



It's a Wonderful Night

The entire club for the sale of tickets to the event. The night of the event we had 10 members and 1 spouse working: Jolean Peterson, Neil Peterson, Bruce Harmon, Darrell Costain, Mike Brand, Gelaine Orvik, Roger Steen, Rob Lein, Carlo Lein, Larry Odegaard, Linda Odegaard (spouse), and Gary Pedersen. West Acres Shopping Center has hosted It's a Wonderful Night at the Shopping Center for approximately 20 years. The Mall hosts the event working with their stores to provide holiday specials to shoppers. In order for participants to gain access to the special prices, they must purchase a wrist band. The cost of admission, and the wrist band, is \$5.00 per person. This year all ticket sales were done on-line with the entire proceeds of the purchase being donated to non-profit organizations that made an application and were approved by West Acres. In the Gateway Lions application,

we stated that the funds we receive would be used to purchase eye exams and glasses for those in our community that could not afford glasses. We were approved.

The night of the event we were able to apply to volunteer to check people into the Mall, attach a wrist band to their wrist so that the merchants would know that they were eligible for their special prices, and sell tickets for \$5.00 to those who had not purchased tickets in advance. Hours that we worked were from 5:30PM to 8:30PM. We had six members at our table from 5:30PM to 7:00PM and six from 7:00PM to 8:30PM. Our Club was compensated by West Acres – the money that we collected from people who did not purchase a ticket online prior to the event was distributed equally to the organizations that worked the night of the event based on the number of workers that each organization provided.



Pictured above are (left to right) DG Joe Sowokinos, Earl Miranda, Rebecca Miranda and Hailey Miranda. DG Joe is at the meeting of the Gateway Lions Club to present Hailey with her prize for winning the 5NE Peace Poster contest.



Pictured above are Gateway Lions Club members (left to right) Mike Brand, Darrell Costain, Gary Pedersen and Bruce Harmon as they work their shift during the "IT'S A WONDERFUL NIGHT" at the West Acres Mall on Sunday, November 21st.



Pictured above are (left to right) Lions Jan Malakowsky and Jolean Pederson as they ring the bell for the Salvation Army at the West Acres Mall.

Giving Thanks to Lions

By Crystal Dueker
SNE Service Chair

November is the month for giving thanks, not just one day of eating. Let's take a look back at some of the service projects, meals and fundraisers accomplished by Lions clubs during the past 2 months:

- Ashley Lions - Appreciation steak dinner.
- Braddock Lions - weekly bingo games for most of the year plus a traditional ham dinner during Thrasher Days.
- Leonard Lions-Community Days parade and picnic
- Ellendale Lions- together, we served 80 steak dinners with funds for local projects.
- LaMoure Lions - golf tournament, Turkey Trot walk/run and silent auction, plus a Dec 4th Pancake breakfast with funds go to Phase 3 of Sunset Park toward a new community swimming pool.
- Enderlin Lions - Meals on

Wheels and rent of a tent for community events.

- Streeter Lions - Pancake breakfast serving over 100 people plus take-outs.
- Edgeley Lions - serving their traditional FREE Thanksgiving dinner to over 400 people including delivery to shut-ins.
- Kulm Lions - donating turkeys for traditional community Thanksgiving dinner that served over 80 people plus 12 take-outs and a few delivered meals to shut-ins with proceeds going to the local food pantry
- Chaffee Lions - members dug and bagged up 3,000 pounds of potatoes donated by a local farmer for county food bank.
- South Forks Lions - Meals on Wheels and placing food in backpacks for elementary students for weekend nourishment
- New Rockford Lions -

meal proceeds for local fire department, Veteran's Day blood drive, fundraiser for local volunteer ambulance service.

- Medina Lions- Fall Harvest Day with food, blood drive and bingo games.
- Lehr Lions - blood drive and welcome baskets to new residents.
- Strasburg Lions - served FREE sauerkraut and hotdogs to over 255 people in their community.
- Davenport Lions - together, we served over 150 people with hot dogs, cocoa and apple cider plus treats and games a Halloween party
- Pettibone Lions and Robinson Lions - each club holds their own Turkey Shoot which is a special day for card games to win a turkey.
- Jud Lions - donation to help local newlyweds who lost their home in a fire.
- Sterling Lions - weekly bingo games including turkey

or ham prizes before Thanksgiving.

