DISTRICT 25C NEWSLETTER





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April 2020

Hello Lions,

Thank you, everyone for attending our District 25-C Convention and I'll be the first to say that I'm happy we chose the first weekend of March for our event. 110 Lions and guests attended, and I've had some very complimentary feedback, especially on our three workshops. Congratulations to Lion Jennifer Blandford, Speech and Hearing, Lion Mel Prince, MD, Diabetes, the Diabetes screening team and Lion Scott Phillips, MD, on Childhood Cancer. Thank you as well to the Zionsville Lions, who hosted the two-day event and to the many District C Club members who assisted. We were delighted to have as special guests, ID Gary Brown and Lion Barb, and we hope that you enjoyed their keynote messages. Sure, everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship but most impressive was the Silent Auction. PDG Pat Short came out of retirement ("I'm not doing any more of those auctions") and just blew the doors off by helping raise \$3,700 for the LCIF Childhood Cancer Initiative!! Thank you, Lions, for your generous support, you give and you give so much. Now is a good time to "push up our sleeves" and get busy doing what Lions do...

- During this "quarantine" we are having, let's make a few phone calls and check on folks that you haven't talked to in a while, make sure they are well.
- 2. Take time to call that friend, neighbor, relative or work associate about their interest in becoming a Lion. I'd like each club to add a couple of new members yet this year. Yes, we can be doing service work now. It may not be what we are used to doing but reach out and try working at the food pantry, be a "runner" for someone who can't get to the store. Maybe help clean up someone's yard. Yes, we can SERVE.
- Many clubs begin events by the end of April so let's get out and support each other's events, car shows, tractor pulls, lawn tractor races, pancake breakfast, summer festivals etc. Let's show our support and have FUN.

4. MAY 16th. Mark it on your calendar now. We will have our 4th cabinet meeting, and it will be a picnic at Lions Park in Zionsville. Brief meeting and reports from all that attend. Share information about your club's summer plans (bring some flyers to pass out).

Oh, yes, I know that there is a serious health issue going on in our State, Nation and World and through LCIF we can help, so remember to give when you can. Grants are now available for the hardest hit areas and LCIF started with a huge humanitarian grant in Italy. Seems that Lions just keep on SERVING.

April showers will bring May flowers and we have so much good to look forward to, **TOGETHER**.

DG Tom

"Feeding the World through Service"





DGE Jim P.M. Query DGE District C jpmq77@yahoo.com

The Challenges ahead...

Since I addressed everyone at the District Convention things have changed dramatically in the world. The COVID-19 virus has caused quite the stir, hasn't it? It is affecting everything we do: how we work, where we work, how and where we shop, where and how we eat. Right now, life has gotten hard and confusing for everyone. Life has changed for everyone right now and will not be the same for a while. Lions also has been affected with both our State Convention and

Lions also has been affected with both our State Convention and International Convention being canceled. This Lions year is going to be a very challenging one.

Meetings will be postponed, projects possibly canceled; indeed, the way that we have conducted our business and projects may have to change for a while. While I do not have the answers to all of the questions that people might have, I strongly encourage you all to not stop doing good. Lions were made for times like these.

It doesn't take much to let other people know you care. I believe that communication is the key to not just getting through this tough time, but to make Lions a better organization on the whole! I encourage you to call your friends, your neighbors, check on them; see if they need anything, food, medicine. Run errands for those who need to stay home. Whereas we may not be able to do some of our projects, look for simple projects like running to the market for someone, or getting their medicine for them, or making masks for local healthcare facilities or nursing homes. Make masks for those who still have to work! There are many people at gas stations, grocery stores, even hardware stores remain open. As a person that is still at work, I can tell you that I see a lot of people out unnecessarily, putting everyone at risk. I encourage you, please, unless you have to get out, do not. Stay home, stay safe.

Be kind to each other,

Together we serve,

Because Kindness Matters!





