



District 25A Seasons Greetings

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April

2016

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Message from the District Governor

First of all we thank all Lions and guests that participated in the District Convention. We hope you enjoyed the seminars, the speakers, the camaraderie, and all the events that took place. We want to thank the Best Western of LaPorte for going above and beyond to make our convention a success. Special thanks to the convention committee for all their work and extra effort. We want to thank anyone who donated a silent auction gift and all the clubs for taking ads out in the ad book. We want to give out special thanks to Lions Doug and Angie Schmeltz for hosting the hospitality room and all the Lions who helped make this a success. Also, thanks to the South Haven greeters and all the other jobs you did. I can't thank my wife and daughter enough, truly blessed to have them. We hope you enjoyed International Director Rod Wright. He gave us inspiring speeches about Lions and spent a lot of one and one time with Lions. He said he really enjoyed being in Indiana and considers District 25A part of his Lions family. Also, thanks to Dr. Kay Chaplin for coming from West Virginia and putting on a great seminar about Acuity Vision Screening.

Congratulations to our newly elected team for next year, DG Elect Patty Cooke, 1st VDG elect Robin Smith, and 2nd VDG elect PDG Dennis Brown. They will do a Great Job.

We want to thank all the Lions who went on the Mission to Mexico, helping over 10,700 people with the gift of sight. Thank you for your dedication and the long hours you spent to help people in need. The District 25A Lions have been going on Missions for 15 years. Once you go on a Mission, it can be very habit forming. District 25A has helped somewhere near 150,000 people with eye care. This definitely is a job well done.

Just think, of how your Lions are making a difference with all the thousands of children that will have an Easter Egg Hunt, thanks to the many Lions Clubs throughout our District that have these special service projects. Yes, having a Easter Egg Hunt qualifies as Engaging the Youth on the Centennial Service Challenge so put it on your activity report.

District Governor Randy Greer

25A LIONS FOR ALL SEASONS

GLT

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Message from 2ndVDG Robin Smith

I want to thank DG Randy and the entire Convention Committee for a wonderful District Convention weekend. It was a great time of learning and fellowship. As always, it is nice to come together and share ourselves with each other. I always leave feeling blessed and proud to be a part of this district. Speaking of conventions, there is still time to register for our state convention being held in Shipshewana April 29-May 1. A good time is promised by the Convention Committee. For more details, visit www.indianalions.org or see the information in this newsletter.



Our Governor's theme is "Lions for all the Seasons", and our Spring season has arrive! Our last quarter of this Lion year has begun. The Spring season brings about new energy in our clubs as we become busy with our annual Springtime fundraisers. It also brings new life in our environment as flowers bloom, trees bud, and the grass begins to grow again. And many people begin their annual ritual of Spring cleaning by trimming dead growth from plants and cleaning off the Winter dust. This would be a good time to think about 'Spring cleaning' our clubs. LCI's website has the perfect tool in the member center called 'How are Your Ratings? Survey'. This survey evaluates your club from the member's viewpoint. The results will provide information about what is great about your club and areas which may need special attention for continued success and growth. Does your club need to trim away dead projects to make room for new, better ones? Does your club need a good dusting? Does your club look inviting to potential members? Use the results of the survey to make any necessary changes, or rather, new beginnings and start the club's Spring fresh. With this fresh start and while everything is blooming around us, let's get our clubs to 'bloom' as well by inducting new members. What better time to spring into action than Spring? Let's grow our Lions' family with new and renewed life like our environment around us. Remember, it all starts with one seed. Plant that seed, nurture it, and watch us grow!

Yours in friendship and service – ***Lion Robin Smith, 1st VDGE***



Lion Robin's daughter, 16 year old Mikaela Smith sang to District Convention attendees on Friday night.



2016 INDIANA LIONS STATE CONVENTION

APRIL 29—MAY 1, 2016

"In the Heart of Amish Country"
Shipshewana, Indiana

Hosted by the Lakeville Lions Club and Lions of District 25-G

With Honored Guest

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT DR. JITSUHIRO YAMADA

Convention Headquarters Hotel

Blue Gate Garden Inn

800 S. Van Buren St., Shipshewana, IN 46565

(800) 545-4725



Room Rate: \$89.99 plus taxes (complimentary breakfast)

Call for reservations or reserve online at <http://www.bluegategardeninn.com/>
Choose "Book Now", Choose "Group Code" & type "Lions2016". Choose dates of stay. Click "Check Availability" & select your room reference.

