



# Lions 5M7 Gram



October

2017



## A Note From District Governor Dan Kaiser

Lions, Lioness, and Leos

By the time that this District Newsletter comes out at the beginning of October, I will have attended a few Zone Meetings and a few Governor's Nights. After hearing all the reports from these clubs, I completely amazed by all the work that is being done by the 52 Lions and 7 Lioness clubs in the District. Pancake breakfast, pork chop feeds, town events, parades, service projects, and more. All the hundreds of hours that are spend not to mention all the money that clubs have reinvested in their own communities. If you have gambling or fundraisers, much of the money you have raised is spent improving your communities, and you should be praised. Please share the story of your accomplishments and successes with everyone in the community, which includes Facebook and your local papers. The more we share - others will want to have a part in helping.



Thank you to all the clubs that have generously donated to LCIF. Just this year, your donations have enabled LCIF to respond to the disasters from Japan to South Asia to the U.S. Gulf Coast, Mexico and several Caribbean islands.

Earlier this month, Hurricane Harvey devastated the south central coast of Texas and areas of Louisiana. More recently, Hurricane Irma struck Florida and other areas of the Southeast United States, and laid waste to islands in the western Atlantic and Caribbean Sea. Mexico has been rattled by its strongest earthquake in 100 years. Together, LCIF and Lions are supporting relief efforts for all of these disasters

LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) prides itself on its longstanding record of quality projects. LCIF stands for quality (effective programs with excellent follow-up), efficiency and uniqueness. In fact, the Foundation was named the very best Non-Governmental Organization to donate to its effective fiscal management and its commitment to accountability and transparency This need repeating – if you haven't filed with the IRS please do so now.

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**"We Serve"**

We are still in the planning stage for the MidWinter Convention for this next January 19 to 21. If there are topics that you would like to have discussed or speakers you like to hear, please let us know.

I'm awarding the traveling trophy to the club with the greatest percentage increase in membership the beginning of October so look for them in the next issue of the Gram.

Thank you

Lion Dan DG

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## **An update from Second Vice District Governor Jim Kugler**



As I write this two themes come to mind, both of them having to do with numbers.

### **Membership**

The trend line for membership of the district is on a downward slope. It's been on that trajectory for many years; but that's the district. What's the trend line for your club's membership? My assumption is, if the district is losing members, clubs are also losing members. The question I've asked my own club is what do you want the club to look like in three to five years? So, what's your plan for club membership: lose members, stay static or grow your club. My suggestion would

be to have a discussion about membership. Then, put a plan in place for membership.

### **Mid-Winter Convention**

There is no definitive way to know whether or not the mid-winter is holding its' own in terms of attendance or not. We do not register lions for the event. If meal count is any indication, the numbers attending these conventions is trending downward. My question to you and your club is what needs to happen to increase attendance at the mid-winter. Your answer can find its way to the convention committee via you Zone chair, and any member of the district cabinet. This year's convention is again going to be at the airport Marriott on January 19 to January 21. Friday night, clubs are invited to host hospitality rooms after the memorial service. Everyone is encouraged to participate in the balance of the convention on Saturday and Sunday morning.

The test question is, will anyone, other than members of the cabinet, respond to either the membership challenge or the mid-winter question.

Lion Jim

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## **TAX REMINDER**

Remember that all Lions Clubs, Districts, and Multiple districts that have annual gross receipts less than \$50,000 and do not have to file Form 990 or 990-EZ, must file the e-postcard. If your Lions club, district, or multiple district has a foundation, which is a separate legal entity, the appropriate form will need to be filed as well.

Please go online to [goo.gl/Q1G9Bp](http://goo.gl/Q1G9Bp) for important info regarding your annual tax filing obligation.

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# MINNESOTA LIONS VISION FOUNDATION

## **Minnesota Lions Eye Bank**

More than fifty years ago, two organizations—the University of Minnesota and the Lions—combined their aspirations and their resources to create the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank. Both recognized that they held the common interest of serving the people of Minnesota, and one way to act on this service was to give the state an eye bank.

