

### District 25A News

### **Featured News**

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District Governor Robin Smith

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mswolfen@aol.com

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PO Box 436

Kouts IN 46347

Home: 219-850-9715

Cell: 219-766-3770

liondennisbrown@yahoo.com

2nd VDG Mitch Semans

5200 N 150 E

**Knox IN 46534** 

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Issue 8: February 2018

### Message from District Governor Robin:

Month eight of our Lion year is about to begin, which means this is my 8<sup>th</sup> article as your Governor. I often struggle with what to write; what haven't I already said. Tonight I attended a meeting in Region 1.... first ever joint meeting, and my writer's block is gone! Outstanding meeting! 50% of the clubs in this region were present. They were asked to report on their most meaningful SERVICE to their community. These clubs are Sharing the Vision, Relieving the Hunger, and Protecting the Environment.... The Power of Service at work. Some clubs are embracing The Power of We by joining forces with another club to raise funds, serve a community and strengthen each other. I was inspired by their reports. One small problem, though. We have no issue with sharing our service activities with one another, but we do have an issue with publicizing them. At the risk of sounding like a broken record, shout it out Lions! Tell everyone what we are accomplishing. You just might find that individual who wants to give back to the community and join our fun.

Region 1's meeting also included a presentation about People helping People with a mention of Your Club, Your Way. Do you want to know what that's all about? Join us at the District Convention March 16 & 17 to find out. Our convention committee is working hard to bring YOU a great event of fun, learning and fellowship. An interactive booth and new displays, along with many prize-winning opportunities await. There will even be a seminar specifically for our Leos. By the way, have your heard? Our district has a new Leo Club! Join us and learn more about them, and don't forget to bring your club's banner for the Parade of Banners.

Right behind our convention, comes the state convention and then the International convention. Events not to miss. Lions, these are tremendous opportunities to learn from each other; opportunities to gain insight on ideas to empower our clubs and serve our communities. You will come home with a new sense of pride, inspiration and energy.

The clubs of District 25A are doing a great job! However, in our world of service, there is always work to be done. So, let's put the Power of Action to work. Secretaries, please get your membership and service activity reports into LCI. Presidents, please share the information you receive with your members and encourage participation in events, both in your club and district. Lions all, share our accomplishments and invite people to join. These actions will build a stronger club and provide the foundation for a stronger district, thus allowing us to do what we love – SERVE. Until next time, keep Touching Lives through Service! Now, turn the page for more exciting news from the presses...

Yours in Friendship and Service ~~

Lion Robin, District Governor



Touching Lives Through Service

### Message from PDG Dennis Brown, 1st VDG



### Help Wanted!

Looking for a few dedicated Lions to volunteer to be Zone or Region Chairpersons or Trustees on various state and district committees. Do you want to know more? Just ask.

Remember, if you sign up for the job, you will be expected to do that job. We can't let these positions go unfilled. We know what will happen then. We are in the homestretch of District Governor Robin's year. We have brought in 82 new members, but we've also lost 82 members. Let's catch these Lions before they leave. If we could cut down on the drops, just think where we would be. Wow!

Why did we join Lions? Well, my reason is simpler. I felt my community had done so much for my family and myself, that it was time to give back. Remember what Melvin Jones said, "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else." Think about your reason. Is it still the same? Does your Lions Club still help you fulfill that reason? If not, what can you do get back on track?

PDG Dennis Brown, 1st VDG



#### 100% Club Excellence Awards Presented

Club Excellence patch awards were presented to five clubs at the January District Cabinet Meeting in LaPorte. Shown above are Lions Nick Gonzalez, President Hobart Lions, Carolyn Toosley, President Schererville Central Lions, PDG 1st VDG Dennis Brown, President Kouts Lions, Steve Helmken, President Michiana Lions, and 2nd VDG Mitch Semans, Hamlet Lions. Six other clubs which were not present will also receive this award.



