

August 2014



Riding High with the Lions

DG Carl Gentzel

Let me start by letting you know what my term will look like. My DG Pin is a Lion riding a bike in the mountains with the theme: Riding high with the Lions. I am passionate about bicycle riding, it not only helps physically, but mentally as well. For those of you that know that I live in Boulder, I have an idea about what you think by theme means. But that's not true! I would like to see 6C succeed with additional membership and service projects, fundraisers and donations. If we are not moving forward, we are moving back.

I have put together a Cabinet team and Zone Chairs that are second to none! We are here to lead you and strengthen your clubs. It does take a team of people working together to move forward!

The International Convention in Toronto was a first class event from start to finish. The International President Joe Preston's theme is: Strengthen the Pride. Each member plays a role in our organization's growth, no matter how large or small that role is. IP Joe is good ole guy from a town in Arizona and has been a Lion for 40 years, definitely someone that I can follow.

My goal for 6C is to increase our membership by 10. We do so many great things in our communities, like KidSight, delivering food, making donations, fundraisers, etc., but the success of a DG is based on membership.

A few ways to increase our membership is through competition between clubs and zones and member retention. I have started a Club of the Month and a Zone of the Quarter competition. This is a big deal and winning these awards is based on membership growth, service projects, the number of Lions participating, and the club MUST file their My Service Activities and Monthly Membership reports with LCI. I made special pins for the clubs and the Zone Chair. The Zone Chair will also receive the 6C mascot, Lion Arthur, at the Cabinet meetings. I am 100% behind recognizing achievements by individuals and clubs.

Member retention is so important to the Lions organization. At the International Convention, I learned that retaining one member out of five that we going to leave makes a huge difference. With this in mind, I am encouraging each new member to go for The Proud Lion Award. During the first six months of membership, the Lion is responsible for completing five tasks that get involved with leadership positions in the club. When a member does achieve this award, I will present them a pin that I received from the Colorado Lions Foundation.

At every meeting that I have attended, I was told that it is critical for clubs to have a social media presence, like Facebook or e-clubhouse. I have started a District Social Media Committee, whose responsibility is helping club develop these sites. There are 3 people on the committee and my goal, and I know you think that I'm crazy, is to have 75% of clubs with a site by the end of my term.

Thank you for continuing to do your amazing work in your communities. Sometimes we don't realize how important we are.

Your overly enthusiastic District Governor Carl Gentzel





August 2014

1st VDG Andy Smith



Hello Lions of 6C!

Another Lion year is upon us. Lets keep up the good work you all have been doing this summer. I've been busy this summer volunteering at the Thornton Lions Carousel at Carpenter Park/ 112th and Colorado, having fun at the Lions Picnic hosted by the 5 Points Lions, manning a water station at the International Hearing Dogs "Run, Wag and Walk at Sloans Lake ,Cooking at the Lions Camp and Helping at the Kidsight booth at the Dragon Boat Festival hosted by the Denver Den Lions Club.



DG Carl Gentzel is getting into high gear after coming back from the International Convention in Toronto. He has some great ideas from making it easier on the club secretaries to recognition of clubs,zones and lions of 6C. I do not want to steal Carl's thunder, so I will not say anymore.

Get ready for club visits from DG Carl Gentzel , 2VDG Jack Russalesi and myself this year. To me, club visits are exciting and enjoyable This is where we learn about clubs needs and strengths and discover future leaders.

Carl, Jack and I are preparing to go to the USA /Canada Leadership Forum in Puerto Rico Sept 11th -13th. Lions can never get enough training and you get to have fun doing it! I urge anyone that can go to register. Time is running out so sign up now. Log on to www.lionsclubs.org and look for the USA Canada Forum. You may call me at 720-364-8487 for more information.

Thank You Immediate Past District Governor Linda Stevens for a great year and thanks to all the other PDG's for their help and advice. Thank you lions who took on Zone Chair positions and committee chairs. Thanks to every lion in 6C!!!! We could not do what we do with out YOU!

THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE TO LIONS AND TO YOUR COMMUNITES.

Your humble servant in Lionism
Andy Smith
First Vice District Governor 6C



August 2014

2nd VDG Jack Russalesi



Hello Lions. Some of you know me and some of you do not, so please allow me to take advantage of this opportunity to tell you a bit about myself, as a Lion and as a citizen of the world. I have worked more than 20 years as a government and non-government (nonprofit in the states) manager and executive. I worked in Emergency Services for more than 20 years, achieving the rank of Assistant and Division Chief. Some of this time was in the nonprofit sector, some in the government sector. I retired for health reasons, recognizing I was a liability rather than an asset. I also worked more than 10 years as a government leader; an elected official, a volunteer board member, a department manager and eventually as a City Manager. I also, concurrently have several entrepreneurial businesses that I run. Note that most of this employment was in the arena of service. Service is in my blood, I guess. I studied it at the undergraduate and graduate level. I took additional specialized training as a counselor.



