

DISTRICT 5M11 NEWSLETTER

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

Newsletter Editor:

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Hello to my favorite/favourite Lions!

As I write my final DG article, I am filled with emotions, just like when I started my DG year. I am happy to be done, sad to be done, excited to help the district in new ways, sad that I will not be visiting the clubs and members as much.

It has been a year of good times - meeting new friends and visiting with old friends. Learning how clubs operate and where we as a district can help our clubs. Growing as a Lion and a leader.

I know that this journey leaves me a better person and leader. I am grateful for all the support of our awesome 5M11 District! It has been a spectacular experience and an amazing way to grow yourself, get out of your comfort zone and serve as a lion. I strongly believe that we have many leaders in our district that would be capable and really enjoy this experience. Talk to one of us in the DG team and we can help you along the way.

I want to leave you with my why. Why am I a Lion? My pin for this year is a toolbox with 4 words: Dream, Be Brave and Believe. "Dream" is my "why." Quoting the late Lion Lenny Quin, Lions dream and Lions make dreams come true.

What is your dream? I had a hard time dreaming during the covid years, with the uncertainty and chaos of most workplaces; it just wasn't something I was doing, and I think a lot of you were in the same boat. Now, we can dream again, and we should never stop. When we stop dreaming, life can become a heartache.

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With nothing to look forward to, nothing to strive for, we - in a way - stop living a fulfilling life. Becoming DG was a dream of mine since I attended my first mid-winter convention.

Now that I have had the opportunity to be DG I am going to continue to find new dreams. Lions can help you make your dreams come true, and you can make other people's dreams come true. We are part of an amazing worldwide service organization that invests in its members and helps our communities and the people in them. "Together we Can" accomplish amazing things; first you need to dream. Second, Be Brave by allowing other people to know what your dreams are. Finally, you have to believe that you can accomplish those dreams and believe that you have what it takes to make the impossible possible.

Thank you to everyone on my cabinet who gave their time and talents to helping our district, as well as their own clubs. Also, to my convention committee, who put on a fabulous mid-winter convention. I have a special thank you to Lion Kevin Reich for asking me to become DG, Lions Chris and Pat Barnard and Lions Dave and Barb Hollyoake for continuing to guide and encourage me all the way back to that first mid-winter convention. And finally, to my husband, Lion Kris, who is my biggest fan and is always encouraging me to pursue my dreams. Dream big, and "together we can" make those dreams come to life.

Love always, Lion Kami

DG Lion Kami Anderson

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A MESSAGE FROM District Governor Elect MIKE HAGEN

Hello Fellow Lions of 5M11:

Wow - we are almost at the end of another Lions year!

As a reminder, please be sure to enter activities and service projects for the remainder of this year.

Also be sure to enter next year's officers. While entering officers, look at other members to ensure addresses, phone numbers, emails and such are correct.

My year as District Governor will begin shortly.

My wife and I will be traveling to Boston for the International Convention in the early part of July.

We have never traveled out East, and actually have done little traveling, so it should be an interesting time in many ways.

Speaking of my year as District Governor, I am in the process of building my Cabinet. I need Zone Chairs in Zones 2, 3 and 4. Consider stepping up to a Cabinet position. Let me know what you are interested in pursuing.

Watch for upcoming information for officer and zone chair training.

We also need someone willing to become First Vice District Governor. I can assure you that you will meet great Lions and learn so much. We have a great District Governor team who will help you every step of the way. You can do it!

The Regional Lions Leadership Institute will be held in BEMIDJI in October. This is the closest it will be held to most of us for years to come.

Let's have a great turnout from 5M11. Ask your president, secretary, District Governor team or myself for information.

Our Midwinter Convention will be held January 26-28, 2024, at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. We will be "planting the seed."

Registration forms are available now and can be found on the 5M11 website, as well as on Facebook group 5M11 Members only. Ask if you are unable to find it.

I look forward to the coming Lions year and meeting so many more awesome Lions. Remember to ask a friend, neighbor, or relative to become a Lion. Someone may be waiting for someone to ask them.

