

DISTRICT 5M11 NEWSLETTER

<https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/newsletters>

Newsletter Editor:

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5, Issue 4



A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR MIKE HAGEN

Greetings Fellow Lions,

My year of serving as your District Governor is quickly coming to a close. It has been a pleasure to visit many of the 5M11 clubs. Our district has awesome clubs serving their communities. We need to continue to grow to better serve our communities. **Just ask.** Have each of you asked at least one person to become a Lion? Ask more than once, if needed. People are waiting for someone to **just ask** for them to become a member of the world's largest service organization.

The 5M11 MidWinter Convention was held in Mahanomen, at the end of January. Attendance was between 150-160. A huge thank you to Convention Chair Lion Christy Klemtz and her committee members for organizing the convention. Friday evening, a Corn Hole Tournament was held with proceeds going to LCIF. A can castle was built, and 711 pounds of canned goods were donated to the food shelf of Mahanomen. And finally, Friday evening, Alvarado Club President Lion Ben Hulteng



died his mustache purple, and I dyed my hair purple. On Saturday we were shaved as part of Shave for the Brave. Proceeds were donated to Childhood Cancer. I hope everyone found the speakers interesting and helpful. Lion Jan Nazarko of the Riverside Club of Winnipeg was elected as 1st VDG effective July 1st and Lion Gord Zelinski of the Selkirk Club was elected as 2nd VDG effective July 1st. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for stepping up.

Continued, next page

Coming up soon is the MD5M Convention in Winnipeg. The dates are April 19-21. Lions from throughout our multiple will be in attendance. We have two excellent Lions seeking to become an International Director. The election will be held at the Multiple Convention. Only one of the two, Lion Bert Nelson or Lion Dennis Kelly III, can be elected. International President, Lion Patti Hill, will be attending the convention.

International President Lion Patti Hill's theme is Changing the World one step at a time. She wants to see a cleaner, greener environment. In the next few months, I will be emailing all presidents information on ways for your club to help meet this goal. I realize most clubs already are doing something for the environment, but hopefully you will get some new ideas from the information I will be sharing.

Continue to ask people to become a Lion. It has been an honor to serve as your District Governor. I look forward to seeing each of you again.

In Lionism,

District Governor Mike Hagen

A Few Words from the 1st Vice District Governor-Elect

I am looking forward to meeting the various Lions and their clubs in our district over the next few years. I am excited, but nervous, of the new adventures we will share together, as we grow together in Lionism.

Lion Jan Nazarko
1st VDGE 5M11

A link to the MD5M Convention Registration is:

<https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/event>
s



"Click" on FORMS



REGISTER SOON!

ELLI - EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE registration deadline has been extended to March 1st! The training will be held March 15-17.

<https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/event>
s

"Click" on FORMS

The registration form must be submitted to the District Governor ASAP (by 3/1/24)

The goal of this institute is to prepare Lions for leadership positions at the club level.

*****It is strongly recommended that the club's first vice president attend.*****

This institute and accommodations will be at Shooting Star Casino, Mahnomen, MN, March 15-17th.

Hotel rooms will cost \$85 USD per night not including tax. Reservations must be made by Friday, March 1st. The cost of the Institute is \$100 USD, in addition to lodging and travel expenses. The Multiple District will provide all meals and training materials.

Contact Lion Dennis W. Kelly III, MD5M GLT Coordinator at dkellylion@gmail.com with questions.



PICTURES & EVENTS FROM AROUND 5M11

Whitemouth & District 40th ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday, November 2, we were thrilled to celebrate our Whitemouth & District Lions Club's 40th anniversary with a dinner and dance. It was a wonderful evening with so many special friends and guests...including our District Governor from Minnesota, Lion Mike Hagen and his wife Lion Karen, MLA Lion Wayne Ewasko, and Lion Linda Baxter who, along with her husband Lion Bun, from the Beausejour Lions Club...the club that sponsored ours 40 years ago.

We had local caterers, the Happy Hours Seniors Club, prepare a delicious meal, and the Marvell's band from Winnipeg provided marvellous music!



Here's to another 40 years,
Whitemouth & District Lions!!!

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The Whitemouth Lions Christmas 2023 Hamper program distributed 41 hampers, filled with food, children's toys and warm cozy blankets, mittens and other goodies made with love. This represents a 71% increase over last year's requests.



CPKC HOLIDAY TRAIN

Every year at this time, we look forward to the return of the CPKC Holiday Train...both for the wonderful Christmas music and those incredible lights, but even more, it's to

witness the kindness and generosity of so many who donated food and money to help others in need. This year did not disappoint! We were so grateful to receive over 1321 lbs in food and \$7600 in cash donations, all of which was divided between our three local food banks: Beausejour, Lac Du Bonnet and Reynolds. Lion members, along with the assistance of the CPKC Police did security duties ensuring those in attendance stayed a safe distance from the track. Again this year, traffic control was provided by the Whitmouth Fire Fighters and Reynolds Fire Fighters, as well as the RCMP, who all did an amazing job.



