

## District 5M-2 Cabinet Meeting

July 28, 2024

5:02 p.m. Call to Order – IPDG Christy Trutnau at the Gathering in St. Peter, M

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 2<sup>nd</sup>VDG Chuck Toltzman

A Moment of Reflection was led by 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Shermayne Cross

IPDG Christy Trutnau – explained the purpose of Protocol and then established protocol.

IPDG Christy Trutnau officially passed the gavel to DG Lisa Kaufmann. DG Lisa then presented IPDG Christy with a plaque and pin in recognition of her year of service.

DG Lisa Kaufmann welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Roll Call – Lion Pam Koenen – There are 34 cabinet members and 14 guests for a total of 48 in attendance.

Introduction of Guests – DG Lisa Kaufmann – Lions who brought a guest introduced those in attendance.

Motion by PDG Anna Wickenhauser, second by PDG Dianna Kroells to adopt the agenda. Motion carried. The minutes of the May cabinet meeting were emailed to the cabinet by secretary Lion Pam Koenen.

Motion by PDG Joan Blank, second by Lion Emmy Koch to approve the report as emailed. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was emailed by treasurer Lion Sue Vos. Motion by PDG Kathleen Bleckeberg, second by Lion Meg Tibodeau to approve the report as emailed. Motion carried.

DG Lisa Kaufmann presented information from the recent Council of Governors meeting.

- Meeting on 7/20/24 in St. Cloud after the Sheehan Welcome Home event.
- PIP Brian spoke at length about the election process.
- Mission 1.5 – IP Fabricio – one new club in Q1 (each DG)
  - ID Bert Nelson – each DG to sponsor two new Lions
- DGE training is expanding - DG Lisa is unable to attend, but is working on identifying a Lion to attend on our behalf
- GoG GAT Summit and Chicago GAT Summit
  - o RLLI (November) & ELLI (March) – Zone chairs are asked to find at least one person in their zone to attend at least one of these
  - o Webinars – several on a variety of topics – check the website
  - o Marketing Grant – working with a rep from each District to get this submitted.

DG Lisa Kaufmann share additional information on the following:

- IP Fabricio Oliveira Theme & Message – “Make Your Mark”
- o District Goals - see attached, some set by LCI, some “strongly recommended”

Membership YTD

- LCI 1.35M
- 5M-2: +30

Membership Data is reviewed for the last 5 years (that does include COVID)

Leo Clubs with no members are being Termed – (disbanded) Sibley & Shakopee Leos Clubs are termed, Chaska, TBD Leos clubs are counted toward club total when reporting Service

Leadership – all zone chairs have been trained, GLT is up to date with reporting

LCIF – asks DGs to lead by example. DG Lisa will be making a minimum personal donation

\$270 for the July Meeting (\$7/member at the meeting), each cabinet member is being asked to make a personal donation to LCIF.

Club Visits – DG team approach (DG 60%, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Shermayne 30%, 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Chuck – 10%)

Clubs have been divided among the team. Hoping to have all visits done by 2024.

All clubs will have a visit within a 3 year rotation (at the outside). Scheduling is flexible

And the process will be evaluated at the end of the year.

Zone Meetings – Revitalize and restructure. All club officers are being invited to the traditional president/secretary meeting. Fall zone meetings will be paired up. PCC Glenn has created a chart to assist with the pair up.

Zone chair meeting 7/31/24 – will be discussing structure of zone meetings, what should a fall and spring meeting look like – input from Zone chairs.

#### o Cabinet Meeting Format

- Try something new
- Have fun getting the work done
- Cabinet reports due Friday prior to the cabinet meeting
  - o All will not be shared, but there will be time for feedback if needed
- District Goals – Red, Yellow, Green (progress)
- SWOT – post it note parking lot at each meeting
- Budget
  - o There is a draft of the budget.
  - o Working session in September to finalize for approval at November Cabinet meeting
  - o Equipment – cordless microphone \$199.99 (will pair with our sound system)
    - PCC Brian indicated that there is money in the technology budget to purchase – IT chair has the authority to make the purchase if it is within budget.
  - o District Convention
    - $\$1.40 \times 2200 = \$3080$
    - Requesting an additional \$.40/member (\$880)
    - Total - \$3960 (round to \$4000??)
    - Should be discussed at the September Budget meeting and a recommendation to the November cabinet meeting
  - o
- Working sessions
- 5M-2 Website & Calendar: updates have been made and the calendar is being utilized by the District Leadership team.

