

THE FINISH LINE

Vol. 12 - June 2013

D I S T R I C T 2 5 A

Send Newsletter
information to:

N E W S L E T T E R

LionBarb@comcast.net



From District Governor RICHARD SILVEIRA

THE END



JUNE DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S ARTICLE



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU ALL.

It's been a wonderful experience serving the Lions of The Awesome District 25A; one I would not trade ever. The time goes by so fast; you hardly know the year is coming to a close.

The memories will last forever (or until I get dementia, which some say I have already). It is a great ride with ups and downs but never a time to dwell on the past but always a time to see the Lions serving the needs of others. It is truly heartwarming to see the results of Lions' services to others. We, as Lions, should always remember we are all in this together, with all our personal difference put aside, and we all are chasing the same goals: service to those in need, service to the visually impaired and service to our community and humanity.

We had the opportunity to dream with our eyes wide open to see the needs. So many clubs took up this challenge and made progress toward implementing new projects. Some responded to International President Wayne Madden's call for action by establishing Reading Action Programs to combat illiteracy and help children and adults become better readers and learners. The importance of this program cannot be overstated. ***Please take a moment to read the Story of Dike in this issue.***

The Lions of District 25 A showed they believe in themselves and the ideals of Lions Clubs International. They had the courage to stand on corners, hold pork chop dinners and steak fries to raise funds. They have the courage to support fishing for life, food pantries, State projects, scholarship programs, peace poster contests, and so much more. Some Lions had the courage stop the possibility of losing their club. These dedicated Lions believe their clubs can return to better days.

We established lofty goals in the areas of extension, membership and retention. I hoped we could end the year with a plus in membership for the first time since 2008. I established the District Global Membership team with a representative from each region and the 1st and 2nd Vice District Governors. I charged that team with helping to make our goals a reality. The team responded, and although we did not meet all our goals, the team worked long and hard and showed their dedication to District 25A and Lionism. A thank them for a job well done.

EXTENSION: It was great to see the Michigan City Lions start a Leos Club. Thank You to the Michigan City Lions. Youth is definitely an important part of Lions services.

We are actively pursuing a Branch Club in Knox and hope it will be chartered by the year's end PDG Dennis and the Hamlet Lions are working very hard to make this a reality. I thank PDG and the Hamlet Lions for all their efforts.

A new club in North Judson is in the works, but a late start may hold up its chartering until this summer. Somehow things just got a bit muddled but now other members of the GMT are actively involved and it looks like the club will be formed soon.

If we don't get them chartered before June 30th, I am sure DGE Connie will continue the efforts. This will give her a jump start on membership.

MEMBERSHIP: A goal to finish with a plus in District membership is still possible. We are down quite a few members, but if the two clubs mentioned above come in and we continue to ASK people to become members, anything is possible. Remember any members added in June will not be charged state or district dues and only 1/12th (about \$3) of LCI dues for the month of June 2013. Please, reach up and catch a star; put in your heart; share it with someone; *ask them to become a Lion. All we need to do is ask.*

Some lucky **SPONSOR WILL WIN \$100** by bringing in a new members and having that member recorded in the membership report before the end of June. **A LUCKY CLUB WILL WIN \$100** in a drawing for clubs which have a net increase in membership for the year

RETENTION: We continue to lose Lions. I knew we had some problems with clubs that seemed be to “losing” there way. District Governor Elect Connie has been and is still working with Bass Lake to help them overcome some issues. DGE Connie reports that she is confident the club will continue.

The Dyer Lions Club voted to turn in their Charter at meeting in December. Fortunately, Lion Al Konieczka and I met with the club and they reversed the vote. The dedicated Lions want very much to see their club survive and thrive. Lion Al is working with the club and reports the club is on its way back.

Burns Harbor was also thinking of throwing in the towel but that club has a core group of dedicated Lions with the courage to continue on. Lion Randy Greer, ZC Chair Pat and I met with those courageous Lions and they developed a plan to get the club moving again.

These successes are tempered with the loss of Lions from our clubs. We all must do more to assure all members feel valued and proud to Lions.

No one can do this job alone. It takes a team working together to make the dreams of those we serve come true.

