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## **District Governor**

## Will Farrellbegg

District 25-A Lions,

Well a new Lions year is here, and I am honored to be your District Governor for the next year. I can only hope that I have a year as successful as CC/PDG Mitch. He has been a good guiding hand as I have gone through my year as VDG. I also want to thank all of you who have been encouraging to me; especially PDG Robin Smith, PDG Dennis Brown and PDG Randy Greer. You all have given me confidence and strength to take on this position and to do my best for our District. I will be looking forward to visiting all the clubs



Welcome New Members:

Jennifer Grow, Munster Lions Club

Sponsor, Robert Grow

Welcome to the worlds largest service organization! Where there's a need there's a Lion!

Lions,

I hope you all have a wonderful year! I know our district is going to do great things! Please send any and all club news by the 30th! If you have an upcoming fundraiser please submit a flyer or info to make sure it is in the newsletter. I am looking forward to working on the newsletter and sharing each clubs achievements! Also, please make sure you submit Club Excellence Applications no later than August 31st!

Kindness matters and as lions we help to spread kindness every time we help one another!

Lion Whitney

and I will be contacting Club Presidents to set up dates for your visits.

This year is going to be different and interesting as we continue to cope with the COVID-19 situation. With the International Conference in Singapore being cancelled things were a little different. Being sworn in as your DG online was a different but interesting experience. Missing the opportunity to meet up with other DG's from around the world was very disappointing.

In just a couple of weeks it will be July 17th, my Banner Night. The Lowell Lions club will be organizing this event. I know they have been working hard on making it an interesting and successful evening for all.

The next day, following my Banner night, the first Council Meeting will take place. I will be representing District 25-A, and our new Council Chair Mitchell Semans will be chairing our meetings. This is such a wonderful and great honor for District 25-A. I hope that most clubs can get back to regular meetings, and as you do please try to continue social distancing and when possible wear masks. These actions will help keep us all safe. We should also keep in touch with those members who are vulnerable due to health reasons and are staying home.

Here is to a new Lions Year, let us all do an act of Kindness every day.

Yours in Lionism, DG Will Farrellbegg





Top Left: First VDG Will Farrellbegg installed the new officers at the Wanatah Lions Club on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Top right: First VDG Will Farrellbegg installed Wanatah Lions Dara Guse(left) and Shallyn Brandy (right) as the Leo's chairpersons for District 25A.

Middle Left: PDG Margret Verkuilen and President John Yelkich.

Middle Right: DG Mitchell Semans with Schererville Lions during one of his last club visits

Bottom Left: The Lake Station Lions Club Planter is looking beautiful!

District 25-A



The Lowell Lions Club showed their nobility and commitment to the community and Tri-Creek Ambulance Service by funding the purchase of "Scenarios In Seconds," a life saving, hands-on pediatric training system! Since only 10% of 911 calls are for children, many emergency care providers struggle to keep their pediatric skills sharp, especially as funding tends to be geared toward the 90% of adult 911 calls. This can leave our heroes on the front lines feeling unprepared to care for the most vulnerable members of the community... our kids.

When two-year-old Lowell, Indiana resident Harper (in photo) almost drowned, her aunt and uncle, founders of Pedi-Ed-Trics Emergency Medical Solutions, decided to create "Scenarios In Seconds." No child should die because of lack of emergency training. This training system can help all first responders practice their pediatric skills and gain the confidence they desperately need to save kids like Harper.

As Lions, "We Serve," so let's continue that mission together by helping the EMS professionals of our communities throughout the country obtain this life-saving pediatric training system. If we all do our part today, we can help save the "Little Lions" of tomorrow!

I know school might look different for some but we can still offer the Peace Poster Project! You can start ordering them whenever but make sure you do so before October 1st. Also, shipping is a little delayed so keep that in mind when ordering.



Make sure your winners are submitted by the deadline!

#### PEACE POSTER KIT

#### **PPK1EN** \$11.95

Peace Poster Contest kit. Each kit contains all the materials needed to sponsor the contest in a school or youth group, including complete rules, promotional material and recognition certificates for participants. One kit is not led for eachentry spons its are available in all eleven lang res. Kits are sold from any 15th through October 1st. Ord

Lions make the world a more colorful place!





