

District 1-A Lions Clubs



Governor's Newsletter

Lion Catherine Rondinelli, District Governor

Lion Georg Toft, PCST, editor

January, 2002

Governor's Travels

January 9: Brookfield/
LaGrange, Hillside,
LaGrange-Highlands
Westchester

January 15: Oak Lawn

January 17: Maharlika

January 20: Bridgeview

January 22: Lansing
and Lynwood

January 23: Mount
Greenwood

January 26: Mid-Year
forum

Clubs are asked to set
up Official Visits for
the Governor quickly
Contact your Zone
Chairman..

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The Journey

Our Lions Year is at the mid way point, with much accomplished, and, many promises left to fulfill.

As we begin this second half of our journey together, let us concentrate on our service to others.

The world around us is full of the thoughts of what happened in September, and the media continues to remind us of what has occurred since. Lions answered the call without question, and our service has been recognized. Yet, we know that the dollars collected, the blood donated and the clothing sent, will never erase the scars from our mind.

Our journey forward prompts us to look closer at the world around us. The change in every community has brought new need, new avenues to explore. The courage of the military, police and firefighters has been brought to the forefront and clubs are recognizing the men and women that serve our communities on a daily basis as local hero's. Lions are taking the time to single them out, and saying thank you.

We are receiving requests for service from new areas within our community. The

tried and true projects we have supported over the years still depend on us, but we are learning that new needs call for new ideas. Each club will approach these challenges in a different way calling upon the membership and community to share in their service to others.

It may be time to dust off old ideas and bring them back, since the community seems responsive to things they are comfortable with. The project of twenty years ago could be the answer to this years needs. Broom sales, once a standard project have all but disappeared; candy , roses, carnivals and rummage sales, if done at all, are or were, poorly attended and not much of a profit maker. But, if the community is embracing the forgotten values of family, charity and concern, it could be time to try again.

Our journey to the future calls upon the Lions to continue to support the projects and event s of the district, to keep it strong, and to work together to make sure that the plight of a neighbor in need are met , the best way we can.

Our journey asks us to look to the communities around us, the ones without a service club and extend the hands of Lionism to your neighbors. We all know that by our service we shall grow; what bet-

ter way do we have then to start a new club, expanding the service we enjoy to new friends..

As we begin the new year together, let us remember, there is no better time than right now to be happy, for Lions are recognized as dedicated happy people. To borrow from an old saying,:
Happiness is a journey, not a destination; so live like you don't need money, love like you have never been hurt; and, dance like no one is watching. If you do this, you can bring happiness to others, you can brighten someone's day , you can feel the good that only service to others can bring to your heart and mind.

Lions bearing the torch of service is the theme we started with this year. Let us carry the torch high so that the next six months of this Lions year are productive, helpful and our journey will light the darkness of need, want and despair. We can work together to get the job done. Happiness will pour from the smiles of those we serve, gladness will fill our hearts and the load will be small as we join hands.

The journey has started, don't be left behind. For always remember; Its Great to Be a Lion, a 1-A Lion..

It's Time...time to expand our Lionism.

Before many of today's members were born, Lions Clubs experienced a growth rate that has not been equaled. After the second world war, business grew, many new communities were created and Lions Clubs became part of the growth. In the next 25 years, Lions were found in all corners of the world as the hands of service reached out to provide the understanding that foes could be friends, and need was our only priority.

The comfort factor of those early years, that belonging, working for a common cause, friendship and giving back, rose to a new level as new Lions clubs were formed in every part of our district. But, like all good things, change precluded comfort, and the growth moved to other parts of the globe as Lions clubs formed in areas seeking the spirit of service we were enjoying. We grew older, and we became complacent. Then, came the tragedy of September.

Today, the thoughts of many have reverted back to the friends and family. Our priorities have changed, we think twice about getting on an airplane, we drive to see relatives, we plan vacations in a new light. And, we as Lions see our service to others is more important to our community as needs change. In our district, we have voids, communities that are without a Lions club. Perhaps, years ago there was a club, but for whatever reason it is gone. The comfort factor, enjoyed by so many has disappeared, and the service to others falls upon the surrounding clubs. As Lions, we cannot ignore the needs that exist in these open areas. A child's need for glasses is important to us, in or out of our clubs boundaries. Each club knows where the other clubs in their zone are, and they know the voids between those clubs. The old monarchs may recall the names of Lions that once served in those areas,

how effective that missing club once was.

