

Peter VanErp
SM9 District Governor

Volume 12, No. 6 • December 2008

Check out www.lionsof5m9.org and www.lionsmd5m.org

Project New Hope receives recognition



Project New Hope Co-chairman Dale Johansen, Bruce Billington and friends accepted the \$10,000 check from the FastBreak Foundation during a break in the action at a Minnesota Timberwolves game.

The first weekend in November was a busy for the Project New Hope crew. They were working at the camp Friday and had to leave to receive a check and work a booth at the Minnesota Timberwolves game.

Project New Hope was selected by the Minnesota Timberwolves as recipient of a FastBreak Foundation's \$10,000 grant. In November, the Minnesota Timberwolves honored all Minnesota military families and Project New Hope was selected as the best Minnesota project for Minnesota military families.

Governor Peter and Pequot Lakes-Breezy Point Lions Club President Laurie Dally were notified that Project New Hope was selected for filming by Lions Clubs International. LCI was up to film the Halloween retreat at the camp in McGregor. They interviewed many different Lions, participants and family members.

Project New Hope also received news from LCI, that their application for the \$20,000 public relations grant was accepted at the last International Board of Directors meeting.

Lions Bruce Billington and Dale Johansen have been working hard

this past year. Their efforts are being rewarded with much success.

The mission of Project New Hope is to help ease the transition of combat veterans back into family life, especially those who have been affected by disabilities or stress-related disorders.

Programs have been offered at each of Friendship Ventures' three program centers: Camp Friendship on Clearwater Lake near Annandale, Eden Wood Center in Eden Prairie and Camp New Hope. Each site has its own strengths and special features that will dictate available activities. Every site is handicapped accessible and has residence options for housing families. Most importantly, sites offer a variety of outdoor activities on or in the water and woods, enabling families to enjoy physical activities while they mentally process information or initiate conversations.



5M9 District Governor Peter VanErp

keep the wheels, soil and minds turning



Cultivating our Minds... Let our Service Grow

A few snowflakes are falling today and the air has a little bite in it. Deer hunting season is over and I am happy to say everyone is safe and healthy. We also have some venison to put into the freezers. We got 11 deer for 13 hunters. I think the word is out about me being a good shot so all the deer stayed away from me (ha ha). But it was nice to see the boys and the grandkids get the deer.

The 2nd round of zone meetings are almost complete. We have been busy making club visits. Lion Margaret has made many pans of Carmel rolls (two pans for each visit) and she has many more to make. The Lions have been very generous in their bidding on the rolls. The money received goes to one of the Lions projects each time. I haven't been giving the money to only one project. I've been spreading it around to all of the different projects. We have visited 24 of the 69 clubs so far. We're still waiting to hear from nine clubs who have NOT scheduled their Governor's visit as of yet. Please try to do so very soon.

I am so impressed with all the different projects the Lions clubs of 5M9 do to serve their communities and the world. Keep up the wonderful work you are doing. You are all everyday heroes' quietly working on your projects making miracles happen through Service.

There is still time to make your reservations for the Mid-Winter Convention which will be held January 9-11, 2009 at Mahnomen. If you have not registered yet—PLEASE hurry. The Frazee Lions and Wolf Lake Lions have been working hard putting together a GREAT convention for all of us. We look forward to seeing you in Mahnomen as 5M9 Shines in "09". Our speaker on Saturday at the noon luncheon will be Shelly Heimer from Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota. She has a great story to tell us. Then for our Governor banquet on Sat. evening International Director Larry Johnson will be our speaker. I had

the opportunity to meet ID Larry while we were in Bangkok. He is from Vienna, West Virginia. Let's make him and his wife Lion Rachel feel welcome here in Minnesota. There will be some great entertainment for all of you both Friday evening and again Saturday evening. Treat yourselves to a wonderful weekend of Lionism. A time to meet new friends, reacquaint with your old friends and have a fun filled time. A mini vacation as we, my partner in service Lion Margaret and I call it. Bring along all of your club members and friends and let's have a BIG party. Don't forget to bring along all of those used eye glasses your club has been collecting. PDG Lion Ray Woods said that they no longer want any broken glasses or any glass cases. Pack along your club banner, poster for the poster contest, scrapbook, newsletter, hearing aids and a suitcase filled with fun.

Margaret and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a wonderful and blessed Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May God bless you and your families.

Until next month keep that cultivator in the ground tilling up the soil and minds, bringing in new members and retaining the members you have in your clubs. Thanks for letting us serve as your DG and First Lady.

Happy Holidays fellow Lions,

DG Peter and First Lady Lion Margaret

The 5M9 Cultivating the News from 9



This is a publication of, by and for the Lions, Lioness, & Leos of District 5M-9.

District Governor

Peter VanErp (Margaret)
38214 610th Ave.
Bluffton, MN 56518
H (218) 385-3446
petemarg@arvig.net

Vice District Governor

Jim Arvidson (Linda)
10858 625th Ave.
Parkers Prairie, MN 56361-9611
H (218) 338-5051
Fax: (218) 639-5323
momdad@midwestinfo.com

Cabinet Secretary

Carol Thaumert
P.O. Box 223
Aitkin, MN 56431
W (218) 768-4653
C: (952) 393-4045
cethaumert@charter.net

District Treasurer

Dale Johansen (Betty)
21008 Cty Hwy 35
Underwood, MN 56586
H (218) 826-6834
dalebet@prtcl.com

Editor

Bert Nelson (Pamela)
40606 Co. Hwy. 67
New York Mills, MN 56567
H (218) 385-3956
W (218) 346-5900
C 218-298-0599
Fax (218) 346-5901
bertnelson@lakesplus.com
Please submit stories, photos with Captions), ads and other material to the editor before the 15th of the month.
Subscriptions are \$8 for one year.

