



NOVEMBER 2022

SM7 GRAM

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News

HELLO FELLOW LIONS AND LEOS,

We have a new foundation in our multiple. It's called the Brian Scheehan Foundation and its purpose is to help Lions Clubs that are struggling with low membership. This new foundation is only operating in our multiple for now; any club in any of our 12 districts can apply for a grant for the purpose of increasing their membership. If your club has less than 20 members please take advantage of this offer. Our International Lions organization has survived and grown for over a hundred years because of Lion members who have come up with ideas to help us grow. This is one of them. Please contact me if you would like to take advantage of this foundation.

Our Mid-Winter Convention is approaching fast. If you have not spoken for a hospitality room suite, do so soon. We only have 16 rooms available for hospitality. Right now the Ham Lake Club has two, the Centerville and Columbus Clubs are together for two, Albertville, Monticello, Coon Rapids, Cambridge and Spring Lake Park Clubs each have one room. If your club would like to host a hospitality room please contact me. You will not be able to book a room direct with the hotel; call or contact me soon.

A new club was chartered this past month. Please welcome the Zimmerman Area Lions Club into our district. If you are able to, contact this new club and invite them to your service projects and try to attend theirs. It builds great fellowship.

WE are still looking for a few zone chairs. I have been to a few zone meetings this past month and the zone chairs in 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 are doing a wonderful job.

One of my last articles was signed off as DGE Mark Landwehr, I thought our editor did a background check on me and decided I wasn't ready to be the DG yet. Lion Judie, I'm just teasing you, you do a wonderful job. Thank you for what you do.

DG Mark Landwehr



LEADERSHIP MESSAGES



Hello Lions and Leos

It is November and we have already had a taste of winter with the dusting of snow we had in October and we can be thankful we have not experienced the natural disasters others have experienced in other parts of the country. Rest assured, there are Lions lending a helping hand in those areas.

I would like to take you on an imaginary journey to the park bench of your mind. You are with your club cleaning up your local city park to pick up the discarded candy wrappers around the playground equipment, scooping up the leaves gathering in the dark corners of the park shelters, picking up the fast food burger boxes and bags caught in the tall grass surrounding the pond, etc. The weather was nice and as you were heading back to your car after the project was completed you decide to stop and rest on a park bench to survey and enjoy the accomplishments of the mornings work.

While there on the park bench you are looking around and observe an older gentleman on the observation deck with his eyes closed and face aimed up toward the sun. He must be a veteran, your thinking, as he sports a flat top style hair cut. He is just standing there. A flock of noisy birds lands in a tree about a hundred yards off to your right and you see him smile.

He is thankful that, through the generosity of the Lions, he now has a new set of hearing aides and can hear things he had not heard in years.

Each of us has people close to us and even strangers that we are thankful for. Whenever you can, take the time to thank those that have impacted your life.

From a park bench,

1VDG Peter



Happy Fall fellow Lions and Leos,

Is this the mantra of your club, your zone, our district?



Are you recycling the same officers year after year? Do you embrace new ideas? Are you recruiting new members to fit your mold or for what they have to offer your club that is new and exciting for your community?

Do you encourage change? Our members need to be engaged; to feel as if they have a voice that is being heard. Everyone wants to feel and be included. Times are and have changed over the years. Are you or your club changing with them? I've learned that stuff happens. Pretty good stuff, too, if you're open to it. Impossible is not fact; Impossible is just opinion.

This year the USA/Canada Leadership Forum had a common theme of change. A change that emphasizes service. While history is important, ask the question 'what does that do for service'. History is important; it provides the foundation for who we are and what our club is. However, we need to look at the way we've always done things. Each person, each club, each zone needs to ask, "are the current traditions or ways of doing things standing in the way of progress, are they helping to service our communities?" We exist to serve. We need to insure how we conduct ourselves enhances our ability to service.

I highly recommend everyone attend a USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Ignore the word leadership...this meeting is for all Lions not just club leaders. There are many inspiring classes to attend and opportunities to meet fellow Lions from across the nation. You will come home refreshed, energized and full of ideas to help your club grow. Start planning, the next one is in Reno, Nevada September 2023. There are also other avenues of learning about service and how you can effectively flourish. Just ask.

November is time to reflect on what we have and to give thanks. I am thankful for Lions and all they do. I am also thankful for the opportunity to serve on our district governor team. Thank you clubs and members of 5M7, your service means a lot to many and for some it's the world.

I've had the distinct pleasure of attending a couple club governor nights. Thank you! I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet and visit some of my fellow 5M7 Lions. I hope the invites keep coming. ☺

Safe travels to those traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday. Blessings to you and yours.

