



New 5M-2 District Officers Team



First Vice District Governor Elect Joan Blank and District Governor Elect Ron Dahlke for 2012-2013



3rd 5M-2 Vice District Governor Elect Harry Klenke for 2012-2013



5M Lions Snowman Mascot



Appreciation Award presented to Lion Laura Maki at the Governor's Banquet



This is Lion Shar Christopherson from the Coutland Lions Club. Shar took first place in the First Timers contest, she has been a member of the Coutland Lions since July, 2011.

Grape Vine

You Deserve a Break Today
 DG Sue Bowman
 We Are Family
 DG Sue Bowman



District Governor
 Sue Bowman

Thank you to all the Lions and guests who attended the 34th Annual Mid-Winter Convention! Attendance was 398, I hope all of you had a great time at our “family reunion”. There were great seminars: PIP Maynard Rucks spoke on

Membership; Lion Larry Winner addressed updates in diabetes; Dr. Abby Meyer spoke on the Lions Children’s Hearing Center; ID Dr. Gary Anderson and his wife Lion Cheryl shared the story of “The Path of Glasses”: Lion Jim Spille had the three finalists in the Write Off contest read their essays. If you attended the Mid Winter, please share what you learned with your members and encourage them to attend next February.

A very special thank you to Lion Karen and Lion Dennis Sandersfeld, convention co-chairs, for their outstanding leadership, and to the hard working Lions of Zone 7: Amboy Lions, Lake Crystal Lions, Mankato Lions, Mankato Key City Lions, Mankato Sunrise Lions, and Winnebago Lions. Thank you to all the Lions that helped make the Mid-Winter a success.

Lion Bill and I had tons of fun and learned a great deal in the process, and we sincerely thank all of you for the opportunity to serve the district.

Now that “the party’s over” we need to get back to work. The Zone Meetings will soon begin, please attend if possible. Club Presidents; please be prepared to talk about this year’s club successes. “Setting a goal is not the main thing. It is deciding how you will go about achieving it and staying with the plan”. Tom Landry Each club please be prepared to talk about your membership plan and the steps you are doing to achieve your goals.

In the January “The State of the District”, we had a total of 67 new members, 13 deceased members, and 69 that have dropped for other reasons. As an update, we now as a district have welcomed 88 new members, have grieved the passing of 18 members and have lost 119 members for other reasons. At this writing we are experiencing a net loss of 45 members. There are many reasons members drop that we have no control over, but let us all do what we can to never have a member drop because he or she feels are unappreciated or unaccepted into the Lions family.

“I Believe” President Tam’s theme for the year, anything is possible if as members we set a goal, a develop a plan and put the plan into action. Please make membership growth a priority in your club, it will enrich your club, your community and the new members you welcome into the Lions family, Your Lions legacy are those members you brought in to serve with you and after you. I believe positive membership growth is possible, with each club focusing on club growth in March, April, and May we will continue to grow our “We Serve” family. If you have question or need help please contact PID Maynard Rucks or me.

District Governor Sue Bowman Governor's Travels Governor Sue's Upcoming Travel Events 2012

March

- 1 New Richland Club Visit
- 6 Watertown Club Visit
- 8 Lester Prairie Club Visit
- 11 Veseli Club Visit
- 13 Belle Plaine Club Visit
- 14 Blue Earth Club Visit
- 15 Prior Lake Club Visit
- 16-17 Council of Governors Minneapolis
- 19 Zone 6 Meeting Northfield
- 20 Winnebago Club Visit
- 21 Zone 3 Meeting Shakopee
- 22 NEW Club Visit
- 27 Waconia Club Visit
- 28 Shakopee Valley Club Visit
- 29 Zone 7 Meeting Winnebago



International Director Dr. Gary Anderson and District Governor Sue Bowman presented Lion Sue Vos (middle) with the Lions International President's Medal



International Director Dr. Gary Anderson and District Governor Sue Bowman presented PDG Mary Ferleman, the Lions International President's Leadership Medal

A Lion's View

Ron Dahlke
District Governor Elect



How's everybody doing on their taxes? As in anything else, some rush to finish early, while others are content to complete their Form 1040's at the last minute.

