



Newsletter



December 2020

Southwest Indiana Lions

THE DG'S ROLL CALL

District Governor
Kenny Williams



To me, the holidays have always been special. I come from a big family and we always had a big Thanksgiving dinner and a big Christmas celebration. Throw in the fact that my birthday is on Christmas Eve and you can see why I have a lot of good memories growing up. We didn't have that much growing up in Lyons, Indiana, but we were never without good food and a good cook, my mom. We owed a lot of the food to us living on a dairy farm and a huge garden in the summer. Mom canned and froze just about anything. I tried to stretch a frozen Stretch Armstrong once with dire consequences (It was my brother's), but I digress. During the holidays, my mom and dad tried to help kids and families less fortunate than us. That resonates with me to this day. I try to help those in need a little more than normal during the holidays. I hope it resonates for you too.

As Lions, we support our communities in so many ways, especially during this time of the year. I know our Clubs have coat drives, angel trees, and support food baskets and pantries. We look after each other and our communities. I want every club to realize how important you are to your towns, schools, and those needing help with vision or hunger needs. This COVID pandemic has caused a lot of clubs to question why they are Lions and why should their club stay in Lions. Trust me, this year has tested every club in ways we could not even imagine a few years ago. I am asking you to stay the course and continue to stay afloat until better times arrive. Then make that decision. I think you will see how important you are. Better yet, ask someone to join, so when we do get a vaccine and better therapeutics, we can have more hands to stir the stew, so to speak. Support whatever you can right now, but stay safe in what you are doing. We will survive this and get stronger.

Lion Erica Thomas, our NAMI Chair, recently outlined our new membership contest, that starts January 1st through June 30th, 2021 (see pg. 7). I will bring my BBQ road show to the two winning clubs sometime in July or August of 2021. To win, all you have to do is have the highest net percentage of new members during the contest period. A club of 30 members or less and a club with greater than 30 members will win. I will bring my grill to you. I'd like to see all of you in the running for the BBQ dinner up to \$500 each club. I'm sure the Cabinet Treasurer will love me.

Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) is helping people around the world to cope with COVID, blindness, and so much more. I am asking each club to hold a specific fundraiser to add more money to OUR foundation. Make a bigger donation this year. In some cases, just make a club donation. We have many clubs that don't. Yet, Indiana Lions get more money in grants from LCIF than we donate. If you think it all, or mostly, goes overseas, you are wrong! You can also make a tax-deductible personal donation, either in a lump sum or through an automatic monthly withdrawal from your checking or savings account. You can get a Pledge Card from your LCIF coordinators. Let's make our time on this earth count, DONATE.

Lastly, BE KIND! Everyone celebrates this season a little differently. Try to be tolerant and not critical. I am inclined to say Merry Christmas, but I don't take offense when someone says Happy Holidays. No one can dictate what comes out of your mouth. Just make it KIND. Try to treat everyone how you want to be treated. With that said, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope the holiday season brings you joy and a spirit of giving. 2021, it has to be better than 2020.

Tanks for Serving

DG Kenny



District Team

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Kenny Williams
4966 N Chatham Drive
Bloomington, IN 47404
812-320-4258 (cell)
kenny.williams@edwardjones.com

1ST VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Lee Cuba
32 Sherwood Lane
Bedford, IN 47421
Ph: 812-583-2875 (cell)
lionleecuba2021@gmail.com

2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Don Russ
5417 Rose Bowl Lane
Evansville, IN 47720812-455-4099 (home)
druss@faygo.com

CABINET SECRETARY

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR

PCC Keith Thomas
400 12th Street
Petersburg, IN 47567
812-354-4637 (cell)
kthomas@threeidesign.com

CABINET TREASURER

Deborah Ellis
8262 Center Road
Sullivan, IN 47882
812.798-2096 (cell)
ellisdebbie259@gmail.com

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM COORDINATOR

PDG Jean Bodensteiner
575-517-7613 (cell)
lionjeanb@yahoo.com

GLOBAL SERVICE TEAM COORDINATOR

PDG Ron Edwards
812-275-3139
jzwn7h@sbcglobal.net

LCIF CHAIRPERSON

Sam Hopper
812-951-2185 (home)
choppershopper@aim.com

Media points of contact
(photos, events, articles, etc.)

