



# On the Trail of 5M4



Kent Beissel  
District Governor

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## *Spring Fever*

Where did March go? It seems like just a couple of days ago that I sat here at the table writing the DG's portion of the March newsletter. It's time to start thinking about doing some bicycle riding and not necessarily sitting and writing newsletters!! However, to do that bike riding I'm going to have to spend some time servicing that bike, so it will perform like I need and want it to during the rest of the riding season. It is the same with Lions items that need to be taken care of now in the spring. First, club elections must be done now so that the results of those elections can be reported to Lions Clubs International and the District Governor by *May 15*. All of the necessary forms have been sent to the individual clubs, however each of the Zone Chairs has duplicate copies if the originals have been lost in that famous spot where they will never be lost, but always are. If you individual Lions members have not heard talk about planned elections for your own club, start questioning your club president or secretary.

Most of the Zone Chairpersons have plans made and dates set for their *Spring Zone meetings*. This is an opportunity where club members can find out what is happening at all levels of Lions and bring that information back to the club. If your zone chair has not contacted your club please make some effort to contact them yourself to get the dates of this pending meeting. It is important that each club has representatives at these meetings so that all of this "Lions" information gets passed along to the club level.

With spring comes the traditional **Officer Training** sessions. Once the club officers have been elected and the results reported, the next step is to see to it that the club officers receive the training that is necessary for them to succeed at the job to which their club members have elected them. There is a noticeable difference with how clubs operate when the officers take the time to attend the Officers Training. Lion Lori Sheehan is planning the training again this year. Training will be held in Olivia on **May 20<sup>th</sup> at Max's Grill**. Further information will be coming to your clubs.

Another spring activity is for clubs to finish up all of the items on the "Governor's Contest" check list. Many of those items should have been on-going during the Lions year. Check with your club president or secretary to see how your club stands on the completion of the contest list items. Once completed the checklist should be sent to your Zone Chair by June 1.

Spring means the **Multiple District 5M Convention**. This annual affair is going to be held in **Rochester**, over the weekend of **April 28 - 30**. Many Lions activities are planned including the presentation of the Hall of Fame Awards. District 5M-4 recipients this year are Lion PDG John Nyquist of Danube and posthumously to Lion Tom Kane of Sauk Centre. There are also special events planned for Leos. Convention information is on page 3 and Registration forms are on page 5 of the newsletter.

Speaking of getting in shape for the activities that we will be doing during the remainder of the spring and fall, how are those golf clubs? Are they cleaned and ready to go? Is the old body ready to start swinging those clubs that have stood in the corner of the garage all winter? I'm concerned that all the golfers of 5M4 get their game in shape so that they are ready to participate in the annual **District Governor's Golf Tournament**. The Sauk Centre Lions have taken on challenge of running the tournament this year. It will be held here in Sauk Centre at the Sauk Centre Country Club on **Saturday, June 24**. There will be information forthcoming, but this is a notice to set that date aside so that the golfers of the District can get together, have a great time and raise some money for some Lions' sponsored activities.

Spring, that time of renewal for nature, a time to get the rust off the golf clubs and get the bikes lubricated and serviced for use during the rest of the year. Lions can do some of that same spring renewal in our own Lions clubs. All of the previously mentioned activities get us and our clubs ready for the new Lions year. Take advantage of all the Lions opportunities to renew your Lions club and yourself.

*Happy Springs*  
DG Kent

## NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST

VDG JIM DEMAREE

March! Sometimes I think that another way to spell March is B-A-S-K-E-T-B-A-L-L! Congratulations to the communities in 5M4 who have teams in the tournaments. An exciting time not only for the players but for the whole area. Good luck to all.

March also means Lions activities that are associated with spring. We just completed our March District Governors Elect School which this year was held in Roseville. Our manual is about two inches thick and I was amazed that we made our way through it in two days. Long, long days! As with our other seminars and institutes, we had a terrific faculty to guide us along the way. These Lions volunteer their time and talents to be instructors just like you and I volunteer for jobs in our own clubs, zones and district. All Lions in our Multiple District 5M owe these people a thank you for their efforts benefit us all.

