

NORTH DAKOTA LION



Volume 32, Number 5 Official Publication of Lions Districts 5NE, 5NC, 5NW, November 2009

2009 State Lions Convention highlights

October 30 - 31, 2009 • Seven Seas, Mandan



PCC Brach Johnson pauses for a moment with his wife, PDG Marian, following his induction into the Lions Hall of Fame at State Convention Oct. 31. PCC Johnson, a Bismarck North Star Lion, was selected for the honor from a field of five candidates from across the state.



The Friday evening ice breaker included audience participation, as the band performed Proud Mary, featuring Tina Turner (a.k.a. PCC Brach Johnson, on the far right) on lead vocal.



Lions Del Heger (left) and PDG Al Kahlbaugh visited all three district cabinet meetings, extending an invitation to the 2010 State Lions Convention, to be held Oct. 29 - 30 at Grand Forks. The convention theme is "Roarin' on the River."



Wisconsin's Lion Len Quinn shared his personal story of losing his sight and receiving a leader dog during the Oct. 31 Hall of Fame noon luncheon.



International Director Art Marson of LaCrosse, Wis., addressed the North Dakota Lions and guests at their Saturday evening Parade of Governors banquet. ID Marson also assisted district governors with awards presentations.



"Doctors" 5NE VDG Elect Robert Littlefield and 5NW VDG Elect Pat Vannet pose with their "patient," 5NW PDG Chuck Whitney, prior to a short skit promoting their new member orientation breakout session Saturday, Oct. 31.



Lions Foundation of North Dakota, Inc.

P. O. Box 273
Bowman, ND • 58623-0273

Sustaining Memberships

Roy W. Dockter, Joe Bohlman, Elaine Brinkman, Duane Zwinger, Mary Ann Zwinger, Cal Bender, Carla Bender, Paul Knudson, Sandra Knudson, Garry Freier, Loris Freier, Michael Moberg, Josh Ressler, Gerald Paulson, Jan Froemming, Wayne Westlund and Lawrence Ackerman.

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Guy Warren, Ronald J. Weikum, Clarence Werner, Elmer Wutzke, Paul Wutzke, Reuben M. Zacher, Dean M.

Zimmerman, Jimmy Zimmerman, Julius Zimmerman and Neal Dukart.

Memorials

Ross Espeseth in memory of Lion Keith McLean
Elaine Brinkman in memory of Lion Carl Jessen
Michael E. Klein in memory of Lion Carl Jessen
West Fargo Lions Club in memory of Emma Kercher
Carrington Lions Club in memory of Johnny Lessner

Bronze Clubs \$100 to \$300

Rugby Lions, Carrington Lions, Williston Lions, Lake Metigoshe Lions, Mandan Dacotah Lions, New Rockford Lions, Grand Forks Lions, Valley City Lions, Alexander Lions, Bismarck Prairie Rose Lions, Hooterville Flion Lions, Bismarck Lions, Hazen Lions, North Star Lions, Minot Lions, Minot Plum Valley Lions, Garrison Lions and Medina Lions.

Silver Clubs \$300 to \$500

Dickinson Lions, Mandan Lions and Sawyer Lions.

Gold Clubs \$500 to \$1,000

Minot Magic City Lions, Grand Forks Red River Lions and Grand Forks South Forks Lions.

Diamond Clubs \$1000

Capital City Lions (Bismarck)

100% Clubs \$10 per member

Elgin Lions Club

Your foundation board extends a sincere thank you for your continued support.



Lions Eye Bank
of North Dakota, Inc.

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KAREN THOMAS
Director,
Lions Eye Bank of ND

Eye Bank 'thanks'

I forgot to mention the Horace Lions as a big "thank you," also with the Harvey Lions for their donation of \$1,000 to Run for Vision.

MD5 Youth Exchange opening

The MD5 Council of Governors would like to officially inform all Lions of Multiple District 5 that the Youth Exchange Chairperson's term will expire on June 30, 2010.

The term will run from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013. If you would like an application email MD5 Sec./Treas. Mike Brand vclion@msn.com

Deadline for applying for this position is March 15, 2010.

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5NE GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Greetings to all the great Lions of 5NE. It seems like I am writing this report on a weekly basis instead of monthly.

State convention

Well, the 2009 state convention is now history. And the first item on my list is to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Mandan area Lions for putting on just a great and well-run convention. We here in Grand Forks have some big footsteps for next year's convention. And I want to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to the Lions of North Dakota to start making plans to come to Grand Forks for another great convention.