Pete's Places to be

December

- 1 Zone 8 mtg Dalton
- 2 FF Daybreakers & Elizabeth Lions visit
- 3 Frazee & Wolf Lake Lions Visit
- 4 Urbank Lions visit
- 5 Cormorant Lions visit
- 7 Hewitt, Bertha Lions and Hewitt Lioness
- 8 Osage Lions visit
- 11 Pillager Lions visit
- 12 Walker Lions visit
- 15 Christmas Party, Bluffton
- 18 Callaway Lions visit
- 23 Laporte/Benedict Lions visit
- 25 Christmas Day

January

- 1 The New Year 2009
- 9-11 5M9 Mid-Winter Conv, Mahnomen
- 12 Breckenridge and Campbell Lions visit
- 14 New York Mills Lions visit
- 21 Deer Creek Lions visit
- 22 Parkers Prairie Lions visit
- 26 McGregor Lions visit

February

- 5 Perham Lions visit
- 6 Mardi Gra at Perham
- 9 Nisswa Lions visit
- 11 Pine River visit
- 12 Dent Lions visit
- 14 Battle Lake Lions visit
- 16 Aldrich, Verndale Lions and Lioness
- 21 Underwood Lions & Lioness visit

March

- 9 Pequot Lakes Breezy Point Lions visit
- 21 Council of Governors mtg
- 29 5M9 Cabinet mtg Pine River

April

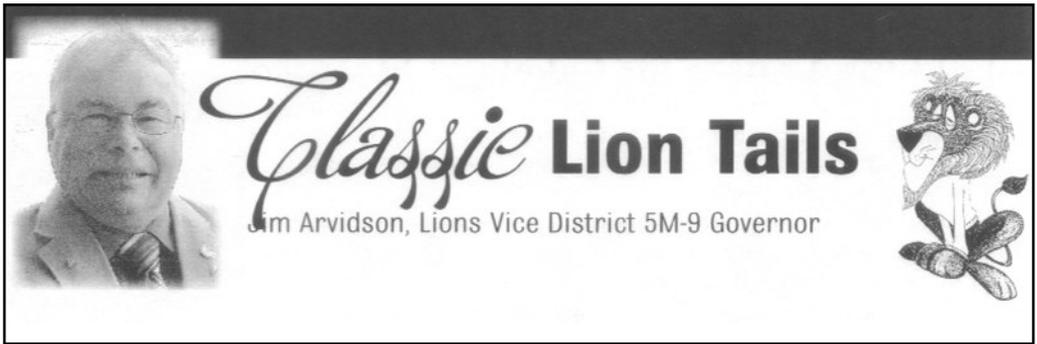
- 7 Menahga Lions visit
- 8 Hill City Lions visit
- 13 Guthrie-Nary Lions visit
- 14 Palisade Area Lions visit
- 23 Zone 4 mtg Park Rapids
- 27 Baxter Lions visit

May

- 11 Parkers Prairie Pride Lions visit
- 14 Hackensack Lions visit
- 18 Emily Outing 50 Lakes Lions visit

June

- 12-14 Nana and Papa Camp at the farm
- 22 Bluffton Lions Family picnic



SNOW ? Yes, Snow flakes are falling and it's 14 degrees. But, it's also a "Classic" time of year. Thanksgiving gave us time to reflect and be thankful for so many gifts that 'Life' has given us this past year. We look ahead to Christmas with Joy, Hope and Peace. As Lions we are Joyful for what we have done, Hopeful for the challenges that lie ahead, and we dream for Peace the World over.

Linda and I plan to spend the Holidays this year with the kids and grandkids "Down on the Farm." Maybe we can get the "Classic" snowmobile started.

We will also be attending more Zone meetings, Clubs and other Events where we get to hear about all the great accomplishments done by District 5M9 Lions. Toys for Kids, support the troops, fishing tournaments, blankets and bears in squad cars, xmas dinner and music for seniors, dictionaries for 7th graders, wreath sales, cameras in schools, bell ringing for the salvation army, and appearances by Santa Claus – just to name a few. Of course, there is also fun things like Xmas Parties, Fish House Parades, Hunting Cabin tours, Snowmobile runs and many others.



Talk about Fun, It will soon be time for "5M9 to Shine in '09" This Gala Event is Jan. 9,10,11 in Mahnomen. You will be educated, motivated and entertained as never before. District Governor Peter and the Host clubs of Frazee and Wolf Lake have been working hard on this for over a year. There will be programs and things to do for everyone. My friend 'Ole' can't wait to hear the "Memories" on Sat. night. And Friday night Lion Dr. Radke will be there with a 'bunch' of guitars.

