



LIONS OF MICHIGAN DISTRICT 11 B2

2010 June Newsletter

www.millions11b2.org

Fellow Lions, Lioness and Leos,

The year is flying by, seems like just yesterday it was July and First Lady Nancy and I were in Minneapolis at the International convention but already it is the end of June.

The District 11B2 Convention follow up:

The convention was quite an event and we had over 235+ registered attendees. First I would like to thank the convention committee and everyone who helped for a wonderful convention – the hotel staff was most accommodating and helped in every way they could, the food was very good, the hospitality room was outstanding, the awards presentations were kept brief, our International Director Debra Wasserman and her husband Steve gave interesting presentations that were very timely and insightful, overall the convention was fantastic! Well Done!!!

Our goal for next year is to reach out to 300+ registrants. This does not seem to be an unreachable goal when you consider we are attempting to have only approximately 25% of the Lions in our District attend. What did we learn this year: a) Only a few know how to dance to a German band, b) we need to get our arms around the electronics so that we have everything in place and ready to go as opposed to setting it up as we start. 3) We also need to provide “his” and “hers” changing rooms for those living close enough to the hotel that they do not want to stay over but need a place to change from their Saturday day clothes into their evening wear.

Convention Election results: (see DGE Don’s article for Cabinet Officer Election results information.)

The proposal to endorse a candidate for the position of International Director passed with IPDG Linda Bosma becoming the first candidate for International Director from District 11B2 as it is now formed.

District Governor Club Visits:

Club visits have been progressing all year. First Lady Nancy and I have enjoyed the hospitality and camaraderie of all the clubs that we have visited. It has been wonderful to meet so many passionate and committed individuals rallying together as Lions. Thank you for having us as your guests, keep up your great work, you are making a difference in the life of many of our neighbors and friends who are less fortunate and need our assistance during these most difficult of economic times.

2009 -2010 District Cabinet:

It has been my pleasure to work with the wonderful individuals serving on this year's District Cabinet. On behalf of First Lady Nancy and myself I would like to extend our personal thank you to each of you for all you have done to make us feel welcome, for all that you have accomplished, and for taking time for us out of your busy schedules, and for the many meetings you attended, and all of the sacrifices that you and your families have made in order for you to attend and care for all the things we Lions do.

Thank YOU fellow Lions for serving on the District Cabinet, the MERLO team or one of the many other committees and or helping in so many ways! Your support and assistance was very much appreciated!



During the next few months as the outgoing cabinet team members we will all be working with the incoming team to ensure a smooth transition. We started the transition with a joint Cabinet meeting on Sunday morning of our convention. Also, during the past year DGE Don and I have been partnering together in anticipation of making next July's transition as seamless as possible, many of the things that we started this year will be continued on and taken to the next level by DGE Don and his team.

Many of our DGE Don's and my shared goals such as Family's first, Work second and Lions third have been important to help change expectations across the District. Overall, we as Lions need to be more accommodating of Life's other demands on our fellow Lions if we are to be successful in attracting younger families to Lionism. This is because our lives have continually evolved and changed, and our ability to commit time has become more limited, what is your club doing different to accommodate these and other life changes.

DGE Don's, and First Lady Elect Lion Marsha's support and input has been invaluable to the success of the District during this past year, and I'm sure DGE Don will begin involving 1VDGE Jerry Pearson in much the same manner we worked together this year..

Thank you all for your individual efforts, the Teamwork has been excellent! Congratulations to all of the incoming team on their elections, and I am sure I speak for all of us 11B2 Lions when I say "We look forward to working with all of you during the next year".

Cabinet members include: DGE Don Brown, CT's Harvey Holm and Pat McFarland, CS Kim Sinclair, RC's Scott Sinclair, Neal Nitz and Norm Stutesman, ZC's Al Lange, Tom Mance, Jerry Likes, Chad Rife, Frank Crawford, IPDG Linda Bosma, Sgt at Arms Paul Becker and Chaplain Hank Bosma.

100% President and Secretary awards:

Now is a great time to verify your qualifications to fill out the 100% award applications. So far I have received just one form. See the roster book and LCI web site for application forms and get them mailed in as soon as possible. If you would like a member of the Cabinet to participate in award presentations please do not hesitate to contact DGE Don, myself or any member of the Cabinet.

