



# Sailing into the Future!



District Governor Dewey Essig  
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5M4 Newsletter

August 2009

*Dewey's Destinations...*

## AUGUST

4 -Tues- Alexandria Sunrise

12-Wed- Cabinet meeting  
Spicer Legion

20-Thurs- Buffalo Lake 30th  
anniversary

23-Sun-PDG Meeting Olivia

## SEPTEMBER

8-Tues-Installation of officers  
New London

9-Sat-Merlo training St Cloud

22-28 Leadership forum Memphis

## OCTOBER

23-24-COG AT MAHNOMEN Fri-Sat

## NOVEMBER

11-Wed-Cabinet Meeting site  
not confirmed

9-Mon-Litchfield Club

## DECEMBER

3-Thurs-Hector Lions Club

8-Tues-Willmar Evening Lions

10-Thurs- Wendell-Elbow Lake Clubs

14-Mon-Morris Lions OLD#1 Morris

## Ahoy!

The summer is fast coming to the end, I am not sure where this last year has gone. The International Convention was a great experience and we were privileged to have been the host Multiple. I want to thank everyone who attended the Convention from 5M4 and a big thank you to the people who lined up the charter buses. I know everyone who attended the parade on Tuesday had a good time and had a fantastic experience.

I bring you greetings from International President Eberhard Wirfs. President Wirfs is focused on growth in our clubs and districts and also on youth in our communities the coming year. The coming 3 years will be focused on our Global Mission Team, Past International President Al Brandel, President Wirfs and 1st vice president Sid Scruggs are committed to the GMT concept. With the help of the Global Mission Team and our Merlo Team our Clubs will grow and prosper. 5M4 is always in need of new leadership for the future, there are many opportunities for training and further knowledge of Lions Clubs International. The USA CANADA FORUM is coming up in September 23rd thru 25th in Memphis. Also, the Senior Leadership Institute held in Oak Brook Illinois, on November 12th thru 15th the application deadline is September 4th please contact me if you are interested in going.

I have already made a number of Club visits this past month. I am looking forward to visiting the clubs in 5M4 and will be willing to attend your special functions if possible. If you have not already done so, please contact me to set up a date for your visit – they are filling up fast.

We will be attending the USA CANADA FORUM in Memphis the last week in September. I hope some of you will be attending also. Last year 5M was the second Largest Multiple in attendance at the forum. You can download the forms (to send in) off the web site, or contact me for forms and information.

If I can be of assistance, Please contact me. Yours in Lionism, DG Dewey

*There is no greater calling than to serve your fellow men.*

*There is no greater contribution than to help the weak.*

*There is no greater satisfaction than to have done it well. (Walter Reuther)*

**MID-WINTER MEMORIAL SERVICE: Please help!**

*If there is a death of a club member please send the member's*

*Name, picture, birth, and death date to DG Dewey Essig, 400 Edie Circle Drive, Glenwood, MN 56334 or doessig@msn.com*

SAVE THE DATE!! Don't miss the MD5M Convention *Soaring with Lionism in 2010!*

April 23-25 — Shooting Star Casino, Mahnomen, MN, Lions, Lioness & Leos,

The Elizabeth Lions club of District 5M9 invites you to the 91st 5M Convention to be held April 23-25, 2010, at the Shooting Star Event Center in Mahnomen, Minnesota. We are planning a convention you'll want to attend. We will have excellent, thought-provoking speakers, seminars covering many topics, top-notch entertainment, and much more. "Northern Minnesota's Premier Gaming & Convention Property" is how it has been billed. The hotel has 390 rooms, the convention center is 22,000 square feet, and also have restaurants, snack, bar, lounge, swimming pool, shopping and a large gaming area.

**Need something in the newsletter? Send to: doessig@msn.com or gcanne@runestone.net**



# The Swen Report...

by Vice District Governor  
Dave Jensen



OK, now now things are getting serious, for me that is. Looking back at the Internations Convention in Minneapolis really puts your mind in motion.

We do more in Lions than most people are aware...wow!

I could almost tell what PDG Brian was thinking as I approached him in Minneapolis... "Hey, Swen... You ain't seen nothing yet!" And after four days, I agree.