District 25C VDGE Zone 1 Chair Cell: 765 404-4140 Lionjimroth@gmail.com

Challenged

I drove my daughter to her chemo in Indianapolis. I was not allowed to go into the building. How to spend six hours? I went to two grocery stores. I bought a chicken salad wrap that I ate in my car. I stopped by the state office for a few minutes. Then I was back to sitting in my car with the radio. After chemo, no one told my daughter that the door she had come in by was now locked. She had to walk through the hospital and germ-filled ER to get out. I put her walker in the car, and we left. I was frustrated, did not know what to do, and felt helpless. Everything seems more complicated and frustrating now.

Many Lions are feeling the same way. Service projects and fundraising events are being cancelled or postponed until future notice. This includes my club's two major fundraisers. LCI even cancelled a webinar this week. We are told to avoid crowds of more than ten people, not to dine-in, nor to wander around stores. "Stay home," they tell us. We all are feeling somewhat disoriented, disconnected and confused. How we do things are now topsy-turvy. We do not know what to do.

There are no in-person club meetings to figure out what to do: no gathering to see how our fellow Lions are doing. Have you called your fellow club members to see how they are doing? My club is not packing food for 24 school children. How do we get food to these children? What "work-a-rounds" can we find?

It is okay to be concerned and uncertain of the future. There are new service opportunities in this current situation. This medical situation will change at some point, and we will be able to use what we have learned through this time to make our service even better.

Together we serve!

Lion Jim Roth



SAVE THE DATE

Activities through April have been cancelled. Announcements of change will be e-mailed.

January 22-23, 2021



NOW

It's Time

Yes, it is time to order the new Peace Poster kits for 2020-2021, which are now available. The Club Secretary can purchase these from the LCI store. Enjoy helping art students in the coming year! Roberta Roth, Peace Poster Representative for 25C



Feeding the World through Service



Jennifer Blandford, Trustee

Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing, Inc. Lions collect eyeglasses. Everybody knows that, but it is a lesser-known fact that we also collect hearing aids. And we put them to good use! Think about how many hundreds or thousands of pairs of expensive, unused hearing aids might be collecting dust in drawers and cabinets throughout your community? It's time we retrieve those assets and put them to work for Hoosiers in need.

The Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing Project began in 1981 and has assisted nearly 7000 low-income Hoosiers in the acquisition of affordable hearing aids through our Loaner Bank Program. Housed at Riley Hospital, Lions maintain a library of hearing aids that are loaned to patients until they can afford to purchase a pair for their permanent needs. Lions partner with Hearing Specialists near the patient to have the loaner hearing aids programmed and fitted to work effectively.

The Loaner Bank is stocked with gently-used hearing aids of all types; and with the revenue raised from salvaging non-functional hearing aids, Lions fund college scholarships for Speech & Hearing students and camperships for hearing-impaired youth.

Consequently, no hearing aid should go unused!

To launch a Collection Drive in your community, you need only identify ways to collect the hearing aids, spread the word, pick them up and get them to your ILSH Trustee or DG. This package includes a Step-by-Step instruction list on how to launch a Collection Drive effectively. Use your creativity to make your Drive as effective as it can be and feel free to run your Collection Drive as long as need be. Use the letter, press release, flyer, poster and Social Media images to spread the word and get attention in your community.

Always feel free to contact your Trustee for the ILSH Project with questions and to brainstorm ways to collect more hearing aids.



Hearing aids are not this cumbersome any more nor are they this obvious!



10 Steps to Launching a Hearing Aid Collection Drive in Your Community!

STEP 1: **Identify** a list of locations where it makes sense to have a collection box:

- ✓ Hearing Aid Centers
- ✓ Audiology offices
- ✓ High-traffic businesses, such as grocery stores or other retail venues
- ✓ Community gathering spaces (such as senior centers, libraries, YMCAs, Legion Posts, etc)
- ✓ Assisted Living Facilities & Nursing Homes
- ✓ Funeral Homes
- ✓ Your Clubhouse
- ✓ All of your current eyeglass recycling locations

STEP 2: **Ask** your ILSH Trustee to send you the documents and digital files you will need to implement your own Community Hearing Aid Drive easily and effectively!