And Yes..... I will be seeking the office of District Governor. I look forward to your continued support and ask for your vote. Please stop by our Hospitality Area where the Lions of Parkers Prairie will have some Hors'dourves for you and 'special' Root Beer Floats. Maybe 'Ole' will be there, too.

When Len Quinn from Leader Dog was here, He had a great quote: "Lionism is an International Disease: Once you have it, You'll never be the Same!"

Keep up the good work !

VDG Jim

Ole finally got the Hint Don't eat yellow snow!

A working vacation

Do you want to do something to help your fellow man?

Lions Eye Care Mission

I am already knee deep in Mexico plans for 2009. The mission will be from March 14th to the 21st in Mazatlan. The cost is \$890 for airfare and hotel, with the Lions paying for the transfers. Help your other 5M9 Lions examine and deliver eye glasses to over 1500 needy Mexicans. Checks can be made to Lions Eyes For Mexico and sent to me at 1044 Summit Ave. Detroit Lakes, MN 56501. Also any questions contact me at armand.radke@meritcare.com or 218-846-1949.

Thanks,
Dr. Armand Radke

Hospice House construction begins

By Trisha Marczak, Fergus Falls Daily Journal

It would be unfair to say that Monday's groundbreaking for the future Lakeland Hospice House site was the beginning of the organization's journey in making the home a reality -- but it certainly was a milestone.

"Official plans have been in the works for year and a half," said Lakeland Hospice House public relations coordinator Mary Widiger, "but the dream of the hospice house has been around for about five years."



Foundation board president Diane Thorson

Dozens braved the weather Monday to show support for the project, and listen to those who have been instrumental in the efforts to make the dream a reality.

"This is a time to celebrate, commit and continue," said chaplain Jim Knoll to the faithful crowd.

Knoll reminded the crowd of Lakeland Hospice's beginning 25 years ago when it was made up of a small group of volunteers, putting perspective the progress the organization has made over the years.

Set for completion by November 2009, the Lakeland Hospice House will have eight patient bedrooms, specifically modeled to incorporate a comfortable atmosphere for patients as well as their families.

"We want to reach out and meet the needs of patients who are most vulnerable," Knoll said. "We want to meet spiritual, emotional and social needs."

All those who spoke at the groundbreaking ceremony echoed the same statement: The home will provide care beyond the person, to the families, and make the end-of-life experience as comfortable as possible.

Those who play key roles in the development and design of the center say the facility will be more than that -- it will be a home.



Lakeland Hospice officials gathered to break ground on the center's hospice home site on Highway 27 north of Fergus Falls. The house will have eight patient rooms, and space for families and children. Governor Peter VanErp is second from the left.

As Foundation board president Diane Thorson said, the goal of the home is to eliminate the "fear factor" often associated with end-of-life experiences and extend services to

"We have a little over half a million to raise," she said.

And they're hoping to do that in time for the building's opening for a debt-free beginning next fall.

The future site for the hospice house is located off Hwy. 27 in Fergus Falls, with a view overlooking Opperman Lake.



Fergus Falls Daybreaker Lion Ginny Paulson has been working on this project

the patient, family and friends in whatever form preferred.

While Lakeland Hospice has tentatively raised a good portion of the funds through pledges for \$1.8 million project. Widiger says they're still in the market for funding.

5M9 goal is to raise \$75,000

Fergus Falls Daybreaker Lion Ginny Paulson has been working on this project and District 5M9 Lions have set a goal to raise \$75,000 for this 2.2 million dollar project with the help of clubs in District 5M9 as well as surrounding districts. Once raised, the Lion's Club International Foundation (LCIF) will provide a matching grant of \$75,000 that will also go to the Hospice House. The LCIF has provided grants for local projects in our district including the rebuilding of the Parkers Prairie City Hall.

Send your club's contribution to the District Treasurer, PDG Dale Johansen.



Left: A drawing of the future Lakeland Hospice House



DG Peter inducting two new members into the Nimrod Lions Club. Both Dakota Kuhn and Nicole Brekkestram have been very active with the club even before coming members. Lion Don Fredericksen's (left) sponsored both of these new members

Gustafson named Melvin Jones Fellow



Lion Herb Gustafson (right) epitomizes out Lions motto, "We Serve".

Three years ago, Herb realized that his church was in need of more space. He put his vision into a blueprint, a working model and ultimately the finished space which provided a gathering area and made the entire church handicapped accessible.

Herb and Gerri are neighbors of Rob, one of our Lions members who is blind, and with Eddy, his guide dog lives 10 miles from Remer. For several years, Herb has taken Rob grocery shopping, to medical appointments and has also helped Rob with things that require an extra pair of eyes. When Rob began to have trouble speaking and breathing, it was Herb who took him to his doctor, who diagnosed inoperable throat cancer. There followed many medical and dental appointments, ending with 6 weeks of radiation and chemo for Rob.

Herb Gustafson well deserves being named a Melvin Jones Fellow.

Baxter Awards



Past Presidents Roy Rauhen and Paul Roth of the Baxter Lions recently received President Award plaques. 2008 President Renee Rolfes is in the background. Congratulations!

