**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**MAY**

1st—Zone 4 mtg at LaPorte Lions
3rd-5th—Multiple Convention
7th—College of Leadership at Crosby
8th—College of Leadership at Bluffton
13th—Nisswa Anniversary
13th—DG visit to Merrifield
16th—DG visit to Brainerd Lakes
18th—Aldrich Lions Fundraiser at the Yesteryears in Verndale
20th—DG visit to Northland Remer (hopefully no snow to cause another rescheduling)
22nd—DG visit to Brainerd Lions
24th—Graduation of Grandson in Battle Lake
28th—Ottertail Lions Induction of 12-14 new members
I am hopeful that when you read this newsletter Spring has arrived but I certainly won’t hold my breath. Today we have had sunshine, rain, snow and some wind, although, we really do need the moisture.

We have waited for a long time for the arrival of spring, flowers, green grass, baby animals, birds chirping, frogs croaking and the trees budding out. In Lions, we just sent seven Lions from our District to our Regional Leadership Institute in Mahnomen over this past weekend. I have already received a Thank you from one saying “Wow, what a great weekend”. He is excited about the newness of Lionism he has come back with and wants to start sharing it with his club and hopefully with our District. He is already talking about pushing and prodding others in his club to think about going in 2015 when the next Leadership Institute will be held. Keep that in mind. It’s not too early to start thinking about and planning to attend the Leadership Institute in 2015.

We will soon be having our College of Leadership, May 7th in Crosby at the St. Joseph’s School and on May 8th at the Bluffton Community Center. We have been wondering if the title of College scares some Lions away. This is not college classes; it is a time when you can listen, learn, ask questions about the offices for our clubs and/or anything else about Lions. Some clubs are having a difficult time getting members to step forward and fill the positions of officers in their clubs. This shouldn’t be such a struggle each year for them. This is a time for a member to learn and grow in Lionism and remember why you joined Lions—to serve in a great organization. Where would your community, District and even the World be without our Lion clubs? All of you are doing a GREAT Service. We have had several clubs celebrate their anniversaries of years of SERVICE. Let’s keep it up. We hope to see all new and returning Lions come to the College of Leadership.

Have you met my challenge of sending some money to your local school to help a child that may be missing out, buy a book at the book fair or from a book order? Even if the book orders are all done for this year there is always next fall and these children will always be grateful to you Lions for a new book of their very own. Remember what Dr. Seuss, author of children’s books says, “The more you read, the more things you’ll know. The more that you learn the more places you’ll go.” Let’s instill love of reading into the hearts of all children.

Until the next time, let’s keep those ovens hot and bakin’ another pan of rolls for the extra energy we all need to go out and ask someone to join our GREAT organization and to help us Serve others. If we don’t ask that friend, neighbor or relative to join they will never get the chance to say YES N.O.W.

District Governor Margaret Van Erp
I would have never thought that when I write this article for the May newsletter, I would be looking out the window at the snow that still remains in our yard. Sure hoping that when I write the June article I will be seeing green grass when I look out the window.

Lion Pat and I have been having a great time going to the Zone meetings, connecting with old friends and making new ones. I ask that the Zone Chairs get their Zone meetings booked as soon as possible, so I can get them in my date book. I have already been booking club visits, so this whole Governor thing is becoming a reality very quickly!

We just completed our final DG training in the cities and now we are excitedly awaiting our trip to Germany for the International Convention, where I understand there is more training. It is rumored that our Multiple of 5M is so “up” on training that it will be review for us. That is one thing about MD5M, the opportunities for learning are endless. Conventions, Regional Learning Institute, Zone Meetings, College of Leadership, etc. are all wonderful ways to learn more about Lions and the good we all do. After being a Lion for 28 years, I thought I knew all there was to know, but I have been surprised at the information I continue to absorb. Encourage your members to take part in all of these sessions, and their passion for Lions will continue to grow.

April is also a time for environment. Perhaps think about planting trees again. Our club again went to the elementary schools and presented each student with a tree. The smiles on their faces were priceless. We hope to teach them that trees are an important part of our world and that they should consider what our world would be without them.

Look for the information in this newsletter about the College of Leadership, the MD5M Directory and the 5M9 Directory. Please pay attention to the deadline for the directories and RSVP to me or DG Margaret by May 3rd for the College of Leadership. We would like to know how much food to prepare for the supper.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the COL and as I become closer to being your DG, please know that if there is anything I can do for you, let me know.