So, as we go forward this year, as we adapt to the changes that have occurred in all of us since the terror of a few months ago, let me suggest that it is time, time to expand our Lionism. We start by bringing new clubs into those vacant areas, to provide a strong viable Lions Club to give the community a visible sign of service and perhaps, in some areas, hope.

We continue as we strengthen our membership in existing clubs by inviting new members, bringing willing hands to help, new leadership and ideas. We do this by attending the mid-year for ideas, contacting other interested Lions to form a plan and then making it happen.

Lionism started with the dream of one man, let us continue the dream, sharing our commitment with the many that could be Lions. It's Time.. ggt

Convention Registration forms out

The advance registration forms are out to all of the clubs and all of the Region and Zone Chairmen will have extra copies available for their clubs.

The change in the food function reservation, you must have it in by April 12, 2001, means that pre registration is almost a must for all of the Lions. Again, you are reminded that NO FOOD

Tickets will be sold on site. So get your registration in now to Co Chair Al Warshaw ASAP. Forms are out for the District Ad Book/Convention Program. A great way to call attention to your club and a special project. The Theme Basket Auction, a real crowd pleaser last year will be done again, with prizes for

the best baskets and your chance to bid on goodies at the district lunch. The Lioness Silent Auction is looking for donations and invites all to stop by to bid on great values. Last, the district raffle tickets are out, make sure that you and your club have yours. Be a Rising Star of Lionism at this years convention. Be there...

Trustee

Last month, you were asked, "Do you hear what I hear" on these pages. Now is the time to help someone hear! Contributions are urgently needed to build up the foundations account for hearing aids and exams. Answering the need over the last few months has reduced the amount of that account to an all time low. As

you look at ways to provide service to others, consider designating some funds for this worthy cause.

In our district, besides used eyeglasses, we have a big need to raise funds for the Open Areas Account. These funds are used in areas where there is NOT a Lions Club to an-

PDG Oscar McGuire

swer the needs of the community. Until we can start a club in an open area, we as Lions must answer the requests for help from every corner of humanity. Please mark your contributions for the open area account and help us provide the service that only Lions can bring to everyone.

Oscar...

The four "E"s of Leadership

A fellow named Jack, upon his retirement was asked the secret of leadership. He laughed. "it's simple, just think of 4 Es in a pod." The questioner said, "don't you mean Ps" ? "No Es!" "Leadership is easy!"

The first E is **Energy**. To succeed you have to have the energy to be able to ready to tell your story with the pep of a teenager.

The second E is **Energize**. A good leader can transfer the energy he feels to others to get them thinking like him, to motivate them to carry the message to get the job done.

The third E is **Edge**. Don't be in the middle of the road, when a plan or idea is presented, say Yes or No right away, if you select YES

Make it happen. If you select NO, then move on quickly till you find the answer. Energize others to come up with ideas.

The fourth E is **Execute!** A plan is just a plan until it is accomplished. Get your team to execute the ideas they have come up with. If they falter, a good leader will have the energy to energize the team to get he job done.

These are the four Es in the Pod.

Pod begins with P, and that stands for Passion. If you are passionate in your plan and programs, if you use all of your energy to execute the concept, you will be successful.

As Lions, all of the tips passed on to us by Jack apply to

how we run meetings, hold fundraisers and provide service to our communities. If we think of 4 Es in a pod as we go about our daily endeavors, if we apply Energy, if we Energize others, if we keep our Edge and if we Execute with passion, we can succeed in everything we attempt.

Jack is retired from his job, but he has not stopped, he is exploring new ideas, helping others and becoming involved in his community. Who is Jack you ask. He rose from the ranks to lead his company from 11 billion to 129 billion last year, with ideas and energy. For you see, Jack Welsh just retired as the CEO of General Electric. And as he said, "Leadership is Easy"

The Vice Writes

January 2002

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

Hear it is Mid December and Millie and I have been traveling back and forth to club visits and Christmas parties all across the district. Governor Catherine held the Christmas party for the district at the Barn Restaurant last Sunday and we had close to 120 Lions attend. The food was great, as was the entertainment, a chorus from a local high school sang and a good time was had by all.

