



Lions of Michigan – District 11-E-1



Newsletter June 2008

District Governor Lion William Raymor

First Lady Lion Jane

Lion Larry Alman District Editor Elect

Greetings Lions of District 11-E1!

This will be my last newsletter article as my term as your District Governor will soon be at an end. First Lady Jane and I have been greatly blessed though our sharing with other Lions and clubs throughout the district.

It has, however, been a bittersweet year. The last Bi-Monthly report (March/April) shows that from July 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008 our goal was for 40 new members. We actually gained 110. Our loss for the same period was 155, leaving us with a net loss of 45 for the period, leaving us 27 members below our total for 2006-2007. During the January/February period we lost two clubs, Grant and Reed City, and sadly, as of June 30th, Ludington will be disbanded. Therefore, we are now down 27 members and three clubs since July 1, 2007. This in no way reflects upon the efforts of those dedicated Lions that have served the district in this past year. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. As President Harry Truman often said, "The buck stops at the top," and I apologize for the numbers. DGE Larry and VDGE Wayne will need the full support of every Lion if they are to get our district back on track. There is no doubt that District 11-E1 is a great district and that we can be even greater with our full commitment to "WE SERVE!"

Our MD-11 Convention was a great time, in large part because I had the great privilege of sharing with ID Terry Graham in presenting an International Presidential Medal to PDG Harry Johnson. It was certainly well earned and deserved! Congratulations PDG Harry!! VDGE Wayne received an Outstanding Editor award as well. Congratulations VDGE Wayne! We always knew we had the best editor!!!

Redistricting was a goal for the 2007-2008 Council of Governors and unfortunately was not achieved. It will be a goal for 2008-2009 Council. One major difficulty in the change, as is true with almost every change, is the desire to change with everything remaining the same. The same may be true with our district and our clubs. We want to grow, get new members, but we don't want anything different. However, like it or not, times have changed, and the decline in membership in Lions is showing us clearly that if we are to continue, we must change as well. Sometimes when I think about why I'm a Lion the first thought that comes to mind are the fellowship shared in our club and with other Lions in our district. That truly is a great benefit from being a Lion, however I must keep in mind that Lionism isn't about what I get out of being a Lion: it's all about service to others. I may wish that my club, my district, not change; that we just keep doing things the way we've always done them, however if Lionism is to continue to be the largest and greatest service organization in the world, we must change. It's not about how we would like it to be, it's not about how we don't want it to change, it's about those who need the services Lions provide! Are their needs, and our ability to help meet those needs, more important than our desire to have everything stay the same? Is helping the blind to see, young children having eye problems corrected early, the deaf to hear, scholarships for students that will change their lives for the better, and so many other things that Lions do that positively affect the lives of others, more important than our changing the way we do things? I believe every Lion would say "Yes." Think outside the box, outside our old way of doing things, so that we may continue to grow and make a difference in the lives so many as WE SERVE!!

District Governor Elect Larry Morlock



Training Session Postponed

The District 11-E-1 club officers training has been postponed for the June 22nd date. Club officer training includes the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership chair, and Tail Twister. We will reschedule the training for the fall. Especially important are the new IRS requirements that go into effect November 15th. It's been requested that all clubs have a policy that covers whistleblower, conflict of interest, and destruction of records. These should be in effect by July 15th.

Mini Cabinet Set for July 27th

District 11-E-1 cabinet officers, zone chairs and region chairs are to keep Sunday, July 27th open for a mini-cabinet and swearing in of officers ceremony at the DGE Larry Morlock's residence in Evart, Michigan. A map will be provided in the next issue of this newsletter. District roster books will be available for distribution on that date also. The agenda for the first meeting of the new cabinet will be goal setting and discussion of committee goals.

State Chairman for Membership Sends Message to District 11-E-1

State Chairman for Membership PDG Jim Walls sent a note to District Governor Elect Larry Morlock that the membership goal for 2008-2009 was an additional membership of 120 members or 10 members a month for 48 clubs. I'm sure our members can convince three community members to join our club. The joy comes from working the club's projects and the helping a club or person in the community with the money earned from the projects

Club Secretaries--LOOK!