Dr. Harris, chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, laid the groundwork for an eye bank by developing a plan to approach the families of deceased patients at University of Minnesota-affiliated hospitals about donating their loved ones' eyes. He then worked with the School of Mortuary Science to establish a mutually acceptable technique for removing donor eyes.

Austin Lions club member, George Dugan, solicited Lions club support across the state and arranged financial backing. Thanks to Mr. Dugan's efforts, Minnesota Lions, at their annual meeting in June 1960, unanimously adopted the eye bank resolution, and the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank was born. In the spring of 1961, Minnesota Lions presented the University with a check for \$6,400, representing a pledge of \$1.00 per Lions member. The Lions contributions increased regularly as the eye bank program expanded, and today Lions donations top \$200,000 per year. These donations support not just the eye bank, but also help the Lions Children's Eye Clinic, the Lions Macular Degeneration Center, the MN Lions Eye Surgery Center and eye research efforts at the Lions Research Building.

Since its inception, the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank has provided corneas for more than 30,000 transplant surgeries. Across the world, countless people have been helped by more than 29,000 eyes provided by our eye bank for research that leads to the development of treatments and cures. All of these accomplishments came about because of Lions and doctors coming together many years ago to what has become one of the top eye banks in the world.

## **Minnesota Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center**

If you no longer need your used glasses or sunglasses, please consider donating them to the Lions. Minnesota Lions can accept prescription eyeglasses (frames with lenses intact), non-prescription sunglasses, and reading glasses. (No lenses without frames or frames without lenses, please.) Globally, one child in four cannot see well enough to learn to read without eyeglasses. By age 40, 90% of adults experience a decrease in their ability to read print and need eyeglasses. Many emerging countries lack the resources to manufacture quality lenses, and the cost of importing eyeglasses is far beyond the means of the average citizen. Millions fail to reach their economic, educational, and social potential without access to quality eyeglasses.

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**"We Serve"**

The World Health Organization estimates that the eyesight of one-fourth of the world's population can be improved through the use of corrective lenses. Unfortunately, for many a pair of glasses is both unaffordable and inaccessible. In developing countries, an eye exam costs as much as one month's wages, and a single doctor may serve a community of hundreds of thousands of people. For over 90 years, individual Lions clubs and districts have collected old, unwanted eyeglasses for redistribution to the poor in developing countries. Lions and other volunteers donate travel expenses, time, and talent to dispense recycled eyeglasses free of charge to individuals in developing nations. Some people walk 50 miles to receive free eyeglasses from the Lions. It costs fewer than 8 cents to provide glasses to a person in a developing nation.

Minnesota Lions members have now collected more than ten million pairs of eyeglasses. The Wisconsin Lions Foundation operates a regional facility in Rosholt, Wisconsin where Lions volunteers clean, repair, and classify the glasses by prescription. Glasses are then made available for medical mission work. This cooperative effort between the Minnesota and Wisconsin Lions has benefited countless individuals around the globe with improved eyesight through your generous contributions of used eye wear.

### **New Logo**

As you may have noticed at the top of this article, the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation has a new corporate logo. This stylish design was created by a local graphic artist commissioned by the Foundation. The image features an eye shape with the Lions letter 'L' in the pupil to represent both our vision purpose and our Lions origin. This logo will be included in our revised brochures and signage, plus will be featured in our Lions Eye Institute fundraising campaign. The Foundation hopes you like the new logo and hope you will incorporate it into your promotional materials for vision-related projects and fundraisers.

### **Club Visits**

PDG Paul and Lion Lyle are eager to speak at your Club or Zone meetings, dinners and functions. They would be happy to share with your group the latest news about the University of Minnesota's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences research and treatment programs. They are especially excited to come talk to you about the proposed Lions Eye Institute to be built at the U of M and how you can help with those efforts. If you have any questions regarding where your club stands on Helen Keller Sight Awards, need eyeglass collection boxes, have used eyewear to turn in or just have a general question about the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation, please call or e-mail PDG Paul or Lion Lyle.