We received assistance from the local Whitmouth Cadets who helped with receiving and loading all the food donations



Santa and Mrs Clause made a welcomed appearance, and did a great job of entertaining the youngsters and handing out candy canes.



(Above) The "Anyway Band" was awesome and did a wonderful job of playing to the audience, including many youngsters.



We estimated that there were about 2000 people in attendance this year, and it was a fantastic evening!

Barnesville Lions Donation



Above: Lion Vern Barker is shown presenting \$250 checks to representatives of each of Barnesville's cemeteries. From L to R: Tim Dockter, St. Mary's Cemetery; Duane Rossett, City Cemetery; Ken Kolding II, Rosemound Cemetery. All were very appreciative of receiving this contribution once again this year. This money is available because of the excellent community support during the various Lions Club's fundraisers.



Above: Three area Lions clubs presented \$100 checks to District 5M11 Governor Mike Hagen of Wannaska at the Governor's Dinner on January 9 at Erickson's Smokehouse in Fertile, Minnesota. From left were Lions Dorothy Roof of Fertile, Gene Hanson of Gary, DG Hagen and Scott Van Den Einde of Winger. Hagen said the money will be given to his favorite charity, the Lions Clubs International Foundation Hunger Grant Program. The program offers grants to Lions districts, supports school based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers and similar facilities.

District Governor Visit

More than 50 Lions and spouses attended the Governor's Dinner on January 9 at Erickson's Smokehouse in Fertile. Shown are members of the Fertile Club. Lions District 5M11 Governor Mike Hagen of Wannaska and his wife, Karen, as well as Past District Governors Kevin Reich and Allen Bertilrud, with spouses, were guests at the event.



Below: Lions District 5M11 Governor Mike Hagen of Wannaska presented chevrons for longtime Lions membership to members of the Winger Club. From left were the governor's wife, Karen Hagen; Gerri Balstad, 20 years; Steve Massmann, 40 years; Scott Van Den Einde, 15 years; Brian Massmann, 10 years; and DG Hagen. The presentations were made at the Governor's Dinner on January 9 at Erickson's Smokehouse in Fertile.



LEFT: Lions District 5M11 Governor Mike Hagen of Wannaska presented chevrons for longtime membership to members of the Fertile Lions Club. From left were the governor's wife, Karen; Twylla Altepeter, 10 years; Steve Taylor, 35 years; and DG Hagen.



KIDSIGHT

Lions recognized with KidSight "Sight Saver" awards

At 5M11's mid-winter convention, held January 26-28, five Lions were recognized for their service to the KidSight program. As children's vision screeners, these volunteers take an interest in the well-being of children knowing that proper vision plays a vital role in a child's development and learning abilities. Children's vision screening is overseen by the directors of MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation. The Sight Saver award is the foundation's means of recognizing those who have contributed to the vision screening of children.



Above: The Wannaska Lions Club was recognized for their commitment to the KidSight program by being presented a Sight Saver award at 5M11's mid-winter convention. Wannaska Lions was the first club within the district to offer children's vision screening at a county fair. They sponsor a screening event each year at the Roseau County Fair. Pictured left to right; Lion Dennis Kelly III, MD5M Lions KidSight Lions Foundation Chairperson, Lion Dan Vandeventer, KidSight director, Lions DG Mike Hagen and Karen Hagen, Wannaska Lions, Lion Kevin Reich, KidSight director.



MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation has a progressive Sight Saver award that can be awarded to previous Sight Saver award recipients for their continued support of KidSight. The first-ever Progressive Sight Saver award, to be presented to anyone in district 5M11, was presented to Lion Jenifer Spielman. Lion Jen endorsed the KidSight program upon its launch in 2017. She has coordinated the screening or screened thousands of children over the years. Pictured left to right; Lion Dan Vandeventer, KidSight foundation director, Lion Dennis Kelly III, MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation Chairperson, Lion Kevin Reich, KidSight foundation director, Lion Jen Spielman, Hitterdal Lions, Lion Mike Hagen, 5M11 District Governor.



Above: At 5M11's recent mid-winter convention, Lion Sheila Reich was recognized for her contribution to the children's vision screening program, KidSight. She was presented with a Sight Saver award. Lion Sheila has assisted at several screening events throughout the district over the past seven years. She has volunteered at the Minnesota State Fair each of the five years screening has been offered at the fair.



At 5M11's mid-winter convention, Lion Darryl Popowich was presented a KidSight Sight Saver award. Darryl has provided vision screening of children for several years screening thousands of children. Pictured left to right; Lion Dan Vandeventer, Kidsight foundation director, Lion Dennis Kelly III, MD5M Lions KidSight Chairperson, Lion Darryl Popowich, West St. Paul Lions, Lion Bonnie Popowich, KidSight foundation director, Lion Kevin Reich, KidSight foundation Lion Mike Hagen, 5M11 District Governor.



Lion Dan Vandeventer was recently recognized for his contributions to the KidSight program by being presented a Sight Saver award at 5M11's mid-winter convention. Lion Dan has served on the MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation for two years. He was instrumental in introducing the Kidsight program to the Thief River Falls Times Home Sport and Hobby Show and the Arctic Cat Health Fair, both in Thief River Falls, MN.