2VDG Mary

Dear Lions and Leos,

I have seen so many Fall events that our clubs are putting on in your communities. Did you have a membership table there? And did you get some prospective members? How about some new members for your club? With getting new members, there is something else to think about. That is **ORIENTATION OF YOUR NEW MEMBERS!**



I am hoping that all of our clubs hold a "New Member Orientation" for all of your new members. This is a very important part of the new member process. It helps them to understand how your club functions, what their role will be and gives them the big picture of their district and the association. When you were a new member how did you learn about your club? How did you learn what impact your club makes in your community?

A new member orientation gives your club a chance to talk about how your club operates and gives a new member a chance to ask questions in a smaller setting. New members don't always feel comfortable asking in a large group setting. When members are properly informed, they are way more likely to feel comfortable with your club, become active and remain a lion for years.

There are tools available to assist us with orienting our members! Lions International has a handy dandy New Member Orientation Guide which can guide you in orienting your new members. The book is amazing and there it is....all right there for you. All the information is there, you just tailor it to your own club information. Members can use the guide as a reference during their time as a lion.

Some ideas for your club orientations:

- Invite all members to each of your orientations. This way your new member can have a chance to meet many members. Not all will be able to make it, but it allows for the new member to get input from current members and meet them as well.
- Do an orientation over coffee. The orientee then feels as if you are focused on them and they feel they are able to ask questions one on one.
- Maybe your club has time set aside on your calendar monthly, or bi-monthly for this. If there are no new members, then you don't need to meet, but if so, there is already time set aside.
- There are clubs who have orientation time set aside one hour prior to their regular meetings so as not to add "another meeting night."

There are so many ways to get new member orientations completed. If your club does not do this, I encourage you to make this happen. Please let me know how I can assist your club with all things membership.

Lion Judy Herrala (h)763-753-6962 (text)763-229-9005 JLHBELL@earthlink.net

GST Coordinator

Lion Cathy McCauley
phone: 612-219-1006
email: lionsclubcathy@gmail.com



5M7 Brochure Contest!!

Join me in making sure that our club information is up to date for each of our communities.

Update your club brochure and win!

- 1st place-a club dinner with the Governor Team! Costs covered.
- 2nd place-a deluxe snack pack for your club.
- 3rd place-a snack pack for your club.

Make arrangements with Lion Judy to get your club brochure to her on or before Friday opening of convention. It will be displayed so members can vote all day on Saturday. You may also send it via snail mail by January 15, 2023. Results will be announced on Sunday morning with prizes awarded.

You will gain ideas for your own club brochure by seeing all brochures displayed. Your club can share with others.



Contact Lion Judy Herrala (GMT) for more information:

Email: JLHBELLS@earthlink.net
Phone: 763-753-6962

Need help to create a club brochure? Contact me for ideas.

Happy Fall 5m7 Lions and Leos,



In the last Gram we talked about the Diabetic poglycemia kits which the MN Lions Diabetes Foundation has created to give out to schools, businesses, and anyone who might have someone walking through their doors who is in danger of having a hypoglycemic reaction. Which is 100% every place in the world.

We are here to tell you that these kits have gone all over the world. We thought we would tell you were our 5m7 allotted kits went. District 5m7 had approx. 160 kits to give out of the 2,000 we put together.

- ⇒ 27 kits were delivered to FYCC in Albertville for distribution to schools in the community. Requests for the kits also came from Palmer, Alaska Lions.
- ⇒ The Coon Rapids Lions Club requested 50 kits for the Anoka-Hennepin School District.
- ⇒ Some kits were given to an insurance office and a beauty salon.
- ⇒ Clubs at Zone Meetings have taken these kits back to their own communities and for their clubs to make this a project of their own.

If your club is interested in these kits please contact us and we can help your club make this a project.

If your club has a community event coming up, we can help you with ideas of how to promote Diabetes Awareness in your community. Call or email for ideas.

Lion Judy Herrala, co-trustee MLDF
JLHBELLS@earthlink.net

Lion Mike Edwards, co-trustee MLDF
mnedwards1@bellsouth.net

"Little Ears Should Hear"



Helen Keller Said: "I am just as deaf as I am blind. The problems of deafness are deeper and more complex, if not more important, than those of blindness. Deafness is a much worse misfortune for it means the loss of the most vital stimulus- the sound of the voice that brings language, sets thoughts astir and keeps the intellectual company of man."

Every year many Lions Clubs in 5M7 contribute to the Minnesota Hearing Foundation. Please consider once again this year making that contribution. Your clubs donation can realize the gift of hearing!

Donations may be sent to: Lion Rose Thies, Treasurer
 21515 371st Avenue, Green Isle, MN 55318

Lion Mike Benedetto 612-735-5423
mbededet@smumn.edu

WE ARE THANKFUL to Lions Becky Reynolds, Judy Wood, Jan Kugler, Pam Smith-Owens, Vern Koepp and Elaine Fischer for taking the lead at organizing and conducting KidSight Vision Screenings in their community school districts this fall. This group of Lions and their club members have screened over 1,500 children in their communities. Has your club made an impact this significant within your community? What are you waiting for? Get involved in KidSight.



