



The 5M1 Pride News

Keeping District 5M1 Lions Clubs Informed



Number 10

<www.lions5m1.org>

May, 2008

Lions Issues for This Year

From International President Mahendra Amarasurya

This Lions' year could be the most important in recent memory. Worldwide membership is up more than 10,000 from the beginning of our leadership year and we are in an excellent position to record a substantial net gain over last year's total. If 2007-2008 is to be remembered that way, it will be because you made it happen! Thank you for all you have done so far.

The initiatives we have put in place as part of the Challenge to Change and those developed over the past few years are yielding spectacular results. Women's membership is the fastest-growing part of the Lions family. There are now nearly 250,000 female Lions worldwide. These women are not only bringing new energy and new perspective to our clubs; I am happy to report that they are rising steadily within the leadership of our association.

The Family Membership Program is helping to ensure the future of Lions Clubs International by bringing the Lions of tomorrow into Lions Clubs today. Family membership is now more than 108,000 and still climbing with 2,000 additional clubs reporting family members this fiscal year.

But now is not the time to let inattention cause us to give back all we have worked so hard to gain! You can help to assure our collective legacy by focusing on the [20/20 Membership Campaign Challenge](#) – my challenge to you to charter at least one new club of 20 members and show a 20-member increase in your district since the January 2008 cumulative report.

That, of course, is the minimum needed for a one-star 20/20 award. Your award could boast five stars for chartering five new clubs and recording an increase of 100 or more members. Please remember that because of the new monthly membership reporting process beginning in April the deadline for submitting completed new club charter applications is now **June 20**.

Other decisions at the board meeting and updating new club chartering necessitate some policy revisions by the international board of directors at its most recent meeting. For details please visit:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/pdfs/executive_summary.pdf

Another reason this could be the most important in recent history is the successful conclusion of [Campaign SightFirst II](#) and our [celebration in Bangkok](#). The campaign has reached its minimum goal of US\$150 million and headed toward the challenge goal of US\$200 million. I have asked all clubs to select one day during the week of May 11-17, 2008 as a [CSFII action day](#).



Clubs are encouraged to conduct an [additional fundraiser](#), dedicate a [Melvin Jones](#) Fellowship to the campaign or to make a club commitment to assure that we are doing all we can to prevent and reverse blindness for all those who need our help. Please work closely with the CSFII leaders and with individual clubs to assure the widest possible participation in your district.

Two recent events gave us even more reason to celebrate also, clearly demonstrating Lions' worldwide reach through LCIF and the need for Campaign SightFirst II to achieve the greatest possible success. Past International President Jimmy Ross was joined by Ethiopian Lions and

representatives of The Carter Center to administer the 10-millionth dose of Zithromax in that country's Avi Zone. Donated by Pfizer, Inc., the medicine is a key element in the SightFirst's ongoing effort to eliminate Trachoma in the most affected regions of Africa. Earlier this year Lions and The Carter Center celebrated the world's 100-millionth dose of Mectizan. That medicine, donated by Merck & Co., is crucial to the effort that is well on its way to eliminating River Blindness in Central America.

Former U.S. president, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Carter Center founder, Jimmy Carter, has said that Lions "have the knowledge, the means and the dedication to save the vision of millions."

Lion Carter knows Lions' commitment to sight in the same way that you do. Before becoming president of the United States, he too was a district governor in Lions Clubs International.

Thank you for all you have done so far and for all you will do between now and June.

Comments from Clair

By District Governor Clair Mrotek

With spring finally here and income taxes done, we can get on to the busy summer. I know a lot of clubs have festivals, parades, etc., in the planning.

Last weekend was MERLO training in Mahanomen. Very interesting ideas were presented on Membership, Extension, Retention, Leadership, and Orientation. Now we need to put the information to work. Our MERLO team met on April 17th and is still working on the possibility of a new club.

May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd is the MD5M multiple district convention in Mahanomen. Hopefully there will be a good turn out to elect a new international director from this area.

At the recent zone meetings we asked all clubs to get the PU101's completed and sent to me by May 1, 2008. So far I have received 15 out of 53. I will expect to have the rest as soon as your officers are in place. The zone chairs will be checking with you.

I hope some of you have been sending your greetings to Lion Ryan Buck from the Goodhue Lions. He had a very serious snowmobile accident a few weeks ago. You can visit his care pages at www.carepages.com – RD Buck. You are in our thoughts and prayers, Ryan.

The school of instruction will be May 29, 2008, at the Radisson Hotel, Rochester. This is not just for officers. Anyone can attend and learn more about Lions. An orientation session will be held for new Lions. All new Lions attending the orientation session get a \$5.00 discount on their meal.

