

5M7 GRAM



RAMBLINGS FROM District Governor Brian

Merry Christmas to all in 5M7. As I'm writing this article, it is snowing and blowing and I've already cleaned the driveway twice today. Lion Joanne and I have been blessed with our grandchildren this weekend who are sleeping over. Oh yes, we had big plans on taking them to pancake breakfasts, church and seeing the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train in Northeast Minneapolis, but given the weather I think we will pass. Thank you very much.



It is now the midpoint of our Lion's year and Mid-Winter Conventions are now upon us. There is a last-minute frenzy to get the final details in place: Selecting convention committee members, getting invitations out to visiting district governors, making sure our International Director will be met at the airport and getting programs and agendas set and ready to be published. A lot of work, but well worth the effort. We hope you are planning to attend - we've got a great program and a lot of fun planned for the 5M7 Mid-Winter Convention at the Bloomington Marriot Hotel on January 14, 15 and 16. Talk to your club secretary to register.

Likewise, now is the time for our local club leaders to start planning for the end push of the Lion's year. What have we accomplished? What have we yet to do? Remember to get your new members involved. Ask them what they want to see your club do yet this year. Throughout this year at the Governor's visits I have been asking clubs what their "Signature Project" is. What project or service do you do in your community that identifies your Lions club in your community? At a number of clubs I have been told that a fund raising project is their "Signature Project." The next question - where do the funds go? That's a hard question. Some funds go in great part to food shelves, senior Christmas dinners, and Santa's visits, with other funds getting divided into many other charities but keep in mind that we as Lions serve our communities well and are the "Beacon of Hope."

Our travels this month took us all over 5M7. We truly enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to visit so many clubs for their Christmas parties/Governor's Nights. Many thanks for hospitality go to: Howard Lake, Maple Lake, Buffalo, Hanover, Rockford, Cambridge, Stacy, Fridley, Nowthen, and Andover. We visited Santa and had waffles and pancakes in Forest Lake, Monticello and Elk River. In addition, I had the pleasure of inducting my daughter, Lion Susan Johnson, into the Fridley Lions!

Keep up the good work and don't forget to every once in a while stand up and give yourself a round of applause. Always look for a new trail to blaze and explore.

In Lionism,

DG Brian and Lion Joanne



Our Grandchildren with Santa Johanna age 4 and Jack age 18 months



New members inducted at Fridley business meeting: Susan Johnson, Karla Ackerman, DG Brian, Jo Young and Dorothy Gargaro



What little kid (and big kid too) wouldn't love this waffle at the Forest Lake Breakfast with Santa?

Greetings to All!

Well, here we are half way through the year already. Remember when you were a kid and time seemed to drag on and on; and now, when older, we think "Where did the time go?"



Just think, in just 3 weeks we will be down at the Marriott for the Mid-Winter Convention. I have heard that the reservations are coming in very slowly. If you haven't made reservations, please do so soon. I feel we should look at trying an Early Bird Reservation next year. What do you think? Let us know. I would like to see as many new members there as possible for the First Timers Contest. I will be handing out the packets right after the Memorial Service is completed. So, please try to get your first timers there.

If your club has lost a member in the last year, please get a picture and a short bio of that member to Lion Dan Kaiser as soon as possible so he or she can be included in the Memorial Service.

Hope to see you all in January- it will be another great convention!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Lion Nancy and your 1st Vice Governor Lion Dave!

"Hear the Roar"



VDG Dave and Nancy enjoy their white elephant gifts at Cambridge Governor's night

Hi

When you look outside it appears winter has arrived in District 5M7. Mid- Winter Convention is not very far away. Please sit back and consider the following if you are still not registered.