- District Newsletter: Lion Cindy Walters is now the newsletter editor.

DG Lisa Kaufmann shared information on a Zone Chair Training Grant - \$500 grant that will be available for 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Shermayne to do training before the end of the year.

### **Old Business**

LCIF Grants – PDG Anna Wickenhauser indicated there are no updates on the Shakopee Lions Grant and the collaborative grant by the Cologne, Victoria and Carver Lions for the area Food Shelf.

### **New Business**

**Approval of Bank for Lions Year 2024-2025:** Lion Deb Koehnen motion, second Bleckeberg to set Cornerstone bank. Motion carried.

**Approval of Bond for Cabinet Treasurer:** Motion by Lion Rose Thies, second by Wanda Breimhorst to approve the bond for the cabinet treasurer. Motion carried.

**State Flag:** A new Minnesota state flag needs to be purchased. PCC Thies indicated there is money in the budget to cover that expense and that a separate motion is not needed.

### **Call for LCIF Grants in the District – PDG Anna and Lion Rose Thies**

PDG Anna is the multiple district coordinator for LCIF grants. Yesterday, PDG Anna visited Waterville and was able to meet with the city administrator. Due to immediate donations, it was initially decided to not apply for a \$10000 emergency grant. There is a \$20000 Recovery Grant. Spent 3 hours touring Waterville and meeting with displaced families. Several Lions clubs have assisted, a 5M-2 Disaster Relief fund has been established. There are 103 homes in Waterville affected by the flooding. The need is for people with skills, and for building materials. Some services and resources will be leaving Waterville and there is still work to be done. Donations still be accepted to Disaster Relief Fund and to LCIF.

Waterville Disaster Grant – PDG Anna is going to talk with PIP Brian Sheehan tomorrow about which grant is the best to apply for.

**5M-2 Disaster Fund –** PDG Anna Wickenhauser & Lion Sue Vos - \$4,180 has been donated so far and a pledge of up to \$5000 from another club. This is not just for Waterville – for anyone who needs help that was affected.

**5M-2 District Convention** - Dates for the 2025 convention are February 14, 15 and 16. Convention kickoff meeting this week. Zone 2 is responsible – 2 members from each club. Co-chairs – Lions Greg and Colleen Fletchers from the Chanhassen Lions.

**Call for 2VDG Candidates –** Lion Deb Koehnen announced her candidacy for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor.

**SWOT Analysis –** The DG team summarized the SWOT analysis activity that was part of the 2024 Mid-Winter Convention. Highlights are:

**Strengths –** Many members volunteer, variety of activities, knowledge, strong leadership,

**Weaknesses** – recruitment, limited service projected, member retention, close-mindedness

**Opportunities** – communication, short videos on pillars, close-mindedness, new town = new clubs, support new Lions

**Threats** – town dying, close-mindedness, best kept secret, other strong service organizations, other priorities

This information will be used as the leadership team works towards their goals for 2024-2025.

#### **Zone Reports – 2VDG Chuck Toltzman**

**Zone 2** - Zone 2 has 9 clubs all are doing well. Fall zone meeting will be scheduled soon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lion Don Wickenhauser

**Zone 6** - Zone 6 is in good shape ---as of May we have a growth of 5 members --most reports are in-- I got to visit Sunrise Mankato club for breakfast in June and I have contacted Zone 5 to set up a meeting for our combined zone meeting--busy time of year for most clubs!

Zone 6 Chair, Lion Rose Ann Valdez

**Zone 8** - Looking forward to second year as Zone Chair and hoping for improvement in job performance. Zone 7 Chair Lion Margie Jacobson and I have sort of started initial planning of the fall Presidents and Secretaries meeting.

Lion Ebenezer Howe

#### **Cabinet Reports – 1VDG Shermae Cross**

##### **Can Do Canines –**

##### **NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Open House - Saturday, August 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Open houses are held quarterly at Can Do Canines' campus in New Hope. Potential clients, volunteers, or anyone interested in supporting the organization is invited to attend to learn how an assistance dog changes the life of a person with a disability. Registration is not required, and all are welcome to attend. Lions members are especially invited.

