

From District Governor RICHARD SILVEIRA

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TIME TO REJOICE, TO RENEW, AND TO PLANT

As we enter the final three Laps (April, May and June) let's put the pedal to the metal and to the winner circle and be crowned champions of the visually impaired, those in need, and our communities.

Yes, it is spring (Except for the weather). It is time for rejoicing, renewing, and planting.

It is a time to rejoice and celebrate our accomplishments. A time to look up into the sky and see the

twinking stars. Those stars represent lives that were made better by you, the Lions of this AWESOME District. They represent the people who have leader dogs, hearing aids, food on their tables, and children with smiles on their faces. Reach up and grab one of the other stars, put in your heart, and make it special as you continue to serve. And when it becomes your cherished possession, do the hardest thing of all – give it away to some else and ask them to become a Lion.

It is a time to renew our commitment to our motto WE SERVE and look ahead to new challenges. To be, as Helen Keller said, "Lions who are Kind and Brave and Strong" We should be as kind to ourselves as we are to those we serve. Brave enough to change for the better, and strong enough to defeat the negative attitudes that raise their ugly heads.

It is a time to plant our garden and ask "how does our garden grow?

We need a field of rich soil fertilized and turned by hard work. Our club is our field. Is it ready for planting? Successful organizations review their operations to assure employees feel valued. We, as Lions, should do this also. Completing the "How are My Rating" is an excellent way to determine if club members feel valued and proud to Lions. Successful organization conduct surveys to see if they are meeting the needs of those they serve. Lions Clubs need to do this by completing a Community Needs Assessment to see if they are meeting the needs of our communities. If our field is properly prepared our garden will reach its full potential.

Seeds are, of course, the foundation of our garden. Many of our current Lions have provided seeds to help our garden grow. The simplest way to get new seeds is to Just Ask. One of the most cited reasons people did not become Lions sooner is that "no one asked me" New seeds will help garden grow strong and healthy.

Tender loving care is needed to be sure that each of our "seedlings" grows to its full potential. One of the most cited reasons why Lions leave is a lack of involvement and not feeling welcomed as a member of the club. A little understanding, a little "propping-up", and a lot of kindness will make for a garden in full bloom.

To make our garden grow, we must get our hands dirty. We must all be kind and strong and brave Lions to make our clubs operate effectively, meet the needs of our community, to ask others to join us, and to care for each other. Yup, there's no doubt about it. Our Garden WILL reach its full potential and the sky will

have more **twinkling** stars than ever before.

DG Dick

District Governor Elect CONNIE ROE

Lions are Nobody's Fool

As we know, Lions club International was founded in 1917. Another interesting organization came to be in 1917 as well. This organization was not founded in the United States but was founded in Great Britain and is called RoSPA, *The Royal Society for the*

Prevention of Accidents. Their mission is to save lives and reduce injuries.

RoSPA came to be in response to the alarming increase in road accidents' during the First World War blackouts. The blackouts were a result of using restricted street lighting at night, which was necessary due to the war. A public meeting was held in Caxton Hall in 1916 and it was decided to elect a London "Safety First" Council to tackle the alarming increase in traffic accidents and the direct connection of the restricted street lighting.



Accident data was collected, and due to the extremely high number of car versus pedestrian injuries and deaths, there was a call to license all drivers. A campaign to

change the pedestrian rule, so that walkers face oncoming traffic, was so successful that fatal accidents caused by pedestrians stepping into the path of vehicles fell by 70 per cent in 12 months. **Interesting to note that the first two states in the United States that required a drivers license was Massachusetts and Missouri in 1903. Indiana did not require a drivers license until 1929. And last but not least was South Dakota in 1954.*

Some would say it is foolish to walk down a dark street with their back to traffic with hopes of not getting hit. Some would say it is foolish to climb a ladder with a broken step or to jump off a cliff into an unknown depth of water. How about using an inflatable dart board or even having a Burt Reynolds movie marathon? But yet alarmingly, everyday someone is that foolish.

So why do intelligent people do foolish things? In a word; rationality. Rationality has two critical components-what is true and what to do. We Lions know what needs to be done or what is true. But do we always follow with the what to do? We take advantage of the membership retention programs and information that are on our International, State and District websites; right? We make sure our new Lions have a mentor and have a proper induction ceremony; right? We have developed an action plan for our club so that it remains healthy and grows so that your community and those worldwide will be served in the future; right? Thought so. Who would be so foolish not to do these things?

