October 2023

iowalions.org

District Food Bank Project Helps People Across Iowa

By PDGs Cliff Weldon and Stefan Sandberg

Lions clubs in District 9NW have been working on various Food Bank projects the past few months as a district-wide service project.

Local food banks exist in almost every community these days and seem to be increasingly in demand due to many causes, including the changing weather patterns, floods, droughts and storms. The pandemic is officially over, but many of its aftereffects are still with us. Most of us just don't see it in our daily lives, but there are a serious number of undernourished and foodinsecure people in our state. Many times they are right in our own neighborhoods. We Lions can help!

Clubs in Carroll, Fort Dodge (Noon), Manson,



FEEDING IOWA. Akron Lions showcase a trunk full of groceries that they collected for their local food pantry during the 9NW district-wide food bank service project organized by 9NW Service Coordinator PDG Cliff Weldon and 9NW District Governor Pat Essing.

Akron and other areas collected food and money in their hometowns in support of their local food banks. The Carroll Lions collected more than \$4,000! The Manson club has been supporting the hometown grocery store for many years.

Not only is this a wonderful way of helping people in your town, but these efforts also result in marvelous publicity for your club. People like to help others and your club can be a leader and coordinator for this event. It's tailor made to fit our motto *We Serve*!

Lions from all over the state can also help. On Aug. 10, the second 9NW District Service Project was held in Des Moines. Eleven Lions and family members met at the Food Bank of Iowa. For two and a half hours they sorted, bagged, weighed, and counted potatoes. Together 9NW Lions assembled 532 seven-pound bags of potatoes for a total weight of 3,724 pounds. These grocery staples will be distributed throughout most of Iowa in the coming weeks, helping to feed food-insecure families. The food bank stated that the Lions were one of the most efficient groups they have had.

This pride of Lions was led by District Governor Pat Essing and her husband, Past District Governor Mark Essing from the Manson Lions. Lions from the Woodward club included Club President Mike Green and Lion Christy Schuldt. The Fort Dodge Noon Lions were represented by PDG Cliff Weldon, Lions Nancy Weldon, Larry Juncker, and Steve Rehmann, and family members Kathy Rehmann, Susan Gill, and Azalya Hill.

UPCOMING

October	Vision Awareness Month Lions Membership Growth Month LEO Membership Growth Month
Oct. 12	World Sight Day Grandview-Letts 40th Anniversary
Oct. 15	White Cane Day
Oct. 20-21	Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference, Grinnell
Oct. 24	International United Nations Day
Oct. 28	9EC Fall Rally, Bettendorf
November	Diabetes Awareness Month
Nov. 4	District 9NE Convention, Waverly
Nov. 14	World Diabetes Day
Nov. 18	District 9SW Convention, Audubor
January	Hunger Awareness Month
Jan. 13	Melvin Jones' Birthday
February	Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
Feb. 15	Int'l Childhood Cancer Day
Feb. 27-29	FVDG/DGE Training Seminar, St. Charles, Illinois
Mar. 16	9EC Convention, Anamosa
April	Environmental Awareness Month Lions Family & Friends Month LEO Club Awareness Month
Apr. 12-13	District 9SE Convention, West Chester
Apr. 27	Lions Worldwide Induction Day
May 31-Ju	1 Iowa Lions State Convention Cedar Falls

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Watch This Space Council Chair Nadine Brockert 6814 McIntire Road Muscatine, Iowa 52761 563-260-1923 nadineb@machlink.com



Welcome to Autumn. My only objection to fall is that it ends with winter. I'm sure we're all looking forward to all the activities associated with the season – cooler days and crisp evenings. Football is back (woohoo) and basketball and hockey aren't far off. Baseball is still with us (go Cubbies) with the World Series ending in late October/early November.

This is also the time of year when our routines become more settled. Summer vacations are over, and some of us are making plans to head south over the next several months. With that in mind, remember that many of our Lions projects need us to volunteer and work toward completion. Joining with your local United Way or similar organization to volunteer to help those less fortunate is always a good thing to do. The more we partner with other local volunteers, the more we get the word out about who Lions are and what Lions can offer. It's also a great opportunity to interest others to join.

October is Fire Prevention Month. I recently had the opportunity to speak to a group of volunteer firefighters from several departments in Eastern Iowa. My reasoning was two-fold:

(1) During the 2022-2023 Lions year, my district had 10 requests for Care and Share donations. More than 50% of these requests were from clubs who had community members who lost their homes to fire. In one of these fires, a little boy lost his life. Two fires occurred over the Christmas holiday; both homes burned to the ground.

(2) We have all had education in fire safety. Why do these fires keep happening? What are we missing in getting the word out to ensure that we recognize and correct potential danger before it becomes a tragedy? While doing preparation for speaking with the firefighters, I found that 92% of the fire departments in Iowa are volunteer, far above the national average of 70%. A sobering statistic. In Muscatine County, the City of Muscatine is the only municipality with a fulltime staffed fire department with EMTs and ambulance service. The area that each volunteer department is responsible for can be quite large.

I asked the firefighters how we could best help them.

The response was smoke detectors and batteries. The average cost of a smoke detector is \$10-\$30. Batteries vary on where they are purchased. Other ways we can support our local volunteers are to attend their fundraisers, offer to assist them with fundraising and, if you are so inclined, take the training to become a volunteer firefighter/First Responder yourself. I also shared a couple of grant categories from LCIF that can be utilized through their local Lions Club. Grants are available to local volunteer departments based on the average income of residents of the district.

Firefighting equipment is very expensive, and many departments rely on hand-me-downs from the larger municipalities. Muscatine recently had a 30-year-old fire engine that was offered to volunteer departments in the area. It was so used up no one wanted it.

I received the following message from LCI regarding the launch of the new Lions Portal:

Dear Lion Leader,

We are continuing to make progress toward the new Lion Portal, which will provide a streamlined digital experience for Lions and Leos. We are grateful to the dedicated Lion testers who have played a critical role in providing input at every phase of the project, and this includes helping assess our readiness for launch.

Our top priority is ensuring our members have a positive experience with the new Lion Portal. With that priority in mind, we have determined that we need to adjust our projected Q1 launch. Lion testers are key to our success and their testing activities have been delayed to correct an unexpected permission and data access issue.

We have carefully assessed the remaining scope of work and necessary changes to support the resolution passed at the 105th International Convention in Boston to determine the revised target launch date. Our next launch opportunity is January 2024. This incorporates the new rules for delegate count and allows mid-year membership changes to be processed in a familiar system.

Thank you for your continued support and leadership as we prepare for the new Lion Portal.

Sue Ben Chief of Technology Lions International

State Treasurer Doug Welton resigned effective Aug. 31, 2023. I know you all join me in thanking PDG Doug for his service and wishing him the very best going forward. The Personnel & Equipment Committee, in conjunction with Iowa Lions Foundation leadership, are working to have a new treasurer in place very soon.

Walk a Mile in My Shoes

By PDG Bill Shutters MD9 Diabetes Awareness Chair

One very valuable tool in conflict resolution or negotiations is looking at the issue from a different perspective, namely the other party. Simply put, its 'Walk a mile in my shoes." We often look at the story of the discovery of insulin from the perspective of Dr. Sir Fredrick Banting. Let's look at if from the perspective of Leonard Thompson.

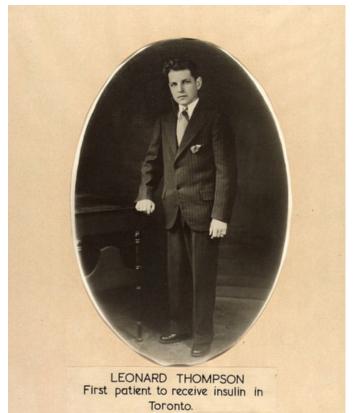
Leonard was born July 17, 1908, to Harold and Florence Thompson. They lived on Pickering Street in Toronto, Canada. He came from a humble background but, was described as a "happy kid" with a great personality who worked hard in school and had an interest in sports.

Other than an ear infection as an infant, his health was normal for a kid of his age until 1919. At age eleven he suffered from nocturnal enuresis (wet the bed). His mother made an appointment with a doctor, who failed to diagnose the cause. A month later, the diagnosis of Type 1 diabetes mellitus was confirmed.

