



Service Blooms



June 2011

District Website www.5m2lions.org

Bill Curtis, Editor



DG Eunice Rucks inducts new member Tanya Edwards into the Belle Plaine Lions Club.



Singers at the Lester Prairie 25th Anniversary Left to right: Lion Shellie Guenther, Lion Lynn Monger, Lion Ralph Machemehl, and comedian who furnished the music for the trio.



District Governor Eunice Rucks presents the Lions Clubs International 2009-2010 Extension Award to Lion Nancy Mathwig for IPDG. Darwin Mathwig at the most recent cabinet meeting.



District Governor Eunice Rucks inducts 3 new members into the Arlington Lions Club. Left to right: DG Eunice, Joe Maki, sponsor Laura Maki and James Maki, Dan Farniok.

Blooms and Blossoms and...More

Greetings:

This is my last newsletter article I will be writing as your District Governor of 5M2.

On July 8th, in Seattle Washington, I will be "pulling the ribbon" for your next District Governor, Lion Sue Bowman.

It has been an interesting and fantastic experience for me having a chance to meet so many of you and seeing all the wonderful things that you do in your clubs. You have all been so very cordial.

The beginning of the year began with a personal tragedy for me and I felt that perhaps it would be best if I resigned. But through the encouragement and support of all of you, I continued and have found great comfort from each and every one of you.

When I started last July, my first task as a District Governor was to install a new member in New Zealand. We spent a week visiting in New Zealand after the International Convention. We stayed with Lion friends and Lion Helen asked me to install a new member in her club. I was excited and thought, WOW, this is quite a privilege!

Since that time I have had the opportunity to install several new members. When I do this, I always wonder if that new member will become as excited about being a Lion as I am.

At this point in our current Lion year, I would like to thank each of you for your hard work and continued support toward our goals as Lions. You have continued to be "Beacons of Hope" for those in your communities, working to help those who are in need of your assistance. Your clubs and individual members are continuously demonstrating what it means to be a Lion, and by doing the best you can, you bring our motto "We Serve" to a new level.

As I sign this off, this is not a good-by but an opportunity to say "We will be seeing you". My garden is now in glorious bloom as I know this district is. We have a great new team of leaders on board. I know that our district will continue to be the wonderful district that it has always been.

Yours in Lionism,

DG Eunice Rucks



District Governor Eunice Rucks

Governor's Travels

- June 20** **Hamburg Installation of Officers**
- June 23** **Special Olympics**
- July 5-9** **Seattle International Convention**

Diabetes Events

- Tour de Cure - May 21, 2011, Rochester
- Tour de Cure - June 4, 2011, Twin Cities
- Camp Sioux - June 12-24, 2011, Park River, ND
- Camp Needlepoint - August 14-27, 2011, Hudson, WI
- Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes - October 1, 2011, Brainerd, Mankato, Stillwater
- EXPO - October 15, 2011, Minneapolis Convention Center
- Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes - October 29, 2011, General Mills Campus

Join the MillionsSM. Help us Stop Diabetes[®] at

www.stopdiabetes.com

It Won't Be Long Now

DGE Sue Bowman

Some days I feel like a little kid counting off the days until Santa bring the goodies, others days I feel anxious, insecure, uncertain of the months ahead. But fortunately, most days I am excited and a bit nervous, yet confident I have been well trained for the position of District Governor for the outstanding Lions of 5M2.

Thank you Lions for your support and encouragement these past two years as I graduated from 5M2's "first" second vice district governor to district governor elect. Thank you DG Eunice for your advice and help, and always given with a smile.

Lion Bill and I will leave for Seattle June 29 for the completion of the Lions two year governor training program. The International Convention begins July 4 and ends Friday July 8 with an address by former US Secretary of the State Condoleezza Rice, followed by the installation of the International President, Dr. Tam and the class of 750 incoming district governors. July 8 promises to be a really big day for Lion Bill and me.

We will travel home July 10 and be ready to greet the Courtland Lions July 11, our very first club visit. July 12 we will have our second outing as we visit with the Lafayette Area Lions, followed by the Winthrop Lions on July 18. The request form for club visits is in the newsletter, please complete and schedule soon. It would be great if the clubs north, east and west of Mankato could schedule before the snow flies. The schedule is very open for the last two weeks of July, all of August and the first two weeks in October.

