



What's Cook'n in 5M2



June 2010

District Website www.5m2lions.org

Bill Curtis, Editor



Group photo of the new Winsted's Lions Club at their charter night.



DGE Eunice Rucks receiving a progress Melvin Jones pin from PID Maynard Rucks.



Guiding Lion PDG Arden Severson receiving International Presidential Certificate of Appreciation.



International Director Debra Wasserman installs Winsted Lions Club charter officers.

What's Cook'n in 5M2

I have found my last newsletter article to you a very difficult message to write. I have been trying for the last few days to think just what I can say as things have changed since last month.

My change in health is nothing that we would have dreamed of in a hundred years. But I/we have been dealt a hand that we must now play. I never was a very good poker player but I will do the best I can to turn this into a winning hand. However, I do not want to dwell on what has happened to me in the last few weeks. Instead, I want to talk about what Nancy and I have seen this past year throughout our great District.

The District Governor always has goals to set and, no matter how you look at it, the main goal is to leave the district in better shape as you leave office. I think that goal has been accomplished but it would not have been possible without your outstanding service in your communities and your support of district and LCI projects.

There is really no way to talk about everything that the Lions have done in 5M2. Please go back to your monthly district newsletters and review the many projects you have done. I want to tell you that Nancy did a great job sorting out information from the monthly M&A that the clubs sent us. You only saw part of what the clubs were doing. If we listed every activity done by your clubs, we would have had to put together a 30-page newsletter. We thank you so much for sharing your accomplishments in your Lions Club and your community. Be very proud of your accomplishments.

When Nancy and I visited your clubs, you were such gracious hosts and made us feel very welcome. We want to thank you for the time you allowed for both Nancy and me to address your membership. It was our hope to chat with you and let you know that as Lions we appreciate everything you do in your community and to encourage you to invite more members of your community to become Lions.

Many, many clubs improved their membership this past year. In my March article I challenged the clubs of 5M-2 to add 101 new members in the district by June 15th. As of the writing of this article there have been 56 new members added and we are at a plus membership in 5M-2. Congratulations to everyone And I challenge You to continue that growth! I would like to remind each you of our talk about Vanilla Pie Filling and how each and every Lion is the true flavor of their club. Use all the members of your club to assure the success of the club. Without each and



District Governor Darwin Mathwig

Every one of you doing your part as a member of your club, your club will not be as successful as it could be. Please take every opportunity to improve yourself as a Lion and make your community better because you live our motto "WE SERVE".

Two years ago in Mankato after the election I told you that my first priority to you was that I was a Lion first and I was humbled by the opportunity that you had given us. This journey as your District Governor was something that I looked forward to and thanks to you, the Lions of 5M-2, Nancy and I have had a wonderful experience these past 2 years.

Unfortunately several weeks ago, I was given another journey to travel. It is not a journey that I wish to travel but I know that I will not be on this journey alone either. The outpouring of love, prayers and well wishes that you have sent our family means so much to us. Thank you for your support during the past 2 years and for your continued support during these difficult days.

God Bless you all!

District Governor Darwin and Lion Nancy



We Serve

Blooms and Blossoms and...More

Eunice Rucks
District Governor Elect

"Working together, ordinary people can perform extraordinary feats. They can push things that come into their hands a little higher up...a little farther on...toward the height of excellence."
....B.J.Marshall.

I have completed Zone and Region Chair training. The Zone and Region Chairs are anxious to get started and get going on their positions. They will be there to help you and work with you if you encounter problems and issues in your clubs.

I would like to take a short look at Leadership and see what I think that a Leader is: Leaders look into the future and see what it brings. Leaders need to stay focused on the positive! Leaders are people with a plan. Leaders are ordinary people with determination!

Leaders are people who want to belong to something larger and greater than oneself. Leaders often persevere and exceed their expectations. They need to have perseverance which is one step at a time. As said those that say it cannot be done should not interrupt the person doing it. Leaders build momentum which can become a force to be reckoned with. It is a lot like compound interest, it just keeps building and building upon itself.