I helped welcome five new members to Lionism at my last two club visits in July, so membership is off to a great start.

'Sailing Into the Future' (DG Dewey Essig), and 'Move to Grow' (International President Wirfs). These two slogans really fit the new year. If you do nothing, you'll gain nothing. If you do something, you will grow, and as one grows in Lionism, so will your membership grow. The future looks great, so get on board and make some waves and 'Sail with us into the Future.'

See ya next month,  
Lion Swen

## 2VDG Dan...

Howdy! Well we are starting another Lion's year and start "Sailing Into The Future" with DG Dewey. As I think about DG Dewey's slogan this year, I am reminded of a book cover I saw earlier this year. The book was put out by the Campus Lions of Southwest State University and was put out to help individuals with disabilities get a college education. The cover had a drawing of an old-time sailing ship, and the caption read "THE SHIP IN THE HARBOR IS SAFE, BUT THE SHIP WASN'T BUILT FOR THE HARBOR".

What a great theme for us as Lions! Only by taking a chance on new ideas, and with new members, can our clubs grow and flourish. So, I encourage and challenge all of you to try new ideas, and to bring in those community members who can help your club SAIL INTO THE FUTURE!! Until next month....

Yours in service...  
2VDG Dan Plowman.

## American Diabetes Association asks help of 5M Lions

The American Diabetes Association, Minnesota Area will be holding its Diabetes Expo on Saturday, October 24th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Minneapolis Convention Center. It is billed as "everything you need to know about diabetes under one roof" including workshops, cooking & fitness demonstrations, free health screenings, an "Ask the Expert" area, and vendors featuring the latest diabetes products and services. The EXPO is free to all attendees. Last year over 8,010 people attended; we're expecting more this year. We are offering the Lions of Multiple 5M in Minnesota several opportunities for their involvement in the EXPO:

We invite you and your family as 5M Lions to come to learn more about diabetes.

We need many day-of-event volunteers for this activity. Lions Clubs may want to volunteer as a club or as individuals. Many clubs helped last year and by wearing their vests gained more recognition for local Lions Clubs. Volunteer for a few hours (time slots are 8:15 AM – 12:00 PM or 11:30 AM – 3:15 PM) or for the entire day. Please contact Chris Schaefer at 1-800-676-4065, ext. 6592 or at [cschaefer@diabetes.org](mailto:cschaefer@diabetes.org) if you or a club would like to volunteer.

Several areas outside of the Twin Cities worked on organizing buses to and from the Expo for members of their community. Several clubs from different communities in your district could set up a bus route with several stops to pick up people. Work with your local clinics, hospitals, churches, etc. to get the word out. If you are thinking about having a bus please contact Chris at 1-800-676-4065, ext. 6592 or [cschaefer@diabetes.org](mailto:cschaefer@diabetes.org) for more information. There will be free parking at the Minneapolis Convention Center for the organized buses.



# LCI CONVENTION STREET BANNER ORDER FORM

**POST CONVENTION FORM**

The Nicollet Mall Parade route, the Peavey Plaza area and the Minneapolis Convention Center streets have been lined with Lions Banners hanging from the light poles! The banners will adorn the streets for the months of June and July and then be taken down.

Two styles will be available as shown to the right. The "Lions Logo" banner announces the coming convention to all who visit downtown Minneapolis and welcomes our international guests. The "Snowman Logo" banner will celebrate our own international commitment to Lionism!

Please fill out the form below and we will deliver the banner to you.

Delivery options include:  
Via zone meetings,  
District Governor visits, or  
US Mail.

### Street Banner Order Form

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 District: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Order Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Select Style	Quantity	Price	Total Price
Lions Logo		\$150	
Snowman Logo		\$150	
Includes Shipping & Handling			

Welcome



92<sup>nd</sup> Lions Clubs  
International  
Convention

Minneapolis  
July 2009

Minnesota  
Manitoba &  
Northwest Ontario



92<sup>nd</sup> Convention  
Lions Clubs International

Make Checks Payable to: Host Committee

Questions? Email Lion Ross at: [rthorf@aol.com](mailto:rthorf@aol.com)  
Lion Ross Thorfinnson  
11852 Waterford Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347



**MD5M Merchandise Booth  
Post Convention Items For Sale**

We have some left over items from the LCI Merchandise Booth.