Governors Awards & Appreciation Dinner – September 17th 6:00 pm

Please mark your calendar for Friday evening September 17th for the District Governors Awards and Appreciation dinner. The dinner will be held at the Lakeland Hospital, Upton Education Center in St. Joseph MI. More details to follow.

MD11 Convention at Mission Pointe Resort - Mackinac Island

By the time you read this we will already be back from the MD11 Convention. We will provide a convention update in the next newsletter edition.

State of the District - Membership & Retention Update:

Our current District 11B2 membership status through April 30, 2010 is:

Members 1284 Adds: 114 Drops 133 Net growth YTD -19 Clubs: 47
Clubs in good standing as of May 18, 2010: 47 clubs (100%)



We are in the process of re-activating a club that has not met in over 8 months we are moving forward and have added 3 new members so far. In addition they are in the process of establishing a fund raising golf outing to let the community know that they are still an active club.

A District Leadership membership drive is underway with all District Officers of the outgoing and incoming teams and the MERLO teams being asked to “Lead by Example”. They are being asked to invite at least one new potential member to a Lions event during May. The goal is to install these potential Lion members during June. It is still possible for the District to have net positive growth for the 2009-2010 Lions year. District 11B2 is still under the magic number of only 151 drops this year (13% less than last years 173) although it is becoming increasingly more difficult based on the June drops of previous years.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVES: If your club hasn't held an annual membership drive yet, it is never too late to invite a friend to a Lions meeting. In many instances we don't ask our friends because they said NO before, however, maybe their life situations have changed and maybe, just maybe, if you invited them to a meeting as your guest they could become interested in becoming a member. Lion Al Lange, ZC, says it best ***“If you have a friend that you haven't introduced to Lionism you have cheated your friend!”***

SECRETARY'S: UPDATING LCI's PU101, MMR and ACTIVITY reports

Your club should have already filed your slate of officers for the upcoming year. If you have not contact CS Kim Sinclair ASAP (email: sinclair.mi@verizon.net or call 269-621-3651). If you have not been filing monthly Activity reports then now is the time for an annual Activity Report. ***Don't forget to update your meeting location information, mailing addresses and phone numbers for officers, and EMAIL addresses for your club/officers.*** This information is also used to update our District Roster book.

Leader Dog Update: Did you know that there have been 2 Leader Dogs placed in 11B2 during the past year. The dogs and the individuals receiving them are trained together at Leader Dog's Rochester MI facility. The cost to train a Leader Dog, and their new owners, is approximately \$39,000, however, these dogs are placed at **NO COST** to the individual receiving them due to the generous donations of Lion and others.

Michigan EYE Bank update:

During 2009, the Michigan Eye-Bank provided 1,097 Michigan residents – 62 of whom reside in Lions District 11-B2 – with a second chance for sight through corneal transplantation. Thousands more were reached through our public education efforts and *I Joined!* programs. Another fine example of the Lions of Michigan making a difference!

MD11 Convention:

The following proposals presented at the MD11 Convention **all passed** and the Constitution and By-Laws will be amended to reflect the adopted changes:

Proposal #1 –A proposal to change the title —Executive Secretary in the MD 11 Constitution to —Executive Director.

Proposal #2 - A proposal to change the title —Executive Secretary in the MD 11 By-Laws to —Executive Director.

Proposal #3 – A proposal to change the MD 11 By-Laws to provide for members of the Council of Governors to vote on issues by any real-time means of communication at times when they cannot attend meetings:

International Director Candidates:

Two candidates ran for the position of International Director: PCC Dr Gary Anderson and our own IPDG Linda Bosma; PCC Anderson won the election . PDG Linda made a nice concession speech thanking all those who helped her and then indicated that we should unit in supporting Dr Gary Anderson as our Candidate from MD11 – we wish him well.



As I had the privilege of presiding over the MD11 Convention Business meeting I would like to also share a few personal observations regarding this race and it's impact on our District. Both candidates ran wonderful campaigns, had great nominating and seconding speeches followed by their loyal supporters demonstrating jubilantly on their behalf. It was a site to behold! Those marching for the candidate demonstrations were almost equal in number for both candidates.

11B2 Lions had a large contingent present at Mackinac Isl. consisting of 66 Lions and 12 guests representing 24 of our 47 clubs. This is much larger group than we have had in the past, in fact our most recent past years record of attendance was that our District was one of the least represented at the MD11 convention.

