



# 55W LIONS Pride

## A Word from the District Governor

The busy time of year is here, and we need to remember to slow down. Families are very important, and the joy of spending time with them during Thanksgiving and Christmas is very important.



Are there other groups you may consider 'Family'? How about your Lions Clubs? Are there needs by some of the members you might not know about? Now could be the time to 'touch base' with those members you have not seen at meetings or service projects.

If your club has an evening spent socializing, now would be a good time to introduce a visitor to the Lions family. Be a host to an acquaintance

and remember to have an application available.

An evening spent with 'family and friends', hearing about service projects may be just what is need to bring a new face into your Club.

My wish to you is to have a Season filled with joy. Be safe and well.

—DG *Geraldine Ray*

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Don't forget to send your news items for upcoming issues to Lion Kate Kosior at [katekosior@gmail.com](mailto:katekosior@gmail.com)

Please put "Lions Newsletter" in the subject line.

See page 15 for submission tips and guidelines.



## INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Your service has the power to change lives. So do your stories. The more you share about what you and your club are doing, the more opportunities you create for your community to join you. And there are now more ways than ever to promote your club and service activities.

Whether it's marketing or

branding, social media or traditional media, we have the tools to help you promote your club, energize your next membership drive and share your life-changing stories. Let's shine a light on Lions.

—Int'l President Douglas X. Alexander

*"The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard, but must be felt with the heart." —Helen Keller*

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in taking some training for a future leadership role? MD5 will be offering **Regional Lions Leadership Institute (RLLI)** in March 2022.

Planning for RLLI is still in progress but application forms will be available soon. Watch the MD5 website for dates, times, location and application form. The website address is <http://www.e-district.org/sites/md5>

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**Guiding Lions** certifications are used to help start new clubs or assist existing clubs with opportunities and challenges. 5SW needs to recertify existing Guiding Lions and recruit some new ones!

Lion Ken Wetz of the Newell Lions Club will conduct the trainings. The current plan is to hold one training in Rapid City and one in Pierre/Ft. Pierre in January. Time and place to be announced.

If you are interested in becoming a Guiding Lion, please contact DG Geraldine Ray.

## STATEWIDE ACTIVITY UPDATES

It has been a SUPER busy time at the SD Lions Foundation!

Every vision screening camera we have has been checked out to Lions for three months straight. This means that because of our partnership with all the clubs, we have screened thousands of kids across the state! We have also been able to provide a record number of those kids with eyeglasses based on the screenings. Because of us, kids are seeing better and learning better – what a great mission we as Lions share.

We've also been busy with our inaugural Buffalo Hunt Raffle! If you aren't familiar with this raffle, please check out our Facebook page or our website at [www.sdlions.org](http://www.sdlions.org). We are selling 500 tickets for \$100/each – the winner will get a hunt of a lifetime! They will receive a two-day weekend at Timber Lake Lodge in Isabel, SD which will include a guided hunt to harvest a trophy bull bison. See our website or call for more details. Tickets have been going fast – if you or someone you know would want a ticket call or go online soon!

Finally – **save the date!** Lions Day at the Capitol will be held on March 1, 2022 in Pierre. Join Lions from across South Dakota to greet state leaders and share the service work from your area. Wear your vests, bring your banners – lets show off our Lions Pride!



**SOUTH DAKOTA  
LIONS FOUNDATION**  
VISION • HEARING • HOPE



Dakota Lions Sight & Health  
Eye and Tissue Donation

Dakota Lions Sight & Health is committed to raising awareness regarding the importance and life-changing power of eye donation. Since 1983, November has been designated as National Eye Donation Month and offers a unique opportunity to reach even more people with this important message.

To mark this meaningful annual event, Dakota Lions Sight & Health is providing area healthcare providers and health systems with awareness materials such as special eye donation attire for hospital staff, posters and eye glass collection materials.

For Dakota Lions Sight & Health this is also an important time to personally thank donor families with cards that recognize their loved one's gift. Marcy Dimond, Chief Executive Officer of Dakota Lions Sight & Health said, *"Our staff works tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that the transformative power of receiving the gift of sight is available to those in need. It seems appropriate that I take this opportunity of National Eye Donation Month to thank our donor families and staff, and recognize how important their efforts are to so many people."*





*Rapid City Downtown  
Lions Club  
100th Anniversary Gala*







# Peace Poster Winners Revealed



First Place went to Jessica Raisomen,  
Newell Lions Club



Second place was awarded to  
Gracen Thorstensen, Selby Lions



Runners Up (Left to Right): Miya Mailloux (Nisland Lions), Shelby Bertsch (Eureka Lions), Kara Tibbetts (Piedmont Valley Lions)

This year's theme was "We are all connected."

*Congratulations to all the winners!*







## Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions Club

The Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions Club made Advent bags for Adventera Nursing Home. Lions Geraldine, Larry, Dawn, and Mary filled festive bags with sugar free candies, which Lion Larry delivered. Activities director LaRae said residents will enjoy the goodies throughout December, as well as the ability to countdown to Christmas.