And finally, I would like to say Thank You to the District Governor team for their encouragement, assistance, and patience this past year.

Until next time, District Governor Elect Mike

5M11 LIONS



We Serve

PICTURES & EVENTS FROM AROUND 5M11



Above: Lion Jay presenting Shannon, Manager of Giant Tiger, plaque of appreciation for helping with “Hot Dog Dayz” fundraiser(s). Proceeds to bursaries

BELOW: Senior members of the Minnesota Honor Society at the Fertile-Beltrami School were recognized by the Fertile Lions Club on April 26 at Erickson’s Smokehouse in Fertile, Minnesota. After they were treated to a hamburger buffet, each senior shared a little about themselves and their plans for the future. From left in front were Kim Hitchen, Maren Sather and Brooklyn Strem. Back: Wesley Romberg, Riley Moland, Katelyn Aakhus and Ryan Van Den Einde



Dilworth Loco Lions Egg Bake Fundraiser on Saturday April 22 at the Dilworth VFW. Speaker was Donald Kinzler from the NDSU horticulture on “Lawn and Garden Planning”



Above: DG Kami Anderson is presented a certificate of appreciation by PDG Dennis Kelly III. Kami served this past year as the district governor liaison to MD5M Lions KidSight Foundation. Dennis serves as chair of the foundation board of directors.

Fertile Lions support Fertile-Beltrami Schools

Senior members of the Minnesota Honor Society at the Fertile-Beltrami School were recognized by the Fertile Lions Club on April 26 at Erickson's Smokehouse in Fertile, Minnesota. After they were treated to a hamburger buffet, each senior shared a little about themselves and their plans for the future. From left in front were Kim Hitchen, Maren Sather and Brooklyn Strem. Back: Wesley Romberg, Riley Moland, Katelyn Aakhus and Ryan Van Den Einde. Photo to the right >



Above: The Fertile Lions Club awarded \$1,000 scholarships to seniors graduating from the Fertile-Beltrami School in Fertile, Minnesota. Lions scholarship chairman Paul Borslien made the presentations at the Honors Banquet on May 1 at the school. From the left were Borslien, Katelyn Aakhus, Macrina Herbel, Kim Hitchen, Lydia Meyer, Brooklyn Strem and Riley Moland. Logan Ekstein, who is not pictured, received the Helmer and Bergie Haugen Scholarship, which is managed by the Fertile Lions Club.



Fertile Lions Club members and sixth graders from the Fertile-Beltrami School teamed up to clean up Fertile, Minnesota. The annual cleanup was May 10, when they gathered at the Fertile Community Center to get fitted with vests and gloves before cleaning areas including the fairgrounds, sports complex, park and approaches to the city. Afterwards everyone returned to the community center, where the Lions treated the children to pizza and ice cream. Northdale Station provided bottles of water.



KEY AWARD PRESENTED TO FERTILE LION NORMA ERICKSON

< PHOTO TO THE LEFT: A Senior Builder Key pin has been awarded to Fertile, MN, Lions Club member Norma Erickson by Lions International. Lions Zone Chairman Dorothy Roof, left, presented the pin to Erickson at the Lions Club meeting on May 24 in the Fertile Community Center. Key awards recognize individual Lions who sponsor two people who join and remain Lions members for at least a year.

5M11



LEOS IN ACTION



DILWORT-GLYNDON-FELTON LEOS WORK A WATER STATION AT THE D-FEET HEARING WALK IN BEMIDJI, ON JUNE 3rd.

Crookston High School Leo Club members Teagen and Tatum Lubinski helped the Polk County Historical Society put down roots. On May 13, the brothers dug holes for planting 15 American plum trees on the Crookston museum grounds. PCHS buildings and grounds. Chairman Francis LaPlante planted 15 American plum trees east of the museum.

Tatum Lubinski is the president of the Leo Club.



