



5M7 GRAM

April 2015



Lions, Lioness and Leos of 5M7,

At the close of my article for the March Gram, I promised to furnish you details of my "Polar Plunge for Special Olympics." I am extremely proud to inform you 5M7 was represented by six Lions who raised **\$7,740** for Special Olympics. Lions Judy Herrala (Nowthen Lions), Lyle & Theresa Goff (Coon Rapids Lions) Susan Toews & Rebecca Toews (Fridley Lions) and myself (Blaine Central Lions) all braved the frigid waters of Crooked Lake in Coon Rapids. We enjoyed the experience and vowed to do it again next year.



A few jottings of note:

- Due to a death in my family, I rescheduled the Cabinet Meeting to April 7th (KJ's Refuge in Orrock). If you have any questions/concerns please direct them to me. Make sure you let Sec./Treas. Lion Nancy know if you are attending or not.
- I have scheduled the last 13 *Governor's Nights* and *Lioness group meetings* throughout April and May.
- Our tentative date for the **Governor's Spring Awards Night** is Monday, June 8th. Location and other details are still being worked out.
- At the 3rd *MD5M Council of Governors* held on March 13-14th, DG Kathy Jensen of District 5M4 was selected by the District Governors-Elect to be the MD5M Governor's Council Chair. Please join me in congratulating her and wishing her the best for the Lions year 2015-2016.
- A reminder for the upcoming **MD5M Convention** being held this year at the Airport Marriott in Bloomington, on April 17-19. If your club representative(s) is planning on being a delegate, make sure the club has paid its International dues in full. If not paid, no delegate credentials for the club will be given out.
- A \$100,000 LCIF grant for "*True Friends*" has been applied for. A decision by LCIF is expected later this month when LCI meets in Prague. Lion Alison Sherman of "*True Friends*" will be available at the upcoming Cabinet meeting to answer any questions and present the details of the grant application during the Camps cabinet report.
- Please contact your Zone Chairs or one of the VDG's for dates and locations of the final round of Zone Meetings to be held this year.
- In looking at our District 5M7 membership numbers, as of today, March 25th, we show a positive growth of 20 new members!

My year-end as your Governor is in sight. Many transition activities need to be performed and require pre-planning. Prepare our incoming and returning club officers by attending the **Club Officer Leadership Training** sessions in either Buffalo on **May 27th** or in Blaine on the **28th**. Look for details in last month's Gram or elsewhere in this issue. At the completion of your club elections in April, make sure the required PU-101 form is submitted direct to Lions Clubs International and copied to DGE Lion Tom Fiecke by the required May 1st deadline.

As I look back over the last 8-1/2 months, I see some tremendous successes. As I said last year at this time, "*the District Governor's team along with your Cabinet Chairs may well be the organizers and guides, but it is the individual club leaders and members who do the events and projects that are the heart and soul of this great organization we call Lions.*" It was true then and is still true today.

DGE Lion Tom Fiecke is still forming his District Cabinet for next year. If he asks you to serve, please seriously consider it. Help him continue to make District 5M7 a leader in Multiple district 5M.



Well, it is about time to get out in my shop and dust off the old "54 Ford Coupe." It won't be too long before I and it will be seen cruising to some of the remaining Lions functions on my schedule. What the heck, I may also use the Mustang Convertible if the weather is warm enough.

DG Lion Terry Wold
612-759-5433
"Serve the Need"



Lions, Lioness and Leos of 5M7,

March 10-14th the District Governor Elects of MD5M completed our formal training to prepare us for the challenges and opportunities of being your next District Governors. I do know by going through all this training for becoming the District Governor of 5M7, that it takes club leaders and members who do the projects and events of this great organization we call Lions, "We Serve."

We will be having our final cabinet meeting on April 7th at KJ's Refuge in Orrock at 6:00 pm for social hour and meeting at 7:00 pm. After this cabinet meeting, comes final rounds of all Zone meetings. Plus, we have final *Governor's Nights* and *Lioness Group meetings*. The *2015 96th Annual MD5M Convention* will be held April 17-19 at the Minneapolis Airport Marriot Hotel, in Bloomington. I hope you as Lions, Lioness and Leos have signed up, please consider it.

Governor Terry's year is coming to an end. I know that he has a lot to get done yet. He is working on his goal for membership growth in 5M7 District. I would like to thank every Lion member who participated in "ASK 1" by asking others to become a Lion member of District 5M7.