Remember, all persons can be leaders. It takes time and training. This is a wonderful organization to become a leader in. Lions have the tools with which to become a Leader, with all of our training programs.

This Lions year is coming to an end. It is time to reevaluate your club, look at fundraisers that are and are not working and look at some new projects that you have not done before which need to be done in the community where you live.

My garden is in full bloom right now and I am enjoying it immensely. Enjoy your time in your club with your fellow members.



Ron Wagener and Arden Severson displaying Winsted Banner gift from Duane Jindra.



PDG Rick pins sister-in-law Sue Wagener of the Winsted Lions Club..



ID Debra speaks at Winsted Charter Night.

Presidents and Secretary's:

- Remember to fill out the 100% Secretary form and sent it to District Governor Darwin by 6/15/10. Form was in your 2009-10 Secretary's packet or available on the 2009-10 Secretary's CD.

- The President's Excellence Award is due to LCI by 9/30/10 and needs to be signed by DG Darwin. Form is available on the LCI website by searching President Excellence Award.

Club News

ALBERT LEA CLOVERLEAF No activity this month.

ALBERT LEA LAKEVIEW Held Open House Fundraiser. Ushered for community theater. Donated to food shelf.

ALBERT LEA LIONS Completed highway cleanup. Assisted at Land Between the Lakes Triathlon. Donated 4 scholarships to area high school students and to the Audubon Society for youth education.

ALDEN LIONS Donated to Camp Courage Golf fundraiser.

AMBOY LIONS Completed Amboy Lions Auction dinner collected \$ for "The Dogs". Donations were made to Leader Dogs for The Blind, Can Do Dogs, and International Hearing Dog, Inc. Donation to: Compassion Child, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Friendship Ventures and Blue Earth County Fair.

BELLE PLAINE LIONS Completed Belle Plaine City Wide Clean Up.

BLOOMING PRAIRIE LIONS Donations to: Steele County Food shelf, Friends of the Library, Boys and Girls Club, School For camp read project, and 6 scholarships to Seniors.

BLUE EARTH LIONS Conducted 50th Annual Athletic Awards Banquet. Donated to 4 students for scholarships at Athletic Banquet.

BROWNTON LIONS Donations to: McLeod County Dive Team, GFW Booster Club; Susan G. Komen, Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk; City of Brownton/Summer Enrichment Program.

CARVER LIONS Completed Pork Chop Dinner. Donated to Operation Smile.

CHASKA LIONS Completed Highway 212 clean-up. Volunteered at St. Paul Saints game at Athletic Park. Donated to Chaska Invitational Jr. Golf Tournament.

COLOGNE LIONS Installed new flags and hung banners in the City of Cologne. Awarded two scholarships to high school seniors. Received an Honorary FFA degree from Belle Plaine FFA Chapter. Conducted a door to door campaign in Cologne about Lions and amateur baseball club's upcoming event.

COURTLAND LIONS Donated to Nicollet County Relay for Life and Courtland 4-H Club.

ELLEDALE LIONS Donated to local CERT/CARE. Gave flag to ellendale original site at cooleyville.

FARIBAULT LIONS Completed MSAB Faribault Lions Goal Ball Tournament.

GIBBON LIONS Donated 5 scholarships.

GLENCOE LIONS Donations to: Scholarships to graduating seniors, Diabetes log books to Glencoe Regional Health Center, Glencoe City for downtown flower baskets.

GREEN ISLE LIONS Completed interclub vist to Le Sueur.

HAMBURG LIONS Donated 4 new commercial grade picnic tables with benches & 3 ceiling fans for the activities building at Bi Centennial Park. Had water, water heater & sinks installed in food building at BiCentennial Park.

HUTCHINSON LIONESS Had presentation from Bev Bonte from Common Cup Ministries. Donating to Dollars for Scholars - Hutchinson High School and to Common Cup Ministries.

HUTCHINSON LIONS Completed Cash Wise cook out fund raiser. Presentation 2 scholarships at Hutchinson High School. Donated to MS walk, Friendship Ventures, Habitant for Humanity, Lions Park, BirchWood Hospise House, Meals on Wheels, Dollars for Scholars.