Your PU101's are past due to Lions Clubs International in Oak Brook, Illinois. The roster book goes to press June 20th. If the correct information is not forwarded by that time we will publish last year's roster entry for your club.

Our club elections were to be held in April, and your PU101 report filed immediately after (by May 15th to LCI and DGE Larry Morlock). Twenty-nine of 11-E-1 clubs have reported as of this date, June 8th. Consider the process as being fair to your past club officers not to be called this coming year for Lions business when they are not the officers responsible in 2008-2009.

11-E-1 Winners in the Michigan Sight and Hearing Sweepstakes

Lion David Rowe from the Harrison Lions, Big Rapids Lions Club, and DGE Larry Morlock were winners in the recent Sweepstake drawing held at the MD11 Convention at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. The convention had an excess of three hundred attendees. The food and entertainment were good as well as the conversations that took place.

One of the issues before the assembly was whether or not to have a second vice-district governor for each of the districts. The issue was accepted by the convention delegates and takes effect for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Lion Wayne Kreitner honored at the State Convention



Pictured Wayne Kreitner, left, Greenville Lions Club, District Editor of District 11-E-1 newsletter is pictured with Michelle Fields, center, Editor of The Lions Pride State Magazine and Jack Becher, right, Chairman State Lions Publication Advisory Committee.

Wayne Kreitner is shown accepting the State of Michigan Lions District Editor of the Year Award for 2007-2008 at the Lions State Convention at Sault St. Marie. The Lions district newsletter is published to 1750 District Lions on the west side of the state. Articles from the District News letter are forwarded to the State Lions for publication in the Lions Pride Magazine. This magazine is distributed to every Lion in the State of Michigan. Wayne has been District Editor for 2 years; he is also a

member of the State Lions Publication Advisory Committee. He also serves on the State Lions Public Relations Committee.

I would like to direct this thank you to all of the Lions in the District that have supported me over the past two years as District editor. There were many times during the past two years when I may have had three or four articles to publish. All I would have to do is ask for help and boy you came through. The award that I received from the State as Editor of the Year 2007/2008 at the state convention is just as much yours as mine. The clubs who dug in and helped know who you are and were always there.

Project of the month Michigan All State Band

Who is Eligible to Audition? Michigan students currently in grades 9-12 and members of their high school band are eligible to audition. Any Michigan student who is home schooled but participates in a band program or is currently taking private lessons may also audition. Performers may audition on any marching band wind instrument or percussion instrument. Performers may also audition for color guard or dance positions.

History: Each year from 1948 to 1977, a high school band was selected to represent the Lions of Michigan in the annual parade at their international convention. In 1978, an all-state band was organized to honor and play for an incoming Lions International President from Michigan. The Lions All State Band was created and has appeared annually at conventions thereafter.

The All State Band has since become one of the Michigan Lions' most acclaimed youth activities. The success of the band is attributable to outstanding students, excellent instructors, and dedicated support staff. Former band directors include Jon Francis, Walter Cole, Jim King, Mack Pittard, and Matt Taton. The current director is Roger Weyersberg.

Students from over 300 Michigan high schools and communities have participated in the band since its inception. The band averages 80-100 students.

Tour Highlights: 4 Day Pre-Tour Band Camp at Michigan State University June 17-20, 2008, Temple of the Dawn, Grand Palace, Supatra River House (Thai dinner and dancing), Coconut Sea Salt Farm, Damneon Saduak Floating Market, National Museum, Nakom Pathom (largest pagoda in SE Asia), Night Market, Thai cooking demonstration, Elephant Camp, Visit Wat Doi Suthep, Handcraft Village, Bamboo Music Instrument Shop, Kantoke Dinner (Thai dinner and dance performances), "We wish the All State Band a safe and fun trip".

Qipite pf the month

Leaders need to be optimists. Their vision is beyond the present.

