

The 5M-2



FIRE UP



August 2013

www.5M2lions.org

Editor **Bill Curtis,**

WHAT'S GOING ON IN 5M2



Passing of the gavel from outgoing Winthrop President Duane Nelson To incoming President Tom Fatticci



Induction of two new members of the Winthrop Lions Club:
Left: Lion Melissa Marx, sponsored by Lion Scot Kuester
Right: Lion Mary Nelson, sponsored by Lion Patty McCarthy
Middle: Outgoing President Duane Nelson



District Governor Joan and Lion Kevin Blank lining up for the International Parade in Hamburg, Germany.



IPDG Ron Dahlke pulling ribbon off DGE Joan Blank to install her as District Governor in Hamburg, Germany.



Joan's Journal

Joan Blank
District Governor



District Governor
Joan Blank

The 96th Lions International Convention

As I write this, Lion Kevin and I have been home less than one week from attending the 96th Lions International Convention in Hamburg, Germany. We had a fantastic time. I had no clue what was in store for the both of us, but here are some adjectives that describe our experience: thrilling, vibrant, exhilarating, informative, inspiring and all out fun.

Our seven-hour non-stop flight to Amsterdam was a breeze and Hamburg was just a quick 45 minute flight from there. Once we arrived at our hotel, we met up with the 11 other District Governor Elects from our multiple district of Minnesota, Manitoba and Northwest Ontario and their spouses. We are fortunate that all the District Governor Elects get along well and we thoroughly enjoy each other's company as we compare notes on what works in each of our districts.

The first four days included training with 30 District Governor Elects from around the world. In my particular group, I had DGE's from Africa, India, England, Wales and the U.S. It is amazing how we all come from such different walks of life but all are working towards the common goal of serving our communities. After our four days of training for 750 plus District Governor Elects, we were treated to a "Celebration Banquet" which was over the top. All DGE's and spouses dressed in formal wear and were treated to a fabulous supper in an old warehouse by the Hamburg harbor that was decorated like a fancy wedding reception, all done in white linens and floral, with superb German waiters and waitress serving us. That night will be a lasting Lion memory.

The next day, 18,000 Lions arrived for the actual International Convention. Rather than write a small book about the Convention, here are some highlights:

Excellent concert given by "Up with People" featuring an international cast performing both original and popular music including fast-moving choreography and colorful costumes.

International Parade that was thrilling to take part in. Everyone along the parade route loved the two Snowman mascots from the MD5M group, who had to stop repeatedly to have their pictures taken. The parade was the highlight of the convention for me.

Keynote speaker as Laura Bush, speaking on behalf of literacy and the right for every child to be able to read.

Another guest speaker was Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, who also spoke on reading programs and the steps that need to be taken to fight illiteracy.

A surprise guest was Houston Basketball Player "Yao Ming" who towered above everyone on stage at 7'6". Yao was honored for his work with Special Olympics.

Humanitarian Award was presented to Andrea Bocelli, a world famous Italian Tenor who became blind at the age of 12 following a football accident. He has set up his own Foundation whose mission is to empower people and

communities in situations of poverty, illiteracy, distress due to illness and social exclusion by promoting and supporting projects that overcome these barriers.

I was delighted to see these Lions from 5M2 in attendance, PID Debra Wasserman and Lion Steve Wasserman, PID Maynard Rucks and PDG Eunice Rucks, PDG's Tom and Mary Ferleman and IPDG Ron Dahlke and Lion Jean Dahlke.

I could go on and on about the Convention, but in summary, I would encourage anyone to attend the 97th International Convention next year in Toronto, Ontario. You will be amazed!



PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW LION MEMBERS.....