Service of Remembrance

x Andrew "Andy" M. Skaj	Aitkin Lions
Carol Carlson	Akeley Lions
x Armella Lynch	Aldrich Lions
x Arlie Matthys	Baxter Lions
x William "Joe" Doyle	Campbell Lions
x Jack Fickler	Cass Lake Lions
x Dene A. Carney	Crosslake Ideal Lions
x Peter Snyder	Deer Creek Lions
x Donnie Wendlandt	Deerwood Lions
x Roger Fancher	Emily-Outing-50 Lakes
x Howard "Hap" Knobloch	Hackensack Lions
x Orville Rach	Hewitt Lions
x Martha Shequen	Leader Lions
Elizabeth Ozark	Longville Lions
x Verdie Johnson	Menahga Gateway Lions
Ken White	McGregor Lions
Rosemary Littman	McGregor Lions
Robert Roth	McGregor Lions
x Kenneth Maki	New York Mills Lions
x Keith Anderson	Nisswa Lions
x Don Hinnenkamp	Ottertail Lions
x Ted Carr	Ottertail Lions
x James Andrews	Park Rapids Lions
x A W Francis	Park Rapids Lions
x Harris Walsh	Park Rapids Lions
Ralph Collins	Perham Lions
x Bill Parks PDG	Perham Lakes Lions
Merril Nelson	Pine River Lions
Berniece Henderson	Whitefish Lions
x Leonard Hendrickson	Vergas Lions
x Gary Bramer	Verndale Lions

x indicates Jim Johansen has a picture.

Secretaries

Please check over this information to see if there are any errors, omissions or additions from the list of deceased members from your club starting January 1, 2004 to now.

Any addition and or corrections can be directed towards Jim Johansen jkjohansen@juno.com or 218-483-1121.

Also please be sure to email or send a photo to Jim Johansen, 8103 210th St N, Hawley, MN 56549

New York Mills Lions celebrate 40 years serving the community

Kevin Cederstrom, New York Mills Herald

Three charter members of the New York Mills Lions received a standing ovation at the club's 40th anniversary dinner and program last Wednesday in the City Hall Ballroom.

Lions active members Ed Buerkle, Russ

the group of the Lions motto: We Serve.

"We should be grateful that's what we've been able to do for our little community," he said.

Duane "Buzzer" Koehler was next in the generational presentation to provide his thoughts. He started by asking for a moment of

silence for the charter members who have passed away.

Buzzer, known for his dry sense of humor and smooth comedic delivery, then did what we see many professional athletes and celebrities do when they have a microphone in front of them.

"I'd like to thank my mom and dad, without them I wouldn't be here."

Buzzer has been an active member in the Mills Lions of 38 years and has only missed one meeting in that time.

"I actually forgot

the darn thing," he said, drawing a laugh from the crowd.

Buzzer recounted a particular fundraiser where the Lions sold light bulbs door-to-door in the community. Many in attendance remembered this tactic to drum up funds for the club.

"We asked twice what they were in the stores, but people felt sorry for us and bought the bulbs."

Through the years the Lions fundraisers evolved from selling light bulbs door-to-door to the now very successful annual Lions Auction. The first couple auctions were held at Legried's farm.

Buzzer recalled one of those years at Legried's where they got such a kick out of watching a married couple bid against each other on the same item. Everybody was aware of the situation except for the couple, who ended up paying more than they should have for the auction item.

Ken Becker took the microphone from Buzzer and provided his thoughts.

"I'm proud to be a member of the world's largest service organization."

Becker talked about one of the first projects

he was involved in before officially joining—building the community swimming pool in the 1980's. Someone found out he had a little concrete experience so, as is with many of the Lions projects, that's all it took to be put on the job. Becker joined the Lions shortly after the swimming pool project.

Becker said he is proud of all the community projects the Lions have completed in NY Mills. From the pool to the shelter in Lund Park to the Smith Park playground to most recently, the elementary school playground.

The Lions have backed all of these projects both with manpower and financially.

"I think we really treat our community good," he said. "We do a heckuva job right here in our community. That's what I'm most proud of."

Becker called his experience with the Lions and community projects very rewarding.

"We make a difference in this community. Every one of those parks is used all the time."

Becker also referenced the old wild game feed, which featured food and gambling in the City Hall basement. Legend has it, the Lions used to raise around \$3,000 at the event, which was discontinued as rules and regulations on such gatherings tightened.

Becker drew a laugh when he recalled there would be 200 people in the basement, which was blue with smoke because at least 150 people were smoking.

Ahhh... the good old days. Wild game and unregulated gambling in a smoke-filled basement with no ventilation.

He also touched on how so many different Lions get involved and the club isn't run by a select few.

"The thing that impresses me most about this club is the leadership and cooperation," Becker said. "Everybody gets along and I'm really proud of that."

Eric Weber was last to speak, representing the younger generation of Lions. By the time the microphone got to him he didn't have much more to add, other than to joke the year Buzzer was inducted was the year Eric was born.

Weber has been a member for 10 years and got involved in the club through his father-in-law, Ron Windels.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed it," he said.

In listening to the four speakers who represent the generations of Lions, it became apparent of the NYM Lions personal club motto: Fun in Fundraising.



Representing four generations of Lions, Russ Jacobson stands to speak as Eric Weber, Ken Becker, and Duane Koehler talk about serving the community and being a part of the New York Mills Lions, which celebrated its 40th anniversary Nov. 12.

Jacobson, and Howard Legried are among the 23 founding fathers of the club that have served New York Mills for four decades.

