

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

District 33N Bulletin



Writing a bulletin can be a difficult task especially when it comes to authoring words that will be of interest to a multitude of diverse readers. My original concept for writing your bulletin was to make this publication a learning tool. So my first issue had information about the up and coming Lion's year and the newly installed cabinet. That information reached across the entire spectrum of members because it was information that everyone wanted to know. Using that logic my first issue would be considered a successful endeavor, at least by me...

However, when I wrote the second issue there was a disconnect in concept and direction. The focus of that publication was aimed at our newer members mostly because they have the most to learn when it comes to Lionism. The information that was provided was instructive but dry. Hence I have rated that publication as a non-successful venture. Note to self...Failure is not an option. Issue number two will go down in my book as a learning tool for the author.

I will need to make this "issue number three" a lot more creative while maintaining my instructional theme. However, please understand I am not apologizing for a missed opportunity on issue number two. There were still items of interest and insights worth consideration. My lack came in the form of copy/paste in lieu of creativity. With that in mind, my theme will remain the same. This publication will remain a learning tool but I will attempt to entertain you while I offer you some informative bits of intuition.

Issue number three has been delivered to you about a week before the second Advisory Meeting. This Advisory Meeting will be held at The Crowne Plaza in Woburn Ma. on November 27th. The issue itself strives to pick up where issue number one left off. So read on and enjoy some instructive insights. I can only offer you food for thought. You can either digest it or ignore it. Neither of us needs to ponder your actions or lack of it.

Words to live by... Push will get a person almost anywhere - - except through a door marked "pull."

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Second District Advisory Meeting



Is there anything cuter than penguins? I think these penguins are twins and they are bearing gifts. Now how cute is that?



We are about to prove, once again, that an Advisory Meeting can be agenda driven as well as organized and time conscious. On Monday November 27, 2017 we will meet at The Crowne Plaza located at 15 Middlesex Canal Park in Woburn Ma. for the Second District Advisory Meeting.

The meeting itself will feature a brief social and cash bar which will begin at 6:00 PM. followed by our Advisory Meeting which will begin promptly at 6:30 PM.

The meal choices will be a welcomed change of pace for some of you. Meatloaf, Vegetarian or Gluten Free and will include a garden salad, ice cream with chocolate sauce plus either coffee or tea. If you are pro-active you signed up early and paid only twenty one dollars for your repast. If you were hesitant about signing up and decided to go after the early bird special cutoff date then the meal will cost you twenty six dollars. The cutoff date for registration is November 20, 2017, after which the early bird choices are no longer available to you. You will then have a choice of one meal and it is called meatloaf.

Personally I love meatloaf because it is one of those things that my wife cooks very well. She varies her recipe from a standard hamburger and pork mix to a ground turkey based meatloaf. Naturally ketchup makes both of them taste great. Hmmm...Wondering if I have to bring my own bottle of ketchup to the advisory dinner meeting?

Please also remember to bring your Toys for Tots donations to this Advisory Meeting. I do believe we will follow the same format as we saw at the First District Advisory Meeting. The business meeting will flow throughout the meeting to expedite the agenda. The goal will be to be done between 8:30 and 9:00PM.....



Patient: Doctor, Doctor You've got to help me! I just can't stop my hands from shaking...

Doc: Do you drink a lot?

Patient: Not really- I spill most of it!

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Mid Winter Convention/The Dark Side



The Mid Winter Convention and celebration is scheduled for February 2-4 at the Hilton on Forbes Road in Woburn. The theme for this weekend is “Star Wars.” We want you!

Think of this weekend as a rehab stint that your loved ones recommended you take “a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away”.

Ok I have to be honest. When I heard that the theme for the Mid-Winter Convention was going to be “Star Wars” I had no idea what that meant. I knew there had been a whole series of inter-connected movies but I had really only seen the first one in its entirety.

The rest of the sequel movies I had only seen parts of. So I do not know much about their content or a lot about the characters. I do, however, know that the whole purpose of these movies is to chronicle the battle of good versus evil. I also know that the “Force” is the undefined power which is composed of both light and dark elements.

That shady character in the left hand margin at the top of this page is Darth Vader, also known as Anakin Skywalker and father to Luke Skywalker. Vader was seduced by the allure of the dark side. Hence he becomes the central figure on the side of evil.

Luke Skywalker is a Jedi Master and used the FORCE as a weapon of good to defeat the Galactic Empire and to defeat the Sith in a later sequel. Luke is the central figure representing good. I would like to say this is all you need to know but this is only the most basic of basic beginnings in this epic film series. Most of you know more than my lay person narrative so let’s talk more about the actual event and weekend.

It is important to note that there is no assigned seating during the Friday night get together so please feel free to sit with friends and family as your heart desires.