- Lion Carol Fuller** – Amboy Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Iris Stevens
- Lion Judy Hinrichs** – Amboy Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Ken Irvine
- Lion William Hinrichs** – Amboy Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Ken Irvine
- Lion Alex Larson** – Amboy Lions Club
Sponsored by Ken Irvine
- Lion Ruth Larson** – Amboy Lions Club
Sponsored by Ken Irvine
- Lion Deborah Trebesch** – Green Isle Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Rita Edmonds
- Lion Kipp Trebesch, Sr** – Green Isle Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Tom Edmonds
- Lion Kipp Trebesch, Jr.** – Green Isle Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Sue Vos
- Lion Irene Jurovich** – Prior Lake Lions Club
Sponsored by PDG Gordy Affield
- Lion Jayson Eischens** – Silver Lake Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Duane Yurek
- Lion Kari Eischens** – Silver Lake Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Lynn Monger
- Lion Melissa Marx** – Winthrop Lions Club
Sponsored by Scot Kuester
- Lion Mary Nelson** – Winthrop Lions Club
Sponsored by Lion Patty McCarthy



District Governor Joan's Jaunts

- August 5th Belle Plaine - Jungle Days Cabinet Meeting
- August 9th St Peter - Nicollet County FairWork Demo Derby with Nicollet Lions
- August 12th Waterville Lions Club - Club Visit
- August 15th Alden – Mid-Winter Meeting
- August 19th Nicollet Lions Club Youth Exchange
Student, Elijah Hill, will be guest speaker
- August 29 Attend first Twins game!

HARRY'S CORNER

Harry Klenke
First Vice District Governor



I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer. I have been very busy at work. A few years ago I suggested to our upper management to let a few of us old timers have early retirement and bring us back to help out during the summer months. Their response was they didn't think we were much busier in the summer. Obviously, they had never been to a work station. We almost everyday have 10 people waiting outside in hopes of getting a driving test. We normally only take 3 extras, so there are many disappointed young people. Most afternoons I don't get time to take a break. The pressure of knowing that if you don't pass the test you may have to wait 2 months before you can take another test is also very taxing on the young peoples psyche. They are really crushed when you say they didn't pass.

Enough about my work, because I know you all have you own stories and sometimes frustrations. I am continuing to visit some of the clubs in our District. I installed the officers at the Shakopee Valley Lions. They have been busy and said they will keep me informed about upcoming events. Lion Loretta had an enjoyable evening in Courtland where I had the pleasure of meeting many good Lions. I installed their Officers that night and had a chance to speak briefly to their scholarship winners and their parents. I spoke of the young lady we met in Rochester who spoke of her diabetes helper dog, provided to her by the Lions though Can-Do-Canines. I hope the people who were there will see that there is a lot more to Lions than what they see in their local Lions and think about joining our wonderful Organization. On the Fourth of July Loretta and I attended the Parade in Veseli that I talked about them planning in my last article. It was fun to see all the things that they talked about come to fruition. We didn't get to stay for all the festivities after words, because my old body was tired from running around in the morning cheering my son on in 5 mile race in Apple Valley.

I hope many of you didn't get flooded out by all the rains we had last week, especially on Saturday morning. I was going to Lakeville for a 1 mile race, but instead spent the morning first siphoning water out of our egress window area and than pumping water out of our sump hole. We had 6.1 inches of rain in our gauge that morning. We live on a hill, so it takes a lot of water to cause us to ever have to pump out our sump hole.

I know the new Lions year has just started and you are all very busy, but I hope we can all think of ways to help increase our membership and make our clubs better. Lion Paul Stahler had a very good article in the June Newsletter about Public Relations being a good source of possible new members and projects for clubs. If you have ideas that have helped your club grow send the information to the District Newsletter and I know PDG Bill will publish it for us to see and use. Have a great rest of the Summer.

MARVIN'S COMMENTS

Marvin Grimm
Second Vice District Governor



I am starting this article while Evelyn and I are on a Baltic Sea Cruise. We have visited ports of Copenhagen, Denmark; Oslo, Norway; Aarhus, Denmark; Warnemunde and Rostock, Germany; Helsinki, Finland; 2 days at St. Petersburg, Russia; Tallin, Estonia; and Stockholm, Sweden. While at Warnemunde, Germany, we were four hours from Hamburg, Germany, the site of the 2013 International Lions Convention.

I would like to thank PDG Ron and Lion Jean for the great year they gave to District 5M2. Their accomplishments in the District will be used as a milestone for those who follow.