We sent out a notice about the Mid Year Forum coming on Saturday January 26 and we found an error on the phone number for Lion Rich Dudek. See your directory for the correct number and call Rich for your clubs attendance count. Thanks, new notices that we send out will have the correct number.

Lion Joe Gonzalez will present some hints on how to market your club and get new members while Lion Dennis McMillan will talk about how to keep those new members, we hope the program will be

VDG Lion Ralph Koller

well attended. We will have someone from the Illinois Attorney General's office to inform us as to what is expected from the clubs in the way of reports when we solicit funds from the public and also someone from the IRS will cover Federal requirements.

PDG Lion Len Pearson will cover youth activities and will tell us about the health of our Leo clubs and what they are doing today.

Everyone that attends should enjoy our main speaker International Director Lion Ross Thorfinnson speaking on leadership. I hope that all of you will enjoy the Forum and will bring all of those lions that normally do not attend these great workshops. I think they will get a lot out of this presentation and all members will get some good ideas on how to build and keep their club's membership.

See you at the Oaklawn Hilton in January, in the meantime enjoy the holiday season and stay healthy. Merry Christmas to all and to all a goodnight.

VDG Lion Ralph Koller

District Bowling, Sunday February 10th

The annual 1-A Bowling Tournament will be held on Sunday February 10th. DC Pete Klein is looking to fill the house with Lions, in what has always been a great District event.

Teams are urged to get in their entry forms ASAP, so that squads can be paired off for the different starting times. As always, Pot Games, trophies and fellowship will be the order of the day.

This year, the tournament will take place at Habetler Bowl, 5250 N. Northwest Highway. First squad is off at 9:30 am, second squad at 12:30pm.

Habetler is just of the Foster Avenue exit of the north bound Kennedy expressway for all of you coming from the south side. Again, the ever popular Lioness Café will be in full swing with Hot Dogs and Beef Sandwiches, and

the coffee pot will always be on.

Lion Pete reminds us that entries close on February 7th, so get your teams together and join your fellow Lions at the 61st annual District 1-A Bowling Tournament.

Fees, Only 88.00 per Lions Team, includes bowling and prize money

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Happy
New Year

Lions Bearing the Torch of Service

Thoughts from the Governor.

Is it really the year 2002? When I was in high school, I added up the numbers and came up with the age I would be in 2002. How ancient? I was sure I would not be a round. Well, here I am, alive and kicking, and having the time of my life. The first six months of this term have gone by so quickly, and the Governors assure me that the next six months will go just as quickly. We have a lot of work to do, so we are in the process of analyzing where we are, where we are going, and how to get there. The Pathway to Membership, of course, is the key. As membership recruitment is now a year-round program, not just October and May, and retention has been made a priority, the joint membership team (Extension, Retention, Strategic Action and State and District membership chairmen) will be meeting on a regular

basis from now until the end of the term. Any club officers and members who have ideas and would like to assist are most welcome to attend and participate in the process. We are also seeking clubs that would like to sponsor a new Lions club. Call PDG Art Schmidt if your club is interested.

International President J.

Frank Moore has encouraged us to also follow the Pathways to Youth and Service. Presidents, please look over the excellent materials sent to you from the International Office explaining the awards programs for youth and service and membership. If you need additional copies, call Oak Brook and ask for the English Language Department.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Mid-Year Forum on January 26. Presidents and Secretaries, please make sure your members have

the information, as the Forum is for all members, not just officers. (This is a surprise to the committee, but the Governor will be giving a prize to the 2 clubs that have the most attendees at the Mid-Year Forum: one for the club with fewer than 50 members and one for the club with 50+ members.

Here's to a happy and healthy New Year for you and your loved ones.

Governor Catherine

CLUB OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

The Cicero Lions Club sent 627 pairs of used eyeglasses to our Foundation, and reported it on the bottom of the M&M report. Thank you, Lion Secretary Bob, for your consistently excellent and timely reports.