

# Lions of 25G Newsletter

April 2018

## From the Desk of DG Lion Tom Polk

March Madness – basketball. As Hoosiers, we get talk about brackets and “Cinderella” teams that cause people to cheer for the underdog – even those of us that are not sport fanatics. Some stay up at night or I even know people who take time off work to stay home and watch the games. When the tournaments start, we all have our predictions, our goals as to what is going to happen. But, as they say “is why we play the games” – things change. Teams win that “shouldn’t”, other teams lose that should have been the champion. The game is 40 minutes and the game isn’t decided until the final buzzer.

So why talk about basketball? We can easily make the comparison. We are in the last half of the year. We have a little less than 90 days on the clock. And we, as a team, are behind. Our district is still down in membership. We started this year with nearly 40 more Lions than what we have now. Like a basketball team, we need to rally and come back from behind. We need to approach Lions the same way and with the same passion that we do “March Madness” – we need to talk about it all the time. It needs to be a constant point of discussion at work and with our friends. We need to talk about, instead of the great “slam dunk” we saw on Saturday night, the kids we eye screened or the work we do with the blind, the hungry or the homeless. We need to talk, at the watercooler, not about your bracket and the office pool, but how you are raising money for cancer research, the fight against blindness, hearing loss or providing leader dogs. We need to ask our friends and co-workers to join us on a team for Brian’s Trike race to support ISBVI, a golf outing or to many of the other events of fundraisers going on in the district or the state.

Let’s make the last quarter of this Lions year a strong finish. Let’s come from behind and finish with a positive membership growth. Let’s increase the impact of the Lions of district 25G in North Central Indiana –

We need to serve with a purpose!

DG Tom Polk



# Claypool Lions Club

Chartered 11/16/1936

The Claypool Lions Club has been serving it's community for 82 years. The club is active in supporting the MD State Projects and many local community projects. The club is famous for their fish and tenderloin fry. These are held on the third Saturday of January, February, March, April, September, October and November.

## District Project—Little Free Library

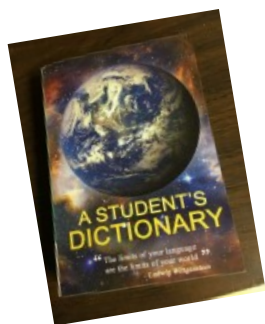
Information about how your club can place a Little Free Library can be found on the web at: [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org). You may also contact DG Tom Polk or speak to 25G Reading Action Committee Chairperson:

**Mary Butler-Knight**

[mariebk48@gmail.com](mailto:mariebk48@gmail.com) or 317-490-5286

Let DG Tom know if you are placing a Little Free Library. If you have a library, send a picture to: [tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com](mailto:tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com) so we can feature them in upcoming newsletters and they can be included in the District Little Free Library Collage.

## Dictionary Project



Lion Howard is still collecting numbers of dictionaries distributed. If your club has not reported the number of dictionaries you have distributed, please send an email or call Lion Howard with your club's report. Lion Howard Heines encourages all clubs to participate in this project.

Lion Howard Heines  
65204 US 31, Lakeville, IN 46536  
574-784-8666  
[ghh8666@outlook.com](mailto:ghh8666@outlook.com)





# District 25-G Leader Dog Bus Trip

Saturday, May 5, 2018

The Leader Dog Difference



## What We Do

To this day, the mission of the Lions, "We serve," perfectly complements the Leader Dog mission of empowering people who are blind or visually impaired with lifelong skills for independent travel.

## JOIN US ON MAY 5, 2018

This is the perfect opportunity for you to represent your club and learn first-hand how Leader Dog works.

From the selection of FLD's - Future Leader Dogs - to the training process - you may just find that raising a Leader Dog puppy is in your future!



## Bus Pick-up in Plymouth and Mishawaka

Meet the Royal Excursion bus at Wal-Mart in Plymouth at 2505 N. Oak Dr., Plymouth with **departure at 5:30am.**

Meet the bus in Mishawaka at the old K-Mart parking lot at 420 W. McKinley Ave. with **departure at 6:30am.**

- ♦ Breakfast rolls & muffins, water & juice provided en route
- ♦ Lunch is being catered by Antoniou's Towne Square Pizza (price included)
- ♦ Stop for quick dinner at Old China Super Buffet in Battle Creek at 6pm (cost on your own) - depart at 7pm
- ♦ Drop off in Mishawaka at 8:30pm
- ♦ Drop off in Plymouth at 9:15pm

**Cost: \$60 per person**

**LIMITED SEATING!!!**

**Get your reservations in quickly!**

## How to make your reservation...

You can reserve your seat(s) by mailing this form, along with a check or debit/credit card information to:

CT Ronald Guth  
2386 W. Broadway  
Bunker Hill, IN 46914  
765-460-7177 / guthron@comcast.net

DO NOT email your card number! You may also call CT Ron to provide your CC #.



