

**District 5M-2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**  
**August 1, 2016**  
**Creeks Bend Golf Course - Jungle Days, Jordan**

**Call to Order:** PDG Marvin Grimm called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He asked that a moment of silence as our thoughts and prayers go out to what he believes was our longest active Lion in 5M-2, Will Yetzer of the Waconia Lions Club died July 29 at the age of 99 years old. It was his honor to present him with his 70 year chevron last winter. He was a charter member of the Waconia Lions. PDG Marvin also said a "Thank you to all the Cabinet Members on the 2015-16 Cabinet. We had a great year. Two of our many achievements this past year are ending the year with a plus membership and achieving the 100% LCIF Club contributions. Thank you. He then passed the gavel to DG Steve.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Lion Duane Kroells on behalf of 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Diana Kroells

**Invocation:** Led by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Nancy Mathwig

**Welcome:** DG Steve Wasserman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Roll Call:** Taken by Lion Charlette Abbas showing 36 in attendance and 12 absent, 4 guests.

**Introduction of Guests:** DG Steve introduced Lion Lowell Abbas, Lion Joe Maki, Lion Jack Webser, Lion Duane Kroells. Welcome to all guests.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda Lion Cathleen Williams; seconded by Lion Laura Maki; **MC.**

**Secretary's Report:** Everyone was e-mailed a copy of the minutes. Motion to approve by Lion Shirley Hesperheide, seconded by PDG Lion Joan Blank; **MC.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Lion Sue Vos presented her report. Motion by PID Maynard Rucks and seconded by Lion Janet Knakmuhs to accept the Treasurer's Report. **MC.**

**Council of Governor's Report:** DG Steve Wasserman

5M-2 had 100% LCIF – one of 10 districts in the world to have this and one of 4 in MD5M. Positive Membership growth of plus 22 members in 2015-2016. PDG Marvin Grimm received an award.

USA Canada Forum: Bus available to attend. PDG Jay Norby of 5M-9 is planning this. Casual wear is appropriate for this event. No suits and ties necessary.

Chicago Convention: New parade shirts will be available. No snowmen shirts will be worn. MD5M is sponsoring two bands, one from Waconia. Also a train is a good possibility for this trip.

No CD's of Directory for this year at this time. Will try to see if one can be made yet.

MD5M Convention: Bids will be going 4 years out instead of 3 to encourage International Presidents to attend.

MD5M Convention of April 2016. Lots of compliments. Convention Center would like to see us back in 5 years. Convention would be 2021; Good because 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> oldest clubs will be having their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. It is hard to get food prices 2 years out, but setting the date is not.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Candidate for 2017-2018 needed.

**Communications:**

- Other Communications

**Old Business:**

- **Arlington Lions Grant Request** – PDG Eunice Rucks – August 11 is date they will know if they received this or not. Sounds like a go.
- **PNH Bike-A-Thon** – Lion Jack Webster – Lion Jack Webster encouraged all members and clubs to

participate in this 100 mile event for raising money for Project New Hope. Event is Saturday, September 24, starting at 6:15 or 6:30 a.m. in Waterville. Can jump on the trail at any point. You do not have to ride the whole 100 miles. Fire hall for a picnic afterwards about 6 p.m. Let other organizations know in your community of this event. Check can be made out to PNH Lions Foundation of Minnesota.

- **Kid Sight** – PDG Rick Wagener – 5M2’s newest project of off and running. We will be purchasing 3 Plus Optic vision screeners for our district. This is for children 6 months thru 6 years.

Preliminary planning is to have each club have a chair person that wants to participate. Each of the Region chairs will have one of the screeners for them to use. There will be a training session for the leaders and then will become trainers to the trainees. We have all paperwork needed for a successful screening. And each participant will be notified of a “referral or non referral” to seek further attention from their eye doctor. 5M9 has had this project up and running for 2 months and have had tremendous response from the community.

We have received \$100,000 from the MN Lions Vision Foundation, and over \$16,000 in pledges from clubs so far. We will be applying for an LCIF grant of \$100,000 in January. We will also be seeking Corporate sponsorship for the budget of this project. As of now, there is no intention of seeking “Parade of Green” status.

Our initial investment is:

3 Plus Optix screeners @ \$6,475 each =	\$19,425
District Credit	<u>-\$11,000</u>
Balance	= \$ 8,425

The Multiple chair wants the order and payment in the next 30 days and the program up and running within 3 months. So we need some money. We could have 5M2 give the money up front and then assess each club a smaller amount; or the District could pay the entire balance, and will “own” the screeners.