Also the **Montrose Lions Club** finished another successful year of Kidsight vision screening in the Buffalo/Hanover/Montrose 877 school district. We screened 616 children in six elementary schools with 46 referrals. We also had two Buffalo Lions help out. Pictured are front row: Lion Judi Salonek, Lion Judy Wood and Lion Marlette Babatz. Back row: Lion Melissa Hausladen, Lion Joan Baurenschmidt, Buffalo MN Lion Cheryl Thompson, Lion Marlene Ramthun and Lion Roger Vanderlinde. Not pictured were GayAnn Gandel and Peggy Duske.



The **Rush City Lions and Leos** hosted a Kidsight event on Tuesday, October 25th and Wednesday, October 26th, screening 174 Elementary students. Lion Vern Koepp, chair arranged this event and scheduled the following Lions to help with the event: Lions Dave Henthorn, LeRoy Bergquist, Cindy Koepp, Teresa Hasbrook, Nancy Schroeder, Gloria Oscarson, Deb Dahlberg, Leos Ella Campbell, Emily Angstman, Meghan May, Veronica Hemming, Olivia Johnson, Madison Jesse, and Shea McDonald.



Lion Mary Curtis and Lion Ann Kaduce, 5M7 KidSight Foundation Directors 5m7lionskidsight@gmail.com

Vision screening is not the goal, it is the method we use to reach our goal of every child seeing clearly!



LIONS AND LEOS

For the first time in the history of the planet, Project New Hope had a full retreat...with a waiting list! The last weekend in October, Good Earth Village hosted their first retreat for Project New Hope. As of this article it hasn't happened yet, but if anything amazing happens you'll be able to read about it in next month's Gram.

In the meantime, if you or any veteran family you know would like to participate in a retreat, the next one is just a month away. It will be on Dec 2-4 at Inspiration Point near Battle Lake, MN. Sign up at [Project New Hope.net](http://ProjectNewHope.net)

HELLO LIONS AND LEOS:

Things are almost back to "normal" at Can Do Canines. Assistance dogs continue to be trained and placed with their teammates, tours have restarted and graduations can be viewed remotely (for the protection of the dogs and clients).



This year's Can Do Woofaroo held on September 24th was another successful event. They were able to raise over \$104,000!! Thanks to all who attended or supported the Woofaroo. A huge thank you to the Lions for once again being the main sponsor.

Upcoming events are:

- ◇ Fall Graduation – Saturday, October 29. Contact Can Do Canines for a video link that can be sent to you following the private gathering so you can meet the teams that are graduating.
- ◇ Open House – Saturday, November 12, Noon – 2 pm
- ◇ Give to the Max Day – Thursday, November 17. Please consider supporting Can Do Canines during this annual Minnesota fundraising campaign.

If you have a meeting or event where you would like me to come speak or have a team present to share their story of the wonderful impact a Can Do Canines dog has had on them, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lion Kathy McMillan kathyjmcmillan@gmail.com



Take the time to do a
very important duty..
VOTE

FELLOW LIONS, LEOS



By the time all you avid Gram readers get this, the 2022 Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation (MLVF) EyeBall and Thanksgiving For Vision will be history. More on that in the next monthly Gram.

Lets talk about used eyeglasses! Here is the collection process we use once the 5M7 Lions Club places pails in Minnesota optical stores, banks, schools, city halls, etc. making it easy for the public to donate their old eyeglasses. When the Club collects the glasses, they will empty the collection pail into a cardboard box and the designated club member will contact either PDG Lion Steve Linder or myself to pick the box up. The glasses are then sent to the Minnesota Eyeglass recycling Center in Sauk Rapids, Mn.. From there they are periodically delivered to a recycling center in Rosholt Wisconsin. Optometrist-trained Lions members & others wash, repair, determine the prescriptions & pack the eyeglasses in prescription-labeled bags & inventoried in a computer database. The eyeglasses are destined for use in countries other than the USA. Groups can request eyeglasses for missions as well as international projects. Hearing aids placed in eyeglass collection pails will be given over to a Lions Hearing Foundation Trustee. Lions Clubs can make arrangements by calling : PDG Lion Steve Linder at 612-382-2236, (slinder71@usfamily.net) or myself, PDG Lion Terry Wold at 612-759-5433 (terry_wold@hotmail.com).

Thank you for all you do!



Congratulations to Lion Joshua Gunderson from the Maple Lake Lions for completing Regional Lions Leadership Training held October 13-16 in Roseville. He was the only Lion to participate in the training from District 5m7. Lion Stefanie Nelson, Spring Lake

Park Lions, was honored to be a faculty member during the weekend. It was a great weekend of networking, learning about Lions and Leadership. The next training will be ELLI (Emerging Lions Leadership Institute) in March 2023. This training is designed for all Lions who have not served as a Club President. Think about yourself or members in your club that would benefit from this great training. More information coming soon.





