



FROM THE DESK OF DIST. GOV. LION ROBERT LITTLEFIELD

5NE Lions News & Views

Happy Valentine's Day!

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February 2011

Love and Loyalty make February Fine in District 5-NE!

Happy Valentine's Day! This is the month for Love and Loyalty. The love can be for our immediate family and friends or it can come as part of our efforts to be Loving Individuals Offering Needed Service. We are reminded of the need for loyalty as we celebrate President's Day and the patriotism we share in our country and ideals. Let's keep our love showing through the service we do and the projects we support with our resources. Thank you for being a Lion and serving your clubs and district on the leadership team!

February is a busy month for everyone, but in District 5NE, we have a lot to do to reach our district goals.

We need a 2nd Vice District Governor Elect Candidate.

Lionism depends upon dedicated individuals willing to do their part to make sure that this great organization continues into the future. The time is upon our district to identify an individual to LCI who will serve as district governor in 2013-14. In order to serve, an individual must meet the following criteria: 1) will have served as club president; 2) will have served as zone chair or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer; and 3) will have served on the district cabinet for two years.

The training to begin a district governor begins in August 2011. From August 2011 until July 1, 2013, there are eight training sessions to provide everything you will need to know about being the district governor. The district leadership team is a group effort, with the 1st and 2nd VDGs serving alongside the DG.

Is there someone willing to serve? Please give this your most serious attention and step forward to a grateful district.

How to Contact DG Robert Littlefield

For visitation requests, information or assistance, please contact DG Robert at:

R.Littlefield@ndsu.edu
2212 South 17th Street
Moorhead, MN 56560
Office: 701-231-7783
Cell: 218-790-4346
Fax: 701-231-7784

Submit stories and events for publication in the District 5NE Newsletter to
Lion Sarah Nathan at
sknathan@gmail.com
or call
317-750-7860

We Need New Clubs & New Members

We need to be chartering clubs.

Chartering clubs is not an easy task and we have several cabinet members working on this. However, we need to be thinking about ways we can be of assistance in bringing the possibility of Lionism to places where we currently do not have clubs. Some beacons of hope in the extension arena:

- Sandy Wurgler is working very hard to convert the Rugby Branch Club into its own chartered club. She hopes to have the membership for that club in place by March.
- Arlan Burkman is planting the seeds to start a club in Ellendale. It may take a little longer than we had hoped, but the possibility of starting a branch club there looks promising.
- Katherine Tweed is making progress toward starting a specialty club connected with a major corporation in Fargo.
- Wayne Westlund is forming a committee of Lions to storm Cavalier and finish the job that was started last year by the extension workshop.

If you are a member of the cabinet, please ask these Lions if there is any way you can be of assistance. Extension is everybody's business.

Two seeds are planted in Ellendale. Let's help Lion Arlan and PDG James nurture and bring them to fruition as a new Lions Club!



We need to be adding members.

Our district goal is a 5% membership increase this year.

What does this actually mean? Look at the table below:

Current Club Members	5% increase = adding
20 or fewer	1 new member
21-40	2 new members
41-60	3 new members
61-80	4 new members

DGE Steve has encouraged clubs to keep membership growth as a priority this spring. We all need to help by encouraging clubs to identify a signature service project and then publicize the project so others will see the good work we do and want to join. Think about ways to connect with groups like the Red Cross and other emergency volunteers. Working with these groups will increase our visibility and relevance. They are also great people to approach about joining a Lions Club. Encourage clubs to look for ways to appeal to individuals who are in different lines of work or who have different interests. Invite couples who may be new to the community or consider individuals in neighboring towns that may not have a Lions club. Our goal is +75; and while we are +45 as of December 31, 2010, there will be adjustments as the Fredonia and Heart of Horace clubs progress through status quo and closure.

Leaders Needed

We need to be training club leaders about Lionism beyond the local club.

1VDGE Mel is reaching out to club leaders to identify emerging Lion leaders. In addition, he is planning the region training sessions with the idea of helping local club leaders to become more confident and familiar with the programs and technology associated with LCI. The response from the clubs has been limited. We need to be asking ourselves, why isn't the LCI system relevant to our club leaders? Are we training the next generation of Lions?

There are so many resources available, if we could only persuade club leaders to attend zone and region meetings and events. In addition, the new club reporting system on the www.lionsclubs.org is terrific. It is so easy for club secretaries to use the Submit Report function and enter their monthly information into the system. I am really surprised to find that so few clubs are using this system. I encourage all zone, region, and district officers with passwords to go into the district information and click on the club activity tab. Every month's activities are listed and some include photographs. We need to train our club leaders so they take advantage of what LCI has to offer. As cabinet members, we need to use the system and encourage the clubs in your area to do so.

Region and Zone Chairs should be stepping up their visibility.

First, zone chairs should be scheduling meetings with their zone clubs during the month of February. This is very important for many reasons. Primarily, we need the local clubs to be planning for next year and participating in projects that are in keeping with our state Lions organizations and LCI. While we have not always had great luck in getting club officers to participate in zone meetings, we must make every effort to reverse this trend. It might mean telephone calls, emails, and extra efforts. Whatever it takes, this is the time to stress planning and involvement.

