

First Annual District 5-SE & 5-SW Convention Goes Virtual



We've all heard the famous movie line, "If you build it, they will come" ... This year, Lions members in District 5-SW were all set to host the first ever District 5SE & 5SW Convention scheduled to be held at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City the first weekend in October. However, the Pandemic and Covid -19 had different ideas and threw a large monkey wrench into those plans. How well we all know many of our lives and plans have

had to change in order to adjust and compensate for the Pandemic.

So, we "built" a virtual convention and they came! No Pandemic was going to keep Lions from across Districts 5-SE & 5-SW down! In spite of everything, the convention went on!! Elections were held, business was conducted and a lot was accomplished. "So there, Pandemic, we showed you"! Good old South Dakota Spirit, a lot of assistance and know how, that's ALL it took!

District 5-SW elections were held and the following officers have been elected:

DG Elect – Geraldine Ray of Pierre; First Vice DG Elect – Ron Bunnell of Rapid City. *The positions of Second Vice District Governor and Cabinet Secretary are currently open.* If you are interested in serving in one of these capacities or know of someone that may be interested, please contact DG Richard Waits, DGE Geraldine Ray or 1st VDGE Ron Bunnell.

Current board members on the SD Lions Foundation, Lion Lester Forkel and DGE Geraldine Ray have agreed to accept second three-year terms on the board. *Currently there are 2 positions open for the Dakota Lions Sight & Health Board. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact Marcy Dimond, Executive Director for Dakota Lions Sight & Health.*



Thoughts from the District Governor's Desk



Fellow Lions,

Thank you, Convention Committee members and Zone 5 Lion members from District 5-SW, for hosting a wonderful South Dakota Lions State Convention. A lot of planning and work went into changing the format from a "traditional" convention to a "virtual" convention. With the help and expertise of many Lion and non-Lion members across the State, it was accomplished.

Even though we are still in the Covid-19 environment, many of you Lions in District 5-SW are out there providing services to your fellow members along with the community on a regular basis. Keep up the good work but do it in a safe manner.

I hope you and your family are well and safe.

We Look Toward the Future!



It feels good to be needed... and you certainly are!

Your help is needed to share news of your club projects, service and events while things have been s-l-o-w and sheltered for all of us. Please share club news and photos along with information.

Contact Colleen at: forkel@valleytel.net or call 605-426-6987



What About a Melvin Jones Fellowship?

The Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) is the backbone of the Lions Clubs International Foundation. It is presented to those who donate \$1,000 to LCIF or to people for whom a donation was made by others. It is a tremendous contribution to humanity and to the legacy of our founder, Melvin Jones.

- There are more than 440,000 MJF recipients worldwide
- There are more than 89,000 PMJF recipients worldwide
- 100% of MJFs are invited to the annual luncheon held during the international convention

It is possible to make a donation and choose the MJF recipient later. Simply write "Melvin Jones Fellow to be named later" on the check or bank draft. When an individual's or group's personal donation(s) are accumulated for a club's or districts use to select a Melvin Jones Fellowship recipient, LCIF needs the signed consent. Please include such documentation with the completed MJF application that is sent to LCIF Donor Services.

For further Melvin Jones Fellowship contributions or inquiries, contact Donor Services at 630-203-3836 or DonorAssistance@lionsclubs.org.

Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowships

The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship (PMJF) program is a way for donors to extend their commitment to LCIF. There are 54 recognition levels beyond the initial \$1,000 MJF contribution with a unique pin for each giving level. After contributing \$100,000, donors become Humanitarian Partners.

Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines:

- November 1st December Newsletter
- January 1st February Newsletter
- March 1st April Newsletter



What's Up Next?

- * October 23 North Dakota Virtual Lions State Convention
- * November 1 Deadline for information for December/January newsletter
- * November 5 Saskatchewan Convention Swift Current, Saskatchewan
- * November 6 -8 Multi District 5 Council Meeting Swift Current, Saskatchewan
- * January 1 Deadline for information for February/March newsletter

Please submit items for What's Up Next to Lion Colleen Forkel at forkel@valleytel.net



Diabetes

One thing I've learned since I've been on this journey of diabetes: the last 3 years have changed my life. I do things in a different fashion than I did before. I haven't slowed down I just move differently.