Can Do Woofaroo! - Saturday, September 14, 2024 - Festival and Fundraising Walk

This outdoor family-fun event includes live music, a dog costume contest, dog-centric vendors, assistance dog demonstrations, activities, prizes, a one-mile walk, and more! Get involved with this engaging event by attending, creating a fundraiser, starting or joining a team, donating to an individual or team, making a general donation, or volunteering at the event. Thank you to our participating Lions sponsors, totaling \$ 32,756.87!

|                             |     |                     |
|-----------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| Ramsey Lions Club           | 5M7 | \$ 10,000.00        |
| Lions District 5M2          | 5M2 | \$ 956.87           |
| Bloomington Lions Club      | 5M5 | \$ 5,000.00         |
| Robbinsdale Lions Club      | 5M5 | \$ 100.00           |
| Clear Lake Lions Club       | 5M7 | \$ 1,000.00         |
| Spring Lake Park Lions Club | 5M7 | \$ 5,000.00         |
| Scandia Marine Lions Club   | 5M6 | \$ 1,000.00         |
| Lake City Lions Club        | 5M1 | \$ 150.00           |
| Osseo Lions Club            | 5M5 | \$ 2,750.00         |
| Northwest Tonka Lions       |     | \$6800              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                |     | <b>\$ 32,756.87</b> |

**Capital Campaign at Can Do Canines**

☑Can Do Canines is embarking on a capital campaign in 2024 to add to their existing New Hope campus, including additional training space, offices, kennel space, dedicated volunteer space, and a Puppy Center! Stay tuned for more information.

Can Do Canines Merchandise

Exciting news for all our fashion-forward supporters! Our online store, is now continuously stocked with some incredibly unique designs, including the much-loved “Anatomy of a Can Do Canine” and our fresh-off-the-drawing-board “Proud Supporter” styles. These items come in a variety of apparel types, colors, and sizes—even for the kids in your life.

Lion Ruth Ann Marsh

**District Activities** - I continue to encourage Lions clubs to forward information to us regarding anyone who has deceased in their clubs since January 15, 2024. Send information to Lion Rose at [5M2lionsdistrictactivities@gmail.com](mailto:5M2lionsdistrictactivities@gmail.com) or PDG Eunice at [King70@frontiernet.net](mailto:King70@frontiernet.net).

I would like to thank DG Lisa for allowing me to serve on the cabinet.

PDG Eunice Rucks

**Environment - Environmental Photo Contest**

I’m currently working on the flier for the 2024-2025 Environmental Photo Contest, and plan to have it sent to the Newsletter and the clubs of 5M2 by the beginning of September.

**Other Items**

I am always looking for new and/or innovative environmental club projects. If your club is taking steps to minimize your impact on the environment, please take a moment to let me know what you’re up to. Your project might even be featured in an edition of the Newsletter!

Respectfully submitted

Lion Diane Hesse, 5M2 Environmental Chair

**GLT** - I was able to complete one Lions 101 session at the club level so far this year.

5M-2 has a candidate for 2VDG for the 2025-26.

Reminder there are Lions Portal Training Videos available for all Lions to use to navigate the new Portal. Lions should reach out to me if there is a task they need assistance figuring out.

Thanks,  
PCC Glenn Kaufmann, 5M-2 GLT

**GMA - 2024-2025 GMA Champion Goals**

1. I will coordinate a bi-monthly Zoom meeting with the GAT Team to brainstorm ideas and discuss how to support DG Lisa's goals for increased membership and forming a new club District 5M2. This will require working with DG Lisa to find a bi-monthly date that works into her schedule, along with the DG Team's schedule.
2. I will coordinate a monthly or bi-monthly Zoom meeting with the 5M2 Zone Chairs to form a support group with the DG Team. This will provide a venue to share ideas, help with zone meetings, and to discuss keeping the zone clubs in good standing. I will attend the "Rise to the Pride" 5M-2 Club Officer Orientation in May to speak with the Zone Chairs to ask their advice on whether to host monthly or bi-monthly Zoom meetings. The first Zoom meeting is taking place on Wednesday, July 31.
3. I would like to work with the DG Team and GAT Teams to come up with a plan for a "recruiting month" in spring of 2025.
4. I will attend 50% of the Multiple GAT meetings.
5. I accept DG Lisa's goal as a cabinet member to recruit one new member to the Nicollet Lions Club.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Lion Joan Blank, Global Membership Approach Champion

GMT – PCC Brian is looking for a good orientation activity.

