



5SW LIONS Pride

District Governor's Message



The central theme and basic part of any organization or association has to be communication! Let's talk about that! I am the Current 5SW District Governor officially started my year of serving with people on July 1, 2022. That's my theme "Serving with People," hoping to potentially raise membership back up to 1,250 Lions in western South Dakota at some future date! It is a lofty yet achievable 15 year goal.

The long haul down life's highway is important when used wisely. Modern highways and automobiles make the road trips all the more pleasant within 5SW. Club visitations should be a special time for attendees as well as the DG and spouse. These are special times for developing

comradery and fellowship. If this time is planned carefully, the DG can promote new LCI and District events. My wife, Donna, and I plan to visit all clubs in Western South Dakota between November, 2022 and mid-February, 2023. The 5SW Clubs are currently: Belle Fourche, Buffalo, Chamberlain, Custer, Eureka, Faulkton Area, Gregory, Hill City, Hot Springs, Ipswich, Lead/Deadwood, Lemmon, McLaughlin, Miller, Mobridge*, Murdo, New Underwood, Newell, Nisland, Onida, "Wheatland," Piedmont Valley*, Pierre/Ft. Pierre, Presho, Medicine Creek, Rapid City Downtown, Selby, Rapid City Evening Star, Rapid City Metro, Spearfish, Rapid City Rushmore, Sturgis, and White River. (* indicates a club in *triage*, slated for rebuilding).

Unfortunately, there were numerous errors in the 2022-23 directory. Unfortunately, any error, no matter how small, makes an email undeliverable. This makes dependable communication pretty difficult. Help is on the way as our new internal District Administrator (DA) Lion Richard Waits is now approved and began November 15, 2022. The DA represents the District, the Governor and the privacy of all the Lions of the District at all times! Key components of the role are 1) to add or correct data entry for 5SW as warranted. 2) Communicates business of the District in large batches while protecting the security of all private emails in 5SW!

It really is in the midst of the most important days for Lions in the District to evaluate, create and discover new ways to effectively communicate with the 29 remaining Lions Clubs that are holding on to serve western South Dakota.

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NOTICE!

There are new submission guidelines for the newsletter. See page 7 for more information!

COMMUNICATIONS

“What we have here is a failure to communicate” This is one of my all time favorite sayings, uttered by actor Struther Martin in the movie *Cool Hand Luke*. As we all know, failures to communicate are not something new! What is new is that we are nearly all, across our District and across the State, now linked with the Internet with Emails, Websites like LCI, Lions Club E Pages, Facebook Pages, Picture Taking, Gaming, etc. All this requires a new strategy for communications districtwide.

Corner Stones for Special District Communications Across all Clubs, we have observed that the secretaries and treasurers are the cornerstone of communications with virtually every Club! Thank you One and All! For that reason, a Zone Chairman, Cabinet Member or the District Governor may be calling on these Club Officers. If this is written communication, there will normally be a copy to the respective Club President. Overall teamwork is greatly valued and a good thing!

Zone & Region Leadership Each year beginning on July 1, there will be two Regional Zone Leaders (one from the blue & the other from the gold). A valid Guiding Lion certificate is required OR a class must be scheduled, taken and passed as soon as possible during the year while serving as the Region Zone Chairperson.

Blue Zones (1 thru 4) Regional Darrell Pfeifle

- Zone 1 Eureka, Ipswich, Selby
- Zone 2 Lemmon, McLaughlin, Mobridge
- Zone 3 Belle Fourche, Buffalo, Newell, Nisland
- Zone 4 Lead/Deadwood, Spearfish, Sturgis

Gold Zones (5 thru 8) Regional Gold Zone Chair, Darryl Moll

- Zone 5 Custer, Rapid City Metro, Rapid City Downtown Hill City, Hill City Ranger Leo
- Zone 6 Hot Springs, New Underwood, Piedmont Valley Rapid City Evening Star, Rapid City Rushmore
- Zone 7 Chamberlain, Gregory, Murdo, White River Presho Medicine Creek
- Zone 8 Miller, Onida, Faulkton & Pierre/ Ft. Pierre

Each Regional Zone Chair is expected to prepare and present Regional Updates at Cabinet Meetings. Note: Since Zone Meetings ground to a near full stop after March, 2020 until the beginning of 2022, the “three year max rule” for Zone Chairs is inappropriate to carry over and through this period of time. This opens things up and provides a pathway for Zone Chairs to stay in the game and produce results with Three Active Years!