Dennis Anderson served as Master of Ceremonies for the 40th anniversary dinner celebration. As part of the program, Legried lined up four active members to give a generational overview of what the Lions do and what the club means to the community.

Russ Jacobson was the first to speak and said he was honored at being the oldest senior member of the Mills Lions. Jacobson commented that he isn't as active in the club as he once was but joked, "after 40-some years I'm entitled to sit on the sidelines and watch these young guys do all the work."

Jacobson talked about some of the many activities and fundraisers the Lions have held in the community. He noted the wild game feed the club used to host in the basement of City Hall. The reference brought a smile to many of the senior members of the club, and sparked the interest of the younger contingency who didn't have the privilege of taking part in the event, which hasn't been held in years.

Jacobson closed his remarks by reminding

'Leader Dogs for the Blind' gives hope to the visually impaired

Talia Haibara, Perham Enterprise Bulletin

Excitement swept over the crowd of children as "Miss Ginger" entered the room.

It is no wonder considering that Miss Ginger is a dog. This sweet golden retriever and her handler, Len Quinn, were at Heart of the Lakes Elementary School informing students of how dogs, like Miss Ginger, are trained to guide visually impaired people.

Leader Dogs for the Blind is an organization that has been providing guide dogs since 1939. With funds provided by organizations such as Lion Clubs, Leader Dogs give fully trained guide dogs free of charge to the visually impaired. Even the elementary school children exclaimed "whoa" when they were informed that each trained dog costs \$38,000. About 14,000 dogs have been donated to those in need. That is equivalent to \$532 million dollars.

Leader Dogs has a large training facility in Rochester, Michigan. According to Quinn, the dogs "go into training at 8 weeks," when they are very young, and it takes them 20-24 months to train. Part of the training process is to take the dogs wherever there is a crowd: the mall, airport, and restaurants. This tests the dog's ability to behave in a stimulating environment, such as a crowd.

Visually impaired people all the way from Taiwan, Korea, Argentina, Mexico, and Spain go to Leader Dogs for the Blind. The organization teaches how to rely on the dogs. The people take 26 days to acquire blind trust. "It's hard when you've made decisions all your life.

You have to learn how to trust," says Quinn.

A harness, which is attached to the dog, allows a person to feel the dog's movements.

"Ginger talks to me by the way she moves her legs, neck, chest, and head...I listen with my fingers. She can tell me hundreds of different things when we're walking down the street... If there is a car or pole... If there is danger," he said.

Quinn described to the children how there are different signals that the dogs make. For example, big steps means a curb is ahead. When the dog steps down on the curb, a person can feel how high the curb is.

The Perham school presentation was one of several in the area during Quinn and Ginger's visit.

They were also guests at the Perham Area Rotary Club meeting last week, and at the New York Mills Lions meeting. There was also a presentation at the New York Mills school.

Guide dogs have changed the lives of the visually impaired. The dogs have provided independence and mobility. Quinn described how Miss Ginger would go to K-Mart with



NYM Lions Club president Paul Schik and Howard Legried laugh at a comment made by Len Quinn, field representative of Leader Dogs for the Blind.

him. After the fourth time going to the same location, Miss Ginger was able to lead Quinn to K-mart by memory. Thanks to Leader Dogs for the Blind, so many opportunities are open to the visually impaired. They have the freedom to buy their own groceries, get jobs, and go to school.

Editor's notes; Leader Dog Representative Len Quinn is also Governor Elect in his District in Wisconsin. Len also spoke at schools and communities in Lake Park, Park Rapids, Wadena and Parkers Prairie.

Work of Mills Lions all around the community

Kevin Cederstrom, New York Mills Herald

The New York Mills Lions have a lot of fun doing what they do, and the unofficial chapter motto is they put the FUN in fundraising.

Whatever the motivation, the Lions are doing something right. The club celebrates its 40th anniversary this year and has done a lot for the community.

Take a look around at the parks in New York Mills. The Lions have had a hand - many hands - in building a parks system unmatched by a community this size.

For 40 years the Lions have served New York Mills.

The Legried Community Swimming Pool. Built by Lions in the 1980's and named for charter member Howard Legried.

The club built the Smith Park shelter and about five years ago installed the playground. The same goes for Lund Park. The Lions built the shelter and installed the playground equipment, which sit next to the swimming pool.

The Lions provided a good portion of the labor to install the elementary school playground. They weren't the only ones. School

staff and many others from the community made that project happen.

Lions members built the NY Mills Area Food Shelf and just this fall re-roofed the building.

All these things get done with volunteer labor, and volunteer labor remains a big part of the Lions commitment to the community. They also provide a financial boost through fundraisers and charitable gambling. Money generated from things like the annual Lions Auction is put right back into the community.

The Lions isn't the only club or group to promote and practice volunteerism. Many deserve credit for getting things done in this community.

We also see this spirited commitment to make New York Mills a nice place to live through other organizations like the New Horizons women's group, which also contributes to the community in many ways.

It's great to see these service groups going strong.

The Lions motto is: "We Serve". And they've been doing that for over four decades now.

During the anniversary dinner, Bert Nelson

used the acronym HEROES in his speech to describe what the Lions do.

Heart - We help those in need.