- Wishek Lions - helped the Business Assn. serve a FREE sauerkraut and hotdog meal to over 1000 people.
 - Zeeland Lions - weekly bingo games and future pinochle tournament.
- From A to Z, these clubs are just a few examples of how Lions have continued to serve others this year. THANK YOU LIONS for raising money for those in need of glasses, people suffering from an accident or an illness, or in need of a Service-dog or a Leader-dog as well as community projects. Alone, one person can help a few people but WE SERVE TOGETHER in helping hundreds of people throughout North Dakota and beyond. Please join me in saying THANK YOU to all of our Lions serving others in our 52 clubs.

Lions Foundation of North Dakota

When the Lions Foundation of North Dakota was founded in 2000, It was decided that no grants to North Dakota Lions Clubs would be awarded until a determined financial corpus amount was reached. At that time, interest earning rates were high, and were expected to provide much of the funding necessary

to award grants. Since then, interest earning rates have fallen to the point that those earnings are no longer providing adequate funding for grants.

It was later decided that undesignated donations to the Foundation, would be distributed 50% to the Permanent Fund, 25% to the Grant Fund,

and 25% to the Operations Fund. Current and recent donations do adequately fund operations, but provide limited funding for grants.

Refusing and limiting funding for grant requests, has discouraged clubs from seeking needed grants for their very worthwhile club projects.

One of the Foundation's

donor recognition programs is the Life Donor. A \$300 donation from a member, or in a member's name, receives a Life Donor lapel pin, and a Lions Foundation of North Dakota pin and bar for that member, and the club receives a Banner Patch. More than

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By the time you read this Christmas will nearly be here. I want to wish all Lions in ND a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We all can take pride in the service we provide to our communities around our state. Credit goes to my cabinet who have dedicated much time and effort in carrying out their respective responsibilities.

It is hard to believe that six months has passed since I became District Governor of 5NE, and I look forward to the next six months. As a district, we still have work ahead of us if we are to reach our district goals established on July 1st, 2021. We need to increase our efforts to meet our membership goals, in starting new clubs, in service reporting, in supporting LCIF and Campaign 100, and in providing leadership training for all Lions. This is the only way we can sustain our succession of leadership. I am confident that our dedicated Lions in 5NE will finish strong during the last half of our Lions year.

A protocol to assist clubs in holding an informative membership meeting was developed by GMT chairperson, Carla Lein. I forwarded the document to the presidents, secretaries, and zone chairs of 5NE as well as to members

of our multiple district (MD5) cabinet. It is anticipated that such a document will assist clubs in attracting and inducting new members.

During the month I visited Lions Clubs in Streeter, Fargo Gateway, Tuttle, Ellendale, Carrington, Horace, and Sheldon. I inducted seven new members with the potential for five more. Clubs are still recovering from the slow-down caused by COVID but they are now returning to their regular fund-raising and service projects. Club presidents, please call me or email me if you want me to visit your club next year.

Christmas celebrations in towns across 5NE are happening. The four Lions clubs in Grand Forks are hosting the 20th Annual 'Christmas in the Park' in Grand Forks, ND. The fundraiser is headed by Lion Clair Zirnhelt from the South Forks Lions Club. The event runs from November 26th through New Year's Eve. Over the years, about \$350,000 has been raised and donated to local charities.

Our 3rd 5NE cabinet meeting will be held Saturday, January 17, 2022, with place TBA. I am looking forward

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to attending our Spring Rally scheduled for Saturday, April 9, 2022, in Jamestown, ND. DGE Scott Hildre from Fargo Gateway Lions is working out the details and more information will be coming out in January-February. The Multiple District 5 Annual Convention is going to be held at the Resort at Cypress Hills, Saskatchewan, Canada, May 12-14, 2022. Also, I am excited to have registered for the 104th Lions Clubs International Convention that will be held in Montréal, Canada, June 24-28, 2022.