STEP 3: **Visit** the owners/managers at these sites and ask that they allow your Club to place a collection box (ask via mail, email, walkin & call). A sample letter of explanation/request will be provided.

STEP 4: **Deliver** collection boxes labeled with a "Recycle Hearing Aids Here Label" and as many "window flyers" as each location can use, along with a "Thank You Letter" (A sample Thank You letter will be provided; Request a batch of labels from your District's ILSH Trustee and apply to the Collection Boxes.)

STEP 5: **Post** the "**We Collect All Hearing Aids**" images on your Club's website & social media pages in rotation, frequently. Ask your members to "share it" on their own personal social media pages. *Digital files will be provided*.

STEP 6: Hang the "We Collect All Hearing Aids" Posters & Localized Flyers in visible locations throughout your community wherever possible. Digital files will be provided. Print at your local UPS store.

STEP 7: **Promote** your Collection Drive at local Club & community events, including Health Fairs, Festivals, and Farmers 'Markets...anywhere Lions are serving! Take advantage of social media to spread the word and submit a press release to the newspapers and other media in your area at least 4 weeks before the event. Invite your community to bring hearing aids to you.

STEP 8: **Brainstorm** with your ILSH Trustee or VC Jennifer Blandford for more ideas specific to your community. *A current list of Trustees will be provided.*

STEP 9: **Establish** a regular schedule to collect the donated hearing aids and periodically transfer them to your DG or to your local Trustee (or to whomever you regularly deliver your collected eyeglass inventory).

STEP 10: Collect! Collect! And keep on collecting! There is no end to the need, and there needs to be no end to your Collection Drive!

Your 25C Speech & Hearing Trustees are working for a sound quality of life. They are:

Lion Jennifer Blandford
(317) 847-2695 <u>jblandford@callcarpenter.com</u>
380 W. Walnut St.
Zionsville, IN 46077

PDG Doug Eversole (574) 859-2682 <u>deversole@tds.net</u> 7194 E. 475 N. Camden, IN 46917

Lion Ray Furner
(317) 852-8087 <u>furner@ameritech.net</u>
922 Briarwood Dr.
Brownsburg, IN 46112

Hello Lions,

I really miss the opportunity to see you all and I truly hope that you are doing well. Though we are experiencing something very dangerous and challenging, it is amazing to me to see that Lions are still serving, now in many new ways. I am so very proud of every one of our members, and it makes me proud to say that I'm a Lion.

The following is an update that you deserve and need. I'd like you to send me some notes on the new kinds of service that you have been providing during this difficult time and Don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions and if I don't have the answer for you, I'll find it.

Lions of District 25-C update on situational impacts of Coronavirus.

The past three weeks have been intense and for many confusing, especially as it concerns our health. I hope that all Lions Club leaders are checking in on their members and offering encouragement in this time of angst. This is especially difficult because many of us fit the profile of most affected by this virus. As we are getting guidance on best practices for health, we have all undoubtedly seen various statements and reports concerning Lions Clubs International and down to our local Clubs and Members.

While I can't provide anything new regarding how to care for ourselves, I can tell you that none of us is invincible, so please practice social distancing and don't congregate at someone's home. That said, it goes for Lions Club Meetings as well. Let's try to be patient and wait for an all clear. Yes, I know that "cabin fever" kicks in for all of us, so take some walks and blow off steam by yourself.

Let's talk Lions Clubs International:

First is Lions Clubs International and this is what I know, as of today, and please understand this could change. The Lions Clubs International Convention for this year 2020, has been cancelled. The plan is for the 2021 Convention to be held in Montreal. ALL LCI EXECUTIVES IN OFFICE FROM PRESIDENT DOWN THROUGH INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS STAY IN PLACE FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR. Since there is no convention, there will be no by-law changes, or any other items adopted that were to be voted on. Everything will wait until the 2021 International Convention. (No dues increase this year)

Now Lions Clubs at the Multiple District, District and Club Level.