- ~ **25E Newsletter:** Lion Holly Nethery, hnethery25@yahoo.com; by 25th of month prior to newsletter month
- ~ **Public relations:** PCC Keith Thomas, kthomas@threeidesign.com; no deadline
- ~ **Hoosier Lion:** Lion Jaline Spurgeon, jaspurg@hotmail.com; by 1st of each month



The Mid-Winter Conference is going virtual in 2021! More info on page 8!

Have a safe and merry Christmas season!!



Happy Holidays

~ DISTRICT DISH ~

Upcoming Events *(all times are local time at that location)*

Date	Event	Time / Location	Contact
10 Dec 2020	Fayetteville Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
22 Dec 2020	Salem Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
13 Jan 2021	Mt. Vernon Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
16 Jan 2021	District Information Meeting	TBD	PCC/CS Keith Thomas, 812-354-4637
23 Jan 2021	Virtual Mid-Winter Conference	9:30 a.m. / Online / See pg. 8 for more info	PCC/CS Keith Thomas, 812-354-4637
26 Jan 2021	Fredericksburg Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
30 Jan 2021	3 rd Council Meeting	Crowne Plaza, Indianapolis Airport	
23 Feb 2021	Sullivan County Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
12-13 Mar 2021	25-E Spring Convention / 3 rd Cabinet Mtg w/ID Michael Banks	Brown County Inn, Nashville, IN	DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
15 Mar 2021	Paoli Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
23 Mar 2021	Canton Lions Club, DG Official Visit		DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
4-5 Apr 2021	Indiana Lions Leadership Workshop	Baymont Inn, Plainfield, IN	DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
30 Apr – 2 May 2021	Indiana Lions State Convention / District	Wyndham Hotel West, Indianapolis	
5 Jun 2021	Pre-Council Meeting	Indiana Lions State Office, 8780 Purdue Rd., Indianapolis, IN	
12 Jun 2021	4 th Cabinet Meeting / Picnic	10 a.m. / Marci Jane Lewis Park, Ellettsville	DG Kenny Williams, 812-320-4258
26-30 Jun 2021	102 nd International Convention	Montreal, Canada	

'Til Fiddler's Green – Fallen Members Recently Reported

Club	Member
Chandler	Carol Fisher
Fayetteville Community	Mary Pritchett

Club Anniversaries

Club	Charter	Age (yrs.)
Campbellsburg	15 Dec 1938	82
Georgetown	8 Dec 2009	11
Mitchell	7 Dec 2005	15
Rockport	22 Dec 1997	23

Care and Concerns

Our thoughts and prayers are with those Lions and their family members or friends around the world that are sick, in the hospital, or at home, and all others whose losses are unknown to us at this time.

Lion Doris Bliss	Lion Joan Bode	Lion Mary Chisham	Lion John Davis
Lion Cindy DeHart	Lion Bob Evans	Lion Alma Graf	Lion Larry Hanson
Lion Dave Milby	Lion Sandy Ruane	Lion Betty Schoonmaker	PDG Paul Schoonmaker
Lion Henry Spindler	Lion Jaline Spurgeon	Lion Bill Stoops	Lion Betty Taylor
PDG (25G) Peg VanNevel family			

New Members in November 2020 – Welcome!

Club	Member	Sponsor
Bedford	Deborah Potter	Charles Short
Bedford	John Potter	Charles Short
Sullivan County	Henry Bobe	
Sullivan County	Clint Lamb	
Winslow	Paula Taylor	Linda Daugherty

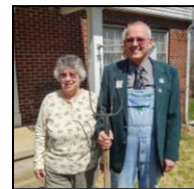
Please send updates to:

Lion Holly Nethery
hnethery25@yahoo.com

FROM THE ON-DECK CIRCLE...

1st Vice District Governor

Lee Cuba



To review my last month's article, I compared life's many activities as spinning plates. As we take on a new activity, we spin another plate. When we have so many plates spinning, we begin to realize that some of the plates are slowing down. They are in danger of falling. We can choose to let them fall and break or we can remove them from our activity list. The better way is to remove them. Of course, this is not always easy. We like all of our activities. Steven Covey tells us to put first things first. That way we know which activity can be taken down, put on the back burner. If we do not choose, something is going to suffer.

