

The IOWA LION



June 2019

iowalions.org

Small Town Lions Club Raises \$5,000 for Medical Research

*By DGE Debbie Doty
Editor, The Iowa Lion*

The size of your club does not need to limit the size of your impact. The Leighton Lions have proven that by raising \$5,000 at a pancake breakfast to donate to research.

With a population of 170 people, the town of Leighton is nestled halfway between Oskaloosa and Pella, a few miles west of Highway 163. The Leighton Lions Club, with a current membership of 14 men and women, holds a pancake breakfast in the fall and again in the spring. They are always successful fundraisers.

“We find if we have a cause to ask people to give to, they usually come out and give generously,” said Lion Chuck Bogaard, club treasurer.

So when Leighton Lions reached out to local residents Owen and Esther Ver Meer to be the recipients of this year’s spring pancake breakfast proceeds, the Lions knew they would be successful in raising funds to help the couple make the long treks to Rochester, Minnesota, where Esther is participating in research for a rare and debilitating disease. Neither the Ver Meers nor the Lions had any idea that the fundraiser would be so successful that the Lions would have to make not one, but two extra grocery runs.

“It is good when you need to go and get more food and the funds collected were more than was ever imagined,” Owen wrote in a letter to Dr. Wolfgang

Singer that he included with the \$5,000 check.

“We agreed that all of the donations would go to MSA (Multiple Systems Atrophy) research,” Owen said. “We have found that people often mistake MSA for MS (Multiple Sclerosis),” he explained, saying he and Esther were humbled by the experience provided by the Leighton Lions.

Esther was diagnosed with MSA in January of 2016. Multiple Systems Atrophy is a rare neurological disease that has no treatment at this time, Owen

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BIG CHECK. Leighton Lions Club Treasurer Chuck Bogaard, far right, presents a check for \$5,000 for Multiple Systems Atrophy Research to Leighton residents Owen and Esther Ver Meer. Esther is participating in research for MSA at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

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explained. Because of the rarity of the disease, Esther agreed to be part of a research project at Mayo Clinic.

Owen said the project requires about two days of tests each year. "They test different functions and record the progression of the disease," he goes on to tell. Blood pressure, heart rate, breathing, sweating, balance and several other functions are included in the tests. "They know MSA has something to do with the protein level in a portion of the brain, and the portion seems to shrink," he explained. Esther has signed up for three years in the program and the final tests will be done later this summer.

At home, the couple keeps adjusting as the disease progresses. Esther was able to walk for awhile with trekking poles for balance, then went to a walker, and in December 2018 regressed to a wheelchair. Doctors have since added Parkinson's as a secondary issue, which has essentially made her right hand useless, so she cannot control a walker or maneuver a power chair.

Now that they know more about the disease, Owen says he can, in hindsight, point out symptoms that started appearing years before the diagnosis.

"Back in 2013 or so, Esther started having very vivid dreams where she would be in a fight with a beast and scream louder than I ever heard her," Owen detailed. "This is another sign of the disease.

"Christmas of 2014, we drove to Lynden, Washington, to visit our daughter and her family, then to San Francisco and Denver on the way home. On this trip, I found Esther taking my arm when we were walking. As the year progressed, I found Esther would tug at my arm more frequently. She was using my arm to sense being off balance and to catch herself from a fall."

In 2015, the Ver Meers started going to doctors to find out what was happening. "We celebrated our 50th anniversary in August with all the kids and grandkids at a lake home," Owen said. "There were lots of steps from the home to the lake, which was becoming more of a challenge." It was at that time the family discussed different options and their daughter-in-law suggested they go to Mayo. A neurologist in Des Moines helped them make the appointment. Esther was accepted to the study.

"Our first week at Mayo (in 2016), Esther's doctor, after reviewing tests, x-rays and such from home,

spent a few minutes doing some simple neurological tests and said, 'You have MSA,'" Owen explained. Before her next appointment, Esther was invited to participate in the study with Dr. Singer. The program picks up the costs of all of her medical tests and she can quit whenever she wants. Through the study, she and other participants are helping doctors to better understand Multiple Systems Atrophy and its progression.

In Esther's case, it has progressed to the point where she cannot feel her lower extremities. She still lives at home with help from Owen, some friends and paid staff that come in to help her on a weekly basis.

The money donated by the Lions Club will help Esther and others continue with the study at Mayo.

Owen and Esther Ver Meer have spent their entire lives in the Leighton area, having both been raised on farms within 10 miles of Leighton. With the help of friends and neighbors like the Leighton Lions Club and those who came to the benefit pancake breakfast in April, they hope they will be able to spend the remainder of their lives in their Leighton home.

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ID Report

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Our May-June ID Travels

In May, we visited District 4C4 in Redding, Calif., and District 4L3 in Ventura, Calif. We were again asked to help with Lions Days on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. I helped with MD9 DGE training on May 11. June finds us hosting VP Judge Haynes Townsend and Lion Donna at the MD9 State Convention. We fly to Milan June 25 for the International Board Meeting and International Convention.

News from the April Board Meeting

International Convention in Milan: For plenary sessions, Lions will go through metal detectors and MUST carry all personal items in their clear bag into the convention center. Voting delegates must be assigned by the club secretary on MyLCI prior to the convention. Voters will be voting to add Africa as a new Constitutional Area. Atlanta, Georgia, will host the 2026 International Convention.

Service: Club Twinning and Children's Symposium programs will be retired on June 30. Women's Symposium Grants WILL still be available. Service activities sub-categories will be available on July 1. Diabetes mini-grants for CLUB level will be available starting July 1, besides the current district and multiple district grants. The Environment initiative will emphasize PLASTIC RECYCLING.

Membership: Global Action Team changes -ALL GAT positions will now be annual positions and no longer 3-year terms at every level: district, multiple district and area. The absolute final sunset date for Lioness clubs is June 30, 2021. Until then, if converting an entire Lioness club to be a Lions club, the entrance

fee is waived. Also, all Lioness who convert to Lions, whether as a full club or individuals, will pay only half-priced Lions dues through June 30, 2021. **New Voices:** 37% of the new members worldwide in the first nine months of 2018-19 are WOMEN!

Leadership: The 2020 DGE school in Illinois will be Feb. 11-13, 2020. DGEs last day of training will be June 26 in Singapore. District Governors, please promote one Leo-Lion as a non-voting advisor on your district cabinet, similar to the international board which adopted this practice two years ago. Also, all GAT and LCIF coordinators at district level are non-voting advisors, the same as they are currently on the International Board.

Marketing: Beginning July 1, 2020, only TWO paper editions of the official LION magazine will be printed per year. All remaining editions will be digital-only. By doing this, our association can save \$2.2 million!! International dues will not be reduced by this decision. The change allows LCI to invest those members' dues dollars in marketing, communication and technology divisions, which are our association's pathway to the future.

LCIF: A new investment broker has been procured for LCIF. Campaign 100 will now recognize awards for donations when the total cash for the pledge is received from the donor, NOT when the pledge is made. At no cost to LCIF, the new LCI technology team is supporting LCIF and Campaign 100 with IT programs to support the campaign.

Finance: Club billing for dues and club supplies will no longer be mailed but will be sent electronically to save expenses.

Thank You So Much Lions of Iowa!!

Thank you for allowing PDG Ken and me to serve as MD9 ambassadors on the International Board of Directors these past two years! We appreciate more than ever the global scope of our association, the diverse cultures and languages and most importantly the service impact that Lions make around the world, such a broad expanse of services! Our LCIF donations truly change thousands of lives every day! Thank you for your help and support during our 2017 campaign in Chicago. The international executive officers were so impressed with Iowa Lions! We are honored to call each of you our friends for a lifetime. We're ready to once again work hard at home for Lions in MD9, in 9SW district and for LCI wherever they ask. Thanks for your dedicated service to our members and our association. God bless and keep you all!

A View from the Chair

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As this Lions year comes to an end, Lion Melanie and I would like to thank all Lions who have welcomed us as we visited the district conventions this spring. We have enjoyed meeting Lions around the state and learning what they are doing to provide service to their communities.

At the beginning of this Lions year, International President Gudrun Yngvadottir challenged us to set a new course and sail for the horizon. MD9 has had some success this year and some setbacks along the way. In our state, clubs that have placed the focus on service to their communities have had an easier job growing their clubs.

Our motto is “We Serve.” Our organization was started based on service to our communities. Over the years, some of our clubs have lost that focus. As I have visited clubs this year, I have noticed that clubs that are focused on service to their communities are growing, having fun and are well-respected in their communities. Your club needs to be communicating with your community to see what the service needs are. Take time and review what you are doing as a club and make changes as needed. Your club still has time to change course if needed.

When your club is doing service projects, invite community members to help. Keep in mind what Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” When recruiting community members, look for someone that helps with an area of need. If you are looking to do a service project for diabetes awareness for the first time, you might look for a nurse who can help doing blood testing or diabetes awareness training.

