





Volume 42, Number 22

Official Publication of Lions Districts 5NE & 5NW | August 2023



International Lion's Club Convention 2023

Haiti Eye Mission was blessed to be an exhibitor at the 2023 International Convention in Boston and I also attended as a voting delegate of the Horace Lion's Club. I did my research ahead of the event, watched the videos of prior conventions and thought I had a pretty good idea of what to expect. I was very wrong, but in the most amazing way.

For those 5 days, the world was very small. It was an opportunity to connect with generous, giving people from every corner of the globe. At our booth, we had the absolute privilege of sharing our mission work stories with people representing 47 countries and almost every state in the US.

Our Melvin Jones luncheon table was blended with Lion's from five different countries breaking bread together and sharing common stories of helping others in need. Walking in the Parade of Nations and seeing the beautiful costumes from all over the world was so moving, it was hard to take it all in and be able to verbalize the feeling of peace that I felt. For 5 days, it didn't matter if our native language was the same, if our religion and political viewpoint was the same, if our upbringing was the same, all that mattered was we are all Lions, ready to serve to make the world a better place!

The heartfelt interest and gratitude for our team that serves thousands of people in the poorest region of the western hemisphere was humbling. We were able to share examples of lives touched by our work with images and first-hand accounts of those impacted. In return, we were able to learn about other organizations serving around the world and the kindness being shared at the hands of other Lions. It was a great reminder that if we focus on sharing our gifts and talents with those around us instead of using them for personal gain, great

things happen!

Kevin Benson, an invaluable member of both the Haiti Eye Mission and Horace Lions Club was also in attendance and helped share our mission work stories at our booth. Kevin reflected on his experience: "I accompanied Kristin Follman to the International Lions Convention in the hope of raising awareness and funds for the Haiti Eye Mission. Not knowing what to expect, we found 11,000 Lions from all over the world that view "We Serve" as not just a motto but as a call to action, which was very inspiring."

I have only been a Lion for about three years, and to be honest I didn't understand the scope of the international organization until attending the convention. It was so inspiring to see the enthusiasm of the LCI leaders and it filtered down to every person sitting in the room. I truly believe that everyone that proudly wears the yellow vest should find a way to attend



an International Convention because it brings life to what we do. I know after my experience in Boston, I will wear my vest, club pin and Melvin Jones pin with more conviction and determination to live up to what it represents, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity I was given and the blessings in my life!

Lion Kristin Follman, Horace Lions Club, Executive Director of Haiti Eye Mission



Club News

Devils Lake

Upcoming changes to Newsletter Submissions

The Lions Foundation of North Dakota is responsible for publishing the ND Lion. The LFND has been unable to find a Lion to edit the ND Lion. All Lions clubs are assessed \$6 per member annually for the ND Lion. Last year, the cost to publish the ND Lion was \$13,200 plus \$1,200 to cover other expenses related to the newsletter. To simplify production of the newsletter, the LFND has been forced to implement the changes listed below. Districts 5NW and 5NE have accepted these changes. September newsletter submissions must comply with these guidelines or they will not be published. 5NW DG Lynn Grabow will be sending a letter to all 5NW club presidents in September, which will cover the details of this change.

Thank you for your understanding.

 \cdot The newsletter will be reduced to an 8 page monthly newsletter.

• Articles must be limited to 500 characters - Exceptions include DG articles and periodic articles such as Hall of Fame and convention registration.

 \cdot Only one submission with or without photo per club per month is allowed.

• Clubs must submit their own photos/articles/ captions to ensure accuracy of the information.

• Full page club event notifications are not allowed and will be reduced so keep print size in mind when submitting your event notifications.





Kick off for the Devils Lake Lions Food Drive was held July 18th, during Art in the Park. Oakes Lion Dean Atkinson helped scoop up the root beer floats alongside Devils Lake Lions Joe Kraft and Mark Moen. The club gathered over 200 pounds for the Hope Center -such as jars of peanut butter and canned items.

Korner



The Korner Lions are marketing in the community. Thanks to a LFND grant, a canopy feather flags and stand up signs were purchased with the Lions logo and club name.



