



## Message from DISTRICT GOVERNOR WAYNE BENJAMIN

Happy spring fellow Lions. With all of nature's growth and renewal this spring, I can't help but find a correlation with our clubs, our zones and our district. We are less than 100 days until this Lion year will come to a close. In spite of the pandemic can we overcome our earlier losses in membership and see a renewal in our enthusiasm and growth? I say if we stick to our mission we can.

I want to share an experience with you which happened in Chestertown several weeks ago, and see if each of you can repeat it in your clubs. The event was called a "fireside chat". The membership chair asked the Lions membership of Chestertown to bring a prospective member to a one-hour social which we held outside at the Chester River Yacht and Country Club on a Saturday morning. You pick your venue.

At the venue we had eight Lions and about thirteen quests. The quests ranged from a Kent County commissioner, retired folks to a young couple, all of whom were looking to give back.

The presenters were four in number: club President, 1st V-P, Membership Chair and the District Governor. Each spoke about a different aspect of Lionism, whether it was the mission of our club, the governance, the service we do, or how it all relates to Lions Club International. It was very well received. The event was positive and uplifting. Our discussions were completed in one-half hour and we had the other half hour for pastries, coffee, questions and comments. I can say everyone enjoyed themselves. I don't know how many new members we might get from the event but I know we got two new ones before the hour was up!

I ask each club to please try a similar event this spring to help our district grow. We will not grow unless you, the membership, set growth as a goal for your club. As I have said throughout the year, we need to sell our message, we need to sell the Lions motto. We need to look for those individuals, like ourselves, who want to serve, who want to give back to their communities.

I will be making visitations this spring to numerous clubs. Clubs that I was not able to visit earlier in the year because of the Covid pandemic. I am looking forward to those visitations but the icing on the cake will be if we have a few inductions as I make my visitations. Let's make it happen! Have a great spring.

~DG Wayne Benjamin~

