



# 5M7 GRAM

“WE SERVE”

## DG Jim Kugler: Things on my Mind



Covid 19 is still on my mind.

With that thought I mind this is good bye, my last article a district governor.

I know this virus has caused havoc on club activities, but clubs have found ways to stay in touch and continue to stay active. Zoom is a noun. Clubs are using it to conduct business and social meetings. Clubs have also found ways to serve their communities by sewing face masks.

Thanks to the GMT, Lion Vicki, two new Leo’s clubs were formed. There is also another lion’s club waiting to be chartered, but that will have to wait until Lion Peter’s year.

We tried some new things this year especially in relationship to the mid-winter and cabinet meeting. Most lions attending the mid-winter found it to be exceptional with the exception of the venue. The venue is in the process of upgrading the facility. Instead of just listening to cabinet reports, the cabinet was asked to become more engaged with the management of the district. The cabinet approved the idea of providing more monies to lions for training. The cabinet also approved the idea of loaning the Miracle Field monies to complete the LCIF loan application. We also tried to expand training for all of the lions by introducing our Safari. Maybe next year?

Thanks for the cabinet for all their work this past year especially the GST, Lion Roger Johnson, the GMT , Lion Vicki Violet, DGE Lion Peter Lendway and 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Judy Herrala. Without their help none of the ideas would not have taken off. Thanks.

Club visits stopped in February. If there is a safe way to conduct governor’s visits in June, your governor’s team is willing to make those visits happen.

In closing give Lion Peter the same support you gave me this year. You are in good hands with Lion Peter.

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*Lion Jim*

## 1st VDG Peter Lendway



Hello Lions, Lioness and Leo's,

Are you going crazy yet, stuck inside and your house can only take so much cleaning before the paint starts coming off the walls? Or if you go outside you've manicured the lawn to the point you have aligned all the blades of grass to face the evening sun? Or pulled so many weeds that you are pulling weeds that grew overnight? Ah, yes, boredom has set in. The peace and quiet is getting to you, isn't it?

Well, the work of a Lion doesn't really end, it might take a break or the work may take a different form. An example might be there are Lions who sew together reusable cloth face masks to give away to hospitals and clinics as an environmentally friendly alternative to disposable face masks. Another example is to grocery shop for an elderly neighbor. Fundraisers have also changed. Some clubs have built up an amazing social media following and are selling raffle tickets online. Some are even selling tickets to win a less desirable prize and people are buying them but they are putting the name of someone else on the tickets. That club is also selling prize insurance for those who do not want to win the prize for an amount equaling the amount of the ticket and for each ticket sold with their name on it. Talk about an interesting fun-raiser.

As the covid restrictions are relaxed the Lions can slowly get the gears turning again for the favorite activities of the past of both the clubs and the communities they serve. It all won't happen at once but eventually the Lions will be back up to speed and maybe with new outlooks as to what their communities need. This could be the break your club needed to reflect on the community and what needs covid uncovered. If there was a silver lining to covid is that we have an opportunity to be still for a moment to hear the needs in the community calling the Lions to act on things we could not hear for all the noise in our pre-covid lives.

This is yet another opportunity for the Lions to shine.

Shine on and proudly serve!

DGE Peter Lendway



"The Lions of 5m7"

## 2nd VDG Judy Herrala



5m7 Lions, Lioness and Leos,

Hello 5m7! How's everyone doing?

Your DG Team has been connecting with our clubs to ask how you are doing. Do you need anything? How are your elections going? And how can we help you to train your incoming leadership teams in your clubs since our Safari had to be cancelled.

Lions International had a deadline for reporting our next year officers (PU-101) for May 15. **Thank you so much** to all of our clubs that have reported your officers for 2020-2021. We are down to just a few that have not reported this information, which is awesome! We are working with those clubs. Even if your club has an officer position unfilled, you should still report those positions that are filled so that on July 1, the appropriate officers get communications that they should get. You can always add new officers or make changes during the year if needed.

The information that LCI has is where our District 5m7 gets the information that we need to communicate with our clubs and our members. If you have email changes or you move, please let your club secretary know so that person can get your information changed at LCI. Thank you so much for being attentive to keeping your information current at LCI.

Even though we have had to cancel our district training there are many options available to assist your club with training. Please reach out to your DG Team if your club has ANY questions about anything Lions. It has been fun connecting with our clubs when we cannot visit in person. We have used telephone, email, zoom and text. I have learned so much more about our 5m7 clubs and your members and all of you are inspiring. Just don't forget that we are here for you.

How are your clubs doing for ideas and things to do during these social distancing times? I hope that you have gotten creative about how to re-work some of your projects or have come up with new ones. In my last article I had told you about a webinar I attended which gave out 10 pages of ideas! My offer still stands for me to send that to you if you'd like. Just let me know.

Stay safe 5m7. See you soon!