With attendance low at the Mid-Winter Leadership Conference over the last several years, our State Planning Committee is considering changes. When talking to Lions around the state about why they do not attend, cost is a major factor along with weather in January. Starting with the January 2020 Mid-Winter the committee is working at lowering the price

and setting the training to look more like the USA/Canada Forum. They would also like to move it to the October-November time frame starting in the fall of 2020. That will take changes to our constitution and by-laws. The State Planning Committee will work with the Council of Governors to get the recommended changes before our membership at the 2020 MD9 State Convention.

Iowa will host the USA/Canada Forum in Des Moines in September 2021 and we need many Lions to volunteer to help. I would like to encourage you to attend this year’s USA/Canada Forum so you can learn more about what volunteers are needed.

Membership this year has had its ups and downs. While some clubs have had success and are growing, the state is down on members again. Districts 9SE and 9SW both added a new club this year, however we have lost over 10 clubs across the state.

With your club members being volunteers, make sure you take the time to thank them for all the hard work they have done helping your community. Please make sure you thank your community for supporting your club. Let them know what your club has been able to do thanks to their support.



IOWA GAT SUMMIT. Past International Director Bruce Beck, area Global Membership Team coordinator, gives a presentation on membership growth at the 2nd annual Iowa Global Action Team Summit in May. The event focuses on leadership, membership and service as Lions. Topics included an overview of the Global Action Team, how and when to use the MyLion app, the need for officer training at the club and district level, membership growth, what is expected of a district governor, succession planning as a district governor, LCIF personal donations, the need to have a Women & Family Specialist in the district, identifying clubs with problems and the Club Health Assistance Team. Next year’s GAT Summit has been scheduled for May 9, 2020.

To the Lions Who Came Before Us

PCC Terry L. Durham
MD9 Global Membership Team Coordinator

Generations of Lions have come and gone before us. These were men and women who agreed to join the world's largest service organization. These generations agreed to give freely of their time, attend meetings, accept committee assignments and support their club officers. These members agreed to abide by the Lions Code of Ethics and contribute their share of time to Lions. They lit their candles and went forth from 1917 establishing Lions in over 210 countries around the world in 46,000 villages, hamlets, communities, towns and cities.

Our predecessors became the Knights for the Blind and established a foundation that assists those in areas that are ravaged by the storms of nature. Lions were born when the world was aflame with war, yet Lions helped establish the United Nations to prevent countries from settling their differences with the destruction of war. We are recognized by that body as an instrument of peace.

The Lions who came before us left us a legacy from the past 100 years that rings true today. As Lion Matt Webber from Arkansas put it, "We are not a political organization, yet among our members will be found

leaders of political parties. We are not a social club, yet we are active and take an interest in the social welfare of communities. We are not a youth organization, yet we participate in youth programs and projects. We are not a welfare organization, yet in good times and bad, thousands less fortunate have been the recipients of the generosity of Lions.

"Lions are not a sports or recreational agency, but thousands have been thrilled with Little League and other sponsored youth recreational programs. We have not been a health or medical organization, yet Lions have performed miracles by providing a wide panorama of community service.

"We are not an educational organization, but thousands of students are in schools around the world today through our foundation and the scholarships provided by our clubs."

This was the legacy left by the Lions before us. What will be our legacy? Will it be slowing the diabetic epidemic or helping aid parents and children who are afflicted with cancer? Will we continue to be Knights for the Blind, helping in keeping our environment clean and growing and aid those less fortunate by providing meals? Our legacy will require more Lions to serve the ever-growing population of the world.

Let's All Get Skin in the Name of Service

By PDG Jim Bixler
MD9 LCIF Coordinator

WE SERVE is our motto and **LCIF Empowers Lions** to accomplish **Our Mission of Humanitarian Service**. Lofty goals of service were set forth in LCI Forward of serving 200 million people each year by 2021. Currently, the people served is over 308 million for 2018-2019. **CAMPAIGN 100 has a goal of \$300 million by 2021. Let's All Get Skin in the Name of Service.** We are surpassing our service goal, so let's keep up our momentum of giving. **Make a pledge to the campaign!** It is through our numbers that our individual contributions can make this goal possible. When we became Lions, we pledged our support to our club, district and association.

If a club collectively gives \$5,000 or more of unrestricted funds to Campaign 100, they are eligible to tap into 15% of what was given through the new District & Club Community Impact Grants. For

Districts the level starts at \$10,000. Currently Districts EC, MC and SW will have funds reserved for next year that can be combined with last year's funds for projects. Funds need to be applied for.

It is up to us to ask for grant monies from LCIF. If you do not apply for the funds, you may not be able to do the service work you envision. LCIF will help you through the process, so think big and think outside of the box. Not all grant applications are accepted, but keep trying. Life is a competition, so let's go forth and serve.

During the current Lions year, MD9 has been granted a \$2,500 Leo Service Grant for a River King and Queen Leo Club service project done in Clinton, Iowa in August of 2018, a \$10,000 Disaster Grant for 9SW flooding and the ability to apply for funds from the \$50,000 Catastrophe Grant for the flood-ravaged areas of Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. LCIF funds do come back to us, so put in some skin.

STATE LEO CONVENTION

Iowa

LEOs

Lions



2nd Annual LEO Convention

November 2, 2019

10 AM – 2 PM

Burlington, Iowa



Burlington Leos will host this convention

Breakout Sessions – Project Sharing – Food – Fun

Pass the word and mark the date on your calendar.

Watch for more information coming soon

LEOS LEADING THE WAY



Recycling Pays Off

(Above) Akron Future Farmers of America students off-load a semi filled with recycled paper. Akron Lions Club runs a paper barn, which is the club's best recycling project. (Left) Akron Lions Club President Dee Watson (center) presents the Akron FFA with a check for \$300 for helping with the project. Heyl Transportation, a large Midwestern refrigerated carrier based in Akron, provided the truck and trailer at no charge.

District 9MC

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The 2019-2020 officers will be District Governor Judy Stone, 1st Vice District Governor Erica Briest and 2nd VDG Janice Carpenter. Give them a BIG WELCOME and a big THANK YOU for stepping up to lead this district next year.

Our membership was 999 on April 30, so I will lower the goal for the quilt to 1,025 by June 15 and then the club with the biggest increase in membership will get a very pretty and useful quilt.

I do thank each and every one of you for all that you do for Lions in your club, community, 9MC, the state and internationally.

It is hard to keep up on changes within the Lions organization if we do not keep up on the news in our magazines. We read newspapers daily, in hand or online. This is the same thing. We need to try and keep up with changes. It can cost the club sometimes. If drops are not done in a timely manner, it can cost a club in dollars and now International is not waiving clubs that don't do timely reporting. All new officers in your club were to be reported to LCI by May 15 with name, address, email address and phone number to contact them. All members need to have the same information so LCI or the state office could contact them.

OUR funds to LCIF and the Iowa Lions Foundation cover many areas, we can cover them all in one sweep by giving one check to each foundation. If every member gave \$1-5, we could meet the required funds necessary to cover these foundation commitments. Giving automatically monthly would help immensely and it does not hurt. I give to LCIF automatically and to the Iowa Lions Foundation often through the year.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

James M Bussanmas Jr. — Mitchellville

SERVICE ACTIVITIES



ALTOONA held its annual SCIP day service project. This year, PDG Jim Appleget from Mitchellville showed up to help serve 454 students in less than an hour after they spent the morning cleaning parks, schools, residences and highways. Pictured above: Lions Rick Layman and Bob Hall cook hundreds of burgers and hotdogs.

AMES BREAKFAST stocked shelves at Bethesda twice to help over 22 families; sponsored a new puppy for Leader Dog and the Boys and Girls Club named it Muffin; served 557 turkey dinners for fundraiser; screened 197 kindergarteners in just over 3 months; served supper to 50 students at Boys and Girls Club, collected 18 hearing aids and 649 used eyeglasses; held a Lions Fair at North Grand Mall in Ames with 20 members working to create displays and baskets for drawings. They had a jar full of marbles for visitors to guess how many there were to win a turkey supper ticket. They had a service puppy-in-training on hand and did a KidSight screening during the fair, as well.

AMES EVENING received a Centennial Service patch and a Centennial Legacy Project banner patch that the club earned from projects done during the final year of the Centennial celebration; the District IT gave a presentation on the MyLCI/MyLion; took a Leader Dog display to several state and district meetings; attended a Public Art Commission meeting; volunteered for the ISU Hockey penalty box.

ANKENY JAG LEOS made 25 tied blankets for the Animal Rescue League; participated in "Pennies for Patients" fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

BEAMAN did KidSight screening at BCLUW kindergarten roundup with 24 kids checked; held Bingo every Monday evening in April; donated \$100 to Beaman Memorial Day Fund.

CLIVE worked with Community Services distributing food and clothing for the needy; collected over 600 pairs of used eyeglasses and 15 hearing aids; made and delivered 27 blankets for diabetic patients going through dialysis.