Experience - We have a lot of leaders and we share that leadership with everybody. We don't have one person running this club.

Role Models - I can't say enough about Russ Jacobson, Howard Legried and Ed Buerkle (charter members).

Opportunity - A chance to serve the community

Excitement - We honor ourselves by having fun and always come up with new ideas.

Service - This is the most important. We do a lot of service for this community.

The Lions lead by example when it comes to community service. They don't often seek personal recognition, but you don't have to look far to see the club's influence in New York Mills.

District Gov. Peter Van Erp last week complimented the club for 40 years of service, saying a lot of clubs around the country charter but later fold.

Congratulations Lions and thank you for 40 years. Keep doing what you do, and have fun doing it.

Vergas Lions providing fun and service

Vergas Lions served treats and entertained more than 100 children at their annual Halloween Party for area children. The children come to play games and get treats. Lions and committee volunteers dress for the event and entertain the kids.

On Sunday, Nov 16, the Vergas Lions Club provided Diabetes and Vision Screening for community members. 24 people received the screening. Friday and Saturday, prior to the screening date, Lions Members distributed more than 300 information packets covering Diabetes, Macular Degeneration, Glaucoma, and Organ Donor information.

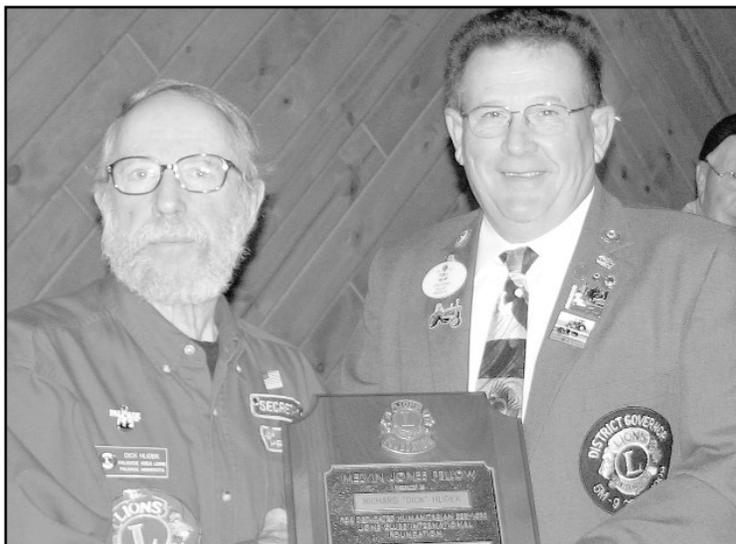


Left: A Vergas family having some Halloween fun.

Right: Lion Mary Helm doing macular degeneration screening. Lower left: Lion April Anderson (left) preparing to have Lion Linda Norby perform blood sugar screening.



Hlidek named a MJ Fellow



Dick Hlidek of the Palisade Lions Club was presented a Melvin Jone Fellowship. This award was from the District. DG Peter awarded this at the Zone 2 meeting in Ironton

WELCOME NEW LIONS MEMBERS TO 5M9!

New Member	Club	Sponsor
John Karl	Akeley	John Grant
Bob McDuffee	Aldrich	Thomas Bilek
Cory Johnson	Battle Lake	Dale Werner
Michael Scanlon	Battle Lake	Douglas Ortloff
Diane Iliff	Bertha	
Robert Larson	Bertha	Janet Umland
Betty Shamp	Bertha	
Sandy Snook	Bertha	
Gary Kaiser	Cormorant	Dennis Gilbertson
Jerry Hagse	Hewitt	Wallace Wiese
Bruce Juntunen	Menahga	Betty Hotakainen
Lyn Juntunen	Menahga	Betty Hotakainen
Gerald Feucht	McGregor	
David SchAAF	McGregor	
Nicole Brekkestra	Nimrod	Donald Fredricksen
Dakota Kuhn	Nimrod	Donald Fredricksen
Thomas Caracio	Osage	Jerry Gorden
Paul Gropper	Pillager	Larry Bybee
Andrew Green	Verndale	Armond Swanson
Julie Green	Verndale	Armond Swanson
Dan Johnson	Verndale	Dennis Johnson
Gregory Johnson	Verndale	Dennis Johnson

WELCOME NEW LIONESS MEMBERS TO 5M9!

New Member	Club	Sponsor
Lisa Anderson	Underwood	Debbie Rose

Making life a little better pledge

Park Rapids Lion Mondry helps critically ill children

In July 2007, Park Rapids Lion Jay Mondry showed the true spirit of the Lions "WE SERVE" motto by volunteering through the United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization [UNESCO] to share his talents with 16 and 17 year old Polish students in Torun, Poland. Lion Jay became a member of the teaching staff at the UNESCO English Language Camp and there, as they say, begins "the rest of the story."



The kids are ready for a ride in the new van.

[Hospice "Hope" for Children] and experienced what they termed an example of what sheer determination can accomplish. Two elderly grandparents had persisted over the past 6-8 years and established a remarkable facility serving terminally ill children in Torun and the surrounding region. The group, especially Lion Jay, was greatly moved by the tender, loving care shown the critically ill young patients.