As of now, All new officers will take their position as of July 1, 2020.

Districts have had or are in the process of conducting their elections. We, District 25-C conducted ours at the March 7th Convention, so we are ready to go.

Clubs: Many Clubs nominating committees have met and prepared their slate for voting. **IF YOU HAVE NOT, PLEASE DO SO BY APRIL 15**TH. Within 15 days after the elections have taken place, the Club Secretary will enter into the LCI system all the new officers and their COMPLETE INFORMATION. THAT MEANS FULL NAME, CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS, CORRECT PHONE NUMBERS (BOTH CELL AND RESIDENTIAL), AND A CORRECT AND WORKING EMAIL ADDRESS (NOT OPTIONAL) IF YOU WANT TO BE AN OFFICER.

Voting: You have options so do what works best for your club. Nominating committee must prepare a slate of candidates to be presented to the membership for voting. If there is a person for each position,

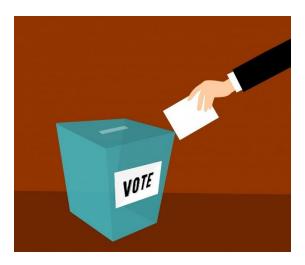
you are all set to ask for voting. If you don't have a candidate for a position, you must open it up to the "floor" or membership for nominations. Once nominations are completed, you can then ask the membership for a vote. You can vote using some, or all of the following methods that work best for your club. Remember, recording is important for files. Options, submit a paper ballot to each member and have them return it to a location (mail, drop box at your den,) or use electronic voting via email. Send out the ballot electronically and give a response email address and time for all votes to be in. If you have a member or two without email call them by phone and take their vote. It is important for the protection of your club, that records of the call are made and filed.

This is an unusual year and we may have to improvise to get our elections completed, but we need to have them done and on file at LCI by June 1st, 2020. Please use whatever means are best for your club but take care that credibility is not compromised, whatever system you use.

Lastly, Lion Gail and I have six clubs that we have not visited as yet so be aware that we may "pounce" on you to get a visit in before year end (June 30, 2020). Here's wishing you good health for you and your families and safety during this stressful time. If you have questions or just want to visit, call me! 317-441-2320

Let's keep "Feeding the World through Service"

DG Tom



And have the secretary send it to LCI.

Dear Lions,

DG Tom asked me to include the instructions for making face masks in the newsletter. You may be lucky enough to have bought some before they flew off the shelves, but just in case you didn't, or you have a limited supply, here is a very simple one to make at home. These are washable and reusable. They may be made by hand, but a sewing machine is faster! You will find several patterns on-line as well.

What you need: tightly-woven 100% cotton fabric

Beading cord elastic **or** 1/8" flat elastic

- 1. Cut the elastic 7" long and tie a knot at each end. (DO NOT knot ends of flat elastic.)
- 2. Cut 2 pieces 9" x 6" fabric.
- 3. Put right sides of fabric together.
- 4. Starting at the center of the bottom edge, sew to the first corner and stop. Sew one end of the elastic into the corner. Hold elastic between fabric (inside the pouch.) Stitch back & forth a couple times to hold.
- 5. Sew to the next corner, stop and bring the other end of the same elastic to the corner and sew a few stitches back and forth to hold.
- 6. Now sew across that top of the mask to the next corner. Again put an elastic with the edge out.
- 7. Sew to the next corner and sew the other end of the same elastic.
- 8. Sew across the bottom leaving about 2-3" open. Stop, cut the thread. Turn inside out.
- 9. Pin 3 tucks on each long side of the mask. Make sure the tucks are the same direction and fairly even.
- 10. Sew around the edge of the mask twice.

For those who wear ear phones or hearing aids, perhaps ties would be more comfortable. I suggest the ties be at least 14" each. (You will need 4. It's a bit more difficult to load inside the 2 pieces of fabric as you sew them together, but it is doable.) For those ties you may make your own with fabric or use bias tape.