WEST ST. PAUL LIONS ACTIVITIES



Lions Peter, Kris and Jay waiting for water at the MB Marathon

Lions Jay Doe and Patricia Wight from West St. Paul Lions "hard at work" cutting cake at the 75th anniversary and reunion of West St. Paul elementary school 27 May 23



DG Kami Anderson proudly displays her hammer gavel at 5M11's cabinet meeting held April 22 in Karlstad, MN

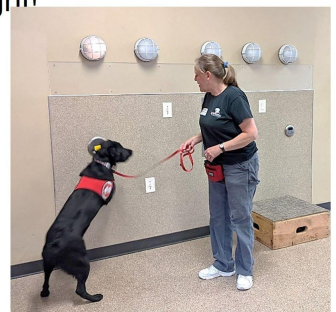
The Next Can Do Canines Open House is on a Weeknight!

Can Do Canines invites you to attend an open house on Tuesday, August 8, from 6-8 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 puppy raiser, talk with volunteer staff members, 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 trains dogs: hearing, mobility, seizure, diabetes and childhood autism. The assistance dog demonstrations will be held at 6:15, 6:55, and 7:35, and the puppy raiser will speak at 6:15, 6:35, and 7:15.

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.



Barnesville Lions Activities



Above: Lion Archie Haus is shown giving a \$1,000 check to Megan Bauer, board chairperson for the food pantry. The money is earmarked toward the \$8,000 approximate cost of the summer backpack program which provides 4 meals per week for students, ages 0-18. The most recent week provided 360 meals. Excellent support for the various Lions fundraisers allows the club to continue to support causes such as the food pantry, and continue to exemplify the Lions motto of, "We Serve."

DISTRICT 5M11 NEEDS A 1st VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR AND A 2nd VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR. ARE YOU ONE FOR THE JOB?



Lion Jason Mahrer is shown handing a check in the amount of \$1,001.00 to Corey Stuvland, one of the adults coaching the trap shooting team. Looking on are Tyler Drees and Christian Lien. The money will be used to purchase shells and clay pigeons for the team. Since its inception just a few short years ago, the team has grown steadily, and has both boys and girls competing on a level plane. The excellent community support for the various fund-raising events the Lions sponsor, allows the Club to make donations such as this and exemplify the Lions motto of, "We Serve."

Barnesville Lion Ken Bauer Inducted to Hall of Fame



Lion Ken Bauer, center, was presented a plaque as he was inducted into the MD5M Hall of fame as the 5M11 representative. The induction took place at the annual MD5M multiple convention held May 5-7 in St. Cloud, MN. He is pictured with IP Brian Sheehan and PID Debra Wasserman. Ken is a member of the Barnesville Lions Club and serves as the 5M11 representative for Leader Dog.

Congratulations Lion Ken!

UP NORTH D-FEET HEARING LOSS WALK



Above: Participants on the walk along Lake Bemidji



Members of the Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton Leos managed the water station for the MN Lions Hearing Foundation D-Feet walk held June 3 at Diamond Point Park in Bemidji, MN.



Pictured are some of the participants for the 2nd annual MN Lions Hearing Foundation D-Feet walk held June 3. Proceeds from the event benefit programs sponsored by the hearing foundation.

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

ZONE ONE LIONS HOLD

APRIL MEETING

BELOW: DISTRICT GOV. KAMI HOLDS UP THE Peace Poster winner



ZONE CHAIR CAROL SKABO



LCIF SPEAKER JOHN VIK



below: CLUB REPORTS



DG KAMI ANDERSON



PDG DOUG WIENS SPEAKS ON HIS UPCOMING MOTORCYCLE FUNDRAISING TRIP TO DENVER



CLUB REPORTS



5M11 LIONS AT THE MD5M MULTIPLE CONVENTION



Above: District Governor Elect Mike Hagen & Lion Karen Hagen at the Governor's Banquet

ABOVE: DILWORTH LIONS & DILWORTH LOCO LIONS WITH LCI PRESIDENT BRIAN SHEEHAN AND WIFE, LION LORI SHEEHAN



5M11 DISTRICT GOVERNOR KAMI ANDERSON



DGE MIKE HAGEN ENTERING THE BANQUET ROOM



LION KEN BAUER RECEIVING HALL OF FAME PLAQUE



MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER MARK LINDQUIST WITH DILWORTH LOCO LIONS GRACE & CAROL



5M11 had 19 representatives from 12 clubs at the Multiple Convention in St. Cloud.