"I Believe" is the international theme for 2011-2012. Dr. Tam wants all districts to believe in and take action to strengthen our membership and care for our fellow Lions members as if they are family. I believe in our motto "We Serve". Dr. Tam feels an important part of our service this year will be caring for the environment. His goal is to plant one million trees worldwide. As part of my governor goals, I encourage all clubs to make tree planting a service activity. Planting one million trees with a membership of 1.35 million would roughly equate to two trees for every three members. Lion Bill is getting with the program; he planted two mulberry trees this week.

Dr. Tam encourages all of us to believe in service, believe in club members, believe in nurturing our future, believe in leadership, believe in projecting our image, and believe in giving back, especially through LCIF. The highlights of the international theme are available at <http://www.lionsclubs.org>.

Let the count down begin.....

A Lion's View

Ron Dahlke

Second Vice District Governor

With the beginning of summer 2011, also begins a "busy" season for Lions' sponsored activities.

From staffing numerous food and beverage stands to calling BINGO games;

From assisting with community celebrations and county fairs to serving treats to Senior Citizens in Assisted Living and Nursing Homes;

From sponsoring Youth Exchange students in area homes to assisting with Special Olympic events and Little League games....

All these events and more are the evidence and the heart of what Lions do best....Service to others!

Whatever your Club involvement in any summer activities, be sure to publicize your events. Take pictures of Lions in action and Lions having fun, then write a good caption or short accompanying article and send it on to a local newspaper. Most newspapers welcome this type of news and will find some space to print it.

Also very effective is a radio announcement of upcoming Club events and don't forget a press release to the same station giving some positive results of the event. Many times a person in the community will state "I didn't know the Lions were sponsoring that event". Don't let that be an excuse.

It is said that the best kept secret in some communities is the work of the Lions Club. The public needs to have an awareness of ALL THAT YOU DO! Not only will everyone have a better idea of what we're all about, your Club may also attract new members who share similar interests and talents.

Above all, be safe in your travels and in all that you do.

Remember--Your Club's Activities Do Make a Difference in your Community, in our Country and in our World! Thanks for all that YOU do!



We Serve

Journey for Service Report

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere "Thank You" to all of the Lions, Lioness and Lo Clubs in District 5M-2 for the support they once again gave to our annual Journey for Service. The clubs came through once again in great fashion, and in spite of the economy the Journey once again went over the \$16,000 mark for only the fourth time in the 21 years that have acted as chairman of this popular fundraiser.

The clubs in our 5M-2 District combined to contribute a total of \$6,200 - the fourth most all time! I can hardly begin to tell you all how very gratified I am for your continued support and cooperation the clubs and many individuals show me each year. From the great send-off breakfast hosted by Lions Steve and Debra Wasserman at Faribault right on thru the breakfast hosted by the Winthrop Lions on Thursday, and the delicious lunch thanks to the Glencoe Lions to the Day's End refreshment by Lion Gordy in Prior Lake. In between was the 'survival kit' thanks to Lion Sue Vos, the delicious jam from the Lion Myra Franke and Laura's home make cookies and coffee break at the N.E.W. stop on Friday morning. Individual Lions, such as Lion Ron at Henderson who made the trip to Arlington a day early to meet us (thus saving us finding a way around the flooded Minnesota River on Friday), go out of their way to make this such a pleasant and fulfilling trip each April. Of course the reminder and words of advice offered by PDG Mary S. were also appreciated. I extend a huge heartfelt Thank You to all Lions, Lioness and Leos of 5M-2 for your support!

Governor Eunice has not made the final decision where all the funds will be distributed but rest assured the contributions will go towards district-approved projects and will make the live of many better experience thanks to YOUR generosity!

American Diabetes Activities

You Are Invited

The American Diabetes Association, Minnesota Area is currently planning our two largest programs of the year: Camp Needlepoint/Daypoint and our Diabetes Expo. I personally want to invite you to visit one or both of these programs this year. As Lions Clubs I would like you to see how your dollars are being put to work.

Camp Needlepoint sessions are Sunday, August 14 to Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21 to Saturday, August 27. Since registration and camper pick-up are scheduled for the Sundays and Saturdays, we ask that you schedule a day during the week. The time at camp will include a tour of the camp facility, lunch with the campers and an opportunity to meet the medical staff, counselors and campers. Camp is located just south of Hudson, Wisconsin. Contact Chris Schaefer at 1-888-342-2383, ext. 6592 or by email at cschaefer@diabetes.org to schedule your club's visit. We ask that you not show up without first contacting us as we need to know who is on-site for the safety of the campers and staff.