History was made at this convention, as it was the last state convention where we will meet as three districts. Each of the three districts met with their respective cabinets at 10 a.m. on Friday. Later, I had the honor of presiding at the first meeting of the new 5NE, which will come into being on July 2, 2010.

At this meeting a new Constitution was approved. A proposed set of by-laws was submitted for consideration. However, no action was taken on the by-laws. It is the plan that 5NC DG Jim Ruff and myself will appoint a committee to finalize the by-laws for next year.



LION WAYNE WESTLUND DISTRICT GOVERNOR 5NE

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And while I was happy to have the Constitution approved I am just as happy to be able to announce the election of 1stVDG Robert Littlefield

of the Fargo Lions Club as 5NE District Governor for 2010-2011. He will be assisted by 1st VDGE Steve Johnson of the Grand Forks Lion Club and 2nd VDGE Mel Olson of the Fargo Lions Club.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate these 3 gentlemen and I know the 5NE is in great hands with their leadership. Also elected was Lion Rick Swenson of the New Rockford Lions Club to a second 3-year term to State Eye Bank Board of Directors. District Governor Jim Ruff of the Lehr Lions Club was elected to North Dakota Lions Foundation Board of Directors. Lehr Lions Club becomes part of 5NE with the redistricting plan.

Visitation

Because of my surgery, my visitation has had to be put on the back burner. I have now been cleared to travel and following the MD5 meeting in Minot on Nov. 21 and 22, my wife and I will be leaving for Texas to spend Thanksgiving with our sons and their families. We will be gone about 12 days so may make 2 or 3 visits during December. To club presidents, I will give you a heads up. I will be looking to make arrangements to visit many clubs during January and February.

Surgery successful for Lilly Mann

Lions Clubs donate \$4,500

In September, the New Rockford Lions sent out a challenge to all Lions Clubs in North Dakota. The challenge was to raise money to help send eight-year-old Lilly Mann to China.

Lilly was born with Optic Nerve Hyperplastic, which is an underdevelopment of the optic nerves during pregnancy. The therapy uses stem cells from umbilical cord blood donations, to help regenerate the nerves. The treatment should help give her some sight.



Lilly Mann

Lilly is back from China now and her mother says there is already a difference in her vision. It could take up to six months for the total results of therapy to be known. She will still be going to doctors here in the states to follow her progress.

If your club hasn't had a chance to help yet, there is still time, mail your donations to chairperson Jodi Hirschert, 428 1st Ave North, New Rockford, N.D. 58356. The New Rockford Lions Club would like

to thank the following clubs for their donations to Lilly, all together \$4,500 was raised.

Strasburg Lions, Arnegard Lions, West Fargo Lions, Streeter Lions, Bismarck Prairie Rose Lions, Carrington Lions, Medina Lions, Bowman Lions, Rugby Lions and Elgin Lions. Minot Lions, Flasher Lions, Killdeer Lions, Williston Noon Lions, Valley City Lions, Washburn Lions, South fork Lions, Gateway Lions, Leonard Lions and Chaffee Lions. Braddock Lions, Zeeland Lions, Leeds Lions, Dakota Lions, Beulah Lions, Napoleon Lions, Capital City Lions, Berthold Lions, Kulm Lions, Jud Lions, Harvey Lions, Hebron Lions, North Star Lions, and Korner Lions.

5NC GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Hello to all Lions from 5 NC. Well another month has passed. October disappeared just like all the rest. The older I get the faster the time goes.

Thank you from the Lilli Mann family

N.D. "Knights of the Blind;" I am happy to report to you this "Thank You" letter from Christi Mann, mother of Lilli, and to share also the highlights of the successful 25-day trip to China and the progress of Lilli's treatment.

Lilli received five stem cell treatments through an IV on top of her hand. She also received physical therapy of electric wave therapy, acupuncture, acupressure, massage therapy, and fire cups. Chinese medicine believes to promote overall body health and wellness. Being healthy will make your body much more willing to accept the stem cells and let them work where they are needed most.

A VEP test (visual evoked potential) was taken on the first day to see how her optic nerves reacted. She had another VEP test before her last treatment and the results show a DEFINITE improvement. Lilli saw her first big "E" from the eye chart and was able to tell which way the lines of the "E" were pointing from 60 cm.