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## Donations

If you wish to make a donation to the MLVF, please send your checks to either PDG Paul or Lion Lyle and remember to make the check out to the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation or MLVF. You can indicate where the funds are to be designated towards such as the Lions Eye Institute (LEI), the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank (MLEB), the Minnesota Lions Children's Eye Clinic (MLCEC), the Minnesota Lions Macular Degeneration Research and Rehabilitation Center (The MAC), the vision research at the Lions Research Building (LRB), or the Minnesota Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (MLERC) in the memo portion of your check

Yours in Lionism,

**PDG Paul Hansen – MLVF West**

**hansenpaul941@gmail.net**

**H) 320-274-3234**

**C) 612-840-5960**

**Lion Lyle Goff – MLVF East**

**gofflt@msn.com**

**H) 763-754-8921**

**C) 763-754-8921**



**October 7:** The Stacy Lions will host a Booya feed beginning at 9 a.m. at the Rick Doyle Memorial Building (1/2 mile south of Cty. Rd. 19 on Hwy. 61). The cost will be \$5 per bowl, \$8 per quart, and \$26 per gallon. Guests are asked to bring their own containers for to-go orders to get \$1 off.

**October 8:** The Forest Lake Lions will host a "Spooktacular Bingo" event at Friars at 1500 Lake St. S. at 2 p.m. The cost is \$26 per 13-game packet with additional 3-face packets available for \$4 each. Prizes will include purses from Coach and Michael Kors, Aveda products, spa certificates, and store gift cards.

**October 8:** The Andover and Blaine Central Lions will host a pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the King of Glory Lutheran Church at 10103 University Ave. in Blaine. The cost is \$5 per person with a \$20 family cap. Kids under 6 eat free.

**October 8:** The Rush City Lions Club will host a pancake breakfast 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rush City fire hall. The all you can eat event will feature pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee.

**November 7:** The North Branch Lioness Club will host a Christmas Auction featuring a social time at 6 p.m. and a dinner at 6:30 p.m. with an auction to follow. The event will be held at the North Branch Community Center on the corner of 7th and Maple St. Interested parties should RSVP by Nov. 3 to Gloria Mechels at 651-674-7458.



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# The Lioness Corner



## Big Lake Lioness Club

15 members as of September 2017

### **DONATIONS**

- \*Baked goods for upcoming Bloodmobile
- \*Flowers for nursing home residents with birthdays in October
- \*Cash prizes and cake to nursing home residents at bingo in October

## North Branch Lioness Club

14 members as of September 2017

### **DONATIONS**

- \* 2x \$250 Scholarships
- \*Local Food Shelf

### **EVENTS**

- \*Car Show at North Branch Fall Fest

### **SPONSORSHIPS**

- \*Sponsor monthly NAPS [Nutritional Assistance Program for Seniors]
- \*Sponsor monthly nursing home bingo at area care center

### **APPEARANCES**

- \*State Fair ticket sales

### **SPONSORSHIPS**

- \*Sponsor concessions at local concerts in the park



The Big Lake Lions donated \$425 worth of school supplies to the Liberty Elementary School in Big Lake.



## Snapshots!



The Hugo Lions donated \$8,492.80 from their Golf Scramble to the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Network.

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**"We Serve"**



# More Snapshots!



The Monticello Lions Club co-sponsored a group of Excel workers to go to Veterans on the Lake Resort in Ely to do repairs on buildings on the property. Most of the resort had been the same since the 70's and Lion Coe Landwehr from Saint Cloud Lions Club has been going for 12 years with beds, roofing materials, and siding in an effort to bring the resort back to life. Pictured is the building that the Monticello Lions remodeled and a plaque given by Lion Coe. Anyone interested in helping continue Coe's work and supporting the Veterans Resort, contact Lion Chad Vokaty of the Monticello Lions at [chadvokaty@gmail.com](mailto:chadvokaty@gmail.com).



Past District Governor Norm and Barb Kelzenberg attended the the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Sept. 21 to 23.



## EDITORS NOTE

Please send more photos of your club activities. Other 5M-7 club members do enjoy seeing the good work that Lions are doing throughout the district.