It is a cold day in January as you park your car at the Bloomington Marriott Hotel. You get out of the car and brace against the cold wind as you get your bag out of the car and head across the parking lot to enter the lobby of the hotel. When you enter the lobby you are greeted by hotel staff and your Lion friends. You realize as you check in that you do not have to face the cold again until Sunday afternoon. Your Lions' winter weekend has begun. What a weekend it will be. You will be treated to a bazaar where Pin traders display their treasured pins. The Friday night Opening ceremony and Memorial service gives you an opportunity to honor our deceased member Lions. After that you will be able to socialize with friends in the hospitality rooms. Saturday morning is the General meeting and elections. Then the noon luncheon with the Parade of Green. In the afternoon you can learn more about Retention from PCC Brian Sheehan, Lions and the Law from PDG Wayne Swanson, and a Skit and discussion by Lions Dwight Gunderson and Lyle Goff. The evening brings the Governor's Banquet where International Director Douglas Alexander will speak. This will be followed with entertainment by Da Band.. . Then more socializing with friends. Sunday is the Non-denominational Church service followed by Breakfast. You will be able to hear Dr. Sam Levine talk about the MD5M Hearing Fountain.

Have you registered for this yet?

Keep it Simple
Keep it Fun

2nd Vice Paul



12/25/2010

Club Activities



December

25 - **Merry Christmas**

January

1 - Happy New Year

9- **Columbus Lions Club** Breakfast
@Columbus Senior Center 8-1

21- **Fridley Lions Club** Wine tasting
@ North Air Event Center 5-8 pm



February

5 - **Nowthen Lions Club**
2nd Annual Ice Fishing Contest
@ East Twin Lakes Park
Check-in 9am - 11am start



Governor Brian and 2 vices at the Maple Lake Governor's Night



Zone Meetings

Jan. 18 R2 Z5 @ Centerville
Jan. 25 R2 Z5 @ Anoka



Governor's Travels

December 22 R1Z1 Zone meeting Nowthen
December 25 Christmas Day

2011

January 3 Montrose Governor's Night
January 7 to 9 5M5/6 Mid Winter Convention
January 13 to 16 5M7 Mid Winter Convention
January 13 to 16 5M9 Mid Winter Convention
January 14 to 16** 5M7 Mid Winter Convention
January 14 District Cabinet meeting
January 17 Columbia Heights Governor's Night
January 19 Governor's Night Hugo
January 21 to 23 5M1 Mid Winter Convention
February 1 Governor's Night Becker
February 8 Governor's Night Cir/Lex Lions and
Lino Lakes Lions/Lioness Clubs



New members inducted at Maple Lake's Governor Night



The Governor's Night at Nowthen included the induction of two new members: Lions Renea and Bruce Hooker. Also pictured are DG Brian, Lion Joanne, Sec. Lisa Pexa, Pres. Judy Herrala, VDG Dave



A wonderful evening of fun and food at the Andover Christmas party and Governor's Night: ZC Liz Reiser, Sec Tyler Boshart, Pres. Doug Rising, VDG Dave, Lion Nancy, Lion Joanne, DG Brian



Howard Lake Governor Night Lion Joanne m Secretary Lynette Thorson, DG Brian, resident Cathy Rufer, Lion Nancy, VDG Dave, Shirley and VDG Paul

www.5M7.org

Blaine Central Lions Club

The Blaine Central Lions Club recently volunteered at Granny's Christmas Closet. Granny's Christmas Closet is a group of volunteers that organize an annual community effort to provide new clothing for local senior citizens in need. With over 450 volunteers, it's hard to believe it all started with a misunderstanding.

In 1998, Linda and Bill Harris decided to anonymously help a senior couple in need of clothing. Linda contacted a senior center and asked for the names of a couple of candidates. The call she received back contained a few more names than she had expected - forty-four! According to Linda, "I didn't know what to do. Everyone on the list had been contacted and asked what they wanted for Christmas!"

Linda listed the names and gift requests on some old recipe cards she had handy. Then, since Linda is a real estate agent, she brought the cards to the Conference of Women in Real Estate and asked for their help. The group rose to the challenge and within minutes every card was gone. Between family, friends and her fellow agents, presents were purchased for fifty-nine seniors.