Rudy Giuliani

Coleman Lions

We are in full swing selling tickets for our annual Corvette raffle.



This year we have a beautiful 1985 white Corvette with red interior, a brand new green "Older Town" canoe, and a hand stitched blue and white quilt. Tickets are \$5 each, and the prizes will be given away on August 16 at the Midland County Fair halftime show during the Demolition Derby. We guarantee the Corvette will NOT be entered in the Demolition Derby!! You don't need to be present to win! Recently, we have sold tickets at Yoder's Amish Auction, where we also had our concession wagon, the Harrison Car Show and the Midland Antique Festival. If you don't have your tickets yet, look for us at the Coleman June Fest car show on June 13th and 14th or at the Mt. Pleasant Car Show June 22nd, or contact us at 989-465-1099. In July, we can be found at the Clare Car Show and the Midland Antique Festival, and in August at the Isabella and Midland County Fairs. Summer is our busy season! In addition to selling raffle tickets, we plan to have a White Cane collection during the Coleman June Fest.

Last year's raffle proceeds are being put to good use. On May 28, seven graduating seniors received scholarships from the Coleman Lions Club. President Neil Berthume presented two \$500 scholarships, four \$250 scholarships and another \$250 memorial scholarship in memory of long time member C. W. Gordon. Other recent donations have been made to the Coleman summer speech program, the Literacy Council of Midland County, the City of Coleman for the new senior housing project, Eagle Village, and sponsorship of a CYAA baseball team.



Crystal Lions Club

1. Crystal Lions Club member, Art Shy, recently received two awards from the International Association of Lions 1, Clubs for his membership recruiting efforts. At the April 28 Crystal Lions Club meeting, District Governor Bill Raymor presented Lion Art Shy with a Senior Key Award which acknowledges recruitment of 25 members. Congratulations, Art!
2. At our April 28 meeting, Crystal Lions Club President, Brian Puffpaff presented District Governor Raymor with two boxes full of donated eyeglasses (approximately 300 pairs) collected from the Crystal area.
3. The Crystal Lions Club is very proud to announce our 2008 college scholarship award winners. Molly McCracken and Kaci Miller were each presented a \$250 scholarship to further their college education. Molly plans to attend Central Michigan University and Kaci plans to attend Baker College in Owosso. Crystal Lions President Brain Puffpaff, is excited to be leading Crystal's Lions Club for his third year. The club has a busy agenda for 2008. We already had a very successful White Cane Drive, assisted Crystal residents in need with eye care and eye glasses; installed handicap access ramps to residents in need; and a few other community projects. "Presented by Lion Tom Crites Secretary."



Empire Lions Club

Empire Lions club inducted two new members this month. Left to right. Sponsor Lion Leigh Payment, new member Robert Quinn, new member Mike Duncan and sponsor PDG Irwin Beck.

"Charter members receive 55 year chevrons." PDG Richard Daniel (Right) presents 55 year chevrons to Empire Lions Charter members John Dorsey and Mark Deering. Lion Mark Deering (center) has maintained a 55 year perfect attendance record.



Fremont Lions Club

Fremont Lions held their awards & annual steak fry dinner on June 2, 2008, at the Lions Shelter in Fremont Lake Park. King Lion Laurene Homsher gave out certificates to members. District Governor William Raymore installed the 2008-2009

officers. President: Ron Pardonnet, 1st VP: Don Henry, 2nd VP: Carl Homsher, 3rd VP: Jan Mast, Secretary: Don Potter, Treasurer, Darl Purdy, Membership Director: Steve Adsmund, Lion Tamers: Bob Fenner & Max Gardenour, Tail Twister, Ron Gibson.



Greenville Lions Club

Eureka Township purchased a new pumper, fire truck and gave it to the Greenville Department of Public Safety recently and we have a close-up glance at the shiny new fire truck at our June 2, meeting. Several Lions went out to view the new machine. Sgt. Blomstrom of the Greenville Public Safety brought by the newest piece of equipment serving the City of Greenville, Eureka Township, and the surrounding area.