Available are:

- Snowman Bobble Head Dolls
- Snowman Sno-Globes
- Snowman Logo Ball Caps in five colors
- Snowman Logo Thermal Mugs (with and without handles)
- Host Committee Pins

We have discounted the prices for our Multiple District Members and Clubs.

Additionally, we are offering two specials!

**Club Special**

**Buy Three Items\* and get 20 Convention Pins Free**

**District Special**

**Buy Five Items\* and get 50 Convention Pins Free**

We are offering the Host Committee pins for \$1.50 each. If you want bulk quantities of ten to 200 pins, contact us for special pricing and shipping.

Minnesota State Sales Tax is included in the pricing. Shipping and handling are extra. Our preferred delivery method is via our District Governors/Zone Chairs. Merchandise can be ordered and delivered at your zone meetings. If you want it sooner, we are offering a mail option as well for MN residents. For Canadian orders, please contact Lions Mark or Dave.

See the Merchandise Order Form for additional details.

Questions? Contact

<b>Lion Mark Sikes</b>	<b>Lion David Reach</b>
<a href="mailto:Mark.Sikes@2009LionsConvention.org">Mark.Sikes@2009LionsConvention.org</a>	<a href="mailto:David.Reach@2009LionsConvention.org">David.Reach@2009LionsConvention.org</a>
16561 72 <sup>nd</sup> Place North	8429 Savannah Chace
Maple Grove, MN 55311	Eden Prairie, MN 55347

\* Items defined as Bobble Head Dolls, Sno-Globes, Ball Caps, or Mugs, excluding pins.



# Morris Lions Club celebrates 70 years

International Director Debra Wasserman brought the Morris Lions Club congratulations from Lions Club International President Al Brandel. A few special awards were presented to members of the Morris Lions Club. They are as follows:

Minnesota Hearing and Service Dog Recipient: Lion Marcia Gilman. This "Top Dog" award was given in honor of Lion Gilman's commitment to raising awareness about service dogs and also raising money for this program. Joining the Morris Lions Club in 2002, Marcia has been a very active member serving for 2 years as the club's secretary and most recently our Peace Poster Chair. She has served on the board and several committees. At the District level Marcia is presently serving as Chair for Hearing/Service Dogs. Along with her husband Lion Jim, they have raised hundreds of dollars for the MN Hearing and Service Dogs on their annual Heel and Wheel Walk held each September.

Melvin Jones Fellowship was presented to two members, Lion Jerry Freese and Lion Barry Erdahl. The Melvin Jones Fellowship honors Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs International. It is the highest form of recognition conferred by the foundation. It is largely due to the growth of the fellowship program that LCIF has been able to meet humanitarian needs in communities worldwide. In many cases these needs are reflected in the eyes of disadvantaged children. Or perhaps made apparent by a common sense of hopelessness shared by the elderly whose community has been unable to care for them. LCIF continually meets needs such as these through the generosity of Lions, and others, who have contributed to the Melvin Jones Fellowship Program.

Recipient Lion Jerry Freese: Lion Jerry is retired as the Superintendent of Bldgs and Grounds from the Morris Area High School. He also worked many years in the construction business as a carpenter. A Lion member since 1972, Lion Jerry has held many offices including President in 1995. He has sponsored 3 new members. As an active member of the Morris club, Jerry is always ready and able to help with many of our various projects. He has chaired and pulled together our annual World Service Day at West Wind Village for several years. Being a carpenter Jerry was instrumental in building our current Lions Bingo stand at the Stevens Co Fairgrounds. He has had perfect attendance for 33 years and has been awarded 100% President's Award and Membership Chair Award.

Lion Barry Erdahl: He has been a member of the Morris Lions Club for 28 years. Lion Barry has held many offices within the club including President and presently serving as Membership Chair. He currently is the Zone Chair for 5M4, serving 3 terms. As an active member Lion Barry has sponsored 7 new members and has had 22 years of perfect attendance. He received the Governor's Award in December of 2000. Lion Barry has raised a Leader Dog Pup, takes care of the Morris Lions highway signs and has chaired many major fund-raising events. The years of 2005-2007 Barry was the Campaign Sight First II Group Coordinator. With his efforts and dedication along with many others, Lions International was able to reach their goal of 200 plus million dollars.