An added feature this month is to get to know our 1st VDG Elect Lion Rick Stark a little better. He was born in Bismarck, ND, but was raised and attended high school in Tuttle, ND (pop 77). His major occupation is as a rancher. He rented out his farmland a few years ago. During a peak year he maintained nearly 800 feeder cattle. Normally he has between 300 to 500 head. He married his wife Bobbie in 1980 and she recently became a Lion (see picture in this issue of the ND Lion). They have three children and six grandchildren. I asked him what

one of his goals was as a Lion, and he responded, "To rejuvenate small town Lions clubs and to increase their membership, particularly with women members". He also believes Lions should have fun. Knowing Lion Rick, he likes the social aspect of Lions and likes to joke around. Let's all welcome Lion Rick to the 5NE's DG team. He is committed to making our district better in the future.

I wish all of you a very Happy New Year.

"We serve with love and compassion in communities around the World"

International President,
Douglas X. Alexander
"Lions do Magical things"



"Teamwork makes the Dream work"

Carrington



On November 3 New Rockford Lion Kristi Swenson along with Carrington Lions Sharon Paintner and Marilyn Nicholson screened Carrington preschool and elementary students as part of the Sight 4 Kidz project.

Kulm Lions serve others for Thanksgiving

Kulm's traditional Thanksgiving community meal, served in a local church, returned with the turkeys being donated by the Kulm Lions. Much of the food was donated. There were about 80 that attended including 12 take-outs. Considering that Thanksgiving Day is primarily a day that families gather, this meal provides something for el-

dery, singles and those who don't have any families in the area.

Funds raised were donated to the community food program and the club purchased food to provide to needy families which in turn is also supported by the Lions. The Lions may be the major donors in the program, but funding is also received from others.

Club News

Carrington



DG Joe Sowokinos with sponsors and new members: Lion Shelly Skytland, new members: Arlen Guthmiller, Jr, Dani McClean, Deb Leapaldt, Wes Leapaldt, Lion President Jenni Wede, sponsor Lion Karla Michealson, new member Kristen Hewitt, and sponsor Lion Sharon Paintner.



DG Joe Sowokinos entertained the club with some magic tricks. He performs a trick with the help of Lion Tom Paintner.



DG Joe Sowokinos performing a card trick with the help of Lion Josey Skytland.



District Governor Joe Sowokinos inducted six new member to the Carrington Lions Club on December 1 at their Lions Christmas Party. New member Julie Miller (left) and her sponsor Lion Shelly Skytland (right).



The Carrington Lions sponsored the hospitality room at the Regional Volleyball tournament held at CHS on November 9. The event was chaired by Lions Deb Leapaldt and Kim Edland. Pictured are the co-chairs Lion Deb Leapaldt and Kim Edland.

Old Fashion Santa Claus Day

Sponsored by Tuttle Lions Club

Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021 ❄️ 2 - 5 p.m.

Tuttle Main Street at the Sr. Center

Santa will be handing out candy bags to the children - until his bag is empty (bring your camera for pictures!)

Sloppy Joe's, Chips, Cocoa & Coffee until gone
Free will donations accepted, going to Tuttle Lions Club

Free Sleigh Rides
(Courtesy of Jennifer & Jess Livingston)

Everyone Welcome!

Club News

Minot



The Minot Lions celebrated their 95th anniversary! We became a club on 11/27/1926. We celebrated with music, inducting new members, a scavenger hunt, and by completing a service project of writing 95 Christmas cards for clients at Project BEE! A fun time was had by all!

Bismarck



The Bismarck Lions club is proud to welcome our newest member Lion Lance Gabbe (center) with PID Bruce Schwartz (left) and Lion Ross Espeseth (right). The Bismarck Lions are excited to have Lance join us and promise to put him to work right away!

Capital City



The Capital City Lions Club presented six Melvin Jones Fellowships. Pictured L to R: Jena Gullo, Executive Director of Missouri Slope United Way; Mark Meier, Executive Director of the Soup Kitchen; Karla Eisenbeis, Executive Director of the Banquet; Lion Darin Scheer and Lion Gary Hansen. Lion Ross Wilmes also received a Melvin Jones Fellowship but is not pictured.