5m7 Leo Clubs

*Anoka, Andover, Blaine, Coon Rapids,
Rush City, and Spring Lake Park*

The Leo clubs of 5M7 are serving their communities all over our district. These young leaders are developing great projects to make an impact that will leave a great legacy.

The 5m7 Leo Feed My Starving Children Event is Thursday, November 3rd from 4:30p-6:30p. We look forward to gathering as a group.

Leo Camp will be February 24-26, 2023, at Camp Friendship in Annandale, MN. Leos will be participating some team building activities, leadership development workshops and service that the camp will benefit from.

The fundraising flyer is attached, please consider donating from you club or yourself. We would love to have support from all Lions in the district.

Please invite Leo clubs to participate. If you are interested in chaperoning Leos during the conference, please let me know. All are welcome to join us. There is still room to involve more youth in our communities by starting more Leo clubs.

If you are interested in getting more involved with a Leo club, or would be interested in starting a Leo Club, please reach to either chair member:

Lion Stefanie Nelson stefanieenelson@gmail.com
Lion Pete Yelle pete.yelle58@gmail.com

5M7 YOUTH EXCHANGE

Youth Exchange will start to seek for students and host families in January 2023. Camp dates will be July 21-29, 2023. Host families will be needed for the month of July. We look forward to having a few more families in 5m7 host exchange students this year.



Lion Stefanie Nelson 612-298-1523
stefanieenelson@gmail.com



Do not forget the Peace Posters need to be to Governor by November 15th. Hope all 14 clubs who have free kits are working on them. It's Fall, lots of things going on for clubs. Just planting seeds. Remember the youth are the future LIONS and their hugs are GREAT!. Lion Ginny Hestekind Youth Outreach

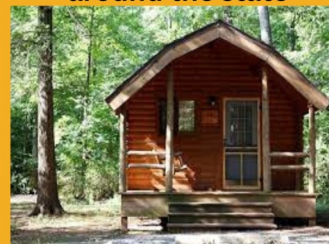
Leo Conference

February 24-26, 2023
Camp Friendship, Annandale

Explore Resources

Have Fun!

Learn about projects from other Leos
around the state



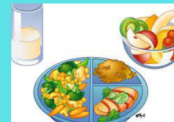
Cost per Leo \$20

Fill out the form to register



Sponsor MD5M Leo to Attend Camp 2023

Camp Dates February 24-26, 2023
Camp Friendship



Lodging
\$79.00

Leo Meals
\$55.00

Team Building
\$34.00

Weekend Leo Member
Total Cost \$168



T-shirt Sponsorship \$200
District, club or individual
name on the back of the shirt

Checks made to 5m7 Leos
mailed to Stefanie Nelson
5019 Ewing Ave N Brooklyn Center, MN 55429





ENVIROMENTAL NEWS...

Lion Judie Zaske

In nursing school, I took a statistic's course because I thought it would be fun and easy. I ended up disliking the course because at that time I found it boring. What I didn't realize was how important statistics are to us even in our every day lives and how the use of statistics in climate change shows how our climate is changing.

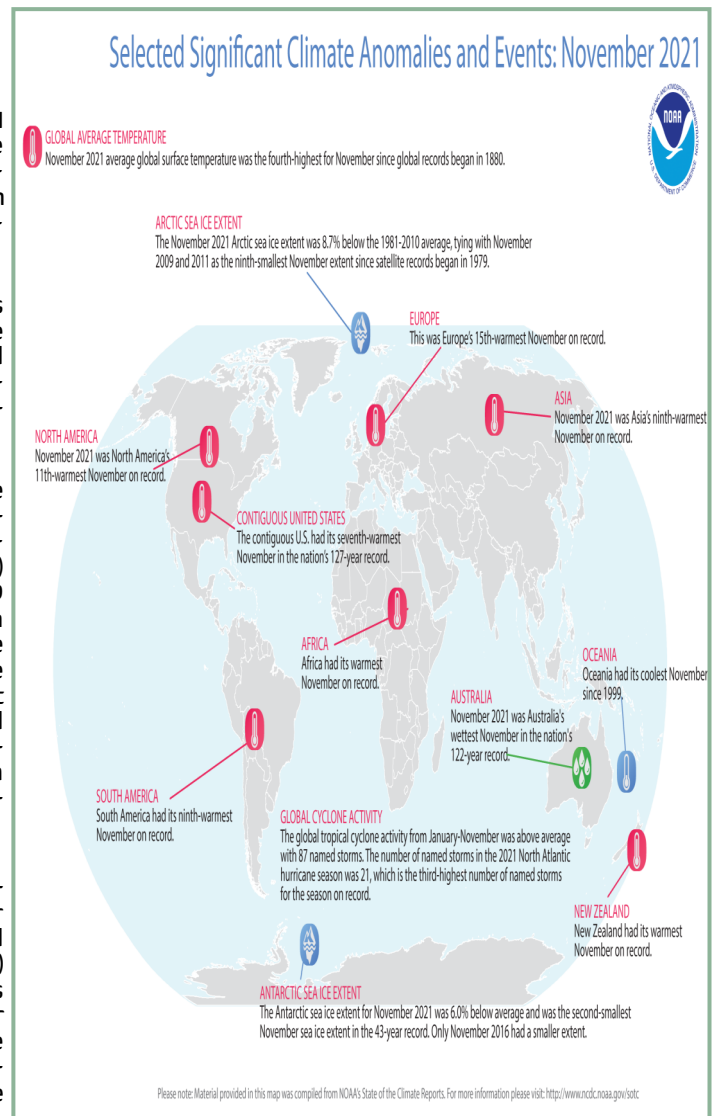
The world sweltered through a November that ranked as the fourth-warmest November in 142 years of climate records. The Northern Hemisphere saw its warmest land temperatures on record for meteorological autumn, according to scientists at NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).