At that time, a diagnosis of diabetes was a death sentence. The patient usually succumbed within months and frequently within weeks or even days. There was little doctors could do for him. Sometimes the patient was treated with blood letting or opium administration. Other treatments included aggressive feeding of the patient, even with sugar, to reverse the wasting.

Leonard was placed on a "restricted calorie" or "starvation" diet of small amounts of protein and fat, with an occasional 1½ ounces of whiskey to increase his calorie intake and facilitate comfort. The main purpose of the diet was to prolong his life. He was given a typical life expectancy of 11-12 months.

He survived another two-and-a-half years when he was admitted to Ward H of Toronto General Hospital under the care of Dr. Walter Campbell, who had founded the hospital's diabetic clinic a few years prior. He was admitted as a public ward or "charity case." He was intended to be admitted



at the Hospital for Sick Children, despite its lack of a diabetes clinic. Dr. Campbell pulled some strings and had him admitted to Toronto General.

When Leonard was carried into the hospital by his father, he was 5'11" tall and weighed 65 pounds. He presented as both dull and pale, with his hair falling out, a distended abdomen, his breath smelling of acetone. He drifted in and out of a coma. He was content to remain in his bed for days on end. He was later described as looking like a victim of a concentration camp or a famine.

Dr. Campbell adjusted his daily diet to 450 calories. His condition deteriorated and his father agreed for his son to undergo an experimental treatment that involved injections of canine pancreatic insulin. The insulin extract, or "thick brown muck" as Dr. Campbell described it, had been devised by Dr. Fredrick Banting and Charles Best (and overseen by Professor JR Macleod) as part of the University of Toronto. It had been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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manufactured one month earlier and tested on laboratory dogs. It is suspected that Banting and Best had tested it on themselves to ensure it was safe for Leonard's use.

On the afternoon of Jan. 11, 1922, Leonard Thompson was injected with 7½ cc of diluted insulin in both buttocks by a young hospital physician, Ed Jeffrey, becoming the "first human diabetic to be treated," as Banting wrote in his 1940 memoir. Banting noted that himself and others "could hardly suppress their excitement" when Leonard's blood glucose dropped from .440 to .320 (a 25% reduction). His glucose excretion dropped from 91.5 grams in 3625 cc of urine to 84 grams in 4060 cc or urine in 24 hours. But his ketone levels remained strongly positive and an abscess developed at the injection sight, thought to be an allergic reaction. For these reasons doctors decided to discontinue treatment.

Macleod enlisted biochemist Dr. James Collip in December 1921 to assist Banting and Best in purifying the extract. Bolstered by their partial success, Collip altered the manufacturing process and developed an extract purer than the previous product. At 11 o'clock in the morning of Jan. 23, 1922, Leonard Thompson was injected with 5 cc of the newly-developed insulin extract with an additional 20 cc at 5 p.m. Within 24 hours his blood glucose dropped from .520 to .120 (a 77% reduction) and he reportedly looked better, brighter and felt stronger. His daily insulin dose was set at two 4 cc injections.

Leonard was discharged on May 15, 1922. He had gone without insulin from late February to March because Collip had forgotten the manufacturing process he had used for the purified insulin, thus delaying the production of insulin by a pharmaceutical company. Therefore, he left the hospital without his insulin.

Leonard continued his starvation diet until he was readmitted to the hospital in October 1922. He was in a state of severe ketoacidosis, bordering on coma, and severely dehydrated. He was placed on insulin and self-injected 85 units of insulin per day.

He lived a near-normal life as a clerk for a

pharmaceutical company. He struggled to manage his diabetes and barely survived a coma after celebrating his 10th anniversary with insulin (1932) by imbibing in alcohol. He survived diabetes for three more years until contracting bronchial pneumonia from influenza with complications from ketoacidosis. He died in a coma. His death was stipulated as a result of a motorcycle accident. He died prematurely at the age of 27 on Easter Sunday, April 20, 1935.

An autopsy was performed by a young medical student, Burns Plewes. It showed that Leonard had too much fun getting drunk every weekend and subsisted on a high-fat, low carb diet. His atrophied pancreas was preserved and cataloged as item 3030 at the Banting Institute.

Leonard Thompson is buried in Saint John's Norway Cemetery in Toronto, Canada, alongside his parents and sister with the inscription on his marker "Ever Remembered."

In 1923, Banting and Macleod received the Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine. Banting shared his with Best, and Macleod with Collip.

In 1934, King George knighted Sir Fredrick Banting. He was the first Canadian to receive a Nobel Prize, and to this day remains the youngest.

Fredrick Banting refused to put his name on the patent for insulin. He felt it was unethical for a doctor to profit from a discovery which would save lives. Banting's colleagues James Collip and Charles Best sold the patent to the University of Toronto for \$1 Canadian.

Sir Fredrick Banting was born on Nov. 14, 1891, and is honored by World Diabetes Day being held on his birthday and November being designated as Diabetes Awareness Month.

The theme for this years World Diabetes Day is Empowering Global Health. It centers on individual health and the importance of communities working together to combat this global issue.

Diabetes Awareness Month's 2023 goal is to raise the awareness of symptoms, promote healthy living and ensure people are aware of risk factors.

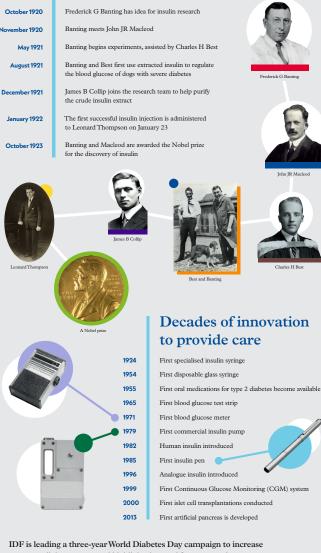
On the Lions International website under <u>Start</u> <u>Your Service</u> are many activities to celebrate World Diabetes Day and Diabetes Awareness Month.

Insulin at 100 A life-saving discovery but

more remains to be done

Nearly 500 million people are currently living with diabetes worldwide. Without action, the figure could rise to 700 million within the next 25 years. This potentially debilitating chronic condition can lead to life-threatening complications when left untreated and an early death.

The journey to a medical miracle



IDF is leading a three-year World Diabetes Day campaign to increase access to diabetes care, and highlight the need for more action to prevent diabetes and its complications.

Get involved at www.worlddiabetesday.org



Free graphics like the one above are available for download on the <u>World Diabetes Day website</u>.

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International Report

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Iowans at 2023 USA/Canada Forum

Seventeen Iowa Lions were registered for the 47th annual USA/Canada Forum Sept. 21-23 in Reno, Nevada. Nearly 90 seminars were presented over three days. A successful STRIDES walk was held and the service project was bringing plastic bags to make park benches. A park bench was donated in honor of International President Dr. Patti Hill while we were in Reno.

General session speakers included Lion Floyd Smith, a member of the pop vocal group The Fifth Dimension. Lion Floyd is still a great singer, but also a motivational speaker. Donna Hartley, survivor of a tragic plane accident, moved us with her inspirational message. LCI President Dr. Patti Hill reminded us that we EACH have the power to "Change the World." Striker Corbin, a famous success coach, used humor to help each of us focus on self-improvement.

Thanks to the Iowa volunteers who helped make the 2023 Forum a success: Debbie Doty was the Planning Committee Marketing Chair. Lisa Prochaska, Nancy Slack, and Susan Mikesell worked in the Forum Store. Ken Klemish served as a moderator and also helped me as Planning Committee General Sessions Chair.

Be sure to register for the 2024 Forum in Louisville Kentucky, scheduled for Sept. 5-7, 2024. The 2024 Forum Planning Committee will begin Oct. 1 to plan an even bigger and better event in Louisville. They'll donate thousands of hours of time to "make the magic happen" for next year's event.