The facility had huge needs for more sophisticated equipment for diagnosis and medications. One of the greatest needs, however, was for a reliable vehicle to transport ill children for any number of reasons. Lion Jay, who admits being somewhat distracted at the time, became very focused and told hospice director Olena Bozemska, "I'll get you the van." Lion Jay related later that not many took him seriously, but that just steeled his resolve to follow through with the promise.

Once back home, Lion Jay formed a non-profit organization whose sole purpose was to raise enough funds to purchase the van, register and insure the van and provide operation and maintenance monies for a year. One does not need to know Lion Jay very long to recognize that his drive and personality would will this effort to succeed. He will admit, however, that there were times that he wondered if he had gotten himself in a little deep with his promise to Mrs. Bozemska. In March 2008 \$50,000.00 had been raised through the generosity of many, many people, including Lions, who made donations that ranged from \$10.00-

While on his tour of duty at the language camp, Lion Jay and several others were invited to visit one of the few hospices in Poland serving children stricken with cancer. Unlike similar organizations here in the United States, the hospice movement in Poland lacks the development and resources taken for granted in this country. The hospice the group visited the Hospicjum dla Dzieci "Nadziejia"

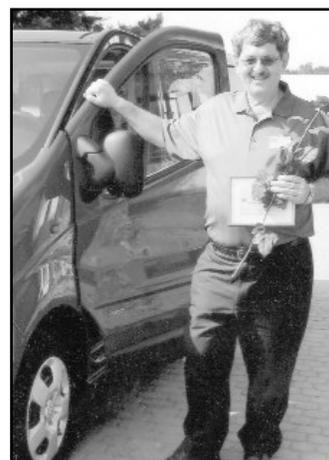


Lion Jay Mondry watches as a Priest blesses the new van for the Hospice "Hope" for Children.

\$1,000. At that point began the task of purchasing the van, done through General Motors' European Opel Division.

Lion Jay returned to Poland this past June and presented the keys to a 9-passenger Opel van to an "overwhelmed" Mrs. Bozemska. This completed Lion Jay Mondry's pledge to make life a little better for some children who had been dealt one of life's bad hands. As he later related, "It was a very emotional experience. I was just the messenger bringing something to these kids. It was the people of Minnesota and North Dakota who saw, through my message, the need to help children. He indicates that he has yet to decide whether he will return to Poland. He said, however, "I will remain involved with the hospice and orphanage."

By remaining involved, Lion Jay indicates his non-profit will continue to raise funds to help the hospice/orphanage with operating expenses and other costs associated with this marvelous facility. Those wishing to contribute to the cause, whether they are Lions or other service organizations, individuals or churches, please contact Jay Mondry at 218.732.5955. Any contribution is greatly appreciated with nearly 100% going to the mission.



Park Rapids Lions Jay Mondry all smiles by the new van.

Parade Marching Bands Wanted

If you have a marching band that you would like to recommend for the Lions Clubs International parade in Minneapolis 2009. Please contact the band director that you would like them to participate. Then get the Band Directors name, and address, or email to me ASAP so that a band application can be mailed. The marching bands usually plan one year in advance.

Thanks, Lion Keith Johnson
320-593-3731 or kmjohn@hutchtel.net

Have you asked
someone
to be a
LION TODAY!



Dykstra receives Hearing Fellowship



At the November meeting of the Lakes Lions/Perham, Lion Sue Dykstra was awarded the Hearing Foundation Award by her fellow club members. Pictured are Lakes Lions President Don Hendrickx, Lion Sue and Hearing Foundation chair, PDG Ken Anderson of the Wadena Lions Club.

Linda Norby

for
Vice District
Governor
5M9

2008-2009



Mid Winter Convention notes and reminders

Club newsletter and Brag book contests

All clubs with a newsletter and Brag Books are encouraged to bring them to the Mid-Winter Convention. You need to bring January 1, 2008 to to December 31, 2008 newsletters.

Newsletters and Books are to be placed on the display table by Saturday noon at the Mid-Winter Convention to be eligible for judging. A traveling trophy will be awarded on Sunday at the end of the convention.

Club Website contest

1. How up to date is the site?
2. Does the site communicate with the membership well - Upcoming meetings, events, etc.?
3. Does the site communicate with the community - How to become a member, fundraisers, functions, etc.?
4. Is the site tidy, eye appealing, attractive?
5. Can the site be easily navigated - is it laid out well.?

If you'd like to submit your club's site or have any questions, please contact Lion Jim Johansen at jkjohansen@juno.com or Lion Erin Beck at thebecks@mlcwb.net

Resolutions

Since there is little time to give due consideration of operating resolutions presented at these conventions and permit more time for discussion and deliberation. All resolutions affecting the business and operations of District 5M-9 be filed with the resolutions committee no later than five (5) days prior to the opening of the convention. This is done so all resolutions may be presented at the opening business session at the convention.

Guidelines for contests

Guidelines for the Brag Book and newsletter contests at the Mid Winter Convention. The judges are asked to look at a number of items in the books.

They include:

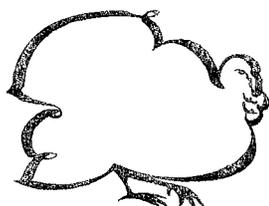
1. Over all appearance
2. Photos with cutlines (names of people in photo)
3. Newspaper articles and clippings
4. Order (by the month or events)
5. Story: what was involved in doing a project, cost, man hours, etc.
6. Programs of events: Mid Winter Convention, Multiple Convention, etc.
7. Membership names and officers
8. Miscellaneous

All these items are given points on a 1 to 5 scale and are judged on their own merit. But these items are just guidelines and the judges have the final decision.

