



Lions NEWSLETTER

District 5M7

Coon Rapids Lions Club

September 2007

Reminder — Next Dinner Meeting is on Wednesday, August 22, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members

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Views from Our President...

Just a quick note to say, "Thank you" to a couple Lions with their help on last month's Dinner/Zone meeting. Thank you to Lion Jack Koolmo for getting the count of dinners needed for our club, and also to Lion Bill Guthrie for his leadership during the Zone Meeting. A special thanks to our two Tail Twisters, Lions Liz and Brenda, they made the night interesting.

Upcoming events to remember:

- **Camp Needlepoint/Daypoint** has several tours scheduled.
The schedule is: Wednesday, August 15th at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 21st at 12:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- **Camp Friendship Ice Cream Social**, August 14th, call Lion Wayne Johnson at 763-757-4831, so he can get a count for transportation needs.
- **Award Night**, August 22nd, please call Lion Jack Koolmo prior to August 14th if you plan to attend, and also let him know if you are planning to bring a guest. Plus, inform him if there is any dietary need for yourself and/or any of your guests. Contact Jack at 763-427-1407 or email: jkoolmo@comcast.net
- **Free 2 B, Wine and Cheese/Ice Cream Social**, Thursday, September 13th, 6-8 p.m. The event will be held at Goose Lake Farm and Winery 6760 – 213th Avenue NW, Elk River. For tickets call 763-717-7755, \$20 per person. The three C's are accepted (cash, credit card [VISA], check).
- Anoka Ramsey CC is holding an **Auction and Food-Wine Tasting Event** to raise money scholarships. The date is September 27th, 6-8:30 p.m. at the National Sports Center, Blaine.
- **Fall Pancake Breakfast**, October 29th.
- **White Cane Days**, days, sites, and times to be determined.

Lion President Steve Asplund



RSVP for Dinner Meeting

The Coon Rapids Lions Club has a new Dinner Chair and it is Lion Jack Koolmo. He has volunteered to be responsible for collecting our dinner attendance numbers and ordering the meals at the V.F.W. Please be responsible Club members by helping Lion Jack with his duties. Please make sure to notify Lion Jack of your intention for each of the Dinner meetings. Lion Jack can be reached by emailing your dinner notice to jkoolmo@comcast.net or you can call him with your information at **763-427-1407**. Lion Jack and the Club would appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

? 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: I help protect and serve the Coon Rapids community through more than just the Lions Club.

2. Tattoos or Piercings?

Answer: None

3. Favorite color?

Answer: Blue

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

Answer: Coon Rapids Police Reserves
National Night Out
Shop with a Cop (Christmas)

5. Favorite beverage?

Answer: Diet Mountain Dew

6. Favorite place to travel?

Answer: Canada

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

Answer: SHMILY (See How Much I Love You)

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 Diane Buszta.

Opportunities to Serve...

- The **Coon Rapids Lions Gaming** is taking applications for the position of *Gambling Assistant* and/or *Assistant Gambling Manager*. Applications may be picked up at the gambling office from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or at any of our gambling sites.
- The **Lions Foundation** is looking for a couple of members from the Coon Rapids community to serve on our *Foundation Board*, representing the City of Coon Rapids.
Any Lion who knows of a neighbor or friend who may be willing to serve in such a capacity should contact Lion Roger Johnson with their name and phone number.

Newsletter Articles...



With the new fiscal year beginning, please help me with YOUR newsletter. We need articles, updates and announcements for each club event in a timely fashion. Remember, the newsletter comes out before the month begins.

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 Lion Joel at (763) 757-2515 or janderson@jemtechnical.com

Happy Birthday to...

- Brandon Goff -- 09/12
- Terry Peterson -- 09/12
- Allan Meyer -- 09/14
- Scott Hudson -- 09/17
- Roger Johnson -- 09/17
- Steve Asplund -- 09/25
- Paul Knorr -- 09/25



No Anniversaries this month...