"We Serve"



## President's Message

Our Lion year is off to a great start, and I know you are eager to change more lives and achieve our LCI Forward goals. It's going to take great leaders like you to reach our goal of serving 200 million people per year and grow our membership to 1.7 million Lions and Leos. And it's going to take hard work and commitment at all levels of our great association.

That's why we developed the Global Action Team. It unifies the three key areas of Lions—leadership, membership and service—to strengthen our clubs, districts and association. It's a bottom-up approach to supporting and encouraging the one thing that unites all Lions: service. As the Global Action Team district chairperson, you will support your clubs by serving as a conduit between clubs and the multiple district. You will ensure that your district's Global Action Team coordinators are collaborating to keep your clubs energized and engaged, and that every member, hour and dollar is serving as many urgent needs as possible. You will determine the success of the Global Action Team. And Lions.

Your clubs are counting on you. And so am I. Let's do everything in our power to make the Global Action Team a success. Then the world will truly see the Power of Action.

Dr. Naresh Aggarwal  
International President

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## Global Action Team

The new Global Action Team will energize clubs and create new opportunities for our association to grow and serve more people around the world. But you need to build your district team first. Here are

the district-level positions that need to be filled:

- GLT District Coordinator : [goo.gl/wcKaQt](http://goo.gl/wcKaQt)
- GMT District Coordinator: [goo.gl/rEHgjk](http://goo.gl/rEHgjk)
- GST District Coordinator: [goo.gl/aj93bp](http://goo.gl/aj93bp)



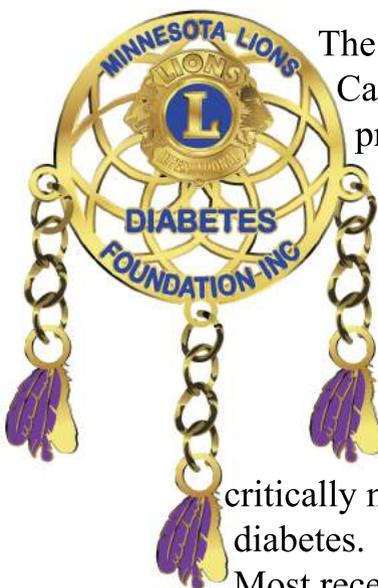
These positions must be filled in accordance with your district's by-laws. Make sure you familiarize yourself with the roles and responsibilities of your new coordinators. Then fill the positions and report them on MyLCI as soon as possible so you can make an even bigger impact in your district.

Visit the Global Action Team webpage at [goo.gl/LyTCt1](http://goo.gl/LyTCt1) to learn more.

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# Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation

*"Catch the Dream" – Life Without Diabetes!*



The Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc. (MLDF) is conducting a 2018 Calendar Fund Raiser to raise much needed funds to help accelerate the prevention, cure and better treatment of diabetes! On behalf of the Fund Raising Committee of the MLDF I am writing to you today to ask your club to sponsor a date or an entire month of diabetes research! The date you sponsor just might be the date that diabetes is cured! The MLDF recently made a final \$100,000 payment on its second three year pledge of \$250,000 to the Schulze Diabetes Institute(SDI) of the University of Minnesota for its ongoing funding of the Minnesota Lions Islet Imaging Laboratory. This pledge was to help develop a bio-artificial pancreas and critically needed magnetic resonance imaging assessment tools to advance the cure for diabetes.

Most recently the MLDF awarded three \$25,000 grants to the SDI for the second phase of:

- Identifying and selectively removing the self destructive immune cells responsible for causing diabetes before irreparable damage to the islets has occurred.
- Development of negative vaccines to eliminate the need for chronic immunosuppression in preventing rejection of porcine islet transplants for Type 1 diabetics.
- Investigation and testing of a new drug used to lower calcium levels and restore insulin control in the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

So that we can continue to fund this critical diabetes research we are asking your club to participate in our calendar fund raiser. Please refer to the attached flyer to see how your club can sponsor a date for diabetes research by selecting Option 1 for \$100 or Option 2 for \$200. Also included are message ideas for how you can use Option 2. Please refer to the attached flyer for Option 3 to see the months available for you to sponsor an entire month of diabetes research for \$500 and at the same time promote your club's activity on the calendar. The deadline to sponsor dates on the 2018 calendar is October 15, 2017.