(Continued next page)

SWOT Analysis This Strategic Planning and Management technique has been around to help countless numbers of organizations for the past 50+ years. Variations of this simple tool has been used to help organizations like ours to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. We have adopted Lions Clubs International's version and developed it to fit our Administrative and Communications Needs.

SWOT will be new to many but it is tried, true and works as long as everything is followed through beyond making lists and then dropping the ball. The results are not only for District 5SW at large but also individual Clubs within our District.

Lion Ron has developed matrix to gather all the needed information from Lions, either at club meetings or in the comfort of their own homes. This technique will be used to determine building blocks and "decision-making tools" for existing Lions Clubs, new and old, to build upon.

While at a group meeting, Lions write out entries on a unique, single page matrix. SWOT is thought to be very effective. If done correctly, it promotes independent thought and can be easy to compile responses. The specific entries made by Lions seem to be spontaneous, from the heart and meant to be taken as constructive criticism.

Newsletter Ninety days into the new District Governor's term of office, Ron was pleased and proud that Lion Kate Kosior of Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions Club had agreed to return to her post as Newsletter Editor. Lion Kate had combined work from other Lions, Lions Clubs and from DG Ron. She blended it with her own talent and skills to create a nine page WORK of ART including laying out all of the details of the 101 Statewide Convention in Rapid City the following week!

Take a moment to "Remember the Paper Boy" - When Lion Ron was a boy of 12 or 13, he was asked by his foster parents, Leo & Doris Hinkle in Worland, Wyoming, if he might want to consider a paper route. An established "Rocky Mountain News" route had become available in a surrounding neighborhood. It would be a nice way to meet people and earn a little spending money.

We still get the newspaper at our home in Rapid City. At 4:00am or shortly after as I start my day. The first thing I do after getting dressed, brushing teeth and combing hair is to go upstairs on the third floor and turn on the front porch light for the paper carrier. The Rapid City Journal has adjusted and so must we with our news of 5SW! The thing is - the paper comes regularly - it is predictable to come every morning except Sunday and Monday. The paper has gotten to be tiny except for Saturday - BUT it is all regular and predictable. We need a dose of that in our lives these days! Thus the Newsletter will remain front line to communication. Delivery to all Lions is being structured to assure that all Lions receive his important communication.

So with Lion Kate's permission, the schedule for the rest of my term is that the newsletter should be out for 2022 in October and December and in 2023 in February, April, and June. The paper carriers are mostly ready- made as I was in 1957! Assuming most everyone agrees, this will be part of the Club Secretary's duties. You will be receiving the newsletter and you will be forwarding a copy along to your membership very early in the 10, 12, 2, 4, and 6 months of the year.

The fiscal year for the DG's and their cabinets ends on June 30 . At that point in time, the new DG and Cabinet comes in on July 1 . The months of 7, 8 & 9 should be open and dedicated to st the transition. So, for the newsletter, we are on track with the first edition sent out during the first week in October and this current one during the first week in December - Merry Christmas!

Addendum Eyes wide open for the future of Lions in South Dakota 1) Continuity and Growth are Important! 2) The Challenges for Lions Clubs are Serious! 3) Technical Knowledge needs to be understood, improved and used effectively!

We Hear You,
DG Lion Ron Bunnell

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S CORNER



In Minnesota, even though December is cold and dark, our hearts are never more warm and filled with light than they are during this time. It's in December that we share meals with loved ones and find ways to connect with friends we haven't seen all year. We look for ways to give to those in need. And we are thankful, more than ever, for not only the things we have, but the ways in which we are able to help those who need us.

Besides my family, there is nothing in this world I'm more thankful for than the ability to serve others. I am honored to serve soup to the homeless, build parks and community gardens, and invest in

the care of our environment. I am humbled by the people who allow me into their lives so that I may give to them a small portion of what the world has given to me.