[Leadership Training](#) is coming up on May 27th at Buffalo Middle School in Buffalo and on May 28th at Centennial High School "East Bldg" in Blaine. Make sure the required PU-101 form is filed after your club elections with the right people. I have received a few copies already.

I will be looking forward to serving District 5M7 as your District Governor on July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016. I am looking forward to attending the [98th Lions International Convention](#) in Honolulu, Hawaii, from June 18-July 1.

DGE Lion Tom Fiecke
Serve from the Heart

Lions, Lioness and Leos of 5M7,

My time as 2nd Vice District Governor is winding down. It's been a great learning experience being in the position I'm in. *What's it like being a VDG?* When Lion Kathy and I talked about running for District Governor, I never thought we would have this much fun! We talked with a lot of Lions, PDGs and others about the job we would be taking on. We heard a lot of different things, like you get sick of chicken because that's what you get at Governor's visits. Not so much, I think we've had chicken two or three times, and it's always been good. You travel a lot! That's true, but I enjoy the time we have talking with other Lions and their spouses. Seeing what other clubs are doing, seeing where they meet, how they are able to help their communities. Lion Kathy and I try to make as many breakfasts, dinners, and other activities. Sometimes it's a little tough, but we try.



We are able to see new ideas at zone meetings. Have you ever gone to a zone meeting and ended hunting for deer? I have. Or gone to a zone meeting to listen to an ID talk about the difference of joining Lions vs. really becoming a Lion! See how a club has transformed a church to a meeting place in the basement and a teen club upstairs. What a great deal that was to see.

We have a lot of activities coming up -- please check the 5M7 Gram and the 5M7 website calendar for dates of upcoming events. Remember to advertise in the Gram and website so other clubs can come out and partake in your activity. Lion Kathy and I are looking forward to the upcoming years, out seeing what's going on in our District and in other Districts. ID Mike made a statement that I thought was so true, "Service and Fun = LIONS!" — Thank you for what you do!

Lion Steve
1st VDGE



DG Terry's Calendar:

April

- 02 - Club officer Leadership Training Committee meeting - "The Den" Spring Lake Park
- 07 - Cabinet Meeting (reschedule) - Orrock
- 08 - Centerville, Hugo & Columbus joint Governor's Night - Location TBD.
- 09 - Blaine Central meeting
- 09 - Convention Committee Meeting - Monticello
- 11 - Brooklyn Center Lions 60th Anniversary
- 13 - Governor's Team meeting - Blaine
- 14 - Santiago Governor's Night
- 16 - Pre-Council of Governors Meeting - Airport Marriott - Bloomington
- 17 - Council of Governors #4 - Bloomington
- 17-19 - MD5M Convention - Bloomington
- 20 - Zone Meeting - Grandy Community Center
- 21 - Ham Lake and Cedar/East Bethel
Joint Governor's Night
- 23 - Isanti Governor's Night - Isanti
- 25 - Blaine Central Lions Shop For Charity - Blaine
- 27 - Big Lake Lions & Lioness Governor's Night
- 28 - Circle/Lexington and Lino Lakes
Joint Governor's Night

May

- 11 - Isanti Governor's Night
- 14 - St. Michael Governor's Night
- 16 - Blaine World Fest - Blaine
- 19 - Becker Governor's Night & 40th Anniversary
- 27 - Club Officer Training (6:30 pm)
Buffalo Middle School - Buffalo
- 28 - Club Officer Training (6:30 pm)
Centennial High School East Bldg - Blaine

June

- 06 - D-Feet Hearing Walk
- 08 - District Awards Night - Tentative - Loc. TBD
- 11 - Blaine Central Lions - Regular Meeting
- 25 - Blaine Central Lions - Regular Meeting
- 26-30 - International Convention - Honolulu, HI

Polar Plunge for Special Olympics



You've never jumped into frigid Minnesota waters in the middle of the winter?

Each year, the **Polar Plunge** challenges thousands of brave jumpers at numerous locations around the state. It's a great way for everyone — individuals, organizations and businesses — to get involved in supporting Special Olympics Minnesota. All funds raised go towards programming and events for more than 8,000 athletes statewide. 1,000 Plungers raised more than \$208,000 on February 28th at Crooked Lake Beach at the Anoka County Plunge!

The 5M7 Team: DG Terry (Blaine Central), Lion Judy Herrala (Nowthen), Lions Theresa & Lyle Goff (Coon Rapids), and Lions Susan & Rebecca Toews (Fridley) -- raised a total of **\$7,740!**





Spring Training For Officers Elect



Did you ever wonder why professional baseball players need to take part in spring training? After all aren't they the top of the game? What do they accomplish in training camp?