**GST** - We are excited to kick off the 2024-2025 Lions fiscal year with a district wide fun activity focused on key service and business actions each club can do, and in a lot of cases, already does! DG Lisa, Dist. Activities Chair Lion Rose, and GST Chair Lion Julie put together a BINGO Challenge for all clubs in 5M-2 to participate in. The Bingo Challenge includes the focus goals of our new International Lions Club President, Hunger and Childhood Cancer.

There are several options to 'get a Bingo' to earn a ticket that will then be entered into a drawing to be held at the Mid-Winter Convention (see the bingo card for details). Bingo cards will be available in the August 5M-2 Newsletter as well as at Cabinet and Zone meetings this summer/fall. The winning ticket earns a meal for the club prepared and served by the DG Leadership team!!

Coming soon, also watch for details on district wide service projects that can be held at the Zone meetings this fiscal year.

Lion Julie Beckius

**Historian** - I would like to thank District Governor Lisa for appointing me to the position of District Historian for the 2024-2025 Lions Year.

My goals for the coming year include:

- Replacing and updating the trifold display of the MD5M Hall of Fame inductees from District 5M-2.
- Update and expand the "Archives" page of the 5M-2 Website.
- Provide a Historian table at the Midwinter Convention.

PDG Steve Wasserman

**Journey for Service** - This year's Journey for Service was held on May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. District Governor Christy, Sue and myself completed our trek through the District meeting with Club representatives collecting monies to support our foundations.

We put on 802 miles and collected \$14,400. Our expenses were \$ 243.13 which is less than most Years because it worked out to be home each night, not needing a motel. This leaves a net profit of \$14,156.87. We again had 100% participation and want to thank all the clubs for their support.

Immediate Past District Governor Christy has designated the monies as follows:

- Project New hope \$ 1,000
- ML Vision \$ 1,200
- Childhood Cancer \$ 1,000
- Diabetes \$ 1,000
- MN Lions Hearing \$ 1,500
- Can Do Canines \$ 956.87
- Kids Sight \$ 1,000
- LCIF \$ 6,500

PDG Mike Vos, Journey For Service Chair

**Leader Dog** - Leader Dog programs are designed to assist blind and/or visually impaired with lifetime changes to increase safety with travel and independence. Currently 1 in 10 people whom are blind use a cane or a dog. Leader Dog is committed to increase cane and Service Dogs use for the visually impaired. Leader Dog wants to increase those numbers.

Currently Leader Dog is looking for Puppy Raisers. Also, their Sponsor a puppy program is open for Clubs, and or Lions to support.

They have also added Spanish speaking services in their programs.

Respectively Submitted

Lion Loretta Klenke & Lion Lori Kurtz

**Liberty Day** - Election year is a good time to study the Constitution and Declaration of Independence. Believe we are ready to handle the rush. Have 2,000 copies of Pocket Constitution and Declaration on hand with more to arrive in September. If your club participates in distribution of Pocket Constitutions with local schools, September 17, being Constitution Day, is an ideal date for the distribution. Lion Ebenezer Howe and Lion Chuck Venske

**Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation** - The MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation held its board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday July 17 th . Lion Tom McCarthy has retired from the board as the Treasurer. Lion Tom O'Brien from Duluth will take over as Treasurer.

The Hamel Rodeo was once again a success. Since partnering with the rodeo back in 2022, it has proven to be a highly successful venture. This event could be the Foundations big event and opportunity for publicity. By September we should know the amount we have earned from this event.

It was discussed about transfer of club credits. This refers to when a club disbands and has earned credits for a Believe Award still on the books. Where should the credits go? It was adopted by the Trustees that the transfer of MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation Believe Award credits would be allowed to transfer to the district of the folding club and at the discretion of the folding club.

There is a new form for the Family Match Program. The form needed to receive a matching grant is the form that has revision 07-19-2024 on the bottom right corner. If you have any other form, the matching grant will be delayed. Because where to email the form to has changed to the Foundation Secretary Lion Colleen Patterson. Not to the past Treasure Lion Tom McCarthy.

