



5-SW LIONS' PRIDE

June, 2021

Spearfish Lions Club

In coordination with
Welding Classes Spearfish High School

CREATES A SPECIAL LION

Background: Spearfish Lions Club purchased a large paper mache lion when the Golden Lion Restaurant closed in 1980's. The Club features it in parades, conventions and club gatherings. It was part of the Club! Then, the Atlas Snow Storm in 2013 hit Spearfish. The roof of the storage unit crashed down destroying the Lion's Club LION. Where would the Club go from Here?

Update: In 2017 Lion Club members attended a student art show at Spearfish High School where magical items had been created by the Welding Class. Hmm... could these welding students create a lion? In visiting with creative welding instructor Kristi McCoy, she thought such a project could be possible.

Lions Club Action: Spearfish Lions Club got things rolling with \$2,000 donation to send students to the National Skills USA competition in Louisville, Kentucky. A check for \$1,600 was donated to pay for the material used in the project and welding shop updates.

Action: In 2019 things started to happen as Ms. McCoy and her students began to design a life size five foot long lion. Progress was made as the school year came to an end. Then the 2020 school year was interrupted by Corona Virus with little accomplished. By second semester 2021 the lion was reaching the finishing point. Lion Club bought a trailer and a member offered a storage garage.

Outcome: The lion will be ready for display at the Spearfish Arts Center in April. No longer will Spearfish Lions Club be without its symbol. Thanks to over 50 dedicated advanced welding and welding sculpture students from 2019, 2020, 2021 and determined instructor Kristi McCoy for all their hard work. This possibility became a reality!

Starting



Progressing



Celebrating





Thoughts from the District Governor's Desk...



Fellow Lions,

Thank you for all of the support you gave me and the District Cabinet this past fiscal year. There were “good times” (first virtual SD State Lions Convention), “bad times” (loss of two Lions Clubs), and “ugly times” (covid virus attacking many of our friends and family) but we got through them and are still providing services to your fellow members along with the community on a regular basis. Keep up the good work and continue to do it in a safe manner.

I hope you and your family are well and safe.

We Look Toward the Future! 



HELP WANTED:

** District 5 SW 2ND Vice District Governor*

** District 5 SW Cabinet Secretary*

Interested? Please contact DGE GERALDINE RAY

waits5sw@gmail.com or call 605-220-0635



5-SW OFFICER FORUM
WERE YOU THERE??
THANK YOU FOR STICKING WITH US!



YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT? WHEN?
GIVE UP MY SATURDAY MORNING?



The 5-SW leadership committee would like to thank all the Lions who joined our first virtual leadership training held Sat., April 24. Being virtual over Zoom from the comfort of your own home plus Free training made this a very successful method for all Lions to learn and relearn about leadership skills to make our clubs stronger service organizations in our communities. Over 40 Lions from 15 clubs were able to attend, Zoom in making our leadership training for 2021 well attended! Lions started their training being reminded "It's a Great Day to be a Lion", PDG Tim Brown shared our Centennial Year International Lions President, Lion Naresh Agula's theme for the year is "The Power of We". He stressed that we as individual Lions as well as working together as Lions have and can continue to change the world through our service work. Looking at the theme a little differently, we talked about "2021 And The Need For RE". As Lion Club Leaders we need to:

RE-Evaluate - Where is each club heading in 2021 and this is your year to make great service happen

RE-Vive – Everyone is tired of Covid and its effect on our lives, but it appears to be getting behind us. We need to revive our Lions and remember our motto "WE SERVE"

RE-Group – All Lions are reminded how much we enjoy the fellowship of Lions and time to get back together with new service and fund raiser projects in our towns. Covid has taught us we can do things differently! Let's get back to having FUN

Re-Grow – All Lions agreed that without growing our Lion membership it is impossible to complete service projects to expand our communities. 2021 needs to be a year for clubs to focus on membership

Re-Commit – Remember why we became Lions and step up as leaders for the district. Help fill cabinet positions and develop new leaders for each club. We are reminded future district governors need to serve as club presidents and zone chairs

