



On the Trail of 5M4



Kent Beissel
District Governor

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SCHOOL'S (almost) OUT!!!!

Can you believe it? It is May 9 and there are only two months remaining in this Lions year. This reminds me of those times when I was still teaching. At about this time of the year the students would start to inquire if I thought they were going to pass 5th grade and move on to 6th. Well, I think maybe it is time for Lions to do something very similar. How are your grades as far as Lions is concerned? Did your club officers reach the goals that you set and accomplish what you wanted to do at the beginning of the year? How do the club members feel the club officers did this year? Did they meet your expectations?

Yes?--- No? If they did meet your expectations did you pat them on the back and let them know how you felt? Or, if they didn't do what you felt they were capable of doing, did you give them some constructive help and ideas for improvement?

Keep in mind that we are all volunteers and whether we succeed or fall a little short, we all deserve a hearty **"Thank You"** for trying to help the less fortunate make their lives better! If your club hasn't done so in the past, it is a good time to think about some club awards---*Lion of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Most Valuable*. For many club members it may be the only reward they receive for their service. Small, computer generated, certificates are inexpensive, but are very, very meaningful to those who receive them. Try it and see if the members in your club feel better about their efforts.

This past weekend (April 27-30) we were able to experience some of that same evaluating process on the Multiple District level. This occurred during the awards ceremonies at the MD5M Convention in Rochester. It is a wonderful time for the 12 Lions Districts to come together and share the successes of the past years. The Hall of Fame recipients and the Al Jensen Award winners were honored. Both of these awards are wonderful ways to say **"Thank You, for a job well done."**

During the convention a pep rally was held for our 2nd International Vice-President candidate Ross Thorfinnson and his wife Lynda. It was an exciting affair with everyone dressed in their new blue MD5M shirts. The MD5M parade snowman was inflated, a Dixieland band was playing, and participants were parading around and through the convention facility. The amazing thing is that all this started at 7:00 AM on Saturday morning! There was a very loud and clear message sent out to the Lions of the world: **Lion Ross has very strong backing from his Multiple District and he is in this campaign for the long haul.**

Awards, Conventions, Evaluations... It is that time when the 2005-2006 Lions' year is winding down. That however, does not mean our job, as Lions is finished. Far from it!! There are thousands of less fortunate people out there who are still depending on us AND evaluating how we are going to finish the year. Are we living up to their expectations? Are we helping them make their lives better everyday? How do your grades look for the Lions year 2005-2006? Are you going to pass and move on to the next level? As your District Governor I feel that we have had a very rewarding year and if I must say so myself, **"You all get passing grades!" Keep up the good work.**

DG Kent

PLUS ONE MEMBERSHIP

Has your club grown by a NET one since July 1, 2005? Have you invited anyone to become a Lions member? Now is the time to ask that prospective member to join the greatest service organization in the world.

JUST ASK!

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHWEST

VDG JIM DEMAREE

Spring has sprung! Gardens are being tilled, lawns are being mowed, the geese are nesting and these are just a few of the signs of spring.

Lions know it is spring when we have our club elections and fill out our PU-101's and send them to the appropriate places. If you haven't done this yet, please do so as soon as possible. We **MUST** have this info so we know who to send mail to next year. Spring also brings the last round of Zone Meetings. It is important that these be attended so that your Zone Chair can finish his work for the year.

Spring also brings the MD5M Convention, this year in Rochester. By the time this goes to press, the convention will be history. Marge and I always look forward to meeting old friends from across the Multiple at this function. While at the Multiple, the Council of Governors also holds their final meeting as that group. We have been very fortunate to have a terrific group of District Governors this year. They have been extremely helpful to us as Vice District Governors to show us how things work at that level.

The next big event to look forward to is the International Convention in Boston June 30-July 4. Please consider taking your summer vacation in New England and spending a few days in Boston supporting our candidate for Int'l 2nd VP Ross Thorfinnson. If you haven't had the privilege of meeting Lion Ross personally, let me tell you that he and his wife Lynda are great people. They will make us proud to be MD5M Lions! But they need our support in Boston and again next year in Chicago. MD5M is much respected throughout the world and the more people that we can get to Boston to show support for Lion Ross, the better it will look to the rest of the world.

The final item that I want to plug in this column is the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Columbus OH September 14-16. If you want to learn more about Lions, this is the place to go. They have over 70 seminars planned on different subjects so believe me when I say there is something for everyone. Again, plan it around a vacation. Marge and I have attended 10 forums that way and have enjoyed every one.