But what happens when life throws us a curve ball? Activities will begin to slow down. I am trying to recover from COVID-19. I tested positive October 29. Slept mostly for over six days, no taste or smell and no energy. So, some of my plates fell on their own. I have realized that most of the fallen plates do not need fixed and re-spun. They were time wasters and will not be missed. OK, a silver lining to COVID. But let me introduce a new thought—teamwork.

As with synergizing, teamwork can keep the plates spinning. Since COVID started this spring, my Lion's Club has not been able to do many of our fundraising activities. Before being diagnosed with COVID, I headed up a new fundraising activity, and that was to sell the sausage links that are specially made for us when we have our pancake breakfasts. We received many orders. Now with COVID I could not finish the project. My plate was going to fall. But other Lions in the club stepped in to pick up and hand out the sausage. Thus, teamwork kept a plate spinning.

So, let me conclude with this thought. The bigger the team results in more spinning plates. Let's grow our clubs. Let's get more members.

Serving outside the box.

VDG Lee Cuba

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPRESSIONS...

District E Environmental Chair

Sharon Kamman

How about another environment quiz?

Did you know??

- 27,000 trees are felled each day for toilet paper.
- Paper can be recycled only six times. After that the fibers are too weak to hold together.
- An acre of rainforest is gone every seven minutes.
- It takes 2,400 liters of water to create a hamburger. This includes water to grow the cow's food, water the cow drinks, water for processing the meat, and water for cleaning the cow.
- 80 trillion aluminum cans are used by humans each year.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run our TV at least 3 hours.
- We use 5 trillion plastic bags a year. That's about 160,000 bags a second.
- More than 250 billion tons of chemicals are produced each year.
- 6.5 % of all materials going into landfills are clothing that could have been recycled.



Think about donating clothes that you no longer wear to Goodwill or other businesses that take good clean clothes. This could also be a project for your club, to have a garage sale or yard sale to sell your good clothes.

Hope you all are doing well and staying safe. We also hope that soon we can get back to our more normal schedules. God's Blessings to you all during this holiday season.

Lion Sharon Kamman

District E Environmental Chairperson

s20kamman@yahoo.com

FROM THE SCRIBE...

District 25E Cabinet Secretary Past Council Chair

Keith Thomas



Hello Lions!

As some of you may have heard by now, Erica and I contracted the COVID-19 virus around Halloween. As of the writing of this article, we are mostly recovered. I sincerely hope that if you have not had the virus, that you do not get it. It is definitely worse than the flu. I would like to thank everyone for their prayers.

Everyone should know by now, the Mid-Winter Conference for this year has been cancelled. The Mid-Winter committee had to cancel due to several factors, including COVID -19 and issues with the original planned location.

But fear not! The committee has been working extremely hard to plan the first Virtual Mid-Winter Conference. No Travel! No Hotel rooms! No overpriced food! And no cost to attend!

Please see the Virtual Mid-Winter Conference article in this newsletter (pg. 8) for more details and registration information. We are encouraging everyone to sign up for the conference, but we also are encouraging club members to attend the conference as a club where you can do so safely to stay COVID-free.

At the cancelled Singapore LCI convention, there was a poorly worded dues increase amendment. At the October Lions Clubs International Board meeting it was officially rescinded. A new dues increase amendment was drafted to be voted on at the 2021 LCI convention. The new amendment is to increase annual dues by \$7.00 over a three-year period, beginning with \$3.00 effective July 1, 2022, then \$2.00 effective July 1, 2023 and \$2.00 effective July 1, 2024. As much as I don't like the idea of a dues increase, LCI expenses keep going up and a dues increase is needed.

Also at the October Lions Clubs International Board meeting, the board approved the virtual convention component for the 2021 International Convention. So if you can't or don't want to travel, you should be able to virtual attend parts of the Lions International Convention from the comfort of your own home. The summary report also discussed that the board is looking into virtual election of officers. Once more information is available on this, I will pass it on to everyone.