## Your card info will be secure

After processing your payment, this form will be shredded as a security measure.

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp \_\_ / \_\_ Code # \_\_\_\_\_

For email or text receipt:

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# of Seats at \$60 \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve your seat TODAY!

CT Ronald Guth  
2386 W. Broadway  
Bunker Hill, IN 46914  
765-460-7177  
guthron@comcast.net

**DO NOT EMAIL  
YOUR CREDIT CARD #**

**Please make  
checks payable to:  
District 25-G**

## ***Make your club's contribution now for 2018***

Many clubs wait until late in the year to make their annual contributions to LCIF. Some, unfortunately wait too long and the contributions often aren't processed before the end of our Lion year which ends June 30. **AVOID THE RUSH!** Send in your contribution now, allowing ample time for them to be credited. More importantly, if you are planning on presenting a Melvin Jones Fellowship, a little extra time will assure you the plaque and other materials will arrive in time for your presentation.

Lions are a lifeline to some of the most vulnerable people on earth. And that lifeline only gets stronger through the support of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). Our foundation is celebrating its 50th anniversary. For half a century, LCIF has worked hand in hand with Lions, supporting our service through grant funding. Together, we have achieved some incredible milestones. More than 87 million children have been immunized against measles. Eye clinics have been built, cataract surgeries funded and sight saved through \$342 million in grants. Nearly 5,000 grants have helped devastated communities rebuild after natural disasters. This is the Power of We.

In all, LCIF has awarded more than \$1 billion dollars in grants—converting generous donations into service—but the real impact of LCIF is measured in the number of lives we change together. That's why we are launching an ambitious capital campaign to raise \$300 million at our International Convention in Las Vegas. This campaign will allow LCIF to increase support of its expanding focus areas, including our new global causes.

Please join me in celebrating LCIF's 50th anniversary. And join me in supporting your foundation.

**Please contact PDG Marty Juel, District 25-G LCIF Coordinator if you have any additional questions.**



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**

PDG Marty Juel  
3204 Village Ct.  
Goshen, IN 46528  
(574) 534-8868 – [marty@martyjuel.com](mailto:marty@martyjuel.com)

**Send all LCIF contributions to the address below. DO NOT send checks to the district's treasurer. When sending checks, use the MJF application form, available at this link: <https://goo.gl/yIvMst>**

**LCIF  
Dept. 4547  
Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547**

## From the Desk of Cabinet Secretary PDG Ann Haffner

By now your club's Nominating Committee should have met to propose a slate of officers for the 2018-2019 Lions year. Elections should be held by April 15 and your incoming officers reported on the MyLCI website by May 1. Either the club secretary or president can do this. Click on "Lions Club Officer Report for Next Year" or "Officers" from the drop down menu and then "Next Year" before reporting each officer. All information for your president, secretary, treasurer, and membership chairperson should be reported. LCI now asks each club to report an LCIF coordinator, service chairperson and marketing communications chairperson. Your club's vice presidents and directors can also be reported.

It is important that each officer's information is updated before you file the report. You will probably need their birth years in order to update their information if that information is not already recorded. Please make sure names, addresses, phone numbers, spouses' names and e-mail addresses are correct. It is very important that e-mail addresses for all officers are included and correct. Most communication is now done by e-mail and your officers will not receive those communications if their e-mail addresses are not known or are incorrect.

As you report each officer for next year, be sure to click "save" before starting to report the next officer. Before you log out, click on "Club Info" and check to make sure the correct days of the month and meeting times are recorded along with the place and address of your meeting place.

Once you have finished, click on "Reports" and then "Lions Club Officer Report for Next Year." Save the report to your computer and then e-mail it as an attachment to DG Tom Polk at [tomkim-polk@embarqmail.com](mailto:tomkim-polk@embarqmail.com) (as he is responsible for seeing that all clubs report their officers) and DGE Jim Reeve at [reeve7677@embarqmail.com](mailto:reeve7677@embarqmail.com) so that he can get a head start on his directory. The report will not include spouses' names, so when you e-mail the report to them, please include in your cover note the names of the spouses of each of the officers and if they are Lions.