Maybe that is why I became a Proud LION in 1999. Actually I first became a LION in the mid-1970's, but it didn't take. In retrospect I know why and over the next three years and then as a PDG, I hope to share some of what I learned. I am a firm believer and hard worker toward the concepts of member retention and succession planning. I have seen that it is easy to ask someone to become a LION. That is where the work begins. A sponsor must mentor, coach, cajole, and even babysit a new LION. Sometimes you have to stop and pick them up to take them to a meeting, or a work session or a special project. You always have to call them or email them or text them or communicate regularly in the most appropriate way with that member. And it is not just being a LION. Help them be a Proud Lion and then help them become a Proud LION *Leader*. Even if holding an office was not for you, that does not mean you cannot help them realize the unending joy of working in LION leadership.

I will be around to see you at a special project, or a meeting, or a fundraiser or a picnic. I am starting to fill my calendar as a Zone Chair and as 2VDG. I look forward to working with a great leadership team with DG Carl and VDG Andy as well as Lion District Treasurer Barb and Lion District Secretary Becki. And if you have something on your mind or a question or a suggestion, Do not hesitate to call me, email me, text me, twitter me. Be a LION. Be Proud.

Jack Russalesi

Second Vice District Governor



August 2014

Kidsight Colorado



Colorado Lions KidSight Program

Annual Report 2013-2014

Healthy students are better learners. That is the focus of a recent article in the Journal of School Health (Charles Basch, pp. 650-662, October 2011, Vol. 81, No. 10).

The article suggests that no matter how well prepared teachers are and what accountability measures are in place in schools, educational progress will be limited if students have health problems that impede their ability to learn. Recent research from the neurosciences and child development to public health provides evidence that health disparities play a causal role in the educational achievement gap that plagues many children.

The study suggests that we must prioritize the use of our scarce resources to address the most critical health problems affecting youth. The study identifies vision as the number one strategic priority. Vision problems affect approximately 20 percent of youth and can be addressed by a coordinated process of vision screening and appropriate follow-up care.

KidSight Colorado program volunteers provide free eye screening to preschool-age children and information about the importance of vision screening to parents and the community. The program also provides resources and referrals to parents of children who do not pass the KidSight vision screening. This program addresses a critical need in the community, identifying vision problems in children and educating the community about the critical importance of good vision as it relates to a child's development and education. Since the program's inception more than 240,000 Colorado children have been screened for vision problems and over 26,600 children have been referred for a follow-up exam. In the fiscal year 2013-2014 more than 37,540 children in Colorado were screened and more than 5,880 referred for a follow up vision exam due to detection of a vision problem.



August 2014

First Ride Cabinet Meeting



DG Carl's 1st Cabinet Meeting



**The Pride of Highlands Ranch
Invites YOU!**



*Let's get together to
start an awesome year
Riding High
with the Lions*

1st Ride Information

August 23, 2014

1:00 p.m.

Westridge Recreation Center
9650 S Foothills Canyon Blvd,
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
We will be in the Hawk room





August 2014

KidSight Benefit Banquet



KIDSIGHT BENEFIT BANQUET SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

**DOUBLE TREE INN, 1775 CHEYENNE BLVD., COLO-
RADO SPRINGS, 80906**

CASH BAR/SOCIAL HOUR: 5:00 – 6:00 P.M.; DINNER AND PROGRAM: 6:00-8:00 MUSI-
CAL ENTERTAINMENT - COLORADO CELTIC RUSH 8:00-9:00. P.M.

COST: \$35 INDIVIDUAL



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Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may understand; involve me and I'll understand.

Chinese Proverb



August 2014

Denver Five Points - Community Appreciation Day



The Denver Five points Lions held our Annual Community Appreciation Day on August 10th, 2014. We handed out 600 bags of school supplies , serve 800 hot dogs, chips and water, had a DJ, balloon artist and face painting. The Denver Den provided kidsight screening. We did free Kid ID's and played games for toys what a great Community event!

Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion. The potential for greatness lives within each of us.

Wilma Rudolph



August 2014

Club Paw Prints



District 6C
Club of the Month

Colorado Rocky Mountain
Cyber Lions

Adams County Lioness

My name is Nancy and I became a Lioness on November 23, 1981 when our Adams County Lioness Club was formed. I wanted to "serve" other's and to help the less fortunate. Also participating in varied service project's, has been fulfilling-- just knowing it will put a smile on the receiver's face! That's what it's all about-- just to be able to help other's. The friendship, fellowship and enjoyment being with our club members' is a pleasant bonus!

Nancy Gerteisen, President

Hello. My name is Shelly and I became a Lioness in 2012 because my good friend, Nancy, invited me to help with the 9 Health Fair at the registration table being run by a group of industrious Lions. We had so much fun and helped out a good cause. Then Nancy invited me to come to lunch with the Lionesses. We had so much fun and I agreed to collect my used eyeglasses for the Lions Club.

Shelly Crawford, Secretary



6C August Calendar



August 23

1st Ride DG Cabinet Meeting

August 25

Lion Gil Utterback Charity Golf Tournament - Centennial Airport

September 20

KidSight Benefit Banquet - Colorado Springs

September 26

Englewood / Littleton Joint Golf Tournament - Broken Tee

"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world."

-- Robin Williams

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Please submit articles by the 15th
of the month.

District 6C website:

<http://e-district.org/sites/6c/>

State website: www.colions.org



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