Among my many hats is the Constitution and By-Laws Committee Chair. At this point, we have one "required" amendment to be added to the By-Laws section. This amendment is a "Dissolution Clause" being required by the Indiana State Gaming Commission. Here is the text of the proposed amendment:

Article VII

Dissolution of District Assets

Section 1. Consolidating or merging District 25-E with another Indiana Lions district. The assets of District 25-E shall be transferred to the newly formed district.

Section 2. District 25-E is disbanded and not consolidated or merged with another Indiana Lions district.

- a. Liquid assets (cash, etc.) and the sale of any personal property shall be distributed to Indiana Lions state projects.
- b. Personal property that is not sold shall be distributed to other Indiana Lions districts or to the Indiana Lions state office.

We have to submit the approved amendment of the By-Laws to the Gaming Commission by March 17, 2021.

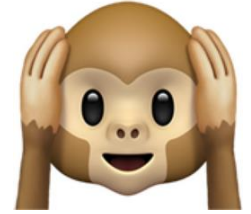
If you have any comments or questions, please let me know and I will try to address it.

Racing to Serve, PCC CS Keith Thomas

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS...

NAMI Champion

Erica Thomas



How to Be a Lousy Listener

I read this article in District G's newsletter, and asked PCC Dave Eisen, Global Leadership Team Coordinator, if I could share this with all my friends in District E.

A few nights ago, my wife asked me if I wanted Swiss steak or macaroni & cheese for supper. I'm sure I told her Swiss steak, but when I got home, there was a steaming pot of mac & cheese awaiting me. She said I told her mac & cheese. I'm sure I told her Swiss steak. One of us wasn't listening. Now I'm not talking about her constant reminders that I don't hear very well anymore, but it did occur to me that maybe one of us hadn't been listening. I wonder how often that happens to us in this age of Zoom meetings.

I've started watching other participants in the meetings I've been in, and it has been interesting. I've started wondering just how many of us are actually listening and not just being "at" the meeting. So, with the help of PCC Reed Fish, I've come up with a list of nine things we can do to be good lousy listeners.

1. Doing other things when someone else is speaking. We may be in front of the screen, but our attention is really elsewhere, like the newspaper, writing, texting, whispering or looking at something in the background of someone else's screen.
2. Planning before the speaker is done just how we are going to respond, either objections, agreements, or questions. By doing so we aren't listening carefully to everything the speaker has to say.
3. Upstaging the speaker. When the speaker offers examples, you have to top them with your own experiences, whether they are relevant or not.
4. Really changing the subject before the speaker is ready. The speaker probably has an outline or agenda, but we want to make sure we get our five cents' worth in somewhere.
5. Trying to hurry the speaker along. A few choice "uh-huhs," some fidgeting, or obvious watch checking can throw the speaker off or suggest that the meeting come to an end before anyone else is ready.
6. Offer some really good non-verbal skills. Make it clear that you aren't listening, you couldn't really care what the speaker has to say, so attend to personal habits, clip your fingernails, clean your eyeglasses, swing around in your chair, make your chair squeak, change the channel on the TV, whatever it takes to show the speaker you aren't all that interested.
7. Get ready with blame or criticism. Not all the speaker's statements require a negative response, but a good non-listener always is prepared with one. Sarcasm, jokes, or anger are all good ways to belittle the speaker in front of other viewers.
8. Get ready with "good" advice, even when it isn't needed. Make sure you get your own points across, so if things turn out well, you get the credit.
9. Click out of the meeting, then back in. Repeat several times and claim it was technical difficulties. Then ask what you missed while you were gone.

Practicing any of these skills makes you someone we all welcome to our Zoom meetings. But these skills also make other members of the Zoom meeting less attentive because they are more geared to waiting for you to interrupt than being able to concentrate on the speaker. Now I just have to figure out how to make my wife understand I really want Swiss steak.

Thank you Dave.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS...

NAMI Champion

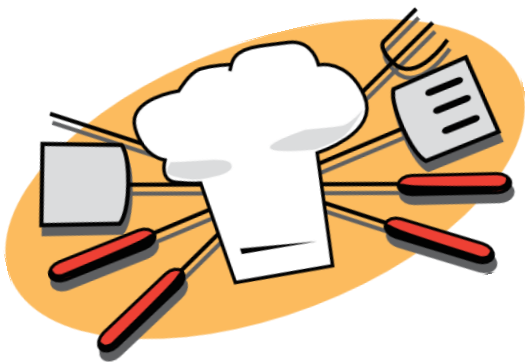
Erica Thomas

Governor Kenny

is issuing every club in District 25E
a **challenge!**

From January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021
the large club (more than 30 members)
and
the small club (30 or less members)
with the **greatest percentage** of membership gain in
those months will WIN a BBQ meal grilled by our very
own Governor!