Some of the seniors, having outlived their friends and relatives, hadn't received a present like this in fifteen years. According to an Anoka County adult mental health worker, some of the seniors receiving these gifts live on an income as low as \$87 per month, so the impact on the recipients goes well beyond just new clothes.

Granny's Christmas Closet provides clothing to seniors in need, and maybe just a little bit more.

Lion Shirley DiMassi



"WE SERVE"

12/25/2010

Lions /Lioness in Service



New member, Lion Bonnie Weber, was inducted at Howard Lake's Governor Night. Also pictured are DG Brian and sponsoring Lion Steve Weber



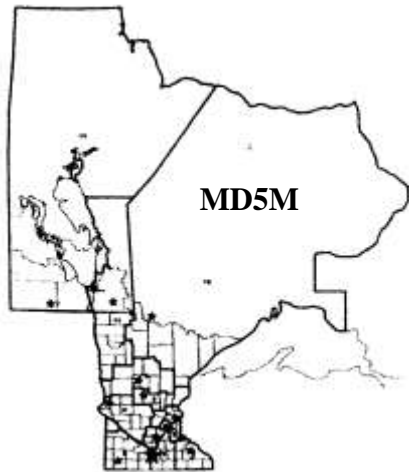
SLP Lioness cookie sale held at the Anoka County Government Center on Wed, Dec 15. Shown in the photo are Lioness Dawn McCarthy, Barb Kelzenberg and Betty Harris and some customers.



Howard Lake Lion trying on the Blues - Governor Wannabe?



Spring Lake Park Lion of the Year - Lion Jim Kugler with past President Lion Al Fischer



JOIN US AT THE BEND IN THE RIVER
MDM 5M 2011 Convention
Mankato, Minnesota
April 29 through May 1, 2011
Forums, Fun, Entertainment, & Meals
Information and Registration Forms available
On the 5M website and 5M Directory

FRIDLEY LIONS FUNDRAISER
 SERVING THE COMMUNITY
 OVER 50 YEARS

2011 Winter Warm Up
Food & Wine Tasting Extravaganza
Silent Auction
 Friday, January 21, 2011
 5:00 - 8:00 pm

North Air Event Center - 6831 Highway 65 NE - Fridley, MN 55432

\$20 per Ticket
 For more information or to purchase tickets contact:
 Mary Olson
 612-868-3507 or olism8@hotmail.com



Introducing 2nd Vice District Governor Candidate Lion Norman Kelzenberg

Lion Norm has been a member in good standing of the Spring Lake Park Lions since October 1975. Currently Lion Norm serves as the 1st Vice President. Lion Norm has held every office in the club at least once and has held several positions multiple times.

Lion Kelzenberg's accomplishments are many in his 35 years of service.

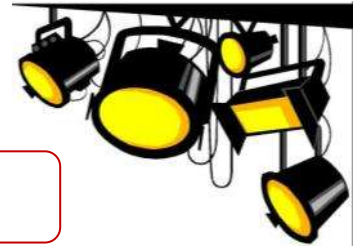
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 time Lion of the Year | Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow |
| Progressive Helen Keller Sight Award | Progressive Hearing Research Fellow |
| SLP Lions Club President 1983-84 | SLP Lion Club Secretary 5 years |
| SLP Lions Club Treasurer 1994-95 | Zone Chair 1985-86 & 2009-10 |
| District Gambling Advisor 1992-94 | SLP Lions Gambling Committee Chair |

Lion Norm has also attended and participated in two International Conventions and two USA/Canada Leadership Forums. He most recently attended the Forum in Milwaukee. Lion Norm has served the SLP Lions Club and district admirably.



LEOS

Featuring the Spring Lake Park Leos



On Wednesday, December 8 over 125 elementary aged children attended the 5th Annual Spring Lake Park Leos Holiday House at the SLPHS cafeteria. With the assistance of the Leos, the excited shoppers bought gifts ranging in price from 50 cents to 2 dollars for their moms, dads, brothers and sisters. Members of the Spring Lake Park Lioness and Lions were on hand to help the kids wrap their presents to get them ready for the holiday season.