The Friday evening banquet will feature the “Star Wars” theme. Costumes are encouraged but not mandatory. The meal is a pizza & salad buffet. I am told that there will be a good variety of pizza pies. This is not confirmed but I believe there will be the standard cheese pizza plus a meat variation, a vegetable possibility and even a gluten free pizza pie. Eat up! Seconds and thirds are encouraged. The finale will include dessert plus coffee or tea.

There will be a Saturday Awards Luncheon offering a cold cut buffet.

Saturday’s banquet you have a choice of Baked Haddock, Beef Short Ribs or Mushroom Rissotto.

The weekend will conclude with a full hot breakfast on Sunday morning. The deadline for booking your rooms is January 3, 2018. Please hurry and join us for the weekend.

Gloria Steinem- The ends and means are a seamless web.

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Holiday Wishes from above?

Fellow Lions,

It seems hard to believe the holiday season is upon us but as the old saying goes, "Time flies". I would like to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your service to others and to each other. It is people just like yourselves who make a difference and offer hope for the future. My family and I wish you and yours all the blessings of this season. Take time over the coming weeks to enjoy time for yourselves and with your family and friends because YOU matter too and while we all do important work serving our community as Lions, nothing is more important than family.

DG JIM

Happy Holidays my Fellow Lions,

I wish to start by thanking our District Governor for his devotion to Lions and aiding us all as Lions.

With the Holidays quickly approaching I wish to Thank You all, my Fellow Lions for your dedication to Lion-ism and your continued desire to aid those in need.

It is people like you that makes my job as a 1st Vice District Governor as enjoyable as it is. Wishing All a Glorious Holiday Season.

1 VDG Frank Bertolino
District 33N
Thank you

Welcome to the Family new Lions

Billerica Lions Club
Ipswich Lions Club
Lexington Lions Club
Lowell Lions Club
Peabody Lions Club
Reading Lions Club
Salisbury Lions Club
Saugus Lions Club
Woburn Middlesex Lions Club

Leslie A Ayers and Susan M Moreira
Charles L. Flowers
Michael J Longo
Linda Dixon
Barbara A Duford
Joanne F Crowley and Robin D Lesser
Angelica Medina
Luis L Martinez
Jennifer M Dacosta and Joyce M Parker

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

WE ARE FAMILY

Last year I had the honor of being a zone chair. The experience was profound in that it opened my eyes to how other clubs operated. One of the main functions of a zone chair will always be to visit other clubs and assist them by answering questions or simply by making yourself available when help is needed. In other words, the main function of a zone chair is resource allocation at the zone level.

About six months into my tenure I realized that most lions would truly benefit by visiting other local area clubs. It was very easy to see that members have a tendency to fall into a rut within their own clubs or within their home club's hierarchy.

There are many different types of ruts and many different variations of hierarchies. First of all there is the rut obtained when a member tries to do too much within their home club. This includes, but is not limited to, membership functional involvement and the management of club affairs.

If you opt to chair almost every fund-raiser or take a permanent club office position you will stagnate both your personal development and your clubs growth. Learn to let go and get the entire membership involved if at all possible. Letting go can be hard but it is the best way for a club to grow. If you are in a position that no one else can do, then mentor another member. This action will lighten your burden and train someone else for future needs and duties.

Then there is the rut, or perhaps the sinkhole, where the established longer term membership is not willing to try things just because a similar idea failed once before. Times change.....People change and approaches change.....Just because an idea failed once before does not mean it will fail again. Learn from both your successes and your failures.

Abyss number three! "I just want to be active in my home club"....This rut goes against the title of this article. "We are family"....so why not visit your siblings once in a while.

If you do decide that you would like to visit another club other than your home club please observe all the proper procedures... Never visit a club without talking to that club's officers. Call or email the President or the Secretary of the club and discuss your desire to do a visitation and be as specific as possible about your reasons for wanting to visit. They will tell you the best time to do your visitation.

Whether you decide to speak at their meeting or not is totally up to you. Remember the goal here is to watch and observe how this other club does things and compare it to your home club's normal operating procedures.

One of the possible outcomes of a venture like this is the discovery of common ground. Perhaps there are events in the future that could be done by two or even three Lion's clubs together. Thus proving my title for this article, "We Are Family".

***A wise man can learn more from a foolish question
than a fool can learn from a wise answer.***

- Bruce Lee

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

New Year's Resolutions

If you are like me then every year at this time you make a promise to do something to better yourself. Sometimes it's as simple as joining the local gym or giving up something you know is bad for you or promising to lose a few pounds. What it is matters not. What it is "is not" the important thing nor is it the topic of this article. The important thing is how long before you fail and walk away from yet another New Year's Resolution.

Most of you are steadfast in your dedication to Lionism. You serve to the best of your ability every day of every year. So maybe it is time to make a pledge that you will be more likely to keep. I thought it might be fun to list a few ideas for resolutions that you will most likely keep and possibly even benefit from.