So, let's get started planning now!



Virtual Mid-Winter Conference Planned

This year's Mid-Winter Conference will be a trailblazer on many fronts in Indiana Lions leadership history. Most significant will be the online format, being the first such leadership opportunity offered to Lions throughout the state. Attendance at a central physical location will not be required so there also will not be any registration fees associated with the conference.

Of course, there will be several items missing from the conference due the uncertainties of what restrictions the coronavirus might have by the January 23, 2021 date. Gone are the numerous displays by state projects, the silent auction, other Lion-sponsored programs and projects, as well as the opportunities for personal, one-on-one interactions among Lions and visitors to the MWC.

This year the conference will have four seminars, allowing all attendees to attend. Earlier this year, past MWC attendees were surveyed to help the organizing committee plan and schedule seminar topics that were identified as the most interesting and useful. The list was narrowed to four in attempt to respond to the requests of over 100 previous MWC attendees.

The 2021 MWC will begin at 9:30 a.m. with an introduction by a special LCI guest. Seminars will be at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., with a one-hour break for lunch. The conference will conclude at 3:15 p.m., allowing all attendees to return home by, well of course, 3:15 p.m. There will be NO SNOW cancellations.

The four topics follow.

- 1) **Conducting online meetings and seminars-** Lion Jennifer Drapalik, a seasoned organizer and moderator of several online meeting platforms, including Zoom, the one that will be used to host this year's MWC, will de-myth the mysteries of setting up, hosting and handling other details in holding a successful online meeting.
- 2) **Everything you want to know about recruiting new Lions-** PDG Charles Short will moderate this panel discussion, featuring winning programs and tactics from successful club marketers, area specialists, and recruiters from around Indiana and the Great Lakes Region. Special guest Dave Wineman, LCI's North American Membership Initiative Regional Chair will be on the panel.
- 3) **The "magic" of membership retention-** PCC Ross Drapalik will talk about the two most significant reasons Lions leave our organization: They are either "pulled" away or we "push" them away from our organization. His powerful presentation has received recognition from those groups where his seminar was given.
- 4) **Putting "FUN" in FUNdraising-** Even with restrictions imposed on clubs by the COVID-19 pandemic, PDG Mary Jane Bodnar will moderate this discussion that will feature several innovative fundraising projects that have proven to be profitable as well as FUN. MWC participants are encouraged to share their experiences.

Mentioned earlier was the "no registration fee" feature of this year's MWC. Holding our conferences previously was extremely costly. Several years ago, we were forced to move our conferences from the school buildings in Plainfield, which severely restricted our ability to expand the conference and required travel from hotel facilities to the conference location. Few hotels matched our needs in terms of meeting rooms, banquet areas and affordable overnight accommodations. In addition, hotels required our use of their food service. The MWC had to highly subsidize previous conferences to bring the cost to their previous registration fees. This year's MWC virtual conference eliminates all these associated costs and will allow the first NO FEE conference of its type in Indiana Lions history.

Even with no fees required, ALL MWC ATTENDEES must pre-register for the conference. Details to host the online conference requires the committee to have enough capacity in the Zoom meeting that will accommodate those who want to attend. An online registration form will be available on the Indiana Lions website at <http://e-district.org/sites/md25/> as well as on district websites. Facebook posts on the MWC page, <https://www.facebook.com/IndianaLionsMidWinterConference>, will also have registration forms. All Lions who register will receive additional information about how to login to the MWC, including the password required. For those who need additional information about how to participate in a Zoom meeting format, a FAQ sheet will be available. The MWC Zoom meeting is available to Lions via either a computer, a tablet or smartphone with an internet connection, or through a regular telephone.

Black tie or pajamas, the choice is yours! But the decision to attend the virtual MWC requires registration. Make your decision and complete your online registration NOW.

INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING...

Past International Director / MD-25 International Understanding Chairperson

Doug Lozier



International Understanding: Lions in Germany

There are 52,000 Lions members in Germany in 1,500 Clubs. German Lions are in Multiple District 111 that has 19 individual districts. The first Lions Club in Germany was in Dusseldorf. In MD 111-Germany there are five committees: for statutes and organization, long-term planning, finance, information technology, and for communication/magazine "LION". They each have their own rules of procedure and usually meet two or three times a year. They support the Governor's Council by processing orders or by means of their own proposals.

Since 2016, the Multi-District Assembly of the German Lions Clubs has been held as part of a congress. The Congress of the German Lions (KDL) wants to be an attractive and informative conference, where the Lions can deal with current social issues, learn about projects and offers in the multi-district 111-Germany and exchange ideas with other Lions about the Lions organization worldwide and club activities. Public meetings and workshops and discussions illuminate the framework theme from different sides and provide impulses for the daily club work.

Lions Club projects and fundraisers are very similar to those here in the US, such as Rose festivals, golf tournaments, coronavirus support, supporting local police, elder care, selling advent calendars, and playgrounds but everyone has an Oktoberfest. All district and country-wide projects are now managed through the Foundation of the German Lions. German Lions are very supportive of Lions Quest, Youth Exchange, and the Lions Youth Music Prize (an instrumental music competition throughout Europe). More information on individual club projects can be read at <https://www.lions.de/clubberichte>.

German Lions meetings are a little more formal than here in the US with men wearing suits and skirts/dresses for ladies. Most clubs have friendship banners to present to guests. German Lions and their meeting speakers are more political than what we are accustomed to. An excerpt from the MD-111 website describes German Lions flavor as:

"We stand for a liberal, social and cosmopolitan society. Free from all party political, religious and national considerations, we have always been committed to maintaining peace, understanding between peoples and promoting a good sense of citizenship. This also applies, and in particular, to the 'European project'.

We, the German Lions, see the growing renationalisation and the risk that Europe will no longer be able to take advantage of the advantages and future opportunities that have already been gained. We see European integration as a great project for the benefit of all citizens and we will support it with all our possibilities. These include increased activities of local Lions Clubs, the appointment of European representatives in the districts and cross-border cooperation with the approximately 250,000 Lions in Europe at conferences and meetings, to the strengthening of the annual European Forum, where contacts are established across Europe, issues discussed, youth exchanges and other projects agreed."

When traveling to Germany, be sure to have your passport. No VISA is required. Once you enter a European country like The Netherlands, and go through Customs, you do not go through customs again until you leave a country of the European Union. The Euro is the currency. Be sure to visit Berlin if you have never been there to see the Checkpoint Charlie and museum, The Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate, the remnants of the Berlin Wall, and then go to Pottsdam where Truman, Churchill, and Stalin met to finish the World War II and where Truman gave the order to drop the atomic bomb. You will learn more about US involvement in WW-II history than you did in school.



25E Club Happenings

Group provides meals, sleeping bags for the homeless

It was during a New Albany Lions Club golf scramble to benefit those suffering from food shortages when Sara Glass met Rob Barstead. Glass has traveled to several impoverished countries to provide glasses and eye examinations. Barstead is the leader of the local group Hands of the Lord, which hands out food bags to those experiencing homelessness and others who are in need at 1 p.m. each Saturday at Bicknell Park. “As the New Albany Lions Club eyeglass chair, I evaluate applications for need of vision services and apply state guidelines to determine if the applicant qualifies for help through the trust funds we manage,” Glass said. “It seemed as if the clients he serves might benefit from this service.”

Glass began going to Bicknell Park on Saturday with Barstead and other local volunteers including Dean Welch, Cathy Higgins and Stephanie Woodward. As she helped people obtain professional vision assessments, Glass observed that there were basic needs that Hands of the Lord, along with its sister organization, Love Unlimited, were trying to address.

“There is an ongoing need for tents and sleeping bags — especially as the weather is turning colder,” she said.

Indiana Lions District 25-E, which is the New Albany chapter, has a special project fund that allows for any club member to apply for a one-time grant for a specific purpose to benefit the community.