Thank you to Cabinet Treasurer Doug and Cabinet Secretary Carolyn for all your support and dedication. Lion Al Konieczka did a great job on the website and is doing a awesome job revitalizing the Dyer club – Thanks AL. Lion Randy Greer is working with burns Harbor and helping it return to a healthy club and Lion DGE Connie is working with Bass Lake. Thanks you both. Thank you to Lion Chuck and all the Lions who worked to make the District Convention a success. Thanks to Lion Jodi Greer who kept me cheerful and on my toes.

To my fellow District Governor’s, thank you and I wish you every success in your future endeavors.

To the Love of my life, there are no words to express my thanks for of your advice and council, your help and support, and your truly dedicated efforts on behalf of the Lions not only of 25 A but through the State and LCI. No one can ever take your accomplishment or your love for Lions away. I could not have done tis without you. Thanks Barb!

To the St John’s Club, thank you and for me, it’s time to come home!

**WE DREAMED WITH OUR EYE WIDE OPEN;
WE BELIEVED IN OURSELVES AND THE IDEALS OF OUR GREAT ASSOCIATION;
WE DID IT, BECAUSE IT IS WHAT WE DO; WE SERVE.**

DG Dick

READING ACTION PROGRAM: A LIFE CHANGER

THE STORY OF DIKE

(A RAPing tale: *From the recollections of an older gentlemen*)

On a foggy, cold night on Upper New York Bay, the quiet, eerie air is shattered by the blaring of a ship's brass horn turned green by the ocean air. The ship's "green horn" signals the ship is approaching the dock and will soon be unloading its cargo on an island in early 1900s. The restive island suddenly becomes a beehive of activity and the lights in the building shine as beacons as the ship inches closer to the docks. Men in green and brown uniforms race to desks with piles of books and papers tossed about. At the dock, hundreds of people disembark, some with only the clothes on their backs, some with crying children, all huddling and clinging to each other, all with the unmistakable marks of a long journey from an old world to new world. The immigrants are processed by the men in brown and green and sent on their way to a new life, in a new place. Years later, the paths of two families who huddled together in nervous anticipation will cross again

One family finds themselves on the craggy shores of Southeastern, Massachusetts and the other in small town on the windswept shores of Narragansett Bay. Families came there to find work in the Mills. For the children, there is no time for school, as soon as they became "of age", they worked in the Mills, as did their parents; for so many hours, for so very little pay. After all, these are "Green Horns" in a new and bewildering country with a different language and different customs. They survived and did the best they could. The two families lived "miles" apart yet, somehow, two members of those families spanned the miles and time to meet and marry: and thus begins the story of "Dike".

"Dike", they said, was a problem child right from the beginning and few ever thought he would make anything of himself. He, of all things, repeated Kindergarten for being "immature", and when passed into first grade, he promptly repeated that grade, for being a "day dreamer." He, they said, had no desire to read or study or care about anything: he was just a problem child. As time went on, he became more belligerent, more rebellious, more of a problem in school, at home, and just about anywhere. He repeated the fourth grade and in the fifth grade he began to "con" his Mom into believing it was the teachers, not he, who were the problem. He changed the marks on his papers knowing that his Mom had no clue about the 40s turned into 90s; the 60s turn into 80s. He was placed into a "special class" for problem kids and this made his rambunctious and destructive behavior worse. It got so bad; they sent him back to regular classrooms.

Education, Education, High School Diploma" his mother preached, "was the way to a better life." But she could not help Dike with his homework, she never made out of the sixth grade and his Dad was the same. His older sibling tried to help, but to no avail; they had their homework and after school jobs and time was not on their side; to make ends meet, everyone had a job.

The downward spiral into the black hole of helplessness continued. Dike become increasingly destructive and began intimating other students. He didn't want to be this way, he really didn't, but it was the only way he knew how to survive the barbs of being stupid and dumb and the son of "Green Horns". He once made a beautiful mother's day card and signed it hoping his Mom would really like it. But the funny signature looking like "**dike**" brought laughter and taunts from his family.

Junior high school officials and teachers wanted to get rid of him, get him out of their hair somehow, someway. A teacher suggested sending him into an Industrial Arts (IA) program at High School just a short few blocks away, but far enough to get rid of him. He would enter the ninth grade as "one of those" that could not make it in a regular 9th grade and so off to "IA" he went.