*Lion Judy*, 1VDGE




## Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation

### Charitable Gaming Fiscal Year



For those clubs in 5M-7 that have charitable gaming operations, the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation has an opportunity for you to make an impact at the end of your fiscal year. The end of June means it is time to clear your books for this fiscal year and prepare for a fresh start on July 1st. The MLVF would like to appeal to you by asking for a contribution towards any of our worthwhile projects, especially Lions Gift of Sight to help with the severe economic impact it is feeling from the COVID-19 pandemic. Your end-of-year donation can help the MN Lions' efforts in sight preservation. Please feel free to contact your 5M-7 MLVF representatives for assistance in making a contribution prior to June 30th.

### Amazon Smile

 If you're 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.

### Eyeglasses Collection Sites



The **Minnesota Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (MLERC)** is in the process of updating their state-wide collection site list. The staff at the MLERC is asking all of the 5M-7 clubs who have collection sites to review their list, verify them and then send the list to your MLVF board representatives, PDG Terry and Lion Lyle. This updated list is needed for the State Fair information booth when visitors ask for donation sites in their towns. Our goal was to have this completed before **May 1st** and we've only received an updated list from two clubs. So, please send in your lists to PDG Terry or Lion Lyle as soon as possible.

### State Fair Booth



The MN Lions diabetes, hearing and vision foundations were partnering together to have an information booth at the **Minnesota State Fair**, but the Minnesota State Fair has been cancelled for this year.

Your help will be truly appreciated any please feel free to contact PDG Terry or Lion Lyle with any questions. Thank you 5M-7 for truly being "**Knights of the Blind.**"

#### **PDG Terry Wold**

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Blaine, MN 55104  
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#### **Lion Lyle Goff**

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## MN Lions Hearing Foundation

Greetings to the Lions of District 5M-7,  
In the ever-changing landscape of "Life" in the throes of this crisis called CoVid19 I have more sad news to share with you all.

I just received word from the Chairman of our foundation, that the **Cochlear Implant picnic**, which was scheduled to happen in August this year, has been **cancelled**.

Please, everyone, stay healthy, be safe, and we will see you all when we can get together again.

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Norm Kelzenberg

Trustee

Lion Hal Hinchliffe

Trustee

### LIONESSE ACTIVITY REPORT

**Club Name: Big Lake Lioness Club**

**Club Secretary: Lioness Judie Zaske**

**Month/Year Reported: 05/2020**

**Members last month: 14 Adds: 0 Drops: 0**

**Total Members this month: 14**

#### **LIONESSE SPONSORED DONATIONS**

05/18: Purchased birthday flowers and delivered to residents at local care center/nursing home in May

#### **LIONESSE SPONSORED ACTIVITIES**

05/16: Delivered birthday flowers to care center residents with birthdays in May

05/20: Assist local food shelf's produce distribution at county fairgrounds with another agency.

05/20: Sponsor NAPS program

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES**

06/15: Sponsor NAPS program

TBD: Assist local food shelf's produce distribution

6/20: Deliver birthday flowers to those care center residents with birthdays in June.

06/28: All local celebrations cancelled.

From PDG Norm Kelzenberg:

Still looking for someone to give this complete collection of PDG coffee mugs a good home. Starting with PDG Hal Lewis thru Gov. Jim Kugler.

We are moving to a 1 bedroom apartment and will not have room to display them. I will deliver them as well as the shelves to display them to anyone within District 5m7.

Cell: 612-219-8049 normkelzenberg2@gmail.com



## Global Service Team



District 5M7 Global Service Team Coordinator

Lion Roger Johnson  
763-755-4664  
rogvicki@msn.com

May 2020 5M7 GRAM

### What Can Our Clubs Do For Service During This Pandemic?

Many of our clubs are searching for ways to conduct service activities safely during the pandemic, when we are all supposed to be sheltered in place.

MyLion is a great tool to search for service project ideas. Here is how:

1. Login to MyLion
2. Select MyLion from the dashboard.
3. Click on the “**activities**” choice. It is next to the Metrics tab
4. Across the top you will see these selections: ROSTRAVER TWSP District 14-E Multiple District 14 U.S. and Affiliates, Bermuda and Bahamas All LCI (yours will show your club and district) select what you want to see; the higher the selection the more activities you will see.
5. Down the left side is a list of filters. Choose how you want to refine your search.

Once you have refined your search and see an activity your club might want to do click on it and read the details. If you need more information about a service activity, use the MyLion message function to contact the project creator.

Let's keep serving safely, but let's keep serving.