Iowa's First Vice District Governors Have Begun Their Formal DGE Training

Iowa's FVDGs are all in the same formal training group this year, instead of scattered throughout several mixed groups with 1VDGs from foreign countries. Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri (26 total districts) are all in Group 31. I have the honor of serving as their Group Leader for First Vice President Fabricio Oliveira. They meet monthly with me via Zoom, and received their first assignment of online classes in September. Their formal in-person training will be in St. Charles, Illinois in February.

Sadly, only three districts in Iowa currently have a first vice district governor who will take their district governor oath in Melbourne, Australia in June 2024. Since four Iowa districts don't have a FVDG, we all need to work together to fill those vacancies as soon as possible so those individuals can complete their FVDG training assignments. If you have served as a club president and have served as a zone/region chair, WE NEED YOU to step up to lead your district! If you are interested in having fun, meeting new people, and attending the 2024 international convention in Melbourne, contact your current district governor.

Serving as district governor is an exciting year. You meet so many Lions, experience new project/service ideas, and make new friends that will last a lifetime. You learn so much about our great association and how we serve millions of people each year through OUR foundation: LCIF.

October Special Events for Lions

October is VISION AWARENESS MONTH, including World Sight Day on Oct. 12 and International White Cane Safety Day on Oct. 15. It would be a great month to make a club and/or personal donation to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Disaster Victims Receive Help from Lions Clubs International Foundation

Several MAJOR natural disasters have already occurred since the beginning of our 2023-24 Lions year on July 1. Hawaii and Canadian wildfires, Florida hurricanes, an earthquake in Morocco are just a few that come to mind.

Your club, and Y-O-U personally, can help those impacted by these horrific disasters. Make a donation to LCIF: online or by check. Every penny donated to LCIF goes to help someone in need. Not one cent is used for administrative costs.

Send your personal/club donations to Iowa's district LCIF coordinators: 9EC Bernadette Lane, 9MC Judy Stone, 9NC Mike Nissly, 9NE Stephen Becker, 9NW vacant (send 9NW donations to MD9 Coordinator Jim Bixler), 9SE Paul Hain, and 9SW Ken Klemish. These disaster victims need YOUR help NOW!



District 9SE District Governor Michael D. Renken

PO Box 75 Lockridge, Iowa 52635 319-537-0073 godsworker@farmtel.net



We are off and running. I have received new member kits, my name badge and cabinet pins for my cabinet for 2023-2024. When we meet at the next district cabinet meeting, I will have those items for the cabinet chairpersons.

Since receiving notice from LCI, I have been in contact by email or phone with club secretaries to set times for club visits for this next year. I have enjoyed the travel to the different clubs, visiting with them and hearing of the various activities and service projects they take on during the year. So far, I am waiting to hear back from about a dozen clubs to confirm dates for club visits. Then the year will be set. This will be later in the year for travels, so hopefully snow doesn't start flying before visits get accomplished.

As we get ready to look to activities in the future, April 12 and 13, 2024, will be the 9SE District Convention. International directors for all the districts have accepted for district conventions in the State of Iowa for 2023-2024 Lion Year. Things are coming together.

What are some of the projects you have coming up in the future? Would you like highlighted in an upcoming issue of *The Iowa Lion* magazine or would you want information put in after your event? I know that Labor Day Weekend Stockport had their signature BBQ Days with lawn tractor pulls, parade, car show, activities in the park, just a time of fun for everyone. Stockport Lions thank you and your crews that have come together to make this a time of fun for all that come to Stockport for the day of activities.

Lockridge had fun Days on Sept. 23. Lockridge Lions sponsored snow cones again for the kids as a fun time as they participated in the activities at the ball diamond area in town. The smiles on their faces make your heart glad. Grandview-Letts is celebrating 40 years as a Lions Club with Council Chair Nadine Brockert as speaker Oct. 12. Unfortunately, I am already scheduled to be at another club's meeting that night. May Grandview-Letts have many more years of activities in their communities.

The other day I attended a club meeting and presented monarch chevrons to members for ten to 30 years of service in their clubs and community. This is a great honor to them and their community to know that there are Lions in the area who give so much of their time and talents back into the community to make the community a better place. They also had sign up sheets for Football and soccer game concession stands that had not been held before. Just small things like this can make a difference in your communities.

Look around to see what the needs are in your community? Do a community needs assessment along with your school district, your local city council, or your neighborhood group. These are the ones in the know of what is needed and have suggestions for a project that someone has not thought of. Invite non-members to help with fundraisers and service projects. In fact, some of those volunteers just might be some of the new Lions members you might be looking for.

Did you get registered for the Iowa Lions Fall Learning Conference at Grinnell? There will be several presentations designed to help strengthen your clubs.



TOOTING OUR HORN. Lone Tree Lions promote Flags Over Lone Tree project, KidSight screenings and Lions Pediatric Cancer projects on a float in the Lone Tree Fall Festival.

9SE CLUB ACTIVITIES

CORYDON recoated the outdoor basketball court for community use; collected and sold scrap metal, raising \$1,056; put up American flags around the town square to celebrate our "Old Settlers" days; provided assistance to an Amish family left with a mother and five kids after the dad was killed in a construction accident.

GRANDVIEW-LETTS donated \$200 to the Letts Public Library to purchase new books, \$400 to the Louisa County Fair board, \$1,000 to the Lions International Foundation, and \$1,000 to the Iowa Lions Foundation.

IOWA CITY purchased eyeglasses for six people through the free medical clinic; transported eye tissue for the eye bank.



LONE TREE had an informational table at the Lone Tree Community School "Back to School Night" with club activity sheets, KidSight information, Flags Over Lone Tree brochures and other information available to the public; had two floats in the Lone Tree Fall Festival parade, one promoting the Kiddie Tractor Pull and the other promoting the Flags Over Lone Tree project, KidSight screening and Lions Pediatric Cancer projects; held a Muscle Tractor Show, Muscle for Kids, at the Lone Tree Fall Festival with nine muscle tractors participating; raised \$350 for Iowa KidSight; held the annual Kiddie Tractor Pull at the Lone Tree Fall Festival with 52 children entered. Winners in five weight classes were awarded model tractors sponsored by local businesses. Each participant received a Fall Festival ribbon and a complimentary ice cream cone from the local BP station.

OSKALOOSA provided free spin art to approximately 150 children during the Concert on the Square, at which an estimated 8,000 people attended; held its 12th annual Lions Golf Shootout, profiting \$2,556 after prize payouts.



FREMONT DAYS. Fremont Lions did a KidSight screening and introduced their new spin art booth at the town's Fremont Days. (Left photo) Mindy Archer vision screens a child. (Right photo) Lion Bob Eissens runs the spin art booth, which he built himself. Lion Dave Wilson helped finish the boxes.

District 9NW District Governor Pat Essing PO Box 33 Manson, Iowa 50563 515-570-5040 mpessing50@gmail.com



Greetings to all 9NW Lions! Summer is over and our clubs are bursting into activity in the new Lions year. Yes, I know that many clubs are active in the summer but many take time off to give the members the opportunity to enjoy the easy summer times. The fall brings a whirlwind of activities!

We worked hard at the District Food Bank Service Project in Des Moines packaging tons of potatoes for distribution in our state. See the article on the front page of this issue. Coordinator PDG Cliff Weldon is already planning another effort for this fall so stay tuned for more details. Only a limited number of participants are



GROWING HOPE. Lions and family members from Woodward, Manson and Fort Dodge Noon Lions Club pose in front of a mural at the Food Bank of Iowa in Des Moines after packing nearly two tons of potatoes during the district-wide food bank service project.

allowed, so be sure and get your reservation early next time.

Mark and I were honored to be invited to the Badger Lions Club's 50th Anniversary picnic with Lions from the Fort Dodge Noon and Fort Dodge Evening clubs participating. What a great little club they have in Badger! PDG Roger Curtis and his friends are such dedicated people, and we had a great time. My home club in Manson was pleased to present a nice check to our host club as an anniversary gift. It was a great day!

Another intrepid small club is the Rippey Lions Club. Since the club was founded in 1944, they will celebrate 80 years of service next year. The Rippey club was awarded a fantastic \$40,000 grant from the Grow Greene County some time ago for a community basketball court. Construction is underway and will be completed in the fall this year. Youth of all ages and adults can play here with the possibility of 3-on-3 tournaments with teams from neighboring communities. That's community service of the first class!