Will Farrellbegg

You are cordially invited to attend

#### **BANNER NIGHT**

honoring

Will Farrellbegg, District 25A Governor

Friday, July 17, 2020 Gather 6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm

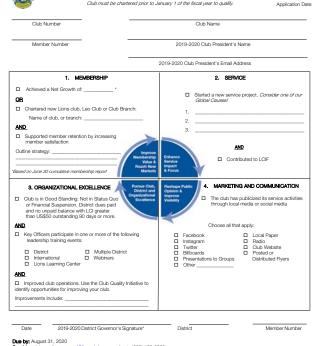
Entertainment • 50/50 Raffle • Silent Auction

#### Signature Banquets

1908 E. Commercial Avenue Lowell, Indiana

\$25 Per Person • Cash Bar

RSVP by Tuesday, July 7th to Amanda Thacker at (219) 895-2607



2019-2020 CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD APPLICATION

Send to: <u>cubexcellenceaward@ionsclubs.org</u> or fax to (630) 468-6828 **Awards Malled to:** 2020-2021 District Governors

"If sent from district governor's registered email, it qualifies as signature on applications submitted electronical

Disqualified clubs have 12 months from original due date to request a review.

**NIPSCO** 

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Top Left: Save the date for banner night! If your club would like to donate to the Silent Auction for Banner Night please contact Lion <u>Connie</u> Frausto, 708-254-0938 email connief1571@icloud.com.

Top right: Do not forget to submit your club excellence application!

Bottom Left: Cabinet Secretary Stephen Helmken provided the secretary training to upcoming club secretaries.

Bottom right: 2020-2021 Presidents reporting for training!

District 25-A

#### District 25-A Cabinet Meeting

On Saturday June 20th Lions Members from District 25-A met for their last cabinet meeting of the Lions 2019-2020 year. The meeting was at The Safety Village in Schererville. The meeting was called to order by District Governor Mitchell Semans. The Lions started the meeting off by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance, Singing the National Anthem led by Cabinet Secretary Stephen Helmken, and a prayer by Lion Jason Kegebein.

District 25-A consists of clubs throughout Northwest Indiana. There were Lions from Chesterton, Crown Point, East Chicago, Hamlet, Lowell, Merrillville, Michiana, Hammond, St John, East Chicago, East Chicago Indiana Harbor, Griffith, Schererville and Schererville Central, Rennseleer, South Haven, Wanatah, Westville, Winamac, and many other cities in the district at the cabinet meeting. There were also 9 Past District Governors in attendance.

DG Mitchell Semans discussed the success of the district convention that was hosted in March. The guest speaker from that event International Director Mark Lyon was incredibly pleased with the convention and it exceeded his expectations. District 25-A is a highly active district in the state of Indiana. At the district convention there was a silent auction and with the money raised from the auction, ad book sales, and raffles the district will be able to donate to the Indiana State Projects. The State Projects include Indiana Lions for Indiana School of the Blind, Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc., Leader Dog, and Cancer Control. If you would like to learn about these state projects you can go to www.e-district.org/sites/md25. That is the website for Indiana Lions Multiple District.

For those that have never been to The Safety Village in Schererville it is worth checking out. Lion Bill Jarvis gave a presentation to the Lions on what The Safety Village is. There are small buildings on the property and each building has a purpose to help educate the youth and senior citizens on the importance of safety. Some of the buildings at the location that promote safety are the Police Department, Fire Department, NIPSCO, Veterans Museum, and Railroad. There also is a United Steelworkers Building, Wal-Mart, Lions Club Building, and several more. It is set up like a little town. Schools will typically have their 2nd and 4th grade classes visit, and all schools are welcome. There typically are 60 students on a field trip and they split up into groups of 20 for the different presentations. Local Police Officers and Firemen teach safety during the field trips. The Fire Department even fills with smoke so they can see how quickly it happens and practice exiting in a real-life simulator. There is a Veterans Museum at the Safety Village too. The Veterans Museum is open Tuesday and Thursday 9 AM - 2PM and Saturday 10 AM - I PM. I would recommend calling before going to make sure they are open since hours might have been reduced due to COVID-19. Lion Bill Jarvis operates the safety village and he gave a wonderful presentation on what they offer. If you are interested in visiting or setting up a field trip he can be reached at a 219-865-9600 or by email jarvis@safetyvillage.us. They host events throughout the year as well. They host a safe trick or treating and have an estimated 65 businesses present and serve over 2500 kids. Another neat part of the safety village is they have a community garden where they teach the importance of gardening. The crops raised are donated to the local food bank. The Safety Village is a great place to visit for the family but especially the youth so they can learn about everyday safety!