PID Maynard Rucks made a motion to take money from Budget Access to purchase 3 screeners, second Lion Evelyn Grimm. Amendment by Lion Mike Vos and Lion Brian Thies to use Youth Activities money instead. *Defeated.*

Amend the original motion and take ½ from Budget Access and ½ from Youth. Motion by PDG Harry Klenke and second by PDG Rick Wagner. MC

Motion Rucks and Evelyn Grimm to purchase 3 Screeners as amended. MC

- **District Policy Manual** – DG suggests to have a task force to discuss the changes. Volunteers: Lion Harry Klenke, Lion Nancy Mathwig (ex officio), PID Debra Wasserman.
- **Other Old Business** –  
**MD5M Convention** – 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Nancy Mathwig: Full report at the end of the minutes. Lion Kevin Blank made a motion to accept the report, PDG Marvin Grimm second. MC.

**New Business:**

- **Approval of Bank** – Cornerstone State Bank: Motion to accept PID Maynard Rucks, Lion Janet Knakmuhs, seconded. MC.
- **Approval of Bond for Cabinet Treasurer** – Lion Rick Wagener, Lion Brian Rykhus, seconded. MC
- **Other New Business** –  
 Should Leos be able to receive 1<sup>st</sup> time award. Motion made by PID Maynard Rucks and seconded by PDG Mike Vos to leave this issue up to the Convention Committee. MC

**Strategic Planning Session (send any ideas to Lion Cindy)**

1. Mission: Commitment to community service.
2. Mission: To empower volunteers to serve their communities by meeting the needs of their communities. (PDG Harry Klenke)
3. Mission: To be a leader in supporting the Lions Clubs of our District. (PDG Harry Klenke)

4. Vision Statement:
5. Strengths: Leadership, Growth, Fun, Team Work
6. Other Points given: (PDG Harry Klenke)
  - a. Lions are leaders in getting things done for their communities. In small communities they are the first place people look for help.
  - b. We are unable to consistently recruit new and younger members.
  - c. We have the power to move our clubs forward by giving our members the proper orientation. Our District has developed a good orientation program to help new Lions and refresh our current Lions.
  - d. Many of our clubs have failed to change when new ideas re brought forth. New members leave when they see that we are unwilling to accept new ideas and change.
7. Goals given: (PDG Harry Klenke)
  - a. One goal is to be there for our District Governor to aid him in any way possible.
  - b. A 2<sup>nd</sup> goal is to communicate to people about Lions. As we always say, Lions are the best kept secret. Elevator speeches are great for telling about Lions.
  - c. A 3<sup>rd</sup> goal is to help make our Mid-Winter convention the best that it can be.

**Region/Zone Reports:**

**Region 1** Sandy Schneider – She is pleased to be able to support District Governor Steve this year as Region 1 Chair. She plans on attending the Lions Leadership Forum in November to hopefully learn and be able to bring back vital information to other fellow Lions. The Fall Region Meeting is set for Tuesday, September 13 at St. Victoria Church in Victoria hosted by the Victoria Lions.

- **Zone 1** Lion Connie Rau – She is looking forward to serving during this historic Centennial year. She will be working with all clubs in Zone 1 to mark this year in history by publicizing our Centennial of Lionism.  
 Zone 1 Membership report: 10 active clubs  

Opening balance.	269
Added members.	10
Dropped members.	1
Closing balance.	278
Net Gain.	9

So proud of: Hutchinson for adding 3 new members; Lester Prairie for adding 1 new member; New Auburn for adding 5 new members; Winsted for adding 1 new member

Clubs have started off the year already with activities and monetary donations. Requests have gone out to schedule club visits which will start in September.

- **Zone 2** Lion Brenda Fritzke reported that Zone 2 has 525 members, 7 Lions Clubs and 2 Leo Clubs. Cologne Leos club have about 10 members. The Watertown Leos have about 16 members. The Mayer-Watertown DandyLions have closed up shop. 10 of the members have transferred to other clubs. The main fundraiser has been given to the Watertown Leo's. The projects will be discussed among the Watertown Lions and the Watertown Leo club.

The Watertown Lions have just completed the Rails to Trails project. The Cologne Lions have the Glad Days and Carver County Fair Gates coming up. Waconia Lions Have the Carver County Fair sweet corn booth. Waconia Lions also take the Vets fishing. Come and visit the Carver County Lions booth at the CC Fair. Carver Lions had a huge success with the Purse Bingo and will play it again. All of the clubs are busy with projects this summer.

