

**DISTRICT 11-E1 CABINET MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2013
HELD AT THE GATE
706 PERRY AVE., BIG RAPIDS**

ATTENDING: District Governor Bill Simpson, 1st VDG Tim Anderson, 2nd VDG Pete Conarty, Treasurer Lion Kerry McGinley, Secretary PDG Jim Chipman, IPDG John Monahan, PCC Richard Perrin, PCC Janalee McClure, PDG Dan Gibbons, PDG Harry Johnson, PDG Laura Johnson, PDG Jerry Brandt, PDG Lynn Mast, PDG James Walls, ZC Lion Pam Schroeder, ZC Lion Mike Howard, ZC Lion Bernie Baldwin, ZC Lion Connie McMorris, ZC Lion Bill Koch, Lion John C Monahan, Lion Ron Gibson, Lion Kay Brandt, Lion Bob Thompson, and Lion Margaret Walls.

Meeting Called to order by DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL SIMPSON

Pledge led by DG Bill

Invocation by PDG Jerry Brandt

Presentation; DG Bill presented a Certificate of Appreciation to IPDG John Monahan for Service to his District from Lions International.

Governor's Remarks

Where is our district heading and will we be ready for the future? The answer is probably yes if we engineer the future we want.

We belong to one of the largest rural districts in Lower Michigan. LCI says districts similar to ours will have a hard time growing in the future. They attribute this situation to a variety of reasons. First, the size of cities and density of our populations is much lower than urban areas and give us less to draw from for new members. In addition, our population tends to be older and on fixed incomes making it more difficult to find those able to volunteer in their communities. With this in mind it's very important that we plan our future. I've asked PDG Wayne to work on this topic and talk with us concerning long term planning. Maybe we can put our heads together or form a committee that will work toward some goals that save money and point to the future.

One objective I'd like to suggest is that we eliminate or off set the yearly cost of roster books which typically cost us \$800.00 to \$900.00 per year. Typically each club gets three books and when we multiply by 46 that equals 138 books. That does not include those given to district officers, committee chairs, the state office, state projects and 10 others districts in Michigan. Of the 300 that I ordered there 22 left over. If we only charged each club \$6.00 per book that would equal \$828.00. This figure nearly eliminates the cost without over burdening a small club, and if a club or two doesn't choose to purchase rosters, this information is available without cost on the district web site.

Another large expense is the Governor's pin, where costs continue to rise and with our reduce numbers sales continue to fall.....but I'll leave that discussion for the planning committee if one is formed.

Due to all of your hard work, our district's population loss is slowing, however, drops still outnumber adds. November saw our membership at 1261 and December at 1259 with a total new membership of 35 Lions and 54 people that have left our family group.

More positive news is that only 14% of North American clubs do not have women members compared to 25% worldwide. I think we have finally seen the light!!

I mentioned earlier that we were doing a reasonable job of retaining our numbers even when LCI says it expects little growth from rural area such as ours. These rural areas contain 70% of Lions Clubs and only 41% of the population to draw from.

After DG Bill gave his report a discussion was held about the cost of roster books and whether to charge the clubs back for their cost, approx \$6.00 per book. Lion Kay Brandt made a motion to charge clubs \$6.00 for each roster book that they ordered with the understanding that clubs could print them FREE off our web site. PDG Jerry Brandt seconded the motion and discussion followed. **(NOTE: This was an improper motion as neither Lions Kay nor Jerry are voting members of our cabinet per our Constitution. I did not catch this at the time only when I started to do the Minutes. Secretary Jim)**

IPDG John Monahan made a motion to table the above motion until our next cabinet meeting and have the strategic planning committee review what to do about the roster books and the Governor's Pin and send a written report to all cabinet members prior to our next meeting. This motion was supported by PDG Jim Chipman, secretary, and it passed.

The following Lions were appointed to the strategic planning committee to assist Chair PDG Wayne Kreitner; IPDG John Monahan, PDG Lynn Mast and PDG Harry Johnson.