We also had the March Governors Council and following that we District Governors Elect had the tough job of electing a Council Chair for next year. There were six candidates for the job and after we had interviewed them, we all agreed that any one of them could do the job and that we would be able to work with any of them. District Governor Bert Nelson of New York Mills was elected and we know that he will do an excellent job.

There are lots of activities coming up in the next couple of months. A couple of these will be history by the time this goes to print, but our final cabinet meeting of the year will be held on March 31. April 3 is the Montevideo clubs' 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. April 8 is training for the new MERLO Team that will be working with all of us Lions for the next three years. April 28-30 is the Multiple Convention in Rochester. If you haven't registered there is still time and I urge you to attend. May 20 brings our spring Leadership School for incoming officers, this year to be held in Olivia. Keep these dates open so that you can attend. District Leadership Chair Lori Sheehan is putting this seminar together and it will be a good one!

I am accepting dates for club visits for next year. If you have a special time that you like to have the District Governor visit, please contact me as soon as possible. Also, I'm not fussy about the setting for my visits. If you would like me to make my visit during your family picnic or steak fry during July or August, please contact me. I want to make as many of my visits before winter sets in as possible.

Have you thought about asking someone to join Lions today?



## CSF II is READY!

The Campaign SightFirst II (CSF II) group leaders for 5M4 have been trained and now are ready to start the campaign fund raising process for 5M4. We need the Lions club leaders to help in meeting the \$200 million goal. So Lions, get READY.

You will be able to continue to read about all the past accomplishments from the first Campaign SightFirst program in the Lions magazine. It was an excellent sight related project started in the early 1990's. Many of our Lions remember it and have contributed to its monetary success in raising funds for sight related projects through out the world.

After 15 years, we need to replenish the bank so we can continue to address the sight related problems in the world. By raising the \$200 million dollar goal for CSF II, we can help many people in the world with sight related problems.

We now have the CSF II group leaders ready to spread the story and to help Lions and Lions clubs raise funds. For each zone, a group leader is assigned and will be able to be at your next zone meeting to tell the Lions leaders about CSF II and how to determine their club raising goal.

Please invite your CSF II group leaders to discuss with your club leaders, or board of directors, or your club members at their meeting the CSF II program. Let make it happen by raising a lot of dollars.

P.S. Thanks to the group leaders for volunteering to help this worthy cause--Zone 1 is Lion Jim Schoeberl, Zone 2 is Lion Dave Jensen, Zone 3 is Lion Barry Erdahl, Zone 4 is Lion Dennes Borman, Zone 5 is John O H Nyquist, Zone 6 is Lion Derek Stovern, Zone 7 is Lion Bill Paterson, and Zone 8 is Lion Doug Miller.



## Thorfinnson for Int'l 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Campaign

### Rally for Ross!

A Rally for Lion Ross Thorfinnson is being held on Saturday morning of the Multiple Convention, April 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Dixie band to entertain you and a silent auction to entice you.



You will be able to meet Ross and his wife, Lynda, and find out more about their campaign to run for 2<sup>nd</sup> International Vice President of Lions Clubs International. The deadline to donate an item for the auction is fast approaching, April 15<sup>th</sup>, but you and/or your club can still send it a form and bring your item to the convention. Please contact PDG Julie Carlblom 507-365-8073, [julie@epmsoft.com](mailto:julie@epmsoft.com) or Mary Ferleman 507-373-8702, [tomar73@charter.net](mailto:tomar73@charter.net) for more information on the auction.

### Opportunity for You!

The opportunity is here for you to experience conventions on both the multiple and international level. The experience that you have in meeting other Lions from outside your home town will stay with you always. There is still time to register for both conventions; online at [www.lionsmd5m.org](http://www.lionsmd5m.org) or [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org). You can also ask your club president or district governor for more information.

### Support is Needed!

Lion Ross Thorfinnson is a genuine Lion and a hard worker. He would do our multiple proud to work as our International President someday in this organization. He needs your help and support to accomplish this task. Please consider going to the International Convention in Boston and next year in Chicago. We need to show Lions Clubs International that we are behind Ross and Lynda with our endorsement. There are other multiple districts in this country that watch what we do and will follow our endorsement, so our impact is very important.

### Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Ask anyone who has attended an International Convention or a Multiple Convention and they will tell you it is a trip of a lifetime. The opportunity to visit with other Lions from around the world and to explore the host city will leave you with memories that you will treasure forever.

## MD5M Convention Tentative Schedule Rochester, MN

### Friday, 4/28

7:00 a.m. DG Council Meeting McDonnell Suite  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Registration North Hall  
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm Credentials North Hall  
12:30 – 2:30 p.m. VDGE Training Legion Suite  
3:00 p.m. Opening Business Meeting Exhibit I and II  
5:30 p.m. PDG's Reception Exhibit III  
8:00 p.m. Memorial Service Auditorium  
9:00 p.m. Social and Entertainment Exhibit IV

### Saturday 4/29

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Silent Auction Exhibit IV  
7:00 a.m. Buffet Breakfast and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Campaign Rally, Exhibit IV  
7:00 a.m. – noon Registration / Credentials North Hall  
8:30 – 11:30 a. **Concurrent seminars**  
12:00 – 1:45 Lunch Exhibit IV  
2:00 -- 5:00 p.m. Business Meeting Exhibit I and II  
6:00 p.m. Cash Bar Prior to Banquet North Hall  
7:00 p.m. Banquet Past Int'l Pres. Jim Ervin, Exhibit IV  
9:00 p.m.-- 10:00p.m. Entertainment Exhibit IV

### Sunday 4/30

7:30 a.m. PDG Meeting McDonnell Suite  
8:30 a.m. International Convention Information Meeting Legion Suite  
9:30 a.m. Sunday Brunch Exhibit IV

**Attention all Lions: There is an absolute Registration deadline of Saturday, April 22. If we receive your registration after that date, we MAY NOT be able to accommodate any meal requests. The registration form is on p. 5 of this newsletter.**

## Schedule Your Club Elections Today!

Has your club completed all the items for this year's Governor's contest? Completed forms must be sent to your Zone Chair by June 1, 2006.



*Have a  
Blessed  
Easter*

## On the 5M4 Trail With DG Kent

Apr. 19 Appleton Club visit

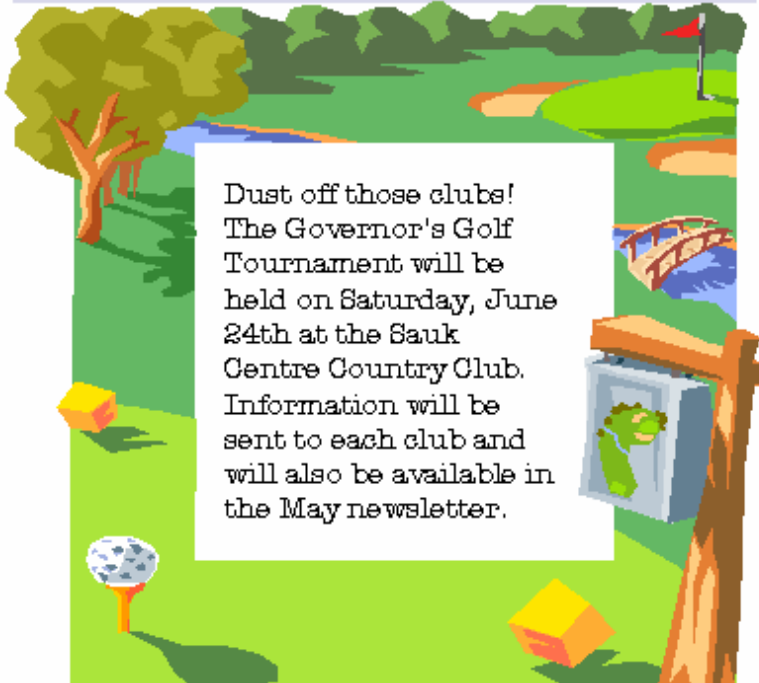
Apr. 28-30 MD5M Convention--Rochester

May 20 Officer's Training School-Olivia @Max's Grill

June 29-July 4 International Convention-Boston

### A Note From VDGE Deb Harms

Wow! I really did it! Did I just do what I think I did? Yep, I did it. Those were some of the thoughts I had on the way home from Alexandria after the 5M4 Mid-Winter Convention. I really want to thank all the delegates at the Mid-Winter Convention who so enthusiastically supported my decision to be your Vice District Governor. I am honored to take on the role and look forward to the next two years working with each of your clubs.