Registration Form (one per person)

Name & Title (as desired on name badge) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

District _____ Club _____ Email _____

Friday Golf Outing	\$ 50.00	_____
Friday Amish Farm Luncheon	\$ 15.00	SOLD OUT
Friday Evening Authentic Amish Haystack Dinner	\$ 15.00	_____
Saturday Celebration Luncheon	\$ 13.00	_____
Saturday Evening All State Banquet	\$ 16.00	_____
Sunday Brunch	\$ 11.00	_____
Indiana Lions Convention Pin	\$ 4.00	_____

Total Enclosed _____

Special Dietary needs: Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian _____ Other _____

**Reservations
received after
April 1st**

Add \$5.00 per each meal

**NO MEAL
RESERVATIONS
ACCEPTED
AFTER APRIL 21ST.**

Send Registration form to: Jeanine Juel, 3204 Village Court, Goshen, IN 46528. Make check payable to: Indiana Lions State Convention OR register and pay online at

<http://indianalionsconvention.org/convention-registration/>

Come to Shipshewana for the Indiana Lions State Convention

Make plans now to join Lions from across the state of Indiana at the 2016 Indiana Lions State Convention in Shipshewana, Indiana, April 29 – May 1, 2016. As of March 20, more than 330 Lions and guests are already registered for the convention. The convention will be hosted by the Lakeville Lions Club, assisted by Lions from throughout District 25-G.

Lions Clubs International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada will be our special guest at the convention. IP Dr. Yamada will participate in the presentation of awards at the Awards Luncheon on Saturday, and will be the keynote speaker at the All-State Banquet on Saturday evening. Convention attendees will have an opportunity to meet and have their photo taken with IP Dr. Yamada during a seminar session on Saturday afternoon.



One of the most frequently asked questions about the convention is: What is the dress code for the All-State Banquet on Saturday evening? The District Governors and other Lions leaders seated at the head table will be wearing formal dinner jackets, but this is a Lions function and Lions apparel is always appropriate at a Lions function. Please plan to attend the All-State Banquet, even if you don't have a Lions vest or shirt. We want you there, no matter what you wear.

There is no charge to attend the convention business sessions and seminars, and visit the exhibit tables, and we have done our best to provide affordable meals at the convention. Walk-in registrations will be accepted during the convention, however, no meal reservations will be accepted after April 21. The deadline for meal reservations at regular prices is April 1. After April 1, the price for each meal will increase by \$5.00. We encourage you to register early and avoid the added cost.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2016 Indiana Lions State Convention "In the Heart of Amish Country".





Membership

We want to Congratulate the new members that were inducted at the District Convention. After listening to the roll call of clubs it sounds like we have a lot of new Lions on the horizon. We welcome all of you to District 25A. One thing that was mentioned is that when your club is out in public make sure you advertise what your Lions club is all about. This is very important! Heard a few clubs picked up some new members doing this. On the other side of the coin, we need to work on retention. We lose too many Lions, make that call before you drop that Lion.

“Mission To Mexico—2016” group photo in Apan, Mexico (2nd week)

(See attached story of Mission on next page)



District 25A's Mission To Mexico—2016

Four o'clock in the morning was an early start on February 13, 2016 when 33 Lions from 13 clubs headed out for the Eyeglass Mission to Mexico. Four of the members were first-timers! Our destination was Tulancingo in the State of Hidalgo, which is approximately 2.5 hours Northeast of Mexico City.

Upon our arrival in Tulancingo, we were greeted by several of their Lions members, who helped us get settled in our rooms at the Hotel Colonial. The hotel to the worksite was a short walk, less than five minutes. The worksite was an old dance hall that had been converted into a public parking garage by the Tulancingo Lions and was a source of their income. There was an upstairs area in the building that had been converted into their clubhouse. Interestingly, some of the dance hall décor stayed, like the wall statues, tiled flooring and the grand hall chandelier! The next day, Sunday, everyone pitched in to set up the worksite, including unpacking 59,651 pairs of glasses. We always have a few small problems such as electric, getting enough tables and chairs and such. When the work day started on Monday, we were ready to go and accomplished our goal, helping those see better than they did prior to our arrival. So, Monday through Friday of the first week the day started with breakfast at 7am and then working with the patients. The days were quite long and it would usually be 8 or 9 pm before we finished for the day.