I am accepting dates for club visits for next year. If you have a special time or meeting 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?

ATTENTION

End-Of-Year Checklist

Have you or your club completed these items?

- Club elections
- PU 101 form sent to LCI and Governor
- Club survey completed--fall and spring
- Community Needs Assessment completed
- Governor's contest checklist completed and sent to Zone Chair
- Attend the club officers' training May 20th in Olivia
- Club Secretaries--End-of-year activity report sent to LCI
- Any outstanding bills with the district or LCI need to be **paid in full**, NOW!
- Submit 100% Secretary and President applications
- Plus One club membership growth



A huge THANK-YOU goes out to the CSF II group leaders for taking on the task of visiting all the clubs to explain the possible fund-raising activities your club can use to raise funds for CFS II. Remember, this is an international project to help prevent blindness around the world. Therefore, the theme of this endeavor is **THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY!** See page 44 and 45 in your May Lions Magazine for more information.

Thorfinnson for Int'l 2nd VP Campaign

The Rally is over and we're on to Chicago!

On Saturday morning, MD5M started the Thorfinnson for 2nd Int' VP Campaign off with a bang! Lions at the multiple convention supported Ross and Lynda with their voices, money, and enthusiasm. We need to carry that enthusiasm on through to the International Convention in Chicago in 2007 where we will elect Lion Ross as 2nd Vice President of Lions Clubs International.



Over \$10,000 was raised from the 100+ silent auction items, many of which were hand-made. This shows what 600 members of this great multiple, who attended the convention, can do to support Lion Ross. Imagine what over 1000 members can do in Chicago next year!

The new multiple uniform shirts were for sale and worn by many of the convention goers. The order form for the shirts is available on the 5M multiple website www.lionsmd5m.org. The uniform that will be worn at the parades in upcoming conventions is: the multiple blue shirt, khaki pants or skirt, black shoes and the white hat with the MD5M band. You can contact Executive Secretary Bob Harms at md5mlion@meltel.net for information on purchasing the white hat.

Ross and Lynda sincerely want to thank everyone for the support that they have received. They are proud to be Lion members of MD5M!

Start planning now to go to Chicago

The International Convention in Chicago will be held in July 2007. Each club can send one voting delegate for every 25 members to Chicago to vote for the new officers of our organization. **Lion Ross needs our support in Chicago.** If a club starts setting aside \$20 a month now, they can help defray the expense of their voting delegates by over \$200!

You can still register for Boston

There are many 5M Lions going to the International Convention in Boston this summer, and there is room for more. Our multiple is endorsing Dennis Tischnor for 2nd Int'l VP this year. By using our democratic right to vote for the officers of Lions Clubs International, we can make a difference. MD5M is a strong multiple that can have an influence. There are other multiples that watch who we endorse for candidates and follow our lead. Come to Boston and show your support for Tischnor. Plan to attend the convention in Chicago and vote Lion Ross in as 2nd International Vice President.

Support the Band

The Fergus Falls High School Marching Band will be representing Multiple District 5M when the march in Boston during this year's Lions International Convention June 30 to July 4, 2006.

The Band has a long a proud tradition of excellence. The community of Fergus Falls and Fergus Falls High School is proud to have the marching band represent the Lions of MD5M in this year's International Lions Convention Parade in Boston, MA.

The Council of Governors of MD5M have voted to give the marching band a \$5000 honorarium to perform for MD5M. This is a small portion of the cost for this band to travel and march in Boston. At a minimum it would be \$650 per student with a cost of about \$78,000. We are asking for donations from all Lions Clubs in MD5M to help defray expenses for these young people who will represent our multiple with a first class effort. To date, only a little more than \$18,500 has been raised. Has your club made a donation to this cause?

Please make your check out to MD5M with Fergus Falls Band in the memo section and send your donations to...

PCC Keith Johnson
626 Turnberry Lane
Litchfield, MN 55355-3200

On the 5M4 Trail With DG Kent

May 20 Officer's Training School-Olivia @Max's Grill
June 29-July 4 International Convention-Boston

Hoffman Lions Raise Money

The Hoffman Lions club has been active recently. In the past few months they have put on a variety of benefits to raise over \$38,000.