SECRETARY'S REPORT PDG Jim Chipman made a motion to accept the minutes of October 7, 2012 as published. Motion supported by ZC Pam Schroeder and it passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lion Kerry McGinley presented copies of his financial report and stated that he had filed the 990 report to the IRS on time. The CD at State Farm comes due on the 20th of May and he will turn this over to the new treasurer for 2013-14.

Lion Kerry asked to have something done with the LCIF designated fund as it has been not used for years. Lion Jim Chipman made motion to send it to LCIF and use it for a Melvin Jones Fellow when we get it to \$1000.00. The amount of money in the fund is \$500.00. Lion ZC Pam Schroeder supported and it passed. Report follows;

DISTRICT 11-E1
Financial Statement 2012-13
Administrative Fund

Balance July 1, 2012 **\$16360.62**

Receipts	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Transfer from prior years excess	\$ 4000.00	
Dues 1275 @ \$21.50	27412.50	13383.75
Cabinet Meeting		210.00
CD Interest	70.00	
Checking Interest	20.00	9.79
District Convention 1275 @ \$1.00	1275.00	650.00
District Pins	<u>500.00</u>	<u>368.00</u>
Total Receipts	\$33277.50	14621.54

Expenses		
Dues 1275 @ \$14.50	\$18487.50	8949.50
Roster Book	870.00	870.00
Cabinet Meeting		252.02
Newsletter and Postage	900.00	694.84
Awards	500.00	131.46
Region and Zone Chairs 2012-13	600.00	125.00
District Pins	600.00	
District Convention	625.00	
GMT & GLT	500.00	100.99
USA/Canada Forum-Vice District Governor	1500.00	1500.00
International Convention (2012-2013)	1500.00	
Miscellaneous non-refundable DG Expenses	2750.00	1191.21
Misc. non-refundable 1 st VDG Expenses	1500.00	1500.00
Misc. non-refundable 2 nd VDG Expenses	750.00	
Miscellaneous	750.50	308.00
Leadership Institute	300.00	300.00
Dishonesty Bond	257.00	229.00
Corporation Annual Fee		20.00
IPDG Jacket	100.00	
Peace Poster	50.00	
District Website	<u>250.00</u>	
Total Projected Expenses	\$32789.50	16172.02

Balance Administrative Fund for 2012-13 0.00 (1550.48)
Balance Administrative Fund as of January 7, 2013 **\$14810.14**

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	BALANCE July 1, 2012	CURRENT BALANCE
Sight and Hearing	\$8767.17	
CD State Farm Bank \$	13151.472222222222222222222222	
Receipts	842.00	\$ 9478.85
Expenses	<u>130.32</u>	
Diabetes	2119.67	
Receipts	300.00	
Expenses		2419.67
Youth Exchange	210.00	210.00
LCIF	500.00	500.00
District Convention	4076.72	
Receipts	650.00	
Expenses		4726.72
Miscellaneous	615.12	615.12
Tail Twister	226.38	
Receipts	117.27	
Expenses		
		<u>343.65</u>
Balance as of January 7, 2013		\$18294.01

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Kerry McGinley
District Treasurer

Motion made by Lion Kerry McGinley, treasurer to approve his report as presented. Supported by 1st VDG Tim Anderson and it passed.

PRESENTATION BY DG BILL; On behalf of his wife, Vickie, the DG presented to Lion Kerry a total of \$81.00 that she had won in 50/50's around the District, which she would like to go into the Sight and Hearing Fund. A **BIG THANKS** to First Lady Vickie.

1st VDG's Report; Lion Tim Anderson presented the following.

Rap Reading Video – I have searched but received no response on anyone to help or perform in this Rap Video. The young man Lion Connie thought would be good has moved away – so at this point I would recommend we consider this a no go. No money was spent just effort and time.