While the kids were shopping the parents were treated to holiday treats and cider. Also, craft activities and a mystery gift walk were available to the kids while they waited to do their shopping.

This event was planned and coordinated by the Leo members. Gift items were collected by the Leos from many community members and service organizations such as the SLP Lions. If you are interested in donating for this event next year, please call 763-795-5129 to make arrangements to drop off any inexpensive gift, household or other items. The Leos can also pick up donations.



Introducing International Director Douglas X. Alexander

Douglas Alexander, from Brooklyn, New York, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 93rd International Convention, held in Sydney, Australia, June 28 to July 2, 2010.

Director Alexander is a retired vice president for J.P. Morgan Chase Bank.

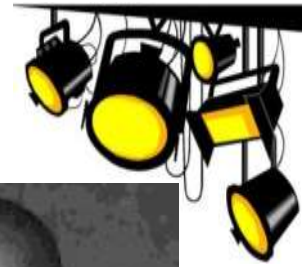
A member of the Brooklyn Bedford Stuyvesant Lions Club since 1984, he has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chair, region chair, vice district governor, district governor, cabinet secretary and cabinet treasurer. He also served as a Lions Eye Bank transporter, a member of the District and Multiple District PDG Association and a trustee of the New York State and Bermuda Lions Foundation.

In Recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including the Club Lions of the Year, Club President's Award, the Robert J. Uplinger Service Award, several District Governor Appreciation Awards, the Multiple District Membership Growth Award, District Chairperson Award, three International President's Certificates of Appreciation and two International President's Medals. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Alexander is active in numerous professional and community organizations. He has served as chairperson of the advisory board for the New York Urban League and as a board member of the St. Francis DeSales School for the Deaf. He has also received the Congressional Record Award.

Director Alexander has two daughters.

Director Alexander will be joining us at our Mid-Winter Convention January 14-16, 2011.



The Lion's Code of Ethics: Integrity

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself. This is the fourth of eight statements making up the Lion's Code of Ethics - the last of four relating to business, the first of five relating to community and maybe the most important statement of them all. The greatest thing any of us can offer one another and ourselves is honesty in our own hearts as shown through our thoughts, words and actions. Honesty is more valuable than any amount of money or material possessions could ever be. Honesty makes all of us equal to one another regardless of our positions in life. Honesty is the first step in education, growth and a meaningful life.



Ah.....Christmas! Everyone is busy with parties, family gatherings, or hunting for that special, last minute gift. Some clubs are even doing projects the month of December in addition to all the other festivities.

Montrose has held their Christmas party. They have a dice game they play that sounds like it would be fun. I'm hoping they'll be at the Midwinter Convention and share it with the rest of us. Clear Lake will be enjoying their Christmas Party while settling up old business for the year. They will be resuming their activities in March.



Lioness Clubs



Here are some easy appetizers for all those holiday parties.

Creamy Parmesan Dip

- 1- 8oz pkg of cream cheese
- 1- 8oz carton sour cream
- 1/3 c. grated Parmesan cheese [2 oz]
- 2 tbsp. finely chopped green onion
- 2 tsp dried Italian seasoning, crushed.
- Milk [optional]



In a medium bowl beat cream cheese, sour cream, Parmesan cheese, green onion and Italian seasoning with an electric mixer on low until fluffy. Cover and chill for at least one hour. If dip is too thick after chilling, stir in 1-2 tbsp of milk. Serve with vegetables and/or crackers/chips.

Plum Good Sausage and Meatballs

- 1- 10 or 12oz jar of plum jam or preserves
- 1- 18oz bottle of BBQ sauce
- 1- 16oz linked cooked jalapeño smoked sausage or smoked sausage.
- Slice into bit size pieces.
- 1- 16-18oz package Italian style or original flavored meatballs, thawed.

