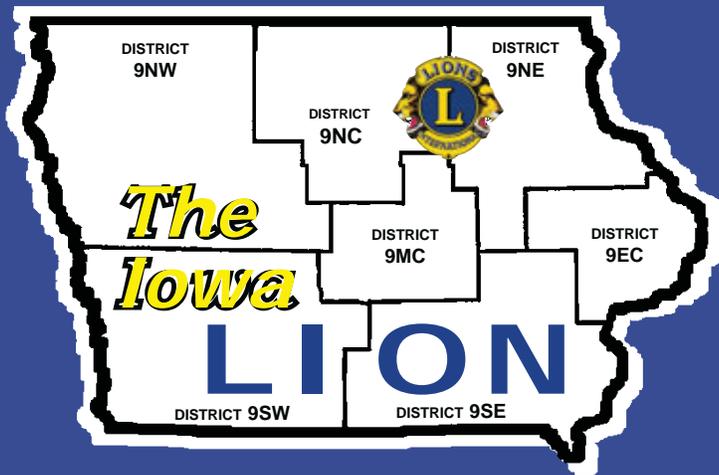


February 2015

INSIDE:

Students lead way for Leader Dog pups.....3
Iowa KidSight a wide-reaching service4
February 28 ILF Gala offers a fun evening.....5
Awards presented at Mid-Winter Conf.6
Mid-Winter Conference candid photos7
Reception honors PID Judy & PDG Ron.....22
Iowa pin traders plan annual pin contest.....23
Lions University: New online training tool23
Leo Ahmi Dhuna is LCI's Leo of the Year.....24
PLUS DISTRICT NEWS PAGES..... 8 - 21



Engaging presence of International President Joe Preston tops off highly successful 2015 Mid-Winter Leadership Conference

Topped off by the engaging presence of Lions Clubs International President Joe Preston and his wife, Joni, combined with the excellent job done by the planning committee headed by PDG Sheri Holliday and the efforts of many others, the Jan. 9-10, 2015 Mid-Winter Leadership Conference at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn was by all accounts a memorably outstanding Iowa Lions event.

Comments from International President Joe Preston's formal message on Jan. 10

A reported count of 353 Iowa Lions and their guests were present to enthusiastically welcome International President Preston and his wife Joni during the Conference. "It's truly great to be back in my home state," said Preston, who was born and raised in Iowa until age 15. "Returning was a true priority for Joni and I," he told the crowd.

Preston said he wants to do everything he can to Strengthen the Pride of Lions' history, traditions and service accomplishments. He emphasized every Lion plays an important role locally and globally, but none can do it alone. "You truly are part of something special, and staying focused on service and working together will carry us into the future," he stated.

Recruiting numbers are up - the highest in 20 years - as Preston's ASK 1 campaign continues. However, he stressed that keeping members active and involved is just as important as chartering new clubs. Proper inductions and orientations are crucial, he added.

Preston's recently-launched membership retention effort, Keep 1, calls on all Lions to do their part. "Each can do something to keep a Lion involved and feel welcome," he noted. Preston stressed the importance of investing time to build future leaders. He advised his listeners to look for rising stars and encourage them to lead within the clubs and beyond.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 2



Lions International President Joe Preston and his wife, Joni, are pictured beside Autumn Weaver, Miss Iowa in the National Coed pageant. Weaver, who was born deaf and received a cochlear implant at age three, gave an inspirational, motivational speech at the Mid-Winter Conference breakfast session. It led President Preston to present her the plaque she is holding, featuring the 2014 winning Peace Poster image. Following that the President invited Weaver to become a full-fledged Lions club member which she quickly accepted, and the president formally inducted her.

Don't miss the Iowa Lions Foundation Gala in Cedar Rapids, Feb. 28!

- See Page 5 for final details and a ticket order form -

Speakers, seminars, reports, leader training, facilities, awards and presentations all part of successful 2015 state conference

-- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 --

The president closed his address with an uplifting challenge. "We need to roar with conviction and let the world know who we are, what we do and why they should join us." Judging by the enthusiastic roar that followed, Iowa's clubs are up to the challenge.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thank you to Lion Judy Schlesselman for assistance in reporting on the President's message.

Committee & Conference highly praised

When asked for a reflective comment about the conference, Planning Committee Chair PDG Sheri Holliday exclaimed, "Awesome job, Committee!" She added, "I may be a little prejudiced on this but I think this was the best Mid-Winter Conference I have ever attended." She added, "Everything was perfect from our new space at the Holiday Inn to the partner in service baskets (which raised \$4,000 for the Iowa Lions Foundation) to the seminars that were available. We had top-notch speakers at our meal events." She expressed "a big thank you" to President Preston "for his huge part in the Murder Mystery and for all the motivation he gave us throughout the conference."

After 40 years the search begins!

By SA Tim Wilson, Chairman,
Editorial Board for The Iowa Lion

In April of this year Lion Roger Allen will begin his 40th year as Editor of the Iowa Lion Magazine. Forty years this dedicated man has shown his passion for, "Showing Lions in as flattering and complimentary way as possible ... unless they are a Tail Twister." And Lion Roger has done just that!

Well, at the Council meeting at this year's Mid-Winter Leadership Conference Lion Roger submitted a letter to the Council stating it is time he start handing over the reins to someone new. He isn't totally riding off into the Iowa Lion sunset. He will for a time continue to work with production of the District Governor newsletter pages of the magazine while the new person will handle everything else.

The Editorial Board has been given approval by the Council to solicit applications for the position of Editor of the Iowa Lion Magazine. Applications will be taken until May 1st.

Some of the things we will be looking for in a candidate are: Knowledge in a professional-type of layout program such as InDesign or Quark Express, Microsoft Word, and a professional-type photo editing program such as Photoshop. We will also be looking for someone that has a professional-type camera and is competent in photography including lighting, exposure and composition.

This is only a short overview. If you are interested and would like a full version of the job description and application please contact SA Tim Wilson at the Iowa Lions State Office. Remember the deadline is May 1.

Christie Vilsack promoting reading, education around the globe

By PDG Nancy Slack for The Iowa Lion

Our Saturday evening speaker was Iowa's former first lady and former Iowa educator, Christie Vilsack. Mrs. Vilsack was appointed by President Obama in 2013 to be a senior advisor for International Education. In 2014 she was in Macedonia working with the U.S. government and the Lions and with our International President, Joe Preston working with those in extreme poverty to aid teaching children to read. In 2012 a Memorandum of Literacy was established with the Lions for a 10 year period. The Lions are currently in 9 countries. These programs are working to ensure all children are in school and learning.

In the past there had been Radio Education with a goal to aid one million children to read, to give them employment skills and bring education to 15 million in areas of crisis.

In Mawlay the children are learning letters and words. They write with chalk on the bare walls of their thatched roof clay homes. The mothers sang in celebration of their children learning to read.



CHRISTIE VILSACK

THE IOWA LION

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE IOWA LION, 2300 South Duff, Ames, Iowa 50010 (Tel. 515-232-2215)

All kinds of books are needed, especially in their native languages. This year a global book fund is being launched. They are working with computer aspects for downloading the books and getting the translations and books into print and distributed. There is work being done to aid persons with sight impairments. Books will be printed in Braille.

In Macedonia they are recognizing 250,000 persons with treatable vision problems. They are establishing libraries for the sight impaired.

In Mrs. Vilsack's presentation she stated that the local Lions will be in these places forever. She conveyed her conviction that every child deserves the chance to have an education.

Miss Iowa Coed Autumn Weaver's message inspires – and she accepts President Preston's invitation to become a Lion

By Lion Sylvia Hain for The Iowa Lion

Autumn Weaver, Miss Iowa through the National Coed Pageant, gave an inspirational and motivational presentation at the Jan. 10 Mid-Winter Leadership Conference breakfast session.

Autumn, who was born deaf and had a cochlear implant at age three, said "I will not let my deafness define me." Deaf people can lead very successful lives. Her ability to speak to a large audience identifies Autumn as a strong leader. She has overcome not only what many would label as a handicap, but is also forgiving of the many who bullied her throughout her high school because of her deafness.

Autumn encouraged all Lions to work with respect and loyalty to all countries throughout the world and her goal is to find peace and share it with others. She closed her address by reading a poem, "My Hands." It

reflected many of her own experiences. The end of the poem particularly struck me and spoke to the Lions' Motto: We Serve. She read, "The power to change things in life lies right here in my hands."

At the National Miss American Coed's Midwest competition, from which Autumn had just returned, she was voted for both the "People's Choice" and the "Volunteer Service" awards.

Autumn is a 2010 graduate of Boone High School. She is currently studying through Kaplan University, in its Criminal Justice program.

International President Joe Preston presented Autumn with a plaque featuring the poster that won last year's Peace Poster Contest. IP Preston then asked Autumn to become a full-fledged (versus honorary) Lions member, an invitation she quickly accepted. President Preston led her in the oath and her mother, Heather Nigro, pinned the emblem on her.



Iowa Falls fourth graders lead the way in supporting Leader Dog program

By Lion Mary Halstead for The Iowa Lion

In Iowa Falls, fourth graders are leading the way when it comes to supporting Leader Dogs for the Blind. Teacher Susan Jones and a team of students from Rock Run elementary told seminar attendees about participating in a 12-year ongoing program that not only trains and supports leader dog pups financially but also adds hands on education to the students in a variety of subjects.

It all started when Jones, a fourth grade teacher was looking for a project where her students would learn life skills in money, the work world, and community life. She wanted the students to have a school store with profits to go elsewhere than the usual school fundraiser destinations. The answer was the Leader Dog puppy program.

The students (two currently in fourth grade and two older students who had gone through the program) took the story from there and talked about their experiences with the program. "It's made me feel proud of myself," noted one while another said, "It helped me become a leader."

And leaders they are. Over the last 12 years they have supported 46 Leader Dogs pups financially and have been the only school in the nation helping train these pups to become leader dogs.

These charming and knowledgeable, enthusiastic communicators were panelists for one of the Mid-Winter Conference's popular seminars, about their Iowa Falls student project in support of Leader Dog pups.