The Financial committee approved another \$40,000 to the University of Minnesota Masonic Hospital and presented it to the board of trustees for approval. Passed. The clubs of 5M-2 were very generous this past year ending in June they donated \$23,485.00 for the year. Total donations since the year 2018 the district clubs have donated a total of \$104,628. They donated to six families for six matching grants this past year.

For the year 2023-2024 the Foundation had 28 matches for a total of \$14,000.

Lastly, I would like to welcome Lion Debbie Trebiatowski to the MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation as a new Trustee.

I might be a little bit prejudice, but the MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation has the best District Governor Liaison this year. Welcome District Governor Lion Lisa Kaufmann!

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Chuck Toltzman

Lions Diabetes --- change to the STRIDES activity – more info to come in the newsletter

Lions Hearing Foundation – trustee training on July 22, board meeting on July 27. Obligation to the bone lab is almost complete. \$125,000 pledge toward a mobile screening truck for underserved areas in Twin Cities and rural areas. Please sign up for the State Fair. Thank you for donations to the parade of green and the DEFEAT walk. Looking to purchase portable, hand held screening devices to go along with Kidsight – possibly one for each district.

DEFEAT Walk - \$76,000 – about \$30,000 short of goal. June 7 at ARboreteum and Bemidji



**Lions Diabetes Foundation** - We have some exciting news as we hope to unite the Strides campaign with diabetes month moving forward. This will be a new opportunity to challenges other club members, family members, or other clubs as a whole to participate in helping to bring diabetes to an end. Strides is an opportunity to challenge each other to improve your health or life styles through friendly competition!

I wanted to remind all the clubs in our district that Lion Mary & myself are available to present at your club! Please email us at [Jobedc@hotmail.com](mailto:Jobedc@hotmail.com) (Lion Steve) or [mmeyer66@yahoo.com](mailto:mmeyer66@yahoo.com) (Lion Mary). If you are interested in a shirt pictured below, please email me your size as I need 20 plus shirts to order them. The cost is \$25.00 for sizes Small to XL. Please add an additional \$2.00 for size 2XL-3 XL and \$4.00 for 4XL. This is a fundraiser for the foundation and \$5.00 from each shirt goes to the Diabetes Foundation.

Special thank you to all the volunteers that help at Camp Sweet Life on July 28th. What an awesome way to help these children with Diabetes!

Last but not least. We have a new back drop for the fair for all three foundations together Diabetes, Hearing, and vision. Please make sure to stop by and see it. If you want to volunteer for the Diabetes Foundation at the fair please sign up using the kink below

### **Signup Link**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B45A9A72AABFE3-45000339-2024#/>

Together we will find a cure!  
Lion Steve Jobe

**Lions Kidsight** - Kidsight is starting to gear up for the upcoming school year. Some clubs and schools are already signed up for September and October. We have a tent if somebody has an outdoor event where they would like to do Kidsight. Remember we now also screen kids up to the age of 16. Those early teen years are very important in a kid's life. They have enough other issues with not being able to see properly since their eyes change with puberty. Glasses or contacts may tough for a kid in these teen years, but if we can help them we should. Some clubs have programs with their local School Districts to help the kid's with getting glasses. But let us not forget that our program started as a 6 month to 6-year-olds project, so let's keeping on bugging the daycares and preschools in the area our clubs serve. Don't forget the HeadStart programs in your counties. So please get those dates to Lion Carrol or PDG Harry as soon as you get them. We currently have 4 cameras in our District and possibly could use NEW camera if not in use. These are good times for multiple clubs in our District to work together on a project. We hope to have a training in the eastern part of the district soon as the Northfield Club is getting going in their schools and N.E.W. club members are showing interest in learning more about the program.

I want to Thank Lion Margie Jacobson for her commitment couple of years. It has been a great

partnership with Lion Margie in our District. I hope to continue that relationship with Lion Carrol.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D45ADAC2FA7F58-48608689-state#/>

SEE ABOVE LINK TO VLOUNTEER AT KIDSIGHT AT THE STATE FAIR.