- 1) I will look for and strive to do one altruistic act every day. This is easier than it sounds. While driving, let another motorist pull in front of you. When getting your morning coffee tell the cashier you want to pay for two cups and pay it forward to the next customer.**
- 2) Promise yourself that you are going to lose a few pounds during the next calendar year. Weigh yourself on January first as soon as you get up and write down your current weight. Then take a (16 oz) bottle water with you every day. Drink a full bottle each morning and a second in the afternoon. This will aid you in reaching your goal. Weigh yourself once a week and only once a week to monitor progress. Make sure you eat protein at each meal.**
- 3) Make it your mission to increase membership in your home club. Find at least one person that is interested in attending a meeting at your home club and then sponsor that person in their quest to become a Lion.**
- 4) Make yourself a bucket list. Strive to write any number of things that you truly want to do in your lifetime then make a resolution to do at least one of them during calendar year 2018.**

"The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low and achieving our mark." Michelangelo

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Star Wars Horoscopes/Just for Fun

ARIES (March 21 - April 19) Star Wars Character : The Emperor

The Emperor has demonstrated his liking to inflict pain on people just as people born under the sign Aries often do. He feels he is at the center of the universe and he must be in control. He enjoys being a leader and his aggression and quick-tempered attitude also helps him with this.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) Star Wars Character : Chewbacca

Chewbacca is a dependable creature but he can tend to be stubborn. He likes material possessions and loves to win at games. He tends to hate being bossed around or losing and he may succumb to his physical strength when upset.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20) Star Wars Character : Ewok

Ewoks are playful little creatures, as are most Geminis. They tend to be extremely curious, craving knowledge but sometimes having short attention spans. For the most part they are charming and lovable beings but they can seem scattered and high-strung at times.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22) Star Wars Character : Luke Skywalker

Luke seemed to be somewhat whiney sometimes but he eventually developed the thick hard shell of a cancer. He is strong willed and persistent to get what he wants. He never shys away from a fight at the first sign of danger. Not to mention he began to master the element of mind manipulation.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Star Wars Character : Princess Leia

Leia adds a whole new meaning to high self-assurance which is evident in Leos. She is a nurturing person with great physical strength. Like many Leos she will see that her mission for good is completed and she is very optimistic about the outcome.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Star Wars Character : C3P0

C3P0 shows his efficiency when working for a good cause but he tends to be a little bit fussy when it comes to doing something out of the ordinary. Like many

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

Virgos he wants to stay out of the spotlight and he does well at picking up minute details.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) Star Wars Character : Obi-Wan Kenobi

As always Obi-Wan continues forward in his pursuit of justice and he is determined to succeed. He conveys his art of persuasion through the force. He displays his supreme intelligence and is very talented in obtaining balance between himself and his surroundings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Star Wars Character : Han Solo

Han is a powerful character. He also tends to be possessive and lusty which would explain Han's greedy nature. He feels threatened by Leia's attempt to order him around which displays the disliking Scorpios have for people who try to control them. He is often prone to suspicion and jealousy as seen in the empire strikes back. However, his resilience and passion lead him to get what he wants.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Star Wars Character : Yoda

Yoda is superbly wise and he has been known to spread this wisdom widely. He seems to be impatient and pushy when people take his teachings too lightly. As always his philosophical side always peeks through.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Star Wars Character : R2D2

R2's ambition and inexhaustible desire to reach their goals/destination. He is a very loyal, sometimes going to great lengths to help someone out. He is a very social unit winning the hearts of many with his cute personality.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Star Wars Character : Darth Vader

Vader can be cruel and torment people who disagree with him but deep down there is a peace loving, friendly side to him. He has a knack for inflicting pain on people and he uses his intellect during battle.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Star Wars Character : Lando

Lando is the typical character with his head in the clouds. He is self-sacrificing but may be too passive to stand up to Vader. He became fairly pessimistic when

December-January 2017

Issue #3

~ DG James Wagner ~

1st VDG Frank Bertolino ~ 2nd VDG David Wilson

CS Tracy Griffin ~ CT Marcel Plouffe

put under pressure. He also poses as a chameleon wanting to change his scenery on occasion.

“You cannot control what happens to you, but you can control your attitude toward what happens to you, and in that, you will be mastering change, rather than allowing it to master you.” Sri Ram

If you worry about what might be, and wonder what might have been, you will ignore what is.” (Anonymous)

Why is it that if someone tells you that there are 1 billion stars in the universe you will believe them, but if they tell you a wall has wet paint you will have to touch it to be sure?

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 27, 2017--Second Advisory Meeting (Crowne Plaza, 15 Middlesex Canal Park Woburn Ma) Featuring Toys for Tots, Peace Poster Contest, Veterans recognition, club celebrations, committee reports and more...

February 2-4 --Mid Winter Convention (Hilton, Forbes Road Woburn) Join us....this year's theme is Star Wars....

February (TBD) --Third Advisory Meeting (TBD)

April 27-29 -- State Convention (Holiday Inn 31 Hampshire Street Manfield Ma)

May (TBD)—Fourth District Advisory (TBD)