



February

2018



A Note From District Governor Dan Kaiser



Lions, Lioness, and Leo's

I want to thank everyone for the wonderful weekend we had January 19-21st, at our MidWinter Convention. International Director Don Noland and his wife Lion Betty from Missouri came into Bloomington on Thursday evening. PDG Terry Wold and his wife Donna were their hosts all weekend. PDG's Terry Wold and Paul Hanson served as hosts to our guests when they visited Can-do Canines for a couple of hours on Friday morning and Minnesota Vision Foundation at the University of Minnesota for a couple of hours in the afternoon. Our guests were impressed with both programs that we support.

PDG Tom Fiecke officially opened the 2018 MidWinter Convention, and the following presented the flags, PDG Norm Kelzenberg presented the Lions flag, Lioness Sara Williams presented the flag from the State of Missouri (ID Noland's home state), Lioness Terry Heichel the flag of the State of Minnesota, 2VDG Jim Kugler presented the flag of Canada, and 1VDG Al Kvistero presented the US flag.

For the Memorial Service, 2nd VDG Jim presented the reading of the Bell, Book, & Candle with Lions Cathy Kaiser and Janice Kugler lighting the candles and presenting the roses. It was a very moving experience, even after the last 14 years of creating the DVD for the memorial service when you're at the podium and then names are read, it's touching seeing all those that are missing those that have passed.

For the Seminars we did something different this year, we offered 8 different seminars on Saturday morning. We gave the presenters 15-20 minutes each to showcase their program. Some went over, but I think we had a lot more information provided to those that attended. Also before the seminars we had PDG's Pat Kennedy and Clay O'Flanagan run some training on Lion Member Orientation. I want to thank all that were involved in the training and the seminars.

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"We Serve"

At the Saturday Luncheon, we were treated to the Dassel-Cokato Marching Band. This band will be the official Marching band representing us at the 2018 Lions International Convention in Las Vegas. Under the direction of Brian Veith, the band did an outstanding job of keeping us entertained for our luncheon. The Lions of 5M7 raised over \$1700 from tail-twisting for the bands upcoming expenses. We also celebrated my grandson's 7th birthday with singing to him when the band was still there. I appreciate all those that were able to share this with us.

The Lioness/Alternate Program was going on during our business meeting and was a good time for those that attended. KidSight made a presentation to them and requested that they help get the word out on the wonderful program that we have for our communities. They also heard from Camp Confidence on what they are able to do with the children that attend their camp. The meeting finished up with a band called the "Farmers Daughters", an excellent country band that played for the crowd and even brought some in from the hallway.

During the Convention, Deb O'Flanagan, Lion Pete Yelle, volunteers, and Leos for again setting up and operating the Community Service Room. A lot of eyeglasses were collected and sorted, collection of coats, clothing for homeless shelters and many other things were done. A big thank you for all of those that helped with this service event. This is what Lions is all about.

At the Governor's Banquet we had an excellent stimulating speech from International Director Noland on the "Power of We" and what we can do to make our own Lions Clubs and our lives even better.

Lion Virginia Hestekind, Circle Pines/Lexington Lions, was presented with an International President's Certificate of Appreciation for her work with the youth in our district. Lion Ginny has kept the District focused with the Peace Poster and Drug Awareness Contests for many years besides keeping in the forefront youth hunger and homelessness. Besides serving as the clubs president, she also is there for a lot of the clubs fundraisers and service activities. Earlier at the noon luncheon Lion Ginny presented the prize to our Peace Poster winner which was sponsored by the Waverley Lions. The winner of the poster contest was Macy Hertzog a sixth grader from the Howard Lake /Waverly/Winsted School District. The Student and her family were not able to attend, so a special presentation will be held by the neighboring Lions Clubs

Lions Ann and Tim Kaduce, of Spring Lake Park Lions, were both presented with International President's Certificates of Appreciation for their work with Kidsight. This program has screened about 1,000 youth in the District with close to 13% of children screened needing further medical/vision treatment. This program is touching the lives of so many in our communities it's unbelievable.

The Leadership Metal for outstanding job done by a Lion was presented to Lion Mary Curtis, again from the Spring Lake Park Lions. She has shown leadership in being a Zone Chair, for Zone 6, for the last couple years along with her work with KidSight. We need more Lions like, Lion Mary to continue to step out of their comfort zone and further the presence of Lions.