In January they held a benefit for Blair Sylskar who is scheduled for a kidney transplant from her father this coming summer. The club raised over \$14,000 to assist the Sylskar family.

In February, the club served breakfast to more than 800 people to assist Amy Christopherson, who has been undergoing cancer treatments. Over \$11,000 was raised that day.

And, in March the Hoffman Lions teamed up with the Wendell Lions to serve pancakes and sausages to 560 people as a fundraiser for Ryan Engelby. The two clubs raised over \$13,000 for Ryan.

Congratulations to all Lions club members who are helping make people's lives better every day.

Habitat for Humanity House to be Built in Hector

The Hector Lions are in the planning stages for building a Habitat for Humanity house in Hector this summer. The house will be made handicapped accessible for a family with a child in a wheelchair. The cost of the project is estimated at around \$84,000, of which half has already been raised. The Hector Lions and the Buffalo Lake Lions have each donated \$1,000 towards the project. Donations of money and/or 'sweat equity' to get this project going would be greatly appreciated. Contact Lion Teri Hill at jpthill@hctel.net.

5M4 Lions Support Friendship Ventures

Lions actively participate in activities and projects at Friendship Ventures, near Annandale. They have helped to make improvements to buildings and grounds at Camp Friendship and interested 5M4 Lions are encouraged to join in the upcoming Fix 'n Fun Weekend on Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29. This special *weekend at camp* to prepare camp for the summer season, starts Friday afternoon and includes a work day on Saturday. Call 952/852-0119 for information or to reserve accommodations and a work project...from painting to roofing or wood-splitting. All helping hands are welcome!

There is a lot of Lions activity at Eden Wood Center in Eden Prairie and Camp New Hope near McGregor, too. At Eden Wood, a special project to renovate and restore two historic buildings is just beginning. When completed, Eden Wood will be able to serve 50% more people with disabilities than is possible now, and Lions are stepping forward to participate in this project.

Meanwhile, at Camp New Hope, a special subcommittee of Lions has guided volunteers in completing many remodeling and maintenance projects this past winter. They repaired electrical lines in cabins, painted walls and put new tile and carpet in the director's residence. They are ready to re-shingle the main building and director's residence this spring.

With the summer camp season comes the tradition of Lions serving ice cream to campers on Tuesday evenings. For an Ice Cream Social schedule or to sign up to serve ice cream at Camp Friendship or Eden Wood, call 952/852-0127. For Camp New Hope, call 952/852-0101, ext. 363. Summer camp schedule for Camp Friendship: June 11-Aug. 24; for Eden Wood: June 18-Aug. 18; Camp New Hope: July 9-Aug. 18. You may also get registration information on line at www.friendshipventures.org or call 800/450-8376.

Lions scholarship gifts and gifts of time and talent have helped so many people with disabilities and their families. Lions participation is reflected in the facilities and grounds, as well as the programs of Friendship Ventures. It is truly a shared venture that fits well with the Lions mission to serve and protect.



5th Annual Lions 5M4
District Governor's Golf Tournament
Saturday, June 24, 2006
 Sauk Centre Country Club
 606 Country Club Road
 Sauk Centre, MN



SCHEDULE

9:00-11:00 am Practice area available
 11:00-11:45 am Registration and Check-in
 at the Clubhouse
12:00 NOON Shotgun Start
 5:00-6:00 pm Steak Dinner
 6:00 pm Program and Awards
 6:30 pm Texas Hold'em for those
 interested in playing

REGISTRATION FORM

Number of Golf Entrants _____ Number of Guest Meals _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Sauk Centre Lions Club**
 Send to: Bryan Olson
 11966 Bluegill Drive
 Sauk Centre, MN 56378

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- **4-person** scramble format (men and women Lions and guests). Minimum of 1 Lion per foursome.
- **\$50** per person entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, 1/2 cart, donation, prizes, and steak dinner.
- **Prizes** awarded to the top 4 teams.
- **Hole sponsorships** are available at \$100 per individual, club or business and are limited to 36 locations on the course. Sponsors can mail a tax deductible check to: **Lions 5M4 c/o Lion Bryan Olson**
- **Proceeds** support DG Kent's designated charities--Kids Against Hunger, Camp Needlepoint and Leader Dogs for the Blind.
- **Guest meals** available for \$15.
- **Registration** deadline is June 16, 2006.
- **Contact** Lion Bryan Olson at 320/352-2152 for more information

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