

**District 5M2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2015  
Mankato City Center Hotel, Mankato, MN**

**Call to Order:** DG Harry Klenke called the meeting to order at 1:57 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Steve Wasserman

**Invocation:** Led by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Marvin Grimm

**Welcome:** DG Harry Klenke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Roll Call:** Taken by Lion Cindy Walters showing 47 in attendance, 10 absent and 8 guests.

**Introduction of Guests:** DG Harry Klenke introduced ID Karla Harris, ID Mike Molenda, Lion Loretta Klenke, Lion Evelyn Grimm, PDG Arden Severson

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda Lion Dale Drescher; Lion Janet Knakmuhs 2nd. MC.

**Secretary's Report:** Everyone was e-mailed a copy of the minutes. Motion to approve was made by PID Maynard Rucks; 2<sup>nd</sup> by PDG Bill Curtis. MC.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lion Dale Oldenburg presented his report showing income of \$53,814 to this point and expenses of \$34,420.27. There is \$82,532.36 in the special funds account and \$1500 in the Core 4 Grant. Motion to approve was made by PDG Bill Curtis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Shirley Hespenheide. MC.

**Communications:** DG Harry Klenke passed the program around from PDG Buzz Knudsen's funeral.

**Old Business:**

- **2016 MD5M Convention Report** – PID Maynard Rucks and Lion Nancy Mathwig.

Plans are progressing for the 2016 MD5M Convention to be held April 22, 23, and 24, 2016. Our theme for the convention is: "Join us at the Bend in the River II" and we will be inviting Lions to "Come Canoe with 5M2". The committee decided to expand on the theme used for the 2011 convention – "Join us at the Bend in the River" and our paddle boat theme.

Contract with the Verizon Wireless Center has been reviewed by Multiple legal and is signed. Contracts with the hotels will need to be signed in the future. At this time we will be utilizing the Hilton Garden Inn and the City Center Hotel. A third choice has yet to be determined.

- Budget will need to be completed and presented at the October Council of Governors meeting.
  - Menus for the weekend have been chosen.
  - Registration fees will be \$100.00 through March 1, 2016 and \$110.00 after March 1, 2016. We have decided to offer a 2015 MD5M Convention weekend only registration special for \$90.00. The price is available only during the convention dates of April 17, 18, and when the convention ends on the 19<sup>th</sup>. This was the process we used for the 2011 convention and had 175 pre-registrations.
  - Publicity poster has been designed and is in the process of being "tweaked".
  - Gordy is working on the centerpieces that will be used for the meal tables.
  - Friday night entertainment has been booked and will be "The Tuxedo Band".
  - Reminder – the committee was given the Cabinet's ok to again solicit donations from each club to help offset the cost of the convention. This will be done beginning in July.
  - First Vice President Bob Corlew will be the visiting dignitary at this convention.
- **Newsletter Update** – 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Marv Grimm thanked PDG Bill Curtis for 30 years of service as the newsletter editor. Lion Cindy Walters will be taking over as editor and requests that every Lion needs to get their information in for the newsletter. The 15<sup>th</sup> of each month will be the newsletter deadline and the newsletter will be out on the first on each month.

**New Business:**

- **New Position Request** – Lion Anna Wickenhauser has been appointed to the Leo Advisory Panel. Leos have their own staff. She has been receiving emails from around the world asking for advice and

support. Her role for constitutional area 1 is to assist making the Leos stronger in her area. There is no set guideline for monetary support for the Leos in our District. Lion Anna is proposing to take money out of Youth Activities to support Leos in attending the mid winter convention, the Multiple Convention, as well as some small stipend for their leadership conferences. It is important that we support the Leos as a District. Lion Anna made a motion to pay registration and Saturday Lunch at Mid-Winter, Registration for Multiple Convention if cost associated, pay Saturday Lunch and \$25/Leo attending for their Leadership Conference - Money to come out of Youth Activities, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Cathleen Williams. PDG Mary Spille made a suggestion that Lion Anna make this motion for this year only and the Youth Activities Chairs meet together to decide how to spread the money around. Lion Janet Hall mentioned that waiving the registration fee should not be an option since that cost would need to be absorbed elsewhere. PID Maynard agreed with Lion Janet. Each District is different in how the Leos are supported. Much discussion followed regarding how much investment the District should have. Friendly amendment made by 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Steve Wasserman to pay for the Leos lunch at Multiple Convention and the \$25/Leo for the Leos convention and form a committee to look into the future and make a proposal. Since it was a friendly amendment and Lions Anna and Cathleen Williams. PDG Mary Spille seconded. MC. Lion Nancy Mathwig asked who will be on the committee. The committee will be formed of: Lion Nancy Mathwig, Lion Wanda Breimhorst, Lion Christy Trutnau, Lion Sue Bowman, Lion Paula Stephens, Lion Anna Wickenhauser, Lion Dennis Hewitt and Lion Al Heidorn along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Steve Wasserman volunteered to be on the committee and will be the ad hoc chair.