Higgins Lake - GREAT JOB!!! Higgins Lake this year was fun and informative we had 13 from our District that graduated Leadership and 2 Lion Mike Howard and myself that graduated from Senior! I wanted to thank everyone that went and you did our district proud!

Membership - Briefly: I wanted to take a moment and Thanks Lion Pete for all his efforts during our fall membership drive I'm sure he plans on filling us in on that when it's his turn to talk so I don't want to steal his thunder.

I did want to say membership is a year round thing and I know how Lions like to look back on the past, we have heard over and over how many members we have lost over that past decade, and we have heard how many members we have lost over the past year. But here's the thing that is in the past and we as lions need to look towards our future because we only have the power to change the future and there's NOTHING that can be done about the past!

Each and every Lion has the ability to make their club stronger, to help it and our district grow to move forward and they can do that not only by bringing in new members but by the support and good work they do through Lions for their communities. Go out and SERVE and while you're out there it would hurt if you Just Ask one or two people if they might want to make a difference as well!

NEWS - The LCI's PR department came on November 6th to the Cadillac Lions club meeting to and taped a story on our Cub Program we inducted 2 new Lion Cubs that night.

Then they came the next day to Franklin Elementary have covered our Lions Stride for Diabetes they also taped our KidSight Screening at the school and club members reading to children. A copy of the DVD will be sent to me after final editing and the school has request we hold a premiere night where the parents students and of course Lions will be invited in to enjoy the stories and clips.

More recently this week in fact LIONS magazine contacted and interviewed me about the Cub Program within our district and an article with pictures will appear in the next LIONS Magazine.

KidSight – All of our cameras have been updated! Many changes are coming but I will let Janalee cover those when it's her turn to report and I will cover anything she doesn't. I had a phone meeting this week with Chad and I have been brought all up to date on how the program stands.

LEOS – I do have some sad news the Mesick Leo Club has turned in their charter and is no more.

2nd VDG's Report; Lion Pete Conarty reported the following:

This has been a very exhilarating six months, learning the concepts of a 2nd VDG, engaged in a District Fall Conference and the October membership Initiative, and engaging in a positive fashion with our leadership and Lions Clubs. VDG training, GLT meetings, seminars, club and Zone visitations have all been a vital part of making my perspective more positive as I work with our District Lions. We are a great organization with dedicated Lions making a positive mark on our communities. Our main problem is how to continue to extend Melvin Jone's legacy of serving our communities for the next 100 years. Our society has changed, our individual wants and needs have changed but the need for Lions to serve their communities is still there and will be. It is a dilemma.

I believe that DG Bill's direction in initiating work on a strategic plan is important and vital to our District. For years each District governor has had his/ her set of goals for the District and I believe that

should continue. However, it is definitely time to have the continuity of a District Strategic Plan that is developed on a continuing basis by each succeeding District Governor. Our governors are in office too short a time to accomplish all that must be done to succeed in our mission. Change is necessary if we are going to continue to grow and dedicated ourselves to our communities.

I am looking forward to the visitations that I will be making to clubs and Zone meetings, attendance at meetings, seminars, and conventions in the next six months and the opportunity that they will give me in growing stronger as a partner in our District. I thank you all for your input and support.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: As PDG Wayne Kreitner is absent DG Bill presented his report.

Lion Wayne has several ideas and was going to put on a power point presentation but Governor Bill high lighted it.

1. Promote Clubs. Global Leader in your community.
2. Use technology to move forward
3. Vision to look forward
4. We are an old District with an average age of 60 plus.
5. Stay true to our values but be ready to change.
6. Use the social medium to communicate.

CONVENTION REPORT; Lion Deb Kreitner. As Deb was absent DG Bill gave a short report.

Registration Forms have been e-mailed out along with a flyer announcing what was going on. Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn in Big Rapids on March 22-24. Flyer and registration are located on the District web site. www.millions1le1.org

IPDG John Monahan made motion to accept registration fees and meal prices as presented. Motion supported by ZC Mike Howard and it passed.