We have an organization within our district too. It is called RoSPoF, *The Royal Society for the Prevention of Fools*. Lions are nobody's fools! Everyone Lion in this district is part of this unique organization and must always take care to prevent any foolish activity that will prevent our clubs' legacy and service. Let us continue to put our best foot forward and mend any broken steps up the ladder to our success. Let us up the ratio on rationality. No Foolin and God Bless Burt Reynolds!

From First Vice District Governor Elect GLENN SWANSON

"WE SERVE"



The Maple City Lions had a "lively" discussion at our last meeting. We have 5 new members this year and they have lots of questions which has been good for our club. The conversation was concerning state projects and how they have evolved over the years. I must confess that as a Vice District Governor, often I'm grasping for answers myself as we discuss where our money is sent and how decisions are made through the district, state and International levels of Lionism.

My personal goal is to "pick the brains" of those who have served before me so my answers will be more accurate in the future. Often, we as lions, feel like we should keep our money in the local communities. That is very common and important aspect of our mission but we also need to understand that as a district, state and International organization, we can pool our resources to make major contributions to improve the world we live.

Our Boss Lion, Bob Strieter, made a profound point in our meeting, when he articulated our motto of "We Serve", as what Lionism is all about. It made everything clean and clear to our membership, as we help new members understand that whatever we do in our community, state and world, our main objective should be to help people in need. Our meeting suddenly turned from a moment of confrontation to an understanding of what our mission is all about. Our mission should be to provide funds to help those who are in need at whatever level possible. When someone asks you what lions do? All you need to say is that "We Serve". Then you can explain local, state and International projects as your understanding allows. We make the world a better place every day, and for that, Lions never need to apologize.

Vice District Elect Governor Lion Glenn Swanson Maple City Lions

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



A visit to Michiana Lions Club

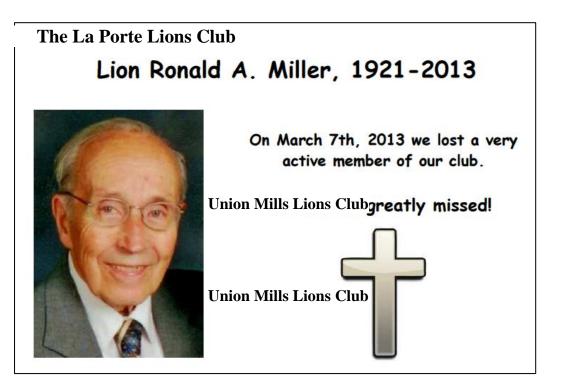
Tim and Carol Earle (pictured) from the Medical Equipment Supply Closet presented the March 21st program. Tim is the facilitator for our District, and as such, will find lift chairs, walkers, shower chairs, or any other equipment for our members if they are not available from the Michigan City Service League. He will locate equipment for any Lions member in our District and keeps quite busy.



The LOFS Lions Club made generous donation to help make one of the dock spaces handicapped accessible, in keeping with one of their service missions. Lion Chuck DeLasCasas presents Rick Cleveland, LOFS Community Manager, with the "Another Lions Project " plaque for the dock.

LOFS Pork Chop Dinner on Sunday, April 14th

4 pm - 7 pm - LOFS Clubhouse



REGION RAT ROLLERS HELP VALPARAISO LIONS CLUB

The Region Rat Rollers, an organization of women roller derby aficionados, recently raised funds to help the Valparaiso Lions Club in their quest to help people with vision problems. Pictured are Lions Jerry Newman, Bob Mahoney, Jo Ireland, and Bob Morgan. The Region Rat Rollers are (kneeling) Mallory Martin and Lisa Dilley, (standing from 1 to r) April Beres, Shelley Jones, and Susan Gourley.

The Region Rat Rollers are a charitable organization that skates and donates. They support charitable organizations throughout the Lake-Porter county region. They are 100% volunteer as are the Lions Club. At their March competition at the Jean Shephard Center in Hammond they dedicated their profits to the Valparaiso Lions and are seen in the picture contributing \$2000 to the Lions to serve the people of northwest Indiana.

Visit the Region Rat Rollers at www.regionratrollers.com and the Valparaiso Lions at





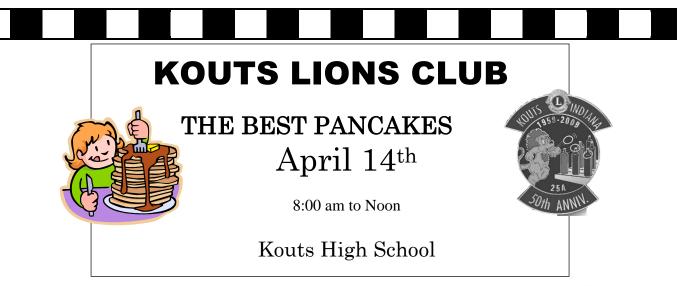
The Union Mills Lions Club had a very successful Pancake Breakfast on March 24th. They also gave Birthday wishes to ZC Bo Zimmerman.

