

5SW LIONS' PRIDE



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Fall Rally Recap



International Director Mark Lyon and his wife Carolyn received a beautiful star quilt from the Mobridge Lion Club



Lion Neil Vollmer (right) helped auction off baked goods for the Mobridge Lions fundraiser, which also included the Silent Basket Auction



The Yelduz Chanters provided entertainment, following the Dinner in the Dark. They sang several numbers and everyone enjoyed their voices immensely.



International Director Mark Lyon (foreground) and his wife Carolyn took part in the Dinner in the Dark



B.J. Blahnik was the keynote speaker at the Fall Rally in Mobridge. Here he is showing the gold medal he won in blind para-sailing. He provided a very emotional and profound message, as he discussed his life with Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP), and how he became involved with the Leader Dog program. His current Leader Dog, Goober accompanied B.J. at the Fall Rally. Many of the Lions found B.J.'s talk to be the highlight of the entire Rally.



International President's Certificate of Appreciation

Fall Rally Awards



PDG Bea Gifford presents the 2018-2019 Club of the Year Award to Les Forkel of the Ipswich Lions Club, for receiving 1st place, with 1640.75 points.



Ashley Burkhead



Erica Frey



Ashley Burkhead is very impressed with the donations gathered for the backpack program



Mobridge Lions Club



▲ Many hands make light work. And how true that is when Lions joined in on the job of stuffing backpacks.

◀ After dozens of backpacks were fully filled and prepared for delivery, Ashley Burkhead, head of the backpack program (in foreground), joined the many helpful Lions who assisted with the program during the Fall Rally.

Club Activities

District Governor Linda Vollmer has been busy with her Lionism travels. Some of her trips have included news from....



District Governor Linda welcomed 3 new Lions to the McLaughlin Lions Club during her Club visitation. Lion Neil did the induction ceremony. Pictured are Lion Neil Vollmer, DG Linda Vollmer, new member Kaden Huber, Club President Taten Rau, new member Alex Brown Otter.



DG Linda visiting the Rapid City Rushmore Lions Club. Another of the very active Lions Clubs.

Photo by Lion Neil



25 Wisconsin Lions Club Members came to the Pine Ridge Reservation in October to do eye screenings and to fit residents with eyeglasses. They gave out 800 sets of glasses to children and adults.

District Governor Linda and 2 other Newell Lions went to Wanblee for 1 day to observe and help. Lion Neil's comment was "Wow, what an operation!" Very impressive - this is their second year coming to Pine Ridge.

Photo by Lion Neil



The Newell Lions Club recently conducted a Pancake Supper Benefit for Connie Garner of Newell. Club President Melanie Williamson recently presented a check to Connie.



Piedmont Valley Lions sponsor International Peace Poster contest at the Stagebarn Middle School. Pictured are the 5th and sixth grade winners along with Lion Jolene Hanson, Club Peace Poster Chair.

Photo by Ted Pukas

Club Activities



Piedmont Valley Lions support elementary school with donation of 15 sets of earphones to allow students to interact with computer educational programs. Lion Jolene Hanson is shown with Piedmont Elementary school staff holding some of the earphones.

Picture by: Piedmont Elementary Staff.



3 Generations of a Family's Women who are Lions: from the left Samantha Drabek, Gerri Drabek and Beverly Drabek. All are members of the Rapid City Evening Star Lions Club. An evidence of commitment to Lionism. The patron of this Family of Lions is Past International Director Robert Drabek.

Photo by Lion Neil



Newell Lions Club recently held a community Flu Shot Clinic and included Glucose Testing. Newell Lion Bill Green tests Newell Resident. 25 persons received a flue shot and 18 had the Glucose test.



Lemmon Lions Club held their annual Turkey Jamboree in November, providing lots of games for kids & adults. The Turkey Jamboree is one of the major fundraisers for the Lemmon club.

Here, Lion Neva Scoular runs the car race, which is being played by Lion LaQuita Shockley's grandchildren.

How do you get new Lions members?



Be sure to visit our District 5-SW Website at
<http://e-district.org/sites/5sw/>



Newell Lions Club was honored by the Newell Community Club during this year's Labor Day Activities by naming the Lions Club as the Parade Marshals. Parade and Rodeos on Friday, Saturday and Monday highlight the weekend. Lions Club has sold tickets at the Labor Day Rodeo for about 10 years.