5M11 Mid-Winter Convention Snapshots

Photos courtesy of Dilworth Loco Lion Stacy Kleinwachter



Lion Linda Baxter, center, accepting the Club Excellence Award for the Whitemouth and District Lions Club from District Governor Mike Hagen, left, and Lion Karen Hagen, right.



Above: Lion Scott from the Karlstad Lions Club, left, accepting the Club Excellence Award from District Governor Mike Hagen.



Lion Crystelle Phillips, center, from the Goodridge Lion Tamers Lions Club, receiving the International President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Ron Keller, left, and District Governor Mike Hagen, right.



Lion Gladwin Lynne, left, accepted the Project New Hope Red Level award for the Warren Lions Club from District Governor Mike Hagen, second from left, Past District Governor Dale Johansen, second from right, and Project New Hope chair Joshua Kent, right.



Lion Jan Strandlie, second from left, from the St. Hilaire Lions Club received the Project New Hope Red Level award for the Oslo Lions Club from District Governor Mike Hagen, left, PDG Dale Johansen, second from right, and Project New Hope chair Joshua Kent, right.



Lion Dan Vandeventer, left, accepted the Project New Hope Red Level award for the Oslo Lions Club from District Governor Mike Hagen, second from left, Past District Governor Dale Johansen, second from right, and Project New Hope chair Joshua Kent, right.



Above: District Governor's Award was presented to the St. Hilaire Convention Committee from District Governor Mike Hagen and Lion Karen Hagen



Lion Jan Nazarko (Above Left) of the Riverside Lions Club and Lion Linda Baxter (Above Right) of Beausejour Lions Club received the International President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Ron Keller and District Governor Mike Hagen



Lion Colleen Hoffman of the Goodridge Lion Tamers Lions Club, was presented with the International President's Award from International Director Ron Keller and DG Mike Hagen



Immediate Past District Governor Kami Anderson of the Karlstad Lions Club received a Leadership Medal from District Governor Mike Hagen and International Director Ron Keller.



District Governor Mike Hagen and Lion Karen Hagen presented the Governor's Award to Past District Governors Allen Bertilrud, Kevin Reich and Kami Anderson.



Lion Sandy Bertilrud of the Red Lake Falls Lions Club received a Leadership Medal from District Governor Mike Hagen and International Director Ron Keller.



Above: Some of the First Timers at Mid-Winter



District 5M11 brought 711 pounds of can goods to make a mountain for the Mahnomen Food Shelf



Left:

District Governor Mike Hagen before the color and shave



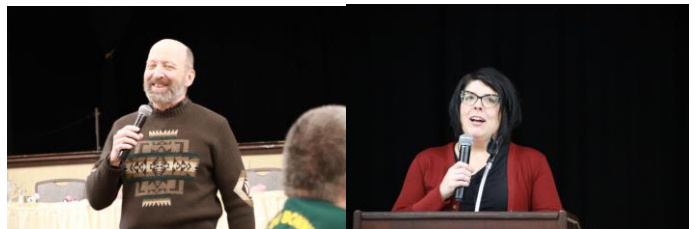
Above: Shaving DG Mike's head/Below: Bean Bag Tourney



Sabin LionsClub members @ Fri. Mixer (Above)



Winners of the bean bag tournament, Lion Jim and Lion Jerry



Above Left: Tim Denny, speaker on Suicide Awareness and Prevention
Susie (Novak) Boelter, (Above Right) speaker on North Country Food Bank



Kristin Follman, speaker on the Haiti Eye Mission



Above: Dilworth Lions Club members @ Banquet



Above: Youth Exchange students hosted by Jodi Sorenson - Charles Liang-Yu Sheng, Elina Gerisamova, Jodi Sorenson and District Governor Mike Hagen



Dilworth Loco Lions Club members @ convention



St. Hillaire Lions Club



PDG Mike shaving Lion Ben Hulteng from the Alvarado Lions



Don & Lion Connie Hagen With DG Mike & Karen Hagen

1st timer winner, Lion Jered Pigeon



Dilworth Loco Lions & Dilworth Lions @ Mid-Winter



Hitterdal Lions Mark & Jenifer Spielman



“Loving” District Governor Mike’s new look!



DG Mike (after haircut), ID Ron Keller & wives

2024 Lions District 5M11 Mid-Winter Convention Raffle:

Forty Three Clubs and several individual Lions participated in the raffle to purchase 1,048 tickets which yielded \$2,096. The winner of the raffle, which was drawn Sunday at the convention, was the Bagley Lions Club. They received \$314.40, which is 15% of the proceeds. The balance of the proceeds are scholarships for first-time-attendees as follows, to help Lions defray costs: 15% (\$314.40) to attend a Lions Clubs International Convention (LCIcon) and 70% (\$1,467.20) to attend a US/Canada Forum.