The Cabinet members had some concerns over the convention cost, entertainment and continuing with C-1 partnership beyond 2014. No action was taken on any item discussed.

GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM; IPDG John Monahan report follows;

Made a table for contacting Club Membership Chairpersons.

On Friday, 1/11/13 I sent the ones with email addresses a note asking what they had done to recruit new members and what the district could do to help them. Two addresses were incorrect out of 13 total. I have, unsurprisingly, not yet heard back from them. I plan to call the rest in the next two weeks.

2nd VDG Pete ran a successful membership initiative. He reports that membership chairs are often uninterested in recruiting. Maybe we should consider a different approach beyond membership chairpersons. Although it seems to make no sense, some clubs are not trying to recruit, for reasons specific to the club. If we plan to keep Lionism going, we need additional members to replace those we lose so that we can continue to serve our community.

My impression is that if a club can get publicity coverage on at least a monthly basis, it can recruit. Otherwise, it may be difficult.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP REWARD PROGRAM: 2nd VDG Pete Conarty sent letter to all clubs that will receive a rebate from the District for increasing membership over their June M-Report. Checks will be sent as soon as the secretary can verify per our Oct. 7th 2012 minutes.

Arcadia Lions Club 3 net total new members = \$90.00

Cadillac 1 = \$30.00

Carson City 2 = \$60.00

Cedar Maple City 1 = + \$30.00

Chippewa Lake 1 = \$30.00

Evart 1 = \$30.00

Harrison 5 = \$150.00

Lake Ann 1 = \$30.00 Midland 4 = \$120.00

Northport 1 = \$30.00

Stanton 1 = \$ 30.00

Weidman 1 = \$30.00

We had a net total gain of 22 Lions in the District (\$660.00).

District 11 E1 will continue to reimburse District Lions Clubs for net total new members from January 1 – June 30, 2013. (Transfers are not included).

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM; PCC Richard Perrin reported as follows;

Club Excellence/Success Program

Several clubs are going through the first steps of the CEP/CSP program with the help of facilitators. The next steps will be the review of the results with the clubs and to develop action plans to address the important issues that the club feels need to be addressed.

Several clubs have used the “How Are Your Ratings” survey on their own without having a facilitator. Those clubs are asked to contact me so that the GLT team can have a record of the number of clubs using CEP program.

Michigan Lions Leadership Institute - Basic and Graduate

District 11-E1 was well represented at the institute. Two district Lions attended the graduate institute this year.

Lions Clubs International (LCI) offers many leadership development opportunities and all Lions are encouraged to participate in them.

New Member Orientation Programs

New club members need to be assigned a mentor soon after they are inducted into the club. The mentor can be the new Lion’s sponsor or another Lion who is willing to guide the Lion into Lionism. LCI offers a Mentoring Program which can be used or a club-developed program can also be used. The important thing is to get the new Lion involved in the club.

Club Officer Training Programs

Thanks to all the Zone Chairs who arranged times and places for the training of new club officers during the past year. The GLT team appreciates all of their efforts.

Thanks also to all the Lions who served as trainers during the past year.

The GLT team will be reviewing the content of the sessions to be sure that we are meeting the needs of the Lions who are serving as club officers. Any input from Lions or clubs would be greatly appreciated.

Training sessions will be offered again as new officers are chosen for the 2013-2014 Lions year.

NOMINATIONS: PCC Richard Perrin:

The following Lions have submitted their names and letters of support for election to the following offices at the 2013 District 11 E-1 Convention in Big Rapids:

District Governor – 1st VDG Lion Tm Anderson – Cadillac Lions Club

1st Vice District Governor – 2nd VDG Lion Pete Conarty – Midland Lions Club

2nd Vice District Governor – Lion Mike Howard – Harrison Lions Club

Lions of Michigan Foundation – District Governor Lion Bill Simpson – Big Rapids Lions Club

All nominations will be closed January 21, 2013.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION: Lion Ron Gibson;

The Foundation has agreed to take over the operation of Project Kidsight and to assume all liabilities and assets. Liabilities are problems with the filing of the 990 form and some \$20,000.00 owed to the prior administrator. This money will be paid from Lions Mints sold outside the State of Michigan. No Michigan Lions donations or Mint sale monies will be used to pay off this liability. The benefits of the Foundation running the program could be many, such as taking responsibility for taking care of cameras, insurance and many other items not yet thought of. It may help the Foundation in writing of Grants.