His children see his humanitarian efforts this way: From his daughter, Stephanie: "Give unto others" is not just a saying to my father. It's ingrained so deeply, I don't think he even realizes it's there most of the time. Whether it's church, Lions, the fair board, or helping friends and family, Dad is always there to lend a helping hand and get the job done. It's a belief that has led my brother and I to volunteer on committees and with charities to help others in need. He truly gives from the heart and is an inspiration to everyone who has ever wanted to leave this world a better place. From his son, Scott: As long as I can remember, my dad has been giving something. It's normally been as simple as time and effort. Time to teach Sunday School at church. Check. Time to coach youth wrestling or Little League. Check. Time to the Lions and the community. Check. Time to be a husband and father. Check. That's just a small sampling, but the daily example he set had a significant impact. As I've grown and followed my own path, I increasingly find myself wondering - how can I give back? How can I make a positive impact on my community or to someone less fortunate? I haven't had to look far for the answer. Do what you can. Teach, coach, give your time and effort, serve your community, set a good example. Do the things my dad has done.

Helen Keller Award was presented to Dr. Michael E. Lair. This award is given to honor those who have distinguished themselves on behalf of sight. In 1925, when Lions International was only seven years old, the legendary Helen Keller spoke to Lions members at their annual convention and challenged them to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." That speech set the Lions' course. Since then, millions of Lions members worldwide have devoted their service careers to helping people with visual impairments. Lion Dr. Lair is currently an Optometrist at the Stevens Community Medical Center. A member of the Morris Club since 1986, Lion Lair has held many offices. Lion Mike has taken 3 trips to Mexico with the VOSH program. Each of his three boys, Ryan, Adam & Matthew has taken a trip with him. This program recycles eyeglasses and then provides new prescription for needy people. Lion Mike is instrumental in collecting eyeglasses at his place of business.

"From the Heart" award was presented to Lion C.F. "Kett" Ketterling. The Morris Lions Club honored Lion "Kett" with a "From the Heart" award for going above and beyond the role of a Lion. He has been a member with perfect attendance for 36 years and is very active yet today at the age of 92. He has held several offices up to the level of District Governor. He has been on several committees both locally and at the district level. Lion "Kett" collects eyeglasses for recycling and gets the Lions mints out to the business. We have appreciated his legacy as a Morris Lion. We are very grateful for his example as he continues to teach us what being a member of LIONS truly means.





“Soaring with Lionism in 2010”

91st Multiple District 5M Convention
April 23, 24 and 25, 2010
Shooting Star Casino and Convention Center
Mahnomem, Minnesota
Hosted by the Elizabeth Lions Club



HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER

Registration Form

Please print

(See back for More Information and to Enter Additional Registrants)

Registration checkboxes: Lion, Lioness, Leo, Guest, Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Name, Title, Address, District, City, Club Name, Prov/State, Telephone, Zip Code, E-mail

Indicate any special needs you have:

Hotel Room rate \$74.95 plus tax (check in 3 p.m. ~ check out 11 a.m.)

Room Code will be provided with confirmation of full Hospitality Book. Registrant must arrange for their room using room code. Seasonal camp grounds closed.

Hospitality Book includes Friday Social, Saturday breakfast, lunch banquet and Sunday brunch.

Meal Plan Options table with columns: Item, Number, Cost, Total. Rows include Hospitality Book, Friday Social, Saturday Breakfast, etc.

Total Submitted

Make checks payable to: Elizabeth Lions MD5M Convention

Mail registrations to: Elizabeth Lions MD5M Convention
P.O. Box 1037
Fergus Falls, MN 56538-1037

Telephone Information:
218-739-9244 or 218-739-9582
E-mail: dlholt@prtcl.com

Credit cards will not be accepted - cash or checks only please - checks preferred.
Cancellations accepted and refunded prior to April 1, 2010 - \$20.00 fee for cancellations.



