IndianaLionsDistrict25C.org District 25-C

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Find us on:

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Our Mission

To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

Three Cheers for April!

HOORAY!! It's April! It won't be long and the earth will be blooming, turning green, hopefully the weather will be warmer and not playing an April Fool's joke on us. Every spring and fall I fully understand why pioneers traveling west stopped to settle in Indiana. It is so beautiful.

The beauty of the Earth is an excellent reason to celebrate Earth Day on April 22. What can you as a Lion or your club do to celebrate this magnificent planet that is placed in exactly the correct position in our solar system to support the endless variety of life. In other words, what can you do to take part in the "Protecting Our Environment" Global Service Action Campaign?

April 26 is Lions Worldwide Induction Day. This does not mean you have to induct new members only on that day. You can do it anytime, but it might be a nice gesture to send your new members a welcome card.

Not only are flowers more visible but so are the Lions Clubs. The projects such as fish fries and community dinners you have planned are beginning to bloom.

> We certainly had fun at the District Convention and 110 of you braved the cold to attend. Lion Nick Hall, President, Clinton Lions Club, provided a smile and/ or a laugh with his tailtwisting. Your convention provided lots of new ideas from International Director Steve Tremaroli's interviews and District

Governor Buzz Melton's, District 1H, presentation. I think some of you would have given up lunch to learn more about Lafayette Lions Club's President Bob Hrdy's life with leader dog Alex. There are still two training and/or learning opportunities not only for officers but for every Lion. You have the opportunity to go to a

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District Governor, Charles Roth

training session with Global Leadership



Volume 2, Issue 10

April, 2015

Paw_Prints

Time, Talent & Treasure

Once again I say "Time, Talent, Treasure, we all have them in varying degrees. The problem is we don't always use them. Currently we are lacking a person to fill the second vice district governor position. Time itself is upon us. We would like to have someone step up and volunteer to take on this responsibility. The 2015-2016 district planning is going on right now; wouldn't you like to be part of it? In addition, we are lacking several representatives for our state committees. So far, those that have come forth have made a commitment to do at least one thing (event, project, or even one meeting) to encourage their district compatriots to participate. These state committees are an important part of our Lions programs and need to be active. My guess is that less than 50% of the total state committee chairs give a report at any one Council meeting.

One example of a state committee might be the "Emergency Preparedness" committee (looking for that person right now). It is my understanding that what the committee is supposed to do is to energize the local clubs to:

- 1. Engage local members, form a group and elect a contact person out of that group.
- 2. Members of the group would plan for a local emergency situation and would also be willing to go to a site that has experienced some form of hazard situation and needed help.
- 3. The Leader of the group would list the telephone number or other contact information of members so that they can be notified of any situation where help may be needed within reason, around the State of Indiana.
- 4. The leader would pass on this information to the District Emergency Preparedness person who would in turn pass it on to the state Emergency Preparedness person.
- 5. The local leader would keep the contact information up to date and pass it on as necessary.

The listing above, in my opinion, would not take much time out of a Lion's everyday life and the group would be an asset to its community, the district and the state.

Many of the state committee positions are just like the one described above, but it takes someone that is willing to step up, bring ideas and act on those ideas.

> I don't know how else to say it but we need help. What you are looking at is a one year commitment for a very valuable service to the community; and probably to yourself. Where are the Lions that say "We Serve"?

> > Final note: do you want Multiple District 25C with its' great history to go through 2015-2016 without a second vice district governor?

> > > District Governor Elect, Dick McKellar

April 5-13 is Lions Family Week



Ever since we brought Danielle home from Guatemala in January 2009, our family has been a pride. She has actually attended more Lions' functions than most of the Lions I know.

I'll be the first to admit that taking a 2, 3, 4, 5, etc. year old child to a Lions Club meeting or function is awkward at times, but we would have not missed it for the world. Danielle has been to club meetings, visits to other clubs, Eye Bank board meetings, district and state conventions, and has been to more



Lions' dinners and banquets than most members. She has met three International Presidents (with her favorite being Win Kun Tam from

Hong Kong who gave her his pin right off of his suit jacket), and at age 6 she served on the 2014 State Convention Committee, even if only as an honorary member. It's now to the point that we hear "Where's Danielle?" if we show up to a Lions' gathering without her. Continued from page 1

Three Cheers for April!