Sight and Hearing tickets have been mailed to all clubs and you are urged to sell these tickets. The goal this year is to sell \$100,000.00 worth of tickets, which could put \$50,000.00 into the Lions Clubs treasury, if each club sold 100 tickets. Last year two clubs from District 11-E1 sold 100 tickets, Big Rapids and White Cloud and received \$500.00. Drawing will be held April 27, 2013 in West Branch.

KIDSIGHT; PCC Janalee McClure;

The Foundation has updated all the forms and procedures, effective January 1, 2013, for Project Kidsight. The new forms have been emailed to all the camera persons in the District for 2012-2013 by First vice Governor Tim and I have made 'hands on' folders for Lions Bill Koch, Bob Thompson and PDG Dan Gibbons. There haven't been any changes on the Kidsight Board as yet and PDG Linda Bosma's contract expired on Dec. 31, 2012. I am still the State Treasurer but for untold reasons the

funds have not been coming in at all in January. Only time will tell if the procedure changes will be successful.

CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS; PCC Janalee McClure:

I made a technical error when I posted the changes in the Constitution on our website. ARTICLE IV, Section 3. DISTRICT PROJECTS. Camp Tuhsmeheeta is under the direction of **Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, Inc.** not *Unlimited Opportunities for the Blind, Inc.* I need a motion to allow me to correct this housekeeping item right away.

Motion by ZC Pam Schroeder to authorize the correction of this typing error. Treasure Lion Kerry McGinley supported this motion and it passed.

POLICY MANUAL: PCC Janalee McClure:

Policy Manual addition according to the October 7, 2012 Cabinet Minutes to include the shirts that the Governor purchased for the Zone Chairs & the GLT & GMT.

If this cabinet would like to have that included in the policy manual I would suggest:

Section C

3. Financial Policies

d) At the Governor's discretion, ***the District will pay for shirts of the Governor's choice for the Region, Zone, GMT and GLT Chairs*** and the District will pay for meals of official guests and speakers invited by the District to a District function.

Note: The new wording in d) is *italic* and **bold**.

Motion by secretary Chipman to authorize the change to the Policy Manual as suggested. Supported by ZC Connie McMorris and it passed.

1st VDG Tim Anderson; The Foundation has asked the Districts to turn over the ownership of Project Kidsight Cameras to the Foundation and in return they will take over the expenses of the camera's. IPDG John Monahan said before any action could be taken he has to check with the grant people to see if that would be a problem and he would do so before our next meeting, so we can take the appropriate action then.

PEACE POSTER; Lion John C. Monahan.

The theme for this year is "Our World Our Future" and the sale of new kits will commence on the 15th of January. The cost per kit is \$10.95 and sales will end on October 15th. Last year 10 clubs participated and Midland Lions Club was the sponsor of the winning poster from our District. They also have an essay contest for the sight impaired. Presently we present a US Savings bond to the District winner for \$100.00 that cost the District \$50.00. To purchase a savings bond now requires a deposit of \$200.00 and you have to have a Social Security number. Lion Treasure Kerry made motion we change our budgeted amount of \$50.00 for the Peace Poster winner and increase it to \$100.00 and present the winner a check for \$100.00. This motion was supported by Secretary Chipman and it passed.

ZONE REPORTS

Region 3 Zone 2 Lion Bill Koch; Clubs are small in numbers but are working hard. Trying to get into the school's with Project Kid Sight and also going to try and partner with the Health Dept. and will be at the Fremont Baby Food Festival. Hesperia is having trouble but will contact them again and will call the Governor when I find out something. PDG Laura said she would also contact their King Lion.