Lions, as we near the end of the calendar year and start thinking about our hopes for the new year, let's not forget about the people we serve. Let's remember that we are all hoping for good things in our lives—and that we *are* the good things in our lives. Our loved ones, our fellow Lions, and those we serve.

Make a great day, Yours in Service,
Brian Sheehan

PIGGY BANK PROJECTS

As members of Lions Club International, we are tasked with supporting five global causes: diabetes, hunger, vision, the environment, and childhood cancer. Putting piggy banks in local stores and businesses is a great way to passively generate funds for causes we care about.

There are piggy banks for every club in the District. If you look carefully, every pig has a scarf around his/her neck. Personalize it. Add some color, your club's name, and the Lions symbol (usually something cut out and glued on). Additional banks can easily be created from plastic peanut butter, mayonnaise, and other jars. Be certain to label one of those banks for the environment. You have just recycled for a very special cause!

What a great visual greeting from your Lions Club for your community! One bank for Leader Dogs actually ended up with one or more greenback bills - one was \$100! People love your Lions Club and what you do to serve your Community! DG Ron Bunnell has promised to put a piggy bank in every club he visits this year. Stay tuned!



PEACE POSTER RESULTS

The results of the Peace Poster Contest are in!

Of the four Lions Clubs who met the established final deadline for submission and judging, it was reported that there had been an impressive thirty eight (38) Contest Participants! Thanks to all of the participants!

The third place winning entry was sponsored by the Selby Lions Club. Sixth grade student Clara Huffman attends the Selby Area Schools and is 11 years of age. The Selby Lions Club President, William Masteller, brought this winning Selby Club entry forward from amongst 10 other entries.

Our second place winning entry was sponsored by the Sturgis Lions Club. Sixth grade student Drew Long attends the Central Meade County School and is 11 years of age. Drew's home is actually in rural Red Cloud, SD. The Sturgis Lions Club President, Leanna Smith, brought this winning club entry forward from amongst the stiff competition of 16 other entries.

Our First Place winning entry was sponsored by the Eureka Lions Club. Seventh grade student Aaron Ingerson attends the Eureka Public School and is 12 years of age. Eureka Lions Club President, James Grossmann, brought this winning club entry forward from amongst the stiff competition of 10 other entries. District Governor, Ron Bunnell, thought Aaron's composition evoked peacefulness with the muted colors, the dove of peace, the heart for hope and, when viewed carefully, the hands of many colors supporting these images of peace. Additionally, Aaron's quote about peace was felt to be profound. Aaron said, "By leading with Compassion, you are showing those around you how much you care. Bringing a community together by caring leads to peace."

These winning entries will be reported to the MD5SW for consideration for the 2023-2024 Peace Poster Winners Calendar. Club Presidents mentioned here, please share this information with your Club as well as the finalists. Thank you!



Second Place: Drew Long
Sturgis Lions Club



Third Place: Clara Huffman
Selby Lions Club



First Place: Aaron Grossman
Eureka Lions Club

LEADER DOG NEWS AND NOTES

The mission statement for Leader Dogs for the Blind (LDB) is *Empowering people who are blind or visually impaired with lifelong skills for safe and independent daily travel.*

Leader Dogs for the Blind is 100% philanthropically funded. It relies on clubs like ours to help provide the support that makes it possible to give blind or visually impaired people training on orientation and mobility and guide dog training absolutely free!

My goal as District Chairman for LDB is 100% club participation. There are some fun and interesting things that a club can do to raise funds as well as raising awareness in a community about LDB. Some clubs have done a Dining in the Dark (eating with blind folds). There is also a coin collection canister marked 'Pennies for Puppies', that can be placed in stores or at concession areas. A club could sponsor a 50/50 bingo at ballgames. Clubs can ask each member to donate \$.25 at each meeting and send the proceeds to LDB at the end of the year. Even \$.25 each at just one meeting would work. How about a 5K run? There are also possibilities for individuals to contribute to LDB. They have a great gift shop on line at <https://leader-dogs-for-the-blind-gift-shop.myshopify.com>. Individuals can also make personal contributions. The possibilities are endless.