### District Governor Robin Smith District 25A District Convention March 16 & 17, 2018



### Best Western Plus Conference Center 444 Pine Lake Ave, La Porte, IN 46350 219-362-4585

Our Special Weekend Guest ID N. Alan Lundgren & Lion Terry Pressel

ROOMS RATE is \$90 + Tax per night – until February 17, 2018
Rate includes FREE breakfast buffet

ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE TO BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL
Call 219-362-4585 and asking for **District Lions Convention** 

## FRIDAY NIGHT ID WELCOME DINNER SATURDAY LUNCH - SATURDAY BANQUET\* (see prices below)

\*Pre-seating chart available Saturday Morning - Registration & Meal Reservation Deadline: March 2, 2018

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY				Please note Title or Lion, or guest			
Name:			Title: Guest				
Name:				Title: Guest			
Lions Club:			Region:	Zone:	D	district:	
Address:				Email:			
City, State & Zip:				Phone:			
Friday ID Welcome Dinner -	\$ 23.00 X	No. Meals = \$		\$ .00			
Saturday Lunch - Soup & Sal	nd Buffet	\$ 9.00 X	No. Meals		=	\$ .00	
Saturday Banquet -	Adult	\$ 28.00 X	No. Meals		=	\$ .00	
Roasted Pork Loin & Roasted Chicken Buffe		\$11.00 X	No. Meals		=	\$ .00	
Make check payable: District 25A District Convention				Total Enclosed §			
Please ✓ ☐ Vegetarian meal	requested				_		
Please ✓ ☐ Registration Onl	(no meals) All attend	ling the Con	vention .	MUST R	EG	SISTER	
Mail to: CS B	RBARA TOOSLEY, 13	700 LANTER	N DRIVE	E, ST JOH	N 4	6373	
Please ✓ □ Sales table – Club, ✓ □ Sales table – Vend ✓ □ Electricity needed			rson/phone:				

Early Bird SPECIAL.....

Ad received by December 20th will also be in the January Newsletter

### District 25A - 2018 Convention Ad Book

### Advertise in the:

2018 District 25A Ad Book District Convention March 16-17, 2018

Your Clubs Ad ....

Upcoming Club Fundraisers
Honor your Melvin Jones Members
Foundations: Thank the Lions for their Donations
Dive a Welcome to our Special JD Juest

### CONGRATULATE THE DG & VDG

Place an AD for your Business - Lions Support Lions

All BUSINESS ADS ½ page or larger will also be posted in the Registration Area

Full Size Page -	8 ½ by 11	Actual Ad Size Width x Height	<b>✓</b>
Color Front Inside Cover	\$ 150.00	7 X 9	
Color Back Page	\$ 200.00	7 X 9	
Color Back Inside Cover	\$ 150.00	7 X 9	
Regular Page	\$ 100.00	7 X 9	
1/2 Page	\$ 60.00	7 X 4 ½	
1/4 Page	\$ 40.00	3 ½ X 4 ½	

Check Amount \$

<b>✓</b>	Make checks payable to: District 25A District Co	nvention			
	I have attached an Ad or emailed an Ad				
	Please design an Ad with the attached information				
Return with Ad or Send check and email your AD to: LionBarb@comcast.net  ALL ADS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 26, 2018					
Name _					
Club or E	Business	_			
Email		_			
Phone					

Mail to: CS Barbara Toosley 13700 Lantern Drive, St. John, IN 46373

#### Nominations at the 25A District Convention

District 25A has the following State Project Trustee positions open for election at the District Convention - these are for a three year term:

- Indiana Lions Cancer Control
- Visionfirst- Indiana Lion Eye Bank
- Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing
- Indiana School for the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Indiana Lions for Leader Dog
- Indiana Lions Trust Foundation
- Ed Paine Care and Helping Hand at Large (2 positions)

If you would like run for one of these positions, please submit your name and which position you are seeking to Lion Bo by February 15, 2018.

Lion Bo Zimmerman lionbo@frontier.com 219-767-2848 h 219-575-1637 c

Nominations can also be made from the floor during the business session at the District Convention,

### however, your name will not be pre-printed on the ballot

The following positions will be up for election at our District Convention on March 17, 2018:

- District Governor 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Dennis Brown
- First Vice District Governor 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mitchell Semans
- Second Vice District Governor A letter of intention as well as a letter of endorsement from his/her club must be submitted before February 15, 2018 to Nominations/Elections Chair Lion Bo Zimmerman, lionbo@frontier.com, 219-767-2848 h, 219-575-1637 c.