DES MOINES PARKS COMMUNITY did a KidSight screening at Healthy Kids Program at the YMCA; assisted AMVETS with the Hospitalized Veterans Easter Dinner, serving 51 veterans that were bused in from the Iowa Veterans Home and the Des Moines VA Hospital to enjoy music, food and special treats outside the hospital; served dinner to Iron Warriors, a Police and Fire Motorcycle Organization.

DES MOINES SOUTH attended the 9MC Convention in Randall; picked up trash in a city park; helped a person get glasses; helped a person in need of hearing aids; donated \$150 to LCIF, \$300 to the Iowa Lions Foundation, \$100 to Camp Hertko Hollow and gave a \$250 scholarship to a Lincoln High School student; served 100 people at the semi-annual breakfast; sold business card-sized ads and made placemats to use for the Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale fundraisers; baked cookies, cakes and bars for the bake sale; screened 47 children in two different schools with nine of them being retakes; received a service award for a project well-done last year.

DYSART held a Fish Fry to fund a Union High School Scholarship, raising \$2,183 and also had used books and puzzles for purchase which netted \$50 along with \$17 netted from popcorn sales.



EAST DES MOINES conducted an Earth Day Trash Bash, cleaning up trash by the Des Moines river and the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. Pictured above are Guy and Betty Sue Harris at the Botanical Garden.

GARWIN held its annual pork supper and donated money to Garwin Ambulance Bicycle Helmets.

GRIMES received a Centennial Service Award for its projects and many Membership Chevrons for years of service.

GRINNELL screened 19 children at a church preschool and six children at a Kindergarten Roundup; donated 64 pounds of food to the MICA food pantry, 20 pounds of that will be matched by Hy-Vee; \$25 collected and donated to HyVee for the pantry and \$20 collected to donate to the milk fund at a local Methodist Church.

JOHNSTON is selling advertising and print booklets to be handed out at Johnston High School football and basketball games with profits shared with Johnston Booster Club; donated \$1,000 to Johnston Partnership for a Healthy Community, which feeds and clothes residents; held a three-day book sale of books collected over the year with a gross income of \$3,139; donated to the Wonderfully Made Family Camp, \$1,618 to the Johnston Community Library Foundation, \$1,000 to Leader Dog; asked each member to donate a bottle of syrup for pancake meals; held a full-menu pancake breakfast.

KELLOGG advertised, set up, cooked and served a meal; donated \$360 to LCIF and \$360 to Kellogg Home Town Pride.

LAUREL held a pancake breakfast benefit for Little League baseball and softball with the kids selling tickets.

MARSHALLTOWN EVENING participated in a Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowling Event; recycled eyeglasses; collected Lions Mint money from 25 area businesses; delivered Meals on Wheels; popped corn several times as a fundraiser.

MARSHALLTOWN LIONESS held card party tickets fundraiser; sold raffle tickets; held an auction; conducted KidSight screenings; served Meals on Wheels.

MARSHALLTOWN NOON did a clean up of Lions Park for reopening; cut up and removed fallen trees and trash.

MONTEZUMZA paid for eye exam and eyeglasses for a second-grade girl and an eye exam for a first-grade boy; donated \$300 to the After Prom Party; KidSight screened 24 kids at Zuma Zoo Daycare.

STATE CENTER sold 140 roast pork sandwiches at its BBQ Food Stand.

STORY CITY held a pancake supper fundraiser; pledged support with \$100 for an Outreach Food Program planned for Story County; gave a \$250 scholarship to a high school senior.

TRAER worked the concession stand at the local movie theater.

URBANDALE LIONESS donated a large basket with sewing supplies and a \$10 gift card to State Lioness auction; had a program about the Urban Harvest Garden and how it brings generations together.

District 9NC

District Governor

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As my term as your district governor comes to a close, I want to commend all of you for working hard to enlist new members, increasing the services you provide to your communities and conducting the fundraising necessary to support numerous worthwhile causes. I direct you to check out Vice Council Chair Pat Parker's comprehensive list of ideas for service projects in the May issue of *The Iowa Lion*.

As a club secretary, I am well aware of the challenges secretaries, in particular, face in accessing and reporting activities, members and club officers online, but I take comfort from the fact that so many secretaries are getting the job done. If you need help getting registered to use MyLion, please contact MD9 IT Chair Ron Schappaugh in Ames at lionronald@gmail.com or the LCI staff at mylion@lionsclubs.org.

No one said our work as Lions would be without its challenges. Our world has changed so much from 1917, when the association was founded, to the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, when service clubs flourished. Today, attracting new members requires more effort than it did in the past, when service club involvement was more of a given. Just remember, we have something valuable to offer and keep trying.

International President Gudrun Yngvadottir has asked that we share our stories of why we became Lions and why it means so much to us. Why not spend a club meeting sharing your Lions stories with each other? We need to be reminded of how much this membership has meant to us.

I have heard some inspirational stories from Lions who learned the value of our organization because of a family member who was blind or who realized the rewards we receive from helping others less fortunate. For some of us, Lions Club has opened a doorway onto the world as we meet and befriend Lions from throughout the United States and the world. Others have enjoyed the opportunities we have through Lions Club for self-growth and leadership. Lions Clubs International offers its members the world, if we choose to embrace it.

A recurrent theme of my message to my fellow Lions

this year was to take advantage of the opportunities to enrich your understanding and appreciation of this organization by broadening your participation beyond your club to the zone, the district and the state. At each level, you will expand your knowledge of what we are all about. The more involved you become, the more meaningful the organization is to you. Participation on the fringes will not give you the rewards that are there for the taking.

Ours is not a closed society. Opportunities for travel, acceptance and personal growth are available to each one of us who is willing to take the next step. Speaking from personal experience, it was not until I took on the challenge of heading a simple service project in my home club that I gained a measure of self-confidence to take on something more challenging. When the president-elect asked me to be her vice president, I found myself in a position I had not anticipated, but she said it would be fun, and it was. As club president, I attended my first district convention, though I need not have waited that long. It provided a whole new experience as I began to meet Lions from other communities in North Central Iowa. At first glance, I would not have thought we had anything in common, but I came to realize we had everything in common. This has applied to everyone I have met in the state, the nation and internationally. As Lions, we share common values and a common sense of purpose.

By the way, one day I asked to be a zone chair in our district simply because I thought it sounded interesting. I had no idea this would put me on a path to become a district governor. I think as we take on one challenge and meet it, we gain the confidence to try something a little more challenging.

Today, as our district is crying out for leaders, I hope more of you will look within yourselves to ask honestly if taking that next step is something you need to do. You may start out doing it to help out the district, but end up reaping the rewards of new friendships along the way. I guarantee it.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	CLUB	SPONSOR
Brad Weaver	Clear Lake Noon	Patrick Scott
James Springer	Floyd	Duane Tresch
Dr. Shanna Miller	Humboldt	Elwin Hodges
Patrick Thompson	Mason City Noon	Dennis Reidel
Megan Ott	Northwood	Robert Perry
Trevor Nash	Rockwell	Cody Emhoff

A Few Suggestions

Clubs of 9NC, why not cover the registration costs for one or two of your members to attend a district or state convention, members who have not attended before or at least for several years? They can talk about the experience at a future club meeting. Do this each year.

To the Leos in 9NC: Please share your activities in The Iowa Lion! We know you are active and can't wait to hear what all you are doing. You can contact me to report them at kbuehner14@hotmail.com.

Clubs who are using Facebook to promote your club's fundraising activities, State Administrator Tim Wilson asks that you let him know about it by emailing him at twilson@iowalions.org.

I hope you'll take the time to read what other clubs in our district are doing and to enjoy the photos they have shared. Have a wonderful summer and thank you for the opportunity to serve as your district governor. I have enjoyed it!



COMMUNITY MEAL. The Hampton Lions Club served the local Community Meal at Hampton Methodist Church. The meal provided an opportunity for food and fellowship for 180 people. Pictured are: (front row) Lions Judy Hankom, Susan Zacharias, Dale Butson, (2nd row) Dorothy Brinkley, Paul Kelsey, Randy DeVries, (back row) Michelle Schaefer, Scot Semler, Craig Semler, Todd Sabin, (kneeling) Ron Hankom.



FISH FRY. Approximately 116 community members and friends attended the April 12 Fish Fry sponsored by the New Hartford Lions Club.

Our Friends Who Have Died

MEMBER	CLUB	YEARS A LION
Jim Kolp	Algona	20 years
Roger Nerdig	Algona	38 years
Lauren Simonson	Clear Lake Evening	12 years
J.D. Andrews	Garner	47 years
Lyle Nott	Iowa Falls	47 years
PDG David Dannen	Sheffield	50 years

CLUB ACTIVITIES

ACKLEY-GENEVA gave \$1,000 to Iowa Lions Foundation; parked cars for prom; gave \$200 to Diabetes Awareness; gave \$250 to Campaign 100; held a fundraiser to assist the local ambulance service.