With over 5760 patients helped that week, by Friday night it was time to relax a little with their club who provided dinner, drinks and entertainment, which included Butch Weston's favorite; a Mariachi Band. The dinner also included a formal reading of the Lions Code of Ethics in Spanish by one of their club members and in English by one of our mission members.

Now it was time to pack up all the glasses and equipment to make the move to the second week in the city of Apan, which was about an hour and a half drive from Tulancingo. We said goodbye to 10 of the members who were not able to stay the 2nd week. Apan was a little higher in elevation at about 8,300 ft. above sea level. After settling into our hotel, which was right downtown, we had dinner with the mayor and his staff. Once again we were welcomed with open arms. This week started the same as last with setting up the worksite by unpacking and setting up equipment and glasses. It was about a 20-minute walk to the worksite, so the local DIF provided transportation in their personal vehicles or an old converted ambulance for those who didn't want to walk. Days started with breakfast at 7 am at the worksite and ended between 8 and 9 pm each evening. By the time we were done, 4901 patients had been seen and helped with glasses. When we left, both towns were well pleased with all the hard work and dedication it took to get the job done.

In my closing words, as the mission leader, it was an honor to be a part of this mission group, which is second to none. They all pulled together despite a few problems here and there to make District 25A Lions a group to be proud of. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all the members and the District for their support.

PDG Kevin Roe, Mission Coordinator

25A LIONS FOR ALL SEASONS

District 25A Convention in LaPorte, IN ; March 11-12, 2016



"Hawaiian Night" theme on Friday night



Cabinet Treasurer Gary Shaffer receives a Melvin Jones Fellowship; Cabinet Sec. Judy Shaffer puts his pin on.



Convention Chair Chuck DeLasCasas with District Governor-Elect Patty Cooke and PDG Bob Morgan.



3B Zone Chair Dave Dickinson receives a Presidential Award from DG Randy & ID Roderick Wright.



Lion Brian Pagels, President of Michiana Lions receives a Presidential Award from DG Randy & ID Roderick Wright.



New Member Induction Ceremony performed by members of the LaPorte Noon Lions Club on Saturday afternoon.

New Officers Information for District

After April 1st, you may put in your clubs new officer Information form for 2016-2017 (used to be called a P-101). If you know your new club officers please put them in early to help DG elect Patty Cooke fill out her directory. Secretaries can go on line at www.lionsclub.org where you do your monthly reporting to put in new officers.



District Meeting

We will be having our last District meeting **THE DATE! Saturday, June 4th at LOFS Clubhouse at 12:00 noon.** So please save the date! More information in May's Newsletter!

Earth Day Celebration
Saturday, April 16, 9 a.m.– 4 p.m.
Porter County Expo Center
215 E. Division Rd., Valparaiso, IN



Here are the most current numbers posted on the LCI web site for the Centennial Service Challenge

CENTENNIAL SERVICE CHALLENGE BY THE NUMBERS

- 72,147,069 Million People Served
- 24,998,864 people benefited through Engaging Our Youth
- 12,094,082 people benefited through Sharing the Vision
- 15,425,754 people benefited through Relieving the Hunger
- 19,628,369 people benefited through Protecting Our Environment
- 56% of clubs are engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge
- 93,110 Sharing the Vision projects completed
- 2,032,335 trees planted through the Protecting Our Environment campaign
- 47% of clubs have implemented an Engaging Our Youth project
- 16,782 communities positively impacted through Relieving the Hunger projects

Since this posting we have reached the magic number of 25,000,000 for Engaging Youth! We Lions have achieved that goal – and the activities reported by the Lions in 25A are part of that number. Keep up the reporting and next we will meet our Environmental Goal.

In April the focus is to Protect Our Environment, so consider planning an environmental project for Earth Day on April 22, or plan projects throughout the month to help the environment in your community. My club, the Schererville Lions, is recycling outdated food – it is going to a pet shelter.

For the Centennial Celebration in Chicago, the Indiana Lions are planning a float for the International Parade of Nations. They want to display all five of the state projects plus the Indiana Lions Foundation. There is a meeting next month of the committee and we welcome any ideas!

Also for next year's Convention, the Host Committee in Illinois is seeking help from the Indiana Lions. They need more Lions to greet, answer questions, assist with parade, etc.

More information to come. . .