Please send donations to me: Donna Wetz, LDB Chairman, PO Box 204, Newell, SD 57760. I will forward them on to Leader Dog so that your club and District 5SW get credit for the contribution. Thank you for your generous support. Let's "Make Everyone Unstoppable!"

Lion Donna Wetz

District 5SW Leader Dogs for the Blind Chairman



MD5 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP

Will we ever have an International Youth Camp again? YES, YES, YEAH!! PDG Judy Beaudry, Youth Camp Chairperson, recently gave an update of dates and location. Clubs in Canada, North Dakota, and South Dakota once again are encouraged to sponsor attendance of a youth at the camp. Youth between ages 15-18 are eligible, and the camp will be at Medora, North Dakota. Sponsorship of a youth is \$400.00. If club members don't have children or grand-children in the age group, reach out to churches, schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other organizations for a name.

PCC Lion Ken and Lion Donna Wetz have much experience with this camp. They've opened their home to exchange youth, are members of a club, Newell, that always sponsors a youth, and have hands on in the day-to-day operations of the camp. They welcome your calls with questions at 605-490-0565.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

This year, the newsletter team is getting more organized! Please follow these guidelines to ensure your contributions make it into upcoming issues!

1. **All submissions should now be emailed to lions5swnewsletter@gmail.com**

Information that has already been sent to Lion Kate's personal email address will not be included in coming issues unless resubmitted to this email address.

2. Please send files of images, do not send PDF's or websites with images embedded in them. These images must be extracted from those documents and often show up at a very poor resolution. Please send original files whenever available.
3. Please check all spelling of names and locations. Lion Kate will not change these spellings.
4. Submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling, formatting, and content. Lion Kate has two English teachers for parents. It's second nature, no reflection on you!
5. Sometimes not everything fits in the available space we have. Articles may be shortened, some photos may not be used. We will do the best we can to put in as much content from as many clubs as possible.
6. Submission deadline is the 15th day of the month prior to the publication date. Proposed 2023 submission and publication deadlines: February 4, 2023 (DUE DATE: January 15, 2023); April 7, 2023 (DUE DATE: March 15); June 9, 2023 (DUE DATE: May 15, 2023). Distribution dates are approximate.

DISTRIBUTION NOTES:

Beginning with the December newsletter, the newsletter will be sent to one contact person in each club, as well as posted to the 5SW website. Each club will need to designate a contact to receive the newsletter via email. That person is then responsible for distributing it to club members as desired. Please send your club's designated contact and email address to lions5swnewsletter@gmail.com ASAP so a mailing list can be created.

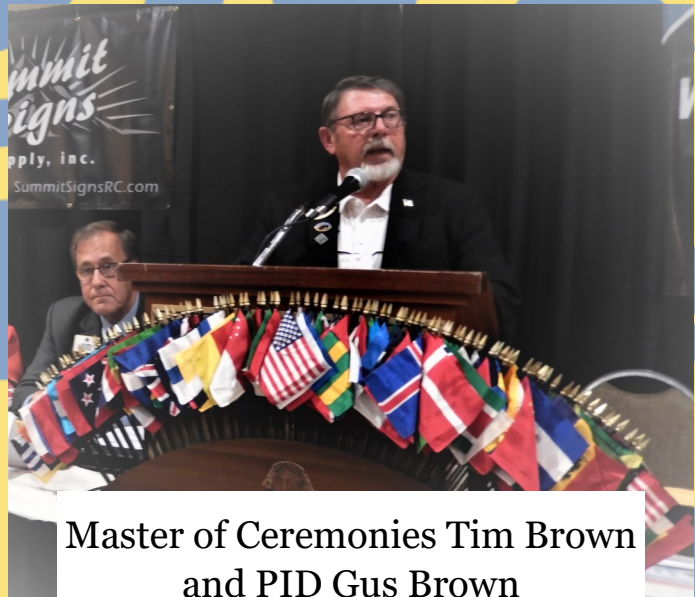
THANK YOU!