CLEAR LAKE EVENING collected 11 bags of garbage for April city cleanup; donated \$1,500 to First UMC Food Bank and \$1,500 to First Congregational Food Bank; screened 11 preschool children through Iowa KidSight; raised \$971 for the general fund and \$97 for Leader Dogs through popcorn sales at Surf Ballroom in March; donated \$500 cash and a dorm fridge and microwave to Post Prom; gave \$650 to sponsor a camper at Camp Hertko Hollow.

HAMPTON delivered Meals on Wheels; listened to students read; screened 23 preschool children through Iowa KidSight; donated \$100 to Care And Share, \$250 to Iowa Lions Foundation, \$200 to Hampton 150th Celebration, \$100 to help senior citizens pay for meals, \$150 for a life membership to Friends of Hampton Public Library, \$250 to LCIF, \$100 to Iowa Youth Exchange.

HUMBOLDT collected 16 pairs of used eyeglasses; gave \$300 to Juvenile Diabetes.

KENSETT hosted a ham and sausage pancake supper that raised \$500.

LAKE MILLS assisted in obtaining hearing aids for an elderly woman; sponsored a Comedy Night featuring comedians, pizza and drinks, earning profit of \$1,250.

MASON CITY NOON provided assistance to an individual in need of eyeglasses.

NORTHWOOD volunteered at the Northwood Theater; awarded a student at Northwood-Kensett High School a scholarship for \$300 to attend the National Wheelchair Sports Camp; escorted a resident of local retirement home to a doctor's appointment in Mason City; and donated \$300 to Iowa Lions Foundation, \$200 to LCIF, \$200 to Iowa Youth Exchange, \$100 to Camp Hertko Hollow, \$100 to Camp Courageous, \$700 to Leader Dog.

District 9NE

District Governor

Doug Welton

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June is the last month of the Lions year, so to end the year in a positive position in regards to membership, it needs to be done this month. As of the middle of May, the numbers reported show that out of the 45 remaining clubs in the district, 17 clubs have no new members, 28 clubs have added 87 new members, 12 clubs dropped no members and 33 clubs dropped 89 members for a net change of minus 2. The district leadership is still working on adding a new club. Hopefully we will be able to get the numbers back to what it was at the beginning of the year. We all know what we have to do, **JUST ASK.**

Another goal for the district was to have each club give something to LCIF and the Iowa Lions Foundation. As of the middle of May, 25 of our 45 clubs have given to LCIF. The Iowa Lions Foundation report shows that 29 of the 45 clubs have made a donation to this foundation. The time is now for the clubs that have not gotten their donations to either LCIF or the Iowa Lions Foundation sent. There is no good reason for not making a donation to these foundations. The funds given have and do come back to our district to help us serve our neighbors. I believe that this goal can and should be met if you truly believe in Lionism.

Leadership development in the district was another goal item. As district leaders, we made available learning opportunities for all members and club officers. We had region, zone and district meetings that were open to all members and club officers. At these meetings, members are updated on the changes that Lions Clubs International has made, what is going on in the districts and other opportunities for learning. We offered club officer training, and for those that did not attend, we then suggested them to use the Lions University online classes to get the training needed to be a quality club officer. We held the annual required 9NE District Convention and we had members from 15 of the 45 clubs attend the convention. The convention was successful and the message from the visiting international director, Don Noland, was very good and we got our new officers elected. Those are District Governor Doug Boelman from Cedar Valley Evening Club, 1st Vice District Governor Richard Congdon

from Cedar Falls Club, 2nd Vice District Governor Stephen Becker from the Waverly Club and Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee Dennis Litterer from the Nashua Club. I believe that maybe there should have been more club presidents at the convention, at least I always believe that as president of a club, you should attend district events to represent your club so your members have a voice in all of the decisions that are made. I know that Lions is a group of volunteers, but it would be nice that when one runs for a local club office or takes on the responsibility of the office, representing the club should be a consideration of the office. Attending meetings outside of your local club helps you learn that the Lions Clubs organization is much larger than just your club and the mission of Lions is much larger than just your community. This message must come from more training and orientation about Lions.

This is my last article for The Iowa Lion. I would not be telling the truth if I said I was going to miss this part of being the district governor. Writing is not my favorite thing to do. I hope that you all survived the reading of my articles and maybe you got something out of them as well. These articles always made me think a little and that seemed to be hard for me. I did enjoy the year as governor and the opportunities to meet so many great people. Thank you for all that you do in the name of Lionism and let us continue to make someone's day better.

NEW MEMBERS

Courtney Chesmore – Cedar Falls
Chad Kaepfel – Cedar Falls
Bill McKinley- Cedar Falls
Heather Nicholson- Cedar Falls
Ben Rindels – Cedar Falls
Jennifer Edinger – Decorah
Aaron Booms – Denver
David Fink – Denver
Debbera Fink – Denver
Randall Herman – Denver
Gary Lemert – Denver
Sandy Sabella – Denver
Bryce Wolff – Denver
Seth Wolff - Denver
Tom Lane – Garrison
Jan Madson – Hudson
Rick Madson – Hudson
Michelle Pint – Jesup
Audrey McMahan – Manchester
Mitchell McGraw – Nashua
Lisa Fleming – Oelwein
Karen Tehan – Vinton

DECEASED MEMBERS

Richard Armbrrecht - Fredericksburg

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BELLE PLAINE paid for and distributed bottled water to Longfellow Elementary students participating in the annual Olympic Days Track/Field Day at Douglas football stadium; foreign exchange students from the Republic of Georgia and Denmark talked to the club about their homeland and experiences in Belle Plaine.

CEDAR FALLS listened to University of Northern Iowa staff present what the veterans on campus are doing to make life easier; did a KidSight screening and packed 845 backpacks for the food bank.

DUBUQUE NOON served tables at the Dubuque Pizza Ranch, earning tips of \$207 and a percentage of the night's take; held its 2nd annual Trivia Night at the Joliet Event Center in downtown Dubuque. Tricor Insurance took 2nd place in the event and was happy to pose for a picture.



FAYETTE cleaned up three miles of ditches from Fayette to the Randalia Corner.

GARRISON awarded scholarships of \$250 each to Eric Henkle, Kaitlyn Halstead and Grant Ries.

JANESVILLE held its annual scrap metal drive and then donated \$700 to the Janesville Youth Baseball program, \$400 to the Janesville Cub Scouts for helping with the club's spring dinner and \$200 in support of the Janesville First Responders; prepared and served a smoked pork chop dinner for 300 persons; presented a \$500 scholarship to Janesville graduating senior, Keaton Boyle.

LA PORTE CITY presented \$500 scholarships to four deserving students.

NASHUA held its annual Spring Fish Fry at the Nashua Town and Country Club, serving 660 pounds of fish to over 600 community members. Many of the dinners were delivered to those that could not attend. Boy Scouts from local Boy Scout Troop 57 and 10 non-Lion volunteers helped the club with planning, serving and clean up.

NEWHALL held the annual Easter Egg hunt with over 75 children attending; held the annual pancake brunch fundraiser and bake sale; gave a \$250 scholarship to a Benton Community senior.

NEW HAMPTON did the annual ditch clean up for three miles of Highway 18 west of New Hampton.

OELWEIN gave a scholarship to a graduating senior in our local high school; donated \$500 to District 9SW to be used to help those Lions clubs hit by the flooding of the Missouri River, an additional \$200 in personal donations were also given; presented the Citizen of the Year award to the editor of the local newspaper for her help in spreading the word, not only about Lions service, but also about other organizations.

VAN HORNE held a breakfast to support our local recreation board, which benefits youth: filled and hid Easter eggs for the local Easter Egg hunt; performed vision screenings at several locations for schools and daycares with a total of 182 children screened. Pictured below is one of the groups of preschool children screened with Lions Theresa Thompson and Jan Logan.



VINTON donated \$605 to Benton County Relay for Life; helped the Vinton Parks and Rec Department build a new playground; donated a bench (picture below) to the Vinton Parks and Rec Department.



WAVERLY donated to the Waverly Food Bank, Cedar Valley Friends of the Family, Iowa Lions Foundation and Habitat for Humanity; cleaned up along Highway 218.

District 9EC

District Governor

Arthur A. Matje

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Well, June is here, the last month in our Lions year. I'd like to use a quote from the installation of officers ceremony, "Keep in mind that at the end of your term of office, you will be called to give an account of your stewardship. Your record of achievement will then be history. Will you as president, perform these duties to the best of your ability?" I think this could apply also, to the following thoughts of the new district governor's team.

In their own words:

DGE Eugene "Tony" Hill, "I want to thank Art and Sue Matje for an awesome year here in District 9EC. Thank you for your leadership. I also want to thank all of you for all of your service which makes Lions what it is: 'We Serve.' I appreciate all the work done to move District 9EC forward. As I move into becoming your district governor in the next month, I want all of us to think about how we can get it done, NOT why that will not work. I am interested in solutions and not excuses. Let's finish 2018-2019 on an upwards trend and then go into 2019-2020 with all of that momentum to continue to make District 9EC awesome! Soon each club will be getting a goal sheet for 2019-2020 that each club will be asked to fill out and return to me. You will also be hearing more about some other things that we will be doing in 2019-2020 in the next couple of months."