- **Zone 3** Lion Christy Trutnau – Zone 3 has 8 clubs in our Zone. Zone 3 has 328 members, (this includes 1 member loss for Jordan, 1 member gain for Jordaness). Lion Trutnau is starting to schedule club visits and talks are in place for the Fall Zone Meeting. Clubs in Zone 3 are busy getting things ready for the

new year!

**Region 2** Lion Lori Klein,  
September 22 is Region 2 meeting in St. Peter.

- **Zone 4** Lion Charlette Abbas – At this point in time, Zone 4, with 6 clubs, has 252 members. We are down 2 from the end of June. All club secretaries have completed the July 2016 reporting. Three have already completed one of the 4 Centennial Service Challenges for 2016-2017. All 6 clubs achieved all 4 of the Centennial Service Challenge Projects for 2015-2016. All have done at least one service project in July. A questionnaire has been sent to all clubs to determine if we should have a traditional fall Zone meeting or have a meeting with presidents and secretaries to do some planning for this coming year. The idea would be to encourage more member attendance at the Region Meeting. So far, it sounds like a president/secretary meeting is the way to go. If this is what is decided, the meeting will be held sometime in September. She has scheduled 3 club visits and hope to have the others scheduled soon.
- **Zone 5** Lion Dean Williams – Is waiting to receive a packet from past Zone 5 Chair and will start planning his goals for the year.
- **Zone 6** Lion Brian Rykhus – As of June 30, 2016 Zone 6 has 202 members, up from 201 reported at last Cabinet meeting. The Zone began the year with 206 members. Zone 6 is minus 4 members for the year. Zone Chair goals thus far are 1) to have each Club increase by one net member and 2) to have all Club visits completed by Midwinter Convention. Zone meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 27 in Montgomery. Discussion is ongoing with Clubs as to whether a traditional Zone meeting will be held or a more scaled back meeting with only Club Presidents and Secretaries and the District Governor team, or some combination of this group.

**Region 3** Lion Kathleen Bleckeberg gave the following report of her activities in the Region:

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> I installed the 2016-17 officers for the Alden Lions Club

On June 28<sup>th</sup> I had the inducted 2 new members to the Albert Lea Lakeview Lions

On June 29<sup>th</sup> I installed the 2016-17 officers for the Minnesota Lake Lions (even got a plane ride)

On July 12<sup>th</sup> I helped flip pork patties at the Minnesota Lake stand at Festag (great time)

On July 28<sup>th</sup> worked thru some questions LCI website with the secretary of Minnesota Lake Lions.

Region 3 meeting is scheduled for Thursday Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm (tentative) at the Moose Club in Albert Lea.

Invitations will be going out next week.

As of July 29<sup>th</sup> 2016, Region 3 has a total of 595 members a loss of 3.

All clubs except for Alden and New Richland have kept members.

- **Zone 7** Lion Pamela DeMarce – Made contacts with clubs. Deciding on Zone meeting or Officer meetings. Will send a report.
- **Zone 8** Lion Diane Beckmann – no report
- **Zone 9**

**Committee Reports:** VD Nancy Mathwig facilitated.

**Can Do Canines:** Lion Kathleen Bleckeberg reported that on June 25<sup>th</sup> she attended the Can-Do-Canine Chair Orientation. On June 9<sup>th</sup> Stopped in to pick up boxes of candy bars, brought her Mom with and gave her a quick tour and explained to her what goes on at the main facility in New hope

Upcoming events:

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Annual Woofaroo 1 mile walk fundraiser

Sept 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Tails to Tell

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Fall Graduation

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Fetching Ball Fundraiser

**Centennial Service Challenge:** DG Steve Wasserman: Year-end figures for our District 5M2:

- **57 clubs** reported on projects serving **122,119 people**.
- **44 clubs** reported on projects in all four areas of the challenge and have earned their **four diamond patches** for the 2015-2016 year.
- **54 clubs (84%)** participated in two or more areas, so our District will once again qualify for the District Banner Patch.

**2015 – 2016 Four Diamond Banner Patches:**

Albert Lea	Albert Lea Lakeview	Alden
Arlington	Belle Plaine	Blue Earth
Carver	Chanhassen	Chaska
Courtland	Ellendale	Faribault
Gibbon	Glencoe	Green Isle
Hamburg	Hutchinson	Jordan
Jordaness	Lafayette	Lake Crystal
Le Center	Le Sueur	Mankato
Mankato Sunrise	Mayer Watertown	Montgomery
New Auburn	Nicollet	Northfield
Northfield Cannon Valley		NYA West Carver
Owatonna	Plato	Prior Lake
Silver Lake	St. Peter	Veseli
Victoria	Watertown	Waterville
Wells	Winsted	Winthrop

**Goals for 2016-2017**

- That 100% of clubs in the district qualify for four diamond Centennial Service Banner Patches
- That 50% of the clubs in the district conduct a Centennial Legacy Project

**Constitution & By-Laws:** PDG Harry Klenke reported that the voters at the Multiple District Convention voted to increase the dues by \$1.00 to help pay for the costs of our new Executive Secretary Lion Vicki Violet shadowing Lion Bob Harms. This expense was not original thought about to be as much as it is when the motion was passed by the Council of Governors when a replacement for Lion Bob was brought forward. More concern was thought of about what the qualifications would be and who was to do the interviewing and make the final decision.