We are also continuing our "Feed the Pig Fund Raising" fund drive. Please encourage your members to deposit their loose change in this piggy bank at your meetings.

We greatly appreciate your support of the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.!

Past District Governor Larry Winner, Chair Lion  
Fund Raising Committee  
District 5M- Trustee  
Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

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Choose Option #1: For \$100.00 (\$90.00 is tax deductible).

- 1) Choose Name or Event to be honored on any date in our 2018 printed calendar.
- 2) Name will be posted on the MN Lions Diabetes Foundation’s Web Calendar.
- 3) Printed Calendar and Dream Catcher Pin will be mailed to address provided.

Choose Option #2: For \$200.00 (\$190.00 is tax deductible).

- 1) Receive Option 1 package plus a 50 word message and picture on the MN Lions Diabetes Foundation Facebook page, on selected date.

Choose Option #3: For \$500.00 (\$490.00 is tax deductible).

- 1) Choose a calendar month and sponsor the entire picture page.

\*Select one:    Option #1                    Option #2                    Option #3                    \*Required fields

For Options #1 and #2

\*Name/Event to go on Calendar \_\_\_\_\_

\*Date chosen \_\_\_\_\_

For option #2\*: Include a picture in a jpeg file and your 50 word message in Word format.

For Option #3:

\*Month chosen for month’s picture page. (Based on availability) \_\_\_\_\_

For option #3\*: Include Artwork in jpeg file and any text in Word format.

\*Name and address to send the Calendar and Pin to: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name and Address of Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_ email address \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a Lion Provide Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ District# \_\_\_\_\_

\*Send completed order form, payment, and any related documents to: Your District Trustee

Deadline: October 15th, 2017            All Trustees contact information is found on our web site.

<http://www.mnlionsdiabetes.org/>

Make Check Payable to: MN Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

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# **SAMPLE FLYER TO USE FOR WELLNESS VAN EVENTS (PRINT AND FILL IN THE REQUIRED INFO PERTAINING TO YOUR EVENT)**

**!!Free Screening in the Lions District 5M7 Wellness Van!!**

The Mobile Wellness Center will be available at \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: FREE

Location: \_\_\_\_\_



The \_\_\_\_\_ Lion Club, in partnership with Allina Heath, is offering a free health screening event open to the public.

Area residents can have blood pressure taken and also have their blood drawn by finger stick to determine their non-fasting cholesterol, HDL, HDL Ratio, and glucose levels. Each participant will also have an opportunity to review results with a health professional. Recommendations will be given on ways to maintain or regain a healthy lifestyle. If necessary, follow up with a health professional will be suggested.

The Mobile Wellness Center is a co-project of District 5M-7 Lions/Lioness, Mercy Hospital, and Unity Campus. Mercy Hospital is part of Allina Health.

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## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

The Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation is in need of volunteers for all shifts to help with the upcoming Anoka Halloween Tent Event Fundraiser taking place on Friday, October 27 and Saturday, October 28.

Volunteers will be checking ID's, collecting the cover charge, wrist banding the patrons, hand stamping anyone leaving who wish to return, and checking patrons for re-entry stamps.

The shifts are from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., and 10 p.m. to Midnight. In addition, volunteers will be needed to stick around for about an hour after close to help with cleaning up.

Contact Lion Lyle Goff at [gofflt@msn.com](mailto:gofflt@msn.com) or 763-754-8921 if you can help with any shift.

*"We Serve"*



**10/8/17**

**9 AM—12 Noon**

**\$5 per person**

**6 and under      Free**  
**Family Cap      \$20**

**King of Glory Lutheran Church  
10103 University Avenue—Blaine**

**LIONS CLUB  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**



# **Pancake Breakfast**

## **--Rush City Fire Hall --**

All the **pancakes** you can **EAT!**  
Eggs & Sausage

Juice & Coffee

Sunday, **October 8, 2017**

Serving 8am thru noon



By the Rush City Lions

Benefits the Rush City Fire Department