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"We Serve"

Finally the Presidential Metal was awarded to Lion Vicki Violet of the Anoka Lions. Besides Lion Vicki being a Zone Chair for Zone 5, Lion Vicki is also the Executive Secretary for Multiple District 5M. Even with her other duties Lion Vicki has found the time to help the Centennial Celebration Committee find a location and available date for our event at the Anoka Fair Grounds on June 10, 2018.

Sunday Morning at the Breakfast we revealed the Election results for Lions year 2018-19; for 2nd VDG, Peter Lendway from the Cambridge Lions, for

1st VDG, Jim Kugler from the Spring Lake Park Lions, and for

District Governor, Al Kvistero from the Hanover-Crow River Lions

We were able to collect over \$110,000 from the Parade of Green and still more checks are coming in from clubs, that were unable to attend the Convention.

Again I would like to thank all the Lions, Lioness, Leos, Seminar presenters, Special Speakers at the meals, our International Director Don Noland and Lion Betty, the Convention committee, and countless others that made this the Best MidWinter Convention we've had in a long time.

Lion Dan,
5M7 District Governor



MINNESOTA LIONS
VISION FOUNDATION

2018 5M-7 Mid-Winter Convention recap

The 2018 5M-7 Mid-Winter convention has come and gone and what a wonderful time it was.

There were some great presentations such as the one by Candice Grelson from the Lions Gift of Sight (formerly known as the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank). She gave an inspirational talk about how her daughter's sight was restored by a corneal transplant after an eye injury. Both Candice and her daughter have gone on to become fantastic volunteers at the LGS and Candice became a Lion at our Saturday luncheon. Congratulations to our latest Lion and PDG Paul & Lion Lyle hope you will take her story back to share in your communities!

Speaking of congratulations, a big one goes out to all the clubs in 5M-7 who participated in the annual Parade of Green! Due to the generosity of those clubs, the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation (MLVF) received \$14,505.00! Thank you so much to the 31 clubs who contributed their hard-earned dollars toward the Foundation and its projects. If you or your club hasn't yet made a donation towards the MLVF, don't worry, there is still plenty of time before the end of the year to send in your contribution!

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"We Serve"

Minnesota Lions Eye Surgery Center

We are proud to say the Minnesota Lions Eye Surgery Center (MLESC) has become a rousing success. PDG Paul & Lion Lyle found out at the January foundation board meeting that the MLESC will see over eighty-five patients during the month. After not having on-campus surgical space for several decades, the MLESC now allows for the eye surgeons to perform their procedures without the hassle of traveling off-site to either the Phillips Eye Institute or Fairview Hospital – Southdale. This off-site scheduling created inefficiencies with the doctors and took up the patients' time. Having this new part of the department at the U of M means better use of time and more opportunities to handle patients. Please keep the eye surgery center in mind when you are making your donations towards the MLVF. Let's keep supporting the efforts at the U of M in helping those with visual impairments and for the search to cure blindness or low-vision problems.

Legacy Gifts

There are several ways that someone can make a contribution towards the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. Many people make an annual charitable donation for a tax deduction. Some parties make contributions that coincide with such events as anniversaries or birthdays. Others have designated the MLVF as a charity of choice for honoring a loved one who has passed away. In addition, some individuals have taken it one step further by setting up a legacy gift to the MLVF.

Legacy gifts can be done in several different ways. Options available to you could be a contribution in the form of bequests, charitable gift annuities, retained life estates, wealth replacement trusts, charitable lead trusts, real estate gifts, life insurance policies, securities gifting, stock gifting and retirement plan asset gifting. With so many options available to you, it is recommended you sit down and talk to your financial planner and lawyer to explore which might be best for you. If you wish to make a lasting gift towards sight preservation & conservation, a legacy gift to the MLVF might be just the thing for you.

Amazon Smile

If you're already making purchases on Amazon or Amazon Prime, you now have a great way to make a contribution to the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation when using these on-line services. Just log into your Amazon account and enter Amazon Smile into the search bar. From there, you will be given the opportunity to register your charity of choice. Just type in Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation and you'll be able to link the Foundation to your Amazon account. Now every time you make a purchase through Amazon, the MLVF will receive a contribution equaling 0.5% of your purchase. This passive fundraising can add up over time, so sign yourself up and have your family and friends do the same. The more this service is used, the greater the number of donations will be. It's a perfect way for you to give a little bit extra while you're making your gift purchases or buying your everyday needs.

"We Serve"

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Don't forget to turn in your collected used eyewear to your Zone chair, PDG Paul or Lion Lyle. If you haven't had a club or zone visit in a while from a MLVF director, it would be great for us to come see you. You can hear all the latest developments on research and treatments being done at the U of M, as well as how your club is sitting with Helen Keller Sight Awards. We hope to come visit all of you in the very near future, so please contact us to book us for your event.