I look forward to working with District Governor Joan and Lion Kevin. It is an honor to be part of her cabinet.

I would like to write about volunteering in your community. This is a good time to meet new people, work along side of people and to feel good about what you have accomplished. This could be restoring an old church, help build a Habitat house, bag food for Feed My Starving Children, spread mulch at a safe house, help with Holiday Senior lunch. These are some ways to help someone or a community and you will have a good feeling and sense of honor. Our new International President, Barry Palmer, encourages us to fulfill the dream of Stronger Clubs, Stronger Communities and Stronger Lions. We can do this through Service.

August is County Fair time. A good time to mingle with people, see the accomplishments of young people through 4H, FFA and school projects. Visit the Lions food booths and membership booth.

Also in August, the LCI Global Service Action Campaign is devoted to "Engaging our Youth". I would like to encourage clubs to work with Leos and local youth to organize and carry out a service project. Share your service stories through the online Service Activity Report so other Lions can see your success.

The end of July the Carver Lions Club hosted a picnic for the Lions Foreign Exchange students. Good food, good softball game for students and Lions and good visiting with the students.

As a Lion, there are many opportunities to "Serve" (volunteer) in your community. Look around and listen, the opportunities are there! Follow thru for satisfaction, new friends and a feeling of helping someone.

Service is more than a dream, it's our identity.



If your Club is involved in any summer activities, please take pictures and submit to "Fire Up" by either emailing newsletter editor, Lion Bill Curtis, at wfcurtis@embarqmail.com or District Governor Joan at lionjoanblank@gmail.com. We look forward to highlighting your Club!



Match Strikes!

I am introducing a new column in the newsletter called "Match Strikes". Match Strikes are Lions who have sparked an idea or taken on a project and maybe stepped into a leadership role or sparked a reason to be acknowledged or recognized "just because". It can be as simple as being a passionate Lion for many years to chairing a new project. Anyone can submit a name to be listed in this column as a special recognition for being a source of inspiration to another Lion or Lions Club. A "Match Strike" does not have to be a member of your Lions Club, but does have to be a Lion.

If you would like to give a Lion a "spark" of recognition, please submit his/her name and the reason why to lionjoanblank@gmail.com or leave a message at 507-304-5265. May also submit to PDG Bill Curtis at wfcurtis@embarqmail.com My hope is to full this page up each month. Thanks.
DG Joan

During the month of **JULY** the following Lions have been nominated as Match Strikes!

Lions Duane Yurek and Lion Lynn Monger – Silver Lake Lions -got married on June 29, 2013. That is really striking a match! Congratulations to the both of you.

PDG Tom Ferleman – Albert Lea Clover Leafs Lion– for wearing the snowman costume during the 96th International Convention Parade in Hamburg, Germany. He was the most sought after snowman to have a picture taken with!

Lions Cindy and Jim Walters – Chaska Lions – for hosting 4 foreign exchange students and then added a 5th student. These two Lions are passionate about the Youth Exchange Program.

Lion Bob Symanitz – Cologne Lions – along with his wife for hosting a foreign exchange student.

Lions Ada and Ron Theusch – Alden Lions – for hosting a foreign exchange student.

Lion Kenneth Irvine – Amboy Lions – for sponsoring 4 new Lion members in July:
Judy Hinrichs
William Hinrichs
Alex Larson
Ruth Larson

Lion Iris Stevens – Amboy Lions – for sponsoring new member: Carol Fuller

Lion Rita Edmonds – Green Isle Lions – for sponsoring new member: Deborah Trebesch

Lion Thomas Edmonds – Green Isle Lions – for sponsoring new member: Kipp Trebesch, Sr.

Lion Sue Vos – Green Isle Lions for sponsoring new member: Kipp Trebesch, JR.

PDG Gordy Affield – Prior Lake Lions – for sponsoring new member: Irene Jurovich

Lion Duane Yurek – Silver Lake Lions – for sponsoring new member: Jayson Eischens

Lion Lynn Monger Yurek – Silver Lake Lions – for sponsoring new member: Kari Eischens

Lion Patty McCarthy – Winthrop Lions – for sponsoring new member: Mary Nelson

Lion Scot Kuester – Winthrop Lions – for sponsoring new member: Melissa Marx

PDG – Rick Wagener – Waconia Lions (and all who helped) host the Waconia Veterans Appreciation weekend, July 12 – 14.