A candidate for the office of second vice district governor shall:

- 1) Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in his/her single or sub-district.
- 2) Secure the endorsement of the majority of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in his/her single or sub-district
- 3) Have served or will have served at the time he/she takes office as second vice district governor:
  - a) As president of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the board of directors of a Lions club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
  - b) As zone chairperson or region chairperson or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.
  - c) With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

NO NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG MAY BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR

#### Lions Code of Ethics #1 & #2

To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

### Lions of Indiana MD 25 2018 State Convention Nomination & Elections

Nominations will be open for the positions of State Comptroller and International Convention Committee for the elections to be held at the 2018 Indiana Lions State Convention. **State Comptroller** – 2 year term. Anyone interested in the State Comptroller position will need to secure their local club endorsement and the endorsement of their district. The candidate shall furnish a statement in writing showing that such candidate is willing to be nominated, will serve if elected, and set forth the candidate's qualifications for such office. Each such written statement shall be submitted by the District Governor to the State Council Chairperson with a copy to be sent to the State Nominations and Elections Committee Chairperson at least ten (10) days prior to the opening of the State Convention. Please reference Article IV, Section 4 of the MD 25 Constitution. **International Convention Committee**member – three year term. Past District Governors from Districts A, B, D, E, and G may run for this office. The procedure for nomination of a candidate from a district shall follow the procedure set forth in the By-Laws of each district. Endorsement from the District shall be submitted by the District Governor to the State Council Chairperson with a copy to be sent to the State Nominations and Elections Chairperson. Notification must be sent at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the convention. For qualifications, please reference Article VII of the MD 25 Constitution. MD 25 Nomination and Election Chairperson is:

PDG Billy Chastain 140 Foxwood Drive Brownsburg, IN 46112 (317) 698-7660 billchastain@comcast.net

### **Help Needed For Visual Acuity Screenings**

Attached are the visual acuity screening dates for February. Lions of MD 25A, Thank You for all that you do for your community. Lion volunteers and school parent volunteers, please try to arrive at the schools by 8:30 AM for and for training (if needed). All screenings start at 9:00 AM

February 6 – East Chicago Lighthouse Academy, 3916 Pulaski St., East Chicago, IN.; 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>tth</sup> Graders; Contact Nurse Jones.

February 13 – Thea Bowman High School, 3401 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Gary, IN.; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade; Contact Nurse Hines.

February 20 – Thea Bowman School, 975 W. 6th Ave., Gary, IN; 5th Graders; Contact Nurse Hines

Lion Patrick Rodriguez, PDG, patrodsr@hotmail.com

### Lions Code of Ethics #3—#6

To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, acr, and deed. To give freely of my time, labor, and means.



### Lions of Indiana 2018 State Convention

Horizon Convention Center, 401 S. High Street, Muncie, Indiana 47305 April 27-29, 2018



### Registration Form

Please Print or Type All Information

Name:							
	Lion Title	First N	ame	Last Name		Nam	ie on Badge
Name:							
	Lion Title First Na		ame	Last Name		Name on Badge	
Address:							
	Mailing Address		City	State			Zip Code
Telephone:	i l		E-Mail:				
Club:			District:				
Special Dietar	ry Needs:						
Emergency Co	ontact:					·	
		Name D		aytime Telephone		Evening Telephone	

#### HOTELS

#### PLEASE RESERVE YOUR OWN LODGING BY MARCH 26, 2018

Rooms and rates cannot be guaranteed after March 27, 2018

Courtyard Muncie at Convention Center 601 S. High Street \$ 129/night plus tax Call: 765-287-8550 Holiday Inn Express on Bethel (off McGalliard) 4201 W. Bethel Ave. \$ 129/night plus tax Call: 765-289-4678 Hampton Inn on Bethel (off McGalliard) 4220 W. Bethel Ave. \$ 129/night plus tax Call: 765-288-8500

#### MEALS / CONVENTION MERCHANDISE

Meal Prices Increase by \$5.00 per meal after April 1, 2018. - No Meal Reservations Accepted after April 21, 2018