JORDAN AREA LIONS Sponsored and worked at the Bloodmobile. Adopted a City Planter. Helped sponsor 7 people in the Walk for Cancer.

LAFAYETTE LIONS Donated to Lafayette Band, Lafayette fire dept and sand for ball field.

LE SUEUR LIONS Completed School Patrol Picnic. Donated to City of Le Sueur Safety Camp, Giant Days 5K Fun Run/Walk and Youth 1/2 Mile Sprout Route and LS/H Community Education for Book Buddies.

LESTER PRAIRIE LIONS Donated to: National Honor Society, School Smart Board Fund, City of Lester Prairie/Central Park Project, Adult Training & Rehabilitation.

LONSDALE LIONS Awarded 4 scholarships. Donations to: Lions Park garden, Church festival, Villages of Lonsdale wish for wheels, Holy Cross golf tournament, \$50 Can-Do Canines, and Early Childhood Coalition.

MANKATO KEY CITY LIONS Walked 2 mile part of Highway 169 south that we adopted many years ago.

MANKATO LIONS Donated two sight grants.

MANKATO SUNRISE LIONS Clean-up of our sponsored highway.

MAYER-WATERTOWN DANDY Completed Adopt-a-Highway. Donated to Can-Do-Canines, Diabetes - Camp Needlepoint, Ridgeview Foundation - Golf & Taste Celebration.

Club News

MN LAKE LIONS Hosted "Jazz in the Park" with Maple River H.S. Jazz Band.

MONTGOMERY LIONS Donated to Montgomery-Lonsdale Early Childhood and Camp Winnebago.

NEW AUBURN LIONS No activity this month.

NEW MARKET ELKO WEBSTER Held Lion/son banquet. Donation to support local diabetic child's participation in Camp Needlepoint.

NEW RICHLAND LIONS Presented Lions High School Scholarship.

NICOLLET LIONS Donated to Nicollet Public School for Field Trips. Awarded 6 scholarships.

NORHTFIELD CANON VALLEY Awarded 2 high school seniors scholarships.

NORTHFIELD LIONS Held annual Pancake Breakfast.

NORWOOD YOUNG AMERICA Held Pork Chop Dinner and Mary's Wish Furniture Drive.

NYA WEST CARVER LIONS Donated to The Harbor for "Mums for Mom" flowers/pots.

PLATO LIONS Donated to The Cure Starts Now Event-(Brain Tumor Cancer).

PRIOR LAKE LIONS Donated to Minnesota Mile - Leadership Program.

SHAKOPEE LIONS Held Steak Fry. Donated to Scott County Library.

SHAKOPEE VALLEY LIONS Completed Adopt a highway project. Donated to Relay for Life.

SIBLEY EAST SR HIGH LEOS Sold Mini donuts at track meet.

SILVER LAKE LIONS Held Bike - A - Rama. Donated to Holy Family Catholic School.

ST PETER LIONS No activity this month.

STEWART LIONS Sponsored Senior Dining for one week.

VICTORIA LIONS Donated to Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk and Victoria Girl Scout Troop 10555.

WACONIA LIONS Donated to Vietnam Memorial being built in Waconia.

WATERVILLE LIONS Donated to Camp Confidence, Senior Citizens, MN. Eye Bank-Baseball, American Cancer Society, Books for kids., Heifer International.

WINTRHOP LIONS Completed Community birthday calendar sale. Donated to: Leukemia-Lymphoma Association and to Winthrop Chamber of Commerce - co-sponsor youth event during city celebration.

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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.

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We Serve

Journey for Service 2010

By Lion Jack Webster
Chairman Journey for Service

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere "Thank You" to all the Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs in District 5M-2 for the support they once again gave to our annual Journey for Service. The clubs came through once again in great fashion, and in spite of the economy the Journey once again went over the \$15,000 mark in contributions by our clubs. A total of \$15,176 was collected in donations, with 100% of the clubs in the District contribution to this popular and profitable fundraiser!