Secretaries and presidents, you need to complete your 100% award form and get them sent in so we can present these awards next year. Forms can be found in the **5M1 Forms&Reports** section of the 5M1 web site. Look for the **[Club Presidents Excellence Award-LCI](#)** link or the **[2008-5M1 100% Secretaries Form](#)** link on that page.

We are very close to getting our membership in 5M-1 into the plus column. Please keep working on signing up new members.

With only one more article to bore you with as district governor, I would like you to keep in mind the USA/CANADA forum in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, CANADA, on September 18-20. The plan is to take a bus from Rochester with the cost being \$130-\$150 per person. If you have any questions, please contact me. You would not regret attending.

Thanks to all who do so much for Lions.

DG Clair

Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others? Martin Luther King, Jr.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

Ride the Bus to Saskatoon!



Forget pushing your vehicle halfway across Canada to attend the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

RIDE THE LIONS BUS!!

The bus will leave from 5M1 – probably from Rochester – on September 17th and return on September 21.

There will be room for 50 Lions and guests.

The cost will be \$150.00 round trip.

The route will be determined by the riders' locations and will be announced later.

Contact:

DG Clair Mrotek
77191 State Highway 16
Spring Valley, MN 55975
507-754-5509
e-mail: Mrotek@acninc.net
fax: 507-533-6926

A \$100.00 deposit is due by 7-1-2008. Make checks out to Rochester Bus Service; send to DG Clair.

Please include all contact information:

Name, address, phone numbers with area code, and email.

Don't forget your PASSPORT!!

Norton's Notes

By Vice District Governor Ron Norton

I hope everyone survived the winter. I know that some of my friends in other parts of the multiple district are still waiting for winter to quit. The grass is starting to green up here in 5M1, WOOHOO!



Seven Lions from our district attended the MD5M MERLO training in Mahnomon on April 12th. Remember that MERLO stands for Membership, Extension, Retention, Leadership, and Orientation. Attendance was quite good, despite the threat of bad weather. There was quite some snow in other regions which did stop a few from attending. The training was very well organized and presented. In addition to 5M's seminars, each district gave a presentation. Our presentation was made and presented by PDG Dudley Parsons. He did a really fine job; thanks, Lion PDG Dudley. I highly recommend attending the next MERLO training session to be held in 2010.

We are now in our fourth quarter of the Lions year, and I don't think there is any slow down in sight. Many clubs are busy. There are elections, ditch clean-ups, joint meetings, White Cane Days, sand box fills, garage sales, and the list goes on. Make sure to get your club activities posted on the 5M1 web site. Despite being so busy, it can be very rewarding to slow down and take the time to enjoy your work."

By now you are probably tired of hearing all about elections, PU-101's, conventions, etc. The reason we keep reminding you is that it is easier to tell the whole district than trying to run around chasing separate clubs. The PU-101 forms are EXTREMELY important and their timely reporting is also as important. I know that DG Clair, Lions International and I, are very thankful to all of you who have been prompt and accurate with your reporting. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your zone chair, region chair, DG Clair, or me. We are here to serve.

There are two dates in May, besides the multiple district convention to remember and to act upon. The first date would be Saturday, May 17th, which is Camp Winnebago clean-up day. For information about the cleanup, please check this newsletter or contact PDG Roy Larson at (507) 356-8532 or Lion Rande "Gus" Gustafson, Camp Executive Director at (507) 724-2351, ext. 102. The second date would be Thursday, May 29th, which is our "School of Instruction." For information about the school of instruction, please check this newsletter, or contact me at (507) 634-4573 or (507) 269-1797.

The School of Instruction is very important for Lion officers. It is really important to send your officers, especially the new officers. In addition to presidents, secretaries and treasurers, I want to see all the membership chairs and membership committee members and all the lion tamers and tail twisters. This year we are having something new; it's an orientation class for all new members and first timers. If you are an officer and a first timer, you will need to attend your officer position class. I know that this class which PDG Dudley Parsons will present will be very informative and well worth coming to the training for. We will be discounting the price of dinner by \$5.00 for those first timers attending the orientation class. Many clubs pay from their administration fund for their members to attend the training. It may be something your own club would be willing to do or, even possibly, cover a portion of the dinner price. I have tried my best to keep the cost as low as I could.

Madonna and I wish you a GREAT month of May!

P.S. ..."*Old minds are like old horses; you must exercise them if you wish to keep them in working order...*" --- John Quincy Adams

**See the School of
Instruction Registration
Form on page 4.**

Attend the School of Instruction!