Make All Checks Payable to: Indiana Lions 2018 State Convention

Send Check and Reservation Forms to: Lion David DeVilbiss, Convention Registrar

10301 Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46280

Registration and Meals may be reserved and paid online at: http://indianalionsconvention.org/convention-registration

Event	Entree	Number	Price	Amount
Friday Lunch	Soup and Salad Bar		\$ 20.00	\$
Friday Dinner	Smoked Pork Chop, or		\$ 25.00	\$
	Mediterranean Chicken Breast		\$ 25.00	\$
Saturday Lunch	Herb Roasted Chicken Breast		\$ 20.00	\$
Saturday Dinner	Grilled 8 oz. Beef Ribeye, or		\$ 35.00	\$
	Lemon Caper Trout		\$ 35.00	\$
Sunday Brunch	Breakfast Buffet plus Fried Chicken, Ham Steak		\$ 25.00	\$
Saturday Afternoon	Strides Walk for Diabetes - T-Shirt and Donation		\$ 25.00	\$
	Convention Souvenir Limited Edition Pin		\$ 5.00	\$
	Convention Souvenir Limited Edition Mug		\$ 5.00	\$
Total Amount Enclosed			·	\$
If Participating in Strid	es Walk for Diabetes, indicate T-shirt size:			•

#### THE CASE OF THE EMPTY CHAIRS

About 1300 Lions Live in District 25A, down from about 1450 just a few years ago. Our neighborhoods (clubs) are going away with 5 of them lost in just two years. There are many stories out there about why these reduction are occurring, one of which you are about to witness. A group of Lions realizes empty chairs. To find out why, we interviewed a relatively new person in the club; the club president; a sponsor, and an old time Lion affectionately referred to as "Grillman". Here is what they said.

#### THE SUSPECTS:

**New Person:** Energetic Lions, ready and willing to help, once occupied those chairs. Hardly anyone shook their hands or offered to sit with them. I am new here myself, but I made a few friends. Nobody helped me. I just did it. I am just a member here, and can't do anything about who comes or goes. Isn't that the president's job?

**The President:** I had the opportunity to improve my leadership skills by attending training, but I was too busy. The job is just for one year and the more experienced members, who always sit together, run the club anyway. Since everyone talks, there's no need for an agenda or guest speakers. Those new Lions came in here and want to start new projects and change things around but the more experienced members shot the ideas down.

**Grillman:** I have no idea why the chairs are empty. I been flipping pancakes and working the grills for 20 years. I get people involved by letting them set up and clean up, if they stay that long. Besides, young people don't want to work to help their communities and are not as dedicated as us long time members. They can't make meetings or be at every project like us and want to use email and smart phones to get things done. They say they need to have time for family. Anyway, this group is just fine the way it is. Ask the sponsor, she might know.

**Sponsor:** Oh, Yeah, those Lions. I sponsored one last year. He was a great guy. I haven't really had a chance to talk with or see him since. I wonder what he is doing these days. Well, at least he stayed long enough for me to get credit for bringing in my fifth new member; too bad they all left. I did my job by bringing them in.

#### THE JURY:

The people of the club will decide its fate. They cannot sit idly by watching their club die from the diseases of stagnation and people leaving because they feel left out, that they are not valued, and that they are not making a difference in their community. If they do, another community will be without the help it needs from a group of dedicated people living a motto of "We Serve."

<u>THE VERDICT</u>: **KEEPING PEOPLE IS EVERYONES JOB** If you see yourself as a suspect or know one, it is time for you to take action to get all people involved in a meaningful way. It is time for you to care for your brother and sister Lions. When your club brings in new people, it is time for you to become a mentor, to empower them, and let them work the grills, run those new projects, and sit at our table. It's time to invite not only moms and dads, but also their children so families can be together at meetings, club projects, and social events.

THE VERDICT IS IN OUR HANDS.

PDG Dick Silveira, 25A GMT Chairman

### LaPorte Lions Club donates to Libraries

"I have a list of read-aloud books I want to get," said Hailmann Elementary School Librarian Pam Fritzen. "That makes my day!" She was talking about the La Porte Lions Club's donation of \$250 to the school's library Jan. 16. The club gave each of the eight La Porte Community elementary schools the same amount, totalling \$2,000.