5M2 Kidsight day is the second Thursday of the Fair. This is a great event to promote Lionism to the State of Minnesota. That date this year is August 29<sup>th</sup>. We currently have 18 slots open that day. We are in dire need of volunteers. One does not need to know how to operate a camera, since there are also Greeter and Escort positions. Lion Carrol and I are in need of volunteers. The State Fair and Kare 11 appreciate this program and provides us with FREE state fair tickets for admittance. These tickets will be sent by SNAIL mail once they are provided. Usually within the week or two of the State Fair beginning.

Respectively Submitted,  
Lion Harry Klenke & Lion Carrol Oraskovich

**Long Range Planning** - We as Lion's must continue to plan things to help our communities. Times have changed and we need to change with them. We need to reassess what our clubs are doing and what new needs our communities have. Individually we need to think of ideas that may work for our clubs. Many Clubs have lost their local newspapers, so planning needs to be done on how to get club projects and advertising out to your local communities. Hopefully some other the publication source arises to assist with communications. Facebook and 5M2 newsletter may be other avenues to promote our clubs' projects.

Reminder to clubs to attempt to get new members and attempt a new project. Zone meetings attendance is great place to steal other clubs' ideas. Our clubs need to plan in advance when they are working on projects like doing Kidsight, because other clubs may want to use camera's and some may want to get started with Kidsight and need help.

Respectfully submitted PDG Harry Klenke

**Midwinter Convention** - The 5M-2 Midwinter Convention will be held February 14 – 16, 2025 at the Country Inn & Suites in Mankato, MN. A request has been sent to the Presidents and Secretaires of the clubs in Zone 2 to ask for two volunteers from each club to be on the convention committee. The first convention committee meeting is being held on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Legion in Waconia.

Our international guests for the convention are ID Hans and DG Shari Neidhardt, from Kansas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lions Greg & Colleen Fletcher, Convention Co-Chairs

**Newsletter** - I am happy to again be involved with the newsletter. I am working with DG Lisa to change up the format a little bit. Please remember to send items that you want included in the newsletter to: [5M2newslettereditor@gmail.com](mailto:5M2newslettereditor@gmail.com). Lion Cindy Walters

**Project New Hope** - We had our biannual training on July 12<sup>th</sup> in St Cloud, MN. The half day training was attended by all the chairs from each district. We had a speaker from the VA talk about the Caregiver Retreats and what it's like to attend one. We had a spouse of a veteran

speak to us, Tara (she also attended our Mid-Winter) talk about what it's like to attend a retreat. The rest of the training was talking about ways to better communicate our purpose. We ended that night with a campfire, which is something they do at the retreats.

On Saturday July 13th we had our Board Meeting at the Stand Down in St. Cloud, MN. We are working on finding better ways to market ourselves at the State Fair and other engagements. We will be at the State Fair on Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 , we are there that one day. We are preparing and planning for the retreats coming up:

October 4th - 6th, 2024 at Good Earth Village near Spring Valley, MN.

December 6th - 8th , 2024 at Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

May 2nd- 4th 2025 at Lake Shetek near Slayton, MN

If you know of a veteran who would benefit from attending one of these retreats, please reach out to me.

IPDG Christy Trutnau, Project New Hope Chair 5M-2

**Special Olympics** - I will be the Chair person for the Special Olympics this year. I am really looking forward to coming to the clubs and speak to you about this wonderful program. I will be reaching out to the clubs to set up club visits. One of my goals is to get as many people from 5M2 to do the Polar Plunge to help raise money for Special Olympics. More info to come on that.

Your Special Olympic Chair Person, Lion Emmy Koch

**TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation** – I am thrilled to report that a letter has been sent to 5M2 clubs' presidents and secretaries that states: On behalf of Past International President Brian Sheehan and Lion Lori Sheehan, I am proud to announce that the TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation (TSCF) is now accepting 50/50 matching grant applications up to \$3,000 for the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

The Board agreed to award grant funds of up to 20% of the existing foundation balance, which is roughly \$25,000 for this coming year. This means TSCF should be able to award up to approximately eight \$3,000 grants this next Lions year. The Board voted to award 2 grants up to \$3,000 each quarter in this Lions years.