Chair Charlie Short and there is the State Convention with seminars on a lot of subjects. Speaking of the State Convention, Indiana has been blessed for the last several years to have the International President come to our State Convention. This is very special considering that the International President attends only 4 in the whole United States. Indiana will not be able to continue this trend if more lions don't attend. This year the committee is hoping to register over 400 to strengthen Indiana's bid to get the international president to the state convention. Please do your part. There will never be another State Convention so convenient or inexpensive. Registration information is found on page 7.

See you at the State Convention!

District Governor, Charles Roth

Save the Date!

May 16, 2015 is the date for a District Meeting in Delphi hosted by the Delphi Lions Club.

Look for more Details in the May Newsletter.

Protect Your Tax Refund Keep Your Identity Safe

It seems like every day we hear about a new data breach, a company being hacked, or someone's identity being stolen. Do you know why? **Because criminals make a business out of identity theft.** In fact, last tax season, the Indiana Department of Revenue upped its security to battle identity theft criminals and stopped \$88 million in attempted identity theft tax returns.

You might be wondering what identity theft has to do with the Indiana Department of Revenue. Criminals steal real taxpayer identities and file tax returns to request and steal the victims' refunds. Identity theft criminals submitted 74,000 fraudulent returns the department identified and stopped during the 2014 tax season. The department helped thousands of legitimate taxpayers realize their identities had been stolen.

So how did the department spot this identity theft? Last tax

season, the department used increased security features that again will be used this tax season. The department took what it learned last year about identity theft and used that information to make this year's program stronger to protect more Hoosiers.

> All Indiana income tax returns will have their basic identity data (not the entire return) submitted to an automated identity verification database. While 95 percent of taxpayers' identity information is expected to be verified as a result of this process, some taxpayers again will be selected to take an Identity Confirmation Quiz to further confirm their identities.

Those selected will receive a letter from the Indiana Department of Revenue. The quiz contains four short questions, which only the person asked to complete the quiz would be able to answer. It is taken on a secure website hosted by the department or over the phone. It should take no more than two minutes to complete.

Through the identity protection program, the Indiana Department of Revenue is making sure Indiana tax refunds are only issued to taxpayers whose identities have been confirmed. **The department thanks taxpayers**

for assisting the department in protecting Hoosier identities.

For more information about the identity protection program, identity protection tips, and tips for protecting your tax refund, visit the department's Stop ID Theft website at <u>www.in.gov/dor/4794.htm</u>.

Kelsey Kotnik, Public Relations Specialist, Indiana Department of Revenue & Indiana Department of Labor



Nfreefile

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File Your Taxes for Free!

The April 15 deadline to file your taxes is fast

approaching. If you've waited to file, there's no need to panic. The Department of Revenue offers a number of resources to help Hoosier taxpayers

breathe a sigh of relief this tax season.

Nearly two million Indiana taxpayers qualify to file their federal AND state taxes online for **free** with Indiana freefile (INfreefile). If your adjusted gross income (AGI) was \$60,000 or less in 2014, you may qualify.

Click here to compare INfreefile vendor offers and get started on your tax return today!

More than 80 percent of Hoosier taxpayers file electronically, and for good reason! Electronically-filed returns offer better accuracy and faster refunds. They're more secure than paper returns as well.

And speaking of security, the department continues to work hard to protect Hoosier identities with the Identity Protection Program. Last year, the Identity Protection Program helped stop \$88 million in attempted fraudulent returns. For tips on protecting your identity this tax season, visit the Stop ID Theft webpage at www.in.gov/dor/4794.htm.

If you have questions about your tax return, please contact the department at 317-232-2240 or email individualtaxassistance@dor.in.gov. If you have a question specific to INfreefile, please email FreeFile@dor.IN.gov.