La Porte Lions have made the same donation every year since Lion Oscar Ryl-Kuchar was president in 2012. At Crichfield Elementary School, Lion Ralph F. Howes gave the check to Librarian Janet Oman in the Ralph E. Howes Library, named for his father, a current La Porte Lion.

Riley Librarian Melody Povlok said, "There are some things I couldn't get in my last order, so I'll get them." "This really helps us," said Riley Principal Chris Alber, "we don't get enough funding for even one book for each of our 430 kids."

At Handley Elementary School, Librarian Mary Kay Steele was excited to be able to buy books for the library in the new school that's under consstruction. Lincoln Librarian Kelly Schroder was pleased with the donation. "Awesome," she said. "I've got a list, I really, really want some non-fiction." On Friday, Kingsford Heights Librarian Kassandra Austin said, "I've already made an appointment to look at Rainbow Books and Excelerator Readers, I'll probably get a variety.

La Porte Lions Pres. Paul Marsh said he's happy the club does this. "It's all about the kids."



LaPorte Lion President Paul Marsh gives a check to Riley Elementary School Librarian Melody Povlock and Principal Chris Alber.



Lion Ralph F. Howes gives a check to Crichfield Elementary School Librarian Janet Oman under a photo of his father, Lion Ralph E. Howes, former Principal at the school.



### **Ogden Dunes Lions Club**



Ogden Dunes Lions installed two new members at the Region 2 Zone Meeting in January. Shown above are 2nd VDG Mitch Semans, new Lions Laurie DeFauw and Paullette Dittrich, Governor Robin Smith, 1st VDG Dennis Brown, and Club President Bill Cunningham.

### Zone 3-A Annual Golf Outing



Lion's District 25A
Beechwood Golf Course



#### Golf Scramble

#### State Projects done by our clubs:

- · Speech and Hearing
- Cancer Control
- · Leader dog
- Indiana School for the Blind
- Eve and Tissue Bank



LIONS CLUBS

"We Serve"

#### **Outing Information**

Date: Friday, May 25, 2018

Time: 10:30 registration & light lunch

35%

11:15 chipping and putting contest

12:00 Shotgun start – scramble format

4:15 Dinner, team awards, I drink incl.

Deadline for entries: Friday May 11, 2018

Location: Beechwood Golf Course, LaPorte, In

2222 Woodlawn Drive

LaPorte Indiana

Limited 144 golfers max

Golf Format: 4 man scramble, no rain date.

Donation: \$75/golfer, \$300/Team

Donation includes golf, cart, dinner,

Lite lunch, team and individual awards

How to enter: (several ways)

1) fill out form on back and mail in

Download form online at :
 www.rollingprairielions.org

#### Sponsors choices:

 Dinner Sponsor
 \$500

 Lunch Sponsor
 \$200

 \$10,000 Hole-in-one
 \$350

Driving range or putting green

 Banner
 \$300

 Hole Sponsor (18x24 sign)
 \$100

 Cart Sponsor (12x12 sign)
 \$50

 2 prizes Closest to Pin
 \$50/ea

 2 prizes Longest Drive
 \$50/ea

#### "Goodie Bag" gifts (need 80)

Indicate on registration form what type of ad (above) you would like.

Please submit a business card and/or info on ads when you mail your registration

Any questions regarding this event or Lionism, please contact any of the following:

Glenn Swanson (219-324-7149) La Porte M.C.

Gus Hernandez (219-608-3256) Rolling Prairie

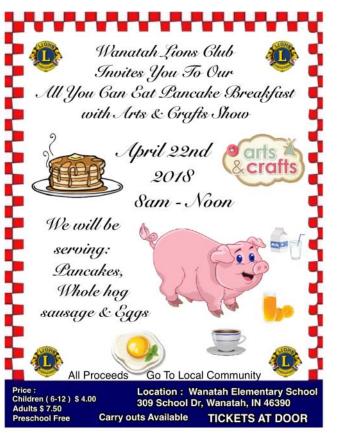
Verne Hixon (219-326-7114) Michiana Lions

Paul Tuszinski (219-778-4180) Mill Creek Community Lions Nancy Hawkins (219-324-7128) Michigan City Lions

Brian Pagels (219-871-9011) Michiana Lions

If you are interested in becoming a Lion in your community, please contact:

webmaster@rollingprairielions.org, or the above contacts and you will be directed to the appropriate personnel.