To apply for a grant, the club will need to reach out to me for a grant application. They also are able to go to [teamsheehan.foundation](http://teamsheehan.foundation) to download the application form. The guidelines/criteria on the application form. Once filled out, the form should be returned to me, and I will forward it on to the TSCF Review Committee which is comprised of Mike Molenda, Cheryl McKitrick, Larry Winner and Bruce Beck. TSCF grant applications should be submitted prior to July 1, October 1, January 1 and April 1. The grant applications will be reviewed in a timely fashion.

Respectfully submitted,  
PDG Joan Blank, TSCF 5M2 Director

**Technology** - Updated the 5M-2 website with the new DG team information, important dates, monthly newsletters, and general clean-up and organization. Posted pertinent information to the 5M-2 Facebook and Instagram accounts. Emailed a few notifications about 5M-2 functions as well as the monthly newsletters. Trying to find a way to download all the contact information for the district instead of having to do it one club at a time. I have been working with the new Lions Portal to learn it and have helped some help other clubs with their transition to the new Lions Portal. I still need to reach out to more clubs to determine what sources of technology they are using and work to share these with all the clubs in the district.

Lion Todd Schansberg

### **Youth Activities:**

#### **Lions International Peace Essay Contest - "Peace Without Limits"**

In late August I will post essay information including the rules and entry form, on a List-Serve used by Teachers of the Blind or Visually Impaired. The DG Team will be copied on the posting. I will also seek other opportunities to promote the contest to groups working with students in the eligible age group. I am happy to answer any questions from Lions, clubs, teachers or parents. If Cabinet members become aware of a club submitting an essay please let me know so we can be sure everyone is in the loop.

PID Debra Wasserman, 5M-2 Coordinator

**Peace Poster** - I sent out emails to secretaries & presidents of 5 clubs that have not participated in the Peace Poster Contest in the past few years. All of these clubs do have schools in their club area. I am encouraging clubs to try it for at least one year in schools or youth organizations in their areas.

The theme for 2024-2025 is "Peace Without Limits". I am encouraging all Peace Poster chairpersons in their clubs to please read the rules carefully and submit only qualified entries to the district in order to cut down on posters that cannot be judged due to not following the rules.

Thanks to DG Lisa for asking me to serve as the Peace Poster Co-Chair, along with Lion Tricia Gieseke for this Lions year.

PDG Diana Kroells

**Write-off** - This year's theme is based on the theme of International President, Fabricio Oliveira "Make Your Mark." Essayists will write about how "Everywhere we serve, every time we give, we bring kindness and compassion, change and hope." Zone chairs and club presidents have received an email with information regarding the contest, judging criteria, and essay-resume form. A club contact will reach out to the local high schools. Once again Zone chairs will receive essays from participating clubs in their zone and select one winner from each zone to be forwarded on to the Write-off chair for final judging. Deadlines will be communicated with the letters to club presidents and zone chairs. I'd like to thank all zone chairs and club presidents in advance for their willingness to participate in this competition.

Lion Deb Koehnen, Write-off Chairperson

**Youth Exchange** - We just completed Camp Spicer. We had 19 students attend from 13 different countries. There was one student hosted in 5M-2. PDG Anna and Lion Monkey Wickenhauser hosted Eloisa from Brazil. Thank you to them. Lions Cindy & Jim Walters

**Comments:**

**BINGO Club challenge – will be in newsletter.**

**The Gathering – normally charge \$50/hour, we were able to have for 3 hours with the purchase of 2 hours.**

o PID Debra Wasserman

- Acknowledges that the changes being initiated are causing some feelings, but that we need to be openminded. LCI has been encouraging DG teams to split up club visits for many years, but it has not been tackled by any of our PDGs. It is ok to be uneasy, times are changing and teams are being asked to do different things than 20 years ago PDGs need to be openminded and supportive of the current DG team. Changes are being initiated for the good of the District.

The make up of the International board is 34 reps from 8 areas. In the past the US. has had as many as 13 reps, currently 11. In 2027, the number will go to 8 directors from the US. This is a significant drop from past years. There will be less directors to visit districts. This is why membership growth is being stressed – representation is tied to membership

IP will be the guest at the Multiple district convention – April 24, 25, 26 in Bloomington

**2VDG Chuck Toltzman**

Well, here we go. The start of a journey for the next three years. I know I am ready for it. But are you ready for me?

