WHAT'S BAKIN' IN 5M9'S KITCHENS

Margaret VanErp 5M9 District Governor

Volume 16, Issue 7—JANUARY 2013 **Check out www.lionsof5m9.org and www.lionsmd5m.org**

Message from President Madden

Dear Club and District Leaders,

As I draft this message, it occurs to me that we are now at the mid-point of my year as your international president. It also means you are at the mid-point of your year as district governor or club president.

If you look at a glass of water filled to the mid-point, do you see a glass half-full, or a glass half-empty? The answer to that question could define how you spend the rest of your year. Fortunately, Lions tend to be eternal optimists, with no task too great to overcome. We see the glass as half-full. But we go further than that. We are always striving to add more water.

To date, we continue to fill our clubs with new members. We have added 84,506 new members and 589 new clubs so far this year. Why is that important? We must be ready at all times to answer the call of service. As we saw last month, disaster has its own timeline. Hurricane Sandy struck the East Coast of the United States, devastating coastal regions. Lions in the affected areas mobilized within hours, providing immediate, and now long-term relief. And Lions throughout the world responded with donations to our LCIF disaster fund. Our growing ranks of community minded members allows us to not only respond to disasters, but also to respond to the everyday needs of communities throughout the world, as only Lions can.

Members - both current and new, is the focus of the 2nd Club and District Pit Stop. You should be reviewing the "How Are Your Ratings?" survey and identifying areas of improvement (and sharing the results with club members and district governors). This survey of members is not meant to be a pass/fail proposition. Instead, it is an opportunity to assess the needs of your members, and make changes accordingly. The mark of a great leader is the ability to respond positively to constructive criticism. This is also a time to ensure members are well-informed regarding club and district activities, and encourage involvement. Involved members are happy members, and happy members are productive. It is particularly important to hold a compelling induction ceremony for your new members. Get them started on the right track by demonstrating how important they are to your club. After all, they are now LIONS! For club presidents, this is also the perfect time to assess where your club stands on reaching the achievement of the Club Excellence Award. Are you on pace to the 2nd Pit Stop or do you need to step on the accelerator pedal? Review the 2nd club and district Pit Stop now before it ends in December.

Everywhere I go, I meet Lions who are proud of their service - who humbly acknowledge the positive change they are making in the lives of the underserved. And I am extremely pleased and honored that Lions have embraced the Reading Action Program (RAP). In just the first 5 months, more than 21,000 reading, literacy and education activities have been reported. Through RAP, Lions are implementing reading projects, increasing literacy rates and making educational material more accessible. Initially the program was to be for one year as part of my international theme; however, due to the tremendous response by Lions the International Board of Directors recently approved the extension of the program for at least a decade. This will enable resources to be better directed, increase Lions capacity to serve and maximize impact in the area of reading and literacy for many years to come.

Lastly, please remember as you read this message we are in the midst of our 3rd Global Service Action Campaign - "Relieving The Hunger." Over a billion people worldwide face hunger on a daily basis. It is no longer a problem only in developing nations. There are people in every nation that face food insecurity. Many children go to school hungry, which in turn affects their ability to learn. We can help.

As we come to the end of our calendar year, and halfway through our Lions year, I am happy to report we have accomplished a great deal. But there are still challenges and opportunities ahead. Remember it isn't too late to qualify for the Club Excellence Award and District Governor Team Excellence Award.

So I leave you this month with one question - is your glass half full or half empty?