Whiting Lions Club on March 17, the held their annual famous pancake breakfast in the Panel Room in Whiting. The club had over 300 individuals joins them for a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, coffee and some socializing. The strawberry, blueberry, cool whip and hot syrup toppings were a great hit. The children enjoyed the chocolate chip Mickey Mouse shaped pancakes as well as apple or banana pancakes. Since our breakfast took place on St Patty's Day, the club decided to create a "green pancake" as well this year. The club had a special visit by a retired leader dog also.

The club uses the fundraiser to raise money to give to the local food pantry as well as others in need in the Whiting/Robertsdale area. The Whiting Lions Club would like to send out a huge ROAR of thanks to all the businesses and individuals that gave a raffle item or placed an ad in our famous placemats for advertising. Without the assistance of many National Honor Society students from Whiting, Clark, East Chicago and Bishop Noll Schools, the lions would not of been able to put on such a successful pancake breakfast.

Mrs. Curosh is holding up her "green St Patty's Day Pancake" "Soon to be installed" Lion Lauren Curosh and Lion Caitlin Smulski Gomez are sitting at the raffle table waiting for the winner to be announced.





LOWELL LIONS CLUB 61st Annual "All You Can Eat

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 13, 6am -12pm

Lowell Middle School Cafeteria 19250 Cline Avenue, Lowell, IN

Adults- \$6.00 12 & amp; under - \$3.00 2 & amp; under - Free

50/50 drawing at 12 Noon

Winner will be notified after the drawing

Mill Creek Community Lions Club



All You Can Eat

Ham and Bean Supper

Corn bread, beverages and one dessert included

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2013 4-7 PM CST

Adults \$5 in advance / \$6 at door - Children 12 & amp; under: \$3 in advance / \$3 at door Preschool FREE

Carry-outs Available For tickets call 369-1449 or 778-4180

Monterey Lions Club

Lion Kelli as the Easter Bunny at our Lions Easter Egg Hunt here in Monterey.



Merrillville Lions Club

Still serving after 63 years

Come to our a.y.c.e.

Pancake Breakfast

April 14, 2013 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Serving: Pancakes, French Toast and Biscuits & Gravy American Legion

SCHERERVILLE CENTRAL LIONS CLUB

We thank DG Dick & VDG's Connie and Glenn for a Wonderful Lions Year

e Welcome ID Bob Corlew and Lion Dianne to 25A District Convention

Our 24nd Annual

CRAB BOIL

All you can EAT

Friday, April 12, 2013

St. John Community Center, 1515 Lincoln Hwy, Schererville Serving from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Adults \$30.00 - 11 to 14 \$20.00 - 6 to 10 \$15.00

FOR TICKETS CONTACT: PDG BARBARA TOOSLEY 219-365-6079

South Haven Lions Club

Saturday April 20, 2013

7:00A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

American Legion Post #502

429 West 750 North

Family of 4 - \$16.00 Adults - \$6.00 Children under 10 - \$3.00

Proceeds go to support: South Haven Boys & Girls Club, Little League, & amp; Scout Troops



It's Spring



have planted the seeds, fertilized, watered, removed the old weeds, so all we need to do is watch for things to grow.

It's also time to spruce up your Lions Club. It's time to become a Leader. It's easy. You don't need to be elected to anything, or by anyone. You can do this on your own.