Other things I've discovered are as follows. I have found foods I've never or hardly ever eaten before and learned to like them. I don't <u>NEED</u> as much pasta and bread as I thought I did. My body reacts to food differently - differently than other people but also differently depending upon my (what I'll call) mood. For one thing, stress definitely affects my sugar level.

Something important I have discovered is that I do have some control over my sugar level. When I don't eat as much starchy food or sugary food and eat more vegetables and I exercise; my sugar level stays manageable. Along with that, however, I do know when I've forgotten to take the medication my doctor has prescribed. By the way, please, please, please talk to a doctor regularly.

Diabetes does <u>NOT</u> control me. I live <u>with</u> it every moment, but I live. I don't overdo (I can't just eat a candy bar whenever I feel like it and that plate of spaghetti isn't nearly as big) and I try to stay active (I get up out of my chair and walk more than I did).

Diabetes is <u>NOT</u> a death sentence. When we learn to live with it, we learn to live. We all need to know that there is hope.

So, this is part of who I am and part of my story. Mine is different than yours because each of us and our bodies react differently.

Your 5SW Diabetes chair, Lion Del Neumeister.

MyLion Account:

LCI has been very busy updating these accounts. Club secretary's will no longer need to email their club service activity or membership information to PDG Neil starting with the July reports. It is very important that they post the information in their club My Lion account each month. The District Global Action Team (GAT) will be reviewing this information for their reports to MD5 and LCI. If the reports are not posted by the end of the month, the Zone Chairperson for the club with the missing information will be contacting the club president to see what can be done to help with the reporting.





Onida Wheatland Lions Continue 30 Plus Year Tradition

The Onida Wheatland Lions Club recently participated in the Sully County Fair with a pop giveaway during the chili and rib cook-off on August 8th. The Club, which has been doing this for over 30 years also served ice cream this year on behalf of the Onida Chamber of Commerce. Pictured are Lions President Greg Lorenz and Lions members Laura Rowe and Brian Ring. On the right is Lion Marlene Tilberg, serving ice cream on behalf of the Onida Chamber.

GET YOUR 5-SW LIONS RAFFLE TICKET TODAY!





A Thought or Two...

from PDG Doug Scheller

LCIF Development



Lions of South Dakota,

"GOOD PEOPLE HAPPEN TO BAD THINGS" is the slogan of the Salvation Army, but it could also be used to describe Lions and Lions Clubs everywhere. Wouldn't you agree? However, <u>WE SERVE</u> works exceptionally well & it's easier to say!

If your club is like mine, Covid-19 has interfered with most of our fundraising activities and Campaign-100 is no exception. It is important for all of our clubs and our Lions members to support this important fundraising campaign for LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation). This is the charitable arm or our great association and <u>WE NEED YOUR HELP!</u>

For this reason, the LCIF Coordinators for the 4 districts in the Dakotas developed a turn-key fundraiser for every club that is <u>ALL READY TO GO!</u>

By now your club's president has received your club's allotment of Campaign-100 raffle tickets for Districts 5-SE & 5-SW. Every club received at least one ticket for every member of your club. The cost of each ticket is \$20.

Your club officers were asked to distribute <u>one</u> ticket to every member of your club with the following request: <u>please</u> buy or sell one ticket to anyone, that is all. IT'S THAT SIMPLE! Your club treasurer is to receive all ticket sales and ticket stubs. Checks must be made out to <u>YOUR OWN LIONS CLUB</u>. Your club treasurer is to mail in a check from your club & ticket stubs <u>by Oct 29</u>. The drawing is to be held Nov. 4th, 2020.