We Serve

District 5M1
School of Instruction
May 29, 2008
6:00 p.m.
Radisson Plaza Hotel
Rochester, MN



We Serve

Cost \$15.00

Menu

***Roasted Pork Medallions and Dressing
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Garden Salad
Vegetable
Rolls and Butter
Coffee, Tea, Milk and Water
Ice Cream Dessert***

Vegetarian or Dietary Meal on Request

Please fill out one registration form per club. Indicate the name of each Lion coming.

Club _____

President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Membership Chair _____

Tail Twister _____

Lion Tamer _____

Other Lions _____

Total submitted: \$15.00 per Lion, \$10.00 for new members attending orientation.

Total _____ Check Number _____

Make checks payable to District 5M1.

Send checks and forms to: DGE Ron Norton
502 Fifth Avenue NE
Kasson, MN 55944

Please register no later than May 20th!

Try Out These Lions Events!



Rochester Morning Pride Lions Club's 5th Annual Charity Golf Classic

Sponsored by the
Outback Steakhouse Rochester

Benefiting
Rochester Senior Center

Riverview Greens Golf Course
Stewartville, MN
June 18, 2008

12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start

The Rochester Morning Pride Lions Club and the Outback Steakhouse invite you to join them in supporting the Rochester Senior Center as a sponsor or by participating in our Best Shot golf tournament. As a participant, your \$65 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart, an Outback steak dinner, and golf prizes. Please join us in supporting this worthy cause and enjoying a wonderful day of golf. For information and registration materials, email tjrichie@charter.net or call or fax at (507) 286-8510.



Rochester Senior Center

Lions District 5M1 School of Instruction

Thursday, May 29th
Radisson Plaza Hotel
Downtown Rochester

(Free parking in the ramp)

6:00 p.m. Social

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Sessions

- Session I **Presidents and Vice Presidents**
- Session II **Secretaries**
- Session III **Treasurers**
- Session IV **Tail Twisters and Lion Tamers**
- Session VI **Membership**
- Session VI **New Member Orientation**
- Session VII **Region and Zone Chairs**



Bluebell Festival at Carley State Park and Plainview

By *Lion Randi Fravert*

The First Annual Bluebell Festival is being planned for Saturday, May 10. It promises to be a day of fun and educational activities for families to enjoy at Carley State Park and in Plainview, Minnesota. **The event, sponsored by the Plainview Lions Club, is planned to coincide with the anticipated peak bluebell bloom at the park, located four miles south of town on County Road 4.**

Activities at the park are being planned with staff from the Department of Natural Resources and include a trout fishing clinic for youngsters, Mother's Day wildflower card making and a guided wildflower walk. There will be a bald eagle presentation by the National Eagle Center, sponsored by the Plainview Lions. Other activities include face painting, binocular making, and live entertainment. Visitors will see the most spectacular display of bluebells to be found in southeastern Minnesota.

For those who enjoy geo-caching, there will be a cache with prizes from local businesses.

On the way to the park, on County 4, R&K Autobody is hosting a car and motorcycle show.

In town, families can visit the community center where the garden club will have flower planting activities and coloring books for the children. They will be selling perennial and annual flowers for your garden and \$1.00 corsages for moms.

The library will be doing bluebell *fairie* stories, and the high school agriculture department will be selling plants behind the school.

Also in Plainview will be a Women's Expo at Immanuel Lutheran Church's Christian Life Center. Events there include a salad luncheon, plant sale, bake sale, vendors offering services, and shopping. Featured guest speaker will be Renae A. Vinton, BS, Sp. Ed., MHP, whose topic will be "Defining the WHO in YOU."

FRIDAY NIGHT KICKOFF



Lions Club Pork Chop Dinner

Friday, May 9th, starting at
5:00pm

Plainview American Legion
Presale tickets at BP, Schad & Zabel or any
Lions member.

**Heat & Glo Patio Campfire Drawing
\$1.00 Donation**

An all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage breakfast will start the day at the American Legion and the Lions will host a kick-off pork chop supper on Friday night, May 9 (See ad above).

Visit www.plainviewcvb.com for times and updates.

If you have to drop members...

With the implementation of "real-time" electronic reporting, clubs have until June 28th or December 29th to report dropped members to avoid being billed in July or January for those members.

A full six months of credit will be issued on dropped members reported on the December and June Monthly Membership reports, provided those reports reach International Headquarters no later than the close of the following month (no later than January 31 and July 31).