THE STORY OF DIKE cont.

But something funny, unbelievable, and even incredible happened on the way to that new school, only a short few blocks away. Something, that for many years, “Dike”, could not understand. He suddenly was transformed into a model student, gone was the destructive behavior and rumpled clothes; in place now were hand-me-down suit jackets and nicely creased pants. The dumb son of green horns made the honor roll getting “A’s” in reading, writing and math. He transferred to the college preparatory course of study in the tenth grade and made it through with little difficulty.

On a bright and beautiful day in June, in a small town on the sun drenched shores of Narragansett Bay, “Dike” walked across the stage to pick up a prize. As he walked he could hear the words “Education, Education, Education; a high school diploma was the way to a better life”. Somehow, a son that might otherwise have followed a life of desperation, of crime and who knows what else, came to the stage and collected that all important High School Diploma. His Mom, who stood by him and loved him no matter what, beamed with pride. Along with the prize was the realization he was no longer stupid and dumb and he was proud to be the son of Green Horns. He moved on and got his bachelor and two Masters Degrees.

What happened on the journey to High School remains a mystery to “Dike”; that summer is locked in the darkness of his mind. He never spoke of it with his parents or his siblings. It didn’t matter how it happened, it matter that it did happen and whatever it was, so profoundly changed his life.

Suddenly, after many years, the answer came. His brother sent him a “milestone” birthday card with cute images of the past; the baseball bat and glove bringing back memories of the fun they had playing ball on the common. And then he saw it – “Dike”. He stared at it in wonderment; and kept looking harder and harder. The lights in his mind became beacons and the letters jumped out to him. The signature on that mother’s day card he wanted his Mom to love so many years ago, *wasn’t “Dike”, it was “Dike”*.

Someone, somewhere, somehow discovered that Dike wasn’t stupid or dumb, he was Dyslectic. “Dike” does not remember who that someone was who helped him overcome this problem. But it must be someone with the ability to help the functionally illiterate, like Dike, read and to help identify and overcome problems.

To this day “Dike” still has problems reading. He must concentrate on every word shutting out all other senses. He can’t read the streaming ribbon on the bottom of the TV and hear the audio. He still has problems pronouncing words and names and transposes numbers. Sometimes people laugh at him for the mispronunciations. ***But he is thankful, to whom he does not know, but that someone took the time to change the life of a child.***

I am Dike, District Governor Dick Silveira of 25 A. I hope this story will make all Lions realize the importance of International President Maddens’ Reading Action Program. ***All of us have the ability to be a life changer. IP Wayne Madden’s LCI Reading Action Program is all it might take. I encourage every Lion, in every club to institute a Reading Action program in every community. Will you take the time to save a child or an adult, from a life of desperation?***

Will you be the next “life changer”?

This is a true story based on the recollections of older Lion. I got lucky. I hope we can change that luck into programs that gives every child and every adult the opportunities to succeed. Please support IP Wayne Madden and LCI’s literacy programs and start RAPing.

DG Dikc, no Dick

If the Shoe Fits...



It seems I am on auto pilot, when I am getting ready for work in the mornings. Routine has its advantages as I do not have to think a whole lot about what I am doing. Wash, rinse, repeat; ya know? Drink a pot of strong coffee, check my email, step around the cat and ponder what to wear that day. The last thing I do before I leave out the door is put on my shoes.

This morning, after I got to work, I happened to look down at my feet. It felt like I was walking a little cock-eyed and wondered what in the world was going on. Was my hip going out? Well, I looked down and guess what? I had on two different pairs of shoes. Well, they were both black, both slides, both about the same heel height but yet slightly different. Always the little things!

I am sure you have all heard or even used the expression, *if the shoe fits; wear it*. Back in the 18th century when this phrase became common, it typically was meant to be derogatory. But now-a-days, it is commonly used for shoe ad campaigns. Also throughout history, it has lost some of its negative connotations and can simply mean- *if it applies to you accept it*.

Here is what I know that applies to all you Lions out there...so accept it! You are huge of heart, you are dedicated, you are committed to making a better community and world. Remember that people may forget what you say but they will never forget how you make them feel!