Bis nachsten monat (German)
Until next month
DGE Don Hendrickx

CLUB REMINDERS

⇒ Register your club members for the College of Leadership (info on page 5)
⇒ Order your 5M9 Directory $4 and/or MD5M Directory $14 (ordering info on page 6)
⇒ International Dues increase on July 1. (info on page 6)
⇒ Send your notices of upcoming events and stories/pictures from past events to Lion Tracey Buhl (5m9newsletter@gmail.com) and to Lion Jim Johansen (jkjohansen55@gmail.com) to be posted on the District Website.

ABOVE
DGE Don with 5M4 DGE Skip Timmins practice playing their “golden” kazoos at the DGE Training held in Minneapolis.
Lots of training and lots of fun!
Here we are in the month of May, according to the calendar. Is it Spring yet? On the bright side, snow and rain will make for green grass and colorful flowers.

Zone Meetings for the Spring have finished. PDG Ken and I were busy attending these meetings and all were very informative. It is so wonderful to hear about all the service projects and/or fundraisers our clubs are undertaking or have finished. There are so many different ideas. Thank you, Zone Chairs – you worked hard to organize these meetings – Great Job!!

In preparation for our new 2013-2014 Lions year, club elections have been held, PU101 reports have been sent to DGE Don and now one more thing to do. Attend the College of Leadership. Two sessions have been scheduled at two different locations to accommodate all Lions in our District. This information is listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Plan to attend and encourage your club members to attend with you. It will give them the chance to study the duties various club officers and, hopefully, accept a position when asked in future years. COL sessions are for your information and most important to attend.

Our clubs in 5M9 recycle used eyeglasses. May is “Recycle for Sight” month at Lions International and we are already doing that. We donate our used eyeglasses to our LEHP program for distribution in Mexico. So many people there have benefited from our donations.

Has your club taken part in International President Wayne Madden’s “Reading Action Program” yet? If not, there is still time to do something. You can donate funds to your local school for the purchase of books or you can read to school children. There are many things to be done to promote reading in our schools and our lives. It’s hard to believe there are still people who cannot read and are missing so much.

The USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum will be held September 19-21, 2013 at Overland Park, Kansas. If you are interested in learning more in Lions, this is the event to attend. You will be amazed at the varied list of seminars from which to choose. This is a wonderful event for broadening your knowledge base in Lionism. Think about going to this one as it is within a reasonable driving distance for us here in MD5M.

How have your plans for increasing membership been progressing? Have you implemented a plan of action? There is still time to accomplish your goal of getting a new member or two inducted into your club for this Lions year. Go for it!

Until next month. . . . .

1st VDGE Gloria Anderson

Thought for the month: “When you stop to think, don’t forget to start again?”

BELOW: Aitkin-Riverboat Lion Joy Janzen is shown performing diabetes screenings at the Aitkin Sports and Commerce Show on March 9 & 10. There were 95 participants screened with 6 referred to their physicians.

ABOVE: Aitkin-Riverboat Lions Lynne Kellerman and Chere Bruss play bingo with residents at a local nursing home. 8-10 Lions assist in our monthly visit providing prizes and treats. The favorite prizes are stuffed animals.
Twelve Who Shine

Sandy Johnson of the Baxter Lions was recently recognized by Allied Charities of Minnesota for work that she does week in and week out for the Baxter Lions, with a 12 Who Shine Award. Sandy goes above and beyond representing our Baxter Lions and the communities where we live with her dedication and leadership. Sandy will be featured on the ACM website and was presented with a $100 check for a charity of her choice. This was presented by ACM Executive Director Al Lund. All persons recognized throughout the year will be featured at the 2013 Convention in Rochester. We all know people that work with no desire for payment or expectation of recognition. We would like to take this opportunity to show Sandy that we know how much she gives of her time, talents and money by submitting her as one of Twelve Who Shine Congratulations Sandy.

PICTURED BELOW
ACM Executive Director Al Lund, Sandy Johnson and Baxter Lions President Gary Kub (background)
Dues increase:

A resolution to increase International Dues to be phased in over two years was voted and approved by the membership at the International Convention in 2011. The Second half of the dues increase will be effective July 1, 2013.

Dues will be billed as follows:

**MEMBERSHIP DUES.**

(a) Semi-annual membership dues of twenty-one dollars and fifty cents (US$21.50) denominated in U.S. dollars shall be levied on each member during the 2013-14 term, beginning July 1, 2013. The Second half of the dues increase will be effective July 1, 2013.