2 THE ND LIONS | August 2023

Grandpa's White Cane Club News

BY LION CRYSTAL DUEKER, Service Chair

Imagine being a young child, between 5 to 10 years old. Imagine a family member experiencing vision loss which is slowly taking away their eyesight, to the point they can only recognize your voice to know it is you.

If you can sympathize with that scenario, then perhaps you or your Lions club might be interested in educating some of the youth in our communities about blindness and how to help many of those young people and their family members learn the best etiquette toward their own blind relative or any person using a White Cane.

At the 5NE Cabinet meeting, the children's book Grandpa's White Cane was reviewed and discussed. The Spearfish Lions in South Dakota featured the book at the MD5 convention in May. On the back of the book, it displays the Lions logo and states their club was inspired by a local man, Jim Howe, who shared his loss of sight with others. Joanna Jones is the co-author.

District 5NE approved



recommending that clubs purchase the book as a District 5NE project.

October is Vision Awareness month so please consider donating a copy of the book to the local library or community center. Possible placements for the books are gifts to children through a library or Reading Action program.

Please discuss this topic with your club in August or September. The books are available for only \$5 each when ordered from Joanna Jones. You can call to order at 605-450-0102. Please let me know at moonmadnd@ aol.com so we can keep track if your club is participating in this project.

Minot.



5NW District Governor Lynn Grabow visited the Minot Lions Club. He brought enthusiasm for his year in leadership, and we're excited to see what he has in store! DG Lynn is pictured here with our 2023-2024 Minot Lions President, KayLee Bourguin.

New Rockford



President Lion McKnight presented Eddy County Sheriff Deputies with a check for \$8900.00 to go towards new tasers and body armor.

Carrington _



3 THE ND LIONS | August 2023

Carrington Lions Marilyn Nicholson and Judy Swanson presented a check to Rowena Monson, activities director at Golden Acres. The check from the Carrington Lions will sponsor Bingo twice a month for a year for the residents of Golden Acres. Lions Nicholson and Swanson are volunteers who help the residents play Bingo.

Lions Foundation of North Dakota, Inc. **Recent Donors**

Mandan Lions Club \$200 Thank you to Lions Clubs and to individual Lions for your generous contributions.

5NW LCIF Chairperson

I would like to introduce myself as your new District 5NW LCIF Chairperson. My goal is to have fun challenging Lions and Lions clubs to learn more about our great Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

Lions Clubs International has been the global leader in service for more than a century. Clubs, like yours, choose how to serve their communities by saving sight, protecting the environment, feeding the hungry and helping the most vulnerable. When over 48,000 Lions clubs serve locally, we create a global impact, bringing hope to millions of people each year. And through the support of LCIF. Lions can make an even greater impact through grants that fund local, district and worldwide projects. We, as Lions, are proud of our history. We should be excited about our future and what our service can do.

When you joined Lions Clubs International, YOU became part of LCIF. It is YOUR FOUNDATION. 100% of the donations that come into the foundation go towards our eight global causes. Yes... there are now eight. They are Vision, Hunger, Environment, Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Youth, Humanity and Disaster Relief & Preparedness.

Your dues pay for the

_____ HELLO continued on page 7



Club News

Casselton ____



Saturday-July 29th. Casselton Lions (Scott Kost, Todd Berger, Darrell Sweep, and Stu Romsdal) stand ready to drive in the parade with over 100 entrants. The event was a sight to behold as the fire trucks, dancers, local boy scouts and a Chaffee Lions float driven by Chaffee Lion Rodney Anderson, followed by the archery club, and lots of cars winded their way through town.

Casselton Summer Fest kick off on July 27th with 10 members from Chaffee Lions club cooking up 350 pulled pork or hot dog meals as hundreds arrived to view collector cars and local music from nearby Governor's Park.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST FOR 2023

Lions Clubs of District 5NW,

This year's Peace Poster Contest Theme is "Dare to Dream." It will be awesome to see this message through the eyes of children!!

Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contests are not limited to schools. Your Lions Club can have a city wide contest or ask any Youth Organization to participate in this wonderful contest.

Please, if at all possible, provide the poster board for the students. If the poster board is not the appropriate size, the entry will be disqualified.