Pictured are, from left, Grace Jones, Faith Jones, Teah Miller, Allie Off, and Mrs. Susan Jones, fourth grade teacher. Grace, 8th grade, and Faith, 6th grade, are daughters of Mrs. Jones; Teah and Allie are among her fourth grade students.

Iowa Lions Foundation

Iowa KidSight: providing a service in 465 Iowa towns

By **Lion Chris Anderson,**

District 9SW Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee

Iowa KidSight, formerly known as Coming to Your Senses, challenged Iowa Lions to screen kids' eyesight as a pioneer project for Lions International. With the help of a Lions Clubs International Foundation Core 4 grant, we started screenings using refurbished Photoscreener (Polaroid type) film cameras. The first fiscal year was from May 2000 to April 2001 with 1,576 kids screened and an almost 7% referral to an eye specialist.

This compares to year 14 from May 2013 to April 2014 where we screened 40,419 kids in 2,516 sessions. The totals for the 14 years are 20,509 sessions, screening 321,658 kids ages 6 months to 48 months with a 5.25% referral rate. Since inception eye screenings have been performed in 465 Iowa towns. The exciting part besides all of the kids that have been screened is that we are now using the iScreen digital cameras. It is a great time to switch over to the new digital cameras since the film supply is no longer available. The new cameras are not only a lot faster, cheaper to operate (no film), easier to use and the results can quickly be downloaded by Ethernet to Iowa City for quicker processing. We now have in MD9, 64 digital cameras available in the seven Iowa districts and the Iowa KidSight office.

For several years Lion volunteers have screened kids at the Iowa State Fair. At the 2014 fair, 1,043 kids were screened. Visitors were from 22 states that ranged from Washington state to New Jersey with kids screened coming from 267 cities. The results showed a 4% referral rate, 2.59% borderline and 36 needed retakes. What a great service provided for these kids and at no charge to their parents.

Lions of the USA recently announced the rollout of the Lions [KidSightUSA](#) program. This nationwide program is for kids 6 months to 6 years of age as compared to the Iowa program of ages 6 months to 48 months. According to education experts, 80 percent of learning is visual. Presently Lions in the USA are screening 500,000 kids each year. The goal of Lions [KidSightUSA](#) is to eventually gear up to screen 25 million kids. It will take a lot of time, training and investment but Lions can and will make it happen.

Last September, Iowa KidSight reached the goal of screening number 333,333. This occurred at the Clarinda Community Preschool. 9SW KidSight Chair Sheila

Haidsiak and her right hand man Paul Barker had the honor of screening this young lady. A celebration for Ryver Richardson and her parents was held in November at the preschool to honor this special milestone. A special note is that of the 333,333 screened, 17,759 have been referred to an eye doctor, which is around a 5.3 percent referral rate.

When kids are referred to an eye specialist for diagnosis, the following conditions have been found: Anisometropia, Astigmatism, Hyperopia, Myopia, Strabismus, and other conditions such as cataracts and even eye tumors.

With our commitment to continual training for screeners and the financial support from all Lions clubs in Iowa we can do even more. Thank you to all Lions who provide the great service for the future of our kids and grandkids to see well. To learn more or get involved with the KidSight program, please contact your KidSight District Coordinator. It is an honor for me to be an Iowa KidSight Steering Committee Program Trustee for the Iowa Lions Foundation.



Lion Paul Barker is pictured, showing how he screened #333,333 – Ryver Richardson – at the Clarinda Community Preschool.

Foundation Gala is Feb. 28 in Cedar Rapids -- BE THERE!

By **Lion Phillip Larabee, Gala Chairman**

The Iowa Lions Foundation Gala is Saturday, February 28, 2015 at the Double Tree Hotel and Convention Center, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. **Our guest speaker for the evening is retired FDNY Lt. Joe Torrillo** who survived the collapse of World Trade Center Towers 1 and 2 on September 11, 2001. The evening starts at 5 p.m. with the silent auction tables, a steak meal at 6:45 p.m., Speaker at 8 p.m., Live Auction at 9 p.m., with the final drawing for round trip airfare for two to Las Vegas worth \$500.



If you have never been to an Iowa Lions Foundation Gala “you are in for a night of fun” is what a person who attended last year’s Gala told me recently. The evening is built to celebrate the past, current and future accomplishments of your Iowa Lions Foundation. The money raised during the evening only helps support your Iowa Lions Foundation.

Please purchase your tickets (\$50.00 each) by completing the order form below and sending your money to Lion Paul Hain Jr. (address in the order form). Be there for a night of fun and entertainment!

TICKET ORDER FORM FOR 2015 IOWA LIONS FOUNDATION GALA

Saturday, February 28 - Cedar Rapids, IA

Number of tickets desired: _____

Price per ticket: \$50.00

Total: \$ _____

Make your check payable to:
Iowa Lions Foundation

Mail your check and order form to:
Paul Hain, PO Box 401, Lone Tree, IA 52755

NAME: _____

MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

Please note with your order if you need a special dietary meal.

A report on Iowa Lions Council of Governors meeting at Mid-Winter Conference

By **State Administrator Tim Wilson**

The Council of Governors held their third meeting of the Lions year at Mid-Winter Leadership Conference starting on Thursday evening.

After the normal protocol the Council got down to business. SA Tim Wilson presented the minutes from the last meeting, the financial report, the revised budget, the State Office report and a proposed change to the Iowa Lions Policy Manual. These were all approved.

All of these reports are available at the Lions State Office.

CC Don Maynes introduced Clayton Koppel and Bret Boeger who explained the Legacy Giving Program that has been designed to generate donations to the Iowa Lions Foundation. After the presentation the Council approved the motion to send the proposal to the Foundation Board.

The Council heard from various State Committee Chairs:

PDG Sheri Holliday-- Iowa Lions Youth Exchange Camp.

Council approved Changes to the ILYEC Policy Manual.

PDG Holliday also reported on the Mid-Winter Leadership Conference and what the attendance was expected. 338 Registered, 21 Leos and 68 First Timers.

PDG Gary Glockoff reported about the donations to LCIF by Iowa Lions.

PDG Herman Kopitzke reported on the proposed changes to the Iowa Lions Foundation Constitution and By-laws and the Articles of Incorporation. These were approved by the Council.

PDG Kathy Rhinehart spoke on the Leos that would be at the Conference and what was in store for them.

PCC Jerry Inman, Iowa Kidsight, presented the Iowa KidSight report.

PDG Connie Inman, GMT Coordinator, presented her Membership report highlighting the ASK 1, START 1 and KEEP 1 program.

PCC Ardie Klemish, GLT Coordinator, asked the Council to approve updating the Training Modules on the Iowa Lions website. This was given the Council’s approval. She also asked they consider purchasing additional audio/video equipment to be used for Conventions. The Council voted to send the request to the Personnel and Equipment Committee.

PCC Diana Benzing, Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, brought forth recommendations for the committee. Two were approved and one was sent to the IT Committee.

SA Tim Wilson, Chair of the Editorial Board, yielded to Lion Roger Allen who read a letter in which he expressed his desire to progressively retire as the Editor of the Iowa Lion Magazine. The Council approved the motion to instruct the Editorial Board to search for a candidate and report back at the State Convention.

Lion Jim Arnold, Iowa Lions Foundation President, reported on the Foundation.

As is required at the Mid-Winter Council meeting the current District Governors are to declare if they wish to run for Council Chair for the next Lions year. This was done with four of the seven DGs saying they were interested.

2015 IOWA LIONS MID-WINTER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



The International President's Award was presented at the Mid-Winter Conference to PDG Kathy Rhinehart of Eldridge, second from left, and Lion Paul Hain of Lone Tree, at right. With them are the award presenters, International President Joe Preston and PID Judy Hankom. This honor is second only to the Ambassador of Goodwill award. Also announced to receive this honor but not present was PDG DeEtta Rasmussen of Fort Madison.



State Administrator PDG Tim Wilson, in center, was honored at the Mid-Winter Conference with the International President's Leadership Award. With him are the award presenters, PID Judy Hankom and IP Joe Preston. The award was also announced for two persons not able to be present: PDG Paul Scherner of Dubuque and Lion Lois Jones of Iowa Falls.

“Freedom Rock” artist’s seminar draws big crowd at Mid-Winter Conference

By Lion Steve Halstead for The Iowa Lion

When Ray Sorensen’s chubby son was born, Ray immediately nicknamed him “Bubba” and it stuck.

Speaking to a standing room only crowd, Bubba described how he came to paint the first “Freedom Rock” near Greenfield (his home) in 1992. The rock, estimated to weigh 60 to 90 tons, required the efforts of three D-8 Cats to move it. Memorial Day was coming up and Bubba wanted to do something special to thank our veterans. It took him the month of May to complete the project and he was overwhelmed by the outpouring of support and praise he received.

Since then, he has painted a new, different scene every year in time for Memorial Day. Sometimes he used veterans he knew as models and sometimes veterans from his own family. As time went on and the fame of the “Rock” spread across the nation, veterans asked that their ashes be mixed in with the paint he uses. Some 70 veterans have been honored in this way.

The Iowa Lottery used the “Freedom Rock” to raise money for the Veterans’ Trust Fund, generating a total of \$4 million. Victory Motorcycles in Spirit Lake asked him to paint the gas tank of one of their bikes that was then raffled off by the Iowa Lottery, raising even more money for the Veterans’ Trust Fund.

Various veterans groups began to approach Bubba about painting a Freedom Rock in their communities. This prompted Bubba to set a goal of painting a “Freedom Rock” in every county. He has now painted 25 rocks and over 65 other counties have made reservations to have a “Freedom Rock” painted in their counties. He will be doing just one “Rock” per county and it is on a first come, first served basis. Bubba estimates that it will take 8 to 10 years to meet his goal. You can view all the completed “Freedom Rocks” at www.freedomrock.com.

Bubba also paints murals (indoors) and has a photography business. His fame has spread to where he has had requests from other states seeking “Freedom Rocks.”



Holding the interest of a standing room only crowd for the seminar he led at the Mid-Winter Conference was “Freedom Rock” artist Ray “Bubba” Sorensen. In addition to Freedom Rocks he has painted he showed examples of commercial jobs he has done.



