dedication, our vision.

In the past, we have had visionaries like PDG Marv Benson and Lion Jerry Lyman to chart a course for growth, for inclusiveness and for service to our community. They made our club successful; they helped us to lead and to serve in our community in amazing ways. Now we are entering a new period in the course of Lionism, we are encouraged by our International Director to find the *Commitment to Change*.

Change is never easy, especially when we are used to and comfortable with our old patterns that have worked so well in the past. In an attempt to assist our club with growth and change, I requested feedback from our newer members. This was my own personal search for vision and visionaries. I'd like to share with all of you a little of the vision that was shared with me.

First and foremost, newer Lions expressed a desire to learn more from the more experienced members of our club. I find it difficult to make small talk with people I don't know well and it is easy for me to fall into the pattern of sitting near people I know at meetings. It is comfortable. Unfortunately, if everyone behaves as I do, how do newer members really feel included? Those of us who have been around a while need to work on making more effort to talk with new members and make sure they understand what is going on and feel free to ask questions or submit ideas. New members talked about the importance of a sponsor. Their vision included ideas like sponsors sharing the chairmanship of activities with their new member. Too many new members felt like they were just thrown in to sink or swim. I must admit, I greatly admire and respect my sponsor but, I too felt like I had to sink or swim on my own. Sometimes I think that we do a really good job of serving our community but not such a good job of serving each other. Meetings should be a place of friendship, of support, of sharing visions and yes, sometimes even challenging each other.

At the International Convention in Chicago, I was appalled by how unfriendly and unwelcoming many Lions were. Do we fall into this trap in our own club, simply through not really thinking about being

welcoming and supporting each other? I must admit, sometimes I do.

Projects...yes our club has some great projects. Where in the world did the vision for the *Wellness Van* that PDG Marv supported so strongly come from? What about *Books for BANGO*? A couple of years ago Lion John Leggate told me he really wanted to do something to serve people in need in our community at a time of year when other organizations really didn't do anything. For the past two years we have provided *Spring Cleaning Baskets* to needy families in our community due to Lion John's vision. Newer members need to be nurtured and encouraged to propose new visions, new projects, and new groups in our community to serve. If our club is to truly continue to be a source of inspiration and support in the community we need to embrace the concept of new ideas. It is difficult and some projects may not succeed but then again, I don't know that I would have thought the *Wellness Van* could have been a successful project.

I am proud to be a member of the Coon Rapids Lions Club; proud that we can learn from both longer term members and new members. I hope that we will be able to join together, to support each other and to have the courage to change. We are Lions, visionaries dedicated to vision and to service to our community. Let us also be dedicated to caring for and nurturing each other. This is a time of change. I hope that we will find the vision and the visionaries we need to serve in our families, our club, our community, our country and our world.

*Lion Liz Reiser*



## Spaghetti Dinner

Don't forget about the Spaghetti Dinner coming on November 19. It will be at the Coon Rapids Senior High School. Lion Liz is coming to our rescue and chairing this event for us. Let's all do our best to make it a super Lion's event! I'm sure Lion Liz will need a few early volunteers, around 3:00 p.m. The rest of us by 5:00 p.m. would be great! See Lion Liz for more details.

*Lion Joel Anderson*

## You Know You are Living in 2007 when...

- You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
- You haven't played solitaire with real cards for years.
- You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
- You email the person who is working at the desk next to you.
- Your reason for not staying in touch with friends is that they don't have email addresses.
- You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
- Every commercial has a website at the bottom of the screen.
- Leaving the house without your cell phone is cause for panic and you turn around and go get it.
- You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
- You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)



**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)

## Happy Birthday to...

- Dave Thelen -- 11/01
- Chuck Dahlberg -- 11/23
- Bill Erhart -- 11/27



## Happy Anniversary to...

- Bill Guthrie -- 1998
- Diane Buszta -- 2005
- Roberta Simat -- 2005
- John Ziegler -- 2005





# Coon Rapids Lions November 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	2	3
4 Daylight Saving Time Ends	5	6 Election Day	7 Community Needs Mtg Fire Station #1 7:00pm	8	9	10
11  Veteran's Day	12	13 Zone Meeting -- Anoka	14 Board & General Mtg CR VFW 7:00pm	15 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	16	17
18	19 Spaghetti Dinner	20 Books for BANGO -- LO Jacobs 9:30 a.m.	21 Gambling Mtg Gambling Office, 7:00pm	22  Thanksgiving Day	23 Bell Ringing -- Wal-Mart	24
25	26	27	28 Dinner Mtg CR-VFW, 7:00pm	29 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	30	