IMPORTANT

2022 Convention Photos



Lion Kay Thomas received the Robert Tyler Award by SD Lions Foundation for enhancing the lives of the visually impaired



Master of Ceremonies Tim Brown and PID Gus Brown



Lion Ray Schley received the Howard Hanson Memorial Award from SD Lions Foundation for impact in the foundation's work



Lion Ken Wetz was honored by the SD Lions Foundation



The Scout Troop Honor Guard



Former Rapid City Mayor Don Barnett



New Voices Awards

At the 2022 Convention in Rapid City, New Voices awards were conferred upon several individuals for their new leadership in a variety of areas in the districts.

The New Voices Initiative promotes gender parity and diversity and seeks to increase the number of women, young adults and underrepresented populations within our association. It features a diverse group of Lions and Leos who are selected annually by their district governor for their dynamic and innovative contributions in one of four areas: service, membership, leadership and marketing.



From L to R: PID Pat Vannett (Mandan Lions), PID Gary Brown (New York Lions/ new associate member of Fargo Gateway Lions), Lion Donna Adrian for 5SW New Voices for Service (White River Lions), Lion Katherine Grandstrand for 5SE New Voices for Marketing (Aberdeen Lions), certificates and pins presented by MD5 New Voices coordinator Crystal Dueker (Fargo Gateway Lions)



MD5 NV Coordinator Crystal at podium, New Voices chair for 5SW Julaine Arient-Rollman (Rapid City Evening Star Lions), presented the 5SW New Voices Leadership certificate and pin for Lion Donna Norton (Rapid City Evening Star Lions) to Lion Geri Drabek, from the same club.



MD 5 NV coordinator Crystal, 5SW New Voices chair Juliane Arient-Rollman presented 5SW Marketing certificate and pin to Lion Kate

New

Voices



Catch the Spirit!

In Spearfish at the MD5 2023 Convention.

Welcome and visit International Director Dianne Pitts and Immediate Past International Director Douglas Alexander.

ID Lion Dianne will have a message from International Director Brian Sheenan. IPID Lion Douglas is serving his year as Chairperson on LCIF, and will sharing the message of ways Lions throughout the world are using grants.

There will also be educational, informative sessions, and entertainment opportunities.

CATCH THE SPIRIT – May 25 – 27, 2023 – Spearfish, South Dakota. Reasonable registration and rooms rates. Spearfish Holiday Inn. See registration form for more details.





MD5 Lions

North Dakota - South Dakota - Saskatchewan



Catch The Spirit 2023 MD5 Convention May 25 - 27, 2023 Spearfish, South Dakota

Registrant 1 (please print)

Name: _____

___ Lion ___ Leo ___ Guest

Club Name _____

District

___ 5 NE ___ 5 NW ___ 5 SE

___ 5 SKN ___ 5 SKS ___ 5 SW

Other: _____

Address _____

City/Prov _____

Postal/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone No. _____

Dietary Needs

___ No ___ Yes List: _____

Saturday Eve

Main Meal Pref:

___ Chicken Breast

___ Roast Beef

___ Pork Loin

Questions?

email PCC Stan Smith: ssmith@midco.net

Registrant 2 (please print)

Name: _____

___ Lion ___ Leo ___ Guest

Club Name _____

District

___ 5 NE ___ 5 NW ___ 5 SE

___ 5 SKN ___ 5 SKS ___ 5 SW

Other: _____

Address _____

City/Prov _____

Postal/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone No. _____

Dietary Needs

___ No ___ Yes List: _____

Saturday Eve

Main Meal Pref:

___ Chicken Breast

___ Roast Beef

___ Pork Loin

Convention Registration - US \$155 Unless Early Registration (circle rate below)

Early No participants ___ X US \$140 [Postmarked on or before March 1, 2023]

Regular No participants ___ X US \$155

TOTAL Enclosed: US \$ _____

NOTE: Refund of registration is possible until April 15, 2023 by request in writing to above address.

Refunds will be considered after this date with a written approval by the Convention Committee.

ACCOMMODATIONS - Call

Spearfish Holiday Inn / (605) 642-4683

Standard room @ \$99.99 US / Suite @ \$129.99 US

<https://spearfishconventioncenter.com>

<https://visitspearfish.com/>

Register

Mail form and check payable in US funds to:

2023 MD5 Lions Convention
C/O Spearfish Lions Club
PO Box 503
Spearfish, South Dakota 57783