### Successful Eye Screening Program at the Lions Clubs International Convention

By Lion Dave Reach  
District 5M-5 Special Olympics Chairperson

The Lions Clubs International 92nd Annual Convention was the scene for a special eye screening demonstration of our Opening Eyes / Special Olympics program. On Thursday, July 9, 2009, 47 Minnesota Special Olympic Athletes were invited to participate in a demonstration to Lion Delegates from around the world.

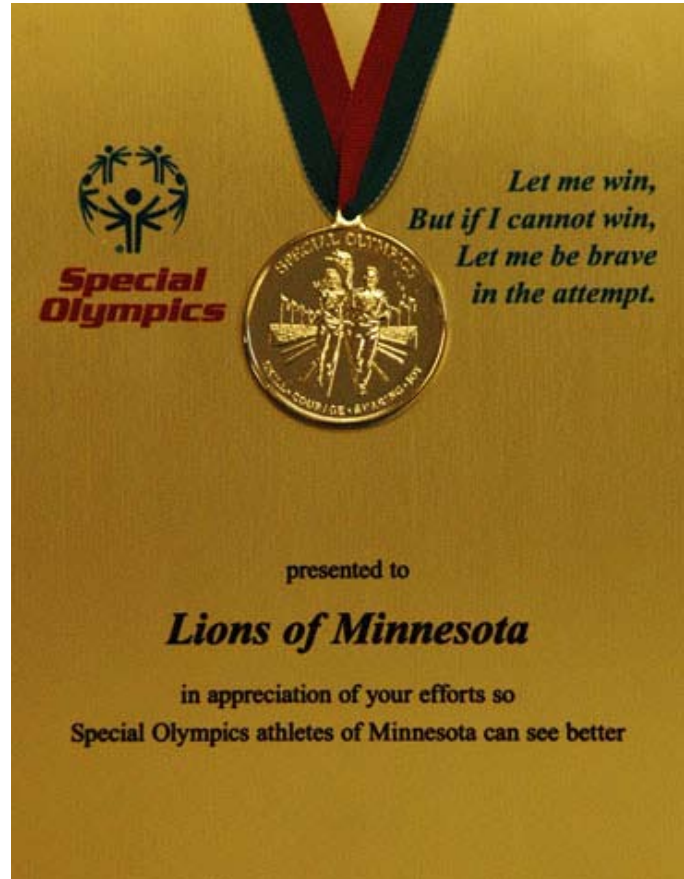
Since 2001, the Lions of Minnesota have participated with eye screenings for Special Olympic Athletes when Opening Eyes, under a grant from LCIF, partnered with Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program. The Lions have been performing eye screening at the Minnesota State Summer Games held at the University of Minnesota, Bierman Field. 332 Athletes were screened this past June.



Special Olympics Athlete Heidi proudly shows off her new glasses!

The eye screenings comprise a thorough thirteen station exam by eye care professionals. Lenscrafters staff makes eye glasses, sport goggles, and swim goggles on-site. Sunglasses are given to athletes not needing glasses. 17

Lion volunteers helped with screenings, set-up, and general assistance.



Lion Dave Reach accepted the above plaque on behalf of the Lions of Minnesota from David Dorn, President of Special Olympics Minnesota and Lion Paul Berman, Founder of the Lions Opening Eyes Program.



Lion Dave Reach with Athlete Noah. If you are interested in participating next year or you would like to help with Special Olympics Regional Games in your area, contact Lion Dave.

#### Opening Eyes / Special Olympics Eye Screening Minnesota Coordinators

- Lion & Dr. Duane Rutz, OD, Clinical Director
- Dr. Bruce Stordahl, OD, Clinical Director
- Lion & Dr. Jill Hadler, OD, Clinical Director
- Lion Ellie Reitmeyer, Lenscrafters Director
- Lion Dave Reach, 5M-5 Lions Volunteer Coordinator
- PDG Roger Badenhop, 5M-5 Lions Volunteer Coordinator
- David Dorn, President - Special Olympics MN
- Mike Kane, Healthy Athletes - Special Olympics MN
- Heather Harmer, Healthy Athletes - Special Olympics MN

*Mr. Reach,  
We wanted to thank you and the Lions organization for your assistance in getting David glasses. It is very much appreciated!  
Sincerely,  
Carol  
Dave*

This kind note was sent by the mother of Athlete Dave.