Thanks,

Mark Marreel,

Another Golf Event

Houston Lions



Sunday, June 8, 2008

Time: 1:00 p.m.
~Shotgun Start~

Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Valley High Golf Course
507-896-3239 or
507-894-4444

Lion Jim Edwards
507-896-2386

8th Annual "Captain's Choice" Golf Outing

8 PERSON CAPTAIN'S CHOICE GOLF OUTING SPONSORED BY THE HOUSTON LIONS CLUB. 18 HOLES OF GOLF WITH CART, DINNER, PRIZES AND MUCH, MUCH MORE. COST \$45/PERSON.

DINNER INCLUDES: BBQ CHICKEN, BBQ PORK, POTATO, VEGETABLE, COLESLAW AND ROLL

The Valley High Golf Course is where the 2008 Jungle Days will be held. Come and practice on the course at this golf outing.

Kasson Mantorville Lions Food Shelf Project

By Lion Wayne Hendrickson, Kasson Mantorville Lions

The Kasson-Mantorville Lions presented a \$750 donation to the Dodge County Food Shelf during March food shelf month. Profits from the pancake breakfast held earlier this year plus supplemental funds from Thrivent Financial were used for this donation. An additional \$750 from the pancake breakfast and Thrivent will be donated to Lions Sight First II.



L-R: Mark Packard ,KM Lions Pancake Chair; Audrey Erwin, Food Shelf Manager; Marty Pogalz, SEMCAC; John VanCamp, KM Lion & Thrivent Financial Representative.

Why Are We Losing Members?

By Past Council Chair Lindsay Marten

Stop the Drops – Conflict Resolution



Over the past few years I have personally set about analyzing **why we lose Lions**. Why do good members leave us? Why did good members transfer out of town and not even bother to join another club in the town of their new home? Many of them have long years of service.

Unfortunately, the reasons are numerous, but one of the most common causes of dropout is CONFLICT. That conflict of personalities and that

Not welcome feeling – “No one seems to want to talk to me.”

The “not wanted” syndrome – “They would not give me a go. The oldies just stick together – no place for new members it seems; they sit in the same places every meeting, and they drink in their same little groups.”

The old mates syndrome – “Who’s the new bird? Females are not welcome. If females come in – we leave,” etc., etc.

Sound familiar?

My **Silver Shoes Program** is simply a way of resolving conflict, or, even better, preventing conflict before it happens. Stopping resignations (drops) before they happen; simple ways of trying to make us all think about our membership. It’s about trying to make every member feel wanted and welcome. The program works like this:

Before we ignore those visitors who just might happen to be prospects for membership, OR;

Before we brush off those “old brigade” and tell them they are ancient history, OR;

Before we start to tell everyone else they are wrong (and we are, of course), OR;

Before we get to our feet to criticize what some other member has said or proposed, OR;

Before we make some smart remark about a member’s unfortunate record of attendance (they may have had a health or family problem – did we care?), OR;

Before we dare to tell another member that the job he/she did on the current project was not as good as we think it should have been (could we have done better with the tools available?), OR;

Before we howl down a new member’s idea to improve our club, OR;

Before we choose to just ignore the new member, OR;

Before we decide to drink and sit with “our” mates only, OR;

Before we ridicule female members – this was a “men only” club, OR;

Before we refuse to change – we’ve done it this way for 20 years, OR;

IN OTHER WORDS

Before we say or do anything to another club member, partner, or friend of the club that has the potential to bite or hurt – **STOP!**

PUT ON YOUR SILVER SHOES – TAKE A STEP BACK and think – How would I feel if someone said to me what I am about to say to them? How would I feel if I were left standing on my own? How would I feel if someone reckons I am too old to matter any more? How would I feel if, as a new member, I was virtually told that my opinions don’t count or are unwanted? How would I feel if I am left out in the cold – no-one even wants to share a drink with me? How would I feel if I felt that my club was dying because of its continued refusal to consider change? How would I feel if I were a lady, one of those referred to as “that bird”?

How would I like it? What would be my reaction? I WOULD PROBABLY RESIGN TOO!! WOULDNT YOU?

SIMPLE ISN’T IT? Resolve now to “**Be careful with my criticism.**”

Did YOU know?

The world's largest pelican stands at the base of the Mill Pond dam on the Pelican River, right in downtown Pelican Rapids. The 15 1/2 feet tall concrete statue was built in 1957.