12:05 PM Break for Lunch

12:45 PM Call back to order by DG Bill

Region 2 Zone 2 Lion Bernard Baldwin

Since the last Cabinet Meeting:

I have completed the remainder of my first round of club contacts. My main objective was to introduce myself and get acquainted with the clubs. I stressed membership growth, the measles initiative, the RAP program and asked the clubs to contact me with any problems where I could be of assistance. At this point I know that Big Rapids has initiated two new members and Weidman one new member since July 1, 2012.

I have held my second Zone Meeting on December 6, 2013 in Big Rapids with six of my eight clubs in attendance. The following presentations were made:

Lion Bob Thompson gave a Kidsight update on the screenings completed. He asked that each club contact him regarding getting members trained on the process.

Lion Kurt Sebaly, Executive Director of the Penrickton Center for Blind Children gave a presentation on his operation.

Lion Jim Dague, President of the Barrington Club gave a presentation on the \$25,000 grant they have presented to the local school. He also updated us on their bingo fund raiser activity.

I updated the clubs on the following:

The measles initiative met the objective of \$10 Million.

Camp Tuhsmeheeta donation name change.

The Club Excellence award and The Heart of a Lion Award procedures.

My biggest problems facing my zone is membership and my goals will be to grow in the next six months with special emphasis on Remus.

Region 2 Zone 3 PDG Larry and Lion Gayle Morlock were absent but sent the following report;

- Have contacted all clubs
- Membership loses were due to members moving—no transfer requests have been made
- Not many winter activities as the snow birds have gone south
- Have started scheduling spring visits to clubs

Region 1 Zone 2 Lion Pam Schroeder ;

Our zone had a very successful project. We raised money for the United Way, raising \$800 for the project. All clubs in the zone participated in the project.

We had a Zone Christmas party, hosted by Mesick. Many of the clubs and district people attended. Doing joint things in the zone has brought my clubs closer together, and we all look forward to these events.

I have a couple of clubs to visit to finish off the year.

Region 1 Zone 1 Lion Connie McMorris;

Frankfort still is the problem club with only 11 members but they are trying. The other clubs doing well and are helping their communities. Will hold the next zone meeting on January 24th at the Brookside Inn in Beulah.

Region 2 Zone 1 Lion Michael Howard;

Clubs are doing well and have held our second zone meeting and the next one is scheduled for April 9th. The Harrison Lions Club is taking the District Float to Clare for the Irish Festival.

LIONESSE LIAISON: Lion Kay Brandt; Only one Lioness Club in the District and it is at Harrison. They have 47 members and doing well.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION; PDG Jerry Brandt;

Our goal to raise \$10 million to provide children though out the world with measles shot has been reached. LCIF received the largest donation ever, \$5 million from Bill Gates Foundation.

As Special Olympics - Opening Eyes has been dear to the hearts of Lions of Michigan. LCIF has approved a grant of \$1 Million to said project.

LCIF made a large donation to Lions Clubs in the area of "Storm Sandy".

To help children has always been a goal of District 11 E-1. I don't think we have put much effort into promoting the Quest program in the last number of years. Our District Chairman has presented his program at Cabinet Meetings, but I believe the ball is being dropped by Zone Chairmen and Club leadership. This a great program to help our K through 12th grade children. Funds could be available from LCIF to assist a school or the District promote the Quest program.

It is now the time to plan & make your donation to Lions Clubs International Foundation. Your Club can make a donation of \$1000.00 and receive a Melvin Jones Fellow plaque for one of your hard working Lions, or just make a donation of any amount. It would be nice to have Lions Clubs of District 11 E-1 be a one hundred percent donor District.

Thanks for taking the time to read my report.

LIONS QUEST; PDG Harry Johnson; The Quest program is different than the Dare program; it is better but takes selling to the school boards and teachers that will promote it. Lions International does have money for training. If you invite Lion Harry he will be happy to put on a program.