Thank you Lions, Lioness and Leos of 5M-7 for truly being "Knights of the Blind."

PDG Paul Hansen – MLVF West

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H) 320-274-3234

C) 612-840-5960

Lion Lyle Goff – MLVF East

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February 9: The Monticello Lions will host an all you can eat fish fry from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Monticello American Legion. The cost is \$7 for students and \$10 for adults.

February 10: The Big Lake Lions will host a "Little Hole on Big Lake" ice fishing contest from 12 to 3 p.m. on Big Lake. More than \$10,000 in prizes will be given away. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ahead of time and \$5 more for each on the day of the event. Find more information at www.littleholeonbiglake.org.

February 11: The Howard Lake Lions will host a Valentine Breakfast Buffet from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Lions Hall, 625 8th St. The meal will include pancakes, French toast, sausage, eggs, potato, biscuit and gravy, coffee, juice, and milk. A free will donation will benefit youth wrestling.

February 11: The Montroe Lions Club will host an all you can eat breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Montrose Community Center, 200 Center Ave. S. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids.

February 16: The Fridley Lions will host a "Winter Warm Up" food and wine/beer tasting event from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Banquets of Minnesota, 6310 Hwy. 65 NE. The cost is \$35 at the door and \$25 in advance at the Fridley liquor store. Email rsolz@comcast.net for more information.

February 16: The Clear Lake Lions will host an all you can eat fish fry from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at St. Marcus Parish Hall. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Anyone 3 years old or less is free.

March 2: The Clear Lake Lions will host an all you can eat fish fry from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at St. Marcus Parish Hall. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Anyone 3 years old or less is free.

March 10: The Anoka Lions will host a music show featuring a tribute to Patsy Cline at 3 and 7 p.m. at Anoka High School. Reserved seats are \$25 and general admission tickets are \$20. For tickets, call 763-757-4143.

"We Serve"

An update from Second Vice District Governor Jim Kugler



Each one of you can point to a project in your club that has changed the lives of someone in your community, but did you know that same power exists within our district.

A nine-year-old girl is struck in the eye with a Lego shot from a cross bow. Her doctors are unwilling to do anything. But, mom will not be deterred. Mom finally finds a surgeon willing to take action and perform a cornea transplant. That transplant was done with a cornea from what was then the Lion's Eye Bank. The road to recovery was rocky what with multiple surgeries, but now, ten years later, the young lady is a college student and a lion. A single club could not have made that happen, but through the donations of the lion's in this district, she now has 20/20 vision. The Power of WE.

Bob is 16 and a high school wrestler. He had to pass a physical in order to participate in that sport. As part of his high school curriculum, he went through a health screening. There is where the Wellness Van comes into play. His screening showed something was wrong with his heart. After more extensive testing Bob was taken into surgery to correct a congenital defect. Without the surgery, that defect would have resulted into a sports related death. A single club cannot support the Wellness Van, but the district has been supporting that van for 30 years. The Power of We.

Martha, a young woman slipped and fell. The result of the fall was a traumatic brain injury. She's living but with multiple seizures and multiple medications. She's home bound. She's depressed. She's thinking about ending her own life. Her family is afraid of leaving her. An application is made to Can Do Canines. A suitable partner is found, Dempsey is his name. The number of seizures are now do to two to three a month. Her family can get on with their lives. She can now be a mom to her children. Her husband can now go to work knowing that she is not along. Dempsey can now anticipate her seizures so she can protect herself. Dempsey will stay with her until she recovers. A single club cannot afford to keep an organization like Can Do Canines operational year after year, but the district can. The Power of We.

Each of our clubs does great work in our communities, but when we band together we impact the iives of people most of whom we'll never meet and in ways we'll probably never see. Being a lion is about community and the world around us.

Thanks for being a lion.

Lion Jim

"We Serve"

A memo from First District Vice Governor Al Kvistero



Lions, Lioness and Leos,

Wow, what a great time I had with all of you at the Mid-Winter Convention this past weekend. Thank you to all that attended and made it such an enjoyable time. I would also like to thank the other members of the Convention Committee for all the hard work and the time that they put into planning this event. I would also like to thank International Director Don Noland and his wife Lion Betty. I very much enjoyed the time I got to spend with them, and I believe that they very much enjoyed the time the spent with all of you.