## Northern Pride Lions Forum - Postponed

Dear Registered Northern Pride Lions Forum attendees,  
 We are happy to let you know that the Northern Pride Lions Forum has been rescheduled! The new dates are October 30-31, 2020, in St. Cloud. The Forum will take place at the Best Western (Kelly Inn) and St. Cloud Civic Center as previously planned. With this new information some Lions have stated that they wish to continue their current registration and not receive a refund. **If you plan on staying registered for the event no response is necessary.** The Northern Pride Lions Forum Committee will gladly refund your fee you wish to cancel your registration. Please reply to this email (npllfmd5m@gmail.com) if you desire a refund. If you stay registered you will need to contact the Best Western (Kelly Inn) and reserve your room 320-253-0606.  
 Northern Pride Lions Forum Committee




### Project New Hope


PROJECT NEW HOPE  
 FACTS ABOUT  
**VETERANS**

**THERE HAVE BEEN MORE SUICIDES BY VETERANS THAN ACTUAL COMBAT DEATHS**

**22 VETERANS END THEIR LIVES EACH DAY**



**~ MISSION STATEMENT ~**  
 To provide Veterans and their families education, training, and skills necessary to help manage their lives after wartime service.

Find us on  - Project New Hope MN Veteran's Retreats


**www.projectnewhope.net**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:


Kevin Beadles  
 farfromthinkin@gmail.com  
 612-251-0802

Dave Schroeder  
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## MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation



**MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation, Inc.**



**Shave for the Brave**

Lions from Multiple District 5M (Minnesota and Canada) will be shaving their heads and faces to help support Childhood Cancer!  
 If you would like to donate to this cause go to the Go Fund Me site at:  
<https://gf.me/u/xz4nqq>  
 or  
**Mail your checks to:**  
 Tom McCarthy  
 23535 735<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Dassel, Mn. 55325-3407  
 Write check to:  
**MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation**  
**Memo- Lions and District #**  
 Videos of the shaving will be uploaded to You Tube on May 30, 2020 for all to see.  
**Thank you for your support!**

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LIONS DAY  
AT  
FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN



**NEW DATE: Tuesday, October 2020**

Districts 5M2, 5M5, 5M6 and 5M7 will join together at the 3 FMSC facilities in the Twin Cities Metro area. Our Mission is to pack food for the malnourished children of the World!

Our goal is to have EVERY club in the 4 Districts participate in one or more shifts on that day. Collaboration among LIONS, LEOS, LIONESS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY will make this an achievable goal! IF YOU HAD ALREADY SIGNED UP FOR THE APRIL 20, 2020, EVENT, ALL OF YOUR NAMES HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE LOCATIONS AND TIMES THAT YOU HAD SIGNED UP FOR – SO YOU ARE GOOD NOW FOR OCTOBER 20!!

Donations of any amount would be VERY much appreciated!! You can bring your personal donation AND/OR your Club donation to one of the sites on the day of the event OR you can mail it ahead of time to the Feed My Starving Children Coon Rapids location. Be sure to indicate in the MEMO area – LIONS DAY 2020.

Promote this in your community as part of the Lions Clubs International Global Service Framework.

Co-Chairman of the Event and District 5M7 Chairs: Lions Bill & Marcia Guthrie, email us at: [bmguthrie9@q.com](mailto:bmguthrie9@q.com) or call us at: 763-786-8072

THANK YOU!! WE SERVE!!

**A MESSAGE FROM FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO**

Dear Friends,

As we have stepped out in faith to find new ways to pack meals, we also must make additional decisions for the safety of our staff, volunteers and donors. And as faithful financial stewards, ensure each generous gift you bless us with goes to feed as many kids as possible.

For the safety of our staff and volunteers, Feed My Starving Children paused all volunteer packing at our permanent sites and MobilePack™ events on March 15. **We have made the decision to suspend volunteer packing through July 31.** Our sites will be closed to the public during this time.

FMSC committed to fully paying our staff from the day we closed through April 12 to sustain our staff family through the initial weeks of COVID-19 related uncertainty. As the negative impacts stretched longer, we made some difficult decisions to protect our mission of feeding God’s starving children hungry in body and spirit.

We will be furloughing many of our staff. Most of these positions are on the manufacturing team that supported our volunteer operations. Additional positions will be reduced in hours and pay accordingly, with the executive staff taking a 20% pay cut. During this time FMSC will continue to provide health and other benefits to those impacted. We pray for those furloughed that we can welcome them back as soon as possible.

Friends, this is the most difficult year many of us have faced in our lifetime. It is one of the most difficult years I have faced as a leader. **We are in constant prayer looking to the great Healer for guidance and wisdom as we navigate through this violent storm.**

As we are assured by God, please be assured we will not rest. He calls us to continue to seek alternative ways to produce meals. We have already begun a bulk meal packing solution with an outside vendor. We are pursuing additional machine packing options as a short term solution. We ask for your prayers and **donations** to support these alternative methods of providing meals.

Together, we will continue to feed His kids and care for our staff, family and friends during this challenging time. **We are not alone.**

In prayer,

Mark Crea  
Executive Director/CEO