An after-the-event clarification: when the Lions clubs treasurers received their 5M11 District Dues invoices in July, they were given the option to also purchase raffle tickets along with paying their dues. Clubs/individual Lions could also get tickets at/closer to the convention if they chose not to get them previously. The change in this method has saved more than \$100 in expenses for the past several years for printing tickets and mailing them out, thus giving more dollars for the drawing.

Lion Nadine Myers

Lions District 5M11 Cabinet Treasurer

Lions5M11Treasurer@gmail.com

H: 218-567-8305 C: 763-242-5839

Jersey Mike's Month of Giving!

March is Jersey Mike's Annual Month of Giving. All 54 Jersey Mike's locations in Minnesota will be encouraging customers to donate to Special Olympics Minnesota throughout the month.

Save the date: Jersey Mike's Day of Giving is Wednesday, March 27. 100% of sales (not just profits!) support Special Olympics Minnesota on this day. Eat some sandwiches and support SOMNI!



Parade of Green

2024 Parade of Green District 5M11 Lions Mid-Winter Convention			Lions District 5M11 Youth Activities	695	6
			MN Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation *	4,606	23
49 of 61(80%) of 5M11 clubs donated \$70,395 (361 donations)			LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation) US	10,460	27
MN Lions Vision Foundation*	6,405	23	Team Sheehan Charitable Foundation*	1,650	11
Children's Eye Clinic	1,425	13	Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF	\$2,680	Clubs 9
Macular Degeneration Center (MAC)	1,880	14			
Lions Eye Institute	2,080	11	Canadian Lions Childhood Cancer Foundation	1,050	5
MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation* (US)	4,565	28	Diabetes Canada	1,350	5
MN Lions Hearing Foundation*	4,580	27	Lions Foundation Canada Dog Guides	1,350	7
Children's Hearing Center	1,450	11	Lions Quest Canada	100	1
MN Lions Diabetes Foundation *	6,384	34	Lions Foundation of Manitoba & NW Ontario	1,000	2
Can Do Canines	3,555	25	Vision	750	4
Leader Dogs for the Blind	6,380	31	Hearing	300	3
Project New Hope Lions Foundation of MN *	3,825	26	KidSight Canada	700	5
Lions District 5M11 Leo Clubs	525	5	Helping Hands	500	3

Serenity Suites	150	2
<i>*Foundation has 501(c)(3) nonprofit status</i>	70,395	
TOTAL		



Previous Parade of Green Totals

2024	\$70,395.00
2023	\$68,468.83
2022	\$57,040.00
2021	\$38,136.45
2020	\$63,405.00
2019	\$66,646.00
2018	\$56,501.00
2017	\$56,012.00

Congratulations! We reached a new high !!!



DK3 for ID

Hello Lions,

As some of you already know, I am seeking the endorsement of our Multiple District for the office of International Director of Lions Clubs International.

I have dedicated my Lions' life to service and leadership. A commitment to help make my community and world a better place by working with other Lions to make a difference, to leave things better than the way they were before. To lead by example and inspire and motivate other Lions to do the same. To continuously challenge present day thoughts and actions to make sure that the path we are on is the best for our members, clubs and association.

I have spent most of my Lions career and my private sector career in management positions. Leading teams, managing groups of people, giving guidance and motivation to team members and leaders to help them reach their goals and potential. I will continue to do this as a member of the board.

Being able to represent our Lions and our association at the International level requires a team approach. I have an amazing service partner, Lion Cheryl. She is a proven leader and motivator who is dedicated to our motto, "We Serve." We both believe in the concept of

servant leadership. This is a leadership approach that puts serving others above all other priorities. Rather than managing for results, a servant leader focuses on creating an environment in which their team can thrive and get their highest-impact work done.

In our district 5M6, I have served as a trustee to the MN Lions Vision Foundation, twice as District Mid-Winter Convention Chair, and as the District Global Leadership Coordinator. In this role I developed the Club President's Happy Hour. A quarterly gathering of club presidents to improve the communication between the clubs and district leadership.

In our multiple district I am currently the Global Leadership Team Coordinator, responsible for all leadership development and training, RLLI, ELLI, and FDI as well as District Governor Elect and vice district governor, I have held this position since 2019.

I also was instrumental in starting the KidSight program and have held the position of Chair of the Board of Directors of the MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation, Inc since 2017. Our Lions have screened over 125,000 kids since this program began.

My experience on the club, district, multiple district and international level has positioned me to be able to fulfill the duties of a member of the International board. Lion Cheryl and I pledge to do our best to represent our Lions and help to make our association the standard to which all other service associations are measured.

To read more about my experience and qualifications please visit my website: teamdennis.net and visit our Facebook page, DK3 for ID. You can also email at teamdennislion@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to support my campaign.

We hope to meet many of you at the mid-winter convention.