The size of the poster board must be:

Smallest size: 13"x20"

• Largest size: 20"x24" The Peace Poster can be

any size between these two measurements.

Please follow all directions in the information sent to your Lions club so that your poster will not be eliminated. Your club's winning poster must have the sticker, that is in the kit, filled out by the student and your Lions club. Please place the sticker on the back of the lower right-hand corner of the poster. This is a requirement.

Each winning Lions club poster will be judged at the State Convention. It is extremely important for the *Club winning posters to be delivered to me by October 16th* so that I can make sure that they are the correct size and meet the other mandatory requirements.

The first and second place winner for District 5NW will be sent in the MD5 PEACE POSTER CALENDER. District 5NW would recommend that each club purchase at least one MD5 PEACE POSTER CALENDAR for \$10.00 each.

The first-place winner will go on to the MD5 Council of Governors, and if selected there, will be sent on to the International Peace Poster competition.

Please Contact PDG Sherry Fetch with any questions at 701-426-3432 or Joyfullion2@gmail.com

Mail Posters to: PDG Sherry Fetch, 406 4th Ave NW, Mandan, ND 58554 Hello Lions of western ND, also known as 5NW!!!

I hope everyone's summer is going well. It seems like once the state fair is done summer is almost done. My summer has been extremely busy. I was inducted into the District Governor role in Boston on July 11th at the Lions International Convention.

But, first let me introduce myself. I am Lynn Grabow and I have been a Lion for 33 years, 30 of those as a Stanley Lion (then they kicked me out, just kidding!!). The Stanley Club was a wonderful place for me to be a Lion. It is an active, service minded club that really cares about their community. They are always in the middle of a new project to help Stanley!! Then my world changed. I had no plans to ever leave Stanley or the ranch we lived on, but our daughter in Bismarck became sick with stroke like symptoms. We rented everything out and decided to move near Bismarck to help her out, because that is what family does!! She was diagnosed and treated and after 3 ¹/₂ years, her doctors told her last week that she is in remission!! Thank God!!

Three years ago, I moved my membership to the Wilton Lions Club. This is a really special club that also cares about its own people and community!! This last year they did two huge benefits for people in need in Wilton. It was a very meaningful memory for me as people were helped but also, they knew they were loved by Wilton North Dakota!! This club is an active club that always seems to be busy helping others.

Okay, I got ahead of myself as I need to introduce my family a little too. My wife Marlene and I started dating in high school. We

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both graduated from Berthold High School, me in 1975 and Marlene in 1976. We married in 1978 in Berthold, and now we just celebrated 45 years of marriage (can't believe she stayed?? Just kidding) But not kidding, she is the best thing that ever happened to me!! We have 3 married children and 5 grandchildren!!

Okay back to Lions business. I am blessed to have a great cabinet. 1st VDG Lion Lynn Helms is a very capable busy man who will be great next year as your District Governor. He is also serving as a zone chair this year. 2nd VDG Karen daSilva is also a great leader who is very capable and also serving as our GST Leader. These two are my go-to people who I really trust to give me the best advice. Also on our team is PDG Mark Koller who is serving as the GLT Chair and PDG Scott Ressler serving as the GMT Chair. Both of whom are awesome guys!! Also, Lion Tammie Richardson is our 5NW Secretary and Lion Devin Melvie is our Treasurer. Lions Tammie and Devin are experienced and the BEST I could ever ask for!! I am so fortunate also to have two Past International Directors right here in Bismarck. They are PID Pat Vannett and PID Bruce Schwartz, both of whom I can go to and also call friends!! I also have CC Jeanette Bean and PCC Kevin Bean available here in Bismarck to help out.

GOALS--- A big part of the District Governor role is district goals. 5NW membership is important, because without a strong membership, service is difficult for our clubs and our Lions members. My personal goal is that all of our clubs have a net increase of 1 to 2 members over the next year. This is something we can and need to do. Our job as Lions gets easier with more members and we get more ideas and energy from new Lions!! We are canvassing for new clubs as we speak so watch for more information to come.

Reporting service is something we can always improve as there are still a lot of clubs who do not report enough of their service activities. Service reporting instructions are coming to all clubs soon to assist secretaries in reporting service.