Now 1st VDGE: Chester "Stan" Stanfield, "This has been an awesome year for me, visiting clubs and meeting the Lions of District 9EC. We've had a good year in membership. As of April 30th, we had an increase of 98 new members, however we lost 70 leaving us with a net gain of 28. I want to thank the clubs and their leaders for going the extra mile and inviting new people to join the Lions Club. I want to thank District Governor Art Matje for inviting me to join the District 9EC leadership team this year as 2nd VDG. Thank you for the leadership, counsel and guidance you provided me this year and I look forward to your counsel and guidance in the future. We need to finish 2018-2019 strong by continuing to invite more people to join your Lions Club and by reporting your service projects. As this Lions year comes to a close, I'm looking forward to 2019-2020 with new

opportunities for us to increase, grow our clubs and leaders, and serve our communities. I want to thank you for all the hard work that you do as Lions for your club, communities and district."

Now, 2nd VDGE: Paul Fugate, "Thank you everyone for your support and your vote of confidence to elect me as your 2nd vice district governor. I'm ready to start roaring! Roar means we are going to gain new members by serving, which will lead to new members, which will lead to new ideas to serve, which will lead to retention of members and lead to more being served! So my fellow Lions, let's start roaring!"

Now you have heard from your district governor team for 2019-2020. They will be great. Lions, lean on them and also invite them to your Lions' events and projects.

HERE IS SOME REALLY GREAT NEWS

Let me introduce you to the newest Lions in our district; new deckhands to sail our Lions ship to the horizon.

CLUB	MEMBER	SPONSOR
Alburnett	Kevin C. Johnson	James Carver
Bellevue Area	Kristine A. Carrier	
Bellevue Area	Jack Grutz	Sally Grutz
Bellevue Area	Sally Grutz	Jack Grutz
Bellevue Area	David Kunzweiler	
Bellevue Area	Mark Mier	Timothy Vic
Bellevue Area	Jennifer L. Smith	Chris Smith
Bellevue Area	Jane A. Steines	Mike Steines
Bellevue Area	Mike Steines	Jane A. Steines
Bettendorf	Sharon K. Solomonson	Ila Rock



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP. Bellevue Rotary representative John Hoff hands Bellevue Area Centennial Lions President Jeff Recker a check from proceeds raised at a joint Fish Fry. It was the Bellevue Area Lions first major fundraiser and made over \$1,000 for each club.

FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

ALBURNETT cleaned up ditches and roadside; held its annual Trivia Night and raised \$3,486 for Operation Pirate Pack and other community projects; provided two Easter baskets of food to needy families.

BLUE GRASS held a blood drive, gathering 31 pints; served a meal at Blue Grass American Legion; played accordion for nursing home residents; worked the American Legion Steak Fry; screened 81 children for KidSight; cooked and served a meal at the homeless shelter for veterans in Rock Island; attended the assembly meeting at the Blue Grass Elementary School and presented 17 Paw Print Award Pins to students with outstanding achievements; crocheted a prayer shawl for a senior.

CEDAR RAPIDS NOON held a school club partnership tutoring 75 students; collected 817 pairs of eyeglasses for recycling; KidSight screened eight children; provided vision screening and fittings for nine adults.

CENTER POINT held an Easter party for kids.

DAVENPORT HOST held club meeting with speaker Marsha Ross from Community Healthcare.

DEWITT NOON conducted two Travelogues; funded an eye exam and glasses for a student.

ELDRIDGE collected food donations from drop locations and delivered to North Scott Food Pantry; collected two hearing aids; played Bingo games with the residents of Grand Haven; helped library staff move and setup books for the spring book sale; collected 168 pairs of eyeglasses for recycling; KidSight screened 108 children.

LOW MOOR attended the zone meeting; sent a donation to Western Iowa farmers who suffered from the flooding; helped in the Low Moor Easter Egg Hunt by serving hot dogs, pop and chips for the children attending.

LOWDEN filled Easter eggs for the annual hunt; donated \$100 along with Stanwood and Mechanicsville Lions to sponsor a local man who needed a hearing aid; donated \$500 to Iowa flood victims for immediate help; made a donation to Iowa Lions Youth Exchange Camp; held the annual Easter Egg Hunt with 56 kids participating.

MARION NOON collected 325 pairs of used eyeglasses; donated \$500 to LCIF and \$1,000 to Iowa Lions Foundation.

MILES donated to Camp Courageous and the Miles Fire Department; attended the Leader In Me assembly at Easton Valley where students demonstrated their leadership skills.

PRESTON held the annual Easter Egg Hunt with 80 kids participating and the Easter Bunny making an appearance.

STANWOOD donated six packs of hamburger buns, 84 cans of pop and 50 bags of chips to the food pantry; did KidSight screenings at five different locations totaling 197 kids.

TIPTON donated \$500 to the Junior Diabetes Foundation Walk/Run; attended the Shared Blessings meal and helped fix and also deliver free meals to shut-ins around the county; met with West Branch Lions for a tour of U of I Children's Hospital; donated \$500 and received a matching District Care and Share grant to help a family with medical and gas expenses; donated a total of \$1,000 to assist a resident with severe diabetes problems; held the Spring Blood Drive with a total of 49 units collected; worked on laying pavers at the Cedar County Freedom Rock; Lion Alvin Wright was presented with the District 9EC Lion of the Year award.

GRAND TOTAL:

89 Lions worked 3,900 Lion hours serving 3,795 people with 17 clubs participating (or almost 30%)

THIS IS MY MESSAGE TO ALL LION SECRETARIES IN DISTRICT 9EC: next Lions year you should all be able to enter at least one service activity per month. You'll need to use MyLion. Come on people. Say whatever you want to me about this, but it is possible.

District 9SW

District Governor
Patrick Parker

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We are in the last month of our Lions year. Where has the time gone? It seems like just last week I was heading to Las Vegas, Nevada for the International Convention. As I prepared for my year, I remembered what I was told by several past district governors that this would be my best year ever as a Lion. Make sure you have a good set of tires on your car as you will travel many miles. You will meet a lot of great Lions. And finally, be prepared to help when a club calls with an issue. The year was all of this and more.

As we started the year, we had 1,379 members in 52 Lions Clubs. We also had two Lioness Clubs and two Leo Clubs. As of May 15, we are at 1,384 members in 52 Lions Clubs. We have two Lioness Clubs and three Leo Clubs. We are in the process of chartering the Waukee Lions Club as they have reached 20 members. I have also been notified that the Red Oak Lions Club has decided to fold. Panora Lions Club is in the process of chartering a New Leo Club in Panora, working with a faith-based group.

I would like all clubs to take a minute and

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 6-8	State Convention, Cedar Rapids
June 15	Officer Training, Guthrie Center
June 15	District 9SW Cabinet meeting, Guthrie Center
July 26-28	Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, Maryville, Missouri

remember the 19 members that have passed away this year.

Clubs have reported so far that they have served 77,266 individuals within our district. We also received a \$10,000 Emergency Disaster Grant that was used to help the Glenwood Lions Club provide Easter meals to displaced families. Along with the grant, many Lions from around the district and state took time to volunteer in the Glenwood area, donate funds and supplies to help. The Glenwood Lions Club would like to thank all that helped or donated to their community.

While visiting clubs, DGE Allen Zobel and I have had the privilege to meet lots of our outstanding Lions. We were able to recognize members for time in service, present a DG coin to members for excellence in leadership, membership, and service, induct new members and install officers.

Next year, I will be serving as council chair for MD9 and I look forward to watching DGE Allen Zobel and his team work with our clubs.

I would like to remind clubs that our motto is "We Serve." Continue to look for ways to better serve your communities and find ways to help our organization promote diabetes awareness. Take time to review what current projects and services you are providing and make sure they still meet the needs of your community. KidSight continues to be a major service project for us and we have now screened over 550,000 kids in just under 20 years.

Lion Melanie and I would like to thank all clubs and members of District 9SW for supporting me this year and allowing me the honor of being your district governor. It has truly been a blessing and an honor to serve you as it has been my most enjoyable year so far as a Lion. You made us feel welcomed at meetings and events we attended.

In Memoriam

Donald Overton – St Charles Lions Club

WHAT ARE CLUBS DOING?

ADAIR gave donations to Camp Hertko Hollow, LCIF, AC/GC After Prom Party, Boys and Girls Club, Iowa Lions Foundation and played music at nursing homes.

ADEL assisted at the South Dallas County Landfill and City Hazardous Waste collection; made \$1,000 donation to Kinnick to Raccoon Trail Improvement Project; donated \$1,250 to Good Samaritan Food Pantry towards a new commercial cooler and gave \$350 to Light Up Adel for the Holidays Project.