Katherine McLear, Public Relations Specialist, Indiana Department of Revenue



Centennial Service Challenge

Lions Clubs International are asking Lions to help reach our Centennial Service Challenge goal to benefit 100 million people by June 2018 in celebration of our 100th anniversary. Every district and club can play a part in reaching this goal and earn special Centennial Banner Patches for each of the four years of the Centennial. Patches are earned based on the completion of youth, vision, hunger, and environmental projects and **by reporting the activities through MyLCI.** Three days after our

District Convention, I received patches for four clubs in our District that have already reported completion of all four service areas. These exemplary clubs are Clinton, Lafayette, Riley Township, and Zionsville. There is still

plenty of time for many more of our clubs to complete at least two or more of these service area project. If any of you have questions about this worthwhile challenge, please feel free to contact any of your District leadership team for information.

Continued from page 2

Family Week

It seems like everywhere you turn, children are referred to as our "future" when in reality they are just as much a part of the world today as you or I. This begs the question, "Where are all of these little cubs at while we are at Lions meetings or doing a fundraiser or service project?" and "Why don't we get

them excited about Lions?" Children will bring excitement to your club.

> Lions Club needs to be about family. That's why Lions

Club International has the Family Membership discounts available for members living in the same household. The first family member pays full Lions Club International dues, and each member thereafter only pays one-half (1/2) of the Lions Club International dues.

Lions Club International even has a program for our Cubs under the age of 12 years. Although they are not considered "official" members of Lions, the program is designed to teach about what it means to serve. For more information on the Lions Club International Cubs Program, go to the Lions Club International web page and search Lions Cubs or click on the following link:

http://www.lionsclubs.org/ resources/EN/pdfs/mpfm37.pdf

Let's start building our pride within our own prides.

1st Vice District Governor-Elect, Ross Drapalik



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Rossville Lions Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Presented



Reasons To Be a Lion Three More from Our Top Ten



Lions began as a means for business owners to expand their professional and career contacts. Today Lions membership continues to be a valuable method to network and link with people and groups who can benefit your work, social and personal lives.



There is no greater feeling than making a positive impact on someone's life. Lions are doing good—for others and for themselves.



Joining a local Lions club is a great way to network with other people in your community and make new friends. Find a special interest club that involves people with the same interests, hobbies and passions. Or, consider starting your own club! Serving together can help build relationships that last a lifetime.

President Brad Miller of the Rossville Lions **Club surprised Tailtwister Dick** Rausch with the presentation of a Melvin Jones Fellowship at their meeting on February 18, 2015. The club honored Lion Dick with this Fellowship because he used his talents to lead the club in remodeling a old building, that the club was given, into a storage area and garage for the club's two ice cream trailers. The club has received many comments from community members as to how much this effort has improved the beauty of the whole block where this building is located. picture by District Governor, Charles Roth



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March 11, 2015

Lebanon Lions New Member Inducted



District Governor Charles Roth inducted new Lion Matt Gentry into the Lebanon club. Sponsor Lion Daniel Fleming (right) was the club's newest member prior to his bringing Matt to the club.

Lion Margi McConnaha was surprised by being presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award by District Governor Charles Roth. The Lebanon Lions Club awarded Lion Margi for her long time support to the club.

and Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Presented



April Inspiration "The only place where "success" comes before "work" is in the dictionary."

Vince Lombardi



Earth Day Is April 22, 2015

During April, we invite you and your club to join Lions around the world to bring attention to the environment. Help us raise awareness about current and emerging environmental issues and take action by planning activities in connection with Earth Day. Or, organize projects throughout the month that mobilize your club members to make a difference by protecting our environment. Invite friends and family to help your club make a difference!

> Lions Club International link to further information: Green Team Caring for the Environment

> > http://www.lionsclubs. org/resources/EN/pdfs/ iad219.pdf

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Please send articles and or photos for our monthly newsletter to Dick McKellar or Ross Drapalik to be considered for publishing. They will review and select articles submitted for inclusion prior to layout.

Deadline: 20th of each month

Publish: 1st of each month

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2015 State Convention Committee "Celebrate the PRIDE in Columbus"

April 24-26, 2015

Registration Form (one per person)

2015 INDIANA LIONS STATE CONVENTION Hosted by the Clermont Lions Club and Lions of District 25-F, Inc.

With Special Guest



International President Joe Preston

CLARION HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

2480 Jonathan Moore Pike | Columbus, IN 47201 | (812) 372-1541

Room Rate: \$89.00 plus tax (includes complimentary breakfast) For room reservations call (812) 372-1541 and mention *"Lions of Indiana"* to receive convention room rate.