As I write this in early September, we just came back from our big RVTV party here in Manson in preparation for the Iowa-Iowa State football game. We had a nice booth and sold root beer floats and Iowa/Iowa State candles. We made a good profit and had a really good time. The joy of being a Lion sometimes is the most important part!

Our club visitation schedule is speeding up and we are meeting with both the clubs in Fort Dodge this month. Still, I would like to hear from many more clubs, especially in the western part of our sprawling district. Let's hear from you! Call me at 515-570-5040 or e-mail me to <u>mpessing50@gmail.com</u>. Call today!

Several clubs have asked me about the new portal which has been announced for some time by Lions International. The current portal is not the easiest to use according to many club secretaries and the new and improved version is supposed to resolve those problems. Easier said than done, it seems, since I have been informed that the launch has been delayed until January of 2024. We all hope that the new set-up will be successful and make it easier for everyone. Posting on Facebook rather than our own portal makes it harder for our district leaders to coordinate the district activities and news information!

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS		
Club	Member	Sponsor
Akron	Gina West	Dee Watson
Carroll	Danny Torgerson	Jeremy Rierson
Fort Dodge Eve.	Mosley Bruce Rogers Jr.	Rosemary Possehn

CLUB ACTIVITIES

AKRON donated a trunk load of groceries to the local food bank; donated to the Food Bank in Des Moines.

BADGER celebrated the club's 50th anniversary with a picnic in the city park with DG Pat Essing and PDG Mark Essing as guests of honor.

BOONE dropped off hundreds of glasses to be recycled.

CHURDAN delivered Meals on Wheels; held a town clean up with two roll-offs of junk and a few appliances.

CARROLL donated proceeds from the Food Bank effort to New Opportunities Health Services; vision screened 20 preschool children at the New Opportunities Health Clinic.

FORT DODGE screened 173 kids in the Fort Dodge school system.

HARTLEY served the main meal at the Hartley Summer Celebration.

MADRID placed Lions recycling boxes for eyeglasses and hearing aids in public buildings, local churches and around town; organized the Senior Class Breakfast with pancakes and sausage for the incoming seniors.

MANSON had a stand at the RVTV pregame party for the Iowa-Iowa State football game; made \$425 selling root beer floats in support of the Manson Veterans Memorial Project.



HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY. Manson Lions present a gift check to the Badger Lions Club for Badger's 50th anniversary. Manson Lions were Badger's sponsor club. Pictured (L-R) District Governor Pat Essing, Manson Club President Dean Devore and Badger Lion PDG Roger Curtis.



GOLF SUCCESS. Wall Lake Lions held a successful golf tournament. Pictured (L-R) are Dennis and Nancy Leland, Brent and Noni Becker, DG Pat and PDG Mark Essing.

PETERSON did KidSight screenings; ran a people hauler trailer at the Albert City Thresherman Days and the Clay County Fairgrounds, a joint venture with the Royal Lions Club.

RIPPEY served pork loin sandwiches to RAGBRAI riders together with the Rippey Fire Department, profiting over \$5,000; made donations to Leader Dog, Camp Hertko Hollow, the Rippey Public Library and other community projects.

ROYAL partnered with the Peterson Lions providing people transportation at the Clay County Fair.

WALL LAKE had a stand in Lake View and sold 175 homemade pies to the RAGBRAI riders, making a good profit.

WOODWARD participated in the district-wide food bank event in Des Moines.

Deceased Members

Club	Member	Years a Lion
Fort Dodge Evening	James Lee	49 years
Grand Junction	Alice Fritz	18 years



LION OF THE YEAR. Carroll Lion Kris Soyer, left, receives the annual Lion of the Year Award from Carroll Club President Sondra Rierson. Lion Kris is the chair of the club scholarship committee, has shown outstanding leadership and contributions to the Carroll Lions Club.

District 9MC District Governor David T. Coates 5909 Colt Drive West Des Moines, Iowa 50266 612-275-3596 dtcoates2@gmail.com



Prayer (Melvin Jones' idea)

- O God when we have food,
- Help us to remember the hungry,
- When we have work,

Help us to remember the jobless.

When we have a home,

Help us to remember those who suffer.

And remembering, help us to

Destroy our complacency;

Bestir our compassion to be

Concerned enough to help by

Word and deed those who cry out for

What we take for granted.

Amen

It reads as a prayer written for today, penned nearly a century ago. We have heard. We have listened. We have acted locally.

Many clubs have donated to the local food bank, supported back-pack buddies programs to send food home with children from food insecure families, delivered meals to senior citizens, provided glasses and hearing aids to individuals from homes with underemployed bread winners, provided screening and access for medical care for those who otherwise would suffer in silence. We've made improvements to dwellings and facilities to improve the occupants quality of life and provided opportunities to the next generation by supporting education.

You know this. You have just read WE SERVE. The first sentence does not challenge us, we respond with "No Problem, we can handle that."

The last two sentences offer us an opportunity to delve into our conscience to serve those who cry out silently. We bring to mind the victims of natural

In Memoriam

Darrell Anderson – Gilbert

disasters such as earthquakes, floods, wildfires, hurricanes and tornadoes, droughts. We think of victims of pandemics and epidemics such as SARS, MERS and COVID; those in need of medical services. We remember victims of Geo-Political Strife, such as migrants and the 36 million refugees. We consider those who need a stable food supply, shelter and potable water. We can serve them.

We can serve globally. The structure is already in place. As a club and individually, we can serve by making a donation to the Lions Clubs International Foundation and/or the Iowa Lions Foundation. It is as easy as writing a check. You can mail it to the state office, bring it to the state convention, or bring it to the district convention and deliver it in person during the Parade of Checks.



AG APPRECIATION. Grinnell Lions drive a tractor in the annual Ag Apprecation Day. The parade featured 47 antique tractors and a float with Lions Club members riding.

WE SERVE



ALTOONA operated a Spin Art Booth at the Iowa State Fair (pictured above).

AMES EVENING provided support to members of a low vision support group; continued lessons on church hand bells.

BONDURANT sponsored a tractor ride from Bondurant to Polk City and back with 46 tractors making the trip and earning \$1,414; transported cornea tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank.

DES MOINES SOUTH picked up, cleaned and sorted 1,500 pairs of used eyeglasses; filled the larger used eyeglass cases with a tooth brush, toothpaste and hotel-sized items for personal use to donate to the homeless shelters; delivered 109 Meals on Wheels to senior citizens; worked 69 hours at the Lions booth at the Iowa State Fair; served as clowns for the Union Park Carousel.

DYSART held a blood drive with 31 donors and collected 37 units, which will serve or sustain 111 lives.

GARWIN donated money to Garwin Legion Post 71 to help replace the Legion building roof.

GRINNELL stuffed 1,000 packets for Tiger Packs with non-perishable food for food-insecure K-8th grade students in the Grinnell School District; club members collected \$60 and donated it to the MICA Food Bank; held the Grinnell Lions Ag Day with 20 exhibitors including the Iowa Lions Eye Bank and Unity Point Health, which conducted a diabetes screening.



MARSHALLTOWN EVENING popped popcorn at HyVee each weekend; popped popcorn for the Movie in the Park (pictured above); donated over 450 quilts to Quilts of Valor since 2015.

MITCHELLVILLE assisted the Altoona Club with the Spin Art Booth at the Iowa State Fair; transported cornea tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank.

PARKS COMMUNITY hosted a pregame spaghetti dinner for the North High football team; provided each football player with a \$10 Casey's gift card. North High is the most ethnically-diverse school in lowa, hosting 54 nationalities, and has one of the highest populations of homeless students in the state.

REINBECK donated \$1,500 to the 4th of July Committee; constructed a parking lot for the Izaac Walton Park in Reinbeck.

TRAER donated 58 pairs of eyeglasses; held a \$1,000 raffle at the annual Cow Chip Contest with the balance of the funds distributed to various Lions Club and town causes.