- **Conference Call** – DG Harry gave information regarding use of conference calls for meetings instead of everyone traveling. Each District is paying \$40/year and all committees, etc. are able to meet using this service. Webinars can be done this way as can Go To Meeting.
- **Chanhassen** – DG Harry received an email from the President of the Chanhassen Lions Club regarding transferring from 5M5 to 5M2. PID Maynard Rucks made a motion that we gladly accept the Chanhassen Lions Club into our District, Lion Laura Maki seconded. MC unanimously.
- **Regional Lions Leadership Institute** – DG Harry asked who is attending this institute. Lion Bruce Lieske would like to attend if possible. Seven members of the cabinet are planning on attending.
- **U of M MN Dental Association Contact 5M2** – McLeod County – DG Harry was contacted by 5M3 for permission to talk with clubs in McLeod County which are all in Zone 1. PID Debra Wasserman stated this might be a good topic for a Zone meeting. Lion Chris can contact them for a Zone meeting if he would like.

### Region/Zone Reports:

**Region 1** Lion Wanda Breimhorst thanked the Zone Chairs: Zone 1 Chair, Chris Hall, Zone 2 Chair, Sandra Schneider and Zone 3 Chair Jen Malecha, they have made her job pretty easy this year.

Region 1 had 1107 members added 51 but lost 74 they now have 1084. Looks like retention is the name of the game. Zone meetings are being scheduled. In March she will be attending the Leadership Conference along with Lion Christy and Lion Julie from the Jordaness Lions. All the clubs in Region 1 continue to work together for community projects and fundraisers.

- **Zone 1** Lion Chris Hall from the Glencoe Lions Club – Membership in Zone 1 is currently down from 275 to 272. There is activity in the Clubs doing Membership drives along with preparation for their upcoming spring and summer projects. Meeting notices have been sent out for the Zone 1 Spring Meeting, which is on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Dubb's Bar and Grill in Glencoe. The meeting will be hosted by the Glencoe Lions Club. RSVPs are to come to him, no later than Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. On a personal note, he thanked DG Harry, Lion Loretta, and the Cabinet for the plant, their thoughts and all the prayers during his unexpected trip to Abbott. He just got back to work full time and doing rehab three times a week.
- **Zone 2** Lion Sandra Schneider reported that it has been a great year serving under Lion Harry Klenke. She is looking forward to attending the Spring Zone meetings. As Zone 2 Chair she is very impressed with all of the activities that our clubs are involved in. Congratulations to everyone for all of your efforts.
- **Zone 3** Lion Jennifer Malecha – Lions in Zone 3 have been very busy! The Jordaness Lions added 2 new members & the Prior Lake Lions have added 3. Belle Plaine 23, Jordan 58, Jordaness 47, N.E.W.

Lions 51, Prior Lake 39, Shakopee 101, Shakopee Valley 18 & Veseli 27. Total membership = 364.

Zone Chair & Club Visits are all in process. Attendance at the Fall Zone meeting was good with 7 out of 8 clubs in attendance! Spring Zone Meeting is Monday, March 9th, 2015 & hoping for perfect club attendance. Club Facebook & web pages look awesome!! The next couple of months will be busy with Lions activities. Looking forward to seeing everyone's 60's attire this evening. Enjoy the convention!

**Region 2** Lion Charlette Abbas, Region 2 Chairperson, reported that Region II has 695 members as of February 4, 2015. However, she knows of at least one new member inducted on February 9. Regardless, Region 2 is down 20 members. Region II has put in 5,575 Lion hours and served 39,049 people. Way to go, Region II Clubs!

The Spring Zone meetings dates have been set or soon will be. Zone Chairs will address this more.