In short the answer to all of these questions is that they recognize the need to be prepared for the upcoming season. The preparation they accomplish in spring training has a great deal to do with the results they will achieve during the actual season. By the end of spring training the team has been selected, the players know what is expected of them, such as who will be a starting pitcher versus a relief pitcher, skills have been fine-tuned, and goals have been set. Only then does the season start.

While spring training for baseball teams lasts basically six weeks I would suggest that as Lion Officer-elects, our spring training runs from March 1 until June 31st. This is true if you are a club president elect, a District Governor elect, or any other elected position that will start July 1, 2015.

It amazes me how many times I have heard: "I have been (fill in the position) before so I don't need to do much to be ready for my year". As many times as I have heard that from Lions I have never heard Tory Hunter, Joe Mauer, Brian Dozier, or countless other ballplayers say they really don't need to go to spring training! They realize that if you are going to be successful you have to put time in before the season starts. The time that Lion's leaders, at any level, invest in getting ready before the season starts will pay off in the long run by helping them be successful.



Training will be at two locations

**Buffalo Junior High School on May 27th

**Centennial High School East Building

in Blaine on May 28th

The time will be 6:30-8:30 both, The Leadership training will be covering topics for the zone chairs, presidents and all upcoming presidents, secretaries, treasurers, and membership chairs/committees. And as in the past all interested lions are welcome to attend these and all classes.

Used eyeglasses, hearing aids, and printer cartridges will be collected at this and all Lions Club events

And Remember

We Serve

Albertville & Hanover Lions



DG Terry with Helen Keller Award recipients
Mr. Dan Dixon & Fire Chief Tate Miles.



DG Terry with Melvin Jones Fellowship recipients
Lions Connie & Randy Bacon (TEAM BACON).



DG Terry presenting Gov's pins to
Lions Sec. Al Kvistro, Pres. Jeff Edelman,
Sec. Pat Sweeney and Pres. Deb Shirmers.



DG Terry presenting a 10-year Milestone
Chevron Award to Lion Daniel Meyers.

Cedar East Bethel Lions



Pictured are Lions Carol and Ron Novak "manning"
the wine pull table at the **Empty Bowls Fundraiser** for
the **NACE** foodshelf on Thursday, March 19.

This function is sponsored by local Lions clubs in the
area and the local foodshelf. All monies raised go to
the foodshelf.

Circle Pines-Lexington Lions

Circle Pines-Lexington Lions and Lexington Fire teamed up again this year to sponsor their annual **Food Shelf/Powerpak** project at Festival Foods in Lexington. The project was chaired by newly inducted Lion Jennifer Black. A total of 1,067 pounds of food, of which 248 pounds was specifically for Powerpak, and \$252 was collected.



Shown here are Lion Jennifer Black, Lexington Fire Mark Vanderbloomer, Lion Ginny Hestekind and PDG Lion Jerry McCauley. Also working the project were Lion Chris Bettinger, his two sons, a nephew and a niece — a real family project.



DG Terry with new Lion Scott Haberman and wife, Tanya (daughter of PDG Lion Al Wiese).



DG Terry with 1st VDG-E Lion Steve Linder and Melvin Jones Award recipient Zone Chair Lion Chris Thoma.

North Branch Lions



DG Terry with the newest Lions and their sponsors.



DG Terry presenting Gov's Award and personal pins to Lions Pres. John Dolin and Cec. Debra Beam.

Nowthen Lions



Nowthen Lions newly installed Club Officers for 2015/2016.



PDG Dave Schroeder representing the Rush City Lions - giving a \$500.00 check to Wendy, whose family lost their home to fire recently.

Spring Lake Park Lions



Rush City Lions

Lion Bill has donated many hours to collecting glasses from several drop-off locations for the Rush City Lions. He also has worked hundreds of hours on Lion's Projects and Events in his time as a Rush City Lion. Thanks Lion Bill!



Lion Bill Peters received a **Helen Keller Award** from Rush City Lion's President Nancy Schroeder.



DG Terry presenting Governor's pin to 90 year-old Lion Harlan Grover.



DG Terry inducting Lion Alex Watson (from SLP Leo program) with sponsor Lion Peter Yelle looking on.

Stacy Lions



DG Terry presenting a 10-year Milestone Chevron to Lion Ryan Rajan Otterson.