It was very encouraging to see and visit with so many friends there. The hospitality rooms were open and many Lions had a chance to mingle and to make new friends, get new ideas, attend various forums and even time to visit scenic Mackinac Island.

Overall the mood was enthusiastic and excitement abounded. Part of this excitement was that we, the Lions of District 11B2, had a candidate in the race and that we were going to take an active role in the decision making process of "Endorsing the MD11 Candidate for International Director". We had 44 registered delegates present.

While our candidate didn't win this time I would like to say that ***"Win or Lose", as Lions of District 11B2 we are all much richer for participating*** as it appears that there is increased awareness of District and State activities, and, that perhaps based on the Candidate Demonstrations it is possible that we may have taken our spirit of Lionism to the next level! Enthusiasm is usually contagious, so it has been fun watching the innovation and creativity take place all across the District... Keep up the good work and lets keep the momentum building.

All of these things are good for our District! I am very encouraged by the fact that there were so many who were willing to step forward and help in so many ways to make our District "shine" this past year! Thank you one and all for the many things that you have done and all of your help during this past year, it has gone by much too quickly and it has been fun and exciting.

Lion Linda and her campaign contributed to and was an integral part of this building excitement within our District, so when you see Lion Linda don't forget to congratulate her for her fine campaign and then thank her for her courage and her help in bringing more fun, passion, excitement and "Lionism" to our District!

And let's keep the momentum going for DGE Don, his Cabinet and each of our Clubs as we each begin to plan for our next year's activities. *(Team starts with YOU!)*

Thank you Lions, Lioness and Leo's for all that you do and all of those you help!

Gov Al



District Governor Elect: Don Brown

Another Lions year has come and almost gone. I want to take this time to thank Governor Al and Nancy for a job well done for 11B2. It is now time to take a look into the future of 11B2 and this is what I see. 11B2 becomes stronger in 2010 and 2011, we will retain more members than ever before. We as a TEAM will make our district grow stronger by working together as one. That means our cabinet Governor, Vice Governors, Zone Chairs, and all other members of the district cabinet and committees, our clubs and our members. If you don't know by now my motto for the coming year is "**TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE**".

To start, let me introduce you to our 2010, 2011 cabinet. 1st Vice District Governor, Jerry Pearson, of Paw Paw, 2nd Vice District Governor, Norm Stutesman, of Three Rivers, Secretary, Kim Sinclair, of Hartford, Treasurer, Dave Cornish, of Lawton, Zone Chairs, R1Z1, PDG Donna Romanak, Bangor, R1Z2 Betsy Ferrell, Galien, R2Z1, Char Rife, Paw Paw, R2Z1, PDG Jerry Likes, R3Z1, Harvey Hanna, Parchment, R3Z2, needed, please consider joining our TEAM, Tailtwister, Scott Sinclair, Hartford. Scott will also be in charge of all district properties, these maybe loaned out by contacting Scott. These LIONS will be available to you for your needs. Contact them and they will do their best to get the job done.

If Lion Marsha or I can be of any help to you or your clubs, please call or send us an email and we will be there.

Melvin Jones said when he started this program that he HOPED it could make a difference. Today incoming International President, Sid Scruggs, chose a motto of, "A BEACON OF HOPE", with a lighthouse as his symbol. I don't just HOPE that we will have a good year I know, working as a TEAM, we will. TEAM has a special meaning to me and I have shared this with our Council of Governors, and they want to use it at MD11 to do the same. So we want to hear from you. We want to make each district heard. This is how I spell TEAM:

T - Together We Can Do More

E - Everyone Is Part Of The Team

A - Anything Is Possible When We Work Together

M - Membership Will Grow When We Work As A Team

Now if you thought you are not a key part of this district you are wrong. We are all KEY PARTS that will light the light in the lighthouse and make that BEACON OF HOPE a reality. Past International President, Al Brandel, said something that I believe is so true, "I'm just an ordinary LION with a lot more responsibilities". I couldn't have said it better.

I want to thank you now for all the work you are going to do in the upcoming year. Best wishes, and LETS GO TEAM!

DGE Don

P.S.

Give Governor Al or Nancy a call or an email and tell them how much you appreciated them. Marsha and I feel very fortunate to have shared the year with them and have made friends forever. THANKS AL AND NANCY.