Sincerely, Wayne A. Madden, IP

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2013

4-6— 5M9 Mid-Winter Convention
9—New York Mills visit
11-13—5M5 & 5M1 Conventions
14—Parkers Prairie Pride visit
16—Pillager Lions visit
18—Callaway Special Evening
18-20—5M10 & 5M7 conventions
19—Hewitt Wild Game Feed
23—Hill City Lions visit
25-27—5M4 Convention
26—MN Lions Vis Foundation Mtg, St Cloud
28—McGregor Charter night & visit

FEBRUARY

1-3—5M8
7—Perham Lions visit
8-10—5M11 & 5M2
11—Nisswa Lions visit
13—Pine River Lions visit
14—Dent Lions visit
15-17—5M3
18—Northland Remer visit
20—Crosslake Lions visit
21—Underwood Lions/Lioness
22-24—5M13
25—Lake Park Lions visit

WHAT'S BAKIN' IN 5M9'S KITCHENS

Greeting, it's hard to believe that half of our Lions year is over. We have to look back and ask, have we accomplished what we or our club set out to do this far into our Lions year? Have we tried any new ideas or adventures like—adding a new fund raiser project, doing just a fun community project? Invite a friend, relative or neighbor to come and be your guest at one of your Lions meetings. Tell them all about what Lions do and then ask them to join our great organization? Now, in the quiet months ahead would be the perfect time to have a membership evening. If you need any help contact our GMT Team. That is what we have them for. You can always give me a call, too.

This is also a good time to review my goals for you as your District Governor.

1. Each club adds 1 new member over their current membership total.
2. Each club has an exit interview with dropped members and report to DG Team
3. Each Project Co-Chair invites themselves, if not invited, to at least four club meetings this year.
4. 100% Support & Understanding of our 11 District Lions Projects
5. 90 % Club participations in online reporting of WMMR and International Activities reports. (It's not too late to start this month if you haven't been doing them.)
6. Have representation from every club at zone meetings. (We still have the spring zone meetings so you can still exercise this)
7. 100% club participation to Officer training—(College of Leadership in May of 2013)
8. Every club has their club elections and PU 101's done by April 15th.
9. Increase midwinter attendance by 25 %. (Our Mid-Winter may be over when you read this so hope each club does attend.)
10. Increase Peace Poster Contest participation by 20 %. (This also is over but start thinking about the Peace Poster for next year.)

We will be offering a printed Directory again for next year. This Directory is for the exclusive use of the Lions members of each District to be used solely for the purposes of communication among one another within our District and/or Multiple and not to be used for a mailing list to solicit money other than one of our projects. You will hear more about the Directory at a later date.

International President Wayne Madden's Global Service Project for December and January is **Relieve the Hunger** campaign month. Have you given anything to your local food shelf? If not please consider doing so to help the food shelves out. There has been a greater demand this year than any other year. Think of all the children as well as adults that go to bed hungry every night. January is also Glaucoma Awareness month for Lions. When your club has an event be sure to do the eye screenings. Just give PCC Eldon Bergman a call and he will make sure you get the eye screening machines and train someone to be able to do them. Another is the Diabetic screening. Give Lion Marge Johnson or Lion Bev Labraaten a call and they will get it set up for you too. These are only screenings but are a great community service for us Lions to do.

Both my partner in Service, First Man Peter, and myself have enjoyed visiting many of our Lions Clubs already, with all of our great members and being able to Thank them personally for all that each one of you are doing for your community's , our District and country. There are only a few clubs who have not scheduled their club visits yet and hopefully we can get that done real soon.

PDG Peter and I would like to wish all of you a Happy, Healthy, Joyful and Peace filled New Year. Remember to hug all of your children, grandchildren and your spouse each and every day if you are so blessed to see them that often.

District Governor Margaret Van Erp

"WATTS" NEW in 5M9

Vice District Governor
Donald Hendrickx

Christmas 2012 is now a thing of the past and soon all the decorations will be put away and hopefully not too many gifts returned. I hope that all your wishes and dreams of a wonderful holiday came true (and you got everything you asked for).

Now is the time to start getting your slate of officers together for 2013-2014. In my club, the nominating committee contacts every member to see if there is an office that they would be interested in taking. Some will say they don't want to be an officer, but at least you have given them the opportunity and they feel part of the club. You never know, there may be a member who would like to be an officer, but has never been asked. The PU101's need to be sent in by April 1, 2013 or you will be getting a call from me.