The Lions used to have a program called Lions Quest which was like the D.A.R.E Program. Several years ago, that program was no longer in effect. During the cabinet meeting a motion was made to donate the funds left from Lions Quest to the Cheryl Welter Foundation as well as to The Safety Village. Each of these organizations, which give back to our youth will receive a check from District 25-A to support their organization. Lions love to give back to the community and these donations to local organizations will do just that.

Past District Governor Kevin Roe gave an update on a grant he applied for. PDG Kevin had applied for a grant for a new trailer. Through club donations and the grant District 25-A received a grant that will allow them to purchase and update equipment. These funds will be used to purchase a cargo van, trailer, and two lens makers for the eyeglass recycling facility. It was wonderful to hear that the grant was approved. This will help to continue the Lions Mission of being "Knights of the Blind". There is an eyeglass recycling facility located at the Westville Prison and glasses that are donated are recycled there. These glasses are dispersed on the Mexico Eyeglass Mission Trips. Remember, any glasses that you no longer need can be donated to your local Lions Club. Your donation of these allows the Lions to help give the gift of sight.

As the meeting came to an end it was time to pass out end of the year gifts. Yes, Lions love to give not only to our communities but also give back to each other. DG Mitchell Semans passed out gifts to his Zone Chairs and to his Cabinet. His 2019-2020 Cabinet includes 1st VDG Dave Dickinson, DGE Will Farrellbegg, Cabinet Secretary Stephen Helmken, and Treasurer Tiffany Nagai. They each received a nice Lions jacket or polo. DG Mitchell also presented a gift to his wife, the First Lady, Wendy Semans. Wendy did a wonderful job as First Lady. The Cabinet then presented DG Mitchell Semans with a couple of gifts. I do want to point out that these gifts are purchased on our own and not from donations that are made to clubs. Donations that clubs receive are used in their local communities 100%.

The gifts that were presented to DG Mitchell include a Star Wars fire pit, a hat that says May the Lions be with you, a Star Wars 3-D picture, and a lifetime Lions Membership. DG Mitchell did a fantastic job at being the District Governor. He was regularly active in the district, he attended club meetings throughout the district, and attended many club fundraisers. He promoted the importance of working together with the community. He also promoted the importance of building relationships within your club, community, Lions, and in everything you do. Despite many events being cancelled from COVID-19 he helped to keep the Lions Active. He was always engaging by sending out emails and promoting what other clubs were doing in the District Newsletter. DG Mitchell Semans served District 25-A proudly.

After gifts were passed out District Governor Elect Will Farrellbegg gave a short speech about his upcoming year. Normally DGE's are sworn in at the International Convention; however, this year it was cancelled. DGE Will was sworn in on Monday June 29th during a Zoom Meeting. He will be the District Governor for the 2020-2021 Lions Year. His Cabinet will be the same as the previous year. He announced his upcoming Banner Night which will be July 17th in Lowell. We would like to wish District Governor Elect Will Farrellbegg a wonderful Lions year. His focus is kindness and having fun! We know he will do a great job of leading us into another great year of service.

The Lions did break for lunch and it was delicious! After lunch Past District Governor Connie Roe, her daughter Lion Karlene Roe, and Lion Kathy Grott gave a presentation on MyLion. MyLion is the app lions use to record their service activities. It was an informative and engaging presentation. There were even prizes awarded to those that answered questions correctly. After the presentation it was time for officer training. Next years Club Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers met for club training. Thank you to the District Cabinet officers for providing this training. There is a wonderful group of upcoming presidents, secretaries, and treasurers. Clubs in the district are looking forward to giving back to their communities in many ways.