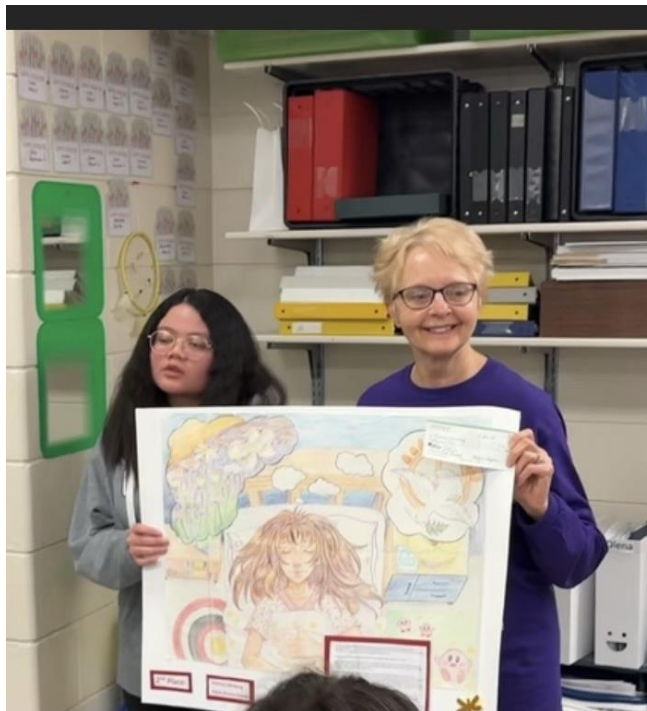
Your consideration of my candidacy will be greatly appreciated.

Lion Dennis

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The above article was inadvertently deleted from the previous newsletter and is being run here.

PEACE POSTER

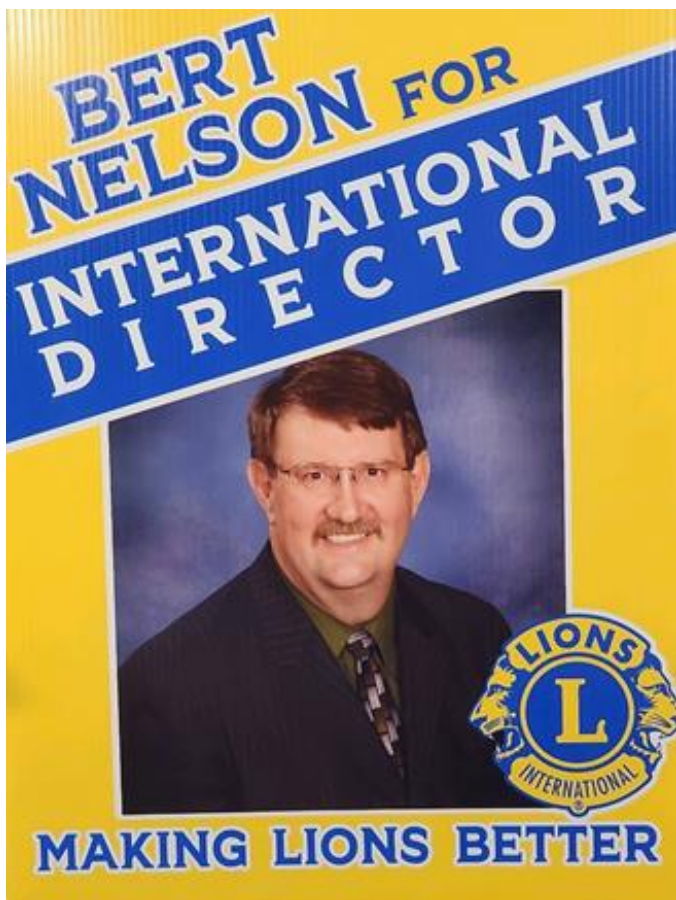


Second place winner for district of 5M11
Submitted by Lions Club of West St Paul



First place 5M11 district winner
Submitted by
Lions Club of West St Paul

You're going to Canada in
April, eh?



“The Lions are the best kept secret in our community.”

How many times have you heard this comment? Did you hear it from your fellow Lions club members? How about from your family or friends? Your Co-workers? Local Business and community leaders? Have you ever uttered this statement yourself?

Marketing can help you raise the visibility of your club and achieve better outcomes for the great things you’re already doing. So, whether you’re recruiting new members, promoting a project or a fundraiser, or even just sharing your club’s incredible service stories, marketing can help you shine a light on your club and your service.

Your club needs to have an active marketing team. Teams should consist of multiple members, each assigned to a specific assignment or task. These assignments/task should cover the following forms of marketing:

It has been great meeting the Lions in our multiple, as Pam and I have been attending the Mid-Winter conventions. We are hoping to make it to each one, weather and work permitting. Come check my table at the convention with this sign. I do have some jokebooks and pins that you may be interested in.

We do have a race for the endorsement of International Director. We need to show Lions Clubs International that the Lions from MD5M strongly support our members in the service they do for Lions.

I appreciate the support that I have been given already and I encourage your clubs to send voting delegates to the MD5M convention in April in Winnipeg, MB.

Lion Bert

**Lions Clubs International –
Marketing matters!**



- Print (Newsletters, event flyers, banners, signage)
- Social Media (Website, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, Threads)
- Media (newspapers, billboards, radio, television, internet advertising)

Your club should search for club members with some working knowledge in these marketing areas. If the club member with this knowledge is unwilling to be a part of the marketing team, see if they can be a resource or advisor for your team. You can also reach out to your district to see if there are Lions with connections to promotional items manufacturing, public relations firms, social media outlets, and other companies affiliated with advertising & promotions.