In a 3 ½ or 4 qt slow cooker, combine the jam and BBQ sauce, add the sausage and thawed meatballs. Cover and cook on slow setting for 5-6 hours or on high setting for 2 ½ or 3 hours.

If desired, keep warm in the slow cooker on warm or low- heat setting for up to 2 hours



Buffalo will be doing a Christmas Dance for mentally impaired people in their community. These ladies know how to enjoy themselves and will be having a great time.

Big Lake chose the blizzard of 2010 to hold their annual *Shopping with Santa*. Surprisingly the community came out in support of the project and although craft sales were down from previous years, money made from the project will support scholarships to two graduating seniors.



This is the time for giving; to those in need and less fortunate than us. This is a time to remember those who may be alone and without family during the holiday season. Many of you will be looking to donate time or money to local food shelves, shelters, or food kitchens.



This is not only the season of giving but also the season of serving.....serving those who need our help. **WE SERVE** because that's what we do as Lions and Lioness.

Here's wishing each and everyone one of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

TLC Toys...

T.L.C. TOYS

TLC Toys began in 1990. In that first year 1,554 toys were produced. By the end of 2010, it is expected that 25,000 toys will be produced and total toys distributed will be 208,311! TLC Toys has helped 141 organizations and groups. Some of these include Crisis Nursery of Anoka, Epiphany Church, CEAP, Anoka Food Shelf, Sharing and Caring Hands, Alexandra House, Make a Wish, and Children's Hospital. ALSO, soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq have received toys to distribute to children in the orphanages. Some of the overseas groups that have been helped include Fr. Reiser's Haiti Mission, Jamaica Orphanage, Mary T's African Mission, Polish Orphanage (in Poland), and Catholic Mission in Peru. The expenses range from \$8,000 to \$9,500 per month. There are close to 100 volunteers who donate their time.



The Coon Rapids Lions Club, for the past several years, has made cash donations. I currently volunteer there every Monday from 8-noon, and I find it to be a very enjoyable time!

TLC Toys is extremely grateful for the support; both in materials and financially they receive from many corporations, civic groups and other organizations and individuals. It is through that support that enables the unpaid volunteers of TLC Toys to bring some joy into the lives of less fortunate children.

For more information on how you can get involved with TLC Toys - contact Mel Hartman at 763-421-3891 or visit the website at www.TLCToys.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me. TLC Toys is always looking for volunteers and monetary donations! Thanks!
Lion Bill Guthrie



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR INDEPENDENCE

LCIF Matching
Fund Goal



\$75,000

We Made It!!

Thank you 5M7! Without the help of many Lions and Lioness clubs being able to give, Can Do Canines would not be able to issue only half as many dogs to people with needs. District 5M7 donated \$10,057.00. The total amount raised from Multiple District was \$75,134.77.

The top 4 Districts were:

District 5M8 \$11,055.00

District 5M7 \$10,057.00

District 5M9 \$9,685.00

District 5M5 \$8,180.00

Thank you again to all the Clubs in all the Districts for making this a huge success.

Lion Steve Linder

Co-chair Can Do Canines, District 5M7



A great time was had by all at the Stacy Lions Governor Night. Zone Chair Dan and wife Cathy Kaiser, VDG Dave and Lion Nancy, President Steve Burvee, Sec. Lyda Schmidt, Lion Joanne and DG Brian.



Andover Pres Doug checking out his new slippers!!!



Maple Lake Governor Night fantastic desserts!



VDG Paul hams it up for the camera with his white elephant gifts at Cambridge's Gov Night



Governor's Night with Rockford, Hanover, and Buffalo - Zone Chair Scott Holum, President of Rockford Ted Smith, President of Hanover Sheldon Smith, President of Buffalo Tim Bohlen



Cambridge Governors Night; VDG Dave and Lion Nancy, Secretary Mary Mack, DG Brian, President Carin Mack, Lion Joanne, Shirley, VDG Paul