I would also like to give a special thank you to Deb O'Flanagan, Lion Peter Yelle and everyone else who helped with the Service Project Room. It was an absolute huge success. I can't recall the last time I saw an International Director with his jacket off and

having such a great time. Our Leo's were wonderful and did such a great job in there. Our future is very bright if we can keep these young people energized and connected with our Lions clubs.

I am very much looking forward to getting out to see visit some more of you at the various

Governors Nights and other events in the next few months. I hope I see many of you up at the Multiple Convention in Winnipeg in April. I really hope that I see lots of you at the International Convention in Las Vegas this summer and watch our own, Dassel/Cokato band lead us down the parade route.

Thank you all for everything you do.

Lion Al Kvistero

1VDG – 5M-7

Defining “We Serve”

The Spring Lake Park Lions recently proved the motto of “We Serve” by saving, cleaning and donating 200 disposable prescription bottles to an organization called MATHEW 25 MINISTRIES in Cincinnati, Ohio.

MATHEW 25 will include the bottles along with other supplies to be forwarded to Malawi, Africa to be used as vessels for the patients of Doctors Without Borders. The villagers will now be able to carry medicines back to their villages without the medicines being contaminated before they get to ingest them as prescribed.

Currently, doctors have a problem providing a way for the patients to transport their medicines. Often they would have to wrap them in a rag or carry them in their pockets leaving room for some type of contamination. With clean bottles they can safely transport their medication insuring that they don't get some other infection as a result of dirty pills or powders. Already the Lions have started another batch for the next shipment. “We Serve”

Community Service in full force at the 2018 5M-7 Mid-Winter Convention

(Written by Deb O'Flanagan, hostess of the Community Service room)

I am SO IMPRESSED, BLESSED and AMAZED by the wonderful donations of coats, boots, clothes and personal care items for the homeless. The donations of plastic bags will keep us busy for a long time making plarn and crocheting 3' x 6' mats for the homeless. Plus, the donations of eye glasses, hearing aids, ink cartridges and cell phones were amazing. The group, Bundles of Love, were at our Mid-Winter Saturday afternoon and attendees could tie quilts that had already been sewed, choose pre-cut material pieces and put into stacks to be sewn into baby caps, and stuff toys and/or color pre-printed designs on quilt squares to be sewn into baby blankets. In addition, two Leo's learned how to make Plarn (plastic yarn) from plastic bags that they will take back to their Leo Clubs to teach the others and then do as a Service Project.

The Lion/Lioness/Leos Clubs are an extremely generous and community service oriented group. Each of you should be proud of your own and your club's accomplishments. Below are the numbers of what was donated in the Community Service room at the 5M-7 Mid-Winter Convention:

- 7,561 pairs of glasses (the Leo's sorted and counted these on Saturday morning)*
- 1,601 pairs of sunglasses (the Leo's sorted and counted these on Saturday morning)*
- 72 hearing aids
- 1 D-Dry for hearing aids
- 55 cell phones
- 48 ink cartridges

* The Minnesota Lion's Eye Bank stopped at the Marriott on Sunday morning of the convention to pick up all of the glasses.

- 345 personal care items (included travel size shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, soaps, mouthwash, deodorant, body wash, hand sanitizer, powder, shower caps, nail polish, bandages, comb, note pad and a wallet)
- 3 blankets
- 3 pairs of winter boots
- 40 winter coats (special thanks to PDG Lions Dave & Nancy Schroeder and the Rush City Lions for the four large totes of coats)
- 235 clothing items (included pajamas, a robe, shorts, swim trunks, new underwear, 40 pairs of new socks, a snowmobile suit, tank top, dressier shirts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, scarves, mittens, gloves, hats, face masks, ear muffs, head bands and snow pants)

"We Serve"



Snapshots



The Big Lake Lioness will be losing one of its most active members who will be relocating to Arizona. Lioness Linda has been a guiding force in the club since 1986. Lioness Linda has chaired a number of club projects, served three terms as president, two terms as Lioness Associate and has been a recipient of the Melvin Jones award. Her friendship, devotion and leadership she has shown to her club, community and Lioness sisters will be sorely missed.



This Can-Do Canine, Uno, can retrieve a dropped item (keys, cell phone), pull clothes out of the dryer, open doors, turn on lights, etc.... His owner was in a car accident and would be lost without the help of Uno. Our 5M-7 Lions Clubs are proud to support this great cause.

**Where There's a Need
There's a Lion**



Be-A-Lion.org

Lions from throughout the 5M-7 District learned from a series of speakers on a variety of Lion topics at the Midwinter Convention.