An excerpt from NOAA's latest monthly global climate report climate by the numbers November 2021: The average global land and ocean surface temperature for November 2021 was 1.64 degrees F (0.91 of a degree C) above the 20th-century average of 55.2 degrees F (12.9 degrees C). This was the fourth-warmest November on record – behind 2015 (warmest), 2020 and 2019. The world's 10-warmest Novembers have all occurred since 2004. The Northern Hemisphere saw its second-warmest November on record, while the Southern Hemisphere had its 10th warmest, a tie with 2014. Continents-wise, Africa had its warmest November on record; South America and Asia each had a top-10 warmest November; and Oceania had its coolest November since 1999.

Season and the year to date: The three-month-long season (meteorological autumn or spring, September through November) saw an average global land and ocean temperature of 1.60 degrees F (0.89 of a degree C) above the average of 57.1 degrees F (14 degrees C). This made it the fourth-warmest such period in the 142-year climate record. Looking at just land temperature, the Northern Hemisphere saw its warmest autumn on record, surpassing the second-highest land temperature recorded in 2020. The year to date (January through November) global land and ocean surface temperature was 1.51 degrees F (0.84 of a degree C) above the 20th-century average, making it the sixth-warmest YTD on record. According to NCEI's Global Annual Temperature Rankings Outlook, 2021 is likely to rank among the 10-warmest years on record.

Other notable climate events: The season was exceptionally warm for some continents; North America had its second-warmest autumn on record – trailing the record set in 2016 – while South America and Africa had their third- and fourth-warmest autumn/spring respectively. Europe and Oceania also had a warmer-than-average season, but it was their coolest since 2016. Polar sea-ice coverage was small: The November 2021 Arctic sea ice cover averaged 359,000 square miles below the 1981-2010 average, which ties with 2009 and 2011 for ninth-smallest November in the 43-year record. Antarctic sea ice coverage was 370,000 square miles below average and the second smallest on record for November, behind November 2016.

All these numbers show a disturbing trend; a trend in the wrong direction which we are responsible for changing.



A map of the world plotted with some of the most significant climate events that occurred during November 2021.



BRINGING NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

From our local **Albertville Lions Club** to Lions International, we are so honored and proud to celebrate with and present Lion Lee Kasper with a 45-year membership pin. Presenting Lion Lee with his pin is 5M7 District Governor Mark Landwehr. Congratulations Lee!!!



Albertville Lions closed their Farmers Market season with a Halloween Party for the local kids. At the event we gave away 300 pumpkins, 300 treat bags, Games for the kids and Spooky not Scaary Magician, Brian Richards.

Everyone had a blast.



Cokato Dassel Lions John Bergman (L) and Mike Lhotka (R) celebrated their 40 year anniversaries. Lion David Pitchford was the recipient of a Melvin Jones award. The club provided the Governor with 150 pairs of glasses that were collected in our small communities this past year.

The **Rush City Lions** hosted a pancake breakfast to support our local fire department on October 8th. We served over 200 people and all the proceeds went directly to Rush City Fire Department. Attached is a picture of Lion Glo Oscarson and one of our newest members, Jerome Siljendahl serving with smiles.



On Thursday, October 12th the **Rush City Lions** installed 4 new members; Lions Justin Hetherington, Jerome Siljendahl, Judy Armstrong, and Steven Larson. The attached photo includes new members, sponsors, and Lion Cindy Hagen who performed the installation. Left to Right: Sponsor Lion Jesse Rundquist, new member Lion Steven Larson, new member Lion Justin Hetherington, sponsor Lion Deb Dahlberg, new member Lion Jerome Siljendahl, Lion Cindy Hagen, new member Lion Judy Armstrong, and Lion Mike Papke. **CONGRATULATIONS!**



The **Rush City Lions** hosted a picnic to honor and thank our local fire department and area supporting emergency services on Tuesday, October 18th. The club served 25 firemen and emergency staff with a picnic style meal of hotdogs and all the fixings.