URBANDALE handed out Lions Club bike reflectors to kids at National Night Out; teamed with the Urbandale Community Action Network to hold the Back to School Bash and donated \$2,000 to purchase backpacks filled with school supplies to be handed out to students attending; cooked and served hot dog lunches to 200 attendees at the Back to School bash; KidSight screened preschool age children at the Back to School Bash who attended with older siblings; filled 1,200 bags of food for food-insecure Urbandale School Students to take home on weekends; and transported cornea tissue for the Iowa Lions Eye Bank. District 9EC District Governor Rick Baughman 611 South 5th Street Eldridge, Iowa 52748 563-343-3848 baughman611@gmail.com



It's a great day to be alive. I know the sun's still shining when I close my eyes. There are some hard times in the neighborhood but why can't everyday be just this good. This song popped into my head this morning as I sat down to write this article. Every day is a GREAT day to be alive and every day is a GREAT day to be a Lion. Every day we can serve our communities and make a difference in people's lives at home and around the world. So, fellow Lions wake up every morning and be PROUD TO BE A LION. Know that what you are doing is changing the world in some way. Be the Change! We do encounter hard times as Lions, but we roll up our sleeves and carry on.

Here are some great times Lion Ann and I have had this past month. We enjoyed serving in the Lions information booth at the Iowa State Fair. We met some fantastic people, talked about serving as a Lion and put hundreds of Lions tattoos on people of all ages. Tattoos were a great draw to the booth.

I had a fun morning in Delmar watching the Lions prepare and line up for their Tractor Cade vintage tractor ride. It brought back fond memories of driving some of these tractors for my uncles.

I spent an evening with the Coggon Lions sharing good food and fellowship and learning of all the great projects they are doing in their community. Lion Ann and I attended the zone meeting in West Branch and learned about the growing craze for exercise called Pickleball.

I made my way to Cedar Rapids to support the Beat Cancer Night at the Kernels ballgame. What a GREAT event! Thanks to Lions Paul Fugate and Aaron Horn for organizing this fundraiser to help those families affected by childhood cancer. Lion Ann still doesn't know if she won the bid for a signed jersey or not. Time will tell!

6NIemoriam Years a Lion

Member Margaret Ketelsen

Club Tipton

Last month I shared our service goals. This month is our MEMBERSHIP goals.

- 1. Have fun as we invite people to join us in serving our communities.
- 2. Finish the year with positive membership growth.
- 3. Charter a new club in our district.

So far this year, we have added 17 new members and dropped 11, for a +6 growth. Great job, Lions! Keep inviting your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, etc., to join us as we continue to serve. As we add new members, let's be sure and give them a good new member orientation and get them involved in our club activities. We invite people to join us, so we can do more service in our communities.

9EC Lions University

I would like to encourage all Lions to attend some of Past District Governor Paul Fugate's Lions University classes. Paul and his team have some interesting topics they are covering, and they will benefit you in your Lions career. You are never too old to learn!

Fall Rally

The Fall Rally will be hosted by the Bettendorf Lions Club on Oct. 28 at the Tanglewood Hills Pavilion. Please plan on attending and bring your money as we will auction off a Lions quilt made by Lion Alice Whitlatch. Proceeds will be donated to the Iowa KidSight program. The registration form is ion the next page.

9EC Lions, thanks for all you continue to do to improve your community and the world. Remember we can change the world one person and project at a time.



CHILDHOOD CANCER. A dedicated Lion in the district sharing the message – September is Childhood Cancer month.

October 2023...THE IOWA LION...Page 14

18 years

CLUB ACTIVITIES

ALBURNETT distributed Lions information at the City Meet and Mingle Ice Cream Social to help recruit new members; put out and picked up flags in Hiawatha for Labor Day, funds will be used for scholarships.

COGGON concession trailer at Hoge Auctions made \$1,700; held annual steak fry and new officer inductions; can redemption makes about \$4,500/per year for club.

DAVENPORT VILLAGE volunteering at the Genesis Food Plex program where they inventory and help distribute food to diabetic clients.

DELMAR held a community blood drive; hosted the annual Tractor Cade tractor ride and meal; held a very successful car show and food stand.

ELDRIDGE delivered meals for Milestone: transported eve tissue: maintained flower beds: collected food for the food pantry; helped at Iowa State Fair information booth.

LOWDEN erected a handicap accessible concrete ramp to the Memorial Park open shelter; served food to golfers and community members at 3/30 Country Club; made donations to the Iowa Lions Foundation, Camp Courageous, Lowden Fire Department, Lowden EMS, North Cedar Productions, and Brantley Francis Foundation.

MARION NOON continues to have successful White Cane Day fundraisers.

MILES conducted the yard of the month contest.

MONTICELLO volunteered at a local food bank; held a successful Pancake Fly-in Breakfast at Monticello Airport.

PRESTON made a \$500 donation to assist in purchasing and installing a flag pole at Westside Park.

TIPTON built a handicap ramp; attended a zone meeting in West Branch.

WEST BRANCH did KidSight screening at the Iowa State Fair; hosted a zone meeting; transported eye tissue; held the Hoover Prairie Run/Walk event for town festival; hosted several Pickleball drop-in events.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Member	Club	Sponsor
Jackie Flickinger	Bellevue Area Centennial	Kelley Humphrey
Shawn Flickinger	Bellevue Area Centennial	Ryan Humphrey
Bonnie Bicknese	Bettendorf	Rose Paone
Brock Krejchi	Cedar Rapids Noon	Terry Durham
Glenn Hotchkiss	Davenport Village	Marci Rodenbeck
Patricia Hotchkiss	Davenport Village	Marci Rodenbeck
Darlene John	Eldridge	Dan Ferry

9EC Fall Rally

Oct 28, 2023 •8:00 am

Tanglewood Hills – 4250 Middle Rd, Bettendorf

In lieu of door prizes, please bring a donation for the Veterans Outreach Center: Underwear -Men's (L/XL/2X); Ladies (S/M); T-Shirts - Men's &

Ladies (L/XL/2X); Socks - all sizes

8:00 am	Registration/light breakfast
9:00 am	Welcome/Lions' Update
9:40 am	Iowa KidSight – Lori Short
10:10 am	Iowa Lions Foundation Update
10:20 am	Care and Share Update
10:30 am	Break
10:40 am	So You Want to Be a District Governor
11:10 am	Lions Club International Foundation
11:40 am	Lunch
12:40 pm	Awards/Recognition
12:50 pm	Meet Leader Dog Millie
1: 20 pm	Break
1:30 pm	Mission 1.5
1:50 pm	Parade of Checks
2:00 pm	50/50 Drawing
2:05 pm	Closing remarks/adjourn

Registration Form Please print clearly

NAME #1

OFFICE HELD LION (Y/N) • First Time (Y/N)

CLUB/DISTRICT

PHONE # EMAIL

Warm Sandwich: **D** Roast Beef or **D** Pulled Pork

NAME #2

OFFICE HELD

CLUB/DISTRICT

LION (Y/N) • First Time (Y/N)

PHONF # FMAII

Warm Sandwich: **A Roast Beef** or **A Pulled Pork**

(OPTIONAL): I need a display table Y / N

Registration Only (no meals) #_____@ \$15 = _____

Registration w/ Lunch/Breakfast #_____@ \$30 = ___

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ Mail check (payable to **Bettendorf Lions Club**) and registration form by October 15th to: Lion Tony White

3711 Somerset Dr., Bettendorf, IA 52722

District 9NE District Governor Bruce Piehl 127 East Main Street Denver, Iowa 50622 817-487-5400 bepindy1@yahoo.com



As another summer screeches to a close, it has been nice to see so many clubs out doing service for their communities throughout the summer. Now that fall is at our doorstep, it's a great time to reflect on our clubs. We can examine what we've been doing and how we've gotten projects done. It is a time to celebrate, but also a time to reflect. Take time to pause and ask where we are today and where will we be in five years. It is so easy to fall into a rut and challenging to climb out. If we continue doing the same, we will always reap the same.