April 1, 2015

Name & Title (Lion, DG, PDG, PID, VDG etc.)

Please print name as desired on badge.

Address				Phone
City, State & Zip	Code			
District	Club		Email	
tie to the state of the state o	Friday Golf Outing - 9:00 am (lunch includ Friday Evening Dinner Saturday Celebrate the Pride Luncheon Saturday All State Banquet Please check entree choice: Chicken Cordon Blue Please check any dietary needs: Gluten-Free Vegetarian _	15.00 10.00 15.00 Roast Beef		
v	Sunday Brunch	15.00 TAL ENCLOSED \$	= -	
]	Send registration form and check payable to "2015 Indiana Lions State Convention" Lion Cindy Lindgren, 8747 Blooming Grove Drive, Camby, IN 46113 (317) 690-5573 Register online and pay with (small convenience fee will be charged)			
	Email: <u>ILSC2015@gmail.com</u>	www.ILSC2015.COM		
<i>Registration and Certification will begin on Friday, April 24th at 12:00 pm</i> **Registrations received after April 1, 2105 will be accepted with each meal cost being \$5.00 extra. Convention pin / Convention bag will also be \$5.00 after this date**				

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

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We make a difference...

Lions are **About Vision**

Below is an excerpt from a letter received by the Lafayette Club thanking it for obtaining cataract surgeries for a local resident through the Lions Eye Bank. The Club donated \$400 towards the cost of the procedure.

"I would also at this time like to express our deepest gratitude to the Lion's Club. You are amazing people. Health insurance is so expensive that we could get not afford to insure anyone but myself through my employers, so without all of you, my husband would not have his vision back.

He had his first cataract surgery on January 28th and the other one is schedule for February 18th.

If you ever need volunteers for anything, please let me know. I work weekdays but would gladly help any weekend."

The Indiana Lions Eye Bank is dedicated to restoring vision. It's Ocular Surgery and Treatment Assistance Program provides available financial assistance to Indiana residents in need of sight restoring surgeries.

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There will be an **open session** of the Multiple District 25

Council of Governors at 3:00pm at the Clarion Hotel on Friday, April 24, 2015. This meeting of the Council is in addition to the Council meeting that is normally scheduled at the conclusion of the Sunday business session of the State Convention.

Upcoming **Events**

Don't miss it the Walton **Lions Club Annual** Fish Fry will take place April 11 from 4-8pm at the

Walton Lions Den at 104 N. Maple Street in Walton, Indiana

Prices: \$9 Adults \$5 Children

Funds generated will benefit the local Buddy Bag (Backpack) program





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Strengthening our Pride Net Membership Goals for the Year Your club can be a 🛧 too !! DG's Growth Net Goal 2014-2015 2015 All it takes is to just... +16 Ask 1, and Keep 1! +8 Past District Governor Pat Short n 0 25-C LIONS "ASK 1" STARS -20 As of March 20, 2015 Most new members Highest % new members since July 1, 2014 since July 1, 2014 Only 3 months left in this **CLUB** LIONS AT Lions year! Spring is here — NET GAIN March 20 # JUNE 30 so let's get outside and invite % friends to help us with our Brazil 15% 4 31 27 warm weather projects and Clay City 15% 3 23 20 ioin our clubs! Let's Roar! Delphi 8% 4 58 54 Jamestown Community 4 17 31% 13 Lions are 40 Ladoga 3 43 leaders in their 8% communities! Lucerne 24% 4 21 17 Michagantown 50% 7 21 14 Plainfield 16% 3 22 19 Through March 20, 2015: Members as of March 20, 2015 19 clubs with net gain Added Dropped 16 clubs with zero gain Month to Date: +4 -7 22 clubs with net loss Year to Date: +116-140 Net Year to Date -24 Ask 1! April is Membership Month! "Service... keeps Lions' magic alive!" **District Governor Buzz** Melton, District 1-HM

(25c Convention Presenter)





Courage Blanket A Mother's Experience



"We were a transit family. Our youngest son was always the best with each move. But this move was just hard on him . He was sad and a bit afraid of his new surroundings. I gathered him up in my arms and said to him, you know you were born in August, and August is the sign of the Leo, and a Leo is a Lion and a Lion is so full of Courage ! I wrapped his new Lions blanket around him and told him anytime you need Courage you wrap up in this blanket and it will fill you with Courage to face anything. And with a Roar, I might add, indeed it did."