DG Terry inducting Lion Judy Hanna with sponsors Lions Jerry Schroeder and Dan Hoffman looking on.



DG Terry presenting a 10-year Milestone Chevron to Lion Rose Marie Lillian Otterson.



Blaine Central Lions

Shop for Charity & Food Drive

April 25th 10-2pm

Event will be held at:

John Rice VFW
109th Ave & Central Avenue
Blaine, MN 55434

Each food item donated
will get you a raffle ticket
for a **door prize drawing!**

All food will be donated to the
Kingswood Church Food Shelf.

Thanks to Granny's Closet
for your support!

Come and shop —
help stock our local food shelf!



★ *Tickets Available!* ★

*Lions Club Members, North Branch Chamber of Commerce
& Post-Haste Business Solutions*

**11th Annual
N.B. LIONS
Prime Rib Dinner**

Saturday, April 11th, 2015

5:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

North Branch High School Cafeteria

Adult Ticket Price: \$15

Kids Ticket Price: \$5 • *ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT PIZZA!*

Live Entertainment!

Thanks for Your Support!

WE SERVE

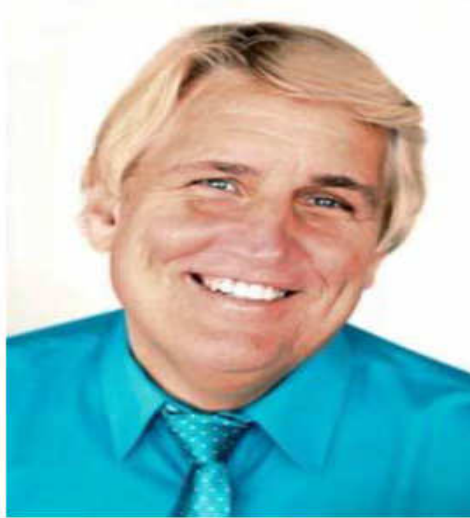


JOIN TODAY!

10th Annual Albertville Lions Comedy Night!

Featuring Lee "L.A." Lycan

Saturday, April 25th!



Albertville City Hall

Comedian Lee L.A. Lycan entertains thousands of people across the United States. He lives in the Milwaukee area, and he is considered one of Wisconsin's most popular comedians. His act is creative, well written, improvisational, and includes audience interaction. His hilarious but clean show is ideal for any venue.

Tickets are \$30, and include dinner with your choice of Stuffed Pork Chop or Stuffed Chicken Breast and sides.

Full cash bar available.

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Social Hour from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Dinner 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Only 150 tickets for this event will be sold

The only thing better than watching a great comedian, is watching a great comedian with friends!



CHISAGO LAKES LIONS CADILLAC DINNER 2015

WHERE: Winehaven
10020 Deergarden Lane, Chisago City

WHEN: Saturday April 25, 2015

TIME: Social Hour: 6pm - 7pm
Dinner: 7pm

DINNER: Choice of Roast Beef
or Chicken

No change of menu at the door

Ticket price of \$145 per couple.

Bar drinks will be available.

Winners need not be present to win. If you purchase a ticket
and cannot attend, you are eligible for a \$45 gift certificate.



For Reservations Call:

Linda Lindgren.....651-343-5332
Gary Gerke.....651-257-5679
Brad Mattson.....651-257-6270
Jeff Vitali.....651-257-6600 or
651-253-8416

Big Raffle Prizes! Over \$3000 Value in Raffle Prizes

**\$145 Prize for
these #'s
Drawn:**

1st & 10th
20th & 30th
40th & 60th
70th & 80th
90th & 96th

**\$250 Prize for
the 50th #
Drawn**

**\$500 Prize for
the 99th #
Drawn**

**\$150 Prize for
the 97th #
Drawn**

**\$2000 Prize for
the 100th #
Drawn**

**\$200 Prize for
the 98th #
Drawn**

**Over \$3000 Value in Raffle Prizes!
\$4450.00 in Cash Prizes!!**

License#X-35568



GARAGE SALE

Cedar/East Bethel Lions AND Lioness

**5th ANNUAL CRAFT/GARAGE SALE AT THE
EAST BETHEL ICE ARENA, 20675 Hwy. 65 N.E.**

- v **THURSDAY-April 30 – 8:00 A.M. SET UP****
- v **FRIDAY – MAY 1 – 8:00 TO 5:00 OPEN**
- v **SATURDAY – MAY 2 – 8:00 TO 3:00 OPEN**
- v **{CLEAN UP} VENDORS CLEAN UP OWN SPACE**
- v **** VENDORS BRING ITEMS TO SELL**
- v **CRAFTERS WELCOME**

***RENT YOUR OWN SPACE
(\$10 PER /TABLE OR 3 TABLES FOR \$25) INDIVIDUAL
OR ORGANIZATION). MUST PROVIDE YOUR OWN
STAND OR TABLE.**

FOOD/DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

**To reserve space contact:
LION DEANNA KLEVEN
763-434-3017**

ALL PROFITS SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

WE SERVE!