Governor Darwin and I enjoyed a great sendoff on the trip, starting at Faribault with a great breakfast hosted by ID Debra and Lion Steve Wasserman. This breakfast has become a tradition over the past few years and is greatly appreciated by all involved. Leaving Faribault promptly at 8:00 a.m. with the Faribault contribution in hand we headed out for a tight schedule over the next 2½ days. We stopped in Waterville and picked up my wife Edna who decided to join us on the trip this year, mostly I think to see what made this Journey so interesting that I looked forward to it so much each year. Some think she may have heard that Governor Darwin might need a chaperon since his bride Lion Nancy would not be joining us until midway through the second day.

It was a rather uneventful trip the first day with good traveling weather and thus we were able to keep to our tight time schedule. We did miss contact with a couple of clubs due to unforeseen circumstances, miscommunication or time lapse but was a successful beginning to another enjoyable Journey. We completed the first day with 5:00 pm stop at Courtland.

Up bright and early Thursday morning we met with the Lafayette Area Lions at 8:00 a.m. by several members of the club. Lions Mark Dick and Bob Wise were on hand as they have been for almost each of the 20 years I have been serving as chairman for this Journey. In fact they presented me with a picture of a much younger trio of Lions (Mark, Bob and myself) on bicycles back in 1981 when we participated in another Journey that year, which was a fundraiser for the Lions 5M Hearing Foundation (and brought back many memories). This photo now occupies a place of honor in my Lions' Corner at home.



Edna Webster joined Lion Jack Webster on the Journey for Service for 2010 and 20 years ago Edna went with Jack on the first Journey for Service.

I noticed during the first hour of our trip that day that Governor Darwin seemed rather fidgety but dismissed it as a result of our tight schedule. It increased as we left Winthrop, through our meetings with the Leo Clubs and then climaxed as we neared Arlington. Leaning forward in the seat he looked anxiously as we neared Arlington and then it dawned on me! This is where we were due to meet Lion Nancy who is to join us the rest of the Journey. I am not sure if he was more happy to see Lion Nancy or to realize that we now had the famed GPS to ensure safe and direct travel on the remainder of the Journey. (I don't believe she even unpacked it however as they were both familiar with the area of our Journey). Needless to say Lion Nancy's expertise came in very handy as we encountered the high water between Chaska and Shakopee and she safely navigated us on a new (to me) route across the Minnesota River into Shakopee and on to our final stop for the day at Prior Lake.

PDG Bill Curtis and the Glencoe Lions once again met us at noon and gave us a nice lunch. Once again PDG Gordy Affield played the perfect host at the conclusion of the second day!

Friday was our short day, both in time and miles, starting with Jordan and continuing on around to our final destination at Northfield. We managed to stay on schedule, even with a refreshing coffee/cookie break at New Market with the NEW Lions as Lion Laura Vogel always has fresh homemade cookies waiting for us!

Your support this year brings the grand total to nearly \$300,000 you have contributed over the past twenty years!

Thanks again and I look forward to seeing you all again next April.



PDG Rick Wagener pinning Winsted Charter President (and brother) Ron Wagener.

New Members May 2010

Hamburg Lions Club

Christopher Lund

Lake Crystal Lions Club

Thomas Norman
James Pockrandt
Jack Ruppert
Myron Sandstrom
David Vetch

New Richland Lions Club

Harvey Radke

Norwood Young America Lions Club

David Sprik

Shakopee Lions Club

Adam Valiant

St. Peter Lions Club

Anders Ringdahl

Victoria Lions Club

David Baston
Charles Peglow
Timothy Schooler

Waconia Lions Club

Jeff Boser
Jamie Christense
Steve Munter

Watertown Lions Club

Ryan Hartshorn
Dave Mandt
Dan Stigsell

Winsted Lions Club

Margaret Kritzeck

Attitude of Gratitude

Sue Bowman

VDGE

This past month, with the heartbreaking news of our dear friend DG Darwin's health, I felt a need to look at how to give and receive joy every day. As Nancy said, it is so easy forget the joy of walking comfortably and breathing easily. Expressed another way:

To educate yourself for the feeling of gratitude means to take nothing for granted, but to always seek out and value the kind that will stand behind the action. Nothing that is done for you is a matter of course. Everything originates in a will for the good, which is directed at you. Train yourself never to put off the word or action for the expression of gratitude.