Front row: Lions Gladwin Lynne, Mike Hagen, Sandy Bertilrud, Stacy Kleinwachter, Grace Kangas, Kami Anderson and Jerry Amiot.

Middle row: Lions Ken Bauer, Kevin Reich, Marilyn Zimdas, Sheila Reich, Karen Hagen, Pat Barnard, Carol Skabo and Barb Hollyoake.

Back row: Allen Bertilrud, Curt Zimdas, Mike Quiggle, Brent Kangas, Charlie Cox, Chris Barnard, Doug Wiens, Allen Skabo, Kevin Spaulding and Dave Hollyoake.

Missing: Lions Gary and Patty Purath, Jan and Jim Strandlie.

THE MID-WINTER CONVENTION IS JANUARY 26-28, 2024 AT THE SHOOTING STAR CASINO IN MAHNOMEN. FULL HOSPITALITY BOOK "EARLY BIRD PRICE" IS ONLY \$90, IF PURCHASED BEFORE JULY 31st. To register, go to the 5M11 website and click on forms. A link to the forms is as follows:

https://www.lionsdistrict5m11.org/_files/ugd/6254b6_9c119cbd9cf24f008dd4bc57a170d139.pdf

Winnipeg River Area Lions



Dear Fellow Lions

Introducing 5M11's newest Lions Club, the Winnipeg River Area Lions, which is a Club Branch of the Lions Club of Lac du Bonnet. The Winnipeg River Area Lions are based in Powerview/Pine Falls and serve the communities along the west shore of the Winnipeg River from McArthur Falls to the Beaches of Lake Winnipeg. The branch club has eight members and are working towards recruiting the twenty members required to charter a Lions Club by early 2024 or sooner.

The Branch Club meets at the Pine Falls Legion and have scheduled fundraising, service, and recruitment opportunities at various community events and markets. We have also begun our first fundraising project for future service projects in the planning stages.

We are selling tickets on a \$2,000 CASH RAFFLE. The draw date is September 3rd. We respectfully ask, if you're able, for your club to purchase a book of tickets. Tickets are \$5.00 each and there are 20 tickets per book – book price \$100 (Canadian funds).

One of our current challenges is raising money for our administration account, so we're asking for help from the Lions Clubs in our district. Any donations to our administration account would be greatly appreciated, and we are also hoping to partner with other clubs wherever we can to raise administrative funds and recruit new Lions together.

Yours in Lionism,

Joel Spearman

Lion President Joel Spearman - on behalf of the Winnipeg River Area Lions Executive team: Lion Odile Dubé (Secretary), Lion Les Barclay (Treasurer)

Hawley Lions KidSight Program Screens 93 Children

By **JEN MILLER**
Staff Writer

I'm sure you're all familiar with Helen Keller. As an infant, she developed a fever that took her sight and ability to hear, but despite the odds stacked against her, she grew up to become an advocate for people with disabilities.

But do you know why the Lions Club fosters and sponsors the American Foundation for the Blind? The connection ties back to Keller, who

attended a Lions Clubs International Convention in 1925. That evening, she stood before hundreds of Lions members gathered from across the country and challenged them to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." It was a challenge they proudly accepted and continued one hundred years later.

The Lions' primary mission has since evolved into the Lions Eye Institute www.lionseyeinstitute.org that, in a single year, recovered tissue from 4,700 cornea donors and 650 tissue

donors, restoring sight and enhancing the lives of over 9,000 people throughout the United States and in over 50 countries. They also founded Leader Dogs for the Blind and Lions KidSight USA.

Lions KidSight USA is a nationwide program that safeguards children's vision from ages six months through six years old. "According to educational experts, 80% of learning is visual. If children can't see well, it is much more difficult for them to learn efficiently. Yet most young children don't get their vision screened until they have problems learning or paying attention in school. By then, it may already be too late. Unless vision problems are detected early and corrected, they risk becoming permanent by age seven."