## White River Lions Club

White River Lions Club enjoyed a visit from District Governor Geraldine Ray. DG Geraldine presented Lion Jan Endes with the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation and helped swear in new Lion, Sandra Chandler, shown with her sponsor Lion Linda Baldock





# Activities at the State Convention

The State Convention was held in Sioux Falls October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> with a large turnout. I'm very proud of the large delegation of 5SW Lions that traveled to Sioux Falls.

Meetings were productive, sessions were interesting, and activities varied and fun-filled.



New Voices Recipients Lion Linda Vollmer, membership, and Colleen Forkel, marketing.

Pictured are: PID Pat Vannett, ID Bob Block, PDG Linda Vollmer, IPDG Dick Waits, Lion Colleen Forkel, and MD5 New Voice Chair Lion Crystal Dueker

PDG Doug Scheller receives the International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation.

Pictured: Lion Doug, ID Bob Block, DG Geraldine, PID Pat Vannett



PDG Gary Watzel receiving the International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation.

Pictured, PID Pat Vannett, DG Geraldine, Lion Gary, and ID Bob Block



# INTERNATIONAL







ID Bob Block pinning the PDG Julaine Arient-Rollman with the International Leadership Medal.

ID Bob Block, PDG Julaine Arient-Rollman (honoree), PDG Bea Gifford (nominated Julaine for recognition), and PDG Pat Vannett.



INTERNATIONAL





Let's have a pajama party for foster children! December is a time when we think of giving – to family, friends, and those in need. There are many opportunities for Lions Clubs to give. Socks and gloves for the homeless. Food packs to fill and give. Cookies and songs. We don't have to look far to find a need. Open your Lions Club eyes and see how your club can help. Then post it on My Lion to inspire more to serve.

—Lion Frances Waits

Pictured: Evening Star Lions Pres. Sheryl Logan with donated PJ's

## Evening Star Lions Club

## Spearfish Lions Club

It was another successful day of eye screenings at West Elementary School. Spearfish Lions conducts eye screenings annually at all of the elementary schools in their district!







The Newell Lions Club Christmas tree decorating committee was led this year by Lion Linda Vollmer, who was assisted by Lions Veron and Neil. The tree was donated by Lions Carol and Vern, and several Lions donated trimmings. "Looks pretty darned good!"

The Newell Lions Club served breakfast to the Newell junior and senior high ladies basketball teams at their post-Thanksgiving basketball camp weekend. Immediate Past Club President Carol McCarthy and Secretary Lion Neil Vollmer prepared and served the meal.

## Newell Lions Club



# INTERNATIONAL



## Lion James V. Treloar Appointed 2nd District Vice Governor



Lion James V. Treloar joined the Rapid City Rushmore Lion's Club in 2016. He will be Rushmore Club President in 2022-23. He is serving his second term on the SD Lion's Foundation and is an Ex Officio member of the Dakota Lion's Sight & Health Board. He is the recipient of the Rushmore Club Jack Moravec Memorial Lion of the Year Award, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, and is a Lions Clubs International Foundation "Lion of Commitment." At present, he is Regional Chairperson for 5SW, District 5SW Administrator and, is the Editor of the SD State Lion's Directory for 3 years. Jim is also a

Progressive Melvin Jones Lions Fellow.

Lion Jim was born and raised in Madison, S.D. He graduated from DSU in 1970. Jim was a College Intern to a US Senator in Wash. D.C. in 1969. He was President of the DSU Alumni Association three times. Jim was Outstanding Alumnus Dakota University in 1979. After college he was engaged in Treloar Construction. Jim was active in number local, district and state organizations and, he held a number of offices at all levels. Jim worked for SD Dept. of Social Services - Economic Assistance for 31.5 years, for 31 years, was in supervision/management, the last twelve of those years Jim served as Regional Manager southwestern SD Region II which included the Pine Ridge Reservation/ Southern Black Hills. Jim retired in October of 2015 and moved to Rapid City.

Congratulations, Lion Jim!