Thank you fellow Lions for all you do; always. A big thank you to DG Dick and all the District Leaders for a great year. They certainly left big shoes to fill!

Thank you for all incoming leaders for stepping-up to fill more shoes. These shoes are made for walking. Let us walk-on into another great year of service. Don't wait for the other shoe to drop! Plan your Lions year wisely and remember that you can't put the same shoe on every foot. Make sure every member in your club is getting the right fit or in other words, getting their needs met on solid footing. Involve everyone no matter how small.

Thank you again everyone as we look forward to doing what we do best...Service. Keep your eyes towards the stars and your feet on the ground! Oh, and, check to make sure your shoes match before you leave for work!



“WE SERVE”

On this Memorial Day week-end, we should pay special tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in “service”. This country and those who have served in the Armed Forces have given so much to the world in the name of freedom. As Americans, we should be so proud of those who have served in the past and the current generation of hero’s currently helping to free the world.

I was so proud to read this week that Lions Clubs International sent \$100,000 to Oklahoma to help the tornado victims. I’m sure there will be much more sent from clubs as well as volunteers to help those who are left homeless from this disaster. When we become too old to serve in the military, we are still able to do so much to help those in need. Service is something we should all strive to do every day of our lives. It may be something as simple as taking a shopping cart back for an elderly person at the grocery store or helping someone cross the street. We should strive to do an act of service and kindness in every day of our lives.

I once read this quote “it is amazing what can be accomplished when no one cares who gets the credit”. Lions and soldiers have a lot in common when thinking of the things we do in our communities and around our world. Wear your Lion’s Pin! Then, when someone asks what it stands for? Tell them, it is for SERVICE. Lions are accomplishing miracles every day without any fanfare or accolades. Be proud, and let’s let people know in a quiet way that we are making a difference.

Have you asked anyone to join your club this week?

Vice District Governor Elect,
Lion Glenn Swanson
Maple City Lions

New Membership Dues Billing and Fees --Effective July 1, 2013

Billing for a new member begins the first of the month in which the member enters a club at the average rate of \$3.58 per month and billed through the end of that semi-annual period. Billing is issued semi-annually thereafter. Below is a schedule of the new member dues throughout the year:

Member accepted by club in the month of...	Billing date for new members	Semi-annual dues billed for each new member	New member entrance fee (not pro-rated)	Total dues & fees billed
July	July 1 st	\$ 21.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 46.50
August	August 1 st	17.91	25.00	42.91
September	September 1 st	14.32	25.00	39.32
October	October 1 st	10.75	25.00	35.75
November	November 1 st	7.16	25.00	32.16
December	December 1 st	3.58	25.00	28.58
January	January 1 st	21.50	25.00	46.50
February	February 1 st	17.91	25.00	42.91
March	March 1 st	14.32	25.00	39.32
April	April 1 st	10.75	25.00	35.75
May	May 1 st	7.16	25.00	32.16
June	June 1 st	3.58	25.00	28.58

Billing for a new Family or Student member begins the first of the month in which the member enters a club at the average rate of \$1.79 per month and billed through the end of that semi-annual period. Billing is issued semi-annually thereafter. Below is a schedule of the new member dues throughout the year:

Member accepted by club in the month of...	Billing date for new members	Semi-annual dues billed for qualifying family member	New member entrance fee (not pro-rated)	Total qualifying family member dues & fees billed	Student member pro-rated dues with entrance fee waived.
July	July 1 st	\$ 10.75	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.75	\$ 10.75
August	August 1 st	8.96	25.00	33.96	8.96
September	September 1 st	7.16	25.00	32.16	7.16
October	October 1 st	5.37	25.00	30.37	5.37
November	November 1 st	3.58	25.00	28.58	3.58
December	December 1 st	1.79	25.00	26.79	1.79
January	January 1 st	10.75	25.00	35.75	10.75
February	February 1 st	8.96	25.00	33.96	8.96
March	March 1 st	7.16	25.00	32.16	7.16
April	April 1 st	5.37	25.00	30.37	5.37
May	May 1 st	3.58	25.00	28.58	3.58
June	June 1 st	1.79	25.00	26.79	1.79

NOTE: INTERNATIONAL DUES DO NOT INCLUDE DISTRICT OR MULTIPLE DISTRICT DUES.