### **South Haven Lions Chili Dinner**



Thursday, February 22, 2018

South Haven American Legion Post 502

429 West 750 North

South Haven (Valparaiso)

4:00PM – 7:00PM

Cost: Adults \$7.00

Family of 4 (2 Adults, 2 Children) \$17.00 Children Under 10 \$3.00



(Hot Dogs Available)





PLUNGE 2018

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018 @ 12:00 (NOON) LOFS TEEN CENTER NEXT TO THE POOL!

### BENEFITING THE LOFS LIONS CLUB & LOFS FIRE FORCE!!!

- A Plunge Team/Individual can be any size yourself, a group of friends, you and your partner, 20 co-workers, or any (18-years or older) zillion high/college students. Remember when you're plunging as a team, each member must raise a minimum of \$25!
- Registration forms can be picked up at LOFS 19th Hole, Lakehouse, or POA office ...Hurry deadline ends February 21th!!!

ALL SPECTATORS WELCOME! COME OUT AND MEET OUR POLAR PENGUIN!!!



Create your own plunge TEAM and get sponsors or simply take the plunge YOURSELF! (min. of \$25 raised pp)

Have no desire to plunge? Simply donate to any team / individual

Hot Cocoa & Snacks will be sold by LOFS committees!!!

SUPPORT OUR
COMMUNITY... take the
plunge or donate funds
all for a great cause!
(Cash or Checks made

to LOFS Lions)

More info. contact LOFS Lions Member: Chuck DeLasCasas 219-776-3031





Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Princess Brunch

An elegant and fun event held by the LOFS Lions



Sunday, March 11, 2018 11:30 to 2pm at the LOFS Lakehouse

Featuring from Beauty and the Beast: Belle!

Special Guests: Snow White and Taumine

And\_for the first time, the Princesses will be joined by their Princes:

Prince Charming, Prince Adam (the Beast) and Aladdin!

Lunch and Desserts fit for Royalty will be served.

Be our Guest!

Tickets available by contacting:

lofslions@aol.com

Tickets go on sale the first week in December iuests may also call 219 776-3541 (Jackie, Chairperson) or Guests can speak with any Llons Member Tickets 525.00 per attendee



Proceeds from the Princess Brunch serve our community through LOFS Lions Projects and Events.





### **Law Camp for Youths**

### 2018 Camp Dates Announced!

**Law Camps**:, boys and girls entering 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grades \$150 Wednesday afternoon - Saturday afternoon June 20th - 23rd Vincennes University Law Camp June 27th -30th Anderson University Law Camp,

Career Camps:, \$250 week long July 8th -13th Trine University Career Camp,

July 8th-13th Vincennes University Career Camp,

July 15th -20th University of Indianapolis Career Camp, More info at \_.T r

ooper . org

#### Note:

click on camps (this site is for students paying their own way....using this link will cost an additional \$5.

For students being paid for by a Lions club please use attached copy or print a PDF version of the Camp Camp application at <a href="https://www.tr.goo.peer.org">www.tr.goo.peer.org</a> but please Note: There has been a problem with this site printing the PDF version. It requires a google email address and an account password to get it to print! The ISP is working to correct this issue.

Lions Law Camp applications for printing are available by clicking on printable forms on the Indiana Lions MD25 web site.

In addition: Some scholarship monies are available to Lions clubs wanting to send students. Please contact me or PDG Betty Weist....as always we ask that parents contribute something (if they can). Their financial contribution even if only \$20 ensures the child attends.

By sending the application and payment with all checks made out to MD25 and the child's name in the memo along with name of camp attending to PDG Betty or me, we can also assist you in getting your money back if the child you sponsor doesn't attend! We will process the application for you and your club will receive credit for participating in the Law Camp program.