WAY TO GO LIONS!

Lions Quest

A Lions Quest training is being held on August 20, 2013 at Central Elementary school. If you know of any teacher who might be interested in taking the training, have them call Mike Williams at (952)467-2960 so he can order an age specific curriculum for them. Any Lion or teacher can just drop in to see what it is all about.

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Now is the time for each member to **SUBSCRIBE** to the **DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**.

The Governor would like every member to receive the newsletter. Have your club subscribe every member to this important communication.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: District 5M-2

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

SEND \$9.00 FOR (12) ISSUES (1) COMPLETE YEAR

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Top left: MN Millers blind baseball team. Top right: Glencoe community team. Bottom left: District Gov. Joan Blank throwing out the first pitch and Bottom right: 3 Millers team members receiving signed baseballs from MN Twins from Glencoe Pres. Gary Koch.

BEEP BASEBALL

GLENCOE LIONS GET INSPIRED AT MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION AND MAKE A DREAM A REALITY.

Lions Gary and Emmy Koch attended the Multiple District Convention back in April held in Rochester. While there, they were introduced to some of the players of the “Minnesota Millers”, a baseball team for the visually impaired. Lion Gary invited the team to play during Glencoe Days and earn some money for their trip to Georgia for the Beep Ball World Series.

Here are a few excerpts taken from the Glencoe Chronicle:

Koch said the Beep Ball game is something new for the community and Glencoe Days, and added the Lions are always looking for new ideas to help the community and to help others.

Koch said the game ties into the Lions' mission of helping with sight and hearing impairment issues, not only in Minnesota but around the world. “I feel passionate about this,” Koch said of the Beep Ball Program. “The Glencoe Lion members were a great help in getting this going.”

The first beep baseball game in the history of Glencoe took place before a packed, curious crowd on Saturday, June 22, with many calling the event an eye-opening experience.

A team made up of local “celebs” hosting the Minnesota Millers. Teams are made up of blind and sighted individuals. All batters wear a blindfold; same goes for fielders with the exception of two spotters.

There are two bases – first and third – and the pitcher and catcher are on the same team as the hitters. The ball beeps, and once in play, the defensive players are tasked with possessing the ball before the runner reaches the base, which also gives off sound to alert runners to its location.

If a runner reaches the base before the ball is in the possession of the fielding team, a run is scored.

The first inning went pretty well, for the Millers, scoring

three runs as “oohhs” and “aahhs” escaped onlookers marveling at the Millers' ability to connect with the ball.

The laughs began when the Glencoe team took its turn at bat, and never really ceased until the game was over.

The Millers won 10-0 as the game ended in the fifth inning. Normal beep baseball games go six innings, but Glencoe team members felt they had been 10-runned.

“It was just fun and it was a chance to laugh at yourself,” Glencoe team player Randy Wilson said. “They put it on a tee and it was still hard to hit for me. It was an eye opener to see what it's like to be blind.”

“We had roughly 250 people there”, Lion Gary Koch, who organized the event, said. “We ended up raising \$1,175 that we gave to the Millers.”

It was a home run for everyone!



Dear Lions,

You know, I became a Lion quite by accident. Back in 1976, I was running a retail business, and I stocked fruitcakes that the Hornsby Lions Club, my local club, was selling in the community. After selling 20 cartons of the cakes, the club decided to honor me with a certificate of appreciation. After the ceremony, Lion Bill Atlas finally asked me to attend the next club meeting. I said, "Bill, why didn't you ever ask me to join?" And he said, "I thought you were too busy."

As Lions, it's our duty to ask community members to join our clubs. How many friends, family members, community and business leaders would say "Yes" if asked to join? There's only one way to find out—just ask! We've got a great new resource to help your club invite new members.