The peak of the stem cells maturity comes in 3 to 6 months. The trip was a success. It is vitally important that Lilli does not get a fever in the next six months because a fever can kill her stem cells. The Mann's were willing to experience the Chinese culture and spent many days sightseeing and also being stared at. The fact that Lilli and Christi have blond hair was quite the attraction. The Chinese would stare, take pictures and honk their car horns at us. Even the nurses, translators and doctors at the hospital, who are somewhat used to seeing blondes would fondle Lilli's hair and say over and over "very beautiful."

Lilli's last treatment was on October 16, and they were on their way home on Oct. 19, 2009. Life-long friends were made and contacts of other patients will be kept. Christi ends her letter by writing: "We do not know how to thank each and every Lions Club who donated to help us get Lilli to China for this amazing experience and opportunity.



**LION JAMES RUFF
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5NC**

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Your assistance has helped us beyond words and we will forever be grateful to live in such an amazing state that is so willing to pull together for one little girl and her chance at sight. So, from the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!! & God Bless! Love David, Christi, Lilli, Ava & Elle Mann."

State convention

The ND State Lions Convention was a success with approximately 270 Lions in attendance at the Mandan Seven Seas on October 30-31. It was a busy convention. The three districts each had short meetings with awards presented and cabinet reports given. They then split up and went to their respective "2 New District" meetings of 5NE and 5NW. Elections were held. Newly elected Lions were District Governor Elect Lion Bev Charles, Bismarck member of the Prairie Rose Lions Club. First Vice District Governor Elect, Lion Pat Vannett, Mandan, member of the Mandan Dacotah Lions Club, Second Vice District Governor Lion Gary Arman, Bismarck, member of the Bismarck Capitol City Lions Club.

In the 5NE meeting the newly elected Lion members were District Governor

Elect Lion Robert Littlefield, Fargo, member of the Fargo Lions Club, First Vice District Governor Elect, Steve Johnson, Grand Forks, member of the Grand Forks Lions Club and Second Vice District Governor Lion Mel Olson, Fargo, member of the Fargo Lions Club. Congratulations to all. Their terms will start after the Sydney, Australia International Lions Convention in 2010.

A special congratulations to PCC Brach Johnson, Bismarck, North Star Lions member on receiving the Hall of Fame award.

I was also pleased to award my "Spark Plug" award to the president of the Fredonia Lions Club, Lion Larry Hehr and his wife Lion Maureen Hehr, on their accomplishments to their club in the three short months of being members. Eighteen new members are listed on the roster.

The club has completed two successful fundraisers, two service projects, club visitation, region meeting attendance, & took advantage of the New Member reduced registration fee at the State Convention. They are well on their way to receive the "MD5 Rookie of the Year Award." I encourage all club sponsors in 5NC to promote this "Rookie Award" by helping educate the new member on the steps needed to complete the process. If you have any questions on the requirements email me at the address above. The Hehr's also received IP Eberhard Wirf's pin from ID Art Marson, LaCrosse, WI, speaker for the afternoon luncheon.

Also, congratulations to the Lehr Lions Club President Donna Ruff for applying for the Community/Cultural Award for District 5NC. Chairman Lion Doreen Clock, Minot, presented the award. Five clubs had entered the contest. Thank you to all clubs that participated - Bismarck, Hooterville, Medina & Plum Valley.

Peace Poster contest

I have received five winning peace posters from these clubs in our district: Gackle, Napoleon, Wishek, Lehr, (2 contests). These two clubs: North Star and Plum Valley, also have contests and will get their winning posters to me. If

MEDINA



The Medina Lions Club hosted a Halloween Party for Area Youth. Lion Ann Dammel greets Spongebob Squarepants.



Lion Ann gets ready to toss the beach ball.



Lions Marvin Dockter and Ray Heupel prepare the pinata.



A little pirate takes a swing at the pinata.

5NC continued from page 4

there are other clubs that are sponsoring a contest and forgot to send me the post card, let me know before the deadline of Nov 20 so I can deliver your poster to Minot at the MD5 Council meeting. Thank you clubs for sponsoring this contest for our 11-13 year old youth in our communities.

Club visitations

Club visitations are going well. See article on the Streeter Lions Club for the induction of women into their club. Thank you to Lion ElRay Fercho for taking the action step of "Move to Grow" by sponsoring all these ladies. Orientation of the new members in the surrounding region is being planned. I look forward to all the club visits in the future. That is the exciting part of being District Governor. I'm hoping for a mild winter so Lion Donna & I can say "We're on the Road Again" to come visit your club. Until next month remember 'We Serve' with an open heart. IP Wirf's theme song.