**District Activities:** PDG Eunice Rucks reported that the bird pins have been ordered. Snowman pins are available for sale. Also, remember if you have a death in your club, please notify her so that they can be included in the Memorial Service at the District Convention.

**Environmental Photo Contest:** Lion Kate Pattison and Lion Evelyn Grimm - Application will come out in the newsletter.

**GLT:** PID Debra Wasserman. Really would like a 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Candidate; PDG Joan Blank will work with the Orientation process. Goals are as follow:

**1. To make all club presidents aware of the International Theme and District Governor Goals by August 1, 2016.**

**Completed.** As part of officer training, all Club Presidents received this information in a folder prepared by the District Governor and distributed in May 2016. The District newsletter has published the information, and the District Governor has also elaborated on them in his articles. Both will continue to be highlighted during this Lions year.

**2. To establish and have all clubs aware of a District Mentoring Program by August 1, 2016**

**Completed.** As part of officer training, all Club Presidents received this information in a folder prepared by the District Governor and distributed in May 2016. The District newsletter has published the information, and the District Governor has also elaborated on them in his articles. Individual clubs will be contacted as they bring in new members and specifically asked to participate in this new program.

**3. To establish and have all clubs aware of a District “New Member Kit” by August 1, 2016**

**Completed.** As part of officer training, all Club Presidents received this information in a folder prepared by the District Governor and distributed in May 2016. The District newsletter has published the information, and the District Governor has also elaborated on them in his articles. Individual clubs will be contacted as they bring in new members and specifically asked to participate in this new program. The documents are available on the District website, in hard copy from the District Governor, Region/Zone Chairs, and GLT Coordinator.

**Note: Region and Zone Chairs received all documents listed in the above 3 goals.**

**4. To have all clubs file at least one activity report on MyLCI by October 1, 2016.**

As of August, 6, 2016, 29 clubs have reported on 97 activities on MyLCI.

**5. To have at least 4 Lions trained to present the District Orientation Program by October 1, 2016.**

The District’s Orientation program is currently being updated by PDG Joan Blank in consultation with the DG and GLT Coordinator. Possible presenters are being recruited.

**6. To have at least 30 clubs have the District Orientation Program presented at a club meeting by June 30, 2017**

**7. To have at least 40 clubs qualify for the Club Excellence Award for the 2016-2017 Lions Year.**

**8. To hold monthly DG Team Meetings, including GLT and GMT every other month with Liaisons giving reports in alternate months.**

*No meeting in July but email and phone consultations were numerous.*

**GMT:** PID Maynard Rucks reported GMT will continue on what PDG Marv’s year started (plus 23). How will we do that? We put an emphasis on getting new members and do a better job on retaining those that we have. The extension part of GMT has a couple of areas that will be looked at the start new clubs. Thanks to the efforts of the Wondra’s the new club consultants and PDG Marv, New Prague is very close to chartering a new club.

**Historian:** VDG Nancy Mathwig reported that she will be starting up again on putting together the information for the past secretaries and treasurers for each club back to 1994-1995. If anyone has directories going back farther, please let her know so that she can copy the necessary information. She is continuing to highlight historical information in her monthly news article. In addition, she will be sending updated information for various Historian page links to Lion Laura before the next Cabinet meeting.

**Journey for Service:** PDG Mike Vos. Will continue the process that Lion Jack Webster and PDG Gordy Affield followed.

**Jungle Days:** Lion Julie Beckius – 24 clubs registered. Report of event: Hosted by the Jordaness Lions at Creeks Bend golf course in New Prague.

The day started off early with the first cabinet meeting of the new year and under the leadership of District Governor Steve Wasserman. Immediately following the cabinet meeting, golfers for the Jungle Days scramble were checking in, purchasing raffle tickets, greeting fellow Lions, and getting their game faces on. The 18 hole round started with a 12:30 PM shot gun start and concluded with a delicious steak and chicken dinner.