We





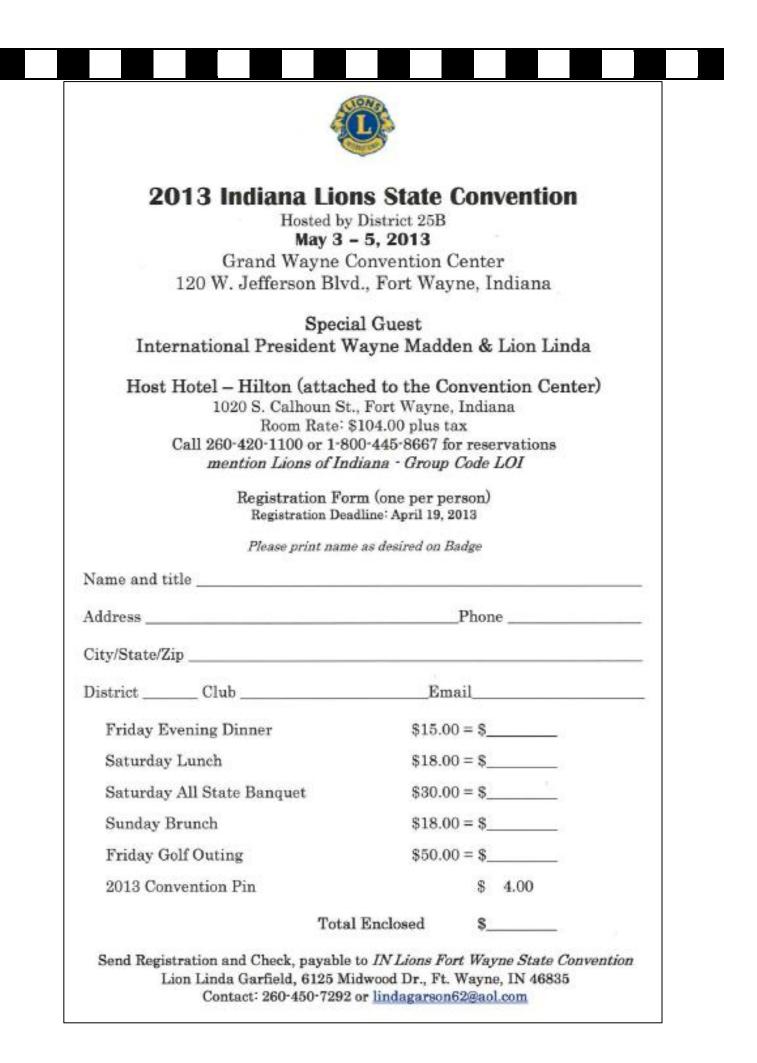
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Every Lion is part of the "Global Membership Team" and we need to do is ASK someone to join our club.

We know how to ask.... don't we?

Fine someone in your community you think would make a good Lion. Let them know what we <u>accomplish</u>.





2013 Indiana Lions State Convention ...

Have you registered yet for the State Convention? If you are still undecided, there are plenty of great reasons to attend the Convention. Golf on Friday morning, TinCaps Stadium Friday evening, exhibits, business sessions, hospitality rooms, tours, President Madden, seminars, and the much more.

Two of our featured seminars are:

Saturday, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Equaliberty – Lion Wes Rediger, presenter

EQUALIBERTY is the dramatic presentation of American liberty and equality through real stories of its great leaders and their poignant speeches, presented by Rev. Larry Emmons and Dr. Wesley Rediger with 100 powerful multi-media images. Based on the American Revolution, Civil War, Civil Rights Movement through today's contentious national political climate, EQUALIBERTY brings our country's history to life and offers a simple activity any person can do to experience the American Ideal, expand his or her life, strengthen community, and create a living legacy of human understanding for generations to come. Jim Darby, Greenwood, Indiana, said, "I've been here twenty-five years. This is the best program I have ever seen."

Saturday, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Charity Gaming – The Do's and Don't –Larry Delaney, presenter

Are you keeping your organization safe by adhering to all of the charity gaming regulations? In this session, we will review the basics of charity gaming. What is legal and what is not; How to qualify, How to apply for licenses, How to properly conduct the gaming, How to complete the financial reporting process.

See you in Fort Wayne!

| BUSINESS SESSION # 1 Friday – May 3, 2013 | 8:00p.m Location to be announced | |
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| Rules (In the Script) | P.C.C. Bob Booher | |
| Credentials (In the Script) | Lion Ron Hinshaw | |
| Council Chair | P.D.G. Steve Winegardner | |
| State Administrative Secretary | P.D.G. Billy Chastain | |
| State Comptroller | Lion Ron Hinshaw | |
| International Convention Chairman | P.D.G. Barb Toosley | |
| Nominations & amp; Elections | P.D.G. Richard Dodge (Seconding speeches for Candidates may now be given!) | |
| Activities | P.D.G. Lana Wilson | |
| Audit | P.C.C. Richard Halladay | |
| Budget & amp; Finance | P.D.G. Vern Tincher | |
| Constitution & amp; By Laws | P.D.G. Ann Haffner | |
| Diabetes | Lion Dan Richison | |
| Environmental | D.G.E. Jane Ford | |
| BUSINESS SESSION # 2 Saturday – May 4, 2013 | 09:00 a.m. Location to be announced | |
| International Liaison | P.I.D. Doug Lozier | |
| Area Global Leadership Team | P.I.D. David Fiandt | |
| GLT (Global Leadership Team) | P.D.G. Mark Clark | |
| GMT (Global Membership Team) | P.D.G. Barbara Toosley | |
| Cancer Control | P.D.G. Richard Hill or Lion Dottie Flack | |
| Eye & amp; Tissue Bank | Lion Ross Drapalik | |
| Leader Dog | Lion Tom Kimble | |
| Speech & amp; Hearing | P.C.C. Lee Flower | |
| Foundation/Holding Corporation | P.D.G. Billy Chastain | |
| Eyeglass Recycling | Lion John Clester | |
| Indiana School for the Blind & Visually Impaired | Lion Patrick Henninger | |