Lion Gail Robbins, Zionsville club

Note: Lion Gail and the Zionsville Lions Club will donate the "Courage of a Lion" blanket to the 2015 State Convention auction.

Does Being a Lion Make You Selfish? Absolutely!

A recent Facebook post from Canadian Lion Bob Murray made me think that maybe we are not selling Lions. Maybe we are just being selfish. To an outsider, what is the win for them to join a club? Here are a few reasons we give to encourage folks to join us, but are we keeping the real reasons to ourselves?

- "A Lion gives back to the community"- someone asks you to come to a dinner meeting a free meal! Already you are getting something for yourself!
- "A chance to work with fellow Lions" getting to know Lions of different professions is great! If any of them can't help you with a personal issue, they usually refer you to someone who can. Who's being selfish?
- "Learn different skill sets" learn how to be a short order cook (useful, McD's is hiring); hands on carpentry training; learn how to leverage grants and materials from local suppliers! Talk about taking advantage!
- "Opportunities to help/guide young folks" kids today can blow you away with their intelligence, insight and life experiences. Lions put up funds for books, contests, etc. So it won't cost you anything to feel so much better about the future.
- "Attending Cabinet meetings and conventions" great times to meet fellow Lions and learn about new projects/fundraisers and ways of doing things. Great growth opportunities and good days with friends!
- "Helping others" meeting people you wouldn't ordinarily get to know, like blind people with Leader Dogs. Volunteer to assist at a fishing/camping experience for Indiana Blind/Low Vision Youth. Another great experience with new friends! And you might even catch some fish.
- "Assistance to others worldwide" feel good by being able to help people in places you may probably never ever get to visit- huge bonus!

Maybe it's a good thing that Lions is the biggest unknown service organization in the world. So do we want to continue to be selfish and stop others horning in on our satisfaction? **NO** – let's share our secret! Let's tell our friends how "SELFISH" we are – they might want to join too!

Past District Governor Pat Short



You Celebrate Life by Being A Lion

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate."

Oprah Winfrey



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APRIL 25, 2015, Q & A SEMINAR KidSight State Project

If you have read the *HOOSIER LION*, you may have come across a resolution which the Lions of Indiana will be voting on at the 2015 MD25 State Convention in Columbus. This resolution was adopted by the Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc. (ILEBI) in November 2014, and proposes that Operation KidSight become a State Project of the Lions of Indiana. In lieu, the eye bank would shift from being an "official" state project to become its own unique entity which will remain governed by the Lions of Indiana.

There will be a Question & Answer seminar about this proposal during the 2015 MD25 State Convention in Columbus, Indiana on Saturday, April 25, but in the meantime, here is some of the background of what has brought us to this point and some answers to some of the questions that may be floating around.

With the success of the eye bank in recent years, the ILEBI has been able to expand our services outside

of Indiana and into the world. The number of corneas collected at home far exceeds the needs of the citizens of Indiana. We have invested in the surgical training for ophthalmic surgeons through equipment grants and e-textbook sponsorships; we have taken our mission abroad to help fund eye banks in India; we have expanded our facilities to include additional office space for our continued future growth of our eye bank; and most recently, we have invested in a company working towards production of the first commercially available artificial cornea which has the



potential of eliminating the need for donor corneas in the future. The Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc. is growing and making an impact on our world.

IDSIGHT

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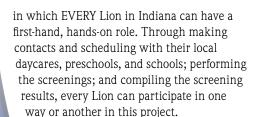
STATE PROJECT

Lions of Indiana

At the same time, the Operation KidSight preschool age vision screening program has continued to grow but appears to be reaching a plateau in the number of screenings performed each year, struggling to reach 20,000 children. It is estimated that of the 80,000 children expected to be born in 2015 with as many as 3,200 of

these children having undetected vision disorders. We can and must do better to reach all of these children.