Just as tax time is a your opportunity to see how you have done financially, now is also a good time for your Lions Club to review its activities and determine if all the goals have been or will be met:

- Are your monthly reports being submitted on a timely basis?
- Has your Club's membership increased as planned?
- Has your Club responded to the invitation to your local Zone Meeting?
- Have you signed up to attend the MD5M Convention to be held at Hinckley April 27-29?

With less than 4 months to go, there is still time to get things going to make sure all goals have been accomplished. Let's have a terrific finish to 2011-2012 and finish the year strong!

Reminder-- Information for 5M-2 Club Leadership Training will be sent to all Clubs when details are finalized.

Finally, I would like to thank all who attended the Mid-Winter Convention, for their support in my bid for DG. Hosting the hospitality room, with the help of my family, was a blast and I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and greeting each of you, and I do hope everyone enjoyed the Convention. Also, along with this article, I have submitted the recipe for the "Almond Bark Puff Corn" that was served in our hospitality room.

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!

From the kitchen of Lions Jean & Ron Dahlke, District 5M-2

CANDY COATED PUFF CORN

- 2 9 oz. bags of Old Dutch Puff Corn
- 1 20 oz. pkg of Almond Bark Vanilla coating

Cut Almond Bark in pieces approx. 1 inch in size (small pieces melt faster).

Place wax paper on counter or table and tape edges down. Empty both bags of puff corn in a pile on wax paper.

Melt Almond Bark in microwavable bowl; microwave for 2 minutes on high. Stir. Continue to microwave on high for 1 minute. Stir. Repeat this step until almond bark is smooth.

Immediately pour heated almond bark on puff corn, while having another person begin to toss the mixture to coat evenly. Allow to cool. Break in bite size pieces and store in airtight containers or zip lock bags.

Enjoy!...then buy more ingredients for another batch!!!

Joan's Thoughts

Joan Blank
First Vice District
Governor Elect



2012 Mid-Winter Review

5M2's Mid-Winter Convention has now come and gone and what a great time Lion Kevin and I had. I first need to thank all the Lions attending the Convention for their support and vote as I am now your 1st Vice District Governor Elect. As if it wasn't hard enough to remember the title of 2nd Vice District Governor, now there is this new one. Please don't worry about the correct title, as I am always more comfortable with just being Lion Joan.

We had a great turnout of 5M2 Lions. I do wish more were able to attend as Governor Sue had great speakers for her seminars and our guest of honor, International Dr. Gary Anderson and his wife, Cheryl, couldn't have been more fun and warm. They are truly great Lions. ID Gary, an optometrist, shared his passion about Lions and presented a seminar on his vision mission trips, explaining the path of recycled eyeglasses. I believe by the end of his presentation, half of the Lions attending were more than willing to sign up for one of his mission trips. He hopes to have a link on the International website soon, explaining how this would be possible for any Lion.

I came away from the weekend inspired and full of new Lions knowledge. When you hear personal stories regarding Can Do Canines, MN Diabetes Foundation, Children's Hearing Clinic, Write Off Winner, Peace Poster Winner and our efforts to recycle eye glasses, I can't help but swell up with pride knowing that our Clubs have played a part in these areas. I was delighted to visit with two Carver Lions (Tim and Tim) who have volunteered to be puppy trainers for Leader Dogs for the Blind and brought their puppies to the Convention.

The theme of "family" rang throughout the weekend, but none more than at the Friday night social with Lions dressing up as their favorite TV family characters. What a cast of characters there were. I couldn't be happier for Aunt Bea and Sheriff Andy (Lion Lynn Monger and Lion Duane Yurek from Silver Lake Lions) for winning the costume contest!

Again I would like to thank all who visited my hospitality room and contributed to the raffle drawings. Out of the proceeds, I will be purchasing a Kaptan Plus, a GPS unit, from Leader Dogs. I will be demonstrating this device at the spring Zone meetings as Lion Shirley Hesperheide and I continue to challenge each district to donate enough funds to purchase a Kaptan Plus from each region.

Thank you Zone 7 and Governor Sue for all your time and hard work in planning and hosting another great 5M2 Mid-Winter Convention. I look forward to the next convention in 2013!



Winner of the Waterville special drawing at the noon luncheon was Lion Mike Mitchell of the Lonsdale Lions Club of a "Piece of the Dome" framed.



Al Batt guest speaker for Saturday luncheon.