Lions International President Joe Preston made a special presentation of the International President's Medal to this esteemed group of Iowa Lions at the Mid-Winter Conference. Each has represented Iowa as an International Director and have had a personal working relationship with President Preston. From left: IP Preston with PIDs Norm Dean, Judy Hankom, Del Brown and Gary Fry.



Laughter was the goal and there was plenty of it on the opening evening of the 2015 Mid-Winter Conference. The facilitators were professional actors Donna and Dan Chase - whose business is "Jest Entertainment." They are dressed in red in the two photos above. Everyone in the audience was given an amusing role in a partly unscripted murder mystery, "Bullets in the Bathtub." With Donna Chase above in "Roaring 20s" attire are Briget Grindatti, in center, and PDG Sheri Holliday, at right. Holliday was chairman of the planning committee for the conference.



Dan Chase of Jest Entertainment "interviews" Marshalltown Evening Lion Bob Johnson - alias "Baby Two Faces Corneoli" - during the "whodunit" ad-libbing hilarity of "Bullets in the Bathtub" Friday night entertainment at the Mid-Winter Conference. Bob was coached to say "bada bing bada boom!"



An eye-catching display of Ciccotti Art Glass greeted visitors to the room for vendors and the display of 96 silent auction baskets. The baskets raised \$4,000 for the Iowa Lions Foundation.



From left, Lions Steve and Gina Andre said they enjoyed displaying their line of Norwex products and visiting with Lions and other vendors at the Mid-Winter Conference.

Gift of \$10,000 presented for Iowa KidSight



A donation of \$10,000 to the Lions-sponsored Iowa KidSight program was presented at the Mid-Winter Conference through the Principal Financial Group Foundation match \$1 per \$1 program and PDG Michael D. Farmer of Cedar Falls, a Financial Advisor with the Principal Financial Group of Des Moines. Holding the check are Farmer, second from right, and Tim Minard, Principal Senior Vice President, U.S. Distribution. Others pictured in line with them are members of the endowment committee for Kid-Sight; from left, PCC Ardie Klemish, PDG Dale Shenefelt, PDG Mike Nissly, and KidSight Coordinator Lori Short. PDG Farmer and his wife, Jasmine, donated \$5,000 and Principal matched it. Also present but not pictured was Joe Sheridan, a Principal Director. The Farmers also donated \$5,000 to Santori Hospital Foundation, Cedar Falls, matched by Principal.

DISTRICT 9NE

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Lovely greetings from the ‘Corner Pocket’

Did you all survive January ok? It was a cold one for sure. Spring is around the corner, and that means our 9NE district convention on March 20-21 in Vinton. In this issue you will find the registration, etc. that you need to get signed up for the convention. Please read carefully and pay close attention to the deadline and details for registration. Our guest International Director is Karla Harris from Milwaukee, and she is a very nice lady. And if you enjoy band music, you will really like the concert by the Marengo Civil War Band. Plus, there will be interesting and enjoyable seminars/presentations/displays. It should be a fun time!

Please notice that the Friday night event is at the Vinton Country Club (on the east side of town by the hospital) with Social Hour at 5:30 pm and dinner/entertainment at 7:00pm. The Saturday convention is at the Braille School (on the west side of town on Hwy. 218), with registration from 8 am – noon and cabinet meeting at 8:30am. The Vinton Lions will have some golf carts available to help get you to the school on Saturday from the parking lot.

Speaking of the convention, club officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair) please take advantage of the training being offered. These important club officers need to know what to do during the year, and this is an ideal way of getting that knowledge! Also, clubs need to be thinking of who will be officers for next year. You need to get these finalized so we can know who these officers will be by convention time and so they can be trained at the convention!

Every club soon needs to appoint a Centennial Chairperson thru 2017. This person would spearhead club activities to compliment the goals of the LCI Centennial project. These goals and project ideas can be found on the LCI website. Once you have a centennial chair picked, please

let 9NE Centennial Chair Stephen Becker know who that person is. His email and address are found in the Who’s Who. Your cooperation in this is very much appreciated.

If any club is willing to donate some money to help defray convention expenses, that would be really great. Just send a check to **me** made out to 9NE and I will make sure it gets in the correct fund. Also, clubs are encouraged to provide a prize for the Tail Twister raffle. This is a real fun part of the convention, and the proceeds will help our district. One last thing – please make sure someone from your club brings your club banner to be displayed. This adds a lot to the whole mood of the convention.

The students who submitted a Peace Poster will have their posters on display, including the 9NE winning poster by Naomi Hovenga of the Janesville Club. Make sure you take a look at these fine examples of peace, love and understanding. Our district has some really talented students, and maybe some future Lions!

Club News

Belle Plaine Lions will have its annual pancake breakfast on Feb. 22 at the Community Center. Proceeds will help finance the summer city baseball/softball youth program.

Dyersville Lions donated \$525 to Iowa Lions Foundation, and also donated \$700 to the local food pantry.

Monona Lions organized and sponsored the 2nd annual craft & vendor show in conjunction with the Monona Boy Scouts pancake breakfast.

Newhall Lions donated two \$100 gift cards to needy families. They also provided treats for Santa’s arrival in Newhall on a firetruck.

Van Horne Lions served soup at the annual ‘Light Up Van Horne’ event. Proceeds went to help a young man battling cancer.



LaPorte City Lions had a good Christmas party in December. DG Jack Schlesselman was guest speaker, and the group was entertained by the Union High School Carolers.



New Hampton Lions hosted a 37th annual wrestling tourney for ages pre-school up to 8th grade students.

Vinton Lions hosted the annual fundraiser for the Eastern Iowa Honor Flights. In the picture at right,

Roger Uthoff, at right, presents a framed recognition certificate to 2nd VP Mike Timmerman, left, and Lions member and fire fighter Mike Barron, center.



New members and membership

I will post the new members gained since January 1 in the March IOWA LION. This brings me to the topic of membership. We had a rough Nov. – Dec. in membership loss (also several deceased members). I understand that some clubs drop members before the new year so they don't have to pay the second half dues for them. Also, I understand the motivation not to install a new member until the second half dues come out in January. That being said, let's all rededicate ourselves to getting new members to replace the ones dropped. It's more pleasant to have positive membership instead of negative. We have a real nice district, so let's keep the momentum going!

Finally – a joke. A man and his wife were in sensitivity/communication training. The leader asked the wife what her husband's favorite sport was. "Football", said the wife. He said that was correct. The leader then asked the man what his wife's favorite flower was. He answered – "Pillsbury?". She just rolled her eyes.

Have a good Valentines chuckle!

LIONS DIST. 9NE CONVENTION

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

AT VINTON COUNTRY CLUB, 314 N. 9th AVE.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

AT IOWA BRAILLE SCHOOL, 1002 G AVE.

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

LION – YES___ NO___

NAME: _____

LION – YES___ NO___

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

EMAIL: _____

CLUB: _____

Please note special dietary needs

Friday Dinner/program at \$15 per person

Dinner Choice: Ham___ or Chicken___

No. ___ x \$15.00 = _____

Saturday Program/Lunch at \$20 per person

(INCLUDES REGISTRATION FEE)

No. ___ x \$20.00 = _____

Fri.-Sat. Meals/Program at \$35 per person

(INCLUDES REGISTRATION FEE)

No. ___ x \$35.00 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

REGISTRATION DUE BY MARCH 11!

(\$5 late fee after March 11)

Make checks payable to: LIONS 9NE DISTRICT

Mail to: Lion Alan Woodhouse

1515 Washington Drive, Vinton, Iowa 52349

WHERE TO STAY

Cobblestone Inn & Suites (across from Braille School)

1202 W. 11th Street, Vinton, Iowa 52349

Room Reservation:

Call 319-472-2220 – Rooms at \$85 + tax

Modern Motel (4 blocks North of Braille School)

302 N. K Avenue, Hwy 218, Vinton, Iowa 52349

Room Reservation:

Call 319-472-2391 or Visit modernmotelvinton.com

Rooms at \$45 and \$55 + tax

All rooms will be completely updated by March 2015

When making your reservation, be sure to mention you are a Lion to get the discounted rate listed.

DISTRICT 9SE

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We are now just a little more than halfway through this Lions year and the 9SE District Convention is quickly approaching. Lion Penny Veldhuizen and the district convention planning committee have done an outstanding job of putting together what promises to be a fun and interesting convention to celebrate our accomplishments this year.

The convention will be held April 10-11 at Oskaloosa's newly-built Gateway Church of the Nazarene, located across the street from the Oskaloosa Walmart on Highway 92.

The committee has planned an afternoon tour of Tassel Ridge Winery on Friday, April 10, for those who can make it early. A Vaudevillian-style Lions Follies will follow the Friday night supper and feature magic, music and lots of laughter.

Saturday, April 11, will kick off with coffee and a wonderful array of Dutch pastries, training sessions and interesting seminars including "How to Use MyLCI," "The Leader Dog Kennel Project," "Recycled Eyeglasses: What Happens After the Box," "Getting Your Degree with Lions University" and "Membership: Thinking Outside the Box." Saturday we will dine on southern-style barbecue at the recognition luncheon before we have our business meeting where we will elect a new district governor and vice district governors, as well as vote on a change in district dues. I encourage every club to send at least one or two members to represent them.

Please see the convention registration form in this issue and register early. It is especially important that you book your motel rooms early as the Oskaloosa motels fill up this time of year with construction workers from other areas. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Oskaloosa Comfort Inn. These will be held until March 25.