Global Membership Approach

Let's talk about the Global Membership Approach (GMA for short). Two clubs have completed the approach so far with excellent results. One club was down to seven members, but has already picked up one new member and is adding a service project for a kids' coloring contest this fall. The second club's goal was to add 15 members this year. They decided to no longer have a membership chair of one Lion. Instead, they created a team of four Lions in the membership task force and a group of three Lions whose goal is to work on the retention of members. Also, they implemented a club satisfaction survey for their members. Satisfaction surveys are a great way to get helpful feedback from the members.

Is Your Club Ready To Grow In Members And Service?

When is your club ready to start a Global Membership Approach? Is your Lions Club ready? Please let me know. We want the Lions Clubs to be around for years to come. Lions provide so much service to others that we don't want to dwindle away.

Celebrate Your Successes And Publicize Them

Let's talk a little bit about celebrating our successes with our clubs in our communities. It is easy to assume we know the needs in our communities. More importantly, we assume our communities know what Lions can do for individuals, groups, and the community as a whole. Instead of making assumptions, we need to take the time to show our communities exactly what we're up to. I encourage every club out there to use their Facebook pages more often. Be sure to take photos of all service projects and the events in which your club is engaged. The more photos, flyers, and information you put on your Facebook page, the more the district and state will amplify it. Be sure to record your service projects on MyLion and include photos. This will help the Lion who sends the district information to The Iowa Lion magazine. More of your service projects and events will appear in the magazine. You can read The Iowa Lion each month via the internet or buy a subscription for \$35. Be sure to post your upcoming events on community Facebook pages to gain more exposure. Finally, submit articles about your service projects and events to your local newspaper.

A Video Challenge for Our Clubs

I would like to start a video contest for every club in the district to show your community message with a service project on Facebook for your communities to enjoy. The theme is "Showing Our Service." Videos must be posted by Nov. 1, 2023.

Importance of Communicating Via Facebook

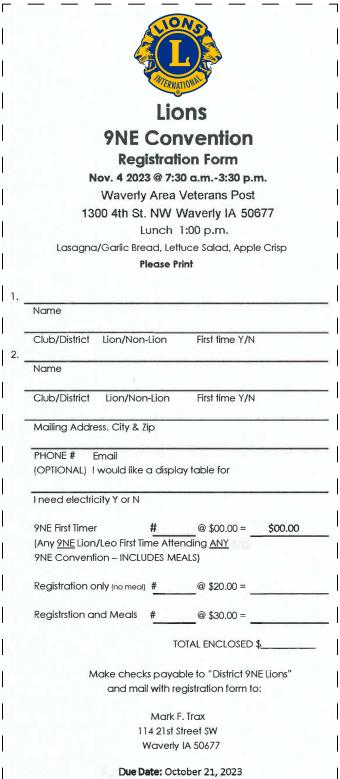
If your club doesn't already follow us on Facebook, please invite your members to do so. The district's Facebook page is titled <u>Iowa Lions District 9NE</u>. Spending a few minutes to scan the district's Facebook is a great way to spread ideas and increase awareness throughout the district. If you need help with starting a Facebook page, we would be happy to help. Contact me at <u>bepindy1@yahoo.com</u>.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Club	Member	Sponsor
Belle Plaine	Jacob Ehlen	Andrew Ehlen
Belle Plaine	Dan Foley	Scott Frank
Belle Plaine	Michelle Friedman	Andrew Ehlen
Belle Plaine	Lauren Ehlen	Andrew Ehlen
Belle Plaine	Matt Friedman	Andrew Ehlen
Blairstown	Kaleb Rabe	Larry Miller
Denver	Dawn Powers	John-Paul Sager
Denver	Darrell Growth	John-Paul Sager
Denver	Phil Powers	John-Paul Sager
Denver	Karen Van De Walle	Marvin Kramer
Garrison	Dawn Smith	Randy Scheel
La Porte City	Kyle Cowell	Alex Barz
Nashua	Heather Chambers	Dennis Litterer
Nashua	Paul Chambers	Dennis Litterer

Save The Date

Zone # 5 - Oct. 9 in Fredericksburg @ 6 p.m. @ Community Center w/meal (\$10.00), use rear entrance — Bremer-Chickasaw (Brian Schmidt)



Any questions call (319) 352-5108 & leave message

STRENGTHEN THE PRIDE

BALLTOWN continues to sell Lions Calendars at a raffle each month to raise money for Lions-supported causes.

CALMAR & DECORAH held a pancake and sausage supper to raise money for important causes.

GARNAVILLO donated \$150 to LCIF for hunger.

HUDSON bought a large commercial bike rack for Hudson Community Schools for \$325; donated \$100 in supplies to the Iowa City Ronald McDonald House in observance of Childhood Cancer Month; spent \$400 on school supplies (Project Pencils) for economically disadvantaged students in partnership with the Community Church.

INDEPENDENCE has been learning about Leader Dogs for the Blind. Meeting speaker was Dawn Rudolph and her Leader Dog Millie. She shared her life as a blind person.

SHELLSBURG held a blood drive to benefit 40 individuals.

WATERLOO collected 310 pairs of eyeglasses to recycle.

WAVERLY held their White Cane Days at Fareway to bring awareness to visual impairments.



FRESH PRODUCE. Cedar Falls Lion and Master Gardener Congdon (2nd from left) and his helpers work tirelessly at the Prairie Parkway Gardens hosting classes and events. The Cedar Falls Diabetes Garden team has given away 772 pounds of free produce from the Prairie Parkway Garden as of Aug. 31.

District 9SW District Governor Dawn M. Goodsell 109 Rosa Drive

Neola, Iowa 51559 402-290-1155 dawngoodsell5@gmail.com



Welcome to fall everyone! Fall in the Midwest is so beautiful.

I am so excited to get out and meet with your clubs and have a chance to chat. There is another reason to feel excited. As your district cabinet, we decided to hold our district convention in the fall to try and avoid our unpredictable springs. Our Fall District Convention will be held in Audubon this year at the high school. Please mark your calendars for Nov. 18 and plan on joining us for fun, informative seminars, service ideas, and a great keynote speaker. We will be providing donuts, rolls, and coffee for breakfast and a hot lunch. The registration form can be found on the next page. Please consider joining us. We are also doing a silent auction this year. We are asking clubs to donate items for this activity. Please let me know if you are interested in donating items for this event.

I want to tell you how proud I am for the increased membership for the month of August. As I write this in mid-September, our membership is at a minus 1. Some people might be upset with this number, but I am so happy given the fact that we have seen so much worse. Thanks to all of you for digging in and working on finding those new Lions to join our family and our district. Keep up the good work. We need to keep working for our future and our sustainability. Don't be afraid to pat yourselves on the back. I realize that you may not always get the recognition that you deserve. I want you to know that I appreciate all the hard work you are doing. So keep it up!!

I received an email from Lions International giving us an update on the new reporting system that is being implemented. They are in their final stages of tweaking the program and will be rolling it out soon. As your Global Service Leader for the district, I will be working with Juanita Reynard and Ardie Klemish on a plan to help you navigate this new system to get your service work reported. We will be reaching out to clubs who are not reporting to see if we can lend a helping hand in getting your service projects logged in the system.

Have a safe fall. I hope to see you at the 9SW District Convention on Nov. 18.

Acts of Service

ADEL helped organize vendors for annual Adel Sweet Corn Festival; donated money to the ADM activity fund.

AFTON ran inflatables at the Back to School event and for the Tuesday Night in the Park.

AUDUBON sold water and pop at Music in the Park; entered a Lions float in the annual T-Bone Parade; worked inflatables at the T-Bone event.

COUNCIL BLUFFS collected eyeglasses; did a Candy Day fundraiser .

EXIRA collected bags for the "Bags to Benches" project; donated trees to the City of Exira; provided breakfast for Garage Sale Days.

GLENWOOD helped at the local food pantry; collected eyeglasses.

GUTHRIE CENTER volunteered at local blood drive.

INDIANOLA NOON volunteered at a school music program; donated to the Indianola Youth Trap Team, to the High School Music Boosters, the High School Art Club, Simpson College Scholarships, and the After School Program; made Heavenly Beds (pictured below); worked at the National Balloon Classic Concession Stand.



MARTENSDALE donated to Lions Club International Foundation.

MISSOURI VALLEY helped organize the Missouri Valley Rally.