Dust off those clubs!  
The Governor's Golf  
Tournament will be  
held on Saturday, June  
24th at the Sauk  
Centre Country Club.  
Information will be  
sent to each club and  
will also be available in  
the May newsletter.

### USED EYE GLASS COLLECTIONS

Used eye collections are going very well and I thank all the Lions Clubs for their efforts. I am bringing 12 boxes of the used eye glasses to our BOD Meeting next week. This is only eye glasses because we no longer need to bring and send along the cases, as well as broken frames, loose lenses or any other parts you may come across, as these items are not used and are only considered freight and we don't need to handle that. We would appreciate each club sorting through the collections you get and that will help the Directors who dutifully have been doing that. I thank you very much. We still collect used hearing aids along with the eye glasses and also thank all of you for that. Yours in Lionism, PDG Al Lalim.

## LIONS EMBLEM RECOGNITION

By Lion John Olson

When traveling out of state I always wear my Sauk Centre Lions Cap and therefore I meet fellow Lions on every trip I take.

I recently returned from California where again my Lions emblem brought out new friendships.

I met a Lion from Washington State who belongs to a club that has 150 members. He was one of those senior citizens on vacation just like me. He came up to me in Old Town San Diego and asked if I was still a Lion. I, of course, shared some good points about our Lions in Sauk Centre and 5M4. Our visit was brief, but still made both of us feel good about Lions.

Then I tried to attend a San Marcos Lions club meeting, but they had canceled the meeting because they celebrate Charter Night each year. I was invited, but it was at night and I try to stay off California freeways at night. I did talk to one of their members on the phone. Paul Van Middlesworth and his wife Nome are both members of the San Marcos club. They own a computer factory and custom build computers to suit your needs. I met them at a meeting a year ago. Since I couldn't attend their meeting I got gyped out of a big hug from their beautiful lady president. Darn!

Then I called George and Bonnie Mitchell, members of the Oceanside Lions Club. Bonnie has been chairman of their annual beauty pageant for 25 years. Each year they try to get me to extend my vacation so I can help with the pageant. The pageant is one of their big fund raisers. This club only has 25-35 members but they distribute eye glasses to needy children in 25 schools. If I can't make a meeting I always make a point of calling one or more Lions out there.

While in the Denver Airport a business woman from Texas, who was on our flight to Minneapolis, said her dad was a Lion.

While on the shuttle to the San Diego airport a young man from Boston said his dad is a Lion.

If you wear the Lions emblem you will receive smiles from many people who recognize the Lions Emblem and know what it stands for.

On another trip I met three Lions from the Twin Cities in the Minneapolis-St. Paul Humphrey airport. I guarantee if you wear your Lions emblem, preferably a cap, you will meet Lions from other clubs. Now go out and do it.

While dining at a IHOP restaurant in San Marcos I saw a woman wearing a T-shirt with the following message on it: "I can be your personal dancer." I wonder what that meant?



**87<sup>th</sup> Multiple District 5M Convention**  
**April 28, 29 and 30**  
**Mayo Civic Center**  
**Rochester, MN**  
**Hosted by Rochester Lions**



**Registration Form**  
**Please print**

Club name \_\_\_\_\_

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**

**Registrations Must be Received by April 21, 2006**

**Registration Received AFTER March 1, 2006**

Item	Number	Cost	Total
<b>Hospitality Book</b>		<b>US\$75.00</b>	
<b>Friday Social</b>		<b>US\$10.00</b>	
<b>Saturday Breakfast</b>		<b>US\$15.00</b>	
<b>Saturday Luncheon</b>		<b>US\$15.00</b>	
<b>Saturday Banquet</b>		<b>US\$25.00</b>	
<b>Sunday Brunch</b>		<b>US\$15.00</b>	
			<b>Total Submitted</b>

**Make checks payable to MD5M 2006 Convention Fund**

Mail registrations to: PDG Vern Dockter

Telephone 507-281-5786

3209 Knoll Lane NW

Email: vjdockter@charter.net

Rochester, MN 55901

**Cancellations accepted prior to April 10, 2006. (\$20.00 fee for cancellations)**