This year I am part of the GMT team along with PCC Lion Brian Thies. This will give me a lot of insight into the district membership and how every club is doing with membership. The District Governor team will be working very closely with all the clubs in the district to succeed this year. This is not just a GMT Team job or a GAT Team job but a job of all the clubs in the district. When the clubs succeed the whole district succeeds. We as a cabinet are here to help them succeed.

I am the district Administrator for the year. I have already helped with a couple of situations where they could not get into the new portal. Clubs that did not have their new officers listed by the first of July have been locked out of the portal. If any cabinet member learns of a club needing help, please have them contact me at [circlehay@gmail.com](mailto:circlehay@gmail.com) or they can text or call at 701-269-0950.

I will be helping the District Governor with club visits this year also. All the club Secretaries and Presidents have been notified by the District Governor of who to contact for a club visit.

On the 20th of July Lion Linda and I attended the Council of Governors meeting in St. Cloud. Afterwards we attended the Youth Exchange Student& Banquet. After an incredibly good taste of about fourteen diverse cultures. We listened to some incredibly good presentations of each of these students&#39; country. It was interesting to learn from the young students how each country operates and the interests that they have as individuals. We have some very promising times ahead with these students at the helm. They will be our future leaders.

The future of the youth exchange student program will need to have more donations from the districts and from the clubs going forward. It is costing increasingly more these days to take these students around Minnesota and give them a feel of our state. They are also looking for more families to help with housing the students. Please help spread the word.

Thank you for letting me be your 2nd Vice District Governor this year.  
I am here to help you succeed.  
“We Serve”

**1VDG Shermayne Cross – Directory did go out. There will be another update with changes, please make sure your information is correct. If you do not receive the Directory, contact 1<sup>st</sup> VDG or DG.**

**Change is hard – feeling overwhelmed by Zoom meetings. Looking forward to visits. Made a 3 year commitment to the rotation schedule.**

o DG Lisa Kaufmann – Portal – is a bit of a struggle. Have been updating the website with Lion Todd. There is now a calendar on the website. Also updating award lists.

Newsletter – the portal does not allow Lion Todd to pull emails for everyone in the district. DG Lisa has updated – this will need to be done once a month. DG will work with zone chairs and club secretaries to keep this current.

Constant Contact – how the district sends secure emails.

Thanks to Lion Rose Thies for grilling burgers and setting up supper.

District Hunger -- new cabinet position – Lion Patty

District Governor Award – PDG Lion Anna Wickenhauser – work with flood relief

U Rock – Lion Rose Thies -

Adjournment

6:53 – Motion by PDG Bleckeberg, second by Lion Tibodeau

**DG Lisa Kaufmann**

## **Lions Year 2024 – 2025 Goals**

### **Membership**

Our district commits to the membership growth targets set by LCI. By the end of the 2024 – 2025 Lions year:

- Add 205 new members
- Charter 1 new club

For Lions year 2024 – 2025, reduce the full Lions year drops by 10%.

Utilizing the club health assessment to identify those clubs with fewer than 15 members, utilize GAT to work with those clubs to increase membership to a +2 for the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

50% of the District Cabinet will induct a new Lion during the 2024-2025 Lions year.

Remove the Leo clubs with no membership from myLCI by end of second quarter of the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

### **Service Activities**

Each Lions club in District 5M-2 will report at least one service activity by the end of third quarter of the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

By the end of the Lions year 2024 – 2025 conduct a district wide service project.

### **Leadership Development**

The 2024 – 2025 officer and zone chair training will be restructured into a half-day college of learning to be completed by May 31, 2023.

30% of the club officers and 100% of the zone chairs will attend the 2024 – 2025 college of leadership.

GLT will enter all District 5M-2 learning into LCI by the end of the quarter in which the learning occurred.

### **LCIF**

DG Lisa Kaufmann will make a minimum personal donation of \$1000 to LCIF by the end of the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

DG Lisa Kaufmann will encourage each member of the district cabinet to make a personal donation to LCIF by the end of the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

DG and LCIF coordinator along with the District 5M-2 cabinet will ensure our district Lions individual LCIF donations will increase by 10% and club participation will remain at 100% for the 2024 – 2025 Lions year.

LCIF donations from 5M-2 will increase 10% over the previous Lions