



FROM THE DESK OF DIST. GOV. LION ROBERT LITTLEFIELD

## *5NE Lions News & Views*

### **Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

Let me begin by wishing "the Luck 'o the Irish" to each and every one of you Scandinavians and Germans and other nationalities out there, serving on the District 5NE Cabinet or in local Lion leadership activities! After all, you don't have to be Irish to wish that good things happen to good people. When we think about luck, we often allow ourselves to believe that things happen to us by chance. While I would like to think that good things can simply occur because they do, I am enough of a realist to know that most good things happen because people work hard to make them happen. That is the way we on the cabinet should look at our Lions' activities during the final quarter of this year. While I'd like to get lucky, accomplish all of our goals, and receive the recognition of LCI for being an excellent district because it would be nice for us, I know that luck won't get us where we would like to be at the end of June. It's going to take some hard work and effort on our part to accomplish what we set out to do. Please join me in the quest to reach our goals!

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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!

Volume 4, Issue 9

March 2011

#### **How to Contact DG Robert Littlefield**

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

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

## Cabinet Meeting Scheduled March 26 in Jamestown

I hope everyone is putting Saturday, March 26, 2011, on the calendars and planning to attend the fourth and final cabinet meeting of the year scheduled to be held at Nefus Student Center on the Jamestown College campus. The letter announcing the meeting and a tentative schedule were mailed to everyone on March 9.

Please make every effort to attend this last official cabinet meeting of the year. We will begin with team meetings from 10-10:45 a.m. The cabinet meeting will start at 11 a.m. and continue through a working lunch. The meeting will adjourn at around 1:30 p.m. Cabinet recognition and awards will be presented, so please plan to participate.

In order to prepare for the cabinet meeting, everyone needs to participate in the reporting process. Attached to this News & Views is a report form that should be used to prepare for the meeting. Please complete the report form from your point of view before coming to the meeting. We will spend time in the teams working on these reports.

Cabinet Officers (Littlefield, Johnson, Olson, Strehlow, S. Anderson)

Region Chairs (Wollenburg, Westlund, D. Zwinger, A. Kahlbaugh, J. Ruff, R. Lein, K. Tweed)

Zone Chairs (Triplett, Kourajian, Comeau, Martin, Stark, Romsdal, Rexine, G. Kahlbaugh, Williams, Burkman, D. Ruff, Sayler, A. Anderson, Dobbs, K. Tweed)

Team Leaders (Johnson, Wicken, Wendel, D. Ruff, M. Zwinger)

Committee Chairs (Johnson, Olson, J. Ruff, Westlund, D. Zwinger, C. Lein, Dobbs, Wicken, Shirek, Suminski, Roundy, Rogness, Burkman, G. Kahlbaugh, Ness, Wendel, Western, Tweed, D. Ruff, Cowell, Nathan, Dunn, Anderson, Hager, M. Zwinger, Vining, Hansen, Nelson, Triplett)



## **Cabinet to Appoint 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Elect from among Past District Governors unless Candidate Identified**

Our District Constitution and By-Laws are clear in stating that we must have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor. The position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor-elect has been vacant since October, 2010. 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 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.

Article III, Section 6 of our District By-Laws states that, “in the event of a vacancy arising in the office of first or second vice district governor (-elect), the district governor shall convene a meeting of the members of the existing cabinet as provided for in the International Constitution and By-Laws and all past international officers who are members in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in the district. It shall be the duty of the attendees of this meeting to appoint a qualified club member as first or second vice district governor for the remainder of the term.” Because we are meeting at the end of March, as District Governor, I plan to call on the cabinet to name an individual to serve as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor-Elect.

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

All Past District Governors serving on the cabinet are eligible to be nominated to serve again. Unless we can find a qualified individual to serve, one of the PDGs currently serving as region chair will need to step forward to assume the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor leadership role. Be prepared to resolve this matter in Jamestown. treasurer.