Zone 4: Lion Brenda Jones – Zone 4 Meeting is Thursday, March 19, in Winthrop at the Hahn House.

Zone 5: Lion Jim Spille – Zone 5 Meeting is unknown at this time.

Zone 6: Lion Lori Klein – Zone 6 Meeting is Tuesday, April 21, in LeCenter.

- **Zone 4** Lion Brenda Jones – Zone 4 is at 255 members. Zone 4 Spring Meeting is Thursday, March 19th in Winthrop at Hahn’s Dining and Lounge...hosted by the Winthrop Lions. The Lions of Zone 4 have been busy with fundraisers such as Dad's Belgian Waffles, Pancake Brunches and more! Keep up all the good work and the recruitment of new members!!
- **Zone 5** Lion Jim Spille – Zone 5 is active and working hard. They have been largely independent as he has been incapacitated. He thanked DG Harry, Lion Nancy Mathwig and his wife Mary for their assistance during this time. The spring Zone Meeting will be March 11 in Henderson.
- **Zone 6** Lion Lori Klein – Clubs have been busy with various activities. All club visits were completed by December 31, 2014. Attendance at the Mid-Winter convention, Multiple district convention and Club Excellence Process have been promoted throughout the first half of the year. Clubs have also been encouraged to have a membership night or event of some sort to add emphasis to Governor Harry's goal of this happening. Membership as of January 31, 2015 was 205, which is currently a loss of seven for the year. Many of these losses were passing of long time members. The Spring Zone meeting will be on April 21, 2015 in LeCenter at the American Legion. More details will be received on the invite the beginning of March.

**Region 3** Region 3 Chair Lion Paul Gorman reported that the Region 3 meeting was held at the WOW Zone in Mankato on September 24, 2014. 66 Lions were in attendance with all but 4 clubs represented. The Zone 7 chair is Lion Charles Knakmuhs. The Zone 8 chair is Lion Robert Hunter. The Zone 9 Chair is Lion Ron Theusch.

Membership summary is as follows:

Zone 7	Opening	Added	Dropped	Current	Net Change
Amboy	41	0	3	38	-3
Lake Crystal	47	0	0	47	0
Mankato	20	0	2	18	-2
Mkto Key City	10	0	0	10	0
Mkto Sunrise	26	2	1	27	1
Winnebago	23	0	0	23	0
	167			163	-4

Zone 8	Opening	Added	Dropped	Current	Net Change
Blooming Prairie	60	1	0	61	1
Ellendale	19	0	0	19	0
New Richland	27	7	0	34	7
Owatonna	19	3	0	22	3
Waseca	44	2	4	42	-2
Waterville	50	1	4	47	-3
	219			225	6

Zone 9	Opening	Added	Dropped	Current	Net Change
Albert Lea	49	1	4	46	-3
AL Cloverleaf	24	0	2	22	-2
AL Lakeview	21	0	0	21	0
Alden	24	0	1	23	-1
Blue Earth	33	0	3	30	-3
Kiester	20	0	1	19	-1
Mn. Lake	22	2	1	23	1
Wells	38	0	0	38	0
	231			222	-9

- **Zone 7** Lion Janet Knakmuhs – Reported Zone 7 has 165 members. He has made some club visits, and will finish shortly. The clubs are very active and busy. Zone meeting will be March 24 hosted by Key City Lions
- **Zone 8** Lion Robert Hunter – There are currently 224 members of the six clubs in Zone 8. This is an increase of 3 members since the beginning of the current year. The spring meeting of the zone will be held at the Starfire Restaurant in Waseca, on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> beginning with a social hour at 6 p.m. Detailed announcements will be emailed soon.
- **Zone 9** Lion Ron Theusch – No report sent in.

**Committee Reports:** VDG Marvin Grimm is not setting time limit but requested that the reports be kept short.

**Can Do Canines:** Lions Deb Koehnen, Kathleen Bleckeberg, Vern and Darlene Breamer reported that visitations have been slow since the last cabinet meeting. They have done only one visitation this year and that was to the Wells Lions club on February 4. Lion Deb has visits to the Webster Lions in March and the Jordaness Lions in April. They must have done a good job at getting the word out at the Zone meetings! They are positive that the Parade of Green will still be a successful this year they are still trying for 100% participation from the clubs in the district. Jean Lundquist and her Diabetes Assist dog Juno will be the speaker at the Sunday morning brunch.