Here's the good news: 1) The prizes are from Scheels & are great, everything from shotguns & rifles to men's & women's mountain bikes. 13 items totaling \$5300+ in value. Ticket sales have already started & some clubs have already requested extra tickets—let me know if you need more. 2) Should one win a prize, they can't use, it can be redeemed for a gift card at any Scheels for the value of the prize. 3) The best news? Once ticket sales minus the cost of the prizes & expenses are tabulated, your club could receive up to 75 cents on the dollar as a donation to LCIF Campaign 100. This can be used towards a Melvin Jones Fellowship for a member of your club. This is a WIN-WIN! The more tickets we sell, the greater the return. Good Luck & Sell those tickets!

Example: 5-SW Scheels Raffle ticket.

PDG Doug Scheller, 5-SW LCIF Coordinator, e-mail: douglas.scheller@gmail.com



Cancer Bracelets Available ... Help make money for your club and support the S.D. Lions Foundation



Bracelets in a variety of sizes and colors are available from the **SOUTH DAKOTA LIONS FOUNDATION IN Sioux Falls**

- Multi bracelets Representing all cancers Pink bracelets - Representing breast cancer Gold Bracelets – Representing childhood cancer
- South Dakota Lions Clubs in Districts 5-SE & 5-SW can purchase cancer bracelets for \$6 each and sell for a profit, thus providing funds for your club!

Contact the SD Lions Foundation today at 605-338-0551 or email Jennifer at jennifer@sdlions.org

In Memory...

Yvonne Ring, S.D. Lions Foundation Program Coordinator We honor her memory and service



Yvonne Ring of Brandon, SD passed away shortly after she retired from the South Dakota Lions Foundation. On July 1st she suffered a stroke which led to a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. A couple of weeks ago she suffered a second stroke and was admitted to Ava's House in Sioux Falls. She lost her very brief health battle and passed away on September 17, 2020. Yvonne Marie Summers, daughter of Cecil and Evelyn (Dregseth) Summers was born September 15, 1949 in Sioux Falls, SD. She was united in marriage with John Ring on August 21, 1970 in Sioux Falls. Yvonne worked at the Johnson, Janklow, Abdallah Law Firm assisting with accounting. She retired and then went to work for the South Dakota Lions Foundation as Program Coordinator, helping those in need receive hearing aids and glasses. Yvonne enjoyed sewing, was an avid reader and enjoyed spending time with her grandkids. Grateful for having shared her life are her loving husband John of 50 years, two children, Sarah Schulz and her husband Nick, Bennington, NE; Joshua Ring and his wife Yung, Sioux Falls, SD; Five grandchildren, one brother, Curtis Summers, Sioux Falls, SD and many other relatives and friends.

Yvonne as preceded in death by her parents, Cecil and Evelyn Summers. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Yvonne to the South Dakota Lions Foundation (https://sdlions.org/get-invovled/donate-now/).



Bits & Pieces



- Mobridge Lions served concessions during a September football game to assist the Mobridge youth organization.
- Belle Fourche Lions collected aluminum cans for recycling
- Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions held an Early Childhood Vision Screening at Jefferson School in Pierre
- Ipswich Lions recently donated \$2500 toward the purchase of an enclosed trailer for the Ipswich School District. The trailer provides a home for band instruments when the Ipswich band participates in an event. It has also hauled football gear to out of town games and can also be used during track season to help haul equipment.
- Three members of the Eureka Lions Club visited the September Ipswich Lions Club meeting
- Ipswich Lions Club gave a \$500 donation to the SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Aberdeen SD
- Rapid City Evening Star Lions held a Pour to Paint project planning session and revisited a possible Soup Supper fund raiser in January
- Ipswich Lions sponsored a Community Blood Drive at Fr. Borman Hall on August 24th helping to collect 23 units of blood
- Ipswich Lions Club members have been selling concessions during local high school football and volleyball games and tournaments to help raise funds for their club
- Eureka Lions participated in their local homecoming parade with a lions float and candy toss

Please submit items for Bits & Pieces to Colleen Forkel at forkel@valleytel.net