Discussing the "2021 Need to RE" helped Lion leaders prepare for their year as a club leader. The majority of our two hour training was spent with Lion Club Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer positions each learning the responsibilities and tools to complete making their clubs successful. President training from DGE Lion Geraldine Ray, Secretary training from DG Lion Richard Waits and Treasurer training from PCC Lion Ken Wetz gave all leaders valuable information. Rounding out the training using the value of Zoom, allowed Current MD5 Chair John Emmett from Aberdeen and Past International Director Pat Vannett from Bismarck to share thoughts and encouragement with all the Lion Leaders of 5-SW. Both shared the value each club serves in their communities and encouraged membership growth plus serving with a leadership commitment within the Zone, District, State and Multiple District.

JACKPOT WINNERS FROM THE VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING INCLUDED:

\$100.00 - White River
\$75.00 - Newell
\$50.00 – Rapid City Evening Star



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions Dig In to Fill Area Sand Box Project



Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions held their annual Sand Box Fill Project this year on May 1st. Eight Lions members and seven community volunteers hauled and smoothed out 29 wheelbarrows of sand in the Pierre and Ft. Pierre communities. Over the past several years Morris Inc. has generously donated the sand, truck and the driver to deliver the sand. Without help from Morris Inc., the project would not be possible. The Pierre /Ft. Pierre Lions have held this Sand Box Fill project every year since 2013 with the exception of 2020. We will try to continue the project for as long as we are able to fill the need for the service in the the Pierre and Ft. Pierre communities.

Photo courtesy of Gayle Mersheim



Pictured above are Lions members Larry Cass, Dave Kruger, Kevin Mersheim, Gayle Mersheim, Corey Baker, Geraldine Ray, Bill Molseed and Jon Egge. Others are community volunteers and the Morris Inc. driver.

Photo courtesy of Geri Cass



**It's Time to
Trim the Sails for Campaign 100**
from PDG Doug Scheller
LCIF Development



Our Lions year is nearing the end but there's a very important goal that remains unfinished. We have reason for hope as it appears that we are rapidly moving to put the pandemic behind us. Covid 19 however has slowed our progress to achieve our Campaign 100 goal. We have been sailing into a strong wind... it's time to re-adjust the sails and finish the race!

Imagine a cloudburst which lasts for five hours and pours 15 inches of rain on saturated ground. What would happen? Forty-nine years ago on June 9 & 10 in 1972, one billion metric tons of water fell on the upper reaches of the central Black Hills of South Dakota. This water only had one place to go and that was downhill.

The creeks and the streams in the area ran over their banks including Rapid Creek which cascaded downstream directly through Rapid City. The torrent of water breached Canyon Lake Dam resulting in a wall of water which scoured everything in its path for 100 yards on either side of the creek.

The Rapid City flood claimed 238 lives, caused 3,000 injuries, destroyed 1,300 homes, numerous businesses and 5,000 vehicles. It remains the worst flash flood in US history.

You've all heard this story before and most of you are aware that THE VERY FIRST LCIF DISASTER GRANT EVER AWARDED WAS TO RAPID CITY, SD. THE GRANT WAS FOR \$5,000 WHICH ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION EQUATES TO \$31,383 IN TODAY'S DOLLARS..

SO WHY THE HISTORY LESSON?

Because the tables have turned! Covid-19 has disrupted LCIF Campaign-100, our capital campaign to raise \$300 million to replenish the funding necessary to sustain and amplify every Lions Club's ability to serve their community and beyond.

Since 1973, LCIF has provided over \$523,000 to South Dakota by way of disaster grants, matching grants to clubs, purchasing vision screening cameras, equipment for the Lions Eye Bank (now Dakota Lions Sight & Health) and the KidSight screening vans to name a few. LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) is OUR foundation administered by LIONS to direct resources to local Lions Clubs to help us serve our communities. 100% of every dollar donated goes to the selected cause.

LCIF is one of the best, most efficient, transparent charities on the planet—and it has our name on it!