All applications should be received 2 weeks prior to Camp. This is a great Camp for all age groups. Be sure to attend the seminar at Lions State Convention April 28, 2018 or call if you have any questions.

PDG Betty Weist PID Linda Tincher 812-240-0545

765-623-3553 P.O. Box 158 P.O. Box41 Riley, IN 47871

Markleville, Ind. 46056

# DID YOU KNOW? VisionFirst is Indiana Lions Eye Bank New Effort

VisionFirst is committed to the restoration of sight through its core values of quality, teamwork, innovation, passion, and integrity. Founded in 1959 by the Lions of Indiana, the organization has been recovering, processing, evaluating, and providing sight-saving corneas for those in need.

VisionFirst has a dedicated volunteer board that provides considerable knowledge and expertise to meet the needs of the communities they serve. The board of directors is comprised of Indiana Lions members, who are responsible for assuring performance, developing governance policies, and supporting the strategic direction of the organization based on its mission. Sight restoration for individuals suffering from vision loss is made possible by corneal tissue donation. The cornea is the clear dome-shaped window that covers the front of the eye and allows light to pass through to the retina, enabling a person to see.

Tissue is donated to VisionFirst so it can be recovered, then prepared for surgery, and ultimately distributed to surgeons for patients in need. In 2016, VisionFirst provided tissue for over 2400 corneal transplants, with over 900 tissues going to Indiana residents. These beneficiaries are family members, friends, and neighbors who now have their vision restored.

One such recipient has shared her story about the impact cornea donation and transplantation has made on her and her family's life.

"My name is Sarah. I am 37 years old and I am so blessed to have my family, my friends, God, and the kindness of a stranger who changed my life forever.

I was born with congenital cataracts and had eye surgery to remove the clouded lenses in both of my eyes at the age of seven. I grew up wearing thick bifocal glasses and later, contact lenses, which led to a happy and visually functional life.

As a young adult, I was told by my optometrist that I had Fuchs' dystrophy, a degenerative corneal eye disease. I knew the disease might eventually require surgery, but thought it would likely be much later in my life.



I didn't really give the diagnosis a second thought. I was seeing well and living a healthy life. One day 2 1/2 years ago, my then 1-year-old son accidentally scratched my cornea. I went to the doctor when it didn't clear up in the first couple of days. I was prescribed antibiotic eye drops and, as time went on, it became apparent my Fuchs' dystrophy was affecting the ability of my cornea to heal. It was as if this simple eye injury had exacerbated my underlying eye disease that had not really affected me up until this point.

Several months of praying and hoping my cornea could recover on its own, resulted in eventually realizing the problem was not going to be resolved that way. My vision deteriorated, and my cornea developed blisters, which were painful. It was difficult to be outside due to light sensitivity, and my overall pain made it hard to live my normal life and be the mom I wanted to be. I couldn't help my kids with their homework or play outside with them. It was difficult for me to do my part-time job as a secretary for a children's occupational and speech therapy practice. It also became difficult to drive.

I would require two eye surgeries: First, an intraocular lens implant. Several weeks later my eye would be ready for my DMEK cornea transplant. I knew the surgeries were necessary, but it was a very emotional and scary experience to go through with them. Most overwhelming for me was the extreme gratitude I felt for my cornea donor's gift and my awareness of the weight of it. I knew this gift meant a hardship for the loved ones and family members of my donor and I was constantly thinking of and praying for them and my donor in the weeks leading up to my cornea transplant. I knew I could never repay the gift that was being given to me, but I could honor the life of the person who gave selflessly and the family who supported and agreed to that gift. I asked that my friends and family take this experience of knowing me and the drastic way this organ donation would improve my quality of life, and let it inspire them to consider being an

Continued next page:

#### VisionFirst - continued from previous page:

organ donor and or support the decision of their loved ones to be organ donors. And above all I asked them to pray for my cornea donor and their friends and family.

One week after my first surgery most of my restrictions were lifted. One month later, my eye was doing so well, I was able to see 20/30! My second surgery went very smoothly, and I could not be happier with my outcome. I was living pain free and with much improved vision that continued to improve as my eye healed.