## **Can We Get Three Clubs Chartered before June 30?**

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:

- Can we get the Rugby Branch Club converted to a chartered club of its own? Region Chair Craig Wollenburg, can you help Zone Chair Betty and Branch Club President Sandy get this done?
- Can we start a club in Ellendale? Region Chair James Ruff, can you help Zone Chair Arlan get this done?
- Can we get a club started in the Fargo far-south side to replace Heart of Horace? Region Chair Katherine Tweed, can you help me get this done?

Can we bring to fruition what was started in Cavalier last year? Either we have to return the money to the people who said they wanted to join or we need to start a club. Region Chair Wayne Westlund, can you get some help from DGE Steve Johnson and other Lions from Grand Forks and get this done?

Extension is everybody's business and it is the hardest work of Lionism. I will continue to work with the Red Cross and the National Forensic League to start specialty clubs. Many hands make light work. Instead of doing the heavy lifting yourself, get some help and get it done. I will help anyone who asks for assistance.

## **April 9<sup>th</sup> is 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions Worldwide Induction Day. Zone Chairs: Contact club leaders and let's add as many members in April as we can!**

Our district goal is a 5% membership increase this year. That means a +75 at the end of June 2011. 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        |

LCI has announced April as new member month and Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> as Lions Worldwide Induction Day. I am asking all Zone chairs to contact the local clubs in their district to encourage them to meet the 5% goal in April. Remind club leaders that if they have had drops or deaths, they should add those numbers to the total they need to recruit to reach the 5% growth goal.

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.

## **New Officers' Training Seminars April 27 and 28: Region Chairs should contact club officers and get commitments to attend!**

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mel Olson 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.

Region Chairs, I am asking that you contact club officers and make sure elections are held in March or early April so new officers can attend the officers' training seminars. Preliminary registration forms are attached to this News & Views that you should send to the club officers in your region.

This new officers' training opportunity also serves as the 4<sup>th</sup> zone meeting. For some zones, there have not been meetings this year. This is disappointing, especially since no meetings means that clubs think they are getting little service from their district officers. Encourage clubs to attend this region training event so we can get next year's officers off to a good start.

## **Region and Zone Chairs: Succession Planning**

The seven regions in the district have chairs. There are two or three zones in every region. The natural succession should be for region chairs to approach their zone chairs to see if one would be interested in serving as region chair next year.

Zone chairs should be contacting club presidents in their zone to identify one that would be willing to serve as zone chair next year. The emphasis from LCI right now is for the Global Leadership Team to provide training for zone chairs to help them be more effective in assisting local clubs.

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.

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.

## 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.



## Lions Eye Bank of North Dakota Needs Help

The Lions Eye Bank of North Dakota is in need of corneas for transplanting. Donations are down and that means revenues are down. Please encourage your family and friends to consider making a donation to the LEBND. At the present time, all Sanford donations are going to Minnesota, instead of the LEBND. Tell your doctors and medical personnel that you want them to support the Eye Bank in North Dakota.

In addition, drivers are needed to transport donated eyes and tissue from the donor to the recipient's hospital. The eastern part of North Dakota has few drivers and this poses a problem when transportation is needed. The more drivers available, the less any one driver needs to travel. Let clubs know in your regions that drivers are needed and send the names of volunteers to Karen Thomas at [kthomas@tbionline.org](mailto:kthomas@tbionline.org) or call 701-250-9390.

Finally, consider making a donation to the LEBND to help during this time of decreased revenues. For more information, contact Eye Bank Board President PDG Chuck Whitney at [carguy1949@hotmail.com](mailto:carguy1949@hotmail.com).

## 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](mailto:bethd@jamestownredcross.org) or [buffalovalley@jamestownredcross.org](mailto:buffalovalley@jamestownredcross.org)

**Marijo Peterson**, Minn-Kota Chapter of the Red Cross in Fargo, 701-34-1800 [mpeterson@minnkotaredcross.org](mailto:mpeterson@minnkotaredcross.org)

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