MORE NEWS NEXT PAGE →

DISTRICT NEWS

CONTINUED.....

The **Elk River Lions Club** hosted a Zone 4 meeting at The Annandale Lions participated in our Pioneer Parks 50th year Anniversary as well as began listening to proposals for a couple very large projects that our city has in store for us to collaborate with! Broadway Pizza on Highway 10 in Elk River with the new zone chair Li-on Deb Weston. They also raised several hundred dollars by volunteering at the State Fair ticket booths, and some volunteered for KidSight screenings at the Minnesota State Fair.

- The Elk River Lions and the Otsego Lions worked together on a pancake feed at Otsego Prairie Fest in September, which was a big success.
- The Elk River Lions also participated in the annual Trunk or Treat at Magnus Veterans Foundation the Saturday before Halloween.
- Last but not least, the Elk River Lions Club helped to welcome the brand new Zimmerman Area Lions Club to Zone 4 and District 5M7. They are an impressive group of motivated volunteers and nice people who are already well organized and willing to learn.



The **Lions Club of Big Lake Lioness** will be giving away 25 Coborns grocery gift cards (\$25 each) to local seniors to use over the Thanksgiving holiday. This is possible with the help of the local Legion Post 147 and Legion Auxiliary. Soon we'll begin crafts for our annual Shopping with Santa on Saturday December 10th at the Lions Park on CR 5. More information to follow.



On behalf of the **Zimmerman Area Lions Club**, we would like to thank those who attended our Charter Event to help us celebrate. We appreciate your support of our club and look forward to learning and networking more with all of you in the future. Lion Tiffany Wetterlind, Secretary

Montrose Lions had their Ditch Clean up on October 11th.



The **Annandale Lions** participated in our Pioneer Parks 50th year Anniversary as well as began listening to proposals for a couple very large projects that our city has in store for us to collaborate with!

FROM YOUR EDITOR.....

I'm thrilled to receive all the info from clubs in our district on the wonderful, worthwhile and important things we're doing in our communities. But the Gram takes time to format, arrange and re-arrange which is why it's so important for you to get your items in by the deadline date.

Over the holiday's I'm expecting a lot of Santa Breakfasts and the like, so I'm asking that ONE PERSON, either president or secretary, send in your announcements and pictures to the Gram. This helps me in preparing the Gram for your reading pleasure as well as making sure I don't miss something.

Expect earlier start dates for articles in November and December due to the deadline date falling close to a holiday date. We all want to spend time with family and friends over the holidays so adhering to the timeline for submissions is extremely important in getting the Gram out in a timely manner.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!



Forest Lake Lions Club invites you to join us for a

BELGIAN WAFFLE BREAKFAST

includes sausage, milk,
juice & coffee

December 3rd, 2022

8 am to Noon

Lone Oak Grill

55 S. Lake Street - Forest Lake

Advanced Tickets - \$8.00 per person • \$9.00 at the door.

Children under 5 eat free • All you can eat!

Get tickets from any Lion Member • Call Lion Stev Stegner 651-503-1337

COME MEET SANTA
BRING YOUR
CAMERA FOR
PHOTOS!



Breakfast with



FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING,

INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY and GROUP HOME RESIDENTS

sponsored by Andover Lions Club



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon



ANDOVER SENIOR CENTER

1685 Crosstown Blvd NW, Andover
(north end of Andover City Hall)

FREE BREAKFAST -

pancakes, sausage, milk, juice, coffee

Free Pictures with Santa

Interpreter Provided if needed

RSVP

by Friday, December 2

to: Tom, Candy or Claire Conniff

call / text: 763-300-0922; text: 763-639-5984

email: motleyman50@aol.com





Mid-Winter Convention News



Dear Lions and Leos:

Our **Forty-fifth Annual Mid-Winter Convention** will be held at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud on January 27-29, 2023. The address is: 100 4th Ave S, St. Cloud, MN 56301. Reservations are being accepted online or by telephone. The reservation form for the convention is in this booklet, and the hotel reservation information is on the convention registration form. You will also find all convention documents on the [5m7 website at www.5m7.org](http://www.5m7.org). Clubs must designate one person from their club to pick up the name tags and meal tickets for all that are attending from their club.

This will be an exciting convention for all as we are now in person for the 2nd year for convention. The convention committee is excited to be together again with our members. This convention will be a new experience for us in a new hotel. Clubs are again able to host hospitality rooms but only in the individual sleeping rooms around the pool area where there will be a bean bag tournament. We will have a cash bar on Friday night and on Saturday night. After the banquet we will have socializing and games and entertainment. You will find the tentative schedule on www.5m7.org. For clubs who desire to have a hospitality room and be automatically entered into the hospitality room contest please call DG Mark at (612) 366-1331 to reserve your hospitality room. The theme for the hospitality rooms this year is Boston, Massachusetts, where the next Lions Club International Convention will be held.