Can Do Canines have extended their prison program from two to four locations. The Minnesota State Correctional Facility at Faribault was their first program started in 2005. There are currently 3 puppies and seven adult dogs in training there. The Federal Correctional Facility at Waseca is a women’s prison. They placed their first dogs there in 2011. Recently they had 10 puppies and four adult dogs in training. The Federal Prison Camp at Duluth is a men’s prison that was added early in 2014. They currently have 11 dogs in training there. However they also helped to whelp two litters over the holidays as well, adding 19 puppies to their responsibilities. These puppies should be in foster home now. The Federal Correctional Facility at Sandstone is the newest addition. Eight puppies moved there on December 12, 2014. That totals 62 dogs and puppies having excellent care, good training and a loving home. Equally important, 124 inmate-trainers (two per dog) are experiencing a life-changing opportunity.

The next graduation ceremony will be Saturday April 25. The Fetching Ball raised over \$125,000 and Give to the Max Day raised \$65,633.

**Constitution & By-Laws:** Lion Steve Wasserman reported that in preparation for presenting proposed Constitution & By-Law changes to be voted upon by the delegates at the Midwinter Convention:

- Proposed Constitution & By-Law Changes were emailed to all Cabinet members on September 30, 2014 and presented to the District Cabinet at the meeting on October 12, 2014.
- Revisions suggested by the District Cabinet were incorporated, and a revised document was emailed to all Past District Governors in the District, and discussed at their annual meeting on December 7, 2014
- Revisions suggested by the Past District Governors were incorporated, and the revised documents were emailed to the Club Presidents and Secretaries on January 6, 2015

- On January 6, 2015, District Treasurer Dale Oldenburg noticed a discrepancy in the dues amounts as stated in the current By-Laws and proposed By-Laws. We are assessed and have been billing \$.25 per member for the MD5M International Convention Band Fund. That assessment never became part of our By-Laws.
- Corrected documents were emailed to Club Presidents and Secretaries on January 10, 2015. Lion Steve plans on presenting the proposed changes to the delegates for approval at the business meeting on Saturday, February 14, 2015. As Constitutions and By-Laws are living documents, he has already discovered some changes that will be recommended to the delegates at the 2016 District Convention.

**Conventions:** PDG Joan Blank reported on upcoming conventions.

- o MD5M Multiple Convention – April 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> at Minneapolis Airport Marriott Hotel in Bloomington, MN. \$130 for Hospitality Book, she has registration forms available
- o International Convention – June 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> in Honolulu, Hawaii, Lion Regular fee \$150
- o USA/Canada Leadership Forum – September 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Over 50 specific training sessions related to developing quality Lions Clubs. Registration – Early bird special \$277 until June 1<sup>st</sup>, after that the cost is \$310. Register online at <http://members.lionsforum.org/event-1722618/Registration>.

**Computer Support & Technology:** Lion Laura Maki reported that assistance with MyLCI was provided to several club secretaries. She continues to send out the monthly 5M2 District Newsletter “Path to Success” and put it on the website. She has also been sharing items on our Facebook page. Notices for Spring Zone meeting are starting to arrive and are emailed to Club Presidents, Secretaries and Cabinet members as well as posted on the website.

The Mid-Winter Planning Committee has had her sending out and posting information on the website and Facebook. Several presenters have contacted her regarding the need of the IT equipment for their presentations.

Spring seems to be the time for CEP Training and she needs to coordinate the use of the projectors and screens. Please let her know of your need as far in advance as possible to assist with scheduling.

**District Activities:** PDG Eunice Rucks reported that the Memorial Service will take place this evening with 35 individuals being honored. Also, she will be meeting with the First Timers and then doing the tabulation for the Award. There will be pins available (Snowman and Bird Pins) that can be purchased from her.