So, "Why form an Indiana Lions Operation KidSight state project now?" Unfortunately, some Lions look at Operation KidSight as merely an "eye bank" project and something that it does. The truth of the matter is that the current success of the program is not due to the eye bank but rather the KidSight staff and the volunteers across the state who are performing the screenings. The only way for this program to move to the next level is to get more Lions involved and take ownership of the program. If approved, an Indiana Lions Operation KidSight state project would be the ONLY state project



As Lions, our participation with the state projects is pretty much limited to telling others about what we do and raising money to support their missions. We can't all go do corneal recoveries nor can we all be puppy raisers for Leader Dog. We don't have the technical ability to use the gamma knife or fit a person for a hearing aid. We can travel to Indianapolis to volunteer during a cleaning/ painting day at the Indiana School for the Blind, but an Operation KidSight vision screening is something that we can do within in our own communities for the children we see every day.

> Also, with the launch of the Lions Club International's Lions KidSight USA program this past Fall in Puerto Rico, it just makes sense for the Lions of Indiana to take vision screening to the next level and show the world what we have been doing in Indiana and take advantageous of the publicity generated by Lions Club International. The Indiana Lions Operation KidSight Coordinator,

Lion Janice Chapman, has been appointed to the KidSight USA Committee, and we are already making an impact on how this national program is going to be developed.

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Paw Prints

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KidSight State Project

"So, is this a preschool or school age screening program?" This seems to be the burning question with many Lions have expressed. The simple answer: It is a vision screening project for the children of Indiana. Although preschool age vision screening is the primary focus of Operation KidSight under the ILEBI, it would be shortsighted to limit the program to one particular type of screening. Indiana Lions Operation KidSight would be vested in a Board of Directors comprised of Lions from each district just like all of the other state projects, and they alone will determine where the program goes in the future.

Some will say, "We cannot afford another state project." For that reason, the resolution includes a provision that the Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc. will step aside as an "official" state project and become its own separate entity, remaining under the Lions of Indiana with representation of three trustees from each district, just as is done with the Indiana Lions Foundation. An Indiana Lions Operation KidSight state project will also be ready to roll on day-one with initial funding provided by the ILEBI and the creation of a

\$500,000 endowment, with 100% of the proceeds of the endowment benefiting KidSight for a 10-year period. Office space (including utilities) for the KidSight offices will also be provided by the ILEBI in the newly acquired and renovated office complex next to the eye bank. Assuming that the individual Lions Clubs continue their support of the KidSight at the same level as they currently support the eye bank combined with support from the ILEBI, an Operation KidSight state project should remain sustainable for the foreseeable future.

International President Joe Preston's theme for this year is "Strengthen the Pride." With a pride being defined as a family of Lions, an analogy to a family is a perfect was to sum up what leads us to this proposed resolution being presented to the Lions of Indiana:

In 1959, the Lions of Indiana gave birth to the eye bank. They secured a home for the eye bank on the IUPUI campus in a office not that much bigger than a baby's nursery. The Lions nurtured and raised the eye bank through its infancy. They transported the corneas across the state just like parents nowadays take their kids to soccer or band practice. The Lions financially supported us through the lean times, and struggled with us through our adolescence.

Well the eye bank has now grown up now. It has moved away from our childhood home and into its new home on 86th Street. We have grown beyond our parents' ambitions and are serving into the far reaches of the planet.

We adopted Operation KidSight in 2007 from the Indiana Lions Foundation and helped it to grow. By voting in favor of an Indiana Lions Operation KidSight state project, we are creating a second generation state project, a grandchild so to speak.

Our pride is expanding, and we need to take pride in that.

1st Vice District Governor-Elect, Ross Drapalik Chairman of the Board of Directors Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc.

MARCH 16, 2015 PLAINSFIELD LIONS CLUB Club's Annual



Three new members...

Pictured left to right, **Immediate Past District Governor Larry** Graden, Wayne Carter, President, Plainfield Lions Club (Sponsor for New Member Stephen Woodruff), Stephen Woodruff, New Member, Michael Pea, New Member, James Pea (Sponsor for New Member Michael Pea), Robert Condit, New Member, and Tom Iles, Treasurer, Plainfield Lions Club (Sponsor for New Member Robert Condit).



Is the District Invited?

If you have a special event coming up, please send the date, place and time to District Governor Elect Dick McKellar to be placed in the May Newsletter.