

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

District 33N Bulletin



Mid Winter Celebration

First of all I want to thank all the Lions that attended the Mid Winter Celebration. It was truly a weekend to be remembered.



Some say a picture is worth a thousand words. Above I share two pictures with you. I do want to mention that the Hilton Hotel Staff went out of their way to accommodate us and to ensure that we had everything that we asked for. At last count we were just north of two hundred strong. Mission accomplished!

Some succeed because they are destined to, but most succeed because they are determined to..... Henry van Dyke

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

501ST Vader's Fist

There are thousands of service organizations operating today but this one is, in my opinion, very unique. The theme of the Friday Night banquet at the Mid-Winter convention was "Star Wars." The planning committee was thrilled when they were able to book a group known as The 501st "Vader's Fist."

As you can see by the picture on page one, these characters are as realistic as it gets. Their costumes are professionally made and the actors literally become their characters. Everything is taken into account even each actors physical dimensions. Below is some more information about this group.

In September 2016, the 501st Legion announced their commitment to a first-of-its kind international endowment in a unique partnership with Make-A-Wish. The 501st Legion Make-A-Wish Endowment Fund will allow Make-A-Wish America and Make-A-Wish International to grant more Star Wars-related wishes to children diagnosed with life-threatening medical conditions. The endowment fund allows Make-A-Wish to grant wishes, alternating between the United States and international locations every other year – a first for an endowment of this kind. The Endowment relies on contributions from its members, as well as the public. With a goal of \$150,000 in the fund by 2021, the Endowment fund will grant wishes from the interest accrued; as the fund continues to grow, so will the number of wishes granted by the endowment.

The 501st Legion never charges a fee for an appearance, but they do welcome donations to a charity in honor of the Legion or the local Legion unit. If an event host does not have a charity of choice, Legion members frequently direct the donations to the Endowment Fund. In cases where the event host is itself a charitable organization, a donation is usually not accepted by the 501st Legion as they volunteer their time for that charitable organization.

In 2016, the members of the 501st donated over 182,000 hours of community service, raising over \$889,000 USD in direct donations, and participated in events that helped raise over \$46 million for charities worldwide.

"Little by little, one travels far." - J. R. R. Tolkien

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Not Really Going There



The above characters were seen wondering around the Hilton hotel on Friday evening.

As you can see by these photos they appeared to be hostile and possibly up to no good. Although the picture on the right appears to be our own Susan and Mark Danskin it is very possible that they were A.I.D.S (Artificial Intelligence Droids). Leia and Kylo Ren appear to be controlling their every animated step.

The picture on the left is the spitting image of Darth Maul although some said that Victor Ng may have been involved with that character and the entire conspiracy. On Saturday morning several Lion Members claimed they had no recollection of the events of the previous evening after spending time in the jailhouse. The convention committee chaired by Joni Baptiste and mentored by Wally Fernandez, did an awesome job, reported that most of the props seemed to be mysteriously unaccounted for by late Saturday morning.

A mock up of the Millennium Falcon, a placard of Jabba The Hutt complete with photographic bench and an entire entertainment console were among the items listed as missing. The entertainment center included several special effects monitors, related digital players and their cable arrays.

If anyone has seen any of these characters or items please contact Yoda. This article marks the end of my discussion on the topic of the Mid-Winter Convention.

"The problem is never how to get new, innovative thoughts into your mind, but how to get old ones out. Every mind is a building filled with archaic furniture. Clean out a corner of your mind and creativity will instantly fill it." - Dee Hock

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

3rd District Advisory

Back to the business of being Lions....Fun can be optional but procrastination can only be achieved through persistent hesitation.....

**Massachusetts District 33N
Third District Advisory Meeting
*2017-2018***

Date: Monday, March 26, 2018

Social and Cash Bar from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Meeting will open at 6:30 PM

Location: Tewksbury Country Club

1880 Main Street

Tewksbury MA 01876

Every Lion and Leo in District 33N is cordially invited. Please join us for an evening of fun and friendship.