First Vice District Governor Ron Dahlke and Immediate Past District Governor Eunice Rucks were presented the Lions International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation Award at the Cabinet meeting in Mankato, MN on February



Dr. Abby Meyer from the Children's Hearing Center was one of the seminar presenters



Speaker at the Sunday morning Brunch was a representative of Can Do Canine Jean Lundquist and Juno a Service Dog for Diabetes.



Lion Sheila Stahler, Peace Poster Chair, Lion Janet Knakmuhs, Peace Poster Chair, International Director, Lion Dr. Gary Anderson, Sadie Mortenson, Peace Poster Winner



Working hard at the Registration Table during the 5M-2 Mid-Winter Convention in Mankato, MN was Left to Right: Convention Chair Dennis Sandersfeld, Ron Beatty, Bill VanderSiluis



Cindy Walters Cabinet secretary at work at credential table.

Participating in the "Dress as your favorite TV Person"



Lynn Monger and Duane Yurek
First Place TV character look alike Winners
Aunt Bea and Sheriff Andy



Tom & Mary Ferleman
Poppy & Olive



Karen & Dennis Sandersfeld
Miss Kitty & Sheriff Dillon



Sue Bowman
Lovey Howell



Charlette and Lowell Abbas
Ma & Pa Kettle



Joan and Kevin Blank
Morticia & Herman Monster



5M2 Clubs donated eye glasses at convention.



District Governor Sue Bowmen presented the District Award Plaque to Immediate Past District Governor Eunice Rucks for 2011-2012.

Faribault's Zack Gohlike Participates In Lions Exchange Program

This past summer I had the opportunity of a lifetime, thanks to the District, Faribault and Piestany, Slovakia Lions Clubs. Because of their generousities, I had an opportunity to participate in a two week sports camp in Piestany and to spend another two weeks with host families in Slovakia and the Czech Republics. Through my month long stay in these two ancient countries, I learned a lot about the people and their cultures.

After all the necessary preparations on July 15, 2011, I left on my maiden flight from Minneapolis to Amsterdam and then to my final destination, Vienna. I was picked up by the camp director and her daughter who briefly showed me around the city and then drove me to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia. Lion Ivan Kuban from the Piestany Club drove me to the Suncamp site.

To my surprise, there were participants from thirty countries at the camp, and we all took part in the official opening ceremonies of the camp on July 17th. During the two week camp, we got to know each other really well through various activities such as: touring a typical Piestany thermal spa, motor boating on Lake Slnava, canoeing on the River Vah, visiting Bratislava and several castles in the area, and camping for three days in the Tatra Mountains. We also found the time to bowl, play tennis, volleyball, European football, ping pong, water skiing and even took part in summer bob-sledding. Through these, and other activities, like visiting a typical disco nightclub, and participating in the Evening of Nations, we got to know each other really well. After sharing our backgrounds and customs for two weeks, we indeed, became a united international family. We even continue to keep in touch through facebook.

I was impressed with Slovakia's ancient environment. When traveling through the countryside, I noticed many buildings with tiled roofs, churches in each small village, narrow cobbled roads, and numerous castles in various conditions.

In this ancient environment, the country is becoming westernized. They love American brand jeans, shoes and sport gear. The discos play American music, the students are taught English at all levels and they are very familiar with our country's political and social systems. Although I was in a foreign country, I felt comfortable because I could connect with their western attitudes.

Following the two week camp, I stayed for a week with the Dodo Adamec family in Trnava, Slovakia. Dodo, his wife and three English speaking sons, live in a spacious apartment in this ancient walled city dating back to medieval times. I was told that this is one of the major seats of Christianity in Slovakia. It is quite frequently called a "Small Rome", and takes pride in visits from Pope John Paul and its twelve large 16th, 17th and 18th century Catholic churches within its walls.

I felt at home with the Adamec family, since Faribault Lion Otto Luknic is a close friend of the family, and therefore, I thought they went overboard to show me as much as possible during a fun filled week. They took me to a concert, disco, visited castles and drove a lot through the countryside.

I also learned a lot about their school system. Their school year runs from September through July, there are no sports played in schools, they catch the city bus or walk to school, religion is taught, and there is a lot of homework.