Please read: This year will begin a bit differently, but rest assured we will fit all of our usual programming in. The convention will begin on Friday afternoon with the cabinet meeting, a reception for our visiting International Director, opening ceremony and much socializing and fun in our hospitality rooms around the pool area and the bean bag tournament.

Saturday morning will begin with six seminars, one from MN Childhood Cancer Research Foundation, a Leo Program, Diabetes Foundation, Can-Do-Canines, Vision Foundation and a Homeless Youth Speaker.

This will be followed by lunch, tail-twisting and Parade of Green! The Service of Remembrance, Leo's Project, Town Hall and the Business Meeting will follow lunch. The Banquet on Saturday evening will be another highlight of the convention and will be very enjoyable for all. There will be special entertainment following the Saturday Banquet.

Sunday morning will include the Ecumenical Fellowship Service, followed by the buffet breakfast with guest speaker Lion David Thoen, islet cell transplant recipient. It is requested that each club bring one door prize (\$20 value) to be given at the close of each meal. Please drop the door prizes off as soon as possible at the registration area. Hospitality books (meal tickets) may be ordered immediately by using the registration form which is in this booklet and on the 5M7 website. **This is the ONLY form that is acceptable and your check MUST accompany the order. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THAT YOU CAN GET TICKETS FOR THE MEALS ☒ THERE WILL BE NO MEAL TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE CONVENTION.** Your convention committee is doing everything possible to ensure that the convention this year will be the BEST! Your attendance and participation will make it just that. Start making your plans NOW!

Your 2023 Convention Committee



2023 5M7 Mid-Winter Convention

Tentative Schedule of Events



Friday, January 27th 2023

- 2:00-6:00pm Registration Opens (Main Lobby)
- 4:00pm Cabinet Meeting
- 5:00pm ID and ID Host Meal
- 6:30pm Opening and Flag Ceremony, Grand Ballroom
- 8:00pm Hospitality Rooms Open and Bean Bag Tourney Begins, Pool Area

Saturday, January 28th 2023

- 7:30-11:30am Registration Open (Main Lobby)
- 9:00am Diabetes Foundation, University A and Childhood Cancer, University B
- 10:00am Homeless Youth Speaker, University A and Vision Foundation, University B
- 11:00am Leo's Program, University A and Can Do Canines, University B
- 12:00pm Luncheon, Grand Ballroom, Leo's Tailtwisting (Parade of Green)
- 1:30pm Memorial, Grand Ballroom and Leo's Project, University A
- 2:30pm Town Hall, (2/3 Grand Ballroom)
- 3:30pm Business Meeting, (1/3 Grand Ballroom)
- 5:00-11:30pm Cash Bar, Grand Ballroom
- 6:00pm Banquet, Grand Ballroom, International Director Guest Speaker
- 8:30pm Poker/Blackjack, Grand Ballroom, Entertainment, Snacks

Sunday, January 29th 2023

- 8:30am Ecumenical Church Service, University A
- 9:00am Brunch, Grand Ballroom
- 10:00am Program, Grand Ballroom, David Thoen guest speaker
- 11:30am Close of Convention, Grand Ballroom

Hello Lions and Leos,

I don't know about you but I am excited about our 2023 SM7 Midwinter Convention in January.

I would like to take this time to introduce you to two of our speakers. Our guest dignitary is visiting International Director Ken Ibarra. He will be joined by his wife of 22 years Lion Amy Fink. They will be visiting us from sunny San Bruno, California.

ID Ken was elected to serve a two-year term as international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 103rd International Convention, June 25 through June 29, 2021.

He became a Lion in 1992 as a member of the San Bruno Lions Club. He has held a number of offices with the association including district governor, leadership coordinator, LCIF coordinator as well as serving many years as a Leo Club advisor. He has been a presenter at three USA/Canada Forums as well as a presenter at the 95th Lions Clubs International Convention in Busan, South Korea. He has also served as a Certified Guiding Lion for four clubs.

In recognition of his service, he has received numerous awards including an International President's Award, two International President's Leadership Awards and multiple International President's Certificates of Appreciation. Director Ibarra is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.



Our special guest speaker for our Sunday brunch is David Thoen.

Dave Thoen was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes age the age of 23, what he considered the "prime time of his life." The diagnosis was a huge surprise that brought many changes to his life.

Over the years, Dave did not let the disease control his life, as he is a husband, father, has a career, was a frequent traveling sports coach, board member, and volunteer in his community, has run close to 30 marathons, and with his family has done significant fund-raising for diabetes-related causes. Several years ago, Dave became a Lion in Bloomington, MN, and is a former trustee on the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation.