Our Diabetes Expo will be held on Saturday, October 15th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Minneapolis Convention Center. It is billed as "everything you need to know about diabetes under one roof" including workshops, cooking & fitness demonstrations, free health screenings, an "Ask the Expert" area, and vendors offering the latest diabetes products and services. Last year over 5,500 people attended; we're expecting more this year. Lions can get involved in several ways:

- We invite you as a 5M Lion to come to learn more about diabetes.
- We need many day-of-event volunteers for this activity. Lions Clubs in may want to volunteer as a club. Many clubs helped last year and by wearing their vests gained more recognition for Lions Clubs. Volunteer for a few hours (time slots are 8:15 AM 12:00 PM or 11:30 AM 3:15 PM) or for the entire day. Please contact me at 1-800-676-4065, ext. 6592 or at cschaefer@diabetes.org if you or a club would like to volunteer.
- Several areas outside of the Twin Cities worked on organizing buses to and from the Expo for members of their community. Clubs from several communities in your district could set up a bus route with several stops to pick up people. Work with your local clinics, hospitals, churches, etc. to get the word out. If you are thinking about having a bus please contact me at 1-800-676-4065, ext. 6592 or cschaefer@diabetes.org for more information. All people will have free admission to the Expo and there will be free bus parking at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

We appreciate the support we have received from Lions Clubs in the past and invite you now to see how that funding is used.

COMMUNITY COOKOUT

Brats

FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH

5:00 TO 8:00 P.M.

ELLEDALE COMMUNITY BLDG

FREE WILL DONATION

**PROCEEDS GO TO THE
THE ELLENDALE AREA FOOD
SHELF**

Hamburgers

**BRING A FOOD OR DRY GOODS ITEM AND
GET A TICKET FOR TWO CASH DRAWINGS OF**

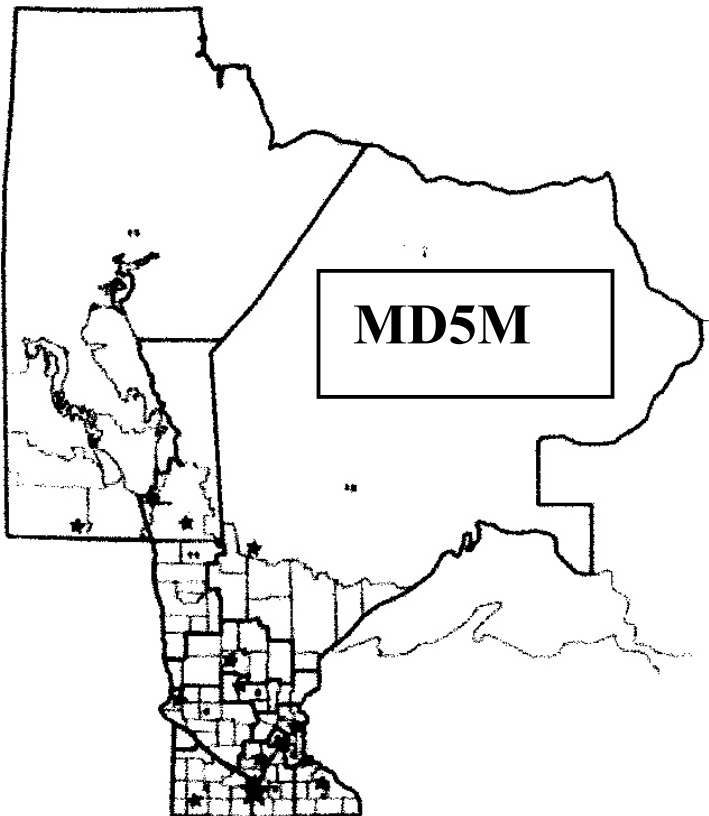
\$25.00 EACH

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

SPONSORED BY: ELLENDALE LIONS CLUB

Hot Dogs

Coffee



MUSIC IN THE PARK



Oak Leaf Park, Glencoe, Shelter #2

Sponsored by the

Glencoe Lions Club

Featuring **FREE** live music

Food and Refreshments will be available beginning at 6 p.m.

Music begins at 7 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded during the evening!

Schedule--

Wednesday June 15-- Blake Klaustermeier / Concertina

Wednesday July 13-- Jim Wendolek & Jerome Kadlec

Wednesday July 20-- The Thompson Family & Friends

Wednesday July 27-- George's Concertina Band

Bring a chair and bring a friend!