Ruza, Dodo's wife, is a great cook. We had soup with every

meal, and I loved their dumplings, pork and sauerkraut dinner the most! After being with the family for a week, we not only became closer, but I also learned more about the life of a typical Slovak family. I enjoyed my stay and appreciated the hospitality of the Adamec family very much.

My final week before going home was spent staying with the Stoklasova family in Tabor in the Czech Republic. Members of the host family included Petr (father), Milada (mother), Karolina and Anna (daughters), and Eric (son). Tabor is a city of 35,000 in the Southern Bohemian Region. Tabor is named after Mount Tabor, which is believed by many to be the place of the Transfiguration of Christ; however, the name became popular and nowadays translates to "camp" or "encampment" in the Czech language. The highlight of my stay was visiting Prague and seeing the Tower of Saints and the Prague Astronomical Clock in the main square. Prague's Old Town Square is often bursting at the seams with tourists in the summer. In Prague I noticed the narrow streets and the ancient buildings like in Slovakia. I noticed the price of gas was \$7.00-\$8.00 per gallon. Beef was very expensive in the grocery stores and groceries in general were more expensive than in Minnesota. Milk was purchased from vending machines. I saw many fast food restaurants like we have in the United States. Like in Slovakia I noticed many religious statues and crosses reflecting the deep religious roots. The communists tried to eradicate religion but because of the deep religious roots they did not succeed. Today the churches are filled with young and old. We watched movies with the family and played games, ate lots of good food and visited pubs and went to a concert. I enjoyed meeting the family members and the grandma prepared dumplings for us that were delicious. I enjoyed my stay and appreciated the hospitality of the Stoklasova family very much.

My month stay in the Slovak and Czech Republics went by really fast. I got to be very close to the thirty participants from other countries. I felt they shared the same ambitions as we do in the United States. Like in the United States, they enjoy their freedoms and they want to enjoy successful careers and a good life. Again, I would like to thank the District, Faribault, Piestany, Slovakia Lions Clubs for being so generous and hospitable to me. Without them it wouldn't have been possible for me to experience one of my most important parts of my life so far. Hopefully, I will be able to visit Slovakia again in the near future. I will never forget the trip and the experiences I had. I would be willing to share my experiences with other Lions Clubs in the District.

Zack Gohlike, I can be reached at 507-332-0433

Youth Exchange Host Families Needed for July

We are looking for Host Families For Incoming Youth Exchange Kids this July. If you are interested Contact Lions Chris Or Janet Hall For More Information. Hall@Hutchtel.Net, 320-587-9783.

“From The Field”

Jordaness Lions Eye of the Lion Convention News

12 club members attended the 34th Annual Mid-Winter District 5M-2 Convention. The attendees had a great time, once again. **Fish Dinner** The Jordaness will be sponsoring a Fish Dinner on March 16. Serving hours are from 5pm to 7:30pm at Louis Hall; St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Adult dinners are \$10 and children under 12 years of age are \$5. The dinner includes fish, Cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, rolls, and bars/cookies. Take out dinners are also available. This is a fundraiser for our group that raises money for the Jordaness Scholarship Fund and Lions projects.



COURTLAND LIONS CLUB

PANCAKE, SAUSAGE, EGG



BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2012

ADULTS: \$7.00 CHILDREN 12 - 5: \$4.00 UNDER 5: FREE

COURTLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
COURTLAND, MN

SERVING 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COURTLAND LIONS CLUB SHOULD CONTACT A LIONS MEMBER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Jordaness Lions Fish Fry



we're better...we're fresher...we're tastier!

Adult \$10 Children (12 and younger) \$5
take out available

Friday, March 16, 2012

5:00 - 7:30 PM

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church-Louis Hall
Jordan, Minnesota

Come support the Jordaness Lions

proceeds go to
Jordan High
Scholarship Fund
Lion Community Projects

M E N U
Fish Dinner
Includes:
All you can eat fish
Coleslaw
Potato Salad
Beans
Bun
Dessert
1 milk or soda pop



Glencoe Lions Club Annual SPRING BRUNCH

Menu Includes:

Pancakes, Sausage, Ham, Eggs, Fruit, Milk, Juice, & Coffee



All you care to eat!

Sunday



We Serve

April 1, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 12:30 P.M.