**GLT:** PID Debra Wasserman reported Report of progress on District goals as set by **District Governor Harry for 2014-2015**

- 1. Have clubs complete CEP Training. Hopefully about 2 per Zone in 2014-2015**  
MN Lake and Alden (Zone 9) completed CEP during the first quarter.  
Prior Lake (Zone 3) completed the CEP in a one day session on Jan. 31.  
Hamburg (Zone 4) is scheduled to participate in two 2 hour sessions in March/April. Several other clubs have expressed interest in scheduling CEP.
- 2. Encourage Zone Chairs to mention that all clubs have Orientation for new members.**  
PID Debra is working to recruit a Lion to help coordinate use of the District’s Orientation program. This will be the basis for Zone Chairs encouraging clubs to conduct Orientation.
- 3. Encourage older members to also attend Fall Zone Meetings.**  
Completed
- 4. At Region Meetings and Fall Zone Meetings make people aware of Regional Lions Leadership Institute. Encourage fellow Lions to take advantage of this good training.**  
Completed. DG Harry and 1VDG Marv included this in their remarks. I believe the District’s allotted slots are filled.
- 5. Make people aware of the Mid-Winter Convention in Mankato. Promote this at Region and Fall Zone Meetings**  
Completed. DG Harry included this in his remarks.
- 6. Make people aware of the Multiple District Convention in Bloomington. Remind people we will be hosting it in 2016, so it would be a good idea to attend to find out what kind of help we will**

**need to make it successful.**

Completed. DG Harry and PID Maynard included this in their remarks.

**7. Continue having Quarterly meetings with GLT and GMT Coordinators**

The GLT/GMT met after the Region 1 meeting on September 8.

**8. Continue to have Quarterly meetings with First Vice District Governor and Second Vice District Governor and their Spouses.**

The DG Team met on July 28 and December 8.

**GMT:** PID Maynard Rucks reported that CEP is slow so far this year, but there will be some clubs doing the process very soon. We hope that more activity will happen as we get into the spring season.

PID Maynard is still waiting for the go ahead from Sebastian to move forward with new Campus Club at Carlton in Northfield. The last e-mail from him informs us that everything is in motion to get started soon.

**Historian:** Lion Nancy Mathwig reported that Lion Ken Farrell collected a wealth of information about the history of District 5M-2 and much of the information is on the district website. Lion Nancy decided to display one piece of that history this weekend. Each year since 2004, except one, we have voted on a Hall of Fame recipient. Many 5M-2 Lions may not know, or remember, who the winner has been each year since the award is presented at the Multiple Convention and may not have been announced in the district newsletter following the Multiple Convention. A display of the District 5M-2 Hall of Fame recipients is in the hall outside the meeting rooms. She did not add up the years of service represented by the board but it would be in the hundreds!

**Journey for Service:** PDG Gordy Affield reported that Journey for Service will be held April 8-10, 2015. Route will be the same as last year and he plans on checking with clubs for meeting places and contact persons during the convention this weekend. He is looking forward to meeting Lions members on the Journey.

**LCIF:** PDG Rick Wagener reported that a LCIF donation request letter was sent to each club to maintain or increase their donations at the Parade of Green at our mid-winter convention. Also included was their account balance and eligibility of Melvin Jones awards. The goal is to get 100% of the clubs in 5M2 to participate in LCIF. We were so close last year with 98.4%. No new programs were presented this time period.

**Leader Dog:** Lion Shirley Hesperheide gave a Canine Development Center Update from Leader Dogs for the Blind.

The steel has arrived and the weather has been on our side so construction is moving much faster now. The floors in the breeding area and veterinary clinic have been poured, and the masons continue to lay block daily. The building is starting to take shape and looks like the vision we put on paper a year ago. We are making decisions on our finish products and the planning process for electrical changeovers between the old and new building is ongoing as we face the challenge of maintaining our daily operations.

The budgets are in good shape and if the weather holds, we will be able to make up some time on Phase One of the project.

Lion Shirley has spoken to Jordaness, Nicollet, Plato, Green Isle, Henderson, Jordan and Lafayette Lions Clubs and have three presentations set up at this time. She has received a few checks for the Canine Development Center.

**LEO Clubs:** Lion Anna Wickenhauser reported that:

- Northfield Leos have reported 8 active members. Service Projects: Senior Center, Food Shelf, FMSC, Christmas Sharing. They also work with Northfield and Cannon Valley Lions at their dinners. Donate to: Diabetes, LCI, Hearing programs for children and Service Dogs. Big Project is Recycling at Northfield Econo Foods-Jan., Feb. & March 2015.
- Sibley Leos-No response
- Cologne Leos have 10 active members. Service Projects: Families Moving Forward, Cards to Walter

Reed Medical Center, Homeless/Food Shelf Drive, Allan Law-Blanket, Sock & Money Drive, assisting local Lions Clubs with projects.