Prizes were awarded for Men's & Women's teams 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin, straightest drive, and skins. Many door prizes and raffle prize winners were also drawn and awarded.

Over 25 clubs from around the district were represented making up 26 total golf teams for the afternoon. DG Steve and Lion Debra served as the golf grand-marshal's and visited with Lions as they drove around the course and found the occasional shady cooler spot to park in for a bit.

Two Lions projects were already named to receive the proceeds from raffle ticket sales. Project New Hope for the Cooler raffle ticket sales and Kids Sight, DG Steve's choice for proceeds from all of the other raffle ticket sales.

**KidSight:** PDG Rick Wagener See August 2016 Newsletter

**LCIF:** DG Rick Wagener reported Great news for 5M2. Our district was one of only 10 in the world to achieve a 100% club participation in LCIF. Total 5M2 contributions for 2015-2016 were \$34,838.20 – an increase of \$3,731.70. Total contributions for 5M were \$326,982.06 – an increase of \$18,051. Worldwide total contributions were \$37,591,534.10 – an increase of \$537,409.49

It has been his pleasure to serve as the LCIF chair for the past 4 years. Please welcome Lion Brian Thies as your new LCIF Chair.

First, let me say a big thank you to PDG Rick Wagener for his hard work and dedication in completing the 2015-2016 Lions Year with 100% Club Participation, thus making 5M-2 one of only 10 districts in the world to be at 100%. Awesome job, Rick, and thank you very much.

Following in Rick's footsteps, my goal for the 2016-2017 Lion's year is to carry forward the 100% club participation. Respectfully submitted, Lion Brian Thies

**Leader Dog:** Lion Shirley Hesperheide reported that "We Did It—Together! Though fundraising is over, we are still working on the renovation of our kennel into a Canine Development Center that will strengthen the training process of our dogs allowing them to develop the skills and characteristics necessary to handle the responsibility of being a guide dog. After all, our Leader Dogs have the immense responsibility of being the eyes of their human companions. Lion Diana will be seeing the school in August sometime. Welcome to Lion Amy as Leader Dog Co-Chair.

**LEO Clubs:** Lion Anna Wickenhauser – SMART Goals for this upcoming year are as follows-

1. Help support the District Leo Clubs and encourage positive communication between myself and the Leo Advisors.
  - a. Club visits
  - b. Monthly communication/Newsletter
  - c. Strongly advocate for club reporting through LCI.
2. Gain 1 more Leo Club
  - a. Mentor and train the new club.

Watertown Leos: Just completed their first Rails-to-Trails community event which raised 1000 for Leader Dogs. Presentation of check and Leader Dog Speaker is Sunday August 7 at 1pm. Are having their Charter Night October 2 at 4pm at Watertown Community Center-details to follow. Off to a Great start!

Cologne Leos: Just did Glad Days and ran a Walking Taco stand. Working on their Sustainable Development Goals and their Centennial Service project. Mentoring Watertown Leos-will be sharing the Carver County Fair Parking Lot and attending the Leader Dog presentation at the Watertown Leos.

Northfield Leos: My fault...didn't reach out to them in time for a report☹ Cabinet Meeting snuck up on me.

Sibley East and West Leos: The word on the street is that they probably will be combining Clubs

due to the schools becoming one. Details to follow...

**Liberty Day:** Lion Denny Hewitt and Co- Chair David Sebesta have talked about the Liberty Day Program a little and will get out areas to cover decided and then will get involved with the Zones and Regions. Lion Denny has ordered 1000 Liberty Day books, so they will have them to distribute when needed. He asked whomever did the nice job on the Liberty Day flyer on the district website, if they could omit AI and add David too that it would be nice, thanks for that also.

**Lions MD5M Hearing Foundation:** Lion Arlene Richter reported that the Board of Trustees Hearing Foundation meeting was held on Friday, July 15, 2016, at the U of M for a full day of trustee training. What a productive day it was with presentations on trustee duties, the Affordable Hearing Aid program, club presentations and fund raising strategies. The Hearing Foundation quarterly meeting was called to order on Saturday, July 16, 2016 at the Ramada Plaza in NE Minneapolis at 8AM. The meeting began with the

**Lions Quest:** Lions Mike and Cathleen Williams reported the following GOALS providing they have good weather and good physical conditions: 1) attend Region and Zone meetings, 2) make Quest Presentations at 10 clubs, 3) find younger replacements for us, 4) have a teacher training next summer.