In addition, in preparation for our district's nomination for a special beacon of hope award, I am asking that region chairs contact the club president or secretary for every club in their region to find out if they have done a project supporting any/all of the International President's initiatives: youth, vision, hunger, or the environment. Gather the information and send it to DG Robert by February 28, 2011.

A reminder to region and zone chairs that travel funds are available to reimburse you for your mileage when you visit clubs or represent the DG at club, zone, or region meetings. Submit reimbursement requests to Sue Anderson, cabinet treasurer.



Leaders Needed

Club Elections Process: Time to Start Planning for 2011-2012

Club elections should be held in March 2011. The leadership team would like every club to hold its 2011-2012 elections in March or early April so that officers can be in place before we hold the Region Training Rallies on April 27 and April 28. Regions 2, 3, 4, and 7 are scheduled for Wednesday, April 27 and Region 1, 5, and 6 are scheduled for Thursday, April 28. PU101 forms should be completed as soon as elections are held and officers should save the date for their Region Training Rally.



Zone and Region Chairs are needed for 2011-2012

DGE Steve will need zone and region chairs that can follow through with current projects and move forward with new leadership. Members of the local clubs who attend the zone meetings are the ones we need to be reaching out to ask if they might serve next year as a zone chair. PID Ronald Duffe, the Global Leadership Team leader for our region, stresses the importance of training zone chairs to be effective leaders at their level of the Lions' ladder. Future vice district governors are required to have served in the zone chair position, so if we want good leaders in the future, we need to be finding emerging leaders and train them early in the ways of Lionism.

Youth Exchange and MD Youth Camp Planning Underway

Lion Katrina Wendel and her Youth Team are actively working to find host families and plan for an exciting youth camp to be held in July, 2011. Please pass the word along that host families are needed. Lion Paul Van Ness at sirknight2004@hotmail.com is the person to call if you are willing to host a young person and bring him/her to the camp. There are also camperships available for youth from District 5NE. If you know of someone who might like to attend the camp, please contact Lion Katrina at kwendel@nd.gov. The camp week overlaps with the International Convention, so we will need Lions who are not in Seattle to help with camp needs. If you are not attending the Convention, please contact Lion Katrina and offer your services. This is a major undertaking and a few people should not have to carry the burden alone. Let's all help and offer our assistance. Pay it forward. Thanks!

Lions-Red Cross Initiative and Emergency Planning Projects

During the month of February, Lions Clubs are encouraged to work with their local Red Cross Chapters to provide assistance for those in need. Representatives of the Red Cross are willing to come to zone meetings and club meetings to talk and present programs about volunteer service opportunities. Combining efforts with the Red Cross is an important way Lions Clubs can be work together to lessen the impact of the potential flooding and other environmental problems that eastern and central North Dakota may face this spring. For more information contact:

** Beth Dewald, Buffalo-Valley Chapter of the Red Cross in Jamestown, 701-252-3550 bethd@jamestownredcross.org or buffalovalley@jamestownredcross.org

** Marijo Peterson, Minn-Kota Chapter of the Red Cross in Fargo, 701-34-1800 mpeterson@minnkotaredcross.org

** Tom Tezel, Minn-Kota Chapter of the Red Cross in East Grand Forks (GF area) 218-773-9565 ttezel@minnkotaredcross.org

Lions Foundation of North Dakota Vision Magnifier Program

The LFND adopted the Vision Magnifier Program as one of its projects this year. I am asking that every club in District 5-NE donate enough funds to either purchase a new or refurbished machine before June 30, 2011. A new vision magnifier machine costs approximately \$1,850; a refurbished machine costs about \$800. There is a need for 120 machines, so if District 5-NE can donate one per club, we should be able to meet the goal of 60 from eastern ND. Please encourage clubs in your zones, regions, or areas of the district to consider using some of their project money to finance the donation of a vision magnifier to the program.

District Photo Entry Advances to International Competition

The environmental photo entry from the Fargo Lions Club, taken by Lion Gary Renier, was selected at the South Dakota State Lions Convention as the MD5 winner to advance to the International Convention competition in Seattle. The red fox emerging from its den photo was taken at the Fargo Lions Conservancy Park in south Fargo. After the 1997 flood, houses along the section of the Red River near Rose Creek were removed to eliminate the need for flood protection. At that time, the Fargo Lions joined with the Fargo Park Board and the City of Fargo to establish the conservancy park. Since then, the Fargo Lions Club has helped to restore the area to its natural environment. This photo gives proof to the fact that wildlife have found their way back to the beautiful area along the Red River. Congratulations to Lion Gary and the Fargo Lions Club.



Save the Date!

March 26 is the date of the final cabinet meeting for 2010-2011. Please put this date on your calendar and make every effort to attend this last official cabinet meeting of the year. The meeting will take place at Jamestown College in the same location as the first cabinet meeting in July—Nafus Student Center/Westminister Hall. We will begin with team meetings from 10-10:45 a.m., followed by a 15 minute presentation by the Red Cross regarding ways we can begin to create joint projects between our two organizations. The cabinet meeting will start at 11 a.m. and continue through a working lunch. The meeting will adjourn at around 1 p.m. Cabinet recognition and awards will be presented, so please plan to participate. Save the Date!

MD5 Convention June 2011

Save the Date!



Place your bet early and win

Before March 1, 2011 ----- \$135

After May 1, 2011 ----- \$145

Vs.

At convention (walk-in) ----- \$155

See you in Deadwood!