Pla-Mor Ballroom - Glencoe, MN

Adult (11 & up) - \$9.00

At Door - \$10.00

Children ages 4-10 - \$5.00

(Children's Tickets available at door only)

Children 3 and under free

Tickets are available at: Franklin Printing,
Hite Hardware or from
any Lions Club Member

**GRHS
HEALTH FAIR**
Free
Blood Pressure Check
Diabetes Risk Assessment
Glucose Screening
(8 Hrs. Fasting Recommended)
Health Education Materials
Hearing Literature
Eye Bank Literature

Proceeds Go To Community Projects

Collection boxes will be available for used Eye Glasses and Hearing Aids



**Alden
Lions**



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

*Featuring Denny Brue serving his
Famous Recipe Pancakes*

PANCAKES - SCRAMBLED EGGS - SAUSAGE
JUICE - MILK - COFFEE

AT THE ALDEN SCHOOL

SUNDAY MARCH 25, 2012

9 AM TO 12:30 PM

**OUR ALDEN COMMUNITY BENEFITS
FROM LIONS FUNDRAISERS!**



We Serve

Free Will Donation
All proceeds benefit
community projects



We Serve

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Sue Bowman
5M-2 DISTRICT GOVERNOR
PO Box 215
308 S Central
Geneva, MN 56035



Minnesota Lake Lions

The Minnesota Lake Lions met on Wednesday January 25 for their regular meeting. During the meeting President Vern Bremer presented a Melvin Jones Fellow to Lion Ken Hiscock for his dedicated humanitarian services to Lions Club International. The Melvin Jones Fellow is the highest award given out to a Lion member. Ken Hiscock is a charter member of the Minnesota Lake Club and has been a very active member in everything the club does.



Fellow Lions, Lioness and Leos

By Lion Jack Webster
Journey chairman

I am Lion Jack Webster, chairman of the Journey for Service. A couple of things: No. 1, I want to remind you that the annual Journey for Service is being conducted this year on Wednesday-Thursday-Friday, April 11-12-13; No. 2, I want to ask each of the clubs to please send me the name of the contact person from your club if you have not already done so. If you have, thank you!

In early January each club was sent a schedule of the Journey with the date, time and meeting place. If there is a change in the preferred meeting place let me know. We are on a pretty rigid schedule so I ask that each club have their representative at the designated spot and I will do my best to be on time also!

I want to thank you all for your support in the past 21 years and respectfully ask for it again this year. All related projects and your donated funds have made a big difference in the lives of many people.

Since I first became chairman of this project back on 1991, we have enjoyed 100% participation of all of the Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs in district 5M-2 and sincerely expect this record to continue. The members of our great organization have been very generous and giving over these past 21 years and we have averaged slightly more that \$15,000 per year.

Thank you . . . and I look forward to seeing you in April.

Welcome to the Lions Family

New Member

Albert Lea LakeView

Linda Laurie
Annie Mattson
Laurie Olson
Cheryl Page
Ruth Stadheim
Jody Bowron

Carver

Randy Sefkar

Cologne

Robert Wickenhauser

Ellendale

Thomas Burschem

Jordan

Scott Norran der

LeSueur

Richard Hanson
Daniel Felmlee
Ann Hanson

Northfield Cannon Valley

Douglas Larson

Prior Lake

James Dellwo
Loretta Klenke

Shakopee Valley

Nikki Zoschke

Silver Lake

Bernard Zajicek
Joyce Zajicek

St. Peter

Arne Jessen

Stewart

Christine Miller

Veseli Area

Tim Picka

Victoria

Laura O'Neill

Waconia

David Gohl

Winnebago

Kyla Jacobs

Winsted

Robert Gueningsman
Diane Neumann

Sponsor

Della Simmons
Sue Blenka
Arlene Richter
Sue Tripp
Sue Bowman
Lorna Berg

David Tellers

Allie Larson

Gerald Langsweirdt

Shirley Hespenheide
Randy O Baum
Shirley Hespenheide

Dawn Conrad

Paul Stahler
Harry Klenke

Casey Pauly

Duane Yurek
Duane Yurek

Herbert Chilstrom

Orville Trettin

Brad Kubes

Charles Peglow

Todd Charles Machtemes

Tom Hottmann

Dennis Rehmann
Ann Schulenberg