**Mid-Winter Convention Committee:** Lion Loretta Klenke, Lion Julie Beckius reported that the committee is meeting for planning the 2017 Midwinter convention. Meeting dates are first Tuesday of the month at Ridges of Sand Creek. They hope to keep prices down as much as possible. They are meeting with City Center Hotel on Thursday August 4th to make the initial plans with hotel staff. The Convention theme will coincide with DG Steve's theme for his year. All the clubs are on board for planning our 100th anniversary celebration for 5M2. Our officers are in place, and making a couple of changes with the convention. Opening ceremony will precede the Service of Remembrance in same room. We found out the Hotel does not have the ability to hang club banners. We will present a Power Point in order of charter dates on the Lion's Club's communities. The Luncheon on Saturday will honor our youth and future of Lion's. All youth programs, Write off, Peace poster and Essay contest will be presented and awarded at this time. We will call it our "Youth Award Luncheon". The Leo's will be doing the tail twisting. There will be more information presented at Zone meetings.

**MN Lions Diabetes Foundation:** Lions Kevin Blank and Lion Wanda Breimhorst – Lion Kevin attended the last Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation meeting that was held on July 9th in Minneapolis. This was the first meeting of the year with new trustees in attendance. The trustees continue to work on the calendar fundraiser.

At the last 5M2 Diabetes meeting held on May 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Ney Nature Center, the committee donated \$2,000 to the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation and \$2,000 to Camp Sweet Life. The monies donated to the Foundation will go towards research at the University of Minnesota. The monies donated to Camp Sweet Life will go towards their general budget.

The Diabetes Expo will be on Saturday, October 15th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. I am planning to attend this event.

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual research update at the University of Minnesota will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Lion Kevin is planning to attend all region and zone meetings to again promote diabetes awareness.

**MN Lions Vision Foundation:** PDG Mary Spille and Lion Diana Kroells – PDG Mary and Lion Diana attended the annual Foundation directors training, banquet and board meeting on July 15-16. This is always such an enjoyable time of learning and getting rejuvenated for another year representing the MN Lions Vision Foundation in 5M2 on the Foundation.

The training provided an opportunity to meet the new members of the board and network with the others to see what works best in spreading the good news about all the great work being done at the Eye Bank, Mac Center, Eye Glass Recycling Center, Children's Clinic and the Research Center. All board members were informed of their responsibilities while serving on the board. An excellent tour of the Eye Bank reinforced our commitment to the U of M to provide the necessary equipment so that they may continue to



provide sight to those in need. Seeing the Lion's symbol and a thank you on all of the equipment we have provided to them through club donations makes us very appreciative of the generosity of Lions. Watching a technician slice a cornea down to a "thinner than paper" slice and preparing it for the doctor's surgery is an amazing thing.

This month's issue of the Lion Magazine featured an article about the MLVF donating \$4M to the U of M for equipment in a new surgical center. (Page 11 if you missed it.) Earlier this spring we were saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Donald Doughman, the former medical director of the MN Lions Eye Bank. He served in the position 36 years, He was replaced by Dr. Joshua Hou in 2015.

5M2 Lions Clubs gave away about 25 Helen Keller Awards this past year. We hope this continues forth into the next year. As we do club visits, we will try to encourage clubs in the district to honor a member of the club or a member of their community who has made an impact on their club.

We will be manning a booth at the State Fair along with the MN Lions Hearing Foundation. Thank You to those of you who volunteered to work in that booth on 5M2's day at the fair. If anyone else would like to spend an hour or so in the booth, please stop in on Friday Aug. 26 and I am sure you will be welcomed by the volunteers in the booth.

Thanksgiving for Vision will be held on October 29.

PDG Mary Spille continues to write an informative monthly article for the newsletter. This was part of the new long range plan that was developed last year- that all directors have an article in their newsletters. We also will continue our club visits.

**Newsletter Editor:** Lion Cindy Walters reported that she thinks that things are going good. She has been getting a lot of information but can always use more. All newsletters have come out on time and were full of information. Please continue to send information to her from your clubs, zones, regions, committees, etc. Goals include: getting newsletter out on time; continuing to provide timely information to all Lions in 5M2.

**Project New Hope:** Chair Lion Darlene Wondra attended our quarterly meeting. They had to cancel one retreat for lack of participation. We do struggle with getting veterans to participate in the retreats. We are sponsoring a family fishing trip at the "Ely on the Lake" Veterans camp, which falls in line with our Project New Hope mission. Jack Webster is hard at work with the bike a thon for the 100 year celebration that will benefit Project New Hope.

Just a reminder to wear name tags as much as possible. While going around visiting with people in New Prague, several wanted to know more about Project New Hope because she was wearing her name tag.

