



Lions, Start Your Engines!

A Message from Governor Jim

Happy Valentine's Day! Happy President's Day! February has arrived and with it we are finally seeing some winter weather. Snow, wind, below zero temps; everything seems to be normal! Marge & I can't complain; we have had only one club visit that had to be postponed because of weather.

January 13 was a rather momentous occasion for our district in that approximately 100 Lions and guests gathered in Evansville to help them celebrate their Charter Night. This was the first new club in District 5M4 in over 4 years. The new club was chartered with 29 members and is being led by Pres. Don Schecker and Sec. Cindy Anderson. Thank you to MERLO Team member PDG Morrie Faehnrich and Brandon Lions Pres. Greg Slack for their hard work in recruiting these new Lions! The Brandon Lions Club is the sponsoring club with Greg Slack and Chuck Carlson being the Guiding Lions. Congratulations to the Evansville Lions Club!

The Mid-Winter Convention is now behind us and we were very happy with the way things turned out. A total of 302 people were registered which was down about 20% from last year. Out of a possible 150 delegates, 96 were at the business meeting and that was great. A bylaws change was approved by the delegation increasing our dues by \$1.50 per year. Friday afternoon, 16,000 meals were bagged for Kids Against Hunger. The seminars were well

attended as were the meal functions. The food was great and the hospitality rooms were fun! Congratulations to everyone receiving awards; these are given to Lions for jobs well done! Our International guests, Director Wayne and Cheryl Heiman, were an absolute delight to have in our district. We also elected a new District Governor, Deborah Harms – Kingston Lions Club, and a new Vice District Governor, Kenny Harwick – Madison Lions Club. Congratulations to you both! But most important, it was all the Lions and guests attending that made the convention a success and for that we thank each and every one of you!

DG Jim and Marge Demaree and Cheryl and ID



Wayne Heiman.

If you haven't already done so, please get your nominating committees formed so that you can elect your officers in March. Officer training is going to be held in each zone this year and each club president and secretary **WILL** be trained. If you can't attend the training on the day that it is held in your zone, go to another zone as the training will be

the same in each. As soon as you have held your election, fill out your PU-101 form and send it to international and the District Governor.

Campaign SightFirst II is rolling right along but there are still clubs that have not made a commitment to this project. On the average, \$6.00 will prevent or correct someone's blindness. If you go to a Vikings game, a hotdog will cost you more than that! If your club has not made a pledge or a donation, please contact your Group Leader and "get 'er done". Likewise, if your club has not made a special contribution to Leader Dog for their 30-30 Campaign, please consider doing that now.

Since the last newsletter, Marge and I have attended the Mid-Winter Conventions in Districts 5M1, 5M5, 5M6, 5M7, and 5M8. By the time this "hits the streets" we will have also visited 5M2 and 5M13. Much like club visits, each one is different but they are all fun. We are seeing things that we wish we would have seen last year so that we could have incorporated them into our convention this year. As part of the convention committee, we will consider some of them for next year.

A reminder that the Multiple District 5M convention will be held in our district this year for the first time ever! You can now register and pay for the convention online by going to our MD5M website at www.lionsmd5m.org. The hotels are filling up fast so the sooner you register the better chance you will have to stay at the hotel of your choice.

Finally, let me say that I am extremely proud of the nine 5M4 Lions who have registered and been accepted for the 2007 Regional Lions Leadership Institute. At this time, there are still a few slots open if there is anyone else out there who might be interested. If you are, please call me immediately as there is a size limit on the class.

Keep up the good work out there and remember, "Put Your Club in a Position to Win".



Going on a Lion's Journey

with Vice District Governor Deb Harms

January seemed to fly by. Between working overtime at work, and attending mid winter conventions, most of my time at home was spent sleeping. That's our lives in January and February each year. It's tax season at work and just about every weekend has a mid winter convention somewhere. So far this year we have visited the conventions at 5M1, 5M7, 5M8, & 5M9. We still plan to visit 5M2 and 5M13.

We have a lot of fun seeing how other districts hold their conventions. For instance, 5M1 has only 1 hospitality room, hosted by the District Governor and the Vice District Governor and their clubs. 5M9 didn't have any hospitality rooms Saturday night. The zones in 5M2 take turns planning and hosting their conventions (5M4's conventions are planned by the Immediate Past District Governor, the 2nd Immediate Past District Governor and the Sitting District Governor). 5M5 & 5M7 hold their conventions less than 10 miles apart on the same weekend. 5M7 & 5M9 held their conventions outside their District this year. Some conventions give out lots of door prizes from the clubs (like we used to in 5M4) and others hold fund raisers (like we do now).