The College of Leadership will be held in 2013 on May 7th at Crosby and May 8th in Bluffton. More information will be available in next month's newsletter. For now, just mark these dates on your calendar.

January continues to be the month for relieving the hunger in our world and communities. In our world, it is hard to believe that one in seven people goes to bed hungry every night. Continue to support your local food shelf and if your club does a project for hunger, remember to summit your report to your District newsletter and also on your service activity report.

January is also an important month in Lions. Did you know that the founder of Lions, Melvin Jones, was born on January 13th and that the week of January 13-19 is LCIF week ? Can you imagine life without Lions ? I can't ! Lions has opened so many opportunities for Pat and I and we have made so many lifelong friends. Get involved in your club and district by going to the Zone meetings, conventions and College of Leadership. Better yet ~ volunteer for an office in your club or the cabinet and see where it will take you. Who knows, someday you may be running for District Governor. Take it from me --- it could happen !

I want to thank you for all the support that you have given Pat and I and we wish for you a New Year blessed with peace, joy and love.

1st VDG Don Hendrickx

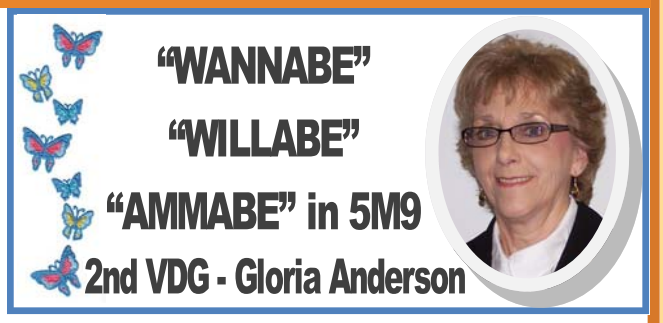
"Gelukkig nieuwjaar (Happy New Year in Dutch)

CLUB REMINDERS

- ⇒ See you at our Mid-Winter Convention, January 4-6!!!
- ⇒ Prepare for club election of officers
- ⇒ File PU101's by April 1
- ⇒ Plan for club officers (and any interested members) to attend the May College of Leadership
- ⇒ Share information on upcoming fundraisers with you Newsletter Editor to be published for all to see!!!

VDG Don visits with Santa

Happy New Year to you all!!



The start of this new year means we are also starting the second half of the Lions year. It's time to sit back and see if what we planned to do is on the path to getting done. Club Presidents – what about the goals you set for your year – are these goals close to being accomplished? There is plenty of time left in this year to "get "er done!' Just takes some effort and we are all capable of putting forth this effort.

Although it seems really early to think about it at this time but elections are looming over the horizon. Clubs, get your nominating committee set up. Elections for your new slate of officers for the 2013-2014 year are coming fast. These new officers need to be voted on by April 1, 2013 and reported to 1st Vice District Governor Don Hendrickx by April 15, 2013 – or you can send your report to DG Margaret and she will forward it to 1st VDG Don. When asked to serve as an officer in your club, take some time to consider this opportunity – don't immediately say "No, not me." It's good to take on new challenges and there is a lot of help available for you if you just ask. Remember to ask each of your officer candidates before listing names on your ballots. Everyone likes to be asked – not just assumed that they will do the job for another year. More than likely, the person asked will gladly do it but it's always best to check first.

By now most clubs have sent in donations to our Lions projects. Any amount donated is welcomed as together we can do a lot and make a difference. If you have questions about any of the eleven projects we support, just ask our District Governor Margaret. She can explain the purpose of each one and why we support each of these projects. This is another excellent reason for each club to schedule Project Chairs for a program – you can hear what your donations are doing and what great strides are being made in each program.

PDG Ken and I invite you to stop by the hospitality room at Mid-Winter and visit with us. Also, visit with 1st VDG Don and Lion Pat Hendrickx and be sure to talk to ZC Jay Norby, our candidate for 2nd Vice District Governor 2013-2014 and PDG Linda Norby. Of course, 1st VDG Don is running for District Governor and I am on the ballot for 1st Vice District Governor so we all want to see you. We ask for your support and vote at the convention. Another hospitality room you will want to stop by is put on by the Ottertail and Battle Lake Lions Clubs. They will be our hosts for 2014 Mid-Winter Convention.