DISTRICT FLOAT; PDD Laura Johnson; Has a mailing going to all clubs in April. Will have the float at the District Convention. So far 8 clubs have used the Float and there are two reservations so far for this year.

MICHIGAN FORUM; PDG Laura Johnson; It will be held February 15-16 in Lansing at the Best Western on Cedar Street. Cost of the rooms is \$79.00. The mailing has gone out to all clubs.

MD 11 CONVENTION; PDG Laura Johnson; The convention will be held at the Amish Country Inn in Shipshewana, IN. on May 17-18. Room rate is 79.99; their phone number is 260-768-7688. The flea market is only open on Tuesday and Wed. so if you want to attend you have to go a few days early. Information is on the Multiple web site; www.lionsofmi.com There will be a golf outing and the hotel has a water park. Take your swim suit and bring the grandkids.

CREDENTIALS; Lion Gayle Morlock: Lion Gayle sent the following report;

- Delegate forms are on the website and must be returned to Lion Gayle Morlock by February 28, 2013
- All delegates must be registered by noon on Saturday, March 23rd or they will not be allowed to vote at the business meeting

HEARING: Lion Gayle Morlock;

- Have had no requests for assistance in obtaining hearing aids
- Applicant must have local Lions club sponsor before request for application is sent to Lions of Michigan Foundation

WHITE CANE: PDG Larry Morlock; PDG Larry was absent but sent the following report;

- Received White Cane scholarship application after the deadline date for application
- Have had no other communication from committee chair

LEADER DOG: Lion Pam Blizzard sent the following report:

A Leader Dog presentation has been made to 22 Lions Clubs from District 11 E1 by Kim Wattles or Pam Blizzard since 2010. Pam has also represented Leader Dogs at the Edmore Lions tent during their Potato Festival in August and ridden on the Lions Club float in the parade.

Pam is making plans to visit as many of the remaining 23 district clubs as possible. I would also like the opportunity to revisit clubs to present Leader Dogs' plan for a new kennel building.

I would like to thank Wayne and Debbie Kreitner for giving me a ride to the cabinet meetings. I would like to thank Russ and Sally Stanton from Carson City for their help in providing transportation to club meetings.

YOUTH COORDINATOR; Lion Laurene Homsher was absent do to illness in her family but sent the following.

I am willing to come to clubs to address Leo Clubs, Peace Poster, All State Band and all other youth activities. Please encourage Zone Chairs and Club Presidents to contact me and if I am not traveling to care for family, I am more than willing to come share Lions Youth Programs and initiatives.

CAMP TUHSMEHETA (OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED) Lion Larry Alman sent following report;

NAME: Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 46
Greenville, MI 48838
PHONE: 989-855-2430/cell 616-755-2221
CONTACT: Gwen Botting, Director
gwen@campt.org

PROGRAM AREA SERVED:

Primarily West Michigan but also serving children and youth throughout Michigan. Campers and counselors also come from out-of-state or foreign countries.

BRIEF HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION:

In 1970, the Michigan School for the Blind, acquired 297 acres of hilly wooded land with frontage on three lakes and a wide variety of ecosystems near Greenville, MI to be used as an outdoor education and recreation center, named Camp Tuhsmeheeta (Camp T). In 1994, Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind (OUB) was formed as a parent/alumni advisory group with a strong interest in activities at Camp T. As educational support for segregated schools for the blind decreased, the State of Michigan became less interested in supporting activities at the camp. OUB then began organizing camping programs there for children who are blind or visually impaired, including hiring 50% of staff that were also blind or visually impaired. OUB CAMPS now works cooperatively with the Michigan Department of Education Low Incidence Outreach, the National Federation of the Blind of Michigan, Michigan Parents of Children with Visual Impairments, the Michigan Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Bureau of Services to Blind Persons, and other organizations to produce high quality programming, stressing skills of blindness and independence for all attendees at our camps while having a great camp experience. OUB also operates travel camps off-site called "Camp-in-a-Box", which brings "camp" to kids in other areas of Michigan, "Birding-By-Ear" program, learning to identify birds by sound instead of by sight.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind is to enrich the quality of life of people who are blind and visually impaired through lifelong learning and recreation.

TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET: \$171,072

NUMBER SERVED ANNUALLY: Estimated attendance for 2013 is 150 campers who are blind or visually impaired, and 20 sighted campers with interest in camps designed to increase awareness and understanding of persons who have vision or hearing loss or other disabilities.

2013 OUB CAMPS Schedule

Including events at Camp Tuhsmeheeta, Camp-in-a-Box, and Birding-by-Ear

January – May, 2013

- Birding-By-Ear, 1st Saturday of each month, Dearborn**
- Birding-By-Ear, 2nd Saturday of each month, Lansing**
- February 15-17 Snow Much Fun/Backyard Bird Count, Camp T**
- April 26-27 Spring Birding, Camp T**
- May 10-11 5th/3rd Bank River Bank Run Kick Off, Camp T**
- May 17-19 Gardening Weekend, Camp T**
- May 31–June 2 VI Sports Day and OUB Open House, Camp T**
- June 9–June 14 Staff Training, Camp T**
- June 14-16 MPVI Family Camp, Camp T**
- June 17-21 MDE-LIO Camps, Camp T**
- June 23-29 Survival Arts Camp, location TBA**
- June 30-July 5 Master Chef (Culinary Camp), Camp T**
- July 7 – 11 Music Camp, Camp T**
- July 16 – 21 NFB Braille Camp, Camp T**
- July 21 – 26 Making Sense of our Senses, Camp T**
- July 28 - Aug 2 NFB Science Camp, location TBA**
- August 9 – 19 UP Adventure Trip, locations TBA, including Alpena, Cheboygan and other points north!**

Information for 2013 at Camp Tushmeheta is CONFIRMED. Information on Survival Arts Camp, Science Camp and the Adventure Trip will be posted on our website as soon as possible. Please check the Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind website frequently (www.campt.org) for more details. Sign up for our newsletter to get email notifications of the new schedule when it is available. Email Gwen at gwen@campt.org or call 989-855-2430. For more information about Birding-By-Ear, please contact Donna Posont, OUB Naturalist, at donnabutterfly50@gmail.com or 313-220-8140.

BEAR LAKE CAMP: Lion Tony Rutledge sent the following report:

Due to family issues I did not attend the last meeting. Information is available on line and I hope more Lions in our District will get involved with this program. Every community has handicap individual that would benefit from this camp. If you would like more information please contact me at 231-796-0346.

MICHIGAN EYE BANK: PDG Lynn Mast

PDG Lynn presented the new Michigan Eye Bank Pin and reminded everyone that it is tax deductible if you purchase one. If you are planning on putting on a donor drive, contact Lion Lynn for help and remember that this is a great way to meet new perspective members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Promotional Budget for Project Kid Sight; DG Bill brought up the need for monies to promote Project Kid Sight. We need banners, at least 3, and promotional material. Motion by IPDG John Monahan to allow up to \$300.00 to purchase up to 4 banners, 3 for the District and 1 for Hart, as they have their own camera and other material as needed. Motion supported by ZC Connie McMorris and it passed.

1st VDG Tim mentioned that a student from McBain wishes to participate with the All State Band but is having trouble raising the money. Her name is Kaelyn Brintnell, so if you haven't sent in your donation to the band, please save a little for her.

ZC Mike Howard made motion that what ever money collected by the tail twister today be given to her. Supported by IPDG John Monahan and it passed. (The Tail Twister collected \$50.00 and the two Lions that won the 50/50 chipped their winnings to make it a \$100.00.)

Motion to Adjourn at 1:55 PM

Yours in Lionism
Jim Chipman
Cabinet Secretary