ATLANTIC raised \$1,103 from a waffle supper and donated \$100 to the Southwest Iowa Transportation Authority to help provide transportation to area youth so they can participate in summer activities.

AUDUBON volunteered in the Glenwood area serving meals and distributing groceries to flood victims; helped at the Solo and Ensemble Contest and at the Congregate Meal Spring Fundraiser.

COUNCIL BLUFFS made over 900 Twiddlemuffs and screened children for KidSight.

EARLHAM delivered Meals on Wheels; made baby quilts and afghans for the hospital and care center; wrote letter to shut-ins; and sorted cans and bottles to recycle.

EXIRA served meals to flood victims in the Glenwood area with help from EXIRA-EHK Leos and helped distribute groceries; screened children for KidSight.

GLENWOOD helped 143 families get \$14,000 worth of groceries for Easter by using funds from an LCIF Emergency Grant and monies donated to 9SW for flood relief; volunteered at the Mills County Flood Relief Store; screened 134 children for KidSight; gave four \$1,000 scholarships to Glenwood High School seniors.

GRAND RIVER hosted an Easter Egg Hunt.

HARLAN sold daffodils; donated \$1,000 to Glenwood Lions Club for flood relief; helped the library by paying for the One-Man Band Show; screened children for KidSight.

INDIANOLA EVENING honored its Peace Poster winner; screened children for KidSight; collected 880 pairs of used eyeglasses.

LAMONI hosted a pancake and sausage breakfast.

LORIMOR hosted Bingo and a Spring Scholarship Dinner.

MISSOURI VALLEY donated funds to send a child to diabetes camp; gave \$250 to Leader Dogs for the Blind; helped buy hearing aids; helped at prom; hosted an Easter Egg Hunt; screened children for KidSight.

MOUNT AYR held a spaghetti supper to raise funds for scholarships.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	CLUB	SPONSOR
Lucas Ahart	Council Bluffs	Beverly Fletcher
William Larsen	Exira	Dave Best
Julie Rasmussen	Exira	Kevin Petty
Brandi Baker	Indianola	Danyel Wilson
Sandra Barr-Ritter	Leon	Elizabeth Schmidt
David Garland	Panora	Gary Freeland
Peggy Bowman	Redfield	Caroline Morgan
Heidi Baker	Waukee	Pat Parker
Echo Boland	Waukee	Julie Stewart
Leslie Cutler	Waukee	Julie Stewart
Brian Krohn	Waukee	Julie Stewart
Calvin Oraw	Waukee	Dennis Dilley

NEOLA served meals to flood victims; sorted cans and bottles for recycling; walked ditches; bought playground equipment for the park.

NEW VIRGINIA received \$1,000 from 4-H Club to help with building remodeling project.

NORWALK helped at the food pantry; donated blood; visited nursing homes; helped teach English to immigrants.

OAKLAND did highway clean-up; sorted cans and bottles to recycle; screened children for KidSight.

PANORA donated \$500 to flood relief; helped deliver groceries to flood victims; served a breakfast to 3rd-5th graders before taking state test.

PERRY did a roadside clean-up.

REDFIELD hosted Bingo; volunteered and donated \$500 to Glenwood Lions Club to support flood relief, donated \$200 to Redfield Development for playground equipment and \$50 to help purchase flowers for planters; recycled cans and bottles; helped serve meals for The American Heart Association.

TINGLEY donated \$75 to Leader Dog for the Blind; \$200 to flood relief; held an Easter Egg Hunt; helped clean the ball field.

VILLISCA hosted a craft show; donated \$500 to flood relief, \$200 to Leader Dogs for the Blind and books to 2nd-5th grade classes.

WAUKEE collected seven carts of groceries and \$1,250 for the local food pantry.

District 9NW

District Governor
Timothy Wilson

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Don't Give Up. Don't Ever Give Up.

As I have been reflecting on my year as the 9NW district governor, I thought of the quote, "Don't give up. Don't ever give up." This quote was spoken by Jim Valvano. For you non-sports fans, Jim Valvano was a college basketball coach back in the 1980s. In fact, he led the North Carolina State Wolfpack to a National Championship. After he retired from coaching, he became a popular college basketball announcer for ESPN. In the early 1990s, he announced that he had cancer. In 1993, he was awarded the Courage Award at the annual ESPY awards. Barely able to walk, Mr. Valvano gave a very entertaining and inspiring speech. He stated that even though he had tumors all over his body, cancer could never take his mind, his heart or his soul. He encouraged the audience, "Don't give up. Don't ever give up."

That quote has stuck with me since I first heard it and I try to remind myself of it when I need to in my life. This year has been, to say the least, challenging. Challenging both in Lions and my personal life. As I approached the Lions year of 2018-2019, I was encouraged at the thought of trying to inspire our district membership to do more service, create more leaders and grow our membership. I had some lofty goals, but I felt we had the members to accomplish the goals I had set.

What I have found is a sort of give up kind of attitude from some of our clubs. I'm not saying that they have given up but we have become very complacent in our mission as Lions. I asked that every club conduct one new service project within the year and report it to me. Although I have heard of a couple clubs trying to do a new project, nothing has been reported to me. Our membership is again in the minus side this year and we are going into next year with many holes in the district leadership. We do not have the 1st or 2nd vice district governor

positions filled. We are badly in need of zone chairpersons. Keep in mind, a district needs leaders to function. Now, I'm a positive person and I might catch flack for being a little negative here but it needs to be stated. We need our members to step up to be leaders. Leaders that want to get things done. We can't give up!

I've stated this over and over this year, any member in our organization can be a leader in our organization. It just takes the courage, like Coach Valvano, to stand up and inspire our members. Inspire them to step up to lead, ask potential members to join us and do more service. We can do it and I'm not giving up. I try to spread my passion to anyone who will listen. Let's do this and help more people!

Don't give up. Don't ever give up!

Club Officer Training

If you missed the officer training in May, you still have a chance to attend another session. We will be conducting club officer training on June 22. This training will take place at the First United Methodist Church, 307 S Wilson Ave., in Jefferson starting at 9 a.m. Training will be for president, secretary and treasurer. We encourage ALL club officers to attend this training. Even if you have been the secretary or treasurer for years, please plan to attend. So many things have changed over the years, you probably could use a refresher. Training will cover MyLion, including solving problems with logging in. Please RSVP to Lion Roger Curtis at 515-408-7563 or Roger_Curtis@hotmail.com.



SING ALONG. District Governor-Elect Dale Schoening and DG Tim Wilson sing along to the Ragtime music at the Boone County Lions joint meeting in Boone.

District Leadership

I know, I know. You have heard it over and over, but it bears repeating over and over. At the time of this writing, DGE Dale Schoening is still searching for those members to step up to be leaders in our district. We need your help to continue to do the great service that we set out to do when we joined Lions.

It has been my experience that you get a great feeling in a leadership position in our organization. Not a feeling of thinking you are a better volunteer than others, but a feeling that you are inspiring other members to do more. Inspiring others is what being a leader is about as far as I am concerned. What we need in our district is more people to inspire clubs to get out there and let people know that Lions are here to help, here to make the lives of people a little easier.

We touch people's lives every day and we ask that you help lead that effort. I have said before and I will say it again, anyone can be a leader in our organization. It just takes the commitment to do it and it is not that hard.

If you are considering being a leader, please contact me.



QUAD CLUB VISIT. District Governor Tim Wilson (standing) speaks at the annual joint meeting of the Boone, Madrid, Ogden and Woodward Lions Clubs, which was hosted by Boone Lions this year. DGE Dale Schoening is seated.

Members We Lost in April

Craig Pottratz — Boone Lions Club

What Our Clubs Have Been Up To!

AKRON donated to Akron-Westfield FFA for helping with newspaper recycling.

CARROLL held its annual fish sale, raising \$600; donated \$100 to the Alzheimer's walk, \$250 to the RSVP program, \$75 to the Catholic high school After-Prom Party.

CHURDAN helped with the town cleanup; donated \$500 to the local cemetery for a memorial stone for veterans; helped with Meals on Wheels.

FORT DODGE EVENING held election of officers for 2019-2020; donated \$360 for new eyeglasses for eight people.

GRAND JUNCTION held its spring pancake brunch fundraiser.

HARTLEY walked and cleaned a two-mile stretch of Hwy. 18 west of Hartley; donated \$500 to a family for medical expenses; helped a person acquire hearing aids.

MANSON held an omelet breakfast with funds going to new security cameras at the community center.

MERRILL served a meal at the Gospel Mission.

PETERSON donated \$12,000 to help the local swimming pool operate this year; helped with remodeling the pool changing areas.

SCHALLER held a pie and burrito sales fundraiser with proceeds going to two scholarships for local students.

WOODWARD held a breakfast for the community to raise funds for scholarships for local students; provided breakfast during the Des Moines Rotary bike ride; held an Easter Egg Hunt for the local children.