Hart Lions Club

Hart and Hesperia Lions Work Together To Assist Blind and Visually Handicapped Bowlers



Hart Lions, Bob Chapman, Denny Hedinger and Joe Merton met with Hesperia

Lions, Jim Siplon and Dale Rood at the bowling alley in Fremont to test a guide

Rail Lion Chapman formed and constructed. It can be used to guide a blind bowler in the direction of the pins. Lion Dale Rood was a very willing test subject, since he loves to bowl and has been blind since childhood. It takes practice, and a sighted person much to adjust the position of the rail, but it gives the user more independence.

In the short time the group was at the bowling alley testing, they were approached by other patrons, requesting that the rail be left on the premises for other visually handicapped people to use. They happily obliged.



Hart Lions: A group of ambitious Hart Lions Members gathered at the Johnson Square in Mears to repaint the Gazebo they constructed five years ago. The members donated their time painting, and expertise were Lion Jack Lake, Dick Huntington, Jake Whelpley, Denny Hedinger, Jerry Dannert, Adam Dennert, Bob Chapman, Don Hansen and Jerry Spencer. The painting took place May 8th from 10 am to 8 pm.

Honor Lions Club

Honor Lions went to Mesick to help them with the Mushroom Festival they all had a good time with the Mesick club. Last weekend we were asked to do a Kid sight screening at Platte River School here in Honor. We screened 23 kids this was our fourth screening in this area. We were pleased with the turn out. Honor Lions are in the process of selling

tickets on our 6th kayak. It will be given away on July 4th at the Beulah Beach Park we will be all over our area selling tickets most weekends till then. The drawing will be at our Hot Dog Wagon that day. Our Secretary Betty Cramer and my self attended the scholarship awards program at Benzie High School on May 22 and gave a \$500.00 scholarship to Ravena Meyers . She will be attending Western Michigan University majoring in Music Education. We will be holding our annual garage sale and bake sale on June 20 and 21. You never know what treasures will show up for sale and we have some excellent bakers in our club I think that covers Honor this time thanks, Lion Connie McMorris.

Lakeview Lions Club

Lakeview Lions hosted a spaghetti dinner and invited the people in the community that might like to see what the Lions Club in Lakeview, in the District, the State, and International does for projects. Included in the program was LCIF, a very important part of Lions world wide. District Governor Lion Bill and Lion Jane, VDG Lion Larry Morlock and Lion Gayle, VDGE Lion Wayne, and Region 3 Chairman Larry Alman were in attendance as well.



Lakeview Lions Club held their first Brat Sale of the year at Leppinks Supermarket in Lakeview on May 21st. The sale started at 11:00 a.m. and continued until 6:00 p.m. it was a huge success and further encouraged us to establish several more sales throughout the summer.

The sale is really well accepted as both Leppinks and the Lions contribute to the promotion. (WACKY WEDNESDAY)

The menu includes a Brat or hot dog and a pop for ONLY \$1.50--- This a real deal and many turn this into a lunch or dinner at an amazing rate....

Leppinks bakery and meat department set us up to sell 250 Brats and pop, BUT, we were sold out before 4:00 p.m. and then had to pull stock from the shelves to continue until 6:00 p.m. During this time we sold just over 400 Brats and dogs.

The schedule for the rest of the summer is June 18th; July 2nd, 16th, and 30th; August 20th; Sept. 3rd and 17th; and October 10th and 11th. All sales times are 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Come join us for a great snack/lunch/dinner. You WILL enjoy it.

Midland Lions Club

WHITE CANE

Hey fellow Lions--We would like to thank every volunteer again for your help with our White Cane fundraiser. We have raised so far, \$3183.52. This does not include any donations from the various foundations and individuals, Scott Ware sent letters to. This is a great start for our fundraising season.