There are a lot of similarities in conventions also. As far as I know, all have a necrology service Friday evening, most have an honors breakfast or lunch, and the seminars and business meetings are run pretty much the same from convention to convention.

Our own convention was especially thrilling for me. I am so honored to have been elected to serve as your District Governor starting this July. I hope that what I do this coming year makes you proud. I think the convention overall went well. Everyone I talked to said they were having a good time. I was honored to have my own club, the Kingston Lions, host a hospitality room this year. We had a grand time and hope you did also, at the Kingston International Café. Look for us again at the convention in Alexandria.

A special CONGRATULATIONS!! to VDGE Lion Kenny & Kathy Harwick on Kenny's election as Vice District Governor. I know we will have a good couple of years working together to service the clubs of 5M4.

In my spare time and my travel time, I'm working on trying to set up my goals for the year. International First Vice President Mahendra Amarysuria's theme is "Challenge to Change". I'm trying to set my theme to complement his and at the same time make my own contribution to the clubs and Lions members of 5M4.

Don't forget to contact any of the **MERLO** Team members if there is any way they can help your club be the best you can be. Contact Brian Sheehan for **M**embership issues, Morrie Faehnrich for new club **E**xtension possibilities, Ryan Rustan for member **R**etention help, Lori Sheehan for **L**eadership training and Ed Holst for **O**rientation training.

And the journey continues

ATTENTION

ALL CLUB & DISTRICT OFFICERS **The New LCI Dues Policy**

Effective July 1, 2007, a club that has an unpaid balance in excess of \$20.00 per member or \$1000.00 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 150 days will be suspended including the charter, rights, privileges and obligation of the Lions Club for a period not to exceed 90 days.

Any club that has been approved for a payment plan by the Finance Division will not be suspended, as long as it continues to fulfill its obligation per the approved payment plan. In the event, the club does not reach good standing within the 90-day suspension period; their charter would be automatically cancelled.

This new policy has serious consequences for clubs that are in arrears in paying their LCI club balances. This policy affects clubs that have as little as one per-capita billing unpaid at 150 days. In order to avoid potential suspension and ultimate cancellation, the International Headquarters requests your assistance in communicating the consequences of slow payment. Clubs that have past due balances can avoid automatic suspension by either paying the full amount past due or by accepting a payment plan and sending payments as agreed. Regular and timely payments will ensure success.

Dues Structure for 5M4 clubs

A number of people have been asking about the dues structure for the members of Lions clubs in 5M4. With the change in the family dues with our International dues and the dues increase approved by the delegates at our Mid Winter convention this year, there are some changes to be reflected.

	1 st Lion in same household, same family, same club	2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th member in same household, same family, same club
International dues	\$39.00	\$19.50
MD5M dues	\$8.30	\$8.30
5M4 dues	<u>\$7.00</u>	<u>\$7.00</u>
Total annual dues	\$54.30	\$34.80

The dues for 5M4 increased by \$1.50 per year per member.

If you have any questions about the dues, please contact DGE Deb Harms or DG Jim Demaree.

CONGRATULATIONS!

VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT KENNETH HARWICK

On behalf of all the Lions of District 5M4, we wish to congratulate Lion Kenneth Harwick and his wife, Lion Kathy Harwick, on Kenny's election to the position of Vice District Governor.

Lion Kenny, a member of the Madison Lions Club, has held many club offices, some of them more than once. He has also served several terms as Zone Chairperson of Zone 4. Lion Kenny is well qualified to serve as our Vice District Governor and ultimately as our District Governor in 2008-2009. We all look forward to being a part of his team!

From U to You

LIONS CHILDREN'S HEARING CENTER UPDATE

The Lions Children's Hearing Center clinic will go to twice per month as of March 1st. Certainly there are enough patients to fill a weekly clinic or more. The difficulty is in carving out even two days per month that will fit into eight different physicians' already-busy schedules. A digital camera was purchased for the LCHC, for educational as well as promotional purposes.

A particularly heart-rending patient has come through the LCHC and I'm happy to report that we are part of an upturn in a child's bleak story. This child was one of five children born to an actively drug and alcohol abusing mother. The child was born with fetal alcohol syndrome and drugs in his system. It is uncertain whether the child was born with hearing loss or acquired it later. After 18 months of severe neglect, the child was removed from the home and placed in a foster home which was only marginally better. Finally, at the age of three years, the child was adopted by a very loving couple who have lost no time in addressing his many health needs. They made a long drive to the LCHC and have indicated they are willing to do whatever is necessary for this child. Because the child's issues are so complex, the expertise and multidisciplinary team approach offered at the Lions Children's Hearing Center is the best, and indeed the only, viable answer. Thanks to the Lions Hearing Foundation.