For the month of April:

Number of Lions Involved: 158

Number of Lions Hours: 429

Number of people served: 1018

Funds Raised: \$4,391

Funds Donated: \$14,275

Clubs Participating: 11 (30%)

District 9SE

District Governor
Dave McGregor

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New London, Iowa 52645

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WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	CLUB	SPONSOR
Dennis A. Deaver Sr.	Knoxville	Tim Deaver
Ashlee Davis	North Liberty	Jonathan Connor
Jacob Vanderhoek	North Liberty	Jonathan Connor
Alex Phillips	Williamsburg	Blake Kleinmeyer

Fellow Lions, as this Lions year is quickly drawing to a close, I am reflecting on my goals for our district this year, which began at my installation in Las Vegas on July 1, 2018.

One of the ways to increase membership is to start a new club, which came to fruition in November 2018 in Tiffin with the Clear Creek Lions Club starting 24 new members. Congratulations, Clear Creek Lions. I have asked that each club increase their membership by three, which would give the district 150 new members. In the beginning of the year, we had 1,123 members. We are now at 1,103.

We started the year with 29% women in our clubs and we are at the international rate of 30%. My goal was to reach 32% in our district and we are moving in a positive direction for women in leadership roles.

District convention went well in New London. I am very pleased to report that we have a full slate of officers for the 2019-2020 Lions year. Congratulations to District Governor-Elect Debbie Doty from Oskaloosa, who is about to embark on her second term; to 1st Vice District Governor-Elect Bryan Bross from Burlington Host; and to 2nd Vice District Governor-Elect Nancy Oehler Love from Crawfordsville. We are asking for help in looking for zone chairs for the coming year. I have accepted a two-year term as Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee and Lion Mendy McAdams of Ottumwa Noon Lions Club will finish out the unexpired Iowa Lions Foundation term remaining.

Current Iowa Lions Foundation Trustee Nancy Oehler Love reported 92% of the district goal of \$32, 000. Great Job! I trust those clubs who haven't yet given will make a donation this month and get us to 100% before the end of the month.

I thank each and every cabinet member for your support.

In Memoriam

MEMBER	CLUB	YEARS A LION
Stanley Teggatz	Williamsburg	43 Years



SUMMER CAMP BOUND. Packwood Lion Dave Mello presents Justine Lynn a scholarship to Camp Hertko Hollow for the 2019 summer session. This is the eighth year the Packwood Lions Club has sponsored a child to attend diabetes camp. Campers learn better ways to manage their diabetes by being around other campers and working with skilled health care professionals.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

CORYDON picked up debris from a two-mile section of Highway 2; the local Veterans Administration Director gave a report of services offered through her department; met at local historical museum to clean and perform other functions for the opening of the museum for the season; cleaned the yard, garden and flower beds of a member's property.

CRAWFORDSVILLE performed road clean-up.

FORT MADISON attended the 9SE District Convention; donated \$500 to Camp Hertko Hollow for a local girl with diabetes to attend; donated to Leader Dogs for the Blind, \$100 to Iowa Lions Youth Exchange, \$1,000 to Iowa Lions Foundation, \$100 to District Care and Share and \$200 to Camp Courageous.

GRANDVIEW-LETTS held a blood drive, collecting 22 units; held an Easter egg hunt in the park for approximately 50 kids; donated \$100 to Diabetes Awareness; attended the 9SE District Convention.

IOWA CITY assisted 2 individuals to receive hearing aids; screened 189 kids for Iowa KidSight.

KEOKUK delivered meals to the elderly through the Heritage Center; the Leo Club Committee attended a meeting with the new Central Leo Club to assist getting their club started.

LONE TREE donated \$700 to the Iowa Lions Foundation and \$100 to Leader Dogs for the Blind; screened 34 children with KidSight screenings at Lone Tree and Riverside; collected 62 pairs of eyeglasses for recycling.



YEARS OF SERVICE. District Governor-Elect Debbie Doty (center) presents Leighton Lions Gary Vandenberg and Donna Bogaards with Lions Membership Chevrons. Lion Gary has been a member for 30 years and Lion Donna for 10 years.

MEDIAPOLIS delivered meals to the homebound for Milestone Area of Aging; picked up trash along a two-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 61 in northern Des Moines County as a part of the Iowa Department of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway program.

NEW LONDON transported blood for Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center; attended district convention; unloaded food truck from Des Moines for the school pantry.

NORTH LIBERTY screened 73 children for Iowa KidSight at Creation Kids.

OSKALOOSA coached Upward Bound cheer squad; participated in scholarship selections for Oskaloosa Area Chamber and Development Group and 52577 scholarship funds, awarding \$13,500 to 13 graduating seniors at five area high schools; volunteered for the Oskaloosa Area Chamber and Development Group to greet new businesses in the community and plan the annual Chamber Awards Banquet and Dessert Auction; packed backpacks for Take-Along Meals weekend food program for children; served End of Month Meals.

PELLA recycled 2,400 pairs of eyeglasses.

RICHLAND held a trivia night fundraiser; attended district convention.

VICTOR presented two small white fir seedlings each to 24 HLV 4th grade students to take home and plant; donated \$250 each to the Compass Memorial Hospital Foundation and Victor Senior Housing; recycled 142 pairs of glasses; along with the Boy Scouts set up and hid candy for the annual Easter hunt.

WASHINGTON hosted a blood drive; bussed tables at Pizza Ranch for a Community Night Fundraiser; attended the 9SE District Convention.

WEST BURLINGTON screened 20 children for KidSight.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

June 6-8	State Convention, Cedar Rapids
July 27	District 9SE Cabinet meeting, Mount Pleasant Pizza Ranch, noon
July 26-28	Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, Maryville, Missouri

It's OK to Have a Little Fun

By DGE Debbie Doty
Editor, *The Iowa Lion*

While service like helping flood victims clean up their homes or restoring people's hearing or vision can be serious business, Lions like to have fun. Having a creative Tail Twister can be a big help, but there are many Lions who come up with clever ideas.

At the Blakesburg Lions Awards Night in May, Club Secretary/Treasurer Randy Burton surprised club members and guests with some unique awards that he was able to make up inexpensively with some creativity, printer paper and dollar store frames.

"You have to give your members a pat on the back," Past District Governor Randy said.

In addition to some serious awards like a Warren Coleman Honorary Award, a Club Service Award and a Club KidSight Award, PDG Randy presented a few fun awards, too. Things like the "Sausage Award" presented to a 12-year-old boy that volunteers nearly every time at the club's monthly fundraising breakfast.

"Oh boy! Eating all those sausages finally paid off," exclaimed young Zach Townsend as he rose to accept his award.

Zach's grandmother, Lion Laurine Townsend, took home the "Flaky Biscuit Award." It was a tongue-in-cheek way of poking fun because some of the breakfast attendees don't think the flaky-style



Past District Governor Randy Burton, secretary/treasurer of Blakesburg Lions Club, places the Warren Coleman Honorary Award pin on Lion Gary "Pete" Glosser during the Blakesburg Lions Club Awards Night.

biscuits Lion Laurine tends to bring to the breakfast go well with the sausage gravy. "Laurine has learned to bring the southern-style or buttermilk biscuits," Randy joked.

Another bit of jest came as club President Jim Heuer was presented the "Punctuality Award," which had a subtitle, "It never hurts to remind me," to poke fun at the fact that Lion Jim signed up to attend a zone meeting but forgot about it.

Club public relations chairperson Chuck Fiscella received the "Town Crier Award" for his efforts in getting the word out about club events. The subtitle on it read, "If you want to know what's up, go find Chuck."

Some of the other fun awards given were the "Green Acres Award" to new Lion Gary Williams, who retired from banking in a larger city and bought a farm in rural Blakesburg, and the "Partner-in-Service Award" presented to PDG Randy's girlfriend, Ruby Bruhn, who has accompanied him to state and district conventions for the past few years.

Laughter and applause could be heard throughout the restaurant as these simple-yet-thoughtful awards were given to the members of the club.

"It makes them feel special and appreciated," PDG Randy said.



Past District Governor Randy Burton, secretary/treasurer of Blakesburg Lions Club, presents the Sausage Award to volunteer Zach Townsend.



The Solon Centennial Lions Club donates \$2,500 raised at its Fat Tire Classic to the Solon Tri-Township Fire Department. From left are Jon Yetley of Sugar Bottom Bikes, Lion Jay Proffitt, Fire Chief Bob Siddell, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief Jim Donovan, Solon Centennial Lions President Dan Woessner, Lions Abbe Gravert, Marti Hendricks and Helen Proffitt.

Fat Tire Classic Bicycle Race Nets Profits for Fire House

The Solon Centennial Lions Club and Sugar Bottom Bikes promoted and organized the 2nd annual Fat Tire Classic, which took place Feb. 16, with approximately 130 participants. Many local businesses also sponsored the event.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Solon firemen and MacBride Park, along with Sugar Bottom Bikes and the Solon Centennial Lions, provided spotting throughout the race.

