

# **District 25D Newsletter - July 2021**

## **District Governor Scott Smith**

### **Making A Difference**



#### **DG Scott Smith says - THIS IS THE YEAR**

##### **District Officers**

###### **District Governor**

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Marion Lions Club

###### **1st VDG**

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Greentown Lions Club

###### **2nd VDG**

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Noblesville Lions Club

###### **Cabinet Secretary**

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As we begin our new year together, I am encouraged by what I see throughout the District. Clubs are inducting new members, raising more funds, and serving their communities in bigger and better ways.

This year we will have not only a District Governor, but a First and Second Vice District Governor. This is good for the future of the District, and both FVDG Eric and SVDG Julia will be tremendous assets to us all. Their leadership will allow us to build on the foundation of this year's successes.

I have mentioned before that I want to look to the past as we build for the future. We will always look to our past traditions as a guiding light, but we must be willing to make changes where they are needed to ensure the success of our great Organization in the future.

One area of change will be to promote the growth of the Leo program throughout our District this next year. What better way to expose future leaders of Lions than through the Leo Club program. Leo Club Chair Jeff Schneider has made a commitment to do just this. Our District Golf Tournament is back and is planned for September 23, 2021 at Crestview Golf Club in Muncie. This event was once a staple of our District, and it can be again. PCS Jeff Larrison is heading up a group of Lions to make this a great day for everyone.

We will be returning our District Contests. Some were just started last year, others have been a tradition for awhile. We are bringing back a District Membership Contest and also a District Club Visitation Contest.

We are still looking for someone interested in serving as the District Diabetes Chair. If you, or another Lion you know, are interested in serving the District in this capacity, then please contact me at [mutt4866@gmail.com](mailto:mutt4866@gmail.com).

Finally, let me say how much of an honor it is to be able to serve the Lions of District 25D. I have some large shoes to fill in a long line of great PDG's. I make you this promise. I will not let you down. I will get the job done with the amazing group of people who are serving your District with me, and together we will continue "Making a Difference".

## REVIVING OUR CLUBS

By FVDG Eric Schuman, PDG

All of us have seen a major reduction in participation of everything in our clubs. I believe it's time to "re-vitalize". Many of our clubs still have some decent numbers in terms of quantity of members but they are just not coming to our meetings, fundraisers, or service projects.

It's time to find out why and "fix it". There's many things we can do including a survey being given to each member as to why they are not participating more.



What's important to do in a survey is ensure the club is not trying to mandate 100% participation in everything. Sure, we'd like it but it's not realistic. Do not ask for their name, call them if you have to or drive to their home and ask them to spend a few minutes with you on it.

I've talked to many Lions over the years and I still believe that the most important things to do in a club are a) have fun in the meetings, b) have a program each meeting, and c) have an active Tail Twister (which also contributes to the fun).

I encourage each club to sit down with your board and come up with a dozen or so questions for a survey that are easily answered (as in checkmarks versus writing out an answer). And be frank and honest in all questions.

I'll be starting my visitations to clubs soon, and I'm looking forward to meeting every Lion in District 25-D!

**From SVDG Lion Julia Kozicki:**

Hello Lions of District 25D! I am honored to have been elected as your 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-District Governor for 2021-22. District Governor Scott Smith recommended I use this column to introduce myself and so here goes.

I am a Noblesville native, where I live today with my husband Jeff (newly elected treasurer of the Noblesville Lions Club). We have two sons: JD is a 2021 graduate of Indiana University Bloomington and Josh will start his junior year at IU Bloomington this fall. Professionally, I serve as general counsel for Sigma Kappa Sorority at our national headquarters in Carmel. I served for 12 years on the Noblesville School Board (2006-18) and recently received an

Impact Award from the Hamilton County Leadership Academy as an alumni who has made a significant impact on the community through non-profit and educational leadership.

My Lions experience is more recent, although my grandfather Meredith Church and great uncle Leonard Church were both loyal members of the Anderson Noon Club and my great uncle Manson Church was a Tail Twister for the Noblesville Club. I joined the Noblesville Lions in January 2019 and was invited to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> VP for 2019-20. I served as club president during 2020-21, during which time we successfully maintained our membership and added new (socially distanced) fundraising projects. I will be serving as our club secretary for 2021-22. Following some encouraging conversations at the State Convention, I accepted the invitation to serve as 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG.