Fabric ties are fairly simple: Cut 4 lengths of cloth, 1'' wide and 14'' long. Fold the material into $\frac{1}{2}$ '' lengthwise. (I suggest pressing with a warm iron to hold that crease.) Fold outer edges to the center crease and press. This will make a 14'' long tie that you can just straight stitch together.

Hint: While ribbon is prettier and faster, it seldom stays tied for very long.



Yes, I folded the top one lengthwise, which makes it wider! (Better for wider faces with beards.) The bottom one ends up square-shaped, which it should be.

Have fun and stay safe! Charlotte Query

Please send pictures and news items for the newsletter to Charlotte Query, jequery@bluemarble.net

Flyers will be sent separately

Items for the Hoosier Lion should be forwarded to Gail Robbins, gail45robbins@gmail.com





ches Treabill



Prairie Creek Lions Club donated \$300.00 to Hoosier Prairie School for their 'Book Fair' for students to purchase a book on March 13th. The money was used to give students that did not have funds to purchase a book. (Photo by Lion Kim Waggoner)

Approximately 62 Indiana Lions sorted about 13,000 pounds of food in 2 1/2 hours at the February 29th Gleaners Food donation sort. Here we see IPID Nick Xinopoulos (Brownsburg LC), Lion Roberta Roth (Brookston LC) and CC Ron Bigham in the crowd helping out. (Photo by PDG Pat Short)





Lions Steve Hall and Dave Thomas (Brookston LC) took a brief moment to smile for the camera while working during the Gleaners Food project. (Photo by PDG Pat Short)

Notice all the smiles and laughter going on during this project?!! PDG Pat Short said she increased her average daily steps from 800 to close to 7,000! Perhaps Lion Linda Scott had something to do with that! (Photo by PDG Charles Short)





IPID Nick Xinopoulos received a Sagamore of the Wabash from Indiana State Representative Jeff Thompson, District 28 (which includes Brownsburg). IPID Nick joined 62 Lions from around our State to work at Gleaners Food Bank. After the shift was over, State Representative Thompson arrived during lunch and totally surprised IPID Nick. (Photo by Lion Gail Robbins)

For the second straight year Emily Smith, a thirteen year old 7th grade student at Plainfield Community Middle School, was presented with an Achievement Award for winning the local competition in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Plainfield Lions Club. Emily submitted her poster as a member of the Just Be Kind Youth Club. Emily was asked to submit a quote about peace and she provided, "Finding peace within yourself not only helps you but helps others in your life." The poster was selected by members of the Plainfield Lions Club for its originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, "Journey of Peace." (Submitted by Lion Tom Iles)





Well... Hello, Brazil! President Patti Foxx and her Den of Lions were a pleasure to meet. Keep up the good Community Service. (Photo courtesy of Lion Gail Robbins)



2nd VDG candidate Lion Bob Hrdy (Lafayette LC) and his wife, Lion Vicky, pause after the Friday night dinner before C's Spring Convention to wonder if they are really going to have to fill all those empty eggs by themselves! (Photo provided by PDG Pat Short)

It was cold and windy but this group happily awaits the order to "Kiss the bricks!" PDG Charlie Short, Lion Gail Robbins, DG Tom Robbins, Lion Barb Brown, ID Gary Brown, VDG Jim P.M. Query, 2nd VDG Jim Roth and PID Linda Tincher are lined up for that magic kiss on the tour of the Speedway before C's Spring Convention. (Photo by PDG Vern Tincher)





After the cold kiss outside, ID Brown was warmed and thrilled to try out his hand inside a race car. Here he is with his "pit crew", imagining what it would be like to zip around that track in this car! (Photo by PDG Vern Tincher)

The 500 Racetrack wasn't the only stop on the visiting ID's tour. This stop was at The Fan Museum in Zionsville with Lion Gretchen Xinopoulos, Lion Gail Robbins, DG Tom Robbins, ID Gary Brown, Lion Barbara Brown and IPID Nick Xinopoulos. (Photo provided by Lion Gail)