Welcome New Members

Member	Club	Sponsor
Aimee Goldmeyer	New London	Linda Rowe

In Memoriam

Duane Nollsch – Iowa City
James Yeager – Keosauqua
Robert Lane – Ottumwa Noon

LIONS 9SE CONVENTION

APRIL 10-11, 2015 • OSKALOOSA, IOWA

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

NAME: _____

Lion? Y / N OFFICE HELD: _____

PHONE #: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CLUB: _____

PLEASE NOTE ANY SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON WINERY TOUR • 2 PM

Number Persons Attending _____

FRIDAY DINNER/PROGRAM • \$15 per person

No. _____ at \$15 = _____

SATURDAY PROGRAM/MEAL • \$25 per person

(Includes registration fee)

No. _____ at \$25 = _____

FRI-SAT MEALS/PROGRAM • \$40 per person

(Includes registration fee)

No. _____ at \$40 = _____

Total Enclosed = _____

REGISTRATION DUE BY MARCH 20

(\$5 late fee to be added if registration after March 20, 2015)

Make checks payable to: Lions District 9SE

Mail to: Lion Penny Veldhuizen

1516 South First Street, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

ASK 1, KEEP 1 CRITICAL AT THIS TIME

We are far from our membership goals for the year; in fact, we are in danger of our district being placed in status quo because we've lost so many members. While we've gained 36 new members so far this year, we've lost 121, putting us at an 85-member loss and leaving our district at the moment with 1,233 Lions. The minimum number of members to maintain a district status is 1,250, so we must gain more new members and gain back some of our old members or risk being redistricted. We are working on chartering a couple of new clubs, but it is important that each Lion also ASK 1 and KEEP 1. Consider using the new Your Club, Your Way booklet to help you customize your club meetings to what your Lions members and community needs to keep your club active and vital.

Remember, the goals set for our district at the beginning of the year were for each club with less than 20 members to have a 20% increase in membership and each club with more than 20 members to have a 10% increase. To achieve this goal, we need to retain the members we have while we ask new service-minded people to become Lions – KEEP 1, ASK 1.

Lions Clubs International offers many tools to help with either of these tasks, including the Club Excellence Program,

the Ask 1 brochure, Your Club Your Way and others. Do not hesitate to ask Global Membership Team Coordinator Brian Pattyson or myself for ideas and help.

Strengthening the Pride

ALBIA – Hosted its annual Christmas dinner with an admission price of a non-perishable food item. The items were then donated to the local food pantry.

BURLINGTON AREA LEOS – Helped with the Burlington Police Department’s Shop with a Cop program. Student members wrap the gifts that the children purchase with the help of a law enforcement officer.



FAIRFIELD – When the lights are turned on for the holidays on the Fairfield square, the Lions Club sponsors carriage rides around the area, followed by a soup supper and auction/silent auction.

FORT MADISON – Donated money to a local food shelter; collected recycled eyeglasses; rang the bell for the Salvation Army.

GRANDVIEW-LETTS – Helped pay for two pairs of eyeglasses; donated \$300 each to three different food banks; also made a donation to the Leader Dog Kennel Project.

IOWA CITY – Gave toys and books to children at a Christmas party; bought six pairs of eyeglasses for people in need; transported eye tissue; sorted, cleaned and packaged 1,500 pairs of recycled eyeglasses; assisted an individual with hearing aids; donated breakfast food supplies to Johnson County Food Bank; hosted a pancake breakfast with Santa; screened 253 children for Iowa KidSight.

KNOXVILLE – During its annual Christmas party, Knoxville Lions presented Warren Coleman Honorary Awards to Lions Brad Crosssett, Judy Herman, Gayle VanGorp, Robert Reitveld, Larry Nicholson and Doug Bauer; presented Melvin Jones Awards to Lions Steve Jones, Larry Nicholson, Chad Montegna and Brian Becker.

LEIGHTON – Held its annual soup and sandwich supper in conjunction with the city of Leighton’s Christmas Lights celebration, raising \$5,000 for P.E.T. Iowa, a local company that builds mobility chairs for people who cannot walk.

PICTURED: Leighton President Gary Vanden Berg (left) presents Curt Veenstra, a young man recovering from a stroke, with a check for \$2,400 to help with expenses. The money was raised at the club’s annual pancake breakfast.



LONE TREE – Transported eye tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank; held its annual Christmas party with DG Debbie Doty as guest speaker. During the meeting, Lion Jerry Musser was presented a Warren Coleman Honorary Award.

MELCHER-DALLAS – Produced a community newsletter; purchased and delivered toys to 23 children; sponsored its annual Christmas Spirit Day with a concert by the preschool children, a visit from Santa and elf shopping to help children buy Christmas presents for loved ones at very reasonable prices. Santa visited with 110 children during Christmas Spirit Day. **PICTURED** are (from left) Lions Barb Quick, Dwight Biddle, Nancy Slack, Santa (Steve Putz), Virginia Schneider and Pat Jenkins. Santa’s sleigh was built by Melcher-Dallas High School shop students and their teacher, Lori Putz.



NORTH LIBERTY – Collected recycled inkjet and toner cartridges; provided breakfast for children and their families as they waited to visit Santa Claus, engaging four local high school students to help with the event; held a KidSight vision screening at the Education Station.

OLDS – Delivered homemade Christmas cookies and pastries to the elderly.

OSKALOOSA – Decorated a float for and participated in the Oskaloosa Lighted Christmas Parade, passing out candy and coloring books to children along the parade route; donated \$250 to the Oskaloosa Police Department’s Giving Tree project; donated \$100 to Iowa Lions Foundation and \$100 to LCIF.

PELLA – Sorted and cleaned recycled eyeglasses for distribution; assisted an individual with the purchase of eyeglasses.

SIGOURNEY – Collected eyeglasses for recycling; collected recycled newspaper from the community; sponsored a Boy Scout troop.

VICTOR – Delivered the 2015 community birthday and anniversary calendars; held its annual prize raffle during the Victor Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration. The club sells 140 tickets for \$100 each, giving away \$10,000 in prizes and keeping the rest to donate to charities later.

WAYLAND – Held its annual holiday fruit sale.

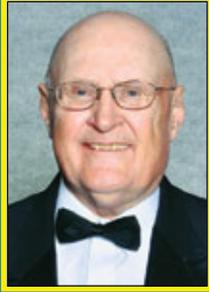
PICTURED: Four-year-old Bradin Kaufman explains how to choose fruit to Geraldine Rixe. Bradin told Mrs. Rixe, “It is important to inspect the orange and look for bruises or damage to the orange.”



Want your club’s activities listed in *The Iowa Lion*? Have your club secretary file the monthly activity report online by the 5th of the following month at MyLCI and e-mail photos to debbie@dotypc.com. Be sure photos are in high resolution so they are usable for print and include the first and last names of people in the picture.

DISTRICT 9NW

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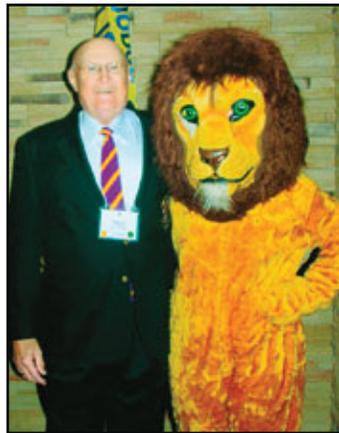
Iowa Lions 9NW News

Iowa Lions 9 NW Convention was held at The Starlite Best Western Hotel in Ft. Dodge, IA Nov. 21-22, 2014. International Director John Pettis Jr. was our guest and gave some great speeches about Lions and also some humor. It was a pleasure to be in his company.

Several training sessions were held by outstanding presenters of The Iowa Lions Team. We got to see two puppies from Leader Dog being trained at the Ft. Dodge Correctional Facility, thanks to Carol Ann Kirkbride.

Special thanks to The Convention Team that arranged everything at the 9NW Convention led by Cliff and Nancy Weldon.

Thanks to all that attended the 9NW Convention.



9NW District Governor Glenn Markley with The Lion at 9NW Convention in Ft. Dodge.



District Governor Markley presenting a token of Fort Dodge's Gypsum Rock inscribed with International Director John Pettis Jr. to ID John Pettis Jr., 9NW guest from Lions International. It is small enough to fit into the suitcase but way too heavy.



Manson Lions Club doing Iowa KidSight in Manson, Iowa. Those pictured include District Governor Glenn Markley, Tim Shea, Bobbie Wells, Jerold Jimmerson and Mark Essing.

Fort Dodge
Noon Lion Mike
Mulroney and
friend checking
Christmas lights
for display in
downtown Fort
Dodge.



9NW Activity Reports

Fort Dodge Noon Lions Club

Guest: Lions Jess Lewis brought Mary, his wife and Herb, our newest Leader Dog. Jess took Herb to see Lion Herb Conlon before the meeting. Lion Herb was delighted to see Herb.

Members gathered canned goods and paper products for the Lord's Cupboard for delivery before Thanksgiving.

Tom Salvatore reported Lions Den Committee future projects of improving the movable bar to match the fixed serving bar adding a screen door to the kitchen entrance and replacing the gas stoves to a commercial 6 or 8 burner with an electric to start eliminating the stoves with pilot lights.

The speaker was Connie Harris, Executive Director Domestic/Sexual Assault Outreach Center. The shelter relies on donations to pay for provided care. The shelter provides service to injured clients for 20 counties. The shelter has provided care for as many as 112 women and 97 children, with one woman with seven children. They feed and clothe free to clients.

The Saint Edmond's Chamber Choir performed at the November 24 meeting.

Sioux City Lions Club

Sioux City Lions have been awarded a \$26,022 matching grant for Sensory Park from Lions Clubs International Foundation. This is for a Sensory Garden for the sight and sensory impaired Shepherd's Park, currently under construction at 6th & Jackson streets in Sioux City. They are also involved with IRIS, a program where the vision impaired are given a special radio and they can listen to programs for instance instead of trying to read a newspaper, and listen to music.

Sioux City Lions Club

The Sioux City Lions Club was to cross a huge milestone on Friday, Nov. 20 when the 10,000th child was to be screened to detect early childhood vision problems.

Churdan Lions Club

Meals on Wheels. One New Member.

Pomeroy Lions Club

Sold 180 Pies Nov. 19. Terry Cook and Mike Mulroney check the new lights that will be used in the Holiday on Central tree lighting.

Cherokee Lions Club

Donated \$100 for Toys for Tots.

Donated \$300 for Stan's Kids for Christmas.

West Bend Lions Club

The West Bend Lions' KidSight screening held on Nov. 19 was a huge success. The Lions started at the Wolverine Den at 9 a.m. and screened 12 of the children at the Daycare. Lions Denny Wilson and Wyan Metzger took the pictures of the children's eyes using the new digital camera, which is owned by several of the Lions clubs in the area, including the West Bend Lions. With the help of Stephanie Veon the session went smoothly.