Minnesota Eye Bank: New Vision for a New Future

*A Report by Lions Wayne Johnson and Roger Johnson and
Lioness Vicki Johnson*

Lions Wayne and Roger and their wives, Ana Jean and Vicki, had the good fortune of attending the dedication ceremony for the new location of the *Minnesota Eye Bank*, held on July 26, 2007. The new address is:
1000 Westgate Drive, Suite 260, St. Paul, MN 55114.

It is within a complex of 28 other businesses in a new University Enterprise Laboratory (UEL), where the University connects with and provides leadership to local entrepreneurial enterprises set on the cutting edge of new technology, stemming from research done at the University of Minnesota. The new facility is beautiful, and much larger than the one on Delaware St., closer to the U of M campus, which many of the Lions and Lioness have visited previously; but from there all the work to receive, prepare, store, grade and ready corneas for transplant in hospital operating theaters is accomplished. Their equipment is new and “cutting-edge.” In a sense, it is good to have the Eye Bank there, in a facility where new ideas from research on eyes can find a place where the benefits to our society and economy emerge from our great research University. You really ought to visit this Eye Bank yourself sometime.

Since 1960, and its inception by Lion George Dugan of Austin, MN, the Eye Bank has received over \$24 Million from Lions of Minnesota. What a wonderful tribute to our organizations that our donations have provided the gift of life and sight that such a large sum of money has produced. Today, the Minnesota Eye Bank provides over 1000 corneas for transplant every year, and more than 1000 eyes for continuing research. Plus, more than 18,500 cornea transplant patients have now benefited from the venture begun by one man – George Dugan. We were fortunate to visit with a few of those patients. That they can now see clearly through once clouded eyes is truly a blessing for which our Coon Rapids Lions and Lioness Clubs can definitely be proud.

Our Eye Bank in Minnesota created a new solution in which corneas from donors can be stored and preserved for up to two weeks, which permits corneal transplant surgeons to perform their transplant skills on a scheduled procedure, rather than on an emergency and quick-fix basis. This storage medium revolutionized eye

banking and garnered the Minnesota Eye Bank international recognition. This technology is still in use around the world today.

It really is time for all of us Lions and Lioness to persuade our fellow Club members to become tissue donors. It's easy and painless. *Easy*, because you can either put “DONOR” on your driver's license, or fill out a one-page Organ-Donor form that you keep with your personal Will or Living Will, and which instructs your heirs of your wishes. *Painless*, because your eyes are removed by trained surgeons or morticians after you no longer have a use for them.

A cornea is the clear tissue in the front of the eye. It is the main focusing element of the eye. Should the cornea become cloudy from disease, infection, or injury, vision would be dramatically reduced. We will bring some “glasses” to the next dinner meeting for Lions and Lioness to look through to experience just what clouded corneas can do for your vision. Then you can “see” why corneal transplants can give hope to others. Such a transplant is the surgical procedure that replaces an unhealthy cornea with a healthy donor cornea. More than 90% of corneal transplant operations are successful, making this operation the most successful transplant procedure that exists.

Most major religions in the United States support organ, eye and tissue donation and see it as the final act of love and generosity toward others that anyone can give. An open casket funeral is possible for organ, eye, and tissue donors, and donation does not delay funerals.

Lions Wayne and Roger and Lioness Vicki will bring some Lions Eye Bank literature to their next dinner meetings, and you will be welcome to examine those materials yourself and to take them home with you to become more familiar with this great cause to which our Clubs make substantial annual financial contributions, and read the convincing data supporting why this cause continues to be one of which we can all be proud.





Coon Rapids Lions September 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Labor Day 	4	5 Community Needs Mtg Fire Station #1 7:00pm	6 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	7 U.S.A./Canada Leadership Forum Grand Rapids, MI	8
9	10	11	12 Board & General Mtg CR VFW 7:00pm	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Gambling Mtg Gambling Office, 7:00pm	20 Park River Men's Club 10:00 am	21	22
23	24	25	26 Governor's Night Dinner Mtg CR-VFW,	27	28	29
30						