“With the encouragement of our president, Karen Cooper, and past-president, Brian Brewer, along with other club members, I applied for the full \$500,” Glass said. “It was approved, and we were able to purchase nine tents and eight sleeping bags for Hands of the Lord to distribute.” Glass said she “learned a long time ago that it is better to work with organizations that have a process in place than to jump in without an understanding of the needs of the individual.”

The last of the sleeping bags arrived last week, and they were given to Barstead who stores them at his home before dispersing them to those in need. And Barstead said the need is great. “As Hands of the Lord, even though we’re not affiliated with any church, we definitely are a Christian organization,” Barstead said Thursday. “We firmly believe that ‘When you have done this to the least of my brothers, you’ve done it to Me’.”



Rob Barstead with Hands of the Lord and Sara Glass with the New Albany Lions Club are pictured with nine tents and eight sleeping bags that were donated to the organization through a Lions Club grant.

Every Saturday, regardless of the weather, the organization sets up at Bicknell Park and hands out meal bags that consist of bottled water, granola bars, a protein such as a package of tuna and other items. “It’s basically a full meal for them,” Barstead said. It’s not just those who are experiencing homelessness who are in need. “We do have some people who are showing up that are working or trying to make a living. They have homes, but times are tough,” Barstead said. “We don’t turn them away. Anybody that is in need, we’re going to help out.” Love Unlimited actually seeks out the homeless where they are and provides them with a hot meal. Both organizations’ mission is to see those who are living on the streets find a permanent residence. Barstead said they attempt to provide those clients with information and resources to seek help.

As for the blankets and sleeping bags, Barstead said the volunteers distribute those on a case-by-case basis to ensure they’re getting to the people who need them the most. On a typical Saturday, between 35 and 50 people come to the park for a food bag, he said, but that number can often climb to as many as 100.

Hands of the Lord accepts cash contributions, but Barstead said food donations are preferred. The group can be contacted through its Facebook page, or by emailing Barstead at xinger55@yahoo.com.

Items needed include snack crackers, bottled water, fruit/pudding cups, single-serve cookie packages, tuna packets/vienna sausage, and granola/fruit bars.

Article by Daniel Suddeath, News and Tribune



25E Club Happenings

Send newsletter items by the 25th of each month (prior to newsletter month) to:

Newsletter Editor:

Lion Holly Nethery

hnethery25@yahoo.com

812-320-1910

Preferred formats for articles:

- .doc
- .docx
- .pdf

Preferred formats for photos:

- .jpg
- .bmp



IU fan Mark Hammond, of French Lick, right, receives a diabetes awareness checklist from Lion Judy Walters as Lion Willard Owen holds a Lions Club Diabetes Awareness sign during November 14th Lions International Diabetes Awareness Day. The French Lick-West Baden Lions Club had three members participating in the activity held at the Jay C Food Store in West Baden. Several patrons offered contributions for eyeglasses for the needy, and one person offered a large box of used eyeglasses for the Indiana Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. About 1/3 of American adults are pre-diabetic and 84% of those don't know they have it. Prediabetes puts those who have it at increased risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. (Photo by PDG Bill Willis).



Four members of the French Lick-West Baden Lions Club who had birthdays in October were honored with a Dairy Queen frozen cake. From left, Lion Willard Owen (28-year member); Lion Cindy DeHart (9-year member); Lion Jason Lindsey (2-year Lion and 1st VP); and Lion Ron Woolsey (not shown) who is a 40-year Monarch Lion. The members were honored during the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the French Lick-West Baden Lions Club in 1950 by the Bedford Lions Club. Lion Cindy, former VP and wearing the Indiana sweatshirt, reminds fellow Lions that it's Ho-Ho-Ho, Big Red is 3 and O! (Photo by PDG Bill Willis).



Happy Hanukkah



New club officers were installed at the Ritz Restaurant during the 66th Anniversary year of the Paoli Meridian Lions Club. Shown from left, Past District Governor Bill Willis, of West Baden, who conducted the ceremony; Cindy Wynn, Secretary; Gary Wynn, Tail Twister; Wes Whitfield, 2nd VP; Barbara Sweet, President; Annette Stevens, Treasurer; and Past District Governor Dr. Herb Stevens, 1st VP.