**E-Mail Addresses:** If you change or have already changed your e-mail address please send it to me at [ann\\_haffner@yahoo.com](mailto:ann_haffner@yahoo.com) and to DG Tom Polk at [tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com](mailto:tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com) so that you will receive the district newsletter and other district communications.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail at [ann\\_haffner@yahoo.com](mailto:ann_haffner@yahoo.com) or at (574) 457-3054 with any questions or concerns you or your club officers have and I'll do my best to help in any way I can. Thank you for all you do, for your cooperation this year, and best wishes to each of you and your clubs as you successfully complete these last 3 months of the 2017-2018 Lions year and prepare for 2018-2019.



## **From Marvin Mast, District G Indiana Lions Eye Bank Trustee**

### **Indiana Lions Eye Bank Upcoming Resolution**

Founded in 1959 by the Lions of Indiana, the Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc. (ILEBI) has grown from its meager beginnings of nothing more than an oversized broom closet into one of the premier eye banks in the United States.

The business of eye banking has changed much in the past 60 years. Where we originally relied on volunteers to procure and transport the corneas, we now have paid technicians in the field and use of overnight shipping. Where surgeons once had to replace entire corneas with long recovery times for their patients, we are now able to provide specific layers of the cornea with much better results and minimal recovery times. Throughout the ILEBI has been on the forefront of these innovations.

Eye banking is going thru rapid changes of late, and the term “consolidation” has become the catch work with larger eye banks buying up smaller ones and creating large, regional eye banks. Although the ILEBI is on the cutting edge, it is still categorized as a medium size eye bank. This puts us in the unique position of either initiating growth and expanding our operation or sitting back, doing nothing, and risking being swallowed up by one of these larger eye banks and thus losing our identity as the Indiana Lions Eye Bank.

Over the past couple of years, the ILEBI Board has been initiating changes to enhance our eye bank. Through a detailed marketing study of the hospitals which we work with on the recovery of tissue, the surgeons who use our services, and the general public which most commonly associated the eye bank (iBank) with Apple’s iPhone, iPad and iPod, it was determined that a change in our “doing business as” (d/b/a) would be beneficial, and thus VisionFirst Indiana Lions Eye Bank was developed.

The most recent change is the purchase of a new 21,000 square foot facility expected to close by the end of February 2018. This new facility will be equipped with a larger technical lab, a training lab, and a research lab along with additional office space and conference rooms.

These changes have been implemented in order to become more aggressive at approaching collaborative relationships or mergers. The Board wants to be in the position of initiating the growth and protecting the Indiana Lions Eye Bank, Inc. and the Lions of Indiana.

Article XI of the state constitution, requires that only active members of a Lions Club in Indiana may serve as a trustee for each of the state projects listed under Article XI. With the possibility of collaborating or merging with smaller eye banks becoming more of a reality, those eye banks may want to have representation on our Board of Directors. This is not possible under the current constitution.

By allowing the ILEBI to be moved into its own separate area of the constitution and still under the oversight of Lions of Indiana, the ILEBI would then be allowed to extend Board positions to those not allowed under Article XI yet maintain a majority representation of Indiana Lions.

The ILEBI falls within the guidelines established by Lions Clubs International as a “Lions Eye Bank” by

maintaining a board comprised of a majority of Lions Members. The Board is committed to maintaining this affiliation.

Although the ILEBI seeks to be located under a different area of the constitution rather than remaining under Article XI pertaining to the state projects, the move is to allow flexibility in the governance and Board makeup. The Lions Clubs in Indiana will still be asked to financially support the ILEBI for continuation of the Operation KidSight and the Ocular Surgery Assistance programs.

In summary,

1. Eye banking is changing, and it is becoming commonplace for larger eye banks to take over smaller banks to create regional facilities.
2. Article XI of the State Constitution limits the flexibility of the Indiana Lions Eye Bank Inc. needed to deal with the ever-changing eye bank business environment.
3. Lions Clubs International has a set of guidelines which eye banks must follow to maintain their status as a "Lions Eye Bank". A majority of the Board must be Lions.
4. The status of Operation KidSight and the ILEBI Ocular Surgery Assistance Program shall not be changed upon adoption of this resolution, and the Lions of Indiana shall continue to be charged with promoting the financial support of the ILEBI and its programs.
5. The Board of Directors is committed to growing the Eye Bank and protecting it from outside threats while maintaining the oversight by the Lions of Indiana.