BITS AND PIECES

Ipswich Lions Club honored Veterans, Active Duty Families and Current Servicemen at a recent High School Volleyball match. The Club gave the honorees beverage and popcorn during the games. District 5SW says THANK YOU to our Service Men and Women and all Veterans.

Rapid City Rushmore Lions Club recently did a Park Cleanup in their West Rapid City Park Area. Way to keep our Environment in better shape. In addition, they did Vision Screening at Vandenberg Elementary at Ellsworth AFB.

Onida Wheatland Lions Club set up the Vision Screening for 3 hours at the Sully County Fair in August. 13 Children were screened with No referrals.

McLaughlin Lions Club provided children toothbrushes and floss for the cancer backpacks which were put together at Fall Rally.

Pierre-Ft. Pierre Lions Club served concessions at the State Horseshoe Tournament in August.

Sturgis Lions Club Planted new trees and provide the ongoing tree care.

Custer Lions served a Pancake Breakfast during their Cities Gold Discovery Days. They also provided a Float for the Parade.

Fall Bunco



Bunco is back in a big way. Last Friday 44 people helped the Custer Lions Club set new records for Bunco. The "net" amount was nearly \$1100.00 with more than \$200.00 coming from the baked goods raffle alone.

Our next Bunco will be in mid February on a Saturday afternoon. We have chosen a daytime event instead of an evening with the weather in mind. More information will be provided.

News from the District Governor

Hello fellow Lions,

I want to wish All of You a very Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy the time with family and friends and try not to eat too much.

The Fall Rally at Mobridge was a wonderful event enjoyed by 59 people. I want to thank the Mobridge Lions for stepping up and doing a super job.

We started the convention on Friday night with dining in the dark. This was a fund raiser for Leader Dog. As the name suggests, you are given a blind fold and you eat with it on. We had about 30 people and they were amazed at how hard it was to find the food on the plate and to get it all eaten. I thought I was finished and I had a third of the food left.

Our motivational speaker was BJ Blahlick from Wisconsin and his Leader Dog, Goober. He gave a very emotional talk on his life and the trials he had as he grew up blind. Until he received his Leader Dog, he was mad at everybody and the world. Now, he flies all over the US with Goober. Our International Director was Lion Mark Lyons and his wife Lion Lyn from New Hampshire and he talked about NAMI (North American Membership Initiative) which is a new program to promote membership in the United States and Canada.

Another program was on Orientation by Donna and Ken Wetz. One of my goals this year is to have an orientation of all new members. They did a great job and if you would like help with an orientation program for your club, contact Lion Donna. Her email address is dowedt@yahoo.com.

The back pack program was another successful endeavor. Ashley Burkhead did a great job. We had planned on doing 25 back packs and, thanks to the generosity of the Lions and Ashley's hard work, we were able to make up 52 backpacks.

Mobridge Lions also had great decorations, a basket auction, pie auction and were very organized. Thanks, again, to Erika and all of the Mobridge Lions for your efforts.

The Lions voted unanimously to move the State Convention to the Fall, so, we will have 2 State Conventions in 2020, one in January at Watertown and then one the first week end in October in Rapid City. We will be having a Spring Fling on April 18th at the Western Dakota Vo-Tech. Look for more information later.

My Club visits are going well. I have visited 19 clubs and have the rest scheduled. I have enjoyed the variety of meals and the wonderful fellowship with the Lions in District 5SW. If the weather holds, I will have visited all but 2 clubs by the middle of December.

The Peace Posters have been judged and the winners for the District are first place Alexa Roland of the Rapid City Southwest Middle School sponsored by the Rapid City Rushmore Lions. Second place is Sydney Baker of Newell School Elementary Art Class 7th grade sponsored by the Newell Lions.

Third place is Sarah Erk on the Newell Elementary Art Class 6th grade sponsored by the Nisland Lions Club.

Neil and I along with Marge Adams drove to Wamblee on October 28th to help with the eye screening. Lions from Wisconsin spent the week screening in Wamblee and Pine Ridge. Since the reservations are sovereign Nations, the Wisconsin Lions are able to bring in eye glasses so the people are immediately fitted with glasses. Another good thing coming in the future will be a new Lions Club in Wamblee.

The State Convention is fast approaching. It will be in Watertown on January 21-23. If you haven't already registered please do so soon.

The MD5 Convention is also approaching in May on 21-23 at Brookings. Please register for that convention, also.

**Lion Linda Vollmer, District Governor
District 5SW**