When done at the Den, the Lions packed up the equipment and moved to the West Bend Library. Once set up they took the pictures of another 11 children's eyes. Again, everything went smoothly as Larry Bonnstetter, Don Banwart and Charlie Cantrall helped the camera operators. Lisa Riesenbergs was a big help both during the session and before the day, making sure parents knew about the event. The Lions also contacted Tori Ulrich's daycare and screened several of her children.

Everly Lions Club

Helped with Omelet Breakfast at August annual Everly Days. Now selling Calendar chances to go to Clay Central Everly School activities. Christmas party to take place on December 7 with spouses. Gave money for a student benefit.

Hartley Lions Club

Hartley Lions Club will be helping in December with the Fiesta Foods move from one location to another. Will set up the Nativity Scene on November 29.

Fort Dodge Evening Lions Club

Donated to The Salvation Army.

Boone Lions Club

Two Lions attended the 9NW District Convention. Held Turkey Dinner fundraiser. Fed 1,240 people. One member attended the Council of Governors meeting and Iowa Lions Foundation meeting. Donated to Salvation Army for Christmas service to poor. Donated excess food from the Turkey Dinner to residents of Crawford Hall, a 501-C-3 residence facility for battered women and children. Rang bells for Salvation Army. One Lion attended Alert training session and one Lion attended secretary training session. Three Lions screened child vision at 9 sites with 89 children. They spent 37 hours, not including travel time. Conducted two Peace Poster contests. Three Lions collected 200 pair eyeglasses from drop boxes.

Fort Dodge Evening Lions Club

Secretary Earl Possehn attended the 9NW District Convention. Donated money for eyeglasses for the needy. Held two regular meetings and one board meeting. Donated to the Iowa Lions Foundation. Donated to Mitch Frank for medical expenses. Our Club President challenged other clubs. Donated to the Almost Home Humane animal shelter. Holding our club's annual grocery raffle. Giving \$1,000 to 5 winners at \$200 each. Donated to Camp Courageous.

Woodward Lions Club

Woodward Lions offer free to patrons of the Woodward Community, small pre-moistened towelettes in boxes of 100 at businesses with the community for customers to use individually to clean their glasses. 200 towelettes have been consumed. A Woodward Lions invitation is displayed on the box.

Met at 6:00 p.m. at Cyannes and at 7:00 p.m. Social Center. Inducted new member Dave Elliott. Discussed Halloween event. Planned Christmas tree lighting and invitation to Santa. Watched Power Point on Welcome New Members.

Zone Chairperson Paul Thompson attended the training opportunity Friday night and Saturday morning gaining knowledge, policy and procedure as well as meeting many leaders in Iowa Lions.



The Sioux City Lions Club members presented their club's annual support check to the Boys and Girls Home at the traditional lighting of the Christmas tree. From left to right are: Club Treasurer Ann Hill, Boys and Girls Executive Vice President Terri Dooley, Club Vice President Maria Rundquist, Club President Sheryl Ford and PDG Tim Jacobs.



District 9NW Clubs are donating generously to the new kennel project at Leader Dog. Shown here are PDG Stefan Sandberg, MD9 Leader Dog Coordinator PCC Ardie Klemish, Wall Lake Club President Maxine Bettin and District Treasurer Ray Halterman presenting checks from the Wall Lake Lions Club and from the Le Mars Lions Club.



The Badger Lions Club recently sold giant coloring storybooks at Crossroads Mall. Money was raised to provide \$250 for the Salvation Army. Pictured from left are Jim Dexter, Lions Club Treasurer; Salvation Army Captain Carol Cook; and Roger Curtis, Lions Club President.

DISTRICT 9EC

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Awards

The district will be presenting awards for Lion of the Year, Leader of the Year, Best Club Brochure, and the district Spark Plug Award. Nominations for these awards are due by March 1. So get your pencil and paper out and start putting those nominations together for that outstanding project or Lion in your club. Send those nominations to First Vice District Governor Donna Wood.

Multiple District awards that will be awarded at the State Convention in June include the Bud Klise Leadership Award, Ralph A. Whitten Service Award and state winner for Spark Plug Award. The criteria and forms are on the Iowa Lions website.

To date we have 25 clubs drop members and only 20 clubs adding members. Without new members we eventually will not be able to sustain our programs for Leader Dog, the Puppy Program, KidSight, Camp Courageous, Diabetes, Hearing, Iowa Lions Foundation, LCIF, etc.

Has your club had a membership event or are still planning the event? What steps are you taking to retain members? In July I asked you to leave your club better this year than last year; part of that is to replace members who leave for whatever reason. **ASK1! KEEP1!**

Mid-Winter Leadership Conference

If you were not at the Mid-Winter Conference you missed a great presentation by International President Joe Preston. I encourage you to go to the Iowa Lions website and hear his presentation at the Saturday luncheon. In addition to President Preston's remarks the seminars were outstanding.

The Partners in Service Auction was able to raise over 4,000 dollars for the Iowa Lions Foundation. This is an auction run by the Partners in Service of all seven districts. Thank you to all those clubs who donated to the basket auction at the conference. As of this writing I do not have a complete list of those clubs, but hope to in the near future.

District Convention

The District Convention is fast approaching. It is scheduled for April 24 & 25 at the Longbranch Hotel and Convention Center in Cedar Rapids. More details will be forthcoming in the next Iowa Lion.

We will recognize outstanding Lions, clubs, and projects as well as elect the following officers for next year: District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor and Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee. All those interested in running for these jobs should file no later than 30 days prior to the convention with the Cabinet Secretary Jerry Inman, Election chairperson Marlene Arp, and the District Governor. Remember you must have your club's endorsement for the office. If you have questions contact the Cabinet Secretary, Election Chairperson, Global Leadership Chairperson or myself.

Club Activities

Alburnett: Provided groceries for a meal for family.

Andover: Members and guests enjoyed a potluck and everyone brought food and paper products for packing baskets for 7 families. Provided treats to children after a visit with Santa.

Andrew: A party for 90 students who completed their second quarter reading incentive of 60 minutes outside of classroom. Conducted a food drive in the community with the School Student Council.

Bettendorf: Screened 418 preschoolers at 12 locations in the community, helped pack 116 food baskets.

Welcome New Lions:

Member	Club	Sponsor
Jennifer M. Bollig	Cedar Rapids Noon	Terry Durham
Lorette Vanourny	Cedar Rapids Noon	Terry Durham
Sherry Steine Ross	Cedar Rapids Noon	Terry Durham
Roch Player	Mount Vernon Lions	Donald Stine
Ronald Hills	Tipton Lions	Keith Whitlatch
Elizabeth O'Donnell	Tipton Lions	Tamra Roberts

Lions we have Lost:

George Machacek	Alburnett Lions
Merlin Brubaker	Bettendorf Lions
Richard Wulf	Calamus Lions
Dwaine Van Buer	Clinton Lions
Robert Long	Davenport Host Lions
Anthony C. Neuzil	Otter Creek Lions

Blue Grass: Sponsored blood drive; refurbished Lions signs on the roads leading into town, conducted Iowa KidSight screening for preschoolers.

Calamus: Provided breakfast to support community building. Purchased toys along with other Lions Clubs to distribute to the area Children Hospitals.

Cedar Rapids Noon: Collected recyclable eyeglasses, Collected 430 Box Tops for Education, 29 Campbell's labels and 12 ink cartridges for distribution to a partnered school.

Center Point: Screened 13 preschoolers at the club's annual Kids Christmas party.

Clinton: Club collected along with other service clubs and Lions Clubs toys for distribution to area hospitals.

Coggon: Donation of \$500 toward new rescue truck; donation of \$100 to local food Pantry.

Davenport B'fast: Provided eyeglasses to individual; awarded \$500 scholarships to two St. Ambrose students, \$50 donation to Gilds Club, collected 2,000 pairs of eyeglasses for recycling,

Davenport Host: Adopted 3 families and provided food and gifts serving 15 individuals. Purchased eyeglasses and an exam for individual with limited income, provided hearing aids and exam individuals with limited income, presented a progressive Warren Coleman award to Lion Jeff Koehler for his many years of service.

DeWitt Nite: Collected food for Referral Center; provided lunch for Hometown Christmas Celebration; donated bottled water to Band Shell Benefit.

DeWitt Noon: Donated \$1,000 to DeWitt Referral Center, donated \$250 to DeWitt fire victims, had 146 Peace Poster entries, provided gifts to Santa Carnival at the DeWitt Hometown Celebration; provided 4 cornea transports, donation of \$75 to DeWitt High School Chamber Singers.

Eldridge: Conducted blood drive, conducted retakes on 7 preschoolers, provided treats for Eldridge Hometown Holiday, conducted peace poster contest for district contest.

Le Claire: Collected 110 pairs of recyclable eyeglasses; donated \$100 to PVHS choir for Christmas program.

Lisbon: Had Christmas club meeting with DG in attendance, conducted fundraiser at the school.

Lost Nation: Visited by the DG.

Low Moor: Installed ramp for member who had hip replacement, on Dec. 7 members put out the flags for the Elvira Cemetery, provided 70 fruit baskets to the area elders in elder care homes, took bus load of toys with other Lions clubs to the Iowa City hospitals and clinics for the children.

Lowden: Sold snacks, collected paper products for local food pantry, collected eyeglasses and hearing aids.

Mechanicsville: Members volun-

teered at the Food Pantry, conducted Christmas lighting contest.

Miles: Purchased toys along with other Lions clubs for the children at the Children's Hospital.

Muscatine: Screened 359 preschoolers since September 2014, Official visit by IVDG, rang bells for the Red Kettle Campaign of the Salvation Army, Donation of \$650 to the Iowa Lions Foundation.

Olin: Conducted blood Drive with 25 units collected, conducted new members drive with two showing interest.

Park View: Served dinner with Santa and provided treat bags; volunteered for after school club for grades 3 through 6; donated \$100 to food pantry.

Preston: Provided toys and blankets along with other Lions clubs for the Iowa City Children's Hospital, conducted Ugly Sweater Dance with admission being a toy for children.