Also, club visitation is a priority. Our team hopes to visit every club this year. Please let me know early if you would like me to visit, as my schedule is filling up fast. I am an accessible guy so please call me with any questions.

I am lucky to have a

Stanley



The Stanley Lions July burgers in the park raised \$1930 that has been donated to the Mountrail County food pantry. Thank you to BBH insurance for sponsoring the July burgers. An anonymous donation of \$2000 was also received and designated to the park pool project.



friend, Lion Rick Stark, serving as 5NE District Governor in the east. He has issued a challenge, in fact a DUEL at high noon at the ND State Convention in Minot!! The one of us with the least new Lions members is going to be gunned down. Please 5NW, don't let me down. I'm hoping the best is in the west. All of this is in fun. In fact, if you've seen me in action this last year, like at Spring Rally, you know my mission this year in Lionism is F.U.N.!! We need to have more fun because potential Lions will be drawn to us, and we need to enjoy our Lions journey!! In the process, we are "Changing the World through Lions!!!

Thank you for what you do through our great organization of Lions!!

And YES, DG Rick Stark, I do accept the challenge, let's do this!!!!

DG Lynn Grabow

Hello 5NE Lions,

I hope everyone is having a great summer. I am starting out this article on a sad note. Our district lost some great Lions members. I know I can't acknowledge all members that pass away, but I have to acknowledge these members. Lion Bill Gackle of the Kulm Lions passed away. He was North Dakota's first International Director. I met Bill a couple of times and am sorry I didn't get to know him better. Lion Duane Zwinger, of Fargo Gateway Lions, also passed away. I have known Duane for a long time. He served on this year's cabinet and was a personal friend. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers. To them We say, "Well done faithful Lions".

July was a busy month. My wife, Lion Bobbie and I attended the International Lions Convention in Boston July 7th through July 11th. All I can say is WOW! We all marched the historical streets of Boston in the Lions Parade. What a fantastic experience we all had. Thank you to our great MD5 team for keeping us all organized. They really keep you busy with training, breakout sessions, entertainment, visiting with Lions from

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all over the world and heroic motivational speakers. One of my favorites was Erik Weihenmayer. He has climbed all 7 summits and is completely blind. If we think our club has problems to overcome, just think of him. There is nothing we can't overcome. International President Brian Sheehan spoke and was great. Then Dr. Patti Hill was sworn in as International President. She spoke about Mission 1.5. It is for Lions to get 1.5 million members worldwide by 2027. So, let's build our membership!

As far as visitations, I didn't get many done in July. I visited Leonard Lions on July 24th and attended a Zone 2 meeting afterwards. It's impressive to hear what these small-town Lions clubs do for their communities. Keep up the Great Work.

We have put together an AWESOME CET committee to explore possible new Club sites. Kudos to Lion Crystal and PDG Lion Joe for putting this team together. Thank You to all the members that agreed to be on it and for all your hard work now and in the future. We had our first Zoom meeting on August 3rd and it went excellent. We are excited to possibly charter some new clubs.

On August 5th we had our first 5NE cabinet meeting for the 2023-2024 Lions year. It went really well with quite a few cabinet members present and on Zoom. Lots of business discussed and decisions made.

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. District 5NE is proud to introduce a new district project called CANs to CANcel Childhood CANcer. Together we CAN do it! We are asking all clubs in 5NE to participate. Collect as many aluminum cans as possible and sell them for recycling. Donate all money to LCIF designating it for childhood cancer. All clubs participating will receive recognition. Let our LCIF Coordinator, Rick Swenson know how much you donated so we are able to keep track. His email address is virus of h@ vahoo.com. We spoke with many of the salvage dealers in the state and they said



they would bump up the price 5 to 10 cents more for a program like this. If it works out, maybe we can continue the program longer than this year and possibly other districts will join us. It's for a noble cause and it also helps the environment. I will be contacting all 5NE club presidents to get this project going.

To end the article on a happier note, some friends of ours had a baby. Unfortunately, the baby was born without ears. My wife and I were going to visit them and see the newborn, so my wife told me not to mention the "no ears" as it might make them feel bad. I said I promise I won't. We are at their place visiting and admiring the baby and me being a Lion, I asked "How's it's eyesight?" They replied, "It's eyesight is perfect." I said, "Good thing as it will never be able to wear glasses." HA!