Mill Creek Community Lions Club



The LaPorte County Library along with Friends of the Library and the Mill Creek Community Lions Club held their 3rd ANNUAL Easter Egg Hunt at the Fish Lake Library. Eye Screening by the Lions was available with storybooks given to all children screened compliments of Friends of the Library. Light refreshments were served.



East Chicago Evening Lions Annual Pancake, Sausage & Egg Breakfast



Sunday April 24, 2016 7am to Noon

Casa Blanca Restaurant

4616 Indianapolis Boulevard, East Chicago IN



Lions 25 A

ZONE MEETING - Zone 1A

Monday, April 11, 2016; 6:00 PM

Location: Flat Rock Tap Bar & Grill, Hammond IN

Dinner may be purchased off menu

Please RSVP to ZC Arcides Santiago by

Wednesday, April 06, 2016

Phone: 219-746-4889 or Email: cdsauto1@aol.com

Attention Club Presidents, Club Secretaries and All Lions

Please encourage All members to join us, this a great opportunity for fellowship and a chance for others to hear exactly what each club is doing in their communities. I am looking forward to hearing from each club as **WE SERVE** others.

Please have club reports ready to share with Lions. We would like to have everyone touch on things done from January 2016 thru April 2016.

Monterey Lions Club

The metal torch in front of Monterey Town Hall was donated by the Monterey Lions Club to their town for the Indiana Bicentennial Celebration and the Centennial Lions Legacy Service Project. The presentation was on March 9th at the Town Board Meeting.



In photo are Monterey Lions President Douglas Denton , Town Board member Jim Fleury, Lion Nancy Spiewak, and Town Board President Emily Bail;ey.

Hobart Lions Club Fights Hunger

The Hobart Lions recently grilled more than 600 Pork Chops at their 3rd annual Pork Chop Dinner



Lion President Joe Larson presents a \$1400 check to Carson Falkenberg for "Pack Away Hunger".



Lion President Joe Larson presents a \$1400 check to Theresia Larimore for the Hobart Food Pantry.



We welcome these new members:

Bass Lake	Thomas Browne	Sponsor John Wilson
Crown Point	David Hershey	Sponsor Gerald Nibert
Hebron	Susan Panayi	Sponsor Sue Franzman
LaCrosse	McKenzie Bruder	Sponsor Daron Bruder
LaCrosse	Justin Kiel	Sponsor Daron Bruder
LaCrosse	Kelly Kiel	Sponsor Ken Caldwell
Lowell	Rick Karlson	Sponsor Ron Wietbrock
Munster	Jennifer Cosenza	Sponsor David Nellans
Munster	Loni Dorall	Sponsor Rusty Kunz
Valparaiso	Ryan Porterfield	Sponsor Elisha Porterfield
Westville	Courtney Meyers	Sponsor Ron Meyers

We honor those Lions who served:

Lion Joy Woods	Kouts Lions club
Lion James Fanselow Sr.	LaPorte Maple City
Lion Elizabeth Parcel	Star City Lions Club

Zone Meetings

Zone 1-A Monday April 11th Flat Rock Bar – Hammond 6:00 P.M.

Zone 2-A&B Monday April 18th Paragon- Hobart 6:30 P.M.

New Officer Training Sessions

Monday, May 16 th at 6:00 PM	Thursday, May 19 th at 6:00 PM
Schererville Library	Jasper County Community Room
1001 W. Lincoln Hwy, Schererville, IN	967 E. Bomber Drive, Rensselaer, IN

Where is the DG?

See an open date? Contact DG Randy to schedule your club official visit:

H: 219-759-2865 C: 219-728-8432 or lionrandy@yahoo.com

April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Whiting Pancake Breakfast	4 Lake Station OV	5 Koontz Lake OV	6 Bass Lake Smelt Fry	7	8	9
10 Kouts Pancake Breakfast	11 Zone Meeting 1A Hammond 6:00	12 Remington OV	13	14	15	16 Lowell Pancake Earth Day Expo Mill Creek Ham & Beans 4-7
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
New Club Formation						
24 Michigan City Schererville East Chicago Evening	25	26	27	28	29	30
State Convention						



May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 SH Pancake Breakfast
State Convention		Wheatfield OV				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Officer Training 6:00 Schererville Library	17	18	19 Officer Training 6:00 Rensselaer Family Event	20 Family Event	21
22 Wanatah Pancakes	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
1						