I'm also looking forward to meeting with all the First Timers Friday night immediately after the Service of Remembrance. It won't be a very long meeting and then you can go to the hospitality rooms again and listen to the Friday evening entertainment, AC Entertainment, by the pool.

So, in conclusion, looking forward to have you all visit with us at the Mid-Winter Convention 2013. Get to know your candidates for 2013-2014.

2nd VDG Gloria Anderson
Thought for the month: *"You can always find a helping hand; it's attached to your arm."*

Vergas Lions IPP David Antonsen (left) & Pres Judy Meyer (right) presented Sheri Hanson a check for the Vergas Area Food Shelf to help people in need this holiday season.

Right: DG Margaret visited with Santa Clause!!!!!

Lions International Pin Traders Youth Scholarship

ANNOUNCEMENT LETTER FOR DISTRICTS AND LEO CLUB NEWSLETTERS

The Lions International Pin Trading Club is proud to announce a Youth Scholarship of $2,500 for a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a Lion or a member of a Leo Club. The most important aspect of the Youth Scholarship Program is to help a young person pursue his/her education and follow their dreams.

The LITPC takes great pride in fulfilling the motto of Lions Clubs International, "WE SERVE". During the SightFirst II Campaign, the pin traders contributed $144,000 to LCIF. Our Scholarship Program is another example of the pin traders' slogan, "Lions First".

Selection of the scholarship recipient will be based on academic achievement, an essay stating the student's goals, a statement of reason(s) for applying and an overview of work, community and school service, and letters of recommendation. Applications and supporting documentation are to be completed and submitted to the pin trading club scholarship chairman named below by ***March 1, 2013***.

We encourage all graduating seniors who are the children/grandchildren of Lions members or who are members themselves of Leo Clubs to participate in our Scholarship Program.

Lion Julie Nielsen
Name of Pin Trading Club Scholarship Chairman

Contact Information: 3832 232nd Avenue NW #110
Address
St. Francis, MN 55070
City/State/Zip

763-753-3536
Phone
scrappin75@msn.com
E-Mail

Please place the above message in your sub-district and district bulletins and post on your websites. Please be aware that Scholarship Applications and information are on the LITPC website.

Go to: www.litpc.org

Lakes Lions of Perham
12th Annual
MARDI GRAS!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

AT

The Cactus Supper Club - PERHAM

Social Hour – 6:00 pm

Dinner – 7:00 pm

Choice of one:
Steak – Chicken - Shrimp

$25.00 TICKETS
Proceeds to Benefit Lions & Community Projects

RAFFLE PRIZES
3 - $200.00 CASH PRZES
2 – HALF HOGS

SILENT AUCTION
MEAT RAFFLE
DOOR PRIZES

Call 346-4312 for information

Aitkin Riverboat Lions Reading Action Program

Aitkin Riverboat Lion, Kathy Futhey, is shown presenting a check to Media Center Secretary, Beth Gaulke. The money will be shared between Ripplesde Elementary School and the Palisade Elementary School libraries to update book series and single books that have been worn out from reading. Schools' budgets are limited and books are expensive to replace.

Ms. Gaulke recently completed a grant to purchase a 2013 encyclopedia set that will include the Olympics and election results. Proceeds from the recent Scholastic book fair will go to purchasing new books that are ordered in the fall, winter, and spring. Ms. Gaulke is also working on another program for high level readers to complement the curriculum for 5th and 6th grades.

The Riverboat Lions held a bake sale to raise funds for the "Reading Action Program" instituted by the Lions Clubs President to encourage young readers. This program is another example of how Lions are involved in the Aitkin community at all levels.

Perham Lakes Lions Caroling and Potluck

Top: Lions Bonnie Genin, Rosie Altstadt and Sharon Neuerburg.