Dave qualified for a clinical trial at the Schulz Diabetes Institute in 2006, and in 2008 and 2009, Dave was the recipient of two islet transplants. These transplants have changed Dave and his family's life significantly as it relates to the care, treatment, and living with (actually without) diabetes.

Dave and his wife of over 33 years, Denise live in Bloomington and have two sons, Reese (wife Sara), an IT specialist at a pharmaceutical company, and Riley, a Plant Sciences PhD candidate at the University of Georgia.



Read future SM7 Grams for introductions to our Saturday morning seminar speakers!

Your 2023 Convention Committee

Lions 5M7 Mid-Winter Convention
January 27-29, 2023
Best Western Plus Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN

Registration Form



Guest #1: Select One ☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Spouse/Guest

Last Name	First Name:	Email Address:
Address/PO Box:	Club Name:	Phone #:
City:	State & Zip:	Dietary Needs:

Guest #1: Select One ☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Spouse/Guest

Last Name:	First Name:	Email Address:
Address/PO Box:	Club Name:	Phone #:
City:	State & Zip:	Dietary Needs:

Hotel Reservatons:

Hospitality Room Reservations will be taken by DG Mark. Call (612) 366-1331

To book reservations online, click

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_us/book/hotel-rooms.24113.html?groupid=7X8FY0W7

Or call the Kelly Inn at (320) 253-0606. Standard rooms are \$119.00 and suites are \$189.00, per night, plus tax.

Please make checks payable to:

5M7 Midwinter Convention.

Mail this form and check to:

Lion Hal Hinchliffe

7414 Oakley St. NE

Fridley, MN 55432-3430

	Price through 12/15/2022	Price after 12/16/2022	Guest 1	Guest 2	Total
Complete Meal Book	\$99	\$109			
Saturday Luncheon	\$35	\$40			
Saturday Banquet	\$60	\$65			
Sunday Breakfast	\$30	\$35			
No refunds after January 10, 2023.					
Total					

Meals paid for will be indicated on attendees name badge.

Dietary Needs (circle all that apply):

Vegan Vegetarian Gluten Free

Registration Form and more information is on the website at www.5m7.org. Please click on the Conventions tab.

Upcoming Conventions for 2022-2023

You will be able to find all of the upcoming conventions linked on our www.5m7.org website. If you are unable to retrieve information from the website, please let me know and I can get that information to you.

5m7 Convention-January 27-29, 2023

Kelly Inn-St Cloud

Registration Form and more information is on the website at www.5m7.org. Please click on the Conventions tab.

Multiple Convention-May 5-7, 2023

Penguin Jamboree

Holiday Inn in St Cloud, hosted by District 5M4.

There is online registration available right now on the Multiple Convention Website (www.lionsmd5m.org) and there is also a hotel registration link there. Otherwise I have saved the registration form to my computer and can email it to you as well.

There is a link on our 5m7 website to the Multiple District website where the online registration links are. Look on our website for the registration form at www.5m7.org. Click on the convention tab to find the links.

USA-Canada Forum:

The next one will take place September 21-23, 2023 in Reno, Nevada.

Website: www.lionsforum.org

This is linked on our 5m7 to the forum page.

Lions International Convention in Boston, Massachusetts-July 7-11, 2023

July 7-11, 2023-the online registration for the International Convention is also linked on our www.5m7.org website. You will find the online registration form and also the printable registration form there.

Lion Judy Herrala: JLHBELLS@earthlink.net



Complete 1 form per attendee

May 5-7, 2023
Holiday Inn & Suites
St. Cloud, MN

www.lionsmd5m.org
Registration Questions? contact Dennis Heinen
320-491-3996
heinende@centracare.com
OR
Nikki Fisher, Visit Greater St. Cloud
320-202-6712
nikki@visitstcloud.com
ONLINE REGISTRATION LINK

Name _____

Title _____

Your District Club & Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Email _____

Are You A... Lion ☐ Leo ☐ First Timer ☐

Will you require Braille Documents at the Convention? YES ☐ NO ☐

PRICE INCREASES TO \$160.00 MARCH 1, 2023 **\$AMOUNT**

Full Hospitality Book	\$150.00 USD	includes all meals and registration fee	<input type="text"/>
Registration is included in any meal chosen below:			
Friday Night Social	\$25.00 USD		<input type="text"/>
Saturday Breakfast	\$30.00 USD		<input type="text"/>
Saturday Lunch	\$35.00 USD		<input type="text"/>
Saturday Banquet	\$55.00 USD		<input type="text"/>
Sunday Brunch	\$30.00 USD		<input type="text"/>

CIRCLE Saturday Banquet Option

Stuffed Chicken Roasted Pork Shoulder Wild Mushroom Fettuccine

Special Dietary Needs: _____

★ Make Checks payable to Lions MD5M Convention
PCC Dennis Heinen 12069 Bluegill Drive
Sauk Centre, MN 56378

Cancellation fees apply - NO cancellations accepted
after April 1, 2023