Lions Clubs International

Newswire



Women & Family Development Netcast

JJoin International Directors Carolyn Messier, Judy Hankom, Joe Al Picone and Sangeeta Jatia on Tuesday, April 30 from 7-8:00 CDT as they discuss how Lions can attract women and family members. As members of International President Madden's 2012-13 Women's & amp; Family Membership Development Task Force,

these directors have been gaining new understanding of the opportunities and challenges with women and family membership in order to find ways to engage these key groups. Find out what they have been learning and be prepared to share your ideas. Register today for the <u>Netcast</u>.

Leo Lion Summit in Hamburg

To further strengthen the association's commitment to Leos as an integral part of the Lions family and build upon the successes of Leo conferences held at prior international conventions, a Leo Lion Summit will take place at the 2013 Lions Clubs International Convention in Hamburg, Germany. The Leo Lion Summit in Hamburg will continue the dialogue initiated between Lions and Leos during the 2012 convention in South Korea, and allow Lions to deepen their understanding of those we hope will one day join and lead the association. <u>Register today</u> and join us for this special event.

Be Aware: Scam Alert

During recent months, there have been a number of phone and email scams involving Lions. One member bought into an email scam and lost \$2,700. Another received a check from Lions that looked legitimate, including correct routing numbers. Because she wasn't expecting money, she called the Lions Help Desk and discovered it was a scam. The perpetrators are also posing as members and contacting other members to make donations via phone. Unfortunately, if you lose money in a scam, there is no legal recourse and no way to recover the money. If you want to donate to LCIF, you can do so through your local club or by going to http://lcif.org/donate. If you suspect a scam, or if you're unsure, please contact helpdesk@lionsclubs.org or call 1-630-468-6800. For tips on how to protect yourself from scams, visit the Lions Blog.

May is Lions Recycle for Sight Month



Celebrate Recycle for Sight Month by organizing an eyeglass collection in your neighborhood, workplace or local business. LCI offers colorful promotional <u>resources</u> your club can personalize and distribute to support your efforts. Get involved with community schools by offering to give a brief presentation about eyeglass recycling, start a collection campaign or sponsor a school contest to encourage eyeglass collection. If your club is new to eyeglass recycling, it's easy to get started with the <u>Club Guide for Collecting Used Eyeglasses</u>. Learn how your club can contribute used eyeglasses, including sunglasses and reading glasses, to the nearest <u>Lions Eyeglass</u> <u>Recycling Center</u> for optical missions to developing countries.

Meet 25A's New Lions

| Lions Club | New Member | Sponsor |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Hebron Lions Club | Stacy L. Miller | Shelley J Duck |
| Koontz Lake Lions Club | Billy L Haney | None |
| Koontz Lake Lions Club | Larry M Mcclean | None |
| Mill Creek Community Lions Club | Kari Albert | Nancy Reese |
| Mill Creek Community Lions Club | William L Albert | Nancy Reese |
| Mill Creek Community Lions Club | Barbara F Klibinski | Nancy Reese |
| Mill Creek Community Lions Club | John J Klibinski | Nancy Reese |
| Portage Lions Club | Sandra Gomez | Kenneth Anderson |
| Schererville Central Lions Club | Anna M. Pomplin | Dana O. Pomplin |
| Wheatfield Lions Club | Larry J Nimetz | Robert Tillema |



Kite Days

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by Mark Sawyer

A kite, a sky, and a good firm breeze, And acres of ground away from trees, And one hundred yards of clean, strong string O boy, O boy! I call that Spring!



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Cabinet Treasurer Doug Schmeltz 14726 Bryan Street Cedar Lake, IN 46303 219-374-9714 d_schmeltz@hotmail.com