Camp Winnebago Events Coming Up

By *Lion Rande Gustafson*

CAMP WINNEBAGO 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SET – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Camp Winnebago is celebrating 40 years of serving individuals with developmental disabilities and we're doing it in style. On Saturday, October 4, 2008 Camp Winnebago will be holding "PUTIN' ON THE RITZ" – a fun-filled, entertaining formal evening featuring horse drawn carriage rides, a gourmet meal, fine wines, regional celebrities, a comedian, a silent and live auction, special desserts, entertainment, music, dancing and more! Tickets will go on sale this summer. You won't want to miss this event!!! All proceeds will benefit Camp Winnebago.

REMINDER -- CAMP WINNEBAGO LIONS 5M1 SPRING WORK DAY!

DON'T FORGET -- The Lions Spring Work Day at Camp Winnebago has been set for Saturday, May 17th, from 7:30 am to 1:00 p.m. Both Lions and Community Volunteers are welcome to come and lend a helping hand. The day will start at 7:30 a.m. with donuts, juice & coffee. We'll wrap up the day at 1:00 p.m. with brats, burgers & beverages! SEE YOU ON MAY 17th!

CAMP WINNEBAGO EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY & ANTIQUE AUCTION!

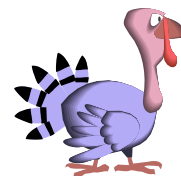
On Saturday, September 13, 2008, Camp Winnebago will be hosting a live auction in the lower campground area. The auction will feature farm and hobby farm machinery, lawn equipment, quality furniture, rustic and other antiques, household items and much more. Donations of auctions items in good condition will be accepted throughout the summer. Donations are tax deductible. To donate auction items, contact Denny Reed at Camp Winnebago, 507-724-2351, ext. 104. An Auction Bill will be distributed in August.

CAMPERSHIPS/SCHOLARSHIPS STILL NEEDED!

Camp Winnebago is still accepting scholarship donations for this summer. Yes, there still is time to

help campers who cannot afford the full camp fee experience an exciting week of recreation and social activities at Camp Winnebago this summer! Help us to not turn anyone away due to their inability to pay the camp fee. Individuals, businesses and organizations can donate to our scholarship fund. Both general donations and designated donations are accepted. General scholarship donations go to help those with the greatest financial need. Designated donations are accepted for individual campers if the donation includes the name of a specific camper and the dollar amount designated for that camper.

Rochester '76 Lions Turkey Shoot



Rochester '76 Lions Club presents its 2nd
Annual

Turkey Shoot

Saturday, May 31st
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At Southern Minnesota Sportsman's Club
6251 SE 20th Street

\$3 per shooter per round

One shooter from each round will win a choice of a gift certificate for a turkey or an item of donated merchandise from sporting goods stores and arms manufacturers.

Bring your own 12, 16, or 20 gauge shotgun
Ammunition will be supplied.

Held in cooperation with Southern Minnesota
Sportsman's Club

For more information contact Mark Hilburn at
507-536-4043

Or email markhilburn@charter.net

Saturday, May 17, 2008

8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Camp Winnebago Lions 5M1 Spring Work Day

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Both Lions & Community Volunteers are welcome to come and lend a helping hand! We'll start the day at 7:30 AM with donuts, juice & coffee. We'll wrap up the day at 1:00 PM with brats, burgers & beverages! Volunteers are encouraged to bring garden & construction tools, cleaning products, rags, etc.

Work Day Projects include :

- Cleaning Cabins & Buildings!
- Window Cleaning in the Dining hall!
- Tree and Branch Removal!
- General Grounds Clean-up!
- Painting & Staining!
- Campground Maintenance!

*Camp Winnebago, Inc.
19708 Camp Winnebago Road
Caledonia, MN 55921
Phone : 507-724-2351
Fax : 507-724-3786
E-mail : director@campwinnebago.org*



2008 BIKE-A-THON

**Proceeds will benefit:
Camp Winnebago**

Date: Saturday, June 28, 2008

Time: 8:00 am

**Register at:
The Mayo Civic Center
Rochester MN**

Take a Ride With Us!

Camp Winnebago, in Caledonia MN, provides a safe recreational experience for adults and children with developmental disabilities. In addition we have plenty of extra grounds for your family to camp. We have a new multipurpose building that is great for business, weddings, or family retreats.

Pancake Breakfast to be served at 8:00 a.m.



**Contact the Camp Winnebago office
for more information**

Phone: 507-724-2351

Email: director@campwinnebago.org

**Lion Clair Mrotek
District Governor 5M1**

77191 State Highway 16
Spring Valley, MN 55975



Club Secretaries – do you have your PU101 forms filled out and sent to DG Clair AND Lions Clubs International?

All Lions – have you registered for the School of Instruction on May 29th? There will be seminars for all club officers, new members, and any Lion interested in leadership at a future date.

Registration form inside! Deadline May 20th!