I am very much looking forward to working with DG Scott and 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Eric to re-engage with our clubs and encourage new thoughts and new membership as we all emerge from the pandemic. I hope to meet many of you at district and club events and I look forward to serving with you all as we support our communities and our world through Lionism.



## STEP UP TO THE CHALLENGE

As we start a new Lions year we all need to stop, reflect and decide what commitment we can make to our clubs, zone, region and district.

No matter what level you step up to the challenge for you will be to:

### MOTIVATE:

- a. Recognize the efforts of the club and the officers. When you talk about your Lions and the activities focus on the positive. Don't allow a meeting to become a gripe session and don't express discontent at a public function.
- b. Be Enthusiastic and promote enthusiasm.
- c. Encourage participation in club, zone region and district activities.
- d. Help build leaders! Encourage members to accept leadership roles.
- e. Try to help develop a team spirit.
- f. Remember that it is important that we RESPECT each other and appreciate others differences.



### COUNSELOR:

- a. Be a good listener, be open to new ideas.

THINK BIG: Don't be afraid to try new things and take some risks. Don't allow the club to get into a rut and just do the "same ole same ole". Remind the Lions that it is everyone's responsibility to look after the health of the club and to ensure continued effectiveness and growth. Be sure to let the community know what contributions the Lions are making to the community.

The best way to build enthusiasm is to be enthusiastic yourself---it is contagious! Step up and take the challenge. Everything you do does not have to work out perfectly, but do it with commitment and enthusiasm. Remember, if you can help someone light their inner fire to serve....your challenge will not be in motivating them....but in staying out of their way!

PDG Mary Ann Bodnar  
25D Global Leadership Coordinator



**ANNOUNCEMENT FROM DG SCOTT J. SMITH: UPLAND EYEGLOSS RECYCLING CENTER CHANGE**

Beginning July 1, 2021 Clubs and individual Lions are encouraged to send any donated monies directly to the Eyeglass Recycling Center in Upland. The District will continue to support the program, but want donations to go directly to them rather than through the district treasurer.

Send checks to: Eyeglass and Medical Equipment Recycling

333 Lake Street

Upland, Indiana 46989

The **Union City Lions** provided the breakfast for the Randolph County Airport “Fly-In” on Saturday June 12. On a perfect day for flying, 45 airplanes attended from as far away as Texas.

The Lions served approx. 375 meals of sausage, eggs, toast, and drinks. 120 people enjoyed plane rides that were available. Over 100 door prizes were awarded which were donated by local businesses. Eric Livingston is the Randolph County Airport manager.

Pictured from left-right Are: Len Hindsley, Gary Miller, President Doug LeMaster, Treasurer Troy Rose, Secretary Owen Griffith, and Membership Chairman Larry Amspaugh.







## Noblesville Lions Awards Student Scholarships

Photo (J. Doll): Stanley (Lion Steve Craig), Jenna Peterson, Josh Snay, Irina Zhilinskaya, Jacob Lotridge, Lion Gary Hipes, Committee Chair



## Noblesville Lion Gene Beck honored as 30 year Lions Pork Chop BBQ Chairman

A lot of dedicated and personal effort was put into this by Lion Gene.

Photo: Lion Membership Chair, Steve Craig, presenting Lion Gene Beck (rt) with Congratulations





Union City Lions Club Lion Scott Reagan shared:

Lions, we can be proud of the good we do for this community. Ethan has struggled with his glasses since before I had him in class 5 years ago as a 7th grader. Thank you to the Sight Preservation Committee (Sam Davenport, Rick Lacy, and Ed Speight)

"Ethan Gerstner with his new glasses that the Lions supplied for him. He was over the moon. It had been 6 years since he had been to an eye doctor and one of the sides temples had been broken for 2 years".

## **Noblesville Lions Bringing Dodgeball Back and Adding Cornhole**

### **Tournament Information**

This year's tournament is scheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00AM at the Ivy Tech Gym, 300 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Noblesville. Play will actually start around 12:00 Noon; with waiver signing, bracket assignments, and rules meeting scheduled during the first hour.