TEAM 25A

TEAMWORK = THE WINNERS CIRCLE

START YOUR ENGINES TO WIN \$100.00

RULES OF THE ROAD: Sponsor a new member between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. The new lion must be submitted on a MMR with you listed as the sponsor during the above dates. The winning will be drawn at the first cabinet meeting in Lion year 2013-2014.

One Lucky CLUB CAN WITH A POSITIVE NET GROWTH

AS of June 30, 2013 CAN WIN **\$100.00**

for their admin fund. Don't miss your turn in this race.

Working together we can make a positive contribution to our communities and district.

REMEMBER, JUST **ASK**



Lowell Lions Club

2012 -- 2013, IN THE WORKS SUMMARY & TO DO AGENDA.

***** 2013, Our 75th Year *****

JUNE.....

- 1st --- 4 pm, Mill Street Car Cruise. Need 8-10 volunteers.
- 11th --- 6:30 PM. Board Meeting. Discuss 75th anniversary celebration.
- 15th --- 5:00 pm. Ladies Night, Annual awards, cookout, install new officers.
- 25th --- NO DINNER MEETING ON THIS DATE THIS MONTH!!!

JULY

- 6TH --- 4:00 pm. Mill Street Car Cruise Night.
- 9th --- 6:30 PM Board Meeting. -- Startup Lowell Lions Mid-October hayrides again?
- 23rd --- NO DINNER MEETING ON THIS DATE THIS MONTH!!!

OCTOBER 12TH ---- 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, Signature Banquet Center.

Schererville Central Lions Club.....

I want to thank everyone who came out last Friday and Saturday to help during our Candy Day. I do appreciate the help and support! You guys did great! We did lose an hour on Friday due to rain but we made it through!

Our grand total from our Candy Day..... **\$2,420.41**

Lion Melissa

La Porte Lions Club....

If you are trying to find ways to make our club grow, go to the Lions Club International website. There is a listing called "Member Center" and by browsing through that section, just maybe we can come up with some good ideas to make our club grow to the size it used to be.

With our lower dues and by moving back to the Western Inn I believe we now stand a better chance of bringin in some new blood.

Chesterton Lions Club.....

Upcoming Events

July 4th – Family 4th Fest – Porter - Pancake Breakfast - Turtle Derby

July 20th – Duck Race – Sawgrass Market Community Yard Sale

August 27th – Steak Fry

August 31st – Taste of Duneland - Chesterton



The Chesterton Lions Club....

Annual Officers Installation & Awards Banquet

On May 22nd we gathered at Strongbow’s Restaurant to install officers for the new year, and bestow honors on members for their tireless dedication to serving others. **Lion Barb Wilson** was installed for her second term as Club President for 2013-14. **Lion Vince Kisala** was named a **W.P. Woods Fellow** in recognition of his commitment to serving the community with the Chesterton Lions Club. This award is a way that the Indiana Lions may honor their dedicated Lions with a Hoosier Lion Award. Established in 1995, the award honors the first President of Lions International, W.P. Woods, who was an Indiana Lion from Evansville. Lion Ellis received this highest award issued by the Indiana Lions for his dedication to the humanitarian goals of the foundation. **Lion Don Habel** received the **Dr. Richard T. Miyamoto Fellowship**. **Lion of the Year** was **Lion Karen Harper**.

Quilts of Valor

As Lions we are all familiar with the motto “We Serve.” There is another group who could claim a similar motto of “We Served.” That group is our veterans.

Recently the Winamac Lions showed their support for county veterans by sponsoring a Quilt of Valor. The brainchild of the local quilt shop owner, Quilts of Valor was implemented to honor those brave soldiers that not only served our country but were also wounded in the process. Quilters who frequented the shop took on the task of creating a red, white and blue themed quilt for a veteran. Materials for the quilts were sponsored by local organizations, such as the Winamac Lions and the ladies donated all of their time.

The quilt sponsored by the Winamac club was presented to Sergeant Robert Vollmer a member of the 66th Division Infantry from 1943 to 1946. After basic training in Florida he was shipped to France where he helped liberate the country. France was so grateful to those soldiers who risked it all for them that the soldiers were awarded the French Medal of Honor which Robert received in 2012 – just 69 years after he was in France.