**Protocol:** IPDG Marvin Grimm — Does your club have a protocol manual? If not see him. Someone from your club should be in charge of protocol so when Governor visits, or setting up your own meeting, proper protocol is used. Example: Where should the US flag be placed. Club banner? Questions, ask. There is help available. It is on the 5M-2 website.

**Public Relations:** Lion Shirlene Hinden no report.

**Special Olympics:** PDG Joan Blank reported that summer is a slow time for speaking engagements for Special Olympics, but definitely is not a slow time to for Minnesota Special Olympians who have been training hard these summer months. Training takes place year round for many athletes. I was so hoping I could volunteer and participate at the Fall Games August 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, but I will be at our first PDG Reunion in Duluth that weekend.

The Fall Games include Equestrian, Bocce Ball, Softball and Golf, in 4 different locations around the Twin Cities.

Her goal this year is to identify all the Special Olympic teams we have in our district and to promote each one to the clubs that are in the surrounding area. She does have a few speaking engagements already lined up starting in September. She also plans to form another team for the Polar Plunge in February. She is hoping to increase our group from 10 to 15 plungers.

Thanks, DG Steve, for asking her to continue for another year and she looks forward to spreading

the word about Special Olympics.

**Technology:** Lion Laura Maki reported that the start of each new year is always busy with creating the new letterhead, DG visit form, updating the website and creating cabinet email list along with club officer email lists. She will try to get the directory downloaded as soon as it becomes available so all the email lists can be created.

She will also be contacting the Project Chairs to look over their flyers for the website and see if any updating is necessary. Since we have several new chairs, their contact information will need to be added.

She continues to work with clubs on getting an e-clubhouse website or setting up a Facebook page. One of DG Steven’s goals for his term is to get 75% of the clubs to have a presence on Facebook. Following is data on how 5M2 is doing toward this goal: In 2012, she gave a presentation at the Mid-Winter about the e-clubhouse websites offered for free by LCI and also provided some information about the social media site Facebook. You can see by the chart below that the workshop had an impact on the clubs in our district

Year	Clubs with website of some type	Percentage	Clubs with e-clubhouse site	Percentage	Clubs with Facebook	Percentage
2010	20	31.70%	4	6.30%	n/a	
2014	37	57.80%	24	37.50%	11	17.20%
2016	40	62.50%	28	43.75	29	45.30%

So her goal will be working with clubs to get their presence known on Facebook and have someone in the club who will maintain the page so it continues to attract interest. To meet DG Steven’s goal we need to have 19 more clubs join Facebook. We currently have 26 clubs that don’t have a website at all. Nine clubs have both a website and an e-clubhouse site thus the numbers reflected above.

**Write Off:** Lion Christy Trutnau – The topic has been selected: "Legacy of Service" Webster’s Dictionary defines a legacy as “something transmitted or received from an ancestor, or predecessor or from the past.” For nearly 100 years, the Lions have reached out to local communities as well as communities around the world leaving their legacy “We Serve”. How do you want to be remembered? A legacy isn’t always about things. In this essay, write about who you are, how you touch other people’s lives, and the legacy you wish to leave behind.

She will be sending out emails to call Clubs Presidents/Secretaries as well has Region and Zone Chairs in the coming weeks.

**Youth Exchange/Youth Camp:** Lion Jim Walters reported that 29 youth from 16 different countries came to Minnesota this summer. Five were placed in 5M2. The students enjoyed the Camp week very much. As in the past, this is the highlight of their trip to the US. Special thanks to clubs in 5M2 for assisting with Camp Spicer by providing meals and other supports – Mankato Key City, Mankato Sunrise, Chaska, Courtland, and St. Peter; also, thanks to the clubs in 5M2 for the parade of green donations and donations directly to Camp Spicer. Goals include: finding more host families in 5M2, creating promotional material for the project, and continuing to promote the 501C3 Lions International Youth Exchange Camp Spicer Foundation.

**Youth Outreach, LCI Essay Contest:** PID Debra Wasserman reported the **2016-2017 Theme: “A Celebration of Peace”**. This year’s Peace Poster and essay theme is certainly appropriate for the Centennial year of Lions. An email including the contest theme and rules, as well as PID Debra’s contact information, will be sent to Minnesota Teachers of the Blind/Visually Impaired, at the beginning of the school year. The District Governor will be copied on this email. Cabinet members are asked to consider sharing contest information with their clubs and encourage them to seek participants if they know of students who

are eligible. Please be aware that Essay contest information is also included in the Peace Poster kits. PID Debra is more than happy to answer any questions for clubs, Lions, teachers or parents as they learn about or conduct the contest.