Dodgeball is still popular because of the movie, everybody played dodgeball in school, dodgeball is also popular because it is rowdy, has freedom of play and is a great physical release. We are adding Cornhole competition this year. With the addition of Cornhole which is very popular, played during tailgating events, family gatherings and backyards across America. Cornhole is also popular because older and younger participate can play and enjoy. We will have four leagues, two leagues in Cornhole and two leagues in Dodgeball. Dodgeball requires six players for active play and two for subs or retrievers. Cornhole teams will have two players per team. The entry fees (donation) this year are \$25.00 per team in the Cornhole competition and \$35.00 per team in the Dodgeball Competition.

Teams wishing to participate should text or call.

Steve Shaw 317-727-1771

Larry Jacobi 317-508-0571

Jerry Graham 317-435-4752

Rollin Cutter 317-773-5363

# Engage (or Re-Engage) Your Club

Jeff Larrison, Zone Chair – Region 1, Zone B

Now that we appear to be moving back to a life somewhat closer to normal, it's time for the Lions Clubs in District 25-D to engage, or in many cases re-engage, in what we do best – Serve. There is no doubt the Covid-19 pandemic significantly affected the majority of our District's clubs' ability to maintain operations, raise funds, recruit members, and conduct service activities.

It is critical that we search for ways to get our members engaged/re-engaged in our traditional projects and programs, as well as looking for new ways to serve our communities. A great source for potential projects can be found on LCI's website by searching for "100 Service Ideas". You'll find ideas for projects addressing diabetes, the environment, hunger, and vision issues. In conjunction with implementing your service projects (new and old), LCI can provide you with ways to promote your club and its events. In many ways this is almost as vital as performing the work. Just search for "Publicity Ideas" on their website.

Something that can provide excellent publicity for clubs is for you to partner with other Lions Clubs in your area, or team up with other service organizations to perform service work or raise funds for charities. The Carmel, Westfield, and Noblesville clubs have begun teaming up on various projects in our area. We have worked together at the Third Phase Homeless Shelter in Noblesville, the Diabetes Youth Camp, trail clean-up events, Gleaner's Food Bank distribution events, and vision screening at area schools. Besides the awesome experience of working beside fellow Lions and getting to know them, we bring more resources to bear on the projects, have bigger impacts, and get better publicity.

Each of our communities have numerous events and opportunities that require volunteers. By participating in these events, we can gain exposure and publicity in the community AND earn the appreciation of our local leaders. This can pay off down the road when we need assistance gaining approval to hold events, promoting our events, recruiting new members.

Now is a great time to start ramping up our activities and presence in our communities. With a new Lions Year underway and the pandemic in our rearview mirror (fingers crossed), it seems like we have a clear slate to shape our clubs as we see fit. Don't hesitate! Take advantage of the new energy we have and the public's desire to get out and get back to a more normal life.



**Save the Date!**

**Come out for a great day of golf!**

**A perfect opportunity to have fun with fellow Lions**

*Or*

**A recruiting tool for potential new members!**



**District 25-D Scramble Golf Outing**

**Proceeds Benefit Winter Special Olympics**

**Thursday, September 23, 2021**

**Crestview Golf Course**

3325 S. Walnut Street  
Muncie, IN 47302

**Registration: 11:30 a.m.**

**Box Lunch: 11:45 a.m.**

**Shotgun Start: 1 p.m.**

**Details will be sent out soon!**

*You Are Invited to attend DG Scott's Banner  
Night on Saturday, August 21, 2021*

*Am Vets Post 5  
705 West 37th Street  
Marion, IN 46953*

*Social 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner 6:45 p.m.*

*Swiss Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Roll  
Dessert  
Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, Water  
\$20.00 per person*

*Reservations  
RSVP by August 14th*

*Make checks payable to:  
Lions District 25-D*

*Mail to:  
Cabinet Secretary Betty Weist  
P.O. Box 41  
Markleville, IN 46056  
or E-mail  
[bettyweist@aol.com](mailto:bettyweist@aol.com)*