Members of the Winamac Lions were proud to support such an outstanding veteran.



Lion supporter Mary Ortman along with Lenora Hoover presents Robert with his quilt.

Mary Ortman reads Robert’s bio



Fishing for Life 2013

Once again district 25A along with the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is hosting a weekend (Father's Day weekend) to give low vision friends an opportunity to have fun, fishing, camping, cooking and an all around great outdoors experience.

Our first year was such a great success that the committee wants to continue this well into the future. So much happened that weekend, it has spread around the state. This was in part by Kevin Morales with his presentation at the Mid Winter Conference and also at the District Convention. The support from the district, any many outside the district, supported this wonderful event and made a difference to many. Not only by just fishing and camping but pulling together and completely understanding that everyone can do the same things; it just might not be in the same way.

With the Lions and the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, working together we can spread the word that we as Lions are out there. All we have to do is look and give support to them and they can show us what we can do to help.

This is a very worthwhile cause. We need to continue the steps forward and give support of their ideas to become leaders in their communities and any endeavors that are chosen. There is no limit.

What we are asking is any funds from clubs in the awesome district to support this outstanding project. Your support is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to: District 25A

Mail to: CT Doug Schmeltz, 14726 Bryan St, Cedar Lake IN 46303

Doug's email: d_schmeltz@hotmail.com

Be sure to put 'Fishing for Life' in the memo section

Also, if you are interested in joining us that weekend to help or observe or just camp and fish, please let myself or Lion Butch Weston know. There is plenty of space for your tent or camper.

Questions or comments may be directed to:

PDG Kevin Roe
701 S Huddleston Rd, Winamac IN 46996
574-946-4701
kroegwen@embarqmail.com

Lion Butch Weston
2222 S 900 W, LaPorte, IN 46350
219-785-4296
Rhonda_weston@yahoo.com

Application and brochure is on the district website: www.lions25a.org

**Fishing & Camping Experience
for Blind and Low Vision Kids!**



Indiana Harbor East Chicago Lions Club

DG Dick Silveira attended their dinner meeting and presented Awards, a Banner and Pins to their members.



Rensselaer Lions Club



First Annual Charity Golf Outing

Friday, July 26th

Registration 11:00 A.M.

Tee Time 12:00 P.M.

**Curtis Creek Country Club
Rensselaer, Indiana**

Come enjoy the golf outing. Proceeds benefit our community projects.

\$60.00 per person (Includes Steak Dinner and cart)

\$240 per team

Skins game: closest to the pin, most accurate drive, longest putt and more...



**Contact Pat Geleott to register or with questions
219-866-0052/geleott4@embarqmail.com**

**Directions to Curtis Creek: I-65 to Exit 215
Morocco/Rensselaer exit. Turn west on Rt. 114, go 2 miles,
turn south. Course in on the east side of road.**



**Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
7725 N. College Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46240-2504**

The campus of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired has 31 buildings located on 63 acres. The Indiana Lions for the ISBVI invite you to participate in our Spring work day. It is an excellent opportunity to put our “We Serve” motto into action and you can be absolutely sure that the 7 members of the maintenance department will greatly appreciate your assistance.

LIONS WORK DAY

June 22, 2013 Saturday
9:00 AM – 3:30 [4:00] PM

9:00AM Registration

10:00AM-Noon Morning Work Session

Washing exterior windows, mulching and weeding playgrounds, refurbishing computers

Noon-1:00 Lunch will be provided

1:00-3:30 [4:00] PM Afternoon Work Session

Washing interior windows, installing replacement drop ceiling tiles, refurbishing computers, cleaning the student cafeteria

Registration Form [one per person]
Registration Deadline: May 17, 2013
Please Print

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

**Please mail the registration or email its information to:
Lion Mike Joyce, 1210 S. 3rd St. Clinton, IN 47842-2212
maj1210@aol.com 765-832-9232**

Message from President Madden



"It ain't over, till it's over." Yogi Berra, former New York Yankees manager

Dear Lions,

Throughout the year I've drawn analogies to sports in my speeches and messages. Consider this – many baseball games are won with 2 outs in the 9th inning, there have been a number of World Cup soccer matches decided in extra time, and yes – many auto races are decided during the last lap of the race.