Lake Metigoshe



Lion LeaRae Espe representing the Lake Metigoshe Lions Club awarded Bottineau Public School student Alex Chisholm 1st place in their local Peace Poster Contest, which went on to compete in the 5NW contest at the State Convention in Watford City.

Foundation

continued from page 2

125 Lions have received this recognition. In recent years, almost half of them from just several Lions Clubs, who have used this as a means of honoring and recognizing members.

More than \$37,500 has been donated to the Foundation through this program. Just over \$9,000 of that amount would go to the grant program, according to distribution procedures. However, a club may designate the entire amount of that donation to go to the grant program.

There are 96 Lions clubs in North Dakota. If each club

honored just one of their members with Life Donor recognition each year, that would total \$28,800. If only half of that amount was designated for the Foundation Grant Program, it would add more than \$7,000 each quarter for the Grant Program. That money would find its way back to North Dakota Lions clubs for projects in their communities. Please consider this contribution method so that each year perhaps 100 Lions can be honored rather than just a few.

5NW DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REPORT



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Hello fellow Lions!
Merry Christmas to you. I hope you are all doing well, and I wish you the best for the upcoming holidays.

I recently did a review of how many Lions clubs were started over the years and it was interesting to see the results. These numbers do not include those clubs that we've lost, but, rather, it's just active clubs. Back in the 1920's, we had 7 new Lions Clubs in what is now 5 NW, or western ND. Bismarck Lions is our oldest club, going all the way back to 1921. In the 30's, we added 4 clubs; in the 40's there were 2 more; the 50's brought us 6; the 60's gave us 5 more; and in the 70's, we had 10 new clubs. We averaged 2 new clubs over the remaining decades.

What impresses me the most, when I think about new clubs committing to be a Lions Club in the 20's, 30's and 40's, was the vision those founding members had. Those were not really the best of times, so, for people to start a Lions Club just to help other people amazes me. Helen Keller once said, "the only thing worse than

being blind is having sight but no vision". My guess is that Helen Keller saw something special in the Lions. It was 1925 when she attended the Lions Club International Convention and challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against blindness." Because of her, Lions have always made sight a major goal. In fact, in 1971, the Board of Directors of Lions Club International declared that June 1 would be remembered as Helen Keller Day.

Sight has always been important to Lions, and I believe it always will be. Over the years, we have added other major causes as we simply continue to serve! We continue to focus on our motto, which is "We Serve". Stephen Covey, the famous author and motivational speaker, would agree with us. He said "The main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing". We Lions stay

focused on serving, however, we aren't afraid to modify the focus of how we serve. As with time, life will always change and so will the needs of those around us.

A major part of staying on task is to plan and set goals. We understand that Lions will always serve but long-term planning helps us focus on the many areas of needs affecting our population. We also need to plan for the unexpected and that is what most likely was behind the creation of our Lions Foundation. The Foundation was a means to put aside funds to help for those unexpected needs. The Foundation became a reality because of planning and goal setting. Without doing all that there would be no Foundation today.

Planning our future is essential for all Lion Clubs to understand. We all need to plan, set goals with reasonable expectations and be

held accountable. Adjustments most likely will be needed along the way. We need a succession plan for new leaders to take over for existing ones. We need to change the focus of service projects; we don't need to forget what we've done, but, are we going to be able to meet the needs of today's problems? Are we changing how our clubs operate to help attract new members? We will always "Serve" but we also need to be a viable membership organization. Stephen Covey said, "Live out of your imagination, not your history". The Lions emblem has two Lions profiles with each side facing away from the center. Symbolically, the Lions face both the past and the future – proud of the past and confident in the future. For us to have a future, we can't be afraid to change for the betterment of Lions and our Lion Clubs and to do that we need to put a plan in place. What is your plan, and goals for the upcoming year, and the next five years? Think about it.

In Lionism,
DG Scott

Club News

Tuttle



Five new Lions were inducted into the Tuttle Lions Club. (R to L): sponsor Jewel Mehlhoff, Phyllis Mehlhoff, Mark Mehlhoff, Sandy Mehlhoff, Jasmine Stark, Bobbie Stark, sponsor 1st VDGE Rick Stark, and DG Joe Sowokinos.