Your marketing team should be engaging with your membership, project, and fundraising chairs. By being involved with your club events & activity planning, the marketing team can help make the public aware of what your club is doing in those areas. Nobody is going to do a better job talking about what your club is doing than your own marketing team.

Lions Clubs International has wonderful resources for your marketing team to utilize. Templates, boiler plates, social media kits, and many other items are all just a simple click away. Your link to the LCI club marketing center is below:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-marketing>

Make sure to include your Lions' zone & region clubs, and your district secretary, newsletter, Facebook, and website chairs when sending out your events & activity announcements. Letting other Lions clubs know about your fundraisers and projects will give them an opportunity to help you promote the event, plus a chance to have your fellow Lions attend.

Please contact me with your questions and please also speak with your district marketing team about how they can help your club stop being an unknown community asset.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Lyle Goff

MD5M Marketing & Lions Information Chair

gofflt@msn.com



PDG Dennis Kelly III for International Director

Hello Lions,

I am not very comfortable talking about myself. My passion is to motivate, inspire, and challenge Lions to be the best that they can be.

But I am asking for your vote, and I have an obligation to you to show that I am qualified and worthy of that vote.

Let's talk about impact.

In 2016 we started KidSight as a Multiple District program.. I was appointed by the Council of Governors as the program manager, tasked to get the program up and running. Within a year we had raised over \$250K, bought 32 systems, and trained hundreds of Lions. I continue to lead a team of dedicated Lions as the Chair of the Board of Directors. To date, you, and your fellow Lions in our Multiple District, have screened over 178,000 kids with over 21,000 referred for follow up by an eye care professional. This program has changed thousands of lives in and out of Lions, and that is impact.

In 2019 I was selected as the Multiple District Global Leadership Team Coordinator, responsible for all the leadership training and development for our multiple district.

We now offer 2 Leadership Institutes each year rather than 1 every other year. ELLI, Emerging Lions Leadership Institute, designed for Lions



who have not been a club president to help build stronger clubs. And RLLI, Regional Lions Leadership Institute, designed to give our Lions enhanced leadership skills. RLLI is truly a "leadership incubator". Since 2011, the earliest year that I have records for, 502 Lions have attended of that number 100 or 20% have been or will be a District Governor. That's impact.

So, that is some of what I have accomplished in our multiple district.

Outside of our multiple I have:

Facilitated 6 RLLIs, 4 Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI), 4 Faculty Development Institute (FDI), plus one local FDI in California and Wisconsin.

I have earned the Lions Certified Instructor designation (LCIP), the highest instructor qualification awarded by Lions International and have facilitated 2 LCIP Institutes.

I have been entrusted by the last 3 International Presidents, Doug Alexander, Brian Sheehan and Dr. Patti Hill with the training of their incoming District Governors as a District Governor Elect Group Leader, one of 30 Lions from around the world, tasked with this important responsibility.

I am on the faculty of Lions University and have presented at 7 USA/Canada Leadership Forums.

But what do I offer you and the International Board as a member?

There are 10 major committees where a director can serve. I believe, based on my business and Lions experience, that I can add value to 6 of these committees.

Finance, Leadership Development, Marketing, Membership Operations and Services, Membership, and Service Activities,

But these are not the most important reasons I would like to serve on the board, I want to serve to represent you. To be your voice, to

carry your questions and concerns to the highest levels of our association. To be able to help our districts solve local problems and provide guidance and motivation to our Lions and our leaders.

I would not have been able to accomplish any of this without a dedicated service partner, a Lion who can hold her own on any stage, the love of my life, my Lion Cheryl. Together we will work hard to make you proud as your representative on the International Board.

We need your support. Please plan on attending the Multiple District Convention in Winnipeg April 19-21 as a voting delegate.

Together we can make our association the envy of all other service organizations in the world.

Dennis Kelly III

A MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL CHAIR
- Steve Sherer

USA/CANADA FORUM

Resolve to Attend the Forum



The holidays are over, and things are beginning to slow down. But the planning for the Forum never slows down. Let's make a resolution to get as many Lions to Louisville as possible. Let registering for the Forum be one of the first things you do this new year!

Coming to a Forum is such a great educational experience, but the social aspect of the Forum is just as great. You will have the opportunity to interact with 2000 other Lions from around the United States and Canada who have just as much great information to share as our presenters. You will have the opportunity to attend seminars presented by our International Officers, stop by the International Directors booth to have one-on-one conversations. Pick up additional courses towards your Lions University degrees. And speaking of the seminars, I just received an update to the seminars list from our education team and they are putting together an outstanding list of learning opportunities. There are also many other opportunities to take part in, in Louisville. Perhaps you might like to take a trip to the Louisville Slugger Museum and pick up a personalized bat.

Stroll down sports history by attending the Muhammad Ali Museum. Take a side trip to Churchill Downs, home of the famous Kentucky Derby. Or perhaps just stop at one of the many restaurants in downtown Louisville for a great meal and refreshments.