For family membership programs as adopted by the International Board of Directors, the following dues shall apply:

1. The first family member, Head of Household, shall pay semi-annual membership dues as provided in sub-section (a).

2. Subsequent qualifying family members, not to exceed four additional qualifying members per household, shall pay semi-annual membership dues equal to one-half (1/2) of the total amount paid by the first family member as described in subsection (c)(1).

3. For student membership programs as adopted by the International Board of Directors, eligible student members shall pay semi-annual membership dues equal to one-half (1/2) of the total amount of dues as provided in sub-section (a).

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<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Annual Membership Dues</th>
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<td>US$43.00</td>
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International Dues do not include District or State dues. Semi-annual dues are billed as follows: July–December and January–June.

You may contact Accounts Receivable and Club Account Services for billing questions @ membershipbilling@lionsclubs.org

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**LITPC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The 5M Pin Traders Scholarship Committee met and went over the Scholarship Applications for the $2,500 Scholarship that is given out annually to 1 recipient. The 2 names that were chosen from Multiple District 5M were: Kendra Lynn Eichten from Wabasso, MN whose father, grandfather and 2 uncles are members of the Wabasso Lions Club AND Mackenzie (Mac) Robert Lorence from Maple Grove, MN whose father and grandfather are members of the Maple Grove Lions Club. These 2 applications have now been sent on to the committee at LITPC. The winner will be announced in June or July.

This Scholarship is open to ALL graduating Seniors who are a Leos Club member, or the child of, grandchild of, great grandchild of a Lions member. Application forms can be obtained from the LITPC web-site and need to be turned in by March 1. www.litpc.org

Lion Bill Guthrie
President of 5M Pin Traders
LAKE PARK LIONS

LAKE PARK, MN – On Monday, April 22, 2013 Mayor Lion Aaron Lee Wittnebel and Municipal Liquor Store Manager Lions Phyllis Sagen presented a donation to the Lake Park Lions Club on behalf of the City of Lake Park.

During the past Saint Patrick’s Day weekend, Mayor Wittnebel was a guest bartender at Lake Park Liquors for a Happy Hour to benefit a local charity. Municipal Liquor Store Manager Phyllis Sagen was able to allow other staff during the happy hour to attend her Assistant Manager’s wedding. Volunteering his time, and also attending a required state alcohol server training with approval of the Lake Park City Council, Mayor Wittnebel was able to raise $275.00 in tips for charity.

The Lake Park Lions Club met at 6:30 PM, April 22 in American Legion Post 181 located in downtown Lake Park. Mayor Wittnebel and Manager Sagen presented the donation on behalf of the City of Lake Park to the Lions Club President Jim Johansen at that time. Mayor Wittnebel hopes that the money will further the mission of the Lions Club in providing college scholarships to Lake Park-Audubon students and help efforts with diabetes research, amongst the many valuable missions of Lions Club International.

Vergas Lions and FHS Robotics Team join forces

At the Vergas Lions April 9th meeting, Lion April Anderson presented Frazee-Vergas HS Kaotic Robotics Advisor, Andy Paulson a donation for $2740. The Robotics team recently assisted the Vergas Lions with a calendar raffle and this donation is the profit from that raffle. This 1st year team qualified to compete in the World Competition at St Louis April 24-27. Pictured L-R: Kyle Lehmann, Lucas Jepson, Lizzie Golkowski, Zach Nelson, Andy Paulson, Lion April Anderson, Jeff Mayfield & Avery Golkowski.

PUBLIC RELATIONS TIP

Many presentations are available on DVD from Lions Clubs International for use by clubs or individual Lions. One of those DVDs is *It Takes a Lion*. With the Lions’ renewed brand, we celebrate our heritage while presenting ourselves in a fresh and modern way. This video captures the Lions brand and core messages and is a new way of talking about and promoting Lions to the world. To order this free DVD, e-mail the Audio Visuals & Events Department at pr@lionsclubs.org.
50 years of Parkers Prairie Lions Smelt Fry

The 50th Anniversary of the Parkers Prairie Lions Smelt Fry saw over 1,300 patrons come through the door to get their fill of smelt. The first Smelt Fry was held May 7, 1964 at the Parkers Prairie Fire Hall. It was a one-day event with admission fees $1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children. The menu continues to be all you can eat smelt, salad and buns with lemonade. Potato chips were once a side but have been replaced with French fries. It is now held in the Parkers Prairie Event Center.