MARCH IS A BUSY MONTH

March will both come in and go out like a Lion. On Saturday, March 3rd, the Lions Children's Hearing Center is hosting a wine and cheese tasting, fashion show and live music benefit at the Weisman Art Museum on the University of Minnesota campus (more on this below). On Wednesday, March 14th, new Lions Governors will spend the day touring and learning about both the Hearing Center and the Eye Bank, and will end the day with a banquet at the Radisson Roseville. Clubs that are participating in the tours of the Hearing Center and Eye Bank on Saturday, March 31st should be ascertaining an accurate head count of members who will be attending. These final numbers should be communicated to Grecia Glass at 612-625-6458.

LIONS CHILDREN'S HEARING CENTER BENEFIT

To raise awareness of the Lions Children's Hearing Center and its vital role in diagnosing and treating childhood deafness, we are hosting an evening extravaganza of wine and cheese tasting, live jazz music and a fashion show by local designers. This is happening on Saturday, March 3rd from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum. Special recognition will be given to the Ramsey Lions Club, who generously donated \$75,000 (from one club!!) to get the Lions Children's Hearing Center off the ground. Tickets are \$30 per person and include free parking in the Weisman parking ramp. For further information or to purchase tickets, please call Sarah Barker at 612-625-8437, or Alyssa Anderson at 612-625-7753.

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420 Delaware St. SE
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612.625.8437

Contact DG or VDG by mail, phone or email

Submit Newsletter information by mail or e-mail (photos e-mail only) Deadline the 10th of the month.

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DISTRICT CABINET NEWS

We have had a few changes of personnel on the 5M4 District Cabinet. Glen Cerny, Public Relations Chair, has moved to Las Cruces NM, and has been replaced by Bob Harms, 72530 CSAH 27, Dassel MN 55325-2804. Phone 320-398-8591, Cell 320-699-0179. Email md5mlion@meltel.net. Bob is the husband of VDG Deb Harms and is also our MD5M Executive Secretary.

Lion Andy Stock has resigned as Youth Exchange Chair. The new person in that position is PDG James Kraus, 1102 SW Becker Ave, Willmar MN 56201. Home phone 320-222-4213, work 320-441-5525. Email jlkraus1@msn.com. Jim has loads of experience with Youth Exchange having been the Multiple District Chair in MD5 prior to moving to MD5M.

Convention Photo Finish



IPDG Kent Beissel receiving his District Governor plaque for the year 2005-2006 from DG Jim.



DG Jim paid tribute to the Zone Chairs at the Saturday Noon Luncheon.



Brooke Montpetit, 3rd place winner in the Peace Poster contest, sponsored by the Spicer Sunrise Lions. She attends New London-Spicer school.



Chord Ayres received standing ovation at the Saturday night banquet.



The Leo Excellence award is from the 2005-2006 year in which the Montivedeo Leo club completed three service projects. The projects included the annual food drive, a book distribution to families visiting the local food shelf and the project to raise \$500.00 for the community playground. All of the Leo members participated in the playground fundraiser through the school, most of the Leos physically helped build the playground. In each project the Leo club planned the project, problem solved and met to report progress. Announcements were made within the schools, city newspaper and through the Lions club. (four Leo's not pictured)



Montivedeo Leo's collecting food for "Kids Against Hunger" at the Mid-Winter Convention.

Evansville Charter Night



Evansville Charter Members.



PCC Brian Sheehan guest speaker at the Evansville Charter Night.



DG Jim with Evansville Club Officers

Lions of 5M4 mourn the passing away of our oldest member in our district, Lion John Peterson of the Willmar Noon Lions Club, age 100. He passed away on Feb. 17, 2007.



Pres. Greg Slack of the Brandon Lions presenting the bell and gavel to Pres. Donald Schecker of the Evansville Lions.



Chuck Carlson, Brandon guiding Lion, presenting the Tail Twisting pot to 1st VP Terry Aasness with Evansville Pres. Donald Schecker looking on.

Danube Lions Club

presents

Dad's Belgian Waffles

Serving:

Waffles, Sausages,
Toppings & Beverages

Saturday, February 24

8:00 am to 12:30 pm

Danube Community Center

Free Will Offering

In behalf of:

Danube Lions Club Projects

Carry-out Plates Available

Club Visits



DG Jim with Hancock Lions Club.