July 9-10, 2011



Saturday, July

- 10:00 Flea Market Sale
- 10:30 Bike Run - Call 800-874-6753 or www.platocustomconcepts.com
- 2:00 Plato Blue Jays vs. Cologne @ Cologne Bingo - Provided by our local 4-H Club
- 2:30 2nd Annual Bean Bag Tournament
Call Cody at 320-296-9495
- Bounce House for Kids
- 3:30 PORK CHOP DINNER
St. John's Pie & Ice Cream
- 5:00 Music by Jerome Kadlec

**Plato City Park
Plato, MN**

Plato Lion's Food Hut and Beer Garden open all day!

Sunday, July 10th



- 9:00 Made-to-Order OMELET BRUNCH
- St. Paul's UCC Silent Auction
- 9:30 Church Service
Donations go to McLeod Co Food Shelf
- 11:00 Hutch Clown Club
- 11:30 Kid's Games
- 2:00 Annual Duck Races
Proceeds pay for the Gift of Learning Scholarship
- Plato Blue Jays vs. Carver @ Plato

Proceeds go to fund local projects! For Information on Events, call 320-238-3115

Club Activities

Albert Lea - Finished highway cleanup. Donated \$100 to Boy Scouts. Gave two \$500 Scholarships to high school graduates.

Albert Lea Clover Leaf - Finished highway cleanup. Purchased baseball tickets for Lions All Star Baseball Game.

Albert Lea Lakeview - Donated to ecumenical food pantry, donated eye exam and glasses to a student. Donated \$50 to International Convention's Marching band. Donated \$50 to All Star Baseball tickets.

Amboy - Donated \$300 to Leader Dog, \$300 to Can Do Canines, \$300 to International Hearing Dogs, \$50 to local food shelf, \$25 to Youth Center, \$100 to Blue Earth Cty Fair, \$500 for TV for Amboy Library.

Arlington - Donated to Journey for Service.

Blue Earth - Club donated \$130 to the school's Community Service Class for Program at St. Luke's Care Center.

Brownton - Spring ditch cleanup. Donated to Brownton Police Dept. and 2 walkers for the Susan G. Koman breast cancer walk.

Carver - Donated \$50 to local family for house fire, sponsoring music in park, uniforms and Baseball equipment for local youth baseball.

Chaska - Did highway cleanup. Beer sales at Taste of Chaska. Donated to Chaska Lions Block Party Wagon. \$10,000 to Bountiful Basket Food Shelf of the CAP Agency.

Courtland - Donated to Nicollet Co. Relay for Life, Courtland 4H, Lions Youth Exchange, Vets On the Lake Resort, upgraded playground equipment in Courtland Park

Ellendale - Planted a Linden tree in memory of a deceased member. Shared medical equipment with local people. Gave scholarship to graduating senior.

Gibbon - Donated \$500 for Gibbon Fun Fest and \$599 for summer mowing at Wayside Rest.

Glencoe - Did food stand at Coburns. Purchased All Star Baseball tickets. Gave \$500 scholarship to GSL.

Green Isle - Helped set up and take down for Memorial Day Program. Worked Sibley East Lions Track Meet. Donated \$660 to Camp Needlepoint to sponsor one child.

Hamburg - Donated 3 \$500 scholarships. Donated to Diabetes Foundation and Ridgeview Foundation.

Henderson - Had spaghetti feed and donated proceeds to Sauerkraut Days **Hutchinson** - Completed Cash Wise Fundraiser \$150, Gave two Dollars for Scholars.

Jordon - Did road ditch cleanup. Worked at bloodmobile. Donated to Sheriff's Catfish Derby for Youth.

Jordaness - Had Garage sale. Gave out scholarships.

Lafayette & Area - Donated to Fire Department.

LeCenter - Completed ditch cleaning, sponsored 8-Team Track meet, visited local nursing Home giving out ice cream and cookies for Mother's day. Four students of the Quarter received \$100 scholarships each and two \$500 senior scholarships.

LeSueur - Worked Pioneer Power Swap Meet. Awarded scholarships. Donated to All Star Baseball.

Mankato - Donated to five sight grants.

Mankato Sunrise - Did highway cleanup. Made \$300 for working the Pioneer Power Swap Meet food stand.

Mayer Watertown DandyLions - Did highway cleanup. Adopted a park in Watertown. Participated in Watertown City Wide Garage Sales.