Meal is your choice of Turkey Dinner or Vegetarian. The cost will be \$22.00 per Lion if paid before cutoff date. Cost after cutoff will be \$27.00 per Lion.

Tables of ten may be reserved. Please make checks payable to MA Lions District 33N. The cut-off date for early registration is Monday March 19th. Please pick up your registration at the door.

Club flyers may be placed on tables

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man." - George Bernard Shaw

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe



Is Sunday Easter or April Fool's Day?

In truth April 1st is both and they were last celebrated together in the year 1956....Christianity celebrates Easter as the day of the resurrection.

Today's celebrations of Easter can sometimes be a combination of pagan and Christian ideas. Although the two have very separate beginnings, they do share a few common traits. The pagan celebrations today generally involve the Easter bunny, Easter eggs and other spring time creatures and themes. The name of the holiday, Easter, is actually derived from the name of a spring goddess of Anglo-Saxon mythology named Eastre or Eoster. The festivities for the goddess were held by the Anglo-Saxons in the month of April. This month was also referred to as Eostermonath. Like many other springtime festivals throughout history, celebrations surrounding Eoster and Eostermonath revolved around rebirth and fertility, and the idea of things beginning anew. The strongest ties between the pagan and Christian celebrations probably lie in the timing.



"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure... than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat." -Theodore Roosevelt

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Sometimes Two is better than One

Actually on second thought two is almost always better than one.

This bulletin is the fifth issue in a series of six. Governor Jim had requested that I produce four issues (a quarterly publication). I felt District 33N was better served in a six issue format. And because our Governor believes each cabinet position should be in control of their function you are getting six issues and not just four.

I did say that I was going to do things a little differently and I have accomplished that task. My final bulletin for Governor James Wagner will come out in late May. That means you have one more issue to look forward to after you finish reading this one.

That being said I have agreed to do this for one more Lion year for the up and coming Governor Frank Bertolino. The format will change somewhat because I believe that change is both healthy and therapeutic. After that I will step aside and let someone new try their hand at this or create a totally new type of District Bulletin. That format will be determined by both the next up and coming Governor and the next up and coming Bulletin Editor.

To the people that have enjoyed this new format I say thank you. Believe me in many ways I have enjoyed writing this as much as some of you have enjoyed reading it. To those that did not like it I say, not next year but the year after you can step up and do whatever you want to do. If there is something you did not like then fix it and call it your own. To those that did not even bother to read my bulletins, I say that is your right and your loss.

Also to those Lions that did not provide an email address for LCI, this is the reason that you are not receiving this bulletin. I will gladly correct this if you send me an email address but I will not add that address to LCI. Only your club secretary can do that for you....Thank you

"Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water bath is to the body." - Oliver Wendell Holmes

April-May 2018

Issue # 5

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

New Members

I do try to highlight new members and if they have supplied LCI with an email address I add them to the circulation of this bulletin. Please understand that this is not a perfect system and if I missed you I am sorry. If you know of someone that I have missed please send me a note and I will rectify my error. This list is from my last announcement through the month of February.

Acton Lions Club... Andrew E Heiniluoma

Billerica Lions Club... Bonnie R Courtemarche

Ipswich Lions Club... Jennifer Baker

Lawrence Lions Club.... Laura V Alefantis

Newburyport Lions Club... Richard Comeau

Woburn Host Lions Club... Leo Deary

Welcome to our family...

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 26 --Third Advisory Meeting (Tewksbury Country Club 1880 Main St. Tewksbury Ma. 01876)

April 27-29 -- State Convention (Holiday Inn 31 Hampshire Street Manfield Ma)

May 21 --Fourth District Advisory (Woburn Legion 194 Lexington St. Woburn Ma. 01801)

Other things of note will sometimes be written in this box...