Stanwood: Participated in the NC Clergy Christmas Bells Project purchasing gifts for two of the bells; participated in Story Hour at the local library, the annual Soup with Santa with books provided to children and 50 food item donated to the food pantry, donated to the Partners in Service silent auction at the Mid-Winter state convention, conducted screening of preschoolers for 164 children.

Tipton: Conducted two cornea transports, conducting a benefit in February for family with health issue and unable to work, provided horses and trolley to West Branch, donation to individual with health issue until benefit is conducted, donation to the Community Soup Supper, sold Christmas trees as fundraiser, conducted screening of preschoolers for Iowa KidSight.

Walcott: Conducted annual Christmas party with several guests in attendance.

West Branch: Conducted fundraising by selling concessions at the University of Iowa sporting events. Conducted cornea tissues transport, Construct and volunteer fireplaces during the Christmas Past event and visitors roast marshmallows over open fire as a part of the old traditions of Christmas; donation to the scholarship winner for mission trip to Jamaica to work with hearing impaired.

West Liberty: Conducted fundraiser by selling at the University of Iowa sporting events concession stands.

Fruitland Branch Club: DG visited the Fruitland Branch Club; members adopted a family from the Salvation Army and provided gifts and food for the holidays.



Part of the volunteers packing 84,000 plus meals at the West Branch Hoover Hunger Project.

DISTRICT 9MC

Bill Pollard
 District Governor
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 billpollard54@yahoo.com




DG Bill and Lion Diane, at right, welcoming International President Joe Preston and Lion Joni to Mid-Winter.

Notes From Your District Governor

We are half way through our year and it seems like there is so much we need to yet accomplish. When I started this adventure I had a dream of what would be nice to do for our District. But it seems the world is changing and people change with it.

Lions, we need to be positive when dealing with these changes and use them as starting blocks to achieve positive growth in members. What I would wish is for all Lions in our District to attend one Zone Meeting, District Convention or maybe even our State Convention. Not only will it broaden your view of Lions, I really think it will give all members a positive spin on what needs to happen.

Give it a thought. I highly recommend our upcoming District Convention March 27-28.

We need to be looking ahead for service projects tied into our children and the less fortunate. These are projects that get the most notice; be sure to wear your vests or have plenty of signage to toot your horn. Lions, we need to do everything we can to make the people notice.

The Mid-Winter Leadership Conference is in the books. You really missed a fantastic Lions weekend. Fellowship and smiling faces was the program the whole weekend. Our International President gave a number of motivational speeches urging everyone to ASK ONE! KEEP ONE! and START ONE! -- Nothing your DG Team hasn't been talking about all year. But it was good to hear that he knows how hard we are working to increase membership. It just takes a constant effort to succeed.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:
Iowa Lions Foundation Gala
February 28 in Cedar Rapids

DISTRICT CONVENTION MARCH 27-28
at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Altoona

New Members

Sharon Hunt	Altoona	Barb McGrean
Autumn Weaver	Ames Evening	Ron Schappaugh
Phillip Shriner	Des Moines South	James Patch

Club Activities

Ankeny: Service Chevrons were presented by 2nd VDG Bill Sutters to Marty Stone (35 years), Carl Babcock (20 years), Bill Heinzig (20 years), and Evan Stadlman (10 years). KidSight Screening continues with 782 kids screened through Nov 20. The first pancake breakfast, although not a huge success, netted \$183.50. Members worked at HuHot Mongolian Grill in November as a fundraiser, brought in \$263.35. Members worked HyVee's Veterans Day Breakfast as a service project. Dropped one member.

Altoona: Donated \$1,000 to Fire Department for new equipment. KidSight screening kids at local daycares. Tissue Transporters were busy again.

Dike: Donated \$300 to high school music department. Delivered Meals on Wheels.

Dysart: Have four \$500 scholarships for spring awarding to graduating seniors. Held annual Blood Drive and also had a Pancake Day.

Johnston: Collected foodstuffs for the Food Pantry. Continued to gather pull-tabs, eyeglasses, aluminum cans, hearing aids and cell phones.

Kellogg: Held Pancake Day fundraiser for LCIF and the Kellogg Museum. Tissue Transports to Iowa City and Madison, Wis. Delivered Meals on Wheels for two weeks.

Laurel: KidSight screening for 51 children.

Traer: Took tickets and worked concessions at local Community Theatre. Held annual bean soup supper fundraiser – a good time was had by all.



The Ames Breakfast Lions Club had for its Nov. 18 meeting a program arranged by Vice President Jeannie Weber, on the right, involving the youth who attended Hertko Hollow Camp for kids with Diabetes. The youth L. to R. are Libby Kallsen, Quinn Margrett and Zack Strohm. The Club assisted them with funds to attend the camp during this last summer. Each participant on the program told of when they first knew they had Diabetes and how the camp helped them cope with the disease, the enjoyable activities and friends they met.



DG Bill welcoming Miss Iowa Autumn Weaver as our new Lion. He introduced her as the breakfast speaker at Mid-Winter Conference.



The Marshalltown Noon Lions meeting Monday, Jan. 15 included a DG visit and award presentations. Pictured with DG Pollard are the length of membership chevron recipients.



DG Bill, at left, receives the Melvin Jones Fellow honor from the Altoona Lions Club. At right is Lion Roger Mahnke, club treasurer.



At the Altoona Lions Club on Monday night, Jan. 12, DG Pollard had the pleasure of installing seven new members. Pictured are, from left: John & Donna Barrow, and behind them their sponsor Roger Mahnke; Craig & Sue Dawson, and behind them their sponsors Jerry and Joan Nolin; Tim & Barbe Shay and behind them their sponsor Bill Pollard; Sharon Hunt and next to her, sponsor Barb McGrean.

Checks memo line reminder

District Treasurer Ron Schappaugh reminds clubs to **earmark checks** on the memo line, if there is a specific place the club wants the money to go to.



Pleasant Hill Lions Club had a busy December. This panorama was taken at the club Christmas party Dec. 1. It started with a canned food drive and gloves & hat collection before a potluck with family and friends. Dec. 6 started with helping with a community breakfast with Santa - a free will pancake breakfast. All proceeds went to shooting victims of Pleasant Hill that occurred in November. It was part of a Channel 13 story of how the community pulled together to help these families. The evening event - Bingo Night - was provided by the Pleasant Hill Parks & Rec. The Lions provided the concessions for the first time that night as a fundraising opportunity and to help promote Lionism. The club plans to continue the concessions annually.



Montezuma Lions Club President PDG Chuck Boeding, at left, had the privilege of presenting the Melvin Jones Fellow honor to Michael J. "Mike" Princer, at right, at the club's Christmas dinner and program. Princer has been a member for 18 years. He has served the club in several offices of leadership including twice as president and he has chaired several major projects. The club has also been the beneficiary of his volunteer cooking skills. In recent years he has been active at the district level, where he currently is serving a two year term as a trustee of the Iowa Lions Foundation.



Montezuma Lions Club presented the Warren Coleman Honorary Award to these three members in recognition of their service to the club and the community, at the club's annual Christmas dinner Dec. 8. Pictured are, from left, David Miller, Velma Hamilton and Gary Thompson.

DISTRICT 9NC

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District Governor
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My Fellow Lions,

I trust all of you who attended the Mid-Winter Lions Leadership Conference Jan. 8-11 in Des Moines are feeling as upbeat and inspired as I am now. The highlight of the weekend, of course, was spending time with International President Joe Preston and his wife Joni, who could not have been more gracious. President Joe's speech at the Saturday luncheon drew rave reviews. He reminds us about just why it is such a privilege to be a Lion.

I think we didn't know quite what to expect of the Friday night Murder Mystery performance, but it ended up being lots of fun. Miss Iowa, Autumn Weaver, of the Miss America Coed Pageant demonstrated that growing up deaf does not have to define who you are. President Joe inducted her into Lions Club after her awe-inspiring talk at the Saturday breakfast.

I would really like to thank those 37 Lions from District 9NC who attended all or part of the weekend. It was a good showing from our district. Please share your impressions of this experience with your fellow Lions.

I would also like to thank the districts that contributed funds or theme baskets for the annual Partners In Service Silent Auction. If I do say so myself I thought our district came up with some great baskets this year that helped raise funds for the Iowa Lions Foundation, which was very successful.

Please start making plans to attend our own 9NC Spring Convention April 17 and 18 in Mason City.

The convention will begin with a light supper Friday, April 17. The Saturday schedule runs from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. A continental breakfast and luncheon will be served. Our special guest will be Past International Director Marvin Chambers and his wife, Lynne, of Fillmore, Saskatchewan, Canada. We are also planning special presentations on topics of interest to our clubs. Further details will be published in the March edition of The Iowa Lion.

Iowa Lions Foundation Gala. Another big event to put on your calendars is the Iowa Lions Foundation Gala, Saturday, Feb. 28 at the DoubleTree Hotel, Cedar Rapids Convention Complex, 350 First Ave. N.E., in Cedar Rapids. Held annually as a fund-raiser for the Iowa Lions Foundation, guest speaker this year is Joe Torrillo, a retired lieutenant with the New York City Fire Department. A survivor of the 9-11 World Trade Center collapse, Joe survived being buried in each of the Trade Center Towers as he attempted to rescue others. You will not

want to miss out on his powerful presentation. Tickets are \$50 per person. Checks should be made payable to Iowa Lions Foundation and sent to Paul Hain, P.O. Box 401, Lone Tree, IA 52755. For room reservations call 800-445-8667.

A note of concern: Some of you may have heard that Past 9 NC District Governor (2006-2007) Jerry Tweeten of Forest City has been seriously injured in a fall at work in Forest City. He has suffered a brain injury, the extent of which is still to be determined. I'm sure he would appreciate hearing from his friends. Anyone wishing to write Jerry may do so in care of his brother, Charles Tweeten, 316 West K St., Forest City, IA 50436.

Club visits. To the clubs that I have not yet visited, please contact me as soon as possible to arrange for a visit between now and June. You can reach me at 641-424-9631 or kbuehner15@hotmail.com. I will do my best to work one of your meetings into my schedule. I would love to meet each and every one of you and to thank you personally for all you are doing on behalf of Lions Club.

STRENGTHEN THE PRIDE: CLUB NEWS

The Britt Lions Club held a goulash supper Jan. 12 and an Omelet Breakfast Jan. 18.