75% of LCIF's funding comes from club donations, Lion's individual donations, and Melvin Jones Fellows. You've heard the phrase WHERE THERE'S A NEED, THERE'S A LION.

***The NEED is HERE, the NEED is NOW!** Clubs, if you are able, please make a donation. Individual Lions, please consider a personal donation. If your goal is to become a Melvin Jones Fellow, there has never been a better time to do so & you can do it by installments over time. TO DONATE ON LINE: Go to lionsclubs.org, go to home page, click on donate, click on yellow box, follow the prompts*

TO MAIL IN YOUR DONATION: Make check out to LCIF Campaign 100, Include club name in memo, send to Lions Clubs International, Dept. 4547, Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547

WE SERVE!



Ipswich Lions Honor Members With Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards



Five long time Ipswich Lions members were honored recently during the May meeting with Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards.

The awards were presented during the May meeting and the club's 40th birthday celebration. Ipswich Lions Club President Jerry Brooks presented the awards.

Back row standing from left to right: Lion Ila Davis, Lion Dianne Stafford and seated left to right, Lion Beverly Burgod and Lion Delphina Sanborn.

The fifth Melvin Jones Fellowship Award was presented in memory of Lion Larry Stafford who passed away earlier this year.



Raise \$ for your club AND Support the SD Lions Foundation!

Your club can purchase cancer awareness bracelets for \$6 each and resell in your community. Bracelets retail for \$10-\$15, you decide how to sell in your community and everyone wins! Contact the SD Lions Foundation Office for more information and order forms. Bracelets will be shipped directly to you right away!

CALL TODAY 605-338-0551



South Dakota Past District Governor's Association Releases South Dakota Lions Hall of Fame Information



The official South Dakota Lions Hall of Fame has two categories. The first category is for a Past District Governor and the second category is for a Lion who has not attained the position of Past District Governor. The number of points to be considered for election to the Hall of Fame are: 200 points for a District Governor and a Lion (non PDG) who has not been elected as a District Governor must achieve a level of at least 125 points. Some of the necessary qualifications must include a nominee must have served as an active Lions member for a minimum of fifteen (15) years, a nominee shall be nominated by an active Lion and must receive their own club's endorsement. The nominee's activities in Lionism and their contributions to Lionism must be fully documented. Many requirements are necessary to apply for this prestigious award.

To receive an official application, qualification scale and information, please contact PDG Neil Vollmer of Newell, SD. PDG Neil may be contacted at lvollmer@sdplains.com or by calling 605-456-1055. This year's deadline is August 1, 2021.

Maybe it's time for 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.

At the close of life, the question will be, not how much have you got, but how much have you given; not how much have you won, but how much have you done; not how much have you saved, but how much you have sacrificed; how much have you loved and served, not how much you were honored.

Nathan C. Schaeffer



Bits & Pieces



- Ipswich Lions awarded seven \$500 scholarships to deserving Ipswich High School seniors during this year's Ipswich High School Awards Night
- Pierre/Ft. Pierre Lions participated in a KidSight Vision Screening at Buchanan Elementary School in Pierre, SD
- Rapid City Rushmore Club did a hi-way cleanup with 15 volunteers who worked for a total of 45 hours
- McLaughlin Lions held a French Toast & Sausage Feed to benefit Childhood Cancer patient support services
- Ipswich Lions collected, recycled, cleaned, packaged and mailed pill bottles to Matthew 25: Ministries to use in their work
- Chamberlain Lions participated in an aluminum can recycling project
- Ipswich Lions sponsored a Community Blood Drive on April 21st at Fr. Borman Hall
- A Rapid City Rushmore Lion member assisted with Feeding South Dakota Food distribution
- Eureka Lions Club made a contribution to the Eureka Museum
- Rapid City Metro Lions participated in a children's vision screening at South Canyon Elementary School
- Eureka Lions Club made a donation to L.C.I.F. Campaign 100
- Belle Fourche Lions held a Pancake Feed serving 500 people
- Ipswich Lions Club gave a \$1000 donation to L.C.I.
- Lead/Deadwood Lions assisted Feeding Deadwood with the distribution of food from Feeding South Dakota