NORWALK operated the cotton candy machine for Holland Farms; conducted KidSight testing at the Iowa State Fair.

VILLISCA gave out Lions awards; donated to Hy-Vee Food Sharing; purchased food for the food bank; worked can redemption; provided medical transportation for an individual.

WAUKEE collected eyeglasses.

New Members

Member	Sponsor	Club
Justin L. Reed	Josh Shull	Adel
Lyle Brown	Vicki Nordskog	Atlantic
Vicki Brown	Vicki Nordskog	Atlantic
Daniel Bailey	Patty Alexander	Indianola
Dan Pratt	Kelly Everett	Lamoni
Katelyn N. Gochenour	Lisa Gochenour	Missouri Valley
Garrett G. Gobble	David Lester	Norwalk
Cole Allen Dickenson	Dan Hutton	St. Charles
Tracy K. Hutton	John Walker	St. Charles
Bridger Cody Hutton	Dan Hutton	St. Charles

IN REMEMBRANCE

Member	Club	Years a Lion
Mike Lohmann	Diagonal	13 years
Roger Kuhlmann	Missouri Valley	33 years







Call direct to book: 712-563-2126 Please call Dawn at 402-290-1155 if you reserved a room District 9NC District Governor Tasha Finch 1013 Caldwell Street Aplington, Iowa 50604 319-269-5136 tasha@alumni.uni.net



My third service project is collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House. I thought this program had been gone for a long time. I was proven wrong when we visited the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City. This is such an easy but rewarding project that any club can do!

Did you know that this program raises around \$6,000 per year? Last year, there were more than 13 million pop tabs collected. The program helps provide assistance to families who stay at the house. The cost for one family to stay at the Ronald McDonald House is between \$100 to \$140 a night. If the house is full at 13 bedrooms, that cost is between \$1,157 to \$1,625 per night. That can add up fast for all of these families.

If you would like a few of these pop tabs collection houses (pictured right), please contact Karen Werner house manager of the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City. Her number is 319-356-3912 or email <u>kwerner@rmhc-eiwi.org</u>.



My visit to the Williams Lions Club ended with a new member. I was so surprised how active this club is for a town of 300 people. They help clean up the local park, have Bingo twice a month with Charlene's home-cooked soups. The club helps



with the food pantries in Webster City and Iowa Falls, do Kidsight screenings, community supper in the spring, supplying school supplies, donate high school scholarships, collect eye glasses / hearing aids and a Halloween Meal with activities at the fire station. This club has a welcoming spirit and a great spark to Lionism!



NEW MEMBER. District Governor Tasha Finch inducts a new member during her visit to the Williams Lions Club. Pictured (L-R) are Charlene Burton, Brenda Boyinton, DG Tasha Finch, and Mike Burton .



OMELET BREAKFAST. Allison had an omelet breakfast in Wilder Park on Aug. 19. They served around 95 people. It was a great turnout. Allison does this fundraiser three times a year.



PARTNERING ACCOMPLISHES GREAT THINGS. Parkersburg Lions Club, Parkersburg American Legion, Parkersburg Sons of the American Legion, and From Our Hearts to Yours in New Hartford partnered together to bring, Hy-Vee gift cards, Casey's gifts cards, food, blankets, and more to Hope Lodge and Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City. The most rewarding thing is to see the staff's faces light up with so much joy from these gifts. This visit was so gratifying to see what a difference we can make by simple donations that we can do from anywhere! For more information on what From Our Hearts to Yours does, please contact Melanie Moody at 319-504-3876. She loves to come and speak about the organization's mission.

A New Adventure at Leader Dogs for the Blind

Where do I start? Tony and I were so excited to visit Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills, Michigan last month.

Did you know there are four phases of training? What we found to be amazing is that there is NO cost to the client who comes to Leader Dog! Leader Dog has a budget of 20 million dollars this year with no funding coming from the government or insurance companies. This is all ran by donations. Truly quite amazing! Each leader dog costs roughly \$74,000 by the time they are ready to be placed with a visually-impaired person.

What can we do as Lions to help this wonderful organization? There are many opportunities to help such as being a volunteer puppy raiser for a year, volunteer breeding host, on-campus volunteer, or simply donating money.

I know what you are going to say. We don't raise that much money to donate to this organization. Guess what! You can still donate with several different options. One thing I saw that was unique was the Lions Bricks outside of the building. You can purchase one of those for \$250. There is also a fundraising kit that Leader Dogs for the Blind will send to you. For more information on what you can do visit LeaderDog.org.

Our experience felt a little insecure and scary at times when we were blindfolded. There was no sense of direction when you cannot see. Everything was at a slow



NEW FRIENDS. Leader Dog Advocate Lion BJ with new friends DG Tasha and Tony Finch.



DINNER IN THE DARK. Lion Tony and District Governor Tasha Finch eat "Dinner in the Dark" while visiting the Leader Dogs for the Blind campus in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

pace while the guide dog wanted to walk normal.

After Tony and I finished guide dog, white cane training, and dining in the dark, we can see why a person would need a lot of care and personal training to regain some independence.

We would like to thank everyone from Leader Dog for making us part of the family. The love, care and compassion this staff shows is above anything else I have ever experienced! We will never forget this amazing time at Leader Dog.

We even got to talk to BJ, who is a Lion, an advocate, and visually impaired. BJ started to lose his sight at age 8. His story is truly amazing. BJ went through many trials before he was able to get back to a good life.

Spoiler Alert – We have invited BJ to come to our district convention. You will get the chance to meet BJ and hear his journey.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS **TO DISTRICT 9NC**

Club Hampton Mason City Thompson

Member

Wayne E. Quintana Ashley Elliott Kris R. Haugebak

Sponsor

Jim Zacharias Dennis Reidel Scott Flo

Deceased Members

Member	Clu
Robert Thomson	Charle

ub es City

Years a Lion 31 years

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

his life changed as he slowly lost most of his vision. He shared how he denied his condition up to the point when he pulled out in front of a vehicle while driving his car. Thankfully no one was injured, but suddenly it became real to him. Like most individuals that lose their sight, depression sets in and they feel isolated. He heard about Leader Dog and applied for the White Cane Training, a prerequisite to getting a Leader Dog. He passed, and a few months later he went through the three-week training to obtain his dog. He stated his life was then filled with optimism as he gained his independence again.

He showed a few of the cues that he uses and how responsive his dog is. One of the Lions asked him how the dog knew when he was working, so the harness was removed and the dog pranced around the room, wagging his tail and greeting members of the group, even stopping by Mike and setting his head on his lap. He then cued the dog to take him to the outside door and the dog just laid there. The harness was put back on and the dog sat at attention waiting for a cue. When he was told to find the door they came in, he led him directly to the door!

We were then divided into two groups and received a tour of the facilities, which included housing units for individuals that attend the training (one week for white cane and three weeks for Leader Dog training), kennels, medical suite, harness shop, and of course the gift shop. No matter where we were on the grounds, there was no smell of dogs. The facilities are immaculate!

Following the tour, we test drove a Leader Dog while blindfolded. It is a humbling experience to put all our trust in the Leader dog! I was amazed to hear that when you go through the program, you are not just given any dog, they are matched to you based on personality, gait, and size.

We also had the opportunity to test drive a white cane. We were able to wear goggles that simulated different eye diseases. I chose glaucoma and Mike chose macular degeneration, both of which Mike's father is living with. No pun intended, but it opened our eyes on how devastating such diseases can be to those we love.

In the evening, we participated in Dinner in the Dark. We were blindfolded and our salad was put in front of us. It was rather amusing when we stabbed our bowl and put it to our mouth to then realize we had finished our salad. Our dinner plate was brought to us and we were coached on what was on our plate and how it was placed based on the face of a clock. We had a roll and we were told the butter was in the middle of the table. I cautiously slid my hand on the table to the center and found the sealed tubs. I handed one to Mike and I proceeded to open mine, which was not easy! Once opened, I then decided rather than hunt for my knife I dug it out with my fingers and spread on my roll. Hey why not? No one could see me!

We removed our blindfolds when we finished the main course and to our surprise nobody at our table had food in their lap. We were able to enjoy our chocolate cake sighted. Once again we all were humbled by this experience. The following morning we traveled home only in the air for two hours.