The Forest City Evening Lions Club went caroling at the Good Samaritan, a local assisted living center. The club held its annual Winter Fundraiser Jan. 20.

The Hampton Lions Club raised \$2,355 at a Christmas Cash Giveaway in December, awarding \$1,000 in prizes.

The Humboldt Lions Club served pancake and sausage lunches to students and staff at the Humboldt schools in November and December. The school provided the food supplies and Lions provided the workers. The Lions also served pancakes at the Humboldt Fairgrounds on Election Day, Nov. 4.

Also in November, the Humboldt club took over the airways of



Mason City Evening Lions held a Christmas raffle in December that raised over \$1,800 profit for their club's project funds. First place received \$500 and second place received \$200. About 3,000 tickets were sold. The Lions in the picture are, left to right: Gordon Kammrad, Dennis Bryant, Dennis Brunsvold (holding box of ticket stubs), Geri Barker, Merv Sletten and Dick Jass.



Members of the Humboldt Lions Club participate in their November Radio Auction.

KHBT Radio for three hours in its annual call-in Radio Auction. Approximately \$4,000 was raised in community donations to be used to help with various community activities.

The Humboldt club also asked several service organizations to help in the purchase of an \$856 3-wheel bike for a local resident and has plans to purchase a tree to honor the passing of Brian Helmers. The tree will be planted at Gotch Park with help from the Humboldt Parks Department.

Humboldt Lion Jim Strachan organized the making and installation of adjustable shelves in the food pantry at the Lions Food Stand located at the Humboldt County Fairgrounds. Lion Jim also built an easel for Humboldt Lions that can be displayed in the community to showcase Lions activities.

The club donated \$600 in Tail Twister funds to the Brushy Creek Annual Honor Flight. The club also participated in Lions Club's annual Peace Poster contest for youths ages 11 to 13.

Kamrar Lions Club held a Soup Dinner in mid-November, raising nearly \$600.

The Osage Lions Club has taken over two Meals on Wheels routes on Mondays. The club also donated \$100 to Camp Hertko Hollow, \$100 to the Christmas Miracle Tree and \$500 to the Mitchell County Food Bank.

The Rowan Lions Club presented the Warren Coleman Honorary Award to Lion Roger Rietz. The club also tested 585 preschool children through the Iowa KidSight program this fall. New tables were also purchased for the former Rowan schoolhouse, the site of several community activities. In addition, KidSight books were purchased, to be given to area elementary school nurses.

Welcome New Lions!

Member	Club	Sponsor
Jim Davis	Allison	(Transfer)
Nancy Davis	Allison	
Dennis Jackson	Kamrar	Eugene Range
Luann Jackson	Kamrar	Eugene Range



Four Osage Lions Club members pick up dinners for Meals on Wheels.

The Nora Springs Lions Club is offering free family movies at the Nora Springs Lions Community Center, 16 S. Summit. A Planes Fire and Rescue was also held in January.



Humboldt Lions held awards night December 16, 2014. Lion Brian Jergens (right) received the Melvin Jones Fellow award presented by Past President Lion Pat Hill (left).



Pictured is Lion Jim Strachan (right) who received the Warren Coleman Award presented by Past President Lion Pat Hill (left) at Humboldt Lions' awards night.

DISTRICT 9SW

Pat Parker
District Governor
404 West Jackson Street
Panora, Iowa 50216
 Ph. 641-757-7961 Cell
 E-mail: parkerlc@netins.net



Notes from your District Governor

We are about half way through the third quarter of our Lion year. How has your club done on strengthening your club? Have you developed your membership growth plan yet?



“Ask 1” and “Keep 1”

For those of you who were not able to attend Mid-Winter you missed hearing our International President Joe Preston speak. He talked about his “Ask 1” and “Keep 1” theme. He reminded us all that we should always be looking for new members and asking them to come to meetings and to join our clubs. In order for us to serve more in our communities we need more hands helping. He also reminded us we need to work to keep Lions from leaving. Is your club like a family? If someone misses a meeting do you call them and check on them and fill them in on what was discussed at the meeting so they do not feel left out?



The district is currently looking for towns to start new clubs. Either branch clubs or regular clubs. We have many towns or communities in our district that are not being served by Lions. If you know of a town or community that could benefit from a Lions club please let me know as this will be a major topic at the next cabinet meeting in February.

We have had a Lion come forward to be our current 2VDG for this year and our 1VDG next year 2015-2016. The Lion is Ken Klemish from the Adair Lions Club. His club has endorsed him to hold these positions. Since we have already held our district convention for this year we will need to hold a special election to appoint him. This election will be held February 21 in Casey, IA at the cabinet meeting. Just ahead of the cabinet meeting the PDG association will also hold a meeting and vote. Lion Ken is qualified for the position as he has been Club President and Zone Chair multiple times.

We are still in search of a 2VDG for 2015-2016 and a Trustee for the Iowa Lions Foundation 2015-2017.

DGE Dean Brant has started to fill his cabinet for next year but is still looking for some key members. He still needs Lions to step forward to be zone chairs. The zone chair is an

important position on the cabinet as they help keep the DG team informed about what is going on in clubs. Some other areas where he has openings on his team are Lions to help with the Global Leadership and Global Membership Teams. If you are interested on helping DGE Dean next year please let him know.

DGE Dean and I have made official visits to just over half of the clubs so far. So if we have not visited your club yet please make contact with one of us so we can get a date set. We enjoy meeting with clubs so we can learn about all the great things you are doing. We also recognize members with the longevity chevrons from International and the District Governors Team Coin.

OUT OF STATE

I will be out of state for the month of March attending training for my job, in Dallas, Texas. So while I am gone please email me or call DGE Dean Brant if you need anything. Between the two of us we will find a way to get you the help you need or your question answered.

Save these Dates

- **February 21:** District Cabinet meeting Casey, IA
- **April 1:** The District needs a list of next year’s officers
- **April 25:** Spring training for next year’s officers
- **June 4-5:** 2015 State Convention, Cedar Rapids, IA
- **June 13, 2015:** District Cabinet meeting Panora, IA
- **July 24-26:** 2015 Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, Jamestown, N.D.

In Memoriam

Kenneth Kremer, Atlantic Lions Club
 Allison Cecil, Clearfield Lions Club
 Darrell Eshelman, New Virginia Lions Club

Welcome New Members

Name	Club	Sponsor
Francine Andersen	Audubon	Jacquanette Wahlert
Heath Evans	Clearfield	Ronda Evans
Dawn Stonehocker	Earlham	
James Stonehocker	Earlham	
Jan Greving	Exira	Chrystal Zobel
Richard Gabriel	Indianola (Noon)	Roger Foelske
Seth Lampman	Indianola (Noon)	Kent Powgnas
Brandy Zisoff	Indianola (Noon)	Rick Wilson
Jackson Baumgarten	Milo	Terry Davis
Florence Cook	Stuart	Robert Cook
Gloria Kalbach	Stuart	Kristy Lonsdale

AWARDS

It is that time of the year to start thinking of those outstanding Lions in your club that have done an outstanding job this year and maybe for several years. The Multiple District recognizes awards for service, for leadership, and for outstanding new Lions.

Bud Klise Leadership Award

The award was established in 1989 to honor the memory of Past International Director G. E. "Bud" Klise of Stockport, Iowa. Lion "Bud" served as District Governor in 1976-77 and as an International Director 1980-82. He exemplified leadership as he served his fellow man. His life was cut short by a traffic accident shortly after he had announced that he would be a candidate for International Vice President. The purpose of the award is to honor PID Klise and to recognize a Lion who has demonstrated outstanding Leadership ability at any level of Lionism: club, district, multiple district or international. Nomination forms are available on the Lions of Iowa web site and completed applications should be mailed to PID Norm Dean, 14166 W. Yosemite Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375-5645. These are due by March 31, 2015.

Ralph A. Whitten Service Award

This award was created to honor PID Ralph A. Whitten in 1994-95. This award is made each year to honor the memory of PID Whitten from Urbandale, Iowa. He served as International Director 1961-63. PID Ralph was a very service oriented Lion and the award is to honor other Lions for their exemplary service at the club, district, or multiple districts. Nominations forms are available on the Iowa Lions web site and are to be forwarded to the state office in Ames. Nomination applications are due by March 31, 2015.

Spark Plug Award

An award established a few years ago to honor those Lions who are just beginning their career as outstanding Lions. This award



Villisca Lions Club awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion Paul Barker, at left, and the Warren Coleman award to Lion Sheila Haidsiak, at right, for all their work with KidSight and the other projects of the Villisca Lions Club. In center is awards presenter Lion Darwin Williams, Villisca club secretary and currently a District 9SW Trustee for the Iowa Lions Foundation.

honors those who step up and take a leadership position for a service activity or fundraiser. Nominations for the district are to be forwarded to the district governor. After a winner is chosen on the district level that nomination will be forwarded to PID Dave Stoufer and his committee for final selection of a multiple district winner. Nominations are due to the district governor by March 15, 2015.

Exira-EHK Leo Club takes on January World Wide Week of Service

By Jen Neville, Exira-EHK Spartan Leo Club

On January 14, members of the Spartan Leo club embarked on an all-day trip to Omaha, NE. Chaperoned by Connie Jessen and Lisa Dreier, 15 students took a tour of the Open Door Mission campus, and were later stationed in the Timberlake Outreach Center to complete a four-hour service project.

"It was very eye-opening," said sophomore Meghan Zach. Students composed food packages, sorted and organized clothing, helped to distribute food pantry items, sorted and shelved houseware items, cleaned out empty hangers from clothing racks, and (most importantly) learned more than a few valuable lessons. Junior Deann Irmeier reflects on the trip: "I learned not to take things that we have for granted, because life can be much worse."



Leos Jen Neville and Noah Pettepier making food packages.

January 11 through 17 was devoted to the annual Lions Club World Wide Week of Service. Around the globe, Lion and Leo clubs immersed themselves in service events, all with a common goal of making a difference by helping others.

A Leo club is a division of the Lions Club, usually comprised of younger individuals. The Exira-EHK Leo club currently consists of 43 members, and counting!