INTERNATIONAL






**CAMPAIGN 100 RAFFLE WILL CLOSE DEC 31, 2021!**

**CLUBS RECEIVED 2 TICKETS FOR EACH CLUB MEMBER**

**TICKETS ARE \$20 EACH**

**EACH MEMBER WAS ASKED TO: BUY 1 TICKET & SELL 1 TICKET**

**A \$20 TICKET SALE YIELDS A \$10 CLUB DONATION TO LCIF!**

<b>DISTRICT 5 SW LIONS RAFFLE</b>		<b>\$20</b> per ticket	
presented by <b>SCHEELS</b> in Support of "Campaign 100"			
<small>Drawing to be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7:00pm Mountain Time, at the Post 22 American Legion Hall, Rapid City, SD 57701.</small>	<b>PRIZES Total Value: \$5,004.93</b>	 <small>Winners will receive a Scheels gift card for the value of the prize and may be used on other Scheels merchandise should they choose.</small>	
	1. Franchi Affinity Automatic Shotgun ..... \$749.99		6. Callaway Epic Speed Driver... \$29.99
	2. Savage Apex HP 6.5 Creedmore rifle ..... \$579.99		7. Louisiana 100 Black Label Pellet Grill ..... \$999.99
	3. Scheels Outfitter Heritage one fishing rod ..... \$399.99		8. Scheels Gift Card NorthFace.... \$220
	4. Vortex Range Optic Binoculars..... \$499.99		9. Scheels Gift Card Carhartt... \$200
<small>NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.</small>	5. Big Frig 70qt cooler ..... \$424.99	10. Scheels Gift Card Under Armour..... \$200	
		11. Scheels Gift Card Nike..... \$200	

***Any checks written out for tickets should be made out to YOUR Lions Club. Your club treasurer is to mail one check made out to the District 5-SW treasurer plus the ticket stubs from your club by January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to:***

***PDG Doug Scheller, 5-SW LCIF Coordinator, 5567 Wildwood Dr. Rapid City SD 57702.***

***DRAWING WILL BE HELD JANUARY 12, 2022***

***p.s. One of the greatest gifts you may ever receive is by making an individual donation to LCIF for \$1000. Your Melvin Jones Fellowship plaque or a diamond in your MJF pin—will bring you Joy knowing YOU have made a significant difference in someone else's life! WE SERVE!***



# Lions Clubs International

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXTENDS WAIVERS

To help ensure that clubs are able to meet the growing needs in our communities, the International Board of Directors passed another resolution to make it easier to invite new members to serve with us.

**Here is an overview of the new resolution approved by the Board of Directors:**

**Charter and entrance fees waiver** – We have waived all charter and entrance fees from January 1 through June 30, 2022. Charter and entrance fees are also currently waived through December 31, 2021.

## Thoughts on Membership

—Lions Linda and Neil Vollmer

I'm quite sure that most of us know that, as a district, our membership is very low. And the reason isn't all that complicated--we are losing too many members and we're not asking any new ones to join us.

I'm going to focus on the second part of that situation--the one about we aren't asking and why is that the case? Prospective members aren't going to bite our heads off, they aren't going to ask us to get out of town. Really, nothing bad is going to happen to us by just asking someone to join us. A few years back, Lions International's motto was "Just Ask". And, of course, it still works.

Newell is a pretty small town, population-wise. We have 45 members. That's only about 7% of our population, but it is 7%! If all of the 30 clubs had about 7% (except each of the Rapid City Clubs), then we would have lots more members with ideas for projects to improve our communities. And, isn't that really the reason that WE SERVE, to improve our community and to help others? As the New Year approaches, let's *all* make a new resolution to ask someone to join us in helping our community.

If you want to visit about Membership, email or call Lions Linda & Neil Vollmer. Thanks, Lions!



# CAMP QUALITY FUNDRAISER INFO



Lions Club International recently unveiled its newest initiative: to help support children battling cancer. Camp Quality USA is a camp dedicated solely to providing children who have cancer the opportunity to thrive at a special overnight summer camp just for them!

Three years ago, Camp Quality of the Black Hills was established. In 2019, children from around the area were able to actually go and spend time at the Camp in Bear Butte, near Sturgiss. Of course, like everything, the pandemic put a halt to summer camp for the last two years, but in 2022, Camp Quality of the Black Hills will again welcome campers in June for five days.

Several 5SW clubs were made aware of the camp and looked for a way to support this worthy endeavor. They came up with a piggy bank idea. Local clubs approach businesses in their communities and request that they put out a piggy bank to collect spare change. The Sturgiss Lions Club is presently averaging \$125 per month coming from the five pigs they have out in their area.

This is a great idea for other clubs to get involved and help fundraise for this great cause! Can your club do this? Absolutely! Start talking to your local business owners and asking them to get involved.

Additionally, your club can help refer children and families to Camp Quality of the Black Hills by visiting <https://www.campqualityusa.org/bh/>

For more information, please contact Lion Tim Brown at 701-830-2162.

Here are a few tips from the editor when submitting your articles and photographs.

In order to make it easier for the editor to include your photos in the newsletter, please attach the separate image files to your email and send them directly. If you embed or insert photos into a word document or PDF, Kate has to run a separate program to extract those images, and they are often at a very low resolution. This means they will be included much smaller than they might otherwise be, or might be pixelated or distorted.

All articles submitted for publication are subject to editing for grammar, spelling, style, and length.

Please indicate who is in the pictures—Kate is new to South Dakota and doesn't know all the Lions in the state (yet!). Labeling your photographs is so helpful. She will trust your spelling on names and places.

If you are not confident in writing an article yourself, but would like information included, please email Kate. She will arrange a time to take down your information over the phone and write an article for you.

Be sure to include if it's OK for other Lions to email or call you, and include your contact information with your articles. Articles are inserted into the newsletter in no particular order.

Thanks so much!!! —Kate  
katekosior@gmail.com