Our horses are still in the stables being cared for and fed, but I promise when the time comes, they will be ready to enter the paddock and set a pace of learning and

excitement in September. Don't miss out on this great learning opportunity.

Visit the website: lionsforum.org and register today.

Bert Nelson for International Director



Pam and I have enjoyed meeting many of you at the Mid-Winter conventions. Our hope is that we will meet again at the MD5M Convention in Winnipeg on April 19-21, 2024. There, the delegates will vote for the endorsement of the International Director, who will represent MD5M.

I feel I have the right qualifications to run for International Director which include:

Zone 6 Chairman

District 5M9 Public Relations Chairman

District 5M9 Newsletter Editor

Chairman of three 5M9 Mid-Winter Conventions

District Governor 2005-06

Council Chairman 2006-07

MD5M Long Range Planning Committee Chairman

MD5M Public Relations Chairman

MD5M Newsletter Editor

MD5M LCIF Chairman for past 11 years

Certified Guiding Lion

Global Extension Team

Global Leadership Team

Global Service Team

Training Instructor for six groups of incoming governors

Facilitator for 8 MD5M Regional Lions Leadership Institutes

Facilitator for 1 MD5M Emerging Lions Leadership Institute

Assisted on 5 International Director Campaigns for candidates from MD5M.

Campaign Chairman for IP Brian Sheehan

Planning Committee member of 2 USA/Canada Forums

Presenter at 5 USA/Canada Forums



Scan the QR code to listen to the endorsements by Lions from MD5M. Pam and I want to thank you for your consideration and continued support with my campaign for International Director. We plan to visit your Mid-Winter Conventions and we hope to see you in Winnipeg.

PCC Bert Nelson

lionbert.a.nelson@gmail.com Cell: 218-298-0599

DIABETES TRUSTEE VACANCY

The Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation and District 5M-11 are seeking a trustee to fill the vacant trustee position that Lion Sandy Bertilrud has held for the last 6 years. Please contact DG Mike or Lion Jim Johansen (jkjohansen55@gmail.com) if you have any interest in filling this role.

\$LCIF Gala\$

Paint the Town ~~RED~~

GREEN

Sat, April 13, 2024

Prairie Event Center

Parkers Prairie, MN

LCIF Gala Paint the Town **RED** Sat, April 13, 2024
Prairie Event Center Parkers Prairie, MN 10:30 am
to 4:00 pm If you want to join in on the fun that we

will have with PIP Brian and Lori Sheehan with raising money for LCIF, then read below what you need to know and do: Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find your personal balance that you have donated to LCIF. If you want to be presented with a MJF plaque or PMJF pin by PIP Brian Sheehan, then you will need to order your plaque/pin by Feb 29, 2024. You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending. Tickets are now available through your District LCIF Coordinator for \$45 each or \$500 for a table of 8 (perks included). The Gala will begin at 10:30 am at the Prairie Event Center with Lion Lori Sheehan leading a Lions in Motion activity at 11:00. There will be a costume contest with a green theme. Dinner will start at 12:30. If you need a place to stay before or after the gala, a Grandstay Hotel is located next door with rates starting around \$157.00. Their phone # is 1-855-230-2535. There are also hotels available in nearby Alexandria, MN.

Tickets are now available through your District LCIF Coordinator for \$45 each or \$500 for a table of 8 (includes perks).

The Gala will begin at 10:30 am at the Prairie Event Center with Lion Lori Sheehan leading a Lions in Motion activity at 11:00. There will be a costume contest with a green theme. Dinner will start at 12:30. There will also be a Silent Auction.

If you need a place to stay before or after the gala, the Grandstay Hotel is located next door with rates starting around \$157.00. Their phone # is 1-855-230-2535. There are also hotels available in nearby Alexandria, MN.

Any further questions please contact:

Bert Nelson 218-298-0599 or
lionbert.a.nelson@gmail.com



You don't need to wait for someone to award you a Melvin Jones, though it is a nice surprise. You can join the Fellowship yourself! For every \$1000 that you donate to LCIF, you first receive a plaque, then progressive pins.

Check with your District LCIF Coordinator to find your personal balance that you have donated to LCIF. If you want to be presented with a MJF plaque or PMJF pin by PIP Brian Sheehan, then you will need to order your plaque/pin by Feb 29, 2024. You can contact LCIF Donor Services at 630-203-3836 to have the plaque/pin sent to you and bring it to the LCIF Gala if you are attending.

15th Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update

March 16, 2024

Hosted by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes
Foundation, Inc.

More than 29 million people in the United States are living with diabetes—a growing number that includes 340,000 people in Minnesota alone. Unfortunately, that number is on the rise.

Join us at the annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update to hear from University of Minnesota

scientists, who are conducting leading-edge research aimed at both preventing and curing diabetes. Learn first hand how these scientists, funded by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, are making a direct impact in our community, state, and beyond.

Following the research presentations, guests will have the chance to interact with the scientists one-on-one, learn more about their research, and ask questions.