-Albert Schweitzer

Springtime makes it easy for us to promote an attitude of gratitude with all the sights and sounds of new life in nature. We may be struck by the truth of the amazing "no strings attached" gifts of nature, and feel gratitude flood effortlessly from us.

The essence of gratitude is the feeling that we have enough, but ingratitude leaves us in a state of deprivation in which we are always looking for something else. An attitude of gratitude gets us off the treadmill and out of the rat race and we develop a true appreciation for what we do have. If we concentrate on what we do not have, we will never have enough.

DG Darwin and Nancy are sharing with us the wonderful gift of gratitude. They are grateful for the time they have together with family and friends, for the medical staff that is providing the very best care for DG Darwin, for the gift of life, love and the humor.

One sure way to increase our attitude of gratitude is to daily mentally go over a list of things you have to be grateful for. Another method is to write out on paper a list of things you are sincerely grateful for. The success key to both of these activities is to do them daily, even if only for a few minutes.

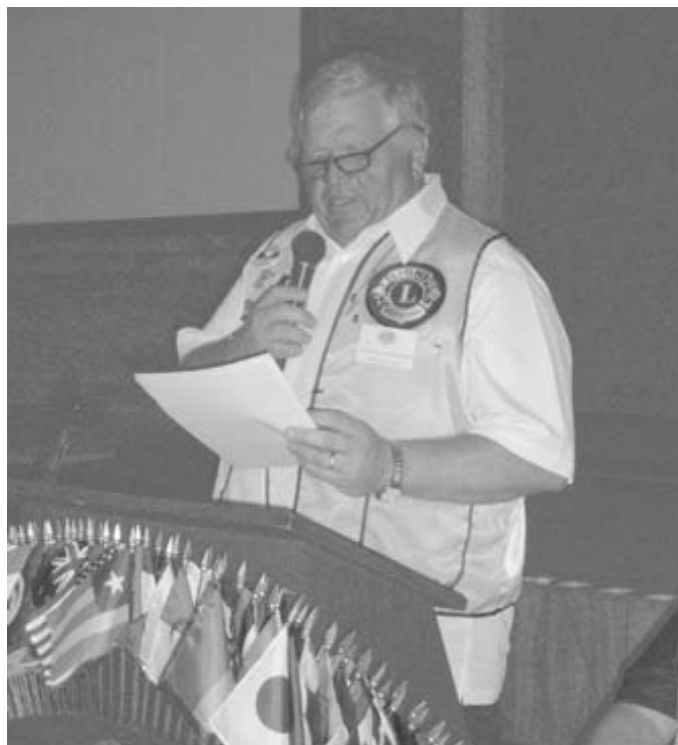
As my year as "the first second vice district governor" comes to an end, I have a sincere sense of gratitude for all the great Lion leaders in 5M2. Thank you Lions for being part of my extended family.

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5M-2 DISTRICT GOVERNOR
306 4th Ave, NW
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Arlington, MN 55307



Minnesota Lake Lions after Jazz in the Park 2010.



Winsted Lions Club President Ron Wagener addresses group.

Governor Darwin's Chili

A big **THANK YOU** to the clubs of District 5M-2 for your generosity in supporting Governor Darwin's two projects this year by purchasing his gallon of chili, which was auctioned off at each club visit. To date, the Lions Clubs and/or individual Lions members of District 5M-2 have donated \$6813.75 for the chili. \$3688.37 was designated to Project New Hope and \$3125.38 was designated to Spring Point Project.



Lion Nancy Mathwig handing out Darwin's famous Chili at the 5M2 cabinet meeting.



We Serve