My husband and I want to thank Leader Dogs for the Blind for this opportunity! We hope that you are inspired and spread the word about this program, which is available to individuals across the U.S. and even some foreign countries. Promote it in your community for those that are in need of the service and also to support Leader Dogs for the Blind so that more people can be served. To date, there are seven Leader Dogs for the Blind teams in Iowa.

For more information visit the <u>Leader Dogs for</u> <u>the Blind website</u>. To see ways you can support the program, either as a club or an individual, go to the <u>Giving Options page</u> on the Leader Dog site.



A DIFFERENT VIEW. Mike Waring dons a pair of goggles that simulate macular degeneration while learning to use a white cane.



Grinnell College Humanities Center, 1115 8th Ave, Grinnell, Iowa 50112

Guest Room Reservations are your responsibility and should be made at a hotel of your choice. The following hotel has offered a Lions discount of \$98.00+tax per night. Please call the hotel directly and register by Oct. 5, 2023.

• COUNTRY INN & SUITES BY RADISSON, 1710 West St S, Grinnell, IA 50208, (641) 236-9600 (includes breakfast)

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY - PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY

(If filling out as PDF, please hit "Save As" or Ctrl Shift S to save the filled out file)

NAME 1			🗌 LEO	GUEST
CURRENT OFFICE HELD		FIRST TIMER?	YES	
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DEADLINE: Registrations must be postmarked by Friday, Sept. 29, 2023 . Registrations postmarked AFTER Sept. 29, 2023 will incur a \$10 late registration fee				

If you have **SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS** please use a separate sheet with your name and needs required.

ſ	SATURDAY w/ LUNCH (includes registration and lunch)	\$40 per person x	=\$	
ł	WEEKEND PACKAGE (incl. reg., Fri. dinner and Sat. lunch)	\$60 per person x	=\$	
l	REGISTRATION ONLY (no meals) (includes admission to seminars & business meeting only)	\$20 per person x	=\$	
	add LATE FEE (if postmarked AFTER Sept. 29)	\$10 per person x	=\$	
			Total Due = \$	

CHOOSE ONE

Please make checks payable to: Lions Clubs of Iowa MD9 Convention And mail to: Treasurer Lisa Prochaska, PO Box 527, Clear Lake, IA 50428 Phone: (641) 373-1942 or (319) 827-1395 E-Mail: MD9conventions@iowalions.org

REGISTER ONLINE iowalions.org/event/md9-iowa-lions-fall-learning-conference/

ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS AFTER OCT. 5, 2023 • NO MEALS GUARANTEED AFTER OCT. 5

Lion Gets New Perspective on Leader Dogs for the Blind

By 1VDG Chris Waring District 9NE

My spouse Mike and I traveled to Rochester Hills, Michigan, in September to visit the Leader Dogs for the Blind campus. The trip started out a bit rough due to flooding in Detroit. What should have been a two hour flight turned into an eight-hour trip, but it was well worth it! We met Lions from Nebraska, Delaware, New York, Indiana, Kentucky, Georgia and North Carolina – each of us there to learn about Leader Dogs.

Our Friday morning began with the history and the definition of legal blindness. Leader Dogs for the Blind is in Rochester Hills on the same location where they were founded in 1939 by members of the Uptown Lions Club of Detroit. Their motivation was a fellow member, "Doc" Wheeler, who had lost his vision and wanted a guide dog. The farm was purchased for \$1 and the assumption of the mortgage of \$400. Over the years additional land was



CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE. 9NE 1st Vice District Governor Chris Waring wears a blindfold to experience how Leader Dogs work while visiting the Leaders Dogs for the Blind campus in August. The Blindfold Guide Volunteer is Jeanne Riouxword.



THE IOWA LION

The first class graduated in October 1939 at the cost of \$600 per client/dog and the clients were charged \$150. That practice ended in 1958 when all services became free of charge to the clients, opening up the doors for everyone, regardless of ability to pay. All services remain free of charge, thanks to donations. In comparison, the cost today is \$75,000, all of which is made possible by donations.

The budget for Leader Dogs for the Blind in 2022 was \$20 million, of which \$2 million was donated by Lions members and Clubs.

There are 1.3 million legally-blind people in the U.S. Only 10% of these people travel independently with a white cane or a guide dog.

You might ask what is considered legally blind? Anyone that has 20/200 vision or less, that cannot be corrected with glasses or contacts. A person does not have to be totally blind to receive a Leader Dog! There are many eye diseases that cause a decrease in vision. Diabetic Retinopathy causes black blotches in the line of vision. Glaucoma causes loss to the side or peripheral vision. Macular degeneration causes loss of central vision.

After the traditional lunch of chili and homemade donuts, we heard from a gentleman that was fully sighted at birth, held a job as a fireman/medic and how

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NEW MEMBERS. (ABOVE PHOTO) Carroll Lions Club inducts new members. Pictured (L-R) are sponsor Bruce Boehm, new members Emilie Agan, Andrea Flug, Danny Torgerson and sponsor Jeremy Rierson.(BELOW PHOTO) Akron Lions induct a new member. Pictured are new member Gina West, center, flanked by Club President Julie Ford, left, and sponsor Dee Watson, right.



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CELEBRATING WITH CAKE. Badger Lions Jennifer Schild, Past District Governor Roger Curtis, Carol Hanson and 9NW District Governor Pat Essing celebrate the Badger Lions Club's 50th anniversary.



THE GREAT JONES COUNTY FAIR. Monticello Lions Club members (L-R) Regina Busch, 1st Vice President Deb Kuhn (1st Vice President) and Zone Chair Carolyn Tonn work at the Great Jones County Fair



TRACTOR CADE. Delmar Lions Bob Shears, Rich Raines, and Paul Syfert at the Delmar Tractor Cade.



NEW MEMBER. Past District Governor Stan Stanfield inducts Miles new member Nancy Burken with sponsor Lola Kruse.



NEW GAME IN TOWN. West Branch members Vicki Harkins, Gwen Hoffmann, Dana Kolpin, and Bob Hoffman give an indoor pickleball demonstration at a zone meeting.



GOOD EATS. Coggon Lions host a food truck at the Hoge Auction.



NEW OFFICERS. The Coggon Lions Club held its officer inductions and steak fry with guests.



MUMS THE WORD. Jesup Lions are in Fall mode selling beautiful mums that they purchase from an area Amish community. They will add pumpkins for sale later.



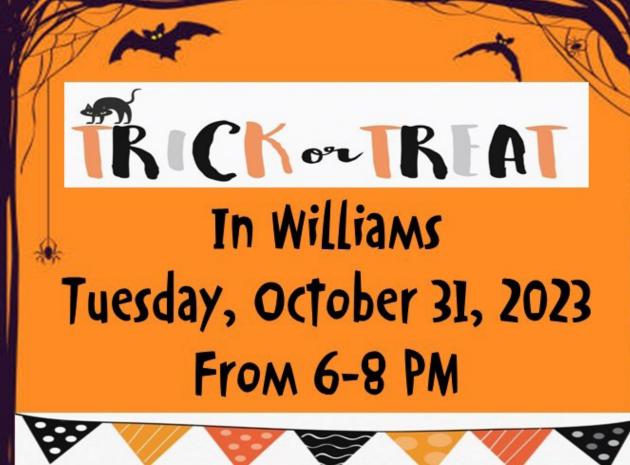
POLISHING THE PRESS BOX. New Hampton Lions Kevin Hassman and Lloyd Phillips finishing up the press box at the football field.



WARREN COLEMAN HONOREES. Kenny Thompson and Allen Shaw accept Warren Coleman awards from New Hartford Lions Club. These two have been a pillar of their club and have led the club with the banner sign project. They also do all the maintenance work on the local community building.



MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY. Lions Ken and Linda Reed were honored by the Ackley Lions Club for their 60th wedding anniversary. Linda is the district Peace Poster chair and Ken is the Pin Trader chair for the district.



Williams Lions Club will have & HOT DOG ME&L IN THE WILLI&MS FIRE ST&TION From 5:30-7:30 PM