

E-1 OH5 District Governor Cabinet Report

Fellow Lions,

Bottom line for the survival of this organization is to turn the membership issue around. We cannot expect to survive when we consistently lose more than we bring in, year after year. At some point we are going to have to increase dues simply to continue operating...or we have to increase our membership. It's really that simple.

And while we can blame the clubs as an abstract for losing members, I'm asking each of you how many members you, as individuals, have sponsored into Lions? How many people you have asked? Because again, it's that simple.

Of course, below that is the underlying reason we aren't getting and keeping Lions... either there's nothing for them to do once they get in because the club isn't doing service projects, or the Old Guard is holding onto all the positions and not allowing new members any opportunities. Either way is a problem and we, as a cabinet, are going to have to get involved in some attitude adjusting. Zone Chairs and Region Chairs will be key, but it's up to all of us to get involved in the solution. Start at your own club and work your way out this year. Let's fix what has been broken for years!

The theme this year for the district is, "Be Someone's Hero." We are given daily opportunities to help someone else. Each time it's a fork in the road: are you going to be self-serving and ignore, or will you step up. That's a personal choice, each and every time. I'm just reminding all of us, myself included, that we can make a difference, but we have to make that choice to do so.

My personal theme is "Break the Ice." We are standing on what appears to be a solid foundation, and for some of us, that's good enough. But if we dig down, break through that layer...there is a wealth of opportunities, new members, ideas, and partnerships under the surface, just waiting for us. If only we do the work first to get to those resources!

Our Cabinet meetings are: August 19, 9:30am at the Ohio Lions Bldg in Grove City; November 11, 10:30am at the Northridge Lions Bldg (lunch \$10); and February 24, 11:00am, at Pilot Dogs. (lunch, cost TBA.)

The OH5 Convention will be at Deer Creek State Park Lodge on March 15-16. (Cost TBA.) Friday Night Fun Night will have a couple of new twists, we will have a couple of new things happening on Saturday, and we expect to have a lot of fun! Our speaker this year is PID Bruce Beck, who I have heard nothing but great things about! Should be a good time.

OH5 is approaching this year with a positive attitude! No problems, only challenges that, with enough effort, will produce solutions. Bumps are to be expected – they make the smooth patches that much more enjoyable.

Respectfully submitted,

DG Mike