REGISTER & FUNDRAISE



HEROES like you **CURE BLOOD CANCER!**

Laura, marrow donor (left), with
Owen, her marrow recipient

Thousands have stepped up. Now we need YOU.

Be a hero to those touched by the 70+ diseases that can be treated
with a marrow transplant—including leukemia, lymphoma and sickle cell.

Minneapolis • May 16

Lake Harriet

CHASE 
J.P.Morgan

RJM
CONSTRUCTION

**CAR
2GO**

**WELLS
FARGO**

LARABAR

BeTheMatchWalkRun.org

  #BTMWalkRun

©2015 BTM. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



Becker Lions

40th Anniversary Celebration

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2015
Time: 5:30 pm Social
6:30 pm Dinner – Grilled Pork Chop
Location: Becker City Park, Becker MN
Cost: \$15.00 – (Includes meal & club pin)

Speaker: Terry Wold, District Governor

Silent Auction: Bidding duration of evening
Winners announced at end of evening

Questions-Contact: Jim Hazeltine (320) 558-1106
Bev Gruber (763) 656-9365
Tim Adelman (612) 219-3963

RSVP by May 5th, 2015

Bev Gruber

bevgruber7@gmail.com

18967 232nd Ave NW, Big Lake, MN 55309

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____



40th Anniversary Celebration



**Friday May 29, 2015
6:00-11:30PM
Monticello Community
Center Parking Lot**



- THIS IS A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT -

FEATURING



WITH OPENING ACT - THE PLOTT HOUNDS

**CONCESSIONS
AVAILABLE**



**NO OUTSIDE
FOOD OR DRINK**



**THANK YOU TO OUR
EVENT SUPPORTERS**





With your \$25.00 registration/donation you receive:

- Free entrance to the Landscape Arboretum for the day
- Free event t-shirt
- Free Lunch (including root-beer floats)
- Featuring the Teddy Bear Band
- Lots of children's activities, games & prizes
- Fun for families of all ages
- A chance to change a child's life through your \$25.00 registration/donation

Children ages 12 and under get in free. Bring the whole family for a day of fun for all ages!!!!

Visit us for more info at: www.5mhf.org

Event Details:

- **Date:** June 6, 2015
- **Time:** 9:30 a.m.
- **Place:** Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, MN
- **Kids 12 & under get in free!!**

FEATURING:



TEDDY BEAR BAND



Lioness Clubs

*Here I was, enjoying
our nice spring weather,
when...*

...it just had to dump a dusting of snow in some areas, more in others, that reminded all of us that winter isn't quite done yet, especially in Minnesota. In my area, some golf courses were opening and I was looking forward to a few more weeks of mild weather before I hit the course. Guess I'll have to wait just a little longer.

Anoka Lioness [35] served a meal to the **Hope 4 Youth Drop in Center** and delivered birthday cakes to the **Anoka Treatment Center**. On March 29th they'll hold their **Palm Sunday Craft and Bake Sale** at the **Lions Pancake Breakfast** at the Anoka Legion. These ladies donated to their local food shelf, ACBC Food Shelf. Great work ladies!

Big Lake Lioness [16] is putting their baking skills up to the task again at the **Lions Pancake Breakfast and Lioness Bake Sale** on Sunday March 29th. In April we'll begin working on prom garters for area high schools and begin receiving applications for our scholarships.



Coon Rapids [7] donated 34 pairs of eyeglasses to the District Lions Eye Chair and played bingo at both Park River Care Center and Camilla Rose Care Center with seniors. They also assisted their Lions Club at their **Books for Bango** event at Lincoln Elementary School.



Montrose [13] Lioness continues to work with their Lions Club to purchase new playground equipment for the Montrose Elementary School. On March 27th at the Montrose Community Center the Lions will hold a **Smelt Fry** with all the fixin's and the Lioness will be selling brownies and ice cream. Now....what's not to like about brownies and ice cream!!