The Hawley Lions collect used glasses during bingo and fundraising events like Breakfast on the Farm. They also have donation boxes set up at Hawley Lutheran Church, Bell and Valley Premier Banks. "We really push it during bingo and have successfully received a whole spectrum of eyeglass fashion," Bob Haugen, who has been a Lions member for seventeen years, stated. "There are certain requirements, such as the glasses must be intact. Wire glasses are easier to work with, whereas plastic frames are brittle, but we take them all, including hearing aid."

About eight years ago, the Hawley Lions partnered with the Hawley School District to work with Addie Harms and Tara Anderson on early childhood sight screening. The partnership formed when Nurse Addie approached the Lions. "I had asked the Lions to help screen the kids'

vision a few years ago after talking to Bob Haugen and Claire Anderson about their new machine," Nurse Addie stated. "The old fashioned way of reading letters off a chart was just taking too long, and some kids were too shy to tell me their letters. We had a lot of rescreening to do with the old process. This is much more efficient."

Bob Haugen and Clair Anderson initiated the program in Hawley after purchasing a few cameras. "We went through operator training, learned the ins and outs of focusing the camera, and safety precautions. The cardinal sin would be not to drop the very expensive camera," Bob said.

This year, Rick Schultz, Ron Sorvig, Doug Keeping, and Gerry Kluck joined Bob, Clair and KidSight Coordinator, Jennifer Spielman, to screening the 93 children over two days. "Early Childhood Screening is for 3.5 to 5-year-old children who haven't previously been screened, though we're geared to go all the way into upper elementary," Nurse Addie said.

During the screening, a child puts his or her face to the camera and the screen focuses in on the eyes. It is a simple process yet detects several sight issues like hyperopia (farsightedness), Myopia (nearsightedness), and amblyopia (lazy eye), to name a few. A beep signals that the scan is complete. "After you run the camera for a while, the guys get good at it, and we go right down the line," Bob commented. "If there is an issue, we print out a referral for the parent to take to an Optometrist for further evaluation."

"The first year we did this, we received ultra-positive feedback. One

was from a mother with a child who wasn't progressing as she anticipated. Through the screening, we learned there was an eye issue, and after that issue was treated, her son turned the corner. It was a very positive experience and she was very grateful for our help," Bob explained.

All around, the partnership has had a significant impact. "It is so much more time efficient. We have a great setup for early childhood screening. This process is so simple the child just has to sit across from the machine, and it essentially takes a picture of their eyes. There is no hands-on. They just have to sit still for a minute. If the machine does indicate a problem, it prints out a referral letter saying what it found, they can bring that to their eye doctor," Nurse Addie explained.

"Tara and Addie have been great to work with in completing the program. It is an excellent partnership," Bob added.

The Lions will partner with the Hawley School District again next year. Each child screened at this free screening needs parental consent. "It's a fun program! When we finish, we show the kids the backside of the camera, something fun for them to see. We did have one situation where the little boy got the impression that his eyes had been stolen and teared up. Some children get scared and will want to sit on mom or dad's lap. But overall, it seems kids are much more socialized now, braver than I remember kids being," Bob said.

Out of the 93 children screened, 88 went through the process without issues, and 5 were given referrals. Nationwide, the Lions KidSight screens over a million kids per year.



Clair Anderson, Ron Sorvig, Rick Schultz, and Bob Haugen.

Above: From the Hawley Herald Newspaper April 17, 2023

BELOW: DILWORTH LIONS WORK TWO BENEFITS IN JUNE.



DILWORTH LIONS IN THE KITCHEN AT THE TASHA HOLT BENEFIT HELD IN DILWORTH ON JUNE 11th. TASHA IS RECOVERING FROM BREAST CANCER SURGERY.



DILWORTH LIONS WORKED WITH THE SABIN LIONS FOR THE JASON JOHNSON BENEFIT IN SABIN ON 6/17. OVER \$25,000 WAS RAISED THROUGH THE BENEFIT AND ONLINE GIVING.

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