**Youth Outreach/Peace Poster:** Co-Chairpersons are Lion Paula Stevens and PDG Sue Bowman. The theme for this year contest is "A Celebration of Peace". Please consider sponsoring this contest. The contest is open to students who are eleven to thirteen years old on November 15, 2016. The Peace Poster Contest Kit (PPK1) is available to order through the Lions Store from January 15 to October 1 for \$11.95. A kit must be ordered for each sponsored contest.

All Club sponsored winning posters must be mailed to Lion Paula Stephens, 313 Louis St E, Cologne, MN 55322 and must be postmarked by November 15, 2016. The 5M2 contest winner and three family members will be invited to the Sunday banquet at Mid-Winter Convention and will be receive a plaque, \$300.00 and their framed poster. Second place winner will receive \$200.00 and third place will receive \$100.00.

Contest information and rules will be sent to Lion Laura Maki for distribution to the clubs. Thank you Lion Laura for your help. Lion Paula is available for club visits, questions and support and can be reached at [stephenspmt@gmail.com](mailto:stephenspmt@gmail.com) or 952-797-4116.

She is grateful for the opportunity to serve in this Cabinet Position and looks forward to the coming year.

PID Debra Wasserman announced that at the International Convention; 2<sup>nd</sup> International Vice President Gudrun Bjort Yngvadottir from Iceland was elected. She will be the 1<sup>st</sup> woman to be the president.

1<sup>st</sup> VDG Nancy Mathwig is looking forward to a great year.

DG Steve Wasserman: Thanks to all who chose to serve on the Cabinet.

**Open Forum: None**

No motion to adjourn, we just ended the meeting as time was up.

Respectfully Submitted – Lion Charlette Abbas (acting secretary for Lion Cindy Walters)

**2016 MD5M Convention Final Report**

We would like to extend a thank you to the District Cabinet who gave us the approval to bid again for the privilege of hosting the Multiple Convention again this year. The 2016 Convention committee was more than pleased with the venue and particularly the staff with whom we worked. Everything went very smoothly with only a few minor issues. We recognize that the speaker system in the arena was far from ideal, depending on where you were seated; however, we do know that, if we are fortunate to host another Multiple at the Verizon Center, we will no longer need to deal with the arena sound system. The new, banquet/theater area is finished and will have ideal sound for all types of venues, including banquets and speakers.

The total number of registered participants for the convention was 547, only two less than when we hosted in 2011. We had 389 at the Saturday morning breakfast, 453 at the Saturday noon Awards luncheon, which coincidentally was the same number we had for Saturday noon at the 2011 convention, 395 at the Saturday evening banquet and 386 at the Sunday morning brunch.

The Friday service project Food for Kidz was again successful, packaging 21,168 packets, and the Northfield Leo project featuring WWII veterans had many, many positive comments. These two projects, along with the recycling of paper products and collection of eyeglasses during the weekend fulfilled Lions Club International's Centennial Service projects: Engaging Our Youth, Protecting Our Environment, Sharing the Vision, and Relieving the Hunger. The Sunday morning tail-twisting by the Leos raised \$600.00, which was donated to Food for Kidz.

The raffle room this year was the responsibility of the MN Lions Vision Foundation and Camp Confidence. They reported income of \$19,070 on the raffle and \$8120.00 for the auctions and red ticket raffle items.

PID Maynard and 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Nancy met with members of the 2017 convention committee on July 22nd to review this past year, specifically the budget. A copy of the final budget is included with this report. Our proposed budget had been \$65,660.00 and we ended up with actual expenses of \$60,347.55. We did not receive the anticipated grant from the Mankato Visitors Center but were fortunate to have the Verizon Center work with us on the rental fees. The Verizon Center is interested in having the Multiple Convention return to Mankato every five years or so.

Hosting the convention as a district gave us the advantage of asking for financial support from both our clubs and the district. A total of \$8250.00 was received from the clubs and cabinet of 5M-2. Those monies made it possible to keep the registration package below \$100.00 as well as assist in paying for costs of the convention. As a result of the total monies brought in for the convention, the committee was able to pay back \$4000.00 to the district. In addition, we have been able to keep \$4000.00 of the monies collected from the clubs as start-up money for hosting a future Multiple Convention. The money has been placed in an interest bearing account by District Treasurer/2016 MD5M Convention Treasurer, Lion Sue Vos.

Respectfully submitted,  
PID Maynard Rucks – Chair, 2016 MD5M Convention  
1<sup>st</sup> VDG Nancy Mathwig – Co-chair, 2016 MD5M Convention