Upcoming: Food for Kidz, Polar Plunge, Dad's Belgian Waffle Breakfast. Donate: All Parade of Green, Allan Law, Watts of Love, Lost Boys of Sudan, Local boy with cancer, Food for Kidz, Special Olympics.

Upcoming Leadership/Education:

Multiple Convention, Leo Conference

Mayer-Lutheran HS has contacted Anna about starting a Leo Club.

**Liberty Day:** Lion Dennie Hewitt had no activity to report since the last Cabinet Meeting, Hoping to get some response from Clubs from this Convention and set up some Club meetings and also at the upcoming Zone Meetings to get a jump start on the next school year.

**Long Range Planning:** PDG Tom Ferleman reported the MD5M Long Range Planning Committee is not scheduled to do an update this year. He continues to work with individual Lions and with Lions Clubs to develop plans for now and for the future. He has a display at this convention and will be available to encourage Lions to develop their personal plan and a plan for their club.

**MD5M Hearing Foundation:** Lion Arlene Richter reported that the Hearing Foundation held their meeting on January 3, 2015, at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud, MN. The meeting was called to order, roll was taken, and the secretary's, treasurer's, and Canadian reports were given and accepted.

The annual D-Feet Walk fundraiser was next on the agenda. Plans and committees are already at work: the arboretum has been reserved, letters and emails will be sent to clubs as reminders to form teams/participate/donate, T-shirts have been designed, corporate sponsors are to be contacted, and website and banner updates be made.

The next agenda item was the Multiple Convention to be held April 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> in Bloomington, MN. They will be part of a raffle and silent auction to raise funds for the Hearing Foundation; so will be selling tickets and gathering auction items for that convention.

A discussion about the state fair schedule followed. A copy of a sign up form was distributed with the hope of putting it out at the Mid-winter conventions to give others interested in working a chance to sign up. Hopefully this would give another resource to help fill some of the hard to fill slots.

Breakout committees met and shared ideas.

They wrapped up with some U of M updates, technology updates, and district activity reports.

**Mid-Winter Convention:** Lions Janet Hall and Emmy Koch reported that they are ready to go "Back to the 60's". There are 320 people registered for the all meal package, 72 people registered for the Friday evening Supper with the ID, 256 people registered for the Saturday noon Luncheon, 195 people registered for the Saturday banquet, and 182 people registered for the Sunday morning brunch. The name tags have your table number on them for the banquet. The first timers will be wearing a peace ribbon to distinguish themselves, please help them out by signing their book or helping them out with the questions. The convention hosts will be wearing tie dye ribbons, if you have questions, please contact one of these committee members. Lion Janet passed out the Parade of Green sheets to the Cabinet members. Enjoy the weekend.

**MN Lions Diabetes Foundation:** Lions Kevin Blank and Lion Emmy Koch – Lion Kevin reported that he attended the last Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation meeting on January 3, 2015 held at the Double Tree by Hilton in Minneapolis.

They had Dr. Amir Moheet from the University of Minnesota give a power point presentation on the effects of diabetes on the brain. Topics included hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia and how the brain reacts to these conditions. Very interesting!

A Foundation newsletter is now being published on a quarterly basis, if anyone has diabetes events that they are doing please forward to me with information and if possible pictures. I will forward to the editors. The Foundation is trying to publicize more of what the Foundation does and also what clubs may be

doing to make the public more aware of the effects of diabetes.

The annual research update at The University of Minnesota will be held at the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research building on March 28, 2015. Everyone is invited to attend with a special invite to the District Governor Elects so they can be made aware of the research that the Foundation is supporting.

Officers were elected for the 2015-2016 year.

Lion Kevin will have a display set up at this mid-winter promoting diabetes awareness and the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation. He will also be promoting attendees to take the "Are You At Risk For Type 2 Diabetes" test. The Foundation is compiling data as to how many people are at risk. Those who take the test will receive a tube of lip moisturizer.

The next Diabetes Foundation meeting will be March 28, 2015 at the Research update at the University of Minnesota.

**MN Lion Vision Foundation:** Co-Chairs Lion Diana Kroells and PDG Mary Spille reported that MN Lions Vision Foundation held its quarterly meeting on Jan 3. Lion Diana was able to attend and regretted that PDG Mary was not able to be with them.

Thanks to everyone in our district who attended the Thanksgiving for Vision at the end of October. There were 380 registered before the event and 325 were served at the luncheon. The silent auction proceeds were \$1326 and the pumpkin auction brought in \$1370. It was a successful event and once again the speakers were amazing.