Stay updated & show your support by "liking" our Facebook page! Just search "Exira-EHK Leo Club."



Leo club members Jolene Jensen, Kennedy Madsen and Jessica Wood sorting clothes as part of a club service day.

Reception honors PID Judy and PDG Ron Hankom

A reception to honor PID Judy and PDG Ron Hankom was held in Iowa Falls on Sunday, December 7. The open house was held from 2 to 4 p.m. The occasion was to honor them for their two years of service as an International Director Team. Their term ended with the International Convention held in Toronto.

As guests arrived, Ron and Judy welcomed them. Judy and Ron brought along some of the gifts and mementos that they received during their two years of travel. Lions and non-Lions had fun looking through the variety of gifts.

A lunch of cake, punch, candies and nuts were served. The tables were appropriately decorated with red hearts, to go along with Judy's campaign theme of "A Caring Heart." Hampton Lions helped with serving, as well as Lois and Don Jones, Roger Bublitz, and Jerry and Connie Inman

A variety of guests attended. Lions from around Iowa came as well as a group of Judy's "Coffee Sisters," Judy's brother, Dennis, and Ron's brother, Rich and spouse Shirley.

At 3 p.m. the program began with Council Chairperson Don Maynes giving a welcome and some remarks. State Administrator Tim Wilson also gave some remarks, noting that he had met Judy and Ron in 2001 when he was a District Governor and Ron was a Vice Governor.

Judy and Ron's campaign team then were introduced and each gave some touching remarks. Co-Chair PCC Roger Bublitz mentioned he served as Council Chairperson when Judy was a Governor. He also mentioned that Judy called to ask him to be a co-chair of the campaign when he was ice-fishing!

PCC Jerry Inman, Campaign Treasurer, gave some personal remarks; he and Ron served as governors, Connie and Judy also served as governors together. He mentioned all the traveling that has been shared and how it has bonded their friendship.

Co-Chair PDG Connie Inman also gave some personal insights: when they met and how their friendship has continued to grow through the experiences shared. Letters were read from PID Norm Dean, PID Del Brown and PID Dave Stoufer. A special letter was read from ID Cindy and PDG Tom Gregg from PA, who were first year mentees of Ron and Judy in their second year as directors.



PID Judy and PDG Ron Hankom pose at the Dec. 7 reception in their honor, with some of the gifts they have received.

Then Judy and Ron came up to sing along with Roger, Connie and Jerry the tune of "Dear Hearts." Everyone present was asked to join in the song. This was the song that was sung during the first campaign rally at Midwinter in 2011. Lions Kristin and Gary Glockhoff reworded the song for the campaign.

Judy and Ron then proceeded to show slides along with comments of their travels, including district and multiple district conventions, Board Meetings and International Conventions. Also included were special assignment trips to Cali, Colombia to Folac Forum for Judy and Lions Day in DC for both of them.

Judy and Ron both ended their remarks by saying how wonderful an experience it was for them to be an International Director Team. "It was truly a lifetime experience" they exclaimed.

Judy thanked her club, her district and all Iowa Lions for their support and interest. A special note of thanks went to Lois Jones for doing the scrapbooks of memories. And a big thank you went to Roger Bublitz, and Connie and Jerry Inman for their dedication and support to Judy and Ron.

We want to thank all Iowa Lions, friends and family who attended the Homecoming Reception for us. It was so much fun for us to share the details of our travels with you as well as to show some of the gifts that we received.

Thanks for the good wishes, cards and phone calls. We appreciated all of them.

Our hearts are really full of gratitude and love to all of you. We enjoyed the opportunity to tell you "Thank you."

Special thanks to the Lions who helped with the reception: Lois and Don Jones, Connie and Jerry Inman, Roger Bublitz, and Hampton Lions: PDG/Club President Don Schwab, Laura Schwab, Secretary Elaine Wilcox and Michelle Schaefer.

Thanks for sharing that special time with us!

Judy and Ron





Singing the International President's personally written theme song - with President Joe Preston as one of the participants - is this chorus in action at the Mid-Winter Conference on Jan. 10. Directing the group at left is Myrna Goodyk. The song's lyrics are: "Dig down deep, let it go, and ROAR like a Lion, ... Tell the whole world, we'll never stop tryin' ... We are the Lions Club, we can't be denied, no, no, no, ... So dig down deep, and Strengthen the Pride."

The not-quite-as-melodious group at right as the chorus above reprised their theme song for IP Preston. In the group are MD9 PDGs who had received training from then ID Preston, preparing them for their 2002-2003 term as district governors.



Lions Pin Traders Club of Iowa announces 2014-15 pin contest

The Pin Traders of Iowa are having their Pin Contest once again. The date to remember is April 1, 2015. That is when pins need to be turned in to be eligible for the contest.

Pins eligible are pins released for sale or trade between April 1, 2014 and March 31 of this year - 2015.

Categories are: CLUB, DISTRICT, DISTRICT GOVERNOR (personal), and INDIVIDUAL (other than DG).

Two pins need to be sent or given to LPTCIA President Duane Eldred, (whose address is 511 Center Ave., P.O. Box

126, Urbana, IA 52345) or any Iowa Pin Trader (as long as that trader gets your pins to Duane) before April 1, 2015 to be entered in the contest. There is no entry form or letter required to be entered. Let your pins do the talking.

The pins will be judged at the pin traders' April 9, 2015 meeting and winners will be announced at the MD9 Iowa Lions Convention in Cedar Rapids, June 6, 2015 at the noon luncheon. Winners will receive a plaque commemorating their achievement.

LIONS UNIVERSITY: a convenient new way to hone leadership skills

PCC Ardie Klemish, MD9 GLT Coordinator

A new leadership training tool was introduced at the 2014 USA/Canada Leadership Forum in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The program is called **LIONS UNIVERSITY**. It is a great way to strengthen and hone your skills as a Lions leader. Hand in hand with the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, you can be ready to take that next step in your club leadership and beyond! It is all free, with live one hour webinars (or recordings of them if the student is unable to attend the live webinar).

There are *three leadership levels* being presented: The *Bachelor's Program-Leading at Club Level* consists of 10 mandatory classes, and 5 elective classes (the student can choose those five electives from a list of 10 options), then pass a short on-line quiz after each of those 15 classes, plus attend a USA/Canada Forum 2014 or later. The *Master's Program-Leading at District Level* consists of 10 mandatory classes and 5 elective classes, pass a short quiz after each of those 15 classes, plus attend an LCI Leadership Institute



(Regional like GPLLI, Emerging, Advanced, or DGE School), and attend a second USA/Canada Forum 2014 or later. The *Doctorate Program-Training Facilitator for Adult Volunteers* requires that the student complete the Bachelor's Program, the Master's Program, attend a third USA/Canada Forum 2014 or later, attend a Faculty Development Institute, complete 10 required courses and 5 elective courses, and submit an actual video of the applicant training others, and receive feedback from the video. "Graduation Ceremonies" for each level will be held each year live on stage at the USA/Canada Forum, with special recognitions presented.

You can research the program by going to the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum website, and clicking on the Lions University link; or simply go to www.LionsUniversity.org. Iowa faculty members for Lions University include PID's Judy Hankom and Gary Fry for the Master's Program and PCC Ardie Klemish for the Bachelor's Program. Feel free to contact any of them with questions.



THE IOWA LION

Lions International President Joe Preston presents Ahmi Dhuna of West Burlington a medal and certificate recognizing her as the 2013-14 Lions International Leo of the Year.

Burlington Area Leo Ahmi Dhuna named LCI's Leo of the Year

Burlington Area Leo Ahmi Dhuna was named Leo of the Year by Lions Clubs International for the association's 2013-2014 fiscal year. Lions International President Joe Preston recognized Dhuna for her accomplishments at the Iowa Lions Mid-Winter Leadership Conference noon luncheon on Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines.

Ahmi, 17, is a senior at Burlington High School. Since she became a member of the Burlington Area Leo Club in 2011, Ahmi has been both an active member and an impressive leader. During her sophomore year she was elected treasurer and during her junior year, president. Ahmi and the Burlington Leos have worked on a variety of projects in the local community, such as the Lions Oktoberfest, Safe Trick-or-Treat, providing snacks and water during local fun runs and other park events as well as doing school supply and clothing drives for elementary school children in the area.

According to 2013-2014 9SE District Governor Fred Stark, "Leo Ahmi has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills, high ethical standards and personal integrity. She has worked hard to grow the club and retain membership. Her record as a Leo has earned her a spot on the International Leo Club Advisory Panel and is why she is receiving this incredible honor."

When asked about why she is passionate about Leos and service in general, Ahmi said, "My older brother was the founder of the Burlington Leo Club, so I started going to service events when I was about nine. As the young, honorary mascot and event photographer I had so much fun, so I signed up to become a true member at the beginning of my freshman year."

Commenting on a favorite Leo project, Ahmi shared, "When I first joined, we started regularly participating in Kids Against Hunger at a local church. It is a pretty amazing feeling seeing the dozens of boxes of food you have packed by hand and thinking of the hundreds of hungry children they will feed. I know it is an event every member of the club looks forward to doing."

Ahmi shared this about why she enjoys being a leader: "I really like being able to provide an avenue for other Leos to do the types of projects they are truly passionate about and share in their excitement. My goal has always been to spread our Leo motto 'we serve.' As a result our club has helped develop two other Leo clubs in Southeast Iowa. To me, being a leader means having vision and the ability to listen and motivate. I strive to help each Leo be the best he or she can be, all whilst having fun."

Leo Ahmi and her fellow club members are currently helping the community through planning a Valentine's Day celebration at a local nursing home and donating and volunteering for Kids Against Hunger for the fourth year in a row. Young people, ages 13-17 who would like more information about the Burlington Area Lions Club can contact either Melissa Nelson-Chiprez or Sadhna Jani, the advisors of the club.

Lions Clubs sponsor more than 6,500 Leo clubs in over 140 countries. While helping others in their community, Leos develop leadership skills and experience teamwork in action. For more information about the Leo Club Program, visit the Leo Zone section of the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org.

CHECK OUT THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE LIONS CLUBS OF IOWA WEB SITE: www.iowaLions.org