**Reminder: ND
Lion DEADLINE
is the 7th
of the month!**

Meow-velous Davenport Halloween Party

By Crystal Dueker

Service chair & Noel Balderas
Sec/Treas.

On Saturday Oct 30, the Davenport Lions sponsored a Halloween Party under the leadership of President Tony Balderas (as a ghoul in chains) and Sec/Treas Noel Balderas (as a witch), and upcoming Secretary, Jessica Kujala, (as a nurse in her scrubs). From 5pm to after 8:30pm it was amazing to watch as over 150 children, many with parents or family, parade through the front doors of the Community Center/Lion's Den to be greeted by Lion Jessica or Lion Noel at a Passport Sign-in table. The passport cards were stamped after the little princess or Spider-man participated in activities held in the gym and hallways of the center. Included was pumpkin decorating, exploring the Haunted House, bouncing in the Bouncy House, a Monster Walk for Cake, Bingo, and Fish for prizes. When completed, the child was given a

prize or stamp. The hall was filled with scary music, along with laughter. There were also rides for the children on top of the new Davenport Fire Engine with lights all flashing and the siren screaming. Carmen San Diego in her red hat and red coat rode at least 5 times! Numerous parents stood outside taking pictures of these smiling joyous faces.

This Cheetah girl with whiskers from Fargo enjoyed helping serve parents and their children a meal of hot dogs, chips, and a choice of hot cocoa or apple cider with slices of apple and oranges plus cookies. As all the people were served, I heard them say one after another "Thank You" to the Davenport Lions for holding this fun family event again. Some costumes stood out- a witch and clowns from Kindred, and goblins from West Fargo along with girls in police uniforms, little bears, cats, skeletons, a scarecrow and Rapunzel from town. Even some adults were dressed up. There were door

prizes for attending and playing the games and turning in your passport at the end of the night. A costume contest during the event claimed 2 children and 2 adults to win a prize!

Davenport Lions were excited at the end of the night because of all the fun that was had. Having a Free will Donation box was an extra perk

to the event raising \$250!!! Whether this successful event is called an activity or free will fundraiser, it appeared to me be more a service uniting the community with fun and food. Why? Most towns canceled Halloween last year, so the children were very excited to be KIDS AGAIN!! Happy Haunting...Christmas will be here before you know it!

Traditional Thanksgiving Returns to Edgeley

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 21st, the Edgeley Lions Club served their community a FREE traditional Turkey dinner in the school multi-purpose room. In partnership with others, these Lions have recreated their LEGACY event. To make it all happen, according to club secretary Rick Gutschmidt, it took hours of preparation for setting up, with 12 club members volunteering on Saturday along with a Lion driving to gather

all the pies. On the next day of festivities, 14 people from the community cooked all the turkeys, then Lions picked them up to deliver to the school so 14 Lions along with 21 students added final touches before serving the meal to 410 people including 73 home deliveries. A BIG THANKS to the American Legion for furnishing most of the supplies. Thanks to Lions and students for staying to cleanup after a very successful event.

Club News

Gateway



Pictured above are members of the Gateway Lions Club as they sit around the Christmas tree with all of the presents that the members brought for the "CHRISTMAS BOXES" project. The club gave 36 boxes to the Emergency Food Pantry to give to children ages 2-14 that are less fortunate

Club News

Wilton



Wilton Lions Turkey Bingo & Meat Wheel

The Wilton Lions Club sponsored a Turkey Bingo/Meat Wheel event for the community on November 20th. We served free lunch and refreshments. A total of 16 various bingo games and numerous meat wheel raffles were offered. Bingo winners received a turkey and the meat wheel winners received other choice meats. The night was a huge success - fun was had by all!

LOOKING FOR LIONS MEMORABILIA

We are building a Lions float for parades!

If you have Lion memorabilia gathering dust, give us a call! Of particular interest would be a retired Lions Water Fountain or anything that declares "Lionism" in a Big Way!

Enderlin Lions Club, VP Ruth McCleerey (701-793-2692)