Lion Diana was fortunate that she could attend the Eye Donor Recognition program again this year held on Nov 16<sup>th</sup> at the U of M. This year Cheryl Kennedy of Chisago Lions had her picture done in a floragraph and was on the Donate Life float at the Rose Bowl Parade. A new honoree from 5M2 this year was Lion David Simpson of the Albert Lea Lions. He was recognized along with the other 5M2 Lions - Janice Affield, Prior Lake, Gary Burke, Watertown Lions and Darwin Mathwig, Arlington Lions.

The next Lions tour will be March 7 and there are still some openings.

MN Lions Vision Foundation is in the process of updating all of the Eye Glass Donation sites in 5M so that they will be available in our book at the State Fair when people ask where they can donate their eye glasses. Also in regards to the State Fair, we have a sign-up sheet at our booth at the convention for anyone wanting to work in the booth at the State Fair.

We learned that the Shopko Stores are pairing with the MN Lions Vision Foundation and each store location will give away 5 exams with free eye glasses to those in need. A big thank you to PDG Mary Spille, who has been working on filling all of the locations with a Lions contact. Thanks to those who have said yes so far. 5M2 has Shopko Stores in Albert Lea, Hutchinson, Glencoe & Mankato.

A recent news release stated that the Internal Review Board has approved the ARGUS Retinal Implant Study for the MN Lions Eye Bank. MN Lions Vision Foundation was acknowledged in the release.

March is National Eye Donation Month so PDG Mary and Lion Diana hope to pick up some speaking engagements during that month. Lion Diana has sent letters out to a number of clubs requesting an opportunity to speak.

5M2 Lions clubs have an accumulated \$105,238 in donations that can be used for Helen Keller Awards. We want to encourage clubs to honor their members with one of the very special awards.

**Newsletter Editor:** PDG Bill Curtis reported that he and the District Governor have been doing the Newsletter 8 months now and he is doing a terrific job of getting me the information on time. Really all of the officers have done a great job of getting me their information. Please help to inform clubs of the deadline, the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. This will be the last report from him as next year there is going to be a different format. He has had a great run for 30 years putting out the district newsletter for all the Governors of 5M2. He thanked Governor Harry for the opportunity to serve the district as newsletter editor this year.

**Project New Hope:** Chair Lion Darlene Wondra reported that they have had successful retreats this year. She made several quilts to be given to the Veterans at the retreats. She attends the quarterly meetings. At their December quarterly meeting, Ross Thorfinnson, Jr. is creating an investment management package for them. He is out and about giving presentations. Our District received Gold (\$300) and Blue (\$600) awards for our donations.



**Protocol:** Lion Dale Drescher thanked DG Harry and Loretta for the new American flag.

**Publicity:** Lion Ruth Klossner spoke at Arlington last week and is available to speak on media relations.

**Lions Quest:** Lion Janet Knahmuhs reported that she has done two presentations, one to the Alden Club and one to the Lake Crystal Club. The Lake Crystal club will be starting this fall, and Alden is very interested. Have two presentations to give.

Lion Cathleen Williams reported that they have been delighted to have Lion Janet Knahmuhs join them as the Quest Co-Chair covering the southern part of 5M2. Lions Mike and Cathleen have been sidelined with surgeries this year but hope to get a training up in the northern part this summer.

**Special Olympics:** PDG Joan Blank reported that they have a table display for Special Olympics for Mid-Winter with the help of Lion Laura Maki. PDG Joan will be visiting with Lion Laura during the convention to get some direction on where they should be heading. Unfortunately, one of our co-chairs, Lion Manny, has moved out of state. Lion Dustin and PDG Joan will try to regroup in the next few months to develop strategies for moving forward and getting the information out about Special Olympics to all clubs in 5M-2.

There was a Polar Plunge held in St. Peter on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. There were Lions from 5M-2 taking the plunge, but they do not have any more information at this time. Hopefully will have more at next Cabinet meeting.

**Write Off:** Lion Christy Trutnau reported that on Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> about 11:15 a.m. the finalist will read their essays and a winner will be announced. Two of the three finalists have contacted her indicating they will be coming to the program. The Region Winners are: Region 1 Winner Amanda Hustad - Brownston Lions Club will be coming, but not staying for the lunch. Region 2 Winner Abigail Butler - Arlington Lions Club will be coming and staying for the lunch. Region 3 Winner Eryn Meskan- Waterville Lion Club, has not heard from at this time. The District 5M2 winner is Abigail Butler from Region 2.