We are quickly approaching the end of the year, our "last lap" of the race. By now you have held all of your pit stops, you have hopefully done your community needs assessments, participated in the Reading Action Program and Global Service Action Campaigns, attended or soon will attend your district and multiple district conventions, and completed your qualifications for the Club Excellence Award or District Governor Team Excellence Award. In short, you have completed the necessary steps that should ensure a successful year.

But if history is an indication, we know that much can happen in the last two months of the year. June is particularly significant with regard to adding new members and new clubs as well as keeping members. Here is the reason:

23% of new clubs are chartered in May/June - 18% of total adds occur in May/June
BUT – 30% of drops occur in May/June

The above statistics are an average over the past three years of comparative data. But clearly, the percentages cited paint a clear picture that the months of May and June are crucial to whether or not we have a strong finish to our year-long race.

With that in mind, and considering the above quote from Yogi Berra, we still have work to do.

Club presidents – have you surveyed your members? Have you engaged your new members? Member satisfaction is all-important to the overall health of a club. It determines whether a member stays, or a member leaves. The new [Membership Satisfaction Guide](#) is a valuable resource all clubs should consult on a regular basis.

Take another look at the requirements for the [Club Excellence Award](#)– specifically the membership requirement. It says, "The club achieved a net growth in membership (including branch club members when applicable) or sponsored a new club..." Remember – you must achieve all requirements. Have you fulfilled the service requirement? There is still time to engage in a community project, like the [Reading Action Program](#).

District governors – now is the time to survey the clubs in your district. You should also review the requirements for the [District Governor Team Excellence](#) Award.

Your actions and your success during the months of May and June will determine whether we struggle to the finish line, or take a victory lap in Hamburg!

Sincerely,
Lion Wayne Madden



Outdoor Cabinet Meeting, what could be better. Great Lion, good food, fun, tributes, and awards.

The temperature was 54, winds 22 mph, and it is June 2nd

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED



THE OPENING



**A Thank You to
DGE Connie Roe
and Gift presentation**



**A Thank You to
VDGE Glenn Swanson
and Gift presentation**



**A Congratulations to
1st VDGE Randy Greer
and Gift presentation**





**A Special THANK YOU and gift presentation
to the two hardest working 25A Lions:
Cabinet Secretary Carolyn Toosley
Cabinet Treasurer Doug Schmeltz**



AWARDS



LION OF THE YEAR
award was presented to
ZC Paul Tuszynski



A MELVIN JONES
FELLOWSHIP
was presented to
Lion Jodi Greer

Certificates were presented to District Membership Team, Zone Chair and Committee Chair



Certificates were presented to District Membership Team, Zone Chair and Committee Chair



Certificates were presented to District Membership Team, Zone Chair and Committee Chair



**District Governor Dick,
Thank you for you service and
Motivating the Lions of 25A**



Cabinet Secretary Carolyn presented DG Dick with a gift from the District

T H E 2013 - 2014 25A LIONS EVENTS & OFFICERS

Newsletter Editor for 2013-2014: Karlene Roe 701 S Huddleston Rd, Winamac, IN 46996 cell: 2129-863-2556 email: witchywillow@hotmail.com

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Cabinet Treasurer: Elaine Parish, eparish@embarqmail.com 2917 N 1400 w, Medaryville IN 47957 219-843-5263

AND...Carolyn Toosley needs help with Diabetes Awareness. Looking for at least one committee member to help her.

Banner Night Saturday, Sept 7, 2013 - Star City Community Building

1st cabinet July 28th (Sunday) Winamac Town Park Pavilion

2nd Cabinet October 20th Griffith

3rd Cabinet Jan 19, 2014 Union Mills

4th June 21, 2014 LOFS

2014 District Convention – Best Western, La Porte - March 7-8

"Thanks for the Memory"

Of pork chop dinners,
and stacks of pancakes,
for church ladies meals,
for fun and laughter,
for learning to speak Midwestern,
for being thankful for GPS,
for winding through fields of gold,
for finding Hamlet and bringing home our furry little friend,
and for the most wonderful group of Lions anywhere.

D R E A M I T



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