Plato Lions



Burger Night from **4-7 PM**

&

Musical Entertainment by:

COMMUNITY STRINGS starting at 5:30

Date: August 16, 2013

Location: Plato Park

Bring your own chairs!!!



We Serve

Proceeds go to local projects



International Director Mike Molenda and his wife, Lion Linda.

Michael E. Molenda, from Hastings, Minnesota, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th International Convention held in Hamburg, Germany July 5 through 9, 2013. Director Molenda is an attorney. A member of the Rosemount Lions Club since 1984, he has held many offices within the association, including secretary, president, district governor, zone and region chairperson and council chairperson. He has also served as chairperson for the Campaign SightFirst and the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. Lions of MD5M are privileged to have Lion Mike serve as an International Director.

Immediate Past International President Wayne Madden installing new International President Barry Palmer

Barry J. Palmer of Berowra, NSW, Australia, was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 96th International Convention, held in Hamburg, Germany and is the first Australian citizen to be elected international president of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service club organization and the global leader in humanitarian and community service. President Palmer is a retired real estate company director and is active in many government and community organizations.

Mid-Winter Planning Committee Holds First Meeting

Zone 9 had great representation at their first Mid-Winter planning session on Thursday, July 19th under the direction of Co-Chair Lion Vern Breamer. Co-Chair Lion Darlene Breamer was out of town at the time. Thanks to the following Lions who have volunteered to help host the next Mid-Winter Convention, scheduled for February 7 – 9, 2014:

- Lion Roger Oldfather, Kiester Lions
- Lion Dale Dresher, Kiester Lions
- Lion Bill Bowman, Albert Lea Cloverleaf Lions
- Lion Shay Nelson, Albert Lea Cloverleaf Lion
- Lion Ron Theusch, Alden Lions Club
- Lion Karen Erickson, Alden Lions Club (Convention Treasurer)
- Lion Chuck Erickson, Alden Lions Club
- Lion Brian Gaard, Alden Lions Club
- Lion RuthAnn Gaard, Alden Lions Club (Convention Secretary)
- Lion Kathleen Bleckeberg, Alden Lions Club (Convention Registration Chair)
- Lion Sue Bowman, Albert Lea Lakeview Lions Club
- Lion Larry Majeski, Wells Lions Club
- Lion Gerald Zabel, Wells Lions Club
- Lion Chris Volz, Minnesota Lake Lions Club
- Lion Vern Breamer, Minnesota Lake Lions Club
- Lion Emmy Koch, Glencoe Lions Club (2015 Convention Co-Chair)
- Lion Janet Hall, Glencoe Lions Club (2015 Convention Co-Chair)
- VDG Lion Harry Klenke
- DG Lion Joan Blank

Others on the committee unable to attend are:
 Lion Darlene Breamer, Minnesota Lake Lions Club
 Lion Della Simmons, Albert Lea Lakeview Lions Club
 Lion Tom Ferleman, Albert Lea Cloverleaf Lions Club

Blue Earth Lions Club and Albert Lea Lions Club where not in attendance



Defeat of Jesse James Days Western Steak Fry

Cannon Valley Lions
 Western Style Steak Fry
 Sept 6 & 7 5-8pm

Held in conjunction with Defeat of Jesse James Days
 Held at the rodeo site on Hwy 3 in Northfield, MN

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP REPORT	This Month	This Year
Opening Balance	2,440	2,440
Added Members	13	13
Dropped Members	10	10
Closing Balance	2,443	2,443
Net Gain/Loss	3	3

Presidents:

Don't forget to schedule a visit with your District Governor at your earliest convenience in order to reserve the date you want.

You can call me at 507-304-5265 or email me at lionjoanblank@gmail.com.