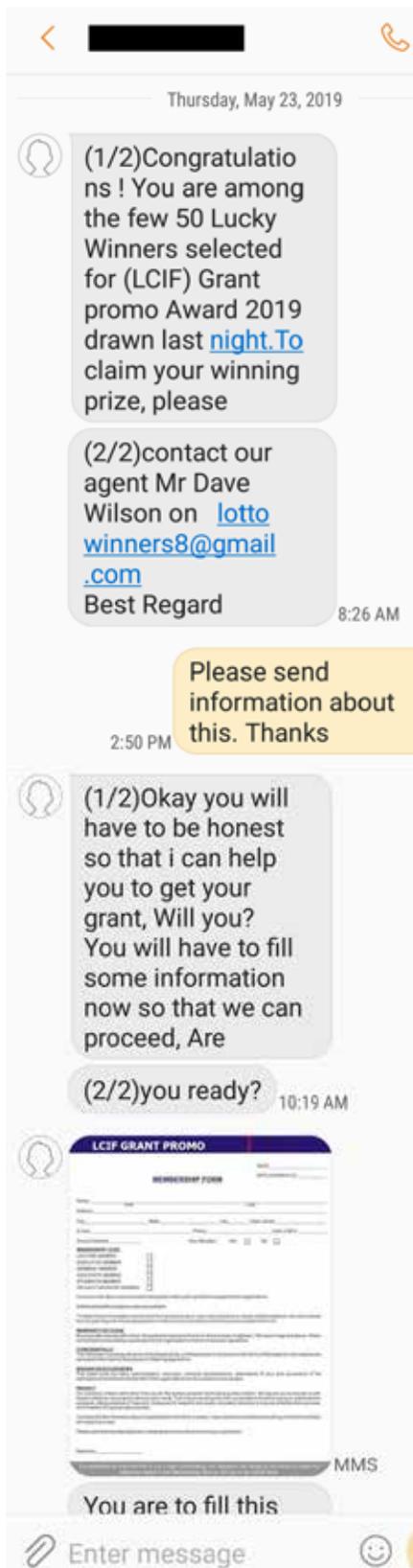
At the end of the race, Solon Centennial Lions served soup and sandwiches at the Clubhouse to help warm the

cyclists, while Big Grove Brewery provided beverages. Prizes were also given away.

Half of the proceeds from this community event were promised to the Solon Tri-Township Fire Department in their efforts to help build their new firehouse. Lions members and Sugar Bottom Bikes owner Jon Yetley met with firefighters in April to present a \$2,500 check.

Solon Centennial Lions are currently planning the 3rd annual Fat Tire Classic for early 2020. Adventuring cyclists who don't mind the cold and the mud are invited to participate.

Beware of Texts, Emails Offering LCIF Grants



*By DGE Debbie Doty
Editor, The Iowa Lion*

I received a call from a non-Lion friend a week ago wanting to know about LCIF grants. She knew I was a Lion and she had received a text message on her phone congratulating her on being one of the 50 lucky winners of an LCIF grant. She is on a board at a non-profit and thought their day care could really use some funds.

Thankfully, she listened to those warning bells going off in her head before she sent in personal or banking information and became the victim of a phishing scam.

I see this all of the time on the computer side of my business. Hackers and scammers have developed some very clever ruses to trick people into clicking on their links or turning over personal and financial information. I asked my friend to send me a couple of screen shots from the texts she received so I could turn them over to Lions Clubs International Legal Department. They replied that they were aware of the scams, and offered some advice on dealing with them. The very first is to **BE AWARE**, or as I like to say in my business, **“Think before you click!”**

Be aware of e-mail/calls/Messenger scams that fraudulently use the Lions name or Logo or other trusted and well-known names. The goal of these types of scams is to trick people into revealing personal and financial information about themselves, which can then be used to commit identity theft.

If you receive a suspicious e-mail or text, please follow these guidelines:

- Do not reply
- Do not open any attachments
- Do not click on any links

Please delete the suspicious email or block the caller and do not respond. LCI Legal advises, “If you wish, you may report the email/Call/Message to local authorities in your jurisdiction for further investigation.” It has been my experience in Iowa that the local authorities really do not have the resources to follow through with these types of scams, but the federal government does have the Internet Crime Complaint Center, also known as ic3.gov. This is a division of the FBI that works with an array of law enforcement agencies and task forces to put together the puzzle pieces to solve these types of crimes, which can be hard to do given the international nature of the Internet.

Lions tend to be trusting individuals; it’s just part of our “We Serve” nature. We also need to be good stewards of the monies entrusted to us to help people and need to know there are some out there who are cheats and would use the good name of Lions Clubs International to do so. **BE AWARE!**



THE IOWA LION

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



BUSY BUILDING. The Kamrar Lions Community Building was the site of a well-attended community Mother's Day Dinner sponsored by the Lions Club.



A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. Lydia, a government exchange student from Kenya, speaks to Rowan Lions Club about the differences in education between Kenya and Iowa. Lydia attends Clarion-Goldfield-Dows High School.



THE BEFORE. Vinton Lions help build a new playground.



BEAUTIFUL DAY. April 20 was a beautiful day for an Easter egg hunt in Van Horne, where Lions filled and hid eggs.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE

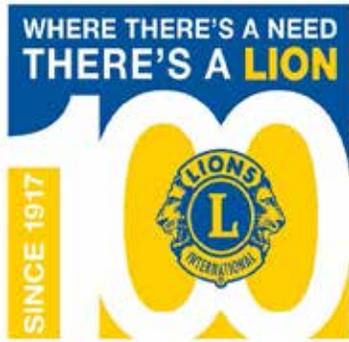


BRUNCH WITH THE EASTER BUNNY. Newhall Lions Club held a pancake brunch fundraiser (pictured above) and hosted an Easter egg hunt for kids, which featured a visit from the Easter bunny (pictured right).



SENIOR LUNCHEON. Waverly Lions Club helps serve lunch at the Waverly Senior Center.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



AKRON LIONS CLUB

23RD ANNUAL FATHERS DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019 at AKRON GOLF CLUB

FOUR PERSON, BEST BALL (MEN & WOMEN WELCOME)

ENTRY FEE \$40 PER PERSON (INCLUDES 2 MULLIGANS)



SHOTGUN START 9:00 AM

GENEROUS FLIGHT AND FLAG PRIZES

\$5,000 HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE ON HOLE #8

(1ST ROUND ONLY) (SPLIT 50/50 with AKRON AMBULANCE SERVICE)

TO RESERVE YOUR SLOT AND IF NEEDED

RESERVE A CART CALL 712-568-3146

OR E-MAIL akroniagc@gmail.com

(Snacks, liquids, & lunch available for additional fee)

Bring used eyeglasses and hearing aids to recycle

Thank you for supporting this Akron Lions Club event.

COME AND ENJOY THIS FUN DAY.

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COVERAGE



Strides/Pedal Diabetes Awareness Bike Ride, Run, Walk



Where: T-Bone Trail- start at Albert the Bull Park, Audubon, Iowa

When:

Saturday, June 22nd

Time:

Registration 7:30- 8:00 AM

Diabetic Awareness Presentation 8:00 – 8:30 AM

Start of Events 8:30 AM with bikes first, then runners then walkers.

Stride events ends at 1:30 PM

Cost:

Registration fee is \$20 for adult down to 11 and \$15 for child 6-10, 5 and under free, if you want a t-shirt — otherwise the cost is free will donation. **If you want a shirt must have registration by June 1.**

All three activities will be held on the T-Bone Trail with no hills. The total distance is 34 miles. You may choose the distance of your bike ride. The bike crossings of roads will be monitored by Sheriff dept., volunteers and water will be available at the turn around point. Both the run and walk will be 5K distances and the turn around point will be manned by volunteers.

Free will offering can be made that day to: Diabetes Research and Camp Hertko Hollow – Iowa’s Camp for Kids With Diabetes.

Snacks will be provided to all and drawings for prizes will be held for youth and adults. Concessions will be available at the completion of the ride, walk, and run.

All participants must complete this portion of the form.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Phone # _____

Waiver – I know that participation in any of these events are potentially hazardous activities and I am medically able for such activities. I assume all risks associated with these activities including but no limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of weather, including heat and/or humidity, conditions of the trail, road and traffic on the route. In consideration of the acceptance of my application I waive and release the Lions Club International from all claims of any kind for damages arising from my participation in these activities. By participation in this program I understand that my image or likeness may be used in print and digital media to promote the club and that I receive no compensation from such usage.

Signature _____ Date _____

Registration: Complete online at getmeregistered.com for a small fee or send to Exira Lions Club 104 Washington Ave. Exira, Iowa 50076 with check.

Hosted by Anita Lions, Atlantic Lions, Audubon Lions, Exira Lions, Exira-EHK Leadership Leos, Harlan Lions and Oakland Lions.



WE SERVE