Standing, VDG Jim P.M. Query demonstrates to Lion Shelia Eversole, Zone 5 Chair Patti Foxx, PDG Vern Tincher and PDG Doug Eversole the fine art of stuffing a plastic egg! (Picture by PID Linda Tincher)

Parkrun event by Lafayette Lions Club. Weekly free 5K walk/run. March 7 we had 4 barkrunners (dogs), as well as three 1st timers and 1 tourist from Colorado! (Photo provided by PDG Pat Short)





Lafayette LC Lion Lauren Reed (far left) and Laura Moss (In. Cyber Lion) are shown serving the monthly community lunch. (Photo by PDG Pat Short)



Lafayette Lions have sponsored the Purdue Women's Basketball Banquet for 34 years! Here is PDG Pat Short with Jenelle Grant, 6' PU forward from London, England. Pat commented that she doesn't feel this short very often! (Photo by PDG Charlie Short)



ID Gary Brown, wife Barb and several District C Lions were taken on a guided tour of Indiana Lions Eye Bank's new facility before the March 7 convention. (Picture provided by Lion Gail Robbins)

Lion Wayne O'Neal,50 yr. Chevron! Lion Michael Winchester, 10 yr. Chevron, DG Tom, Membership Chair Dianna Brown, 10 yr. Chevron, President of Oxford Lions Club Karen Ahlbrand. Not pictured are Lion Ramon Miller, 50 yr. Chevron, Lion Cecil Krebs, 50 yr. Chevron, Lion Wayne Stevenson, 45 yr. Chevron and Lion John Brown, 10 yr. Chevron. Lock at the years in this Club! You Lions are Amazing, keep up your great work. (Photo by Lion Gail Robbins)





Welcome to the new Lions at Oxford Lions Club. New Lion Clyde Puckens, New Lion Veronica Puckens, future Lion William, DG Tom and Sponsor Dianna Brown. Lucky club to get you! (Photo by Lion Gail Robbins)



Here is a sweet note in the midst of turmoil! Leader Dog Treasurer Patricia & Council Chair Ron Bigham are in awe of their first grandchild, Anna Cecile Cooper. (Courtesy of Lion Gail Robbins)

Spencer Lions began their annual Soup, Salad and Sandwich Lunches on Mondays in March but cancelled due to the virus. Like other clubs, they will have to find other projects for now. (Picture by Lion Russell Freeman)





Between customers Spencer Lions worked on another project. Here they are shown rolling eating utensils for the Summer Food Service Program they hold in their clubhouse. (Photo by Lion Russell Freeman)

Here is an idea to consider! Lafayette Lions Club recently extended its thanks to the following club members involved in the 1st responders - medical or aged care service areas at this time. They are Lions Melanie Brown, Tony Rios, Jen Weiss, Vicky Hrdy, Diane Haby, Jen Luptak, Stephanie Quick, Beth Segal and Krystal Zane. That's almost 17% of their club members! (Submitted by PDG Pat Short)





Here is another idea clubs might try! PDGs Pat and Charles Short hung out with Lions from around the world for social hour - Lions from Wisconsin, Indiana, Oregon, Maine, MANITOBA, ARIZONA, MACEDONIA and many others. Lots of fun! Hosted by PDG Jody Bermester of Wisconsin. We shared our beverages of choice and what we couldn't live w/o during this crisis. Fun! (Photo provided by PDG Pat Short)



Just heading back from Paragon Lions Club. We took the food donated by Lions at the Convention to their little food pantry. No government help with theirs. *Love that club*.

Tom & I work daily caring for the Clubs. They really needed to know they were doing something right! Tom is so proud of

you!!

Love,

Gail



Do not be alarmed if you should encounter these Lions. They are simply going under cover, doing good while incognito. Good deeds still are being done.

Become a Super Hero and do what you can!



Share your club's activities and pictures with District C. For inclusion in the District C newsletter contact: Charlotte Query

jequery@bluemarble.net

For articles/pictures for The Hoosier Lion contact: Gail Robbins

gail45robbins@gmail.com