Thanks! DG Joan





1. Lion Shannon Sweeney, Lion Rick Wagenr, Veteran Colin Faust, Lion Chuck Anderson, and a member of Vikings Jerod Allens team receives a \$1000.00 donation from the Waconia Lions for "Jerod Allens homes 4 Wounded Warriors"
2. Lion Bob Rehbieh at bat
3. 96 year old charter member and WWII vet throws out the 1st pitch
4. Wounded Warrior
5. Warriors at bat
6. Warrior running bases
7. Warrior at bat
8. Warrior at bat
9. Lion Chuck Schmitt assist veteran onto the field for Veterans Appreciation program
10. National Anthem

Waconia Lions sponsors Wounded Warriors

The Wounded Warrior Amputee softball team members were flown in from around the country to play a little softball and to pay tribute to all of the Waconia areas veterans. The Warriors are post 9/11 single or double amputees with a love of softball. Their motto is "Life is not limitless with out limbs".

An excellent opening ceremony started off the night. The Color Guard, presentation of the 5 branch flags. National Anthem, and the Fire Dept. unfurling the huge American Flag. What a sight

A celebrity game was played on Friday evening to kick off the weekend. Chris Schaffer from channel 4, Everett Lindsay from the Vikings, John Hines and Adam Carter from WCCO radio, Dave Schwartz from Kare 11, Kevin Lynch NBA player, Joel Niemeyer from KDUZ radio, and other local state champ ball players. It was a lot of fun and they were all good sports.

Saturdays games started at 10:30 with the Warriors challenging our local Fire Dept and the 1:30 game was against the younger local Veterans team.

At 3:00 The Lions organized a special tribute to all Veterans which were invited out on the field for recognition.

Country music artist Jen Bostic flew up from Nashville to sing for them. The First Minnesota Battalion presented colors and shot off black powder guns. And a very appropriate poem

called "The Pledge " was read. Afterwards, a standing ovation and rounds of cheers and whistles of appreciation to our Vets was heard from the crowds. What an emotional and moving experience.

A free community picnic was held at the fairgrounds following the ceremony.

The Warriors were always ready to sign souvenir softballs, have their picture taken, and just talk with the public.

To watch these veterans play, you really have to see it to believe it. I call it "art in motion"

Channels 11, 9, and 4 all had reviews about the program. Channel 5 will feature the day on "Life to the Max" with Mike Max coming this fall.

What an exhausting, thrilling and emotional day for all our Lions, thank you.

A special thanks to Cologne Leos, Cologne Lions, the Yellow Ribbon team, and to Target volunteers for all their help.

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Joan Blank
SM-2 DISTRICT GOVERNOR
44995 490th St
Nicollet, MN 56074



Support Our WOUNDED VETS



VICTORIA LIONS CLUB IS SPONSORING OUR

2ND ANNUAL PHEASANT & DUCK HUNT SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

...for veterans wounded in action. Wounded veterans, who are members of the Wounded Warrior Project, will be chosen through the program and be treated to a Pheasant & Duck Hunt with lunch before hand and refreshments with dinner afterwards. Hosted by the Marsh Lake Hunting Club in Victoria, MN. We are looking for donations of any size.

DONATION LEVELS

Gold - \$350 Silver - \$250 Bronze - \$100
(Sponsors 1 hunter) All other donations greatly appreciated.

Any questions, contact:
Dick - (612) 210-4134
Todd - (612) 716-5548 or toddt@gmail.com
Shawn - (952) 451-7375 at Marsh Lake
Jay - (612) 716-9595
email: lionswwhunt@gmail.com



Make checks payable to:
Victoria Lions Club/WW Hunt
P.O. Box 231
Victoria, MN 55386

Help make this opportunity available to our much deserving veterans.

We invite you to the 15th Annual Victoria Lions Golf Classic



Monday

August 26, 2013

Deer Run Golf Course
Victoria, MN



\$100 Registration fee includes
Green Fees, Cart, Dinner and Prizes
www.VictoriaLionsClub.com

Registration Form

\$100 per Golfer includes:
Green Fees, Cart, Dinner and Prizes

Registration Due: **August 19, 2013**

**18 hole Four-Person Team Scramble
PLAYERS**

#1 _____
Email _____
Phone _____
#2 _____
Email _____
Phone _____
#3 _____
Email _____
Phone _____
#4 _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Contact person _____
Email _____

Mail Entry to:
Kevin Rolf

8085 Narcissus Street • Victoria, MN 55386

I am not able to play, but would like
to support the Lions with a donation:
 \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100