**Best Western Plus Kelly Inn
Sunwood/Congress/Senate Ballroom
100 4th Ave. S. St. Cloud, MN 56301**

Saturday, March 16, 2024

11 a.m. Registration and Social

12 p.m. Lunch 100 4th Ave. S.

1 p.m. Program

2:30 p.m. Meet n' Greet with Scientists

Faculty Research Presentations:

• **Development of a Next-Generation**

Approach to Fight Inflammation and Type 2 Diabetes - Dr. David Bernlohr

• **Curing Diabetes by Stopping the Body's Immune System - Dr. Brian Fife**

• **Bringing Immune Tolerance to the Clinic**

for People with Diabetes and Kidney Failure - Dr. Sabarinathan Ramachandran and Dr. Brian Flanagan

• **Production of Genetically Engineered Pigs as Donors of Organs for the Treatment of Diabetes and its Complications - Dr. Christopher McGregor**

RSVP by Tuesday, March 5

RSVP via email to:

MNLionsDiabetesFdn@gmail.com

A Zoom Link will be emailed to those unable to attend in person.

Please request Zoom link by email above.

A confirmation email will be sent prior to event.

New Members During the 1st Half of our Lions Fiscal Year, July 2023-December 2023

Barnesville

Ryan Beattie, Michael Harbin

David Cote, Reid Summers

Barnesville Thursday Nite

Kelly Jonson

Crookston

Randal Bergquist

Dilworth Loco

Marcy Harvala

Gonvick

Aaron Nelson, Cassie Nelson

Grygla

Tim Loven, Melissa Saurdiff

Caron Saurdiff, Missy Saurdiff

Hawley

Matt Laddusaw

Lake Bronson

Macy Cosley, Tyler Cosley

Vada Gatheridge, Zachary Gatheridge

Vern Lorenson

Lancaster

Galen Nordin, Julie Nordin

Newfolden

Toni Anderson-Donarski, Brian Longerbone

Adam Gast

Oslo

Cole Swanson

Plummer

Jason Anderson, Luke Lacoursiere

Greg Harstad

Red Lake Falls

Lynn Vatthauer

Sabin

Lisa Stengel

Stephen

John Kazmierczak

Thief River Falls

Chris Mills

Thief River Falls Lioness

Anita Hendrickson

Twin Valley

Dudley Wells

Warren

Wade Boroos

Warroad

Jeff Siverhus, Brady Swanson

Beausejour

Tracey Schwark

Lac Du Bonnet

Mellissa Bourgeois, Michel Bourgeois

Rhianna Bruyere, Patricia Hueston

Marvin Hueston, Sharon Jonas

Judith Leroye, Sebastien Ouvrard

Derek Tulloch, Phyllis Tulloch

Jillian Whitford, Anthony Zammit

Ste. Anne

Charles Belisle

Winnipeg Beach Dunnottar Lakeside

Stan Wojciechowski, Lora Lee Bjornson

Lynn Edie, Brian Johnson

Greg Onofreychuk, Geraldine Rudyk

Hjalmer Sanderson, Denyse Stewner

Millicent Wojciechowski

Net Gain as of 2/24/2024 - 12

CONGRATULATIONS LIONS!

How did those clubs get all these new members? Go back to District Governor Mike Hagen's comments on page one - JUST ASK!

Lion Kami Anderson
Lions 5M11 PDG

218-689-



2134



ZONE ONE MEETING

Zone one will have its first meeting of the year on April 18th in Barnesville. The meeting will be hosted by the Barnesville Thursday Night Lions Club.

Contact Zone One Chair, Lion Carol Skabo (218-790-4365) for further details or to RSVP.



Can Do Canines to Host Open House March 9

Can Do Canines invites you to attend an open house on Saturday, March 9, from 12-2 p.m., at its Can Do Canines campus (9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, Minnesota). Potential volunteers, clients, or anyone who might be interested in supporting the organization are invited to attend to learn how an assistance dog changes the life of a person with a disability.

Through a self-guided tour, attendees will be able to watch a trainer working with an assistance dog, hear from a volunteer dog host, talk with staff members from the volunteer department, pose questions to client services coordinators about the application process and meet graduate teams from each of the five types of areas Can Do Canines dogs: hearing, mobility, seizure, diabetes, and childhood autism.

There is no pre-registration for this event, though attendees will be asked to share some contact information when arriving.

More information about Can Do Canines is at www.candocanines.org.



Why don't I see any pictures or articles about my club in the Newsletter? The likely reason is that we didn't receive any. If you want to see pictures or articles about your club, please submit them to:

lions5m11news@gmail.com

Our goal is to publish a bi-monthly district newsletter. This will usually be towards the end of the month, in even numbered months. Depending on the timing, it may come out early in the odd numbered months.



LIONS DISTRICT 5M11 WEBSITE

<https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/>

You can find forms, events, newsletter archives and more. Check it out!

5M11 LIONS



For a list of District Cabinet members, go to:

<https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/cabinetmembers>

Next District
Newsletter is Due
out in late April

Get your newsletter
information in
before then