**Lions International Essay Contest for the Blind:** PID Debra Wasserman reported that the Owatonna Lions sponsored the 5M2 winner Megan Copeland. She will be here to read her essay, receive her plaque and check on Sunday at the brunch. She is also the Multiple District winner.

**Youth Exchange/Youth Camp:** Lions Chris and Janet Hall reported that they have completed two club visits so far with another one scheduled in May. Lions International 5M Youth Exchange Camp Spicer is a 501c3 so donations may be given from any gaming funds. There are currently 13 applications for incoming youth on file from Brazil, Germany, Japan, Mongolia, Belgium, and the Czech Republic. If you would like to be a host family or know of someone that would please pick up an application from the display table or contact the YE chairs and they will help you get the application submitted. Students are waiting to purchase their tickets.

**Youth Outreach/Peace Poster:** Co-Chairs for the Peace Poster Contest again this year are Lion Paula Stephens from Cologne Lions and PDG Sue Bowman from Albert Lea LakeView Lions.

The theme for the 2014-15 Peace Poster contest was "Peace, Love and Understanding". Forty-one posters were entered and were judged by Lion Paula Stephens and PDG Sue Bowman. The top three posters selected were then presented to DG Harry for his review. Posters were judged on originality, artistic merit and expression of the theme "Peace, Love and Understanding".

Congratulation to the Faribault Lions Club for sponsoring this year's winning poster. First Place in the Peace Poster contest is Alayna Wangen, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader from the Faribault Lutheran School. Alayna will receive her award recognition at the Sunday Brunch. Her parents and brother will also be guests at the presentation. Alayna's quote of peace: "Let us not be divided because of nations. Let us come together in love and understanding to tie the world back together with peace".

The second place winner was sponsored by the Glencoe Lions Club; she is Kristine Major a student at Lincoln Jr. High. Kristine's quote of peace: "People come from many countries with different cultures and beliefs. If we reach out to each other with kindness and love we can start to trust and understand each other. In time we can live in harmony and grow and prosper together in peace".

The Mankato Sunrise Lions Club sponsored the third place winner; he is Bryce Schwab a student at Loyola Catholic School. Bryce's quote of peace: "Together we can build a peaceful tomorrow.

Please take a few minutes to stop by the Peace Poster information table and take a look at the photos of the submitted posters; they are powerful messages of the optimism of our youth for peace. Zone chairmen; please have your clubs pick up their poster at the information table. Check Sunday, if a poster from your zone is not taken, please take it and get it to the proper club.

The Peace Poster theme for 2015-2016 is "Share Peace". Contest rules are available at the information table. Peace Poster kits are available from LCI for \$11.95. If any club needs help in starting the Peace Poster project, please contact Lion Paula Stephens or Lion Sue Bowman.

Thank you to all the clubs that sponsored the Peace Poster contest, it is an excellent avenue to bring Lions, youth, and the community together.

### **Comments:**

2<sup>nd</sup> VDGE Steve Wasserman complimented 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Marv for the most succinct cabinet reports! He welcomed ID Karla Harris and has had several experiences with her already and looks forward to the conference.

1<sup>st</sup> VDGE Marv Grimm does not plan to intimidate anyone but does command respect. He thanked everyone for coming.

DGE Harry Klenke thanked everyone for coming to this meeting. Let's have fun tonight. Please attend the service of remembrance and then come to the party afterward.

International Director Karla Harris thanked everyone for everything that they do. International President Joe Preston does appreciate everything that Lions do. She spoke eloquently and passionately thanking all Lions in the Cabinet.

Next Meeting will be held in May. Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Lion Dale Drescher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Cathleen Williams. MC.

Respectfully Submitted

Lion Cindy Walters

### **Announcements:**

Council of Governors March 13 Brooklyn Center

Zone 7 March 24 Mankato

Zone 9 April 20 Alden

Zone 6 April 21 LeCenter

Zone 2 March 29 Mayer-Watertown

Regional Lions Leadership Institute-March 26-29, 2015 Mahnommen

Journey for Service April 8-10

Multiple Convention – April 17-19 Bloomington

International Convention – June 26-30 Honolulu, Hawaii