



Lions of Allegheny County

CAULDRON

Monthly Newsletter for the Lions of Allegheny County District 14-B, Pittsburgh, PA

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AUGUST 2005



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



Fellow Lions,

It's amazing how much has happened since my last newsletter. Phyllis and I had an exciting trip to Hong Kong for the International Convention plus the training seminars, sightseeing, shopping, etc. Our seminar group included five DGs each from PA, Eastern Europe, and Thailand, four from Nebraska, and two from Moscow. The Thais described their first hand experiences with the Lions Tsunami relief efforts. Our leader, PID Ernst Musal, was a very knowledgeable Lion from Vienna. We also met Lions from Ecuador, Italy, Norway, Nepal, Africa and the USA. The Hong Kong Lions gave us a very warm welcome did an outstanding job of hosting the convention in their beautiful and bustling city. We took a brief side trip to Beijing

and the Great Wall on the way home.

After reading the mail and resetting the blinking appliances we found our car wouldn't start. Car computers drain batteries you know ... I didn't. Fixed that and headed for Beacon Lodge Lions Appreciation Day. Several districts presented special gifts for the new pool. Beacon Lodge Liason Tom Hurrell and Brentwood's IPP, Burt Sawyers, were there figuring how to put new ceilings in the 14-B cabins. The heat, humidity and rain couldn't dampen the spirits of the attendees. Though my duck was slow (again) the beautiful new pool and the genuine thanks and talents of the campers and staff provided yet another reminder of why I'm proud to be a Lion.

The next weekend was our visit to Leader Dogs for the Blind. The Lions who operate this beautiful "new" facility did a great job of showing us around and explaining all that is involved in breeding, raising and training the dogs and achieving a successful bond with their master. All this costs approximately \$35,000 each but is free to the client. Lions provide about two million of their ten million dollar annual budget; the rest comes from their endowment and other contributors. PA Lions are the second largest contributor behind Michigan (they receive more dogs). Because Michigan, Pennsylvania and Texas bought the most "bricks," the shape of these states will be featured in the brick garden that will be completed by this fall.

Our speaker was a man who had lost his sight in 1992. Before receiving his Leader Dog he had suffered from depression, low self-esteem and poor personal relationships. His dog gave him independence and self-confidence. He now enjoys his family and friends and operates two successful businesses. I learned that less than 2% of the blind have dogs; due to age, health, or other circumstances, they aren't suitable for everyone. However, if you know of a blind person who might benefit please tell them of this opportunity for a better life. And remember, Lions are always welcome at Leader Dogs for the Blind; just call and tell them when you'd like to visit.

Last month I discussed International President Meta's theme a "Passion to Excel" ... in service, growth, leadership, promotion and performance; also his Plus One theme for growth. He asks each club to gain one additional member and each district to gain one new club.

In this regard I'm pleased to report that, with the leadership of King Lion Donna Corbin and Membership Chairperson Lion Blair Kucinski, the Tarentum Area Lions Club increased its membership 70% from 13 to 22. Blair got names and addresses of potential members from each of their members and sent them invitations to a meeting. PDG Ken Lloyd spoke about Lionism; Blair and other members discussed what their club does. Nine of eleven joined the club. That sounds like a pretty good plan to me!

Also, through the strong efforts of DG Dennis McCarthy, King Lion Michele Bache Matuch of McKeesport, PDG

LIONS EVENTS & HAPPENINGS. . .

Tarentum Area Lions Club 2005 LOTTERY CALENDARS

Pays \$25 to \$250
for evening 3-digit lottery
Contact Lion Lou Hoetzlein
(412) 224-5999

**Monroeville Lions Club
ANNUAL
FARMER'S MARKET
EVERY SATURDAY MORNING**
Until Thanksgiving
STUDENT'S Parking Lot -
Gateway High School
County-Fresh Produce

**Monroeville Lions Club
7th Annual Golf
Outing Scramble
SATURDAY,
AUGUST 13, 2005**
Shotgun Start at 12:30 PM
Willowbrook Country Club
Entry Fee: \$85 per golfer
More Info contact Lions
Harvey Bain (412)373-2472
Bob Irr (412) 856-4709
John Aiken (412) 856-9111

**Hilltop Lions Club
NIGHT AT THE RACES**
Come Join Us for a Night of Fun as we
help support Local and Regional Lions
Clubs Charities!
**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 15, 2005**
7:30 pm - Midnight
St. Norbert's Hall
2413 St. Norberts St. - Pittsburgh 15234
DONATION \$10.00 per person
Horse Races, 50/50 Raffle, Door Prizes,
Chinese Auction, Buffet, Refreshments,
Beer & Set-Up, B.Y.O.B.
Music by Top DJ
For Ticket Information contact:
412-881-3090 412-922-2606
412-882-3510

The USA-Canada Lions Leadership Forum will be held on September 22-23, 2005 in Peoria, IL. "Passion to Excel" is this year's theme.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Now and then an innocent man is sent to the legislature."

Kin Hubbard (1868-1930)

The Oakland Lions have two Lions costumes for sale. One is in very good condition, the second in need of some TLC (mostly a hair transplant, it resembles many of us at the moment!). Both need a good cleaning. Price is negotiable, but do make an offer. Call Lion Bob Gundersen (412-799-0440) to get a look at them.