Orientation Corner

By Lion Ray Llorens

Lion Officers, Chairpersons and other leaders need a knowledge and skill of one important thing that is not taught in schools. That skill is listening. Often times when someone is talking to us, we are thinking more of how we are going to answer than we are of listening to what is being said. I hear you talking, but am I really listening? More misunderstandings occur because we do not completely listen to what the other person has to convey. Often times when I am interrupted in the middle of a sentence, I will ask, please hear me out. I would like to share with you this month the Ten Commandants for Good Listening.

1. **Stop Talking:** You cannot listen if you are talking.
2. **Put The Talker At Ease:** Help him/her feel that he/she is free to talk.
3. **Show Him/Her That You Want To Listen:** Look and act interested. Listen to understand.
4. **Remove Distractions:** Don't doodle, tap or shuffle papers. Close the door
5. **Empathize With Him/Her:** Try to put yourself in his/her place so that you can see his/her point of view.
6. **Be Patient:** Allow plenty of time. Do not interrupt him/her.
7. **Hold Your Temper:** An anger person gets the wrong meaning of words.
8. **Go Easy on Argument and Criticism:** Don't argue, even if you win, you lose.
9. **Ask Questions and Paraphrase:** This encourages him/her and shows you are listening. It helps to develop points later.
10. **Stop Talking:** This is first and last, because all the other commandments depend on it. You can't listen while you are talking.

Lions of Michigan Service Foundation - LMSF

The Foundation serves clubs needing help for individuals with medial needs. The Foundation has been your partner for over 20 years. However the LMSF must rely on its fundraisers and club donations to have monies available when this situation arises.

Remember the "Mints for the Military" program. Your club can order a case of mints to be sent to our military by sending a check for \$120.00 to the LMSF state office. This cost includes the shipping cost.

Cases of mints or mint drops are available for pickup by calling, PDG Nancy Dings at 1-269-468-8301. The drops are nice to have for parades and special events, like club dinners etc.

Lions Bear Lake Camp

will celebrate its 10th anniversary with an

Open House on

SATURDAY, JULY 10 AT 2 PM.

The ad in this month's *Lion Pride* is incorrect.

We encourage Lions to participate in this open house. This is a great opportunity to visit this wonderful Lions project.

Thank you.

Lion Esther Lions Bear Lake Board Member

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sept. 23-25, 2010

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/>

Registration Form in PDF:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/registration.pdf>

Online Registration Form:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/onlineregistration.html>

CHICAGO WHITE SOX
VS
DETROIT TIGERS
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18,
2010
GAME TIME 4:10 PM ET

COST: \$75 PER PERSON
INCLUDES.....BUS TRIP/GAME TICKET
BUS DRIVER TIP
RAFFLE PRIZES ALSO AVAILABLE
BUS WILL LEAVE COLOMA FOP #147 @ 12
NOON

CALL JEFF 208-3495 FOR TICKETS
LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE

B.Y.O.B

The Vicksburg Lions Club Invites you to
Attend...

Our 37th Annual
Summer Festival

July 15,16,17

Vicksburg Recreation Area
Just north of town on Sprinkle Road

Thursday night:

Family night—Project KidSight Screening

Friday night entertainment
Loose Change Band

Saturday night entertainment
33rd Street Band

Horseshoe Tournament
contact Brett Grossman at brett@vicksburg-law.com

Volleyball Tournament
contact Eric Stafinski at eric_stafinski@hotmail.com

SISTER LAKES LIONS CLUB

Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Sister Lakes – The Sister Lakes Lions Club will have its spectacular Independence Day fireworks show on Saturday, July 3rd at Lions Park, 66991 95th Avenue. Fireworks will begin immediately after the Celebration Raffle drawing at 10 p.m. Bring a blanket or a folding chair and enjoy the show. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Refreshments will be available. In case of rain the fireworks show will be on Monday, July 5th – same time, same place.

Cassopolis Lions
Induct 4 new members:

The Cassopolis Lions held a Membership drive and have inducted four new members!

Pictured are: (left to right) Gov AI, New Lions **Mary Bradley, Sylvia and Thomas Rutherford**, Secretary **Miriam Bollweg** and New Lion **Dorothy Smith** - Congratulations to all!