Thank you again, The White Cane committee



Mount Pleasant Lions Club



Mount Pleasant Lions presented Connie McCann of Central Michigan Community Hospital the last check (5 of 5) for \$5,000.00, totaling \$25,000.00. The donation was for CMCH's hospital expansion that included a new cancer center (Morey Cancer Center) and an all new birthing center. The Mount Pleasant Lions also began a new benevolence for Hospice of Central Michigan for \$25,000.00 with the first installment of \$5,000.00 being presented to Deanna Heath.

Hospice of Central Michigan is close to opening its new facility on Meridian Road near west M-20. Photos courtesy of Lion Leo Mioduszewski (Isabella County Sheriff). Left to right: MP Lions Treasurer: Lion Robert DeBruin, King Lion Gerard DeSormes, Lion, Karla Storrer, and CMCH Representative Connie McCann.



Hospice of Central Michigan Director Deanna Heath, King Lion Gerard Desormes, and MP Lions Treasurer Lion Robert DeBruin



Newwaygo Lions help with software
 Newwaygo Lions Club members Max Purcell (left) and Frank Janusz (right) recently presented a check to Mary Ritter of Croton.

Newwaygo Lions Club

Mary Ritter a legally blind mother of four came to the Newwaygo Lions Club requesting help in obtaining a Window-Eyes program. This program is for visually impaired and blind, talks to the person, instructing them in each step. Mary will now be able to now manage both her family and Husband's business with the help of this program.



Onekama Lions Club

The Onekama Consolidated Schools' grades Kindergarten through 6th, recently celebrated their annual Fun Day. On hand, providing free hotdogs, pop and popcorn, were the Onekama Lions. This is a service that the Onekama Lions have provided for over 20 years. Approximately 200 students, teachers and parents participated in this years event.



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White Cloud Lions Club

Picture of Lions Peggy & Jim Walls (with Floyd & Edith Franklin in center & Lion Terry Allen in background) following the program they presented to White Cloud Lions on the fun and fellowship connected with Lion Pin Trading.

Photo of the Helen Keller Pins in Lion Jim Walls collection.

Picture of Lion Janet Mast and President Audrey Williams at the White Cloud Lions Den. Lion Janet presented a program on the trials, tribulations and pleasures of her business of growing plants from seeds in their own greenhouse for sale to the public every spring. The work starts in late winter inside the heated greenhouse and doesn't end until mid summer. Weather is a major factor, insects is another and, last of all, the sale of the plants for spring planting will close their season about the end of June. After the outstanding presentation Lion Janet presented all Lions with a homegrown plant for their own yard.



Opening Eyes banner at the Special Olympics in Mt. Pleasant. White Cloud Lion Audrey Williams, Lion Stan Preshaw, Sheridan Lions Club, Lions Ray Williams and Viola VanDyk of the White Cloud Lions Club.

- Special program on the excitement and pleasures connected with Lion Pin Trading by Lions Jim and Peggy Walls. Nine full tables of pins were displayed for the pleasure of the White Cloud Lions with the Helen Keller table receiving the most attention. White Cloud Lions were amazed at the traveling connected with pin trading and with the work connected with getting sets completed through trading. PDG Jim reported that the closest hotels at the International Conventions and USA/Canada Forums are reserved first for the members of the Lion Pin Traders Association. Lions Jim & Peggy had just returned from their trip to Washington DC to take Jim's Mom to see the Pope and that was a very exciting program too.
- The big greenhouse on M37 just south of White Cloud is owned by PDG Lynwood and Lion Janet Mast. It is a family operation that started when their daughter was in high school. Lion Janet said growing kinda 'gets in your blood' and it's been an annual project for over 10 years now. Lion Janet took the White Cloud Lions on the complete growing cycle, from seeds to flowering plants for sale.