Minnesota Lake - \$50 to All Star Baseball Team. \$250 to Minnesota Lake American Legion Baseball Team. Provided food for Jazz in Park. Completed Highway Cleanup.

Montgomery - Unloaded food shelf truck twice.

New Auburn - Donated 22 treat bags for local children. Donated to GSL for transportation to Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

New Market-Elko-Webster - Donated \$1000 scholarship to local high school grad. Donated to local 3 day breast cancer walk. Donated to medical missionary to Haiti, local Cub Scouts, local man in bad car accident and supported local baseball program.

New Richland - Presented \$500 Lions Scholarship to NRHEG Senior.

Nicollet - Did ditch cleaning. Donated to Nicollet County Sheriff's Dept for Safety Ed. Program. \$3,500 scholarships for high school students.

Northfield Cannon Valley - Collected book for African Library. Had spaghetti supper, fun filled dinner and Elvis show. Gave two high school scholarships for seniors. Donated to St. John's Church Youth Group and Mn. Lions Eye Bank in

memory of fellow Lion.

Norwood Young America - Had Pork Chop Dinner, proceeds to Project New Hope. Had meat raffle. \$500 donated to Fun Run in memory of community member. 3 scholarships given. Donated \$400 to Sheriff Gold Tournament.

NYA-West Carver - Gave \$500 scholarship to student in Central School. Donated baskets for Relay for Life. Purchased All Star Baseball Tournament tickets.

Plato - 5 members attended Multiple Convention.

Prior Lake - Did highway cleanup. Collected items for Bridging. Donated Dictionaries for 3rd Graders. Purchased honor cords for Prior Lake Seniors graduation. Donated \$800 For Cub Scouts and \$1,050 for Winona State Foundations Scrubs Camp.

Silver Lake - Held Sausage Supper. Did highway cleanup. Donated to All Star Baseball tickets. Donated to family with 2 yr. old who has cancer.

St. Peter - Donated to St. Peter's all night graduation party. Donated to St. Peter Govenaires Drum Show, St. Peter Arts Center in conjunction with the Minnesota Valley Alternative School for 45 children with special needs, St. Peter Destination Imagination Team and Lions All Star Baseball.

Stewart - Completed Senior Dining.

Veseli Area - Completed Pitch and Hit Local and Sectional. Did sandbox fill, School Awards. Donated to Gary Flicek, Meleah Richter, Village of Lonsdale, Lonsdale Ambulance Program and Erin Skluzacek.

Victoria - Donated to Concerts in the Park \$500, 5M2 Marching Band \$100, Victoria Fire Dept. \$443, Mn. Lions All Star Baseball \$50.

Waconia - Did spring ditch cleaning. Had year end banquet.

Waterville - Did Highway cleanup, ongoing Bingo, Donated to Lions Eye Bank, \$500 to Hardship Case, \$3000 to Cty DAC for new trailer. Donated \$5000 to Waterville Festival.

Winsted - Had Sheriff Scott Rehmann speak. Had garage sale/food stand at Super Valu. Had pancake benefit for McKay Fiecke. Donated \$50 to Drug Box.

Winthrop - Upcoming Lego League Challenge and Newsletter.

LIONS QUEST

5m2 will be sponsoring a Lions Quest teacher training on Saturday, August 6, 2011 at Guardian Angels Church in Chaska, MN.

Thus far we have 22 signed up for the K-8 class. We have room for 14 more. If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in registering for the class, please let us know. We have a Core 4 Grant which will cover the expenses.

Lions Cathleen and Mike Williams



Val Kloekl from Sible East Schools receives first Darwin Mathwig Scholarship.

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Now is the time for each member to **SUBSCRIBE** to the **DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**.

The Governor would like every member to receive the newsletter. Have your club subscribe every member to this important communication.

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Eunice Rucks
5M-2 DISTRICT GOVERNOR
35493 226th Street
Henderson, MN 56044



Club Request for Governor's Visit

Please fill out the form and send it as soon as possible.

Club Name _____

Name and location of the meeting place
Dates in order of preference:

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Time of meeting _____ If social time _____

Breakfast, lunch or dinner: Yes / No

Joint meeting with another club?

Name of other club _____

Contact person: name, address, phone #, e-mail

List any functions you would like the governor
to do such as awards, inductions etc.

Send request by October 1, 2011
DG Sue Bowman
PO Box 215 Geneva, MN 56035
H: 507-256-4669 C:507-993-1991
s.bowman@frontiernet.net