DG Lion Rick Stark



I am your new 5NE Hunger Chairperson, and I would like to help tell the story for your club and your community. If someone in your community is having a food drive (your club, a church, another service club or your food bank) please have them send the info to me at lionscotthildre@gmail.com and I will put it on my Facebook page. If I have enough time, I will put it on the district website and get it in the Roar. If your club or any other group donates time or money to your local food pantry or food bank let us know and we will give them credit in the same way. Thanks for your help because together we can make a difference.

701-799-6400 5NE PDG Scott Hildre

In Remembrance

It is with heavy hearts that the Northstar Lions announce the passing of longtime Lion James H Bumann. Jim, or Big Jim as he was known, was a leader in the North Dakota Lions, a North Dakota Lions Hall of Fame inductee, a mentor to the Northstar Lions, a North Star Lions Legend Award recipient, as well as a loving father and grandfather. In lieu of flowers, consider donating to the Lions Clubs International Foundation, https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/donate

HELLLO continued from page 4

administration of Lions International and the foundation, so, everything donated to LCIF is used for OUR GREAT WORK. I look forward to sharing LCIF with you this year. Thank YOU for being the power of OUR Lions Foundation! Local Lions service in action, powered by worldwide donations by Lions like YOU and me!

My goal is to have every 5NW Lion make an impact by supporting LCIF with a donation. It can be a single donation or an automatic monthly donation. So please scan the LCIF QR Code and privately make your individual donation.

When going online, if you would like your district, your Lions club and your account to get credit for this donation, always use the "Empowering Service" option, NOT the "Disaster Relief Fund". Disaster Relief is now one of our global causes and through "Empowering Service" we help in that way.

Thank you for being a part of the greatest service organization!

In service, PDG Sherry Fetch

Update on Gateway to Science Exhibit

BY GST LION KAREN DASILVA

The Mobil Eye Exhibit has the 5NW Lions sign on it and became part of the Science on the Go Exhibit inventory. Over 1,800 students attended Science on the Go last year.

The Permanent Eye Exhibit is in place at the new location of North Dakota's Gateway to Science. Students LOVE the exhibit. We want our logo on that exhibit by State Convention. Here's where we stand;

• The 5NW Cabinet voted to take money that was sitting in a CD and put 10K towards this project. We currently have 5K in the checking account from club donations. That leaves just 10K left to raise! Please clubs, take a look at your budgets. Consider making a generous donation so we can get our pledge paid off by October and have the 5NW logo proudly displayed.

• Donations should be mailed to: Dakota Community Bank 1727 State Street Bismarck, ND 59501 attn: Cori. In the Memo: Gateway to Sci-



ence

THANK YOU LIONS of 5 NW

Would your club like to bring Science on the Go to your community? The GST budget can help your club bring this incredible experience to your community at little or no cost. Please contact GST Chair Lion Karen daSilva by email kdasilva@bis.midco. net. This is a first come, first serve offer. South Heart Lions are already on board. Which club is going to be next?



WE SERVE

5NW GST Lion Karen daSilva

Fellow Lions, did you know that Lions International has designated months for service Global causes? When you are planning your upcoming service projects think about trying something new that incorporates the Lions International focus.



7 THE ND LIONS | August 2023

Club News

Emerado Arvilla.



A Melvin Jones Fellowship was given to Emerado Arvilla Lions member Cliff Ludwig. He took on a "big" job as our treasurer, Francis Ophaug, passed away suddenly a couple years ago. President Lion Reed Wilson presented the fellowship. Reed is also Cliff's sponsor. Cliff was honored to have his wife Julie present for the presentation.



Presentation of the high-heel pin.



The festive high-heel shoe with a Lion and a flower upon the shoe is symbolic to celebrate the 35 years of service (1987) when women were embraced as members into Lions International. Family Specialist Lion Crystal Dueker bestowed this pin to Emerado Arvilla Lions Club Secretary Marian Kays and Co-Secretary and Membership Chair Linda Schmidt at their July meeting.