The last cabinet meeting of the year was a success. It was so wonderful to be able to meet again. Lions love to serve! May the Lions Be with you and may you remember "You can't win by fighting what you hate, we win by saving what we love" -Rose Tico. Thank you for a wonderful year of service! - Lion Whitney



Hammond Lions Club works in Tandem with Salvation Army -

With the increased need for assistance with the local food pantry, the Hammond Lions Club has sent a delegate every day for the last two months while the previous volunteers Sheltered in Place. Going forward in this new era of increased health risk awareness, our immediate plan is to continue partnering with them as they have the larger infrastructure to serve the community directly with the flexibility to allow individuals to participate as their personal circumstances allow. We are doing this in addition to our own projects and challenge our fellow clubs to innovate in their communities. :)

Lion Joy is donating her time and service to help the Salvation Army!



On July 1st Mill Creek Community Lions hosted a blood drive. Lion Member Marilyn Lawson helped by handing out refreshments to the donors.

The Red Cross and other agencies that organize blood drives are in need! This is a great community service project!

Virtual Coffee Talk With Leader Dog

Join Leader Dog the first Wednesday of every month, for a one hour chat over coffee! Each month they will feature a special guest. On July 1st they had Leader Dog client, Shannon Columb.

The conversation will take place over a Zoom call and there is also an option to dial in by phone. You will hear the guests story and have an opportunity to ask questions. We hope you'll join us for this fun event!

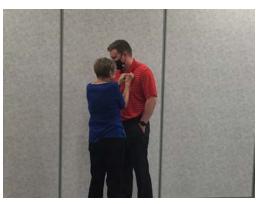
To RSVP please email (melissa.aupperle@leaderdog.org) or call her at 248-218-6221 and she will send you a link to the Zoom meeting.

If you've never used Zoom before, she will be happy to talk with you about how it works and make sure you are able to join before the event. It's easy to use and fun!

They hope to see you VIRTUALLY on Wednesday, July 1st @ 9:30am!

They also are matching donations made to them! You can donate directly to leader dog for this. More info will come regarding this awesome donation opportunity!















Top Left: Schererville Central Lion Joanne Freeland sponsored new Lion Alex German.

Top Middle: DG Mitch Semans inducted new member Alex German during his club visit.

Top Right: Cabinet Treasurer Tiffany Nagai, DG Mitchell Semans, Lion Bill Jarvis, DGE Will Farrellbegg, and Cabinet Secretary Stephen Helmken at the final Cabinet meeting for 2019-2020. District 25-A presented a check to The Safety Village.

Middle Row: The Hamlet Lions Brian Cecrle, Earl Henry, Larry Jernas, Tiffany Nagai, Wendy Semans and PDG Mitch Semans cleaned up the roadside on HWY 35 in Hamlet!

It's Taco Tuesday! Take a break from cooking. This counts for dine-in, carry out,

his counts for dine-in, carry out, gift card sales purchased that evening, and alcohol sales.



August 4th Westville Lions Give Back Night at Hacienda in Michigan City

# **SAVE THE DATE!**

5PM-8PM

Our club will receive 20% of sales when you show your give back coupon! The coupon will be in August Newsletter! If you want more information email Whitneywls.whitney@gmail.com

July 1st: Welcome DG Will Farrellbegg and 2020-2021 Club Officers!

July 4th: Happy Independence Day

July 7th: Deadline to RSVP for Banner Night

July 17th: Banner Night at Signature Banquets in Lowell at 6PM

This is the Lions Building at the Safety Village in Schererville. If you're interested in sponsoring or setting up a field trip contact Lion Bill Jarvis. The cost is \$5 a child and chaperones are free!



### LIONS DISTRICT 25-A FIRST CABINET MEETING

When: Sunday, August 9th at 1:00 p.m. cst

Where: Agape Christian Church in the Fellowship Hall

1601 "I" Street, La Porte, IN 46350

Sponsored by the Westville Lions Club

Lunch will be \$15.00 per person

Please RSVP along with payment by 8/01/20.

Mail to CS Steve Helmken 6522 W. Laura Ln., LaPorte, IN 46350