Kingston Lion's Zone Chair Dennis Hendrickson, DG Jim, new member Sandra Bacon, Sec. Joann Strand, VDG Deb Harms, & Pres. Bob Hermann.



Sec. Donald Edwards, Nancy & Woody Dokken, Bonnie Jaeger, DG Jim, and Pres. Ronald Jaeger of the Benson Lions.



Kingston Lions Sandra Anderson receiving her Helen Keller along with DG Jim and Pres. Bob Hermann.

Club News

Lowry Lions Club



Pictured are Lucy Olson, Secretary, new members RoseAnn Lundblad, Joan Maus, and Ethel Lundblad, and Harold Fischer, President. The new members were installed last week at our February meeting This makes 45 active members in Lowry!

Population of Lowry - 256

Fairfax Lions Club

presents

Pancake & Sausage Brunch

March 25, 2007

9:00 to 1:00

Fairfax Auditorium

The Fairfax Lioness Club
will also be holding
a bake sale at the same time.



88th Multiple District 5M Convention
May 18th, 19th 20th 2007
Willmar Holiday Inn and Convention Center
Willmar, MN
Hosted by Bird Island Lions



Registration Form
 Please print

Club name _____ District _____

Name _____ Title (Circle One) Lion / Lioness / Leo / Spouse / Speaker / Guest

Spouse/Guest Name _____ Title (Circle One) Lion / Lioness / Leo / Spouse / Speaker / Guest

Address _____ City _____ State/Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Special Needs? _____ First Timer? Y/N _____

Complete Hospitality Book (Friday Social, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch and Banquet, Sunday Brunch)

Meal Plan Options

Registration			
Item	Number	Cost	Total
Hospitality Book (<u>Received Before March 1 2007</u>)		USD \$75.00	
Hospitality Book (Received after March 1, 2007)		USD \$80.00	
Friday Social		USD \$15.00	
Saturday Breakfast		USD \$18.00	
Saturday Luncheon		USD \$17.00	
Saturday Banquet		USD \$35.00	
Sunday Brunch		USD \$18.00	

Total Submitted _____

Make checks payable to MD5M 2007 Convention Fund

Mail registrations to: Lion Mike Jungers Telephone 320-365-4429
 220 South 5th Street Email: bsheehan@rccbi.com
 Bird Island, MN 55310

Cancellations accepted prior to May 4, 2007. (\$20.00 fee for cancellations)
There will also be registration available on-line shortly

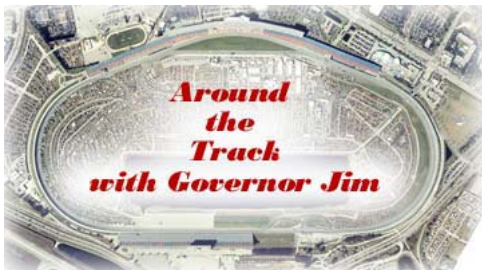


Welcome to the Winner's Circle!



The following are Governor Jim's Top Five Finisher's for the month of January.

1. Raymond Lions – Donated a Defibrillator to MACCRAY School in Raymond \$1900.
2. Lions Randy & Mary Morken for the music and liturgy at the Mid-Winter, Registration Chair Kent Beissel, Convention Chair Brian Sheehan and Lori Sheehan for her Technical Assistance
3. All International Award winners at the Mid-Winter Convention – Brian Sheehan – Lori Sheehan – Jim Gilman – Jerry Miller – Deb Harms – Marge Demaree
4. Zone 1 Lions Clubs for leading the District in Cash & Pledges to CSFII - \$16,068.
5. The 96 Delegates who represented their clubs at the Mid-Winter Business Meeting



FEBRUARY

16-18	5M13 Mid Winter
19	Milan Visit
20	Montevideo Kiwanis - Noon
20	Watson Visit
Feb 25-Mar 1	ND Fishing Trip

MARCH

6	Evansville Visit
12	Ashby Visit
16-18	Gov Council
22	Cabinet Meeting Willmar
26	Carlos Visit
29	Alexandria Golden K's 9:30 AM

APRIL

21	Zone 1 Officer Training
24	Zone 3 Officer Training
26	Zone 2 Officer

28	Training Zone 8 Officer Training
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MAY

5	Zone 5 Officer Training
18	Gov Council
18-20	MD5M Conv. - Willmar

JULY

2-6	International Convention Chicago
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