Reminder: ND Lion DEADLINE is the 7th of the month!
NO Exceptions!

STREETER



DG James Ruff presenting Lion Milton Iszler with a plaque for 40 years as a Streeter Lions member.



New members of the Streeter Lions Club are, from left, Lions Joann Wieland, Margaret Williams, Peg Perman, Arlene Veil, Elta Schauer, Lisa Haadem, Jill Schlecht, sponsor Lion Elray Fercho and DG James Ruff.

Lions Awards Night at Streeter Club hosts annual buffalo feed

Streeter Lions Club's annual visitation was on 5NC District Governor James Ruff's schedule for Tuesday evening, Nov 2, 2009, at the Streeter Cafe with these 3 items on the agenda: "Ladies Night," "Awards Night" and "Induction of eight new women Lions.

The new members were all sponsored by Lion ElRay Fercho, Streeter. New member, Lion Sharon Schlecht, was unable to attend. The Streeter Lions Club has been an active service organization in its community for the past 56 years, chartering on April 9, 1953. In fact the club just completed its largest and longest held fundraiser on October 30, the 50th anniversary of the famous Streeter Buffalo Supper.

The City of Streeter was booming again when 1700 people came from all parts of the country to eat buffalo. The Lions club partners with other service organizations, volunteer in the community and many former Streeterites who were born and raised, but have moved away, schedule to come home for the weekend to help.

A portion of the money raised this year will be used to support an air conditioner project for their city's



Perfect attendance award recipients for 2008-2009. Front row, Lions Bryan Spitzer Milton Iszler. Middle, Arnie Schumaker, Lloyd Schopp, Lloyd Veil, Elray Fercho and Reuben Ackerman. Back, Don Gienger, Jeff Veil, Mike Zimmerman, Clyde Reister, Tim Dewald. (Missing is Darwin Kopfmann)

American Legion Hall.

This is the biggest night of the year for this small community. This event happens every last Friday in the month

of October. Congratulations to the club in keeping with the Lions motto 'We Serve' - buffalo that is!

5NW GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Greetings fellow Lions, Let me congratulate Williston Lions Club on 75 years of Lionism.

Welcome new Lions Neal Dukart, Elgin, Brent Swanson, Glen Ullin; Nancy Rothe, Hazen; Josh Wessels, Richardton; Keith Jacobson, Williston; and Stuart T. Langager, Williston. Congratulations to my newest knights for the blind: Dale Froemming, Elgin; Frank Brown, Glen Ullin; Doug Rothe, Hazen; John Gengler, Richardton; Gregory Mc Nary, Williston; Terry Oxendahl, Williston; and Silas Langager, Williston.

It's been a very busy month with club visitations and the State Lion's Convention in Mandan. Speaking of the State Convention I would like to congratulate DGE Bev Charles for 5NW and DGE Dr. Robert Littlefield for 5NE and wish them well. Also, I congratulate VDG Pat Vannett, 5NW, and VDGE Steve Johnson, 5NE, on their elections, and 2nd VDG Mel Olson, 5NE, and Gary Arman, 5NW.

The new Eye Bank and Foundation members representing 5NW are as follows:

Eye Bank:

2yr. term: Joy Venzke

3yr. term: Dr. Charles Whitney

3yr. term: Dan Vondrachek

Foundation:

3yr. term: Chris Helgesen

I think we all need to thank all the convention workers as they did an awesome JOB! Wasn't our noon speaker



**LION KEVIN VANNETT
DISTRICT GOVERNOR
5NW**

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great! What a message DG Len Quinn brings to Lionism! Leader Dogs for the Blind and Lions are fortunate to have such an inspirational speaker.

Also, a very special thank you to ID Art Marson. The stories he shared about Lionism touched our hearts. Wasn't it great to see all those Peace Posters at the Convention? Our youth are so talented.

Now let's talk about MERL. We know:

M is for membership. Are we putting

membership on our club agendas? We definitely need to make an action plan.

E is for Extension. We all need to look at our regions and see where we can start a new lions club. Every community deserves a lion club.

R is for Retention. Our clubs need to figure out why we are losing lions members. Maybe we just need to talk to them and LISTEN to them.