PEACE POSTER 2005-2006

The District is looking for peace poster contenders for the next school year. This year's theme will be "Peace Without Borders" for the 2005-06 Peace Poster Contest. Lion's clubs can sponsor the program in their community for children in local schools or organized sponsored youth groups. Students, ages 11, 12 or 13 on November 15, 2005, are eligible to participate. Through the contest, students are encouraged to get involved in this worthwhile event. Although the program does not start until next school lets try to get more schools actively involved in this district program.

STATE COUNCIL MEETING 2006

Just a reminder of the letter sent to each of the clubs regarding a donation to help defray the cost of the upcoming February 2006 State Council Meeting which is being hosted by District 14 B. The request is \$50 for the Lions year 2004-05 and \$50 for Lions year 2005-06 for a total of \$100 per club with the final amount to be made by December 2005.

The following clubs have donated to date: Bethel Park \$100; Bloom/Lawrenceville \$100; Boston/Greenock/Mt.Vernon\$100; Brentwood \$100; Cheswick/Springdale \$50; Clairton \$50; Gibsonia/Hampton/Richland \$50; Glassport \$100; Homestead \$50; Pittsburgh \$50; McKeesport \$50; Monroeville \$50; Moon Twps \$50; North Boroughs \$100; Northern Allegheny \$100; Oakland \$50; Beechview \$50; DeafBlind \$100; Hilltop \$50; Pleasant Hill \$50; South Park \$50; Tarentum \$50; West Mifflin \$50; White Oak \$100; Wilmerding \$100. If you sent your check directly to the Treasurer, Mic Wrbas, please let Barb Schimmel know so that it may be properly recorded. Thank you for your continued support.

Barb Schimmel, Chairperson State Council Meeting, February, 2006.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Items for submission must reach Lion Jim Hartman by the 25th of each month to have them in the CAULDRON. Send them via Email JWHART@ADELPHIA.NER or via mail to 3520 Brinway Drive, West Mifflin, PA 15122

District Governor's Message

Joe Donkin of Central Elizabeth and others, we welcome the new Duquesne Community Club and the Duquesne Leo Club to our district. Congratulations to all involved! Now we have to go to work for this year.

Instilling a passion to serve and a passion to grow require strong leadership at all levels of our organization. I hope every member has the passion to lead his club forward. Passion to promote simply means using every opportunity to let people know the great things that Lions are doing in your community and around the world. Start with your members. Do they read "The Lion" to get the big picture? Do you put pictures and articles in the papers when you complete a project or grant a scholarship? Do you wear your pin proudly and tell people what your club is doing? Are your signs clean and in good condition? On community projects do you wear your vests so the public knows the Lions are on the job?

Last but not least is the passion to perform. Performance is the heart of the matter. Does your club strive to do better each year? Has fundraising and giving matched inflation and membership growth? Are your reports to LCI filed properly and your bills paid on time? Do your officers attend our seminars to improve their leadership and job skills? Are your members active in district projects or on the cabinet to provide leadership and make our district stronger? All of these are good measures of our performance as Lions.

In closing I'd like to paraphrase an old joke ... "Did you hear the one about the District Governor who backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work?" I'm afraid that's me! State Council is August 4, 5 and 6 and our first Cabinet meeting is scheduled for August 13. I need a Vice District Governor to do the work! And if we had our VDG and his message I couldn't have rambled on so long ... one more incentive for one of you to step up. Please contact me or one of the PDGs if you are interested or have any questions about the job.

Your friend in Lionism, *Lion Jim Brubaker, District Governor 14-B*

FIRST CABINET MEETING 2005-2006

Cabinet Members and ALL Lions of District 14-B are invited to attend the first cabinet meeting to be held on Saturday, August 13, 2005 at 9 AM. The meeting will be held at the Center for Hearing and Deaf, 1945 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Let's all be on hand to welcome our new DG and give our ideas to him for a successful 2005-2006 year. Lions are asked to contact Secretary Greg Borichevsky by August 10th if they are attending the meeting.

Lions International and LensCrafters "Working Together" IPDG Dennis McCarthy

Lions International has a great program that we use in our District. It is called the Gift of Sight.(GOS) This program started in 1988 in the United States and Canada with LensCrafters to ensure that people who were in the need of eye glasses would have the opportunity to acquire them at no cost. The goal was "to help the world see clearly". The Gift of Sight Program, (GOS) is in every LensCrafter store. A coordinator has been selected that knows the program very well and he/she can answer any questions you may have. The program supports our International mission "to serve" If you want more information about this program please call 1-800-522-5367 for a store close to your club.

LIONS HELP GOLDEN TRIANGLE COUNCIL OF THE BLIND

On Saturday and Sunday, July 23rd and 24th, the Golden Triangle Council of the Blind sponsored a fundraiser at Sam's Club in West Mifflin. The affair was a resounding success for their first attempt. Members of the Guild and participating area Lions Clubs served hot dogs and ice cold drinks to the public for a donation to the Guild. PA Guild president Eugene Barton and board member Michael Zaken commented that this would not have been 100% successful without the help of the Lions of Jefferson Hills, Squirrel Hill, Pleasant Hills and West Mifflin clubs. A "tip of the hat" to those clubs that participated!