All proceeds from the event support local community projects. Plan to attend next year’s event.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

As a LION, I’m sure we all share the same Goal, and that is to “SERVE” our communities, whether that be Locally or Globally.

But, maybe you are ready to assume a Leadership role. How do you know what that all involves, whether it be for your Club, Zone, District, or even International? Give me a call and we can discuss that, or I am available for a Club Presentation, or maybe a Leadership Orientation/Seminar.

Also, remember to have your Club apply for the GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARD, as well as the Club Excellence Award.

PDG Jim Arvidson / GLT
Increasing Athletic Opportunities for the Visually Impaired

THE MINNESOTA MILLERS BLIND BEEP BASEBALL PROGRAM IS ASKING FOR YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT

We realize that you receive many requests for donations each year and it’s hard to pick and choose where to commit your efforts and dollars. This year, please consider donating to the Minnesota Fighting Lions Beep Baseball Team. Your contributions will help visually impaired athletes play the competitive sport of beep baseball, and develop life skills such as leadership and teamwork.

About the Minnesota Millers:
We are composed of blind or visually impaired men and women from Minnesota who love to play beep baseball. The team has been in existence since 2010. The team is affiliated with the National Beep Baseball Association (NBBA), a league comprised of teams from the U.S. and Taiwan. Beep Baseball began and has its origins in the Minnesota area, and has been a organized sport since September, 1975 when the first World series took place.

What is beep baseball?
Beep baseball (also known as beepball) is similar to the traditional game of baseball, but has been slightly modified. Sixteen inch beeping balls and four foot tall buzzing bases are used during games. With these minor adaptations, visually impaired athletes can participate in highly competitive tournaments with teams from across the United States each year.

Beep Ball is an exciting and competitive sport:
Just like in regular baseball, the level of athleticism is superior. In beepball, good athletes can have batting averages above .500. Additionally, it is common to see players run the bases - which are 100 feet from home plate - in six seconds or less. Beep Baseball began here in Minnesota in 1976.

Beep Baseball helps build life skills:
In addition to being an entertaining recreational sport, beep baseball helps players develop life skills. Beep baseball is one of few team activities available for the visually impaired. As such, beep baseball enhances a player’s cooperation with others, perseverance, independence, confidence and leadership skills.

We Need Your Help:
The game requires specially adapted equipment. For example, a 16” softball fitted with the rechargeable beeper costs $31, and depending on how hard it is hit may not last an entire game. A set of buzzing bases costs $300.00. Furthermore, because we are the only program in Minnesota we must travel across the country to play in tournaments. These factors increase the cost for the players to participate.

We’re asking for your support:
Every penny helps offset the cost for the 2013 season. Additionally, we are preparing a souvenir program for contributors to this great cause. To read more about the program please see the enclosed brochure.

Your help will make a big difference. Your participation will make it possible for local athletes to represent Minnesota in the 2013 NBBA Beep Baseball World series and other regional tournaments. The Minnesota Millers are a division of the Minnesota Fighting Lions 501(C)3 organization. Thank you for considering the Minnesota Millers Beep Baseball program.

www.mnmillers.org
What’s Bakin’ in 5M9’s Kitchens

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Lions Children’s Hearing Center

2013 Second Annual Walk
D-Feet Hearing Loss

June 8, 2013

University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Join us on June 8, 2013 at the beautiful University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in Chaska, Minnesota, as we walk to “D-Feet Hearing Loss” through beautiful trails of flowers, ferns, hosta’s, flowering trees and water features. Celebrate the ability to “hear” the birds sing.

Entrance to the Arboretum is free of charge when you participate in the walk. Enjoy a day designed with fun for the whole family in mind. Face painting for all ages as well as an assortment of children’s games. Following the walk enjoy a light lunch and root beer floats!

Don’t miss this chance to “celebrate” hearing as we come together to raise money for research, diagnostic equipment and implement programs to improve our Lions Children’s Hearing Center experience. Appearance at the walk and a donation of $25.00 gives you an event t-shirt!

Hope is realized the first time a deaf child hears the sound of a parent’s voice. It is renewed whenever a hearing-impaired adult can return to a sound-full and active life. Each time the wonder of sound is restored, we Touch a Life With Hope. More details? Visit www.5mhf.org

Please submit stories and photos on or before the 15th of each month for entry into the following months newsletter. When possible, send photos in a jpeg format and articles as a word document. Use pdf format only when the other options are not available. Contact me for assistance or with questions.

Thank You
Tracey Buhl