The more I continued this journey and the struggles I faced with my eye and the limitations it placed on my life, the more I wondered why all this was happening to me. What was I supposed to learn from all this? I certainly am grateful every day for my sight and being pain free, but the more I reflect on my experience I am aware that a lot of very special people helped me through this. My family and friends praying for me and supporting me, Price Vision Group, my surgeon Dr. Feng and all the staff, all the people at VisionFirst who helped me receive my cornea from my donor, and, finally, my faith in God. Most of all, I am so thankful for my donor and my donor's friends and family. What a generous gift I have been given!

I want to share my story so people will understand what a priceless and life-changing gift organ donation is. There is nothing more beautiful in life than choosing to help a complete stranger, without any obligation. How selfless and loving is the gift of donation! What a beautiful way to honor a life by saving or improving the life of a perfect stranger Thank you for helping people like me."

### **Hoosier Lion Newspaper Survey**

The Hoosier Lion newspaper has been Indiana's (MD25) method for communicating with its members for more than 30 years. As the change to more digital formats is occurring, the Governors of MD-25 have determined that it is important to survey the Lions of Indiana to determine if changes in the newspaper should be done. Please take a few moments and let us know what you think. The link to access the survey is https://surveyhero.com/c/51650fc.

#### Lions Code of Ethics #7 & #8

To aid others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To be careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise. To build up and not destroy.

### Welcome New Members

Shawn Graham—Griffith Sponsor: Deborah Dillon

Mark J. Rose—Griffith Sponsor: Margaret Verkuilen

Thomas Vild—Koontz Lake Sponsor: James Millice

Charles W. Furlong-Lowell Sponsor: Paul Crouse

John M. Yelkich-Lowell

Jerry M. McKim—Rensselaer Sponsor: Mike Steinke

# Those Who Have Completed Their Service

Cedar Lake—Ray Jacobsen

Rolling Prairie—Karen S. King



# District Zone Beats & Club Activities

**Region 2, Zones A & B:** Will be selling pancakes and sausages at Indiana Dunes Maple Sugar Fest on March 3, 4, 10, & 11 for annual Zone project.

Rensselaer Lions: Inducted four new members into club between November & January. Collecting keys for cancer and pop tabs for Riley Children's Hospital. Planning for club's 75th Anniversary later this year. Club adopted a high school student for service hours for National Honor Soc. Requirement. Club participating in town-wide blood drive on February 20th. Assisted with community to aid a homeless man & teenage son with housing, clothing, and basic needs.

All clubs should have an LCIF Coordinator, Service Chairperson, and Marketing Communication Chairperson. Descriptions for all of these positions can be found on the LCI website.

Crown Point Lions Club

Save The Date—Sept. 29, 2018

Crown Point Lions Club will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary this year at:

Teibel's Restaurant

1775 US Highway 41,

Schererville, IN

Cocktails (cash bar) at 6:00 pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm. Cost-\$50 per person. DJ after dinner and ceremony.

### **Upcoming State Events**

# Feb 3 25F Winter Cabinet Meeting Feb 10 Foundation Meeting

Feb 10 Leader Dog Trustee Meeting—Teleconference

Feb 11 Speech & Hearing Trustee Meeting

Feb 11 Cancer Control Board Meeting

Feb 17-18 1st VDG Training

Feb 24 District C Convention—Terre Haute

Mar 3 District F Convention—Batesville

Mar 9 District G ID Dinner

Mar 10 District G & E Conventions;

**ISBVI Trustee & Vision Services Meetings** 

### **Upcoming LCI Events**

Feb 1 International Peace Poster Winner announced

Feb 8 Application deadline for Stnd, Core 4 & IAG

grants

March Eye Donor Awareness month

Mar 31 Last regular registration fees—Int'l convention

## DG BEATS-FEBRUARY 2018



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 Chesterton
				OV Hebron		Lions Daddy/ Daughter
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		OV Lake Sta- tion	OV East Chicago Evening	OV Francesville		OV Indiana Har- bor E. Chicago
11	12	13 OV LaPorte	14	15	16	17 Eyeglass Recycling Mis- sion to Mexico
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission	Mexico Mission Return Home
25	26	27 Home club mtg.	28			