Bottom: Lions Marge Johnson, Sharon Neuerburg, Rosie Altstadt, Alana Herrmann, and 1/2 of Bonnie Genin.

Public Relations TIP

Consider a Facebook (FB) page for your club. People of all ages use social media to communicate and Facebook is the number one social media site. A page can be used by your club members to keep up to date and share info. It can also be a way of letting others in your community know what's going on with your club. Information on how to set up a FB page is available at www.facebook.com.

Check out District 5M9 Lions on Facebook
(just search our name).
Remember to "Like" us by clicking the button on our page.

PARKERS PRAIRIE PRIDE OF LIONS - PRAIRIE CHRISTMAS

Above Right: PDG Peter VanErp, DG Margaret, Lion Linda Arvidson and Lion Marge Johnson doing Diabetes Screening.
Left: Lion Len Johnson doing Vision Screening.
Right: DG Margaret VanErp with PP Pride President Jacki Suchy.

Below: Lions Dale and Arlene Strei (center) pictured with Lion Ken Kohler and DG Margaret VanErp were inducted into the Park Rapids Lion Club.

Park Rapids

Left: Lion Edrik Clarke (27 years of Service) & Lion Larry Fick (57 years of Service) were honored by club President Zelda Novak and DG Margaret VanErp

Cass Lake Lions

LEFT: When Cass Lake Lion Gene Hasert fell from his deer stand, he severely injured his foot, ankle, and leg. As their home is down on the lakeside, the club saw the opportunity to serve one of our own. The ramp took 17 days and 521 hours– to construct - Lion Gene loves it!

5M9 Newsletter
What's Bakin' in 5M9's Kitchens

This publication is of, by, and for the Lions, Lioness, & Leos of District 5M-9

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CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

We all strive for excellence in our lives in everything we do. In business, play, family, and life we are always striving to achieve excellence!

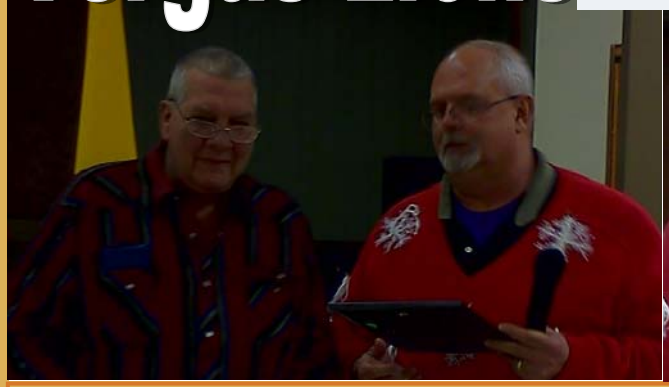
The Club Excellence Award is something that belongs to the strength of the Club, not an individual person in that Club. This is something that EVERY Club in our District should strive to achieve. Clubs that excel in community service, membership growth, communication and organizational management can qualify for this prestigious award. You, as a Leader in your Club, should encourage members in your Club to start a tradition to achieve this award each and every year.

For more details and an application form, please stop by the Global Leadership Table at the Mid-Winter Convention. While there, you will also find other Leadership and Membership Materials including ideas for recruiting New Members, orientation for New Members, Club Excellence Resources, as well as how we can help give you Club Officer Training. Or, give me a call and I will send information out to you!

Thanks for all you do! Go motivate your Club to earn that CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD! Thanks for being who you are…….. YOU Do Make a Difference!!

PDG Jim Arvidson / GLT

Zone Chair Jay Norby presented some awards at the Vergas Lions Christmas Party. Top Let: Lion Eilert Helm received a Certificate for his work as Co-Chair of the 5M9 2012 Convention.
Bottom Left: Lion Ross Smith is recognized for his years of service to the Lions.
Below: Lion Tracey Buhl received a pin for her work as the District Newsletter Editor/Diva. Love the sweater Jay. :-)



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, Newsletter Editor / Diva