The Indiana Lions Eye Bank is simply asking the Lions of Indiana to allow it to follow the LCI guidelines for Lions Eye Banks without any further requirements from the local level as this will create a structure for the Eye Bank to be most successful.

If you have any questions, please contact 25G's Trustees:

Marvin Mast—260-225-0654

PDG Robert Myers—574-267-3765

Duane Griner—574-269-7237

# Around District 25-G



District 25G Governor Lion Tom Polk was the guest speaker at the Madison Township Lions on March 13 dinner meeting. DG Lion Tom talked about the importance of membership to keeping clubs strong. Also, that Service projects are the main objective of being a Lion. His Motto is "We Serve with a Purpose" to serve those in need. He noted people become Lions to serve their fellow man when help is in need, not to "flip Pancakes" which is a means to the end. Our club president Lion Brian Schlarb presented DG Lion Tom Polk our Club Banner.

## District 25G Convention was a great success!



Jessica Michener portraying Helen Keller was enjoyed by all.



ID Joyce Middleton addressing the Friday Night Dinner.



DG Tom recognized CS PDG Anne Haffner with a Presidential Appreciation Award. Presented by ID Joyce Middleton.



DG Tom recognized CT Ron Guth with a Presidential Appreciation Award. Presented by ID Joyce Middleton.



DG Tom recognized GST Al Beeler with a Presidential Appreciation Award. Presented by ID Joyce Middleton.



DG Tom recognized Lion Donna Pattee-Ballard with a Presidential Appreciation Award. Presented by ID Joyce Middleton.



ID Joyce Middleton awarded Club Excellence Awards to



Lion Martin Middleton, ID Joyce Middleton and DG Tom recognizing DG Elect Jim Reeves and 1VDGE Mary Klempay.



DG Tom presented ID Joyce Middleton with a W.P. Woods, the highest honor in Indiana Lions.



# ***Membership Update***

## **District 25G—Completion of Service—2/26/2018—3/25/2018**

**Raymond Courtney—A 34 Year Member of the Peru Lions Club**

## **District 25G Welcomes New Members—2/26/2018—3/25/2018**

### **Akron**

Joshua Manns  
Steve Nelson

### **Middlebury**

Timshel Gabrielson

### **Baugo Township**

Stephen Bottom  
Christopher Carither  
Matt Pollard

### **Mishawaka**

Jacob Crawford

### **Osceola**

James Rice

### **Dunlap**

Debra Page  
Steve Page

### **Silver Lake**

Keven Cordill

### **Elkhart**

John Pauwels  
Trevor Wendzonka

### **Wakarusa**

Kelly Newcomer

### **Lakeville**

John Ort

### **District Website**

25 G District Website has a new address and a new look. District Events are on the Website.  
District Directory updates are available on the Website.

Check it out at [www.lions25g.com](http://www.lions25g.com).

# District Club Visits

DG Tom is winding his Official District Governor Visits to a close. .  
If DG Tom can assist your club in some way, please contact him at  
260-571-5123.

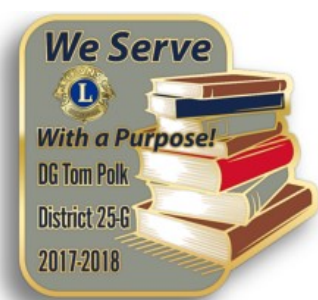
## April 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Lydick Club Visit	10 Akron Club Visit	11	12 Osceola Club Visit	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 ISBVI Trike Race	23	24	25	26 State Convention	27 State Convention	28 State Convention
29 State Convention	30					

## 25 G District Goals for 2017-2018

- ♦ Focus on our clubs that have less than 15 members by helping them increase their membership to at least that level;
- ♦ Support the placement of Little Free Libraries;
- ♦ Have a positive membership growth;
- ♦ All clubs to report their activities and membership every month.



DG Tom Polk  
District 25G Lions  
5378 E 975 S  
LaFontaine, IN 46940  
Phone: 765-981-2605  
Cell: 260-571-5123  
E-mail: tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com

***Visit us on the web at [lions25g.org](http://lions25g.org)***

Newsletter Deadline is the 20th of each month. Please submit articles and pictures to:

Lion Kim Polk  
District 25G Newsletter Editor  
5378 E. 975 S., LaFontaine, IN 46940  
765-981-2605/260-571-6125  
tomkimpolk@embarqmail.com