St. Francis [12] is busy lining up their models and clothes for their **Salad Luncheon and Style Show** at the St. Francis Legion on April 18th beginning at 11am with the luncheon starting at 12 noon. If you've never been.....GO.....the salads are to die for!



Lino Lakes [10], Cedar East Bethel [15] Clear Lake [14] and North Branch [17] are busy working on upcoming projects and events for the Easter season.



SAVE THE DATE...



Our Leadership Forum will be held on Saturday May 9th at the Big Lake Lions Park on CR 5 in Big Lake from 9am to 12noon. A continental breakfast will be available.

This forum will include a brief overview of the Lioness organization and helpful information for new [and old] officers. We'll also be discussing important issues such as how to attract new members and keep current members, using tools from the District/International to our advantage, and most importantly....where do we go from here.....a look at the future of Lioness.

Please provide the number of Lioness attending from your club to me via email no later than April 27th. This forum will replace any/all spring group meetings therefore all Lionesses should be attending.

**** Note:** Please make sure you email/send your PU 101 to me no later than May 1, 2015.



You are invited!
Brooklyn Center Lions Club
60th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, April 11, 2015

Double Tree Hotel by Hilton
694 and Shingle Creek Parkway, Brooklyn Center
5:30 PM Social and 6:30 PM Dinner
Silent Auction

Featured Keynote Speaker
Lion Clubs International
Past International Director
ROSS THORFINNSON

Please detach this portion and return with your reservation information by April 6, 2015.

Names: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Dinner Selections - \$37.50 each

Medallions of pork with pineapple chutney, roasted red potatoes # _____

Baked cod with lemons and capers in light cream sauce, rice # _____

Total # _____

Please enclose a check made payable to the **Brooklyn Center Lions Club**

Mail this form and your check to: Spectrum Financial Group, Inc.
3800 American Blvd. West, Suite 760
Bloomington, MN 55431

Can Do Canines' Lions Newsletter Submission – April, 2015

Thanks to the support of Lions Clubs across 5M, **Can Do Canines** continues to train specially trained for people with disabilities and provide them to those in need, free of charge. We'll be graduating more than 20 new assistance dog teams on **Saturday, April 25, 1 p.m.** at **Can Do Canines** facility (9440 Science Center Drive) in New Hope, MN. Please join us in congratulating them!

Below is a follow-up story to a graduate, Beth Klingellhofer & Diabetes Assist Dog Faith who was partnered with a **Can Do Canines** assistance dog in 2013. Thank you again for your support of our organization.



A Prayer Answered

When Beth Klingellhofer was driving to New Hope to pick up her Diabetes Assist Dog Faith from **Can Do Canines**, she knew she was headed into a hope-filled future.

Beth, who has Type 1 Diabetes, had previously experienced numerous, frightening episodes of low blood sugar.

These episodes had drastically limited her outside activities and isolated herself at home. She was afraid to venture out for activities or chores that most would consider "routine," without her husband along to make sure she was safe.

Then a Google search revealed **Can Do Canines** based in New Hope, MN and the rest is history.

Faith, a beautiful black lab, was trained for Beth, and the final confirmation of good things to come happened on the trip to New Hope to bring Faith home. On the radio, a song called "*The Prayer*" played, and the lyrics that stood out to Beth validated everything:

"Give us faith, so we'll be safe."

Faith has indeed made Beth safe. "*She saves my life at least three times a week,*" says Beth.

Beth, who has hypoglycemic unawareness, does not know when her blood sugar levels are low. But, Faith does. By smelling her breath, Faith can alert Beth by nudging her, letting her know it's time to test and thus averting an emergency. In return, Faith has a family who adores her.

"Having Faith has allowed me to be more independent, to do more things—especially to do more things with my kids, and without the help of my husband. He can even go on business trips now without worrying that something might happen to me while he's gone."

Faithful to her breed, the assistance dog has a deep love of retrieving—tennis balls are her favorite. In fact, when the weather prevents playtime outside, there's a place in the house where the tennis ball can be thrown. She is so enthusiastic, though, that Beth has to place pillows in front of the wall so that Faith doesn't hurt herself crashing after the ball. She loves retrieving so much that the balls have to be hidden away when the rest of the family is tired of throwing them for her.

At 45 pounds, Faith is small for a Labrador retriever, and Beth has had people inquire if she is indeed fully lab. Beth's reply? "*She's mostly lab, mixed with a little bit of angel.*"



Lion District Governors Elect visited **Can Do Canines** facility on March 11, 2015 to see first-hand how **Can Do Canines** assistance dogs change lives.