L is for Leadership. All club officers should make a commitment to attend the training that we provide them. I encourage all lions to consider attending the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institution. You will receive awesome leadership training.

O is for Orientation. We always need to remind our lions about our history and our purpose - WE SERVE.

I want to inform everyone about a wonderful opportunity to attend the MD5 Convention from June 3-5, 2010, at Saskatoon, SK. We are putting a bus together if we get enough signed up. The cost is \$150, which covers travel and refreshments. Contact DGE Robert Littlefield or 1st VDG Pat Vannett.

Also remember next year's state convention will be held Oct. 29 & 30 at Grand Forks. Register early.

Notice: Policy Change

PDG Chris Voegele, Treas.
Lions Foundation of North Dakota
PO Box 273
Bowman, ND 58623

In the past, you were instructed to mail all donations for Vision USA to the Lions Foundation of North Dakota with Vision USA in the memo part of your check. This has been changed.

In the future, please make your checks payable to and mail to:
North Dakota Optometric Assn.
921 South 9th Street Suite #120
Bismarck, ND 58504

Please continue to put Vision USA in the memo part of your check. This goes into effect immediately. Thanks for your support.

We ENJOY sharing your information with others who share your dedication to the cause of Lionism!

Send us your stuff!

Mail to PO Box 309

Garrison, ND 58540

or e-mail:

editors@bhgnews.com

N.D. Leadership Seminar successful

The 2009 North Dakota Leadership Seminar (NDLS) was another big success. The seminar was held at the University of Mary in Bismarck on May 29, 30 and 31. NDLS had 115 Ambassadors and 91 volunteers in attendance. It should be noted that no volunteers are paid for their time, and many of those volunteer over 100 hours each year.

Ongoing volunteerism is a core value of NDLS. One Ambassador from each high school in ND is invited to attend the seminar. Neither the ambassadors nor the high schools are charged a fee to attend. The NDLS committee raises all of the funds for the Ambassadors to attend. To qualify as an Ambassador, the students will be in their sophomore year in high school. Planning has already begun for the 2010 seminar, which will be held June 4, 5 and 6. NDLS has been providing this unique seminar since 1981.

NDLS receives financial support from many resources, including a number of ND Lions Clubs. Lions Clubs donated just under \$2,000 this past year and is an important part of the fundraising process.

Attached is the income and expense report for NDLS for the 2008 - 2009 seminar year.

For more information on NDLS or to request a speaker for a Lions Club meeting call Scott Ressler at 800-711-7397 or e-mail him at s_ressler@msn.com.

INCOME

CONTRIBUTIONS	
Individual	\$470.00
Corporate	\$7,199.68
Banks/Credit Unions	\$5,475.00
Lions	\$1,995.00
GFWC	\$785.00
Amvets/Legions/Eagles/Elks	\$325.00
REC Roundup Dollars	\$1,400.00
Kiwanis/Optimists/Jaycees	\$400.00
NDLS Alumni	\$1,000.00
OTHER INCOME	
Junior Staff Fees	\$2,784.00
Banquet Tickets	\$1,665.00
CD/Ckng Interest	\$253.71
Charitable Poker Tournament	\$1,710.00
Total Income	\$25,462.39

EXPENSES

Sec. of State fees	\$20.00
PO Box rent and postage	\$237.65
Insurance	\$1,409.00
Busing	\$150.00
T-shirts	\$703.58
Security	\$480.00
University of Mary	\$18,020.96
Seminar Expense - other	\$1,322.42
Website registration fees	\$166.00
Office supplies	\$41.85
Charitable Gaming Expense	\$265.00
Speaker Expense \$100.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$22,916.46

EMERADO ARVILLA



Seen here are Midway School's finalists in the Emerado/Arvilla Lions Peace Poster contest. They are Cassie Bina, Cassandra Molina and Cole Delorme. The smiling Lion is (you guessed it!) Lion President Dennis Anderson.



The smiling young lady in the center is Elisa Rodrigues, the overall winner in Emerado/Arvilla Lions Peace Poster contest. Second and third are Kelly Green and Justina Beach. Oh, the two gents are Mr. Clark, their teacher and Lion President Dennis Anderson.

In Remembrance



- Kindred - Norman Lindahl
- Jamestown - Elmer Schweitzer
- Dickinson - Glenn Nickel
- LaMoure - George Kaftan
- Turtle Lake - Gerald Presser