NEED EXTRA INCOME??

- Work from your home
- Flexible hours
- Fast-growing company
- Promote Minnesota-made product

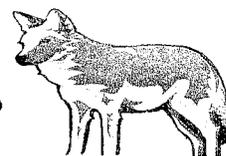
Call Ken and Gloria Anderson
home 218.631.9005 cell 218.639.1696



FRAZEE LIONS

5M9 SHINES IN '09

5M9 MID-WINTER CONVENTION



WOLF LAKE LIONS

Official Registration Packet Order Form

January 9, 10 & 11, 2009

Shooting Star Casino & Convention Center, Mahnomen, MN

Hosted by Frazee & Wolf Lake Lions

Please fill out this registration form for each person attending and return it with a check made out to the 2009 - 5M9 Midwinter Convention

Please print clearly:

Lion

Lioness

Leo

Guest

Name: _____

2009 Title: _____

Address: _____

District: _____

City: _____

Club Name: _____

Prov/State: _____

Telephone: _____

E mail Address: _____

Check if this is your first 5M9 Convention

Please Circle the amount you are paying and registering for;

HOSPITALITY BOOKS

Includes all Meals and Entertainment

Cost Prior to December 1, 2008 \$90

Cost On or After December 1, 2008 \$95

Meal and Entertainment Tickets

Friday Entertainment No Charge

Saturday Breakfast \$10.00

Saturday Luncheon \$20.00

Saturday Banquet/Show \$55.00

Sunday Brunch \$20.00

Total amount of your check: _____

Please mail registration and check to:

2009 5M9 Mid-Winter Convention

C/O Joyce Ramsay

16596 Wolf Pack Road

Menahga, MN 56464

NO room reservations will be honored without a confirmed convention registration. After I receive your convention registration, I will send you information on how to complete your hotel room registration. Emergency refund of registration must be request by December 21, 2008. A \$25 handling fee will be charged. Questions regarding the convention: call Eldon Bergman 218-334-5841 or Lyle Mickelson 218-334-7054 Rooms are \$75 per night at the Shooting Star Casino.

Frazee and Wolf Lake Lions invite you to '5M9 Shines in '09' Mid-Winter Convention, January 9, 10 & 11 Shooting Star Casino, Mahnomen

If you have not registered for the Midwinter Convention, hurry and fill out the form on the adjoining page. There is still time. By the time you read these Highlights you probably will have three weeks until this mid-winter getaway. Come join the fun, learn more about what the Lions are doing, visit with friends and meet new friends and of course enjoy the away from home meals.

In the past Newsletters, you have read about what's happening on Friday evening and all day Saturday. Here's what is in store for you on Sunday. The Catholic and the Non-denominational church services will begin the day. From there you will move into the Event

Center for the Sunday Brunch and the conclusion of another great convention. Mike Mickelson, son of Wolf Lake Lions, Dave & Jan Mickelson, will speak for 15 minutes on his knowledge and experiences related to his use with his insulin pump. The Business Session will be reconvened. The 2010 Midwinter Convention hosts Aitkin and Aitkin Riverboat Lions Clubs will be introduced, other informational announcements will be made, awards given and the winners of the poster contest, door prizes and raffles will be announced.

Remember to have your Lions Club representative bring your Club banner to the convention. A Frazee or Wolf Lake Lions along

with the Shooting star Convention Staff will help you hang the banner in the Convention Center. You can also bring your eye glass collections to the Conventions too.

Remember all of you who have registered for the convention must call the Shooting Star Convention Center to make you own room reservations. If you have not received your information on how to do this or can not remember or find that code number, please call Joyce Ramsay at 218-538-6694 or email her at pjramsay@wcta.net.

The Frazee and Wolf Lake Lions are looking forward to seeing all of you on January 9-11, 2008. Be prepared to shine in 2009.

Director Larry Johnson will speak on Saturday night



Larry Johnson from Vienna, West Virginia, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs.

Director Johnson is a banker. He is a member of the Parkersburg Lions Club since 1974, Director Johnson has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, district governor and council chairperson. Additionally he has served as district LCIF chairperson, multiple district LEHP chairperson, on his multiple district's Constitutional & By-laws Committee and on the West Virginia Leadership School Committee. He has also participated in numerous international Lions events, including several international conventions, USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums and Lions Day with the United Nations.

In recognition of his service to the association,

Director Johnson has received numerous awards, including a 100% Club President Award, a Club Lion of the Year Award, a Club Key Member, several District Governor's Citations and Certificates of Achievement, an International President's Award, an International President's Leadership Award and two International President's Certificates of Appreciation. He is also the recipient of the Leonard Jarrett Award from the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation and is a Bill Eason Fellow and a Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Johnson is active in numerous professional and community organizations.

Director Johnson and his wife, Rachel, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have one son.

Peter VanErp
District Governor 5M9
38214 610th Avenue
Bluffton, MN 56518

**PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
NEW YORK MILLS, MN
PERMIT NO. 14**