"We Serve"

Lions Feed My Starving Children Day

March 26, 2018

Districts 5M2, 5M5, 5M6, & 5M7

The following is a great opportunity to participate in a Multi-District Service project.

This is not a project strange to very many of you. Many of us are aware of the Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) program and have packed bags with Rice, Soy, Vitamins, & Vegetables.

Most recently 1 million meals were shipped to Puerto Rico with 5 million more planned. These are US citizens.

March 26, 2018 has been chosen as a Lions Day at three FMSC Locations. The next page lists the locations, addresses, and primary packing location associated with each District.

The next page provides more details. It tells you how to register and the various time slots. Feel free, as a club, during your time slot to bring your club banner. Be proud to be a Lion!

Keep in mind there is an expectation that your club/team will provide a financial gift to help pay for the food material packed. The estimated cost of the food per participant/per session is around \$50.00. Bring the donations to your session where a Lion representative will collect and record them.

Any donation can be made by the club, individuals, local companies, or the result of some special fund raisers over the next three months. Tax deductible checks can be made out to Feed My Starving Children or by making an on-line donation at <https://give.fmssc.org/LionsClub>

Some easy special fund raiser ideas include:

- Hosting a Rice & Beans meal. Donate the proceeds that would have been spent on the meal towards the FMSC food.
 - Collaborate for a group rummage sale.
 - Set up a silent auction at a meeting.
 - Have a free will donation jar circulated at every meeting.
 - Host a Cook-off or Bake-off.
 - Leos clubs could hold a Carb Night and have a "Free Will" donation.
- (Share any good ideas with me so I can pass them on!!!!)

Have some fun with this, get creative, and support this very critical campaign. For any questions, call: Lion Debra Wasserman – 5M2/5M5 at 507-332-2792 or email liondebra@charter.net

Lion Steve Knudsen – 5M6 at 952-890-9144 or email steven.knudsen@usfamily.net

Lions Bill and Marcia Guthrie – 5M7 at 763-786-8072 or email bmguthrie9@q.com



Save the Date!

Details

WHAT

Minnesota Lions, Lioness and Leos Clubs (along with families, friends, co-workers, and neighbors) will come together to pack food for starving children around the world!! This is intended to support our International Centennial Service Challenge Mission to feed the hungry. FMSC provides an excellent vehicle by which the Lions can contribute to meeting that challenge.

WHERE

District 5M2/5M5 – FMSC packing site in Chanhassen at 18732 Lake Drive East

District 5M6 – FMSC packing site in Eagan at 990 Lone Oak Road #136

District 5M7 – FMSC packing site in Coon Rapids at 401 93rd Avenue NW

GOALS

Participation Goal: 75 volunteers per location per shift for a total of 1,125 volunteers. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO VOLUNTEER FOR MORE THAN ONE SHIFT!!

Financial Donations: <https://give.fmsc.org/LionsClub>

can be made by individuals, Lions Clubs, Company donations plus from \$ raised from special fund raisers done by Lions Clubs. These donations will help to cover the cost of the food packed.

Registration

There are reserved spots under the name **Lions of Mn.**

Website: www.fmssc.org/volunteer **Click:** Permanent Site Events **Click:** Join a Group

Join Now!

Shift Time=Join Code

Chanhassen:

- 9:30 am – 11:30 am Join Code 1213050
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Join Code 1213051
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Join Code 1213055
- 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Join Code 1213056

Coon Rapids:

- 9:30 am – 11:30 am Join Code 1213059
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Join Code 1213060
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Join Code 1213062
- 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Join Code 1213063

Eagan:

- 9:30 am – 11:30 am Join Code 1213065
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Join Code 1213066
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Join Code 1213068
- 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Join Code 1213069

Search by group name "Lions of MN" Or find using the Join Code for your preferred time and site

Click: I agree to follow FMSC Volunteer Age & other guidelines. After reading the guidelines, click on **Accept**.

Click: Confirm When the next screen comes up, you then have 3 options: **Log In OR Create a New Account OR Contact one of the 3 Group Leaders:**

Lion Debra Wasserman – 5M2/5M5 at 507-332-2792 or email liondebra@charter.net

Lion Steve Knudsen – 5M6 at 952-890-9144 or email steven.knudsen@usfamily.net

Lions Bill and Marcia Guthrie – 5M7 at 763-786-8072 or email bmguthrie9@q.com and they can then add your name to whichever site and time/times that you want to volunteer.

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH!!!