- Special Olympics Opening Eyes program is a specialty for the White Cloud Lions. Members of the Club have been working the stations testing the eyes of all the athletes for the last seven years. This project is very rewarding. Watching the Olympian with their new glasses gives us an outstanding definition of "We Serve".
- White Cloud Lion Janalee McClure is closing out her year as Multiple 11 Council Chairperson. We have been missing her for all our local projects and we're glad to have her back baking pies for our fish/chicken dinner's again. The fish/chicken fry is held every 2nd Friday of the month at our Lions Den.
- Governor Raymor will be installing our officers and inducting five new members on June 30th. White Cloud Lions Club has added 11 new members to our club this fiscal year. New members have been sponsored by Lions Audrey Williams, Jean Brandt, Vern Brandt, Ruth Gleason, Helen Strong and Janalee McClure Kadoos to all of them for their hard work this year!

Camp Tuhsmeheeta needs YOUR Help now!

Camp Tuhsmeheeta is owned by the State of Michigan but was not purchased with public funds. It was bought in 1971 with funds from the Michigan School for the Blind Trust Fund and has been operated as a summer camp for blind children since its purchase. The money remaining in that trust fund consists of donated money which can never be spent. Only the interest earned on the MSB Trust Fund can be used and that has traditionally been the money for maintenance at Camp Tuhsmeheeta and until the state quit running programs the interest on the fund was also used for programming.

The camp was established and operated by the Michigan School for the Blind, but that school no longer exists. After the MSB closed and the camp was slated to be closed, a group of individuals formed Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, a Michigan based 510 (c) (3) Non-profit corporation with the goal of keeping the camp as an outdoor recreational/educational camp for the blind. Since OUB has leased Camp T it has steadily increased enrollment every year and offered both summer programs for youth, and fall, winter and spring programs for blind youths and adults. Camp T is licensed by the State of Michigan and accredited by the American Camping Association.

Camp Tuhsmeheeta has a license capacity for 39 campers. Last summer alone it served over 15% of the school age blind children in the State of Michigan and employed 19 blind individuals. Enrollment increases and long term goals for camp programming will require an investment in building more facilities and improving services which the state of Michigan will not fund. The Camp has been on a year to year lease to OUB since 2004. OUB has pursued large donations and grants for needed improvements. On two occasions donors expressed interest in funding the programs and improvements but they required that the property have a long term commitment by the state of Michigan or be owned by Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind.

Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind wants to use this beautiful facility to serve more blind people and their families with world class programs both recreational and educational and has shown their ability to do this. The Michigan Board of Education has no plans to run a camp there but also is not interested in selling it and refuses to let OUB make requested improvements.

A better camp with facilities for more programs will increase employment both at the camp and by those involved in making the improvements. It is progress waiting to happen. The programs run by Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind at Camp Tuhsmeheeta have been enhancing lives and creating jobs and educational opportunities and can continue to do so with your support.

Progress is at a standstill. The state cannot afford make the additions to the property and neither can OUB unless the property is secured. Who wants to fund a new building on land not owned by someone committed to keeping the doors open to the people they serve? The property could be sold at any time by the state of Michigan. Representative Tom Pearse has proposed a bill to sell Camp Tuhsmeheeta (A facility dedicated to the outdoor education of blind and visually impaired children) at 10500 Lincoln Lake Rd, Greenville, MI 48838 to Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind a Michigan based 510 (c) (3) Non-profit corporation for \$1. The proposed bill specifies that the property be used as a camp for the blind forever and if it ceases to be used for that purpose the ownership reverts back to the state of Michigan.

You can help. If you support this PLEASE write to Representative Tom Pearse N1092 House Office Building PO Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909-7514 and your own state representative and senator in support of this sale. The final details of the bill need to be ironed out and final wording of the bill has yet to be determined, but it NEEDS support. PLEASE call or write your representative before June 25, 2008. There will be an open meeting on this proposal on June 27, 2008 in the John A. **Hannah Building**. 608 W. Allegan Street. Lansing, conference room 4th Floor at 1.00 PM.

For information about Camp Tuhsmeheeta visit www.campt.org or call Lion George Wurtzel, Executive Director of OUB, at (517) 487-3923

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Representative Tom Pearse
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Newsletter deadline is 10th of the month and will be out before the 15th of the month. I look forward to serving your club and sharing with others what you are doing for the good of the community and Lions as a whole. Have a terrific month.

Lion Larr Alman