



District 11-E1, District Governor Lion John Monahan
“Together We Serve” **“February Newsletter 2012”**



District Governor John & Carolyn Monahan

Fellow Lions,

Sight screening through KidSight is getting underway in a big way. Three tasks had to be accomplished in order to get things started. One task was to get all the hardware, cameras, printers, etc., working together in a predictable way. That work fell mainly to 2nd VDG Tim Anderson. Thanks to his hard work, the hardware is in place to support sight screening at a high rate. Another task was to get the forms and record keeping procedures so that they fit both our cameras and Kid Sight's needs. Again Lion Tim, along with Lion Janalee McClure, Lion Dan Gibbons, and Lion Lloyd Helder, with a little help from others, have managed to tame the paper monster. We now have a standard way of setting up the very important records keeping of people screened. The third task has been and is to solicit day care facilities and pre-schools to set up sight screenings. That task falls to you, the front line Lions: the ones who find the cooperating day care, insure that permission slips go out and are returned, set up the date or dates for screening, obtain screening numbers from Lion Janalee, keep the records, and pay for KidSight record keeping and for upkeep and insurance on the cameras. It's three big jobs, and many of you have stepped forward to begin the process. Working with your KidSight coordinator early is an important key to a successful screening. If your club has never done a KidSight screening, I urge you to begin the process soon. It is very rewarding. If you have done it in the past, but not recently, I urge you to get back into the game. It's quicker than before, and the ability to give the results to the parents the same day so problems can be fixed quickly is a very gratifying feeling.

For clubs considering sight screening in schools, please note Lion Janalee's special message: you may not approach schools and ask to screen. You can, however, screen if they ask you. Lion Janalee gives the details.

On the next page you will see the six posters that won contests at local Lions Clubs this year. They are all very good posters, and the winner came from Grace Concord-Fay, sponsored by the Harrison Lions club. Congratulations to all the girls and boys, ages 11-13 who entered a local Peace Poster contest. The hard work that goes into these should bring a lot of satisfaction to the artists. I have included this set of posters to show how talented the young people in our district are and how well their art teachers have schooled them. The Peace Poster contest starts in mid-January, and posters must be completed by the end of October. Those students who start their posters early have a better chance of turning out a terrific poster than those who start late. So for this year, please send for a Peace Poster kit from Lions Clubs International, Shop, and Club Meeting Supplies. Then recruit an art teacher and see how much fun it is to inspire young people to be creative in thinking about how to promote peace.

At the end of next month is our District Convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. I hope members of your club will attend.

One of the most enjoyable tasks of a district governor is visiting clubs. The governor can renew friendships and acquaintances and meet new Lion friends as well as find out about all the good work your club has been doing. If I haven't visited your club and do not have a visit already scheduled, please either call or email me to schedule a date. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Lionism, Lion John Monahan DG

District Peace Poster Winners, District Winner on bottom right



Kylie Bauder, 12, 7th grade, F,
Coleman Jr/Sr High, Coleman Lions Club



Ben VanderZon, 12, 6th grade, M,
Glen Lake, Cedar/Maple City Lions Club



Madison Tarnowski, 13, 8th grade, F,
Northeast Middle School, Midland Lions Club



Kelsey Pease, 13, 7th grade, F, Saint Mary's
School, Sutton's Bay, Cedar/Maple City Lions Club



Ryan Schafer, 11, 6th grade, M,
St. Joseph the Worker, Beal City,
Weidman Lions Club



Grace Concord-Fay, 12, 7th grade, F,
Harrison Middle School, Harrison Lions Club



1st Vice District Governor Lion Bill & Vickie Simpson

The District Convention is coming up on March 30, 31 & April 1st. Are you going?? This year we are at the 28th Street Crown Plaza in Grand Rapids. The hotel has great accommodations and our western theme should make for a very enjoyable weekend. Your District Convention Chairperson, Lion Deb Kreitner organized a fun time and a few surprises for everyone. I've heard whispers about something called the 2Step - wonder what that is? Don't forget your western hat and spurs - see you at the convention!

We have two new Lions on the ballot this year; Lion Pete Conarty from Midland is running for 2nd VDG and Lion Ron Gibson from Fremont is running for the Foundation Trustee position. Both guys are excellent Lions and will provide dedicated service for your Club and the District. The candidates have a hospitality room (#440) and it will be our gathering place on both Friday and Saturday evenings. As always the convention is a great place to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. This is especially important this year since redistricting will bring a large part of District C1, our convention partners, into our district.

On a personal note, my daughter Kristen just got engaged to a very nice guy that we've had the pleasure to know over the last couple of years. They are planning a December wedding which no doubt will add excitement to my year as governor.

Don't forget that I'd like to include your new projects in the monthly newsletter. Just give some details and we will help spread the news.

Yours in Lionism,
1st VDG Bill



2nd Vice District Governor Lion Tim & Chris Anderson

The Michigan Forum is upon us and our Multi-District Convention is just weeks away yet don't forget that this year is FAR from being over! We still have 1/3 of our year left ahead of us and that's plenty of time for us to head out and "SERVE".

The spring is our tree planting season here in Michigan so if you haven't done so schedule a tree planting, or take advantage of our new "Spot" Cameras and hold a KidSight screening or two.

Spring is also a GREAT time for membership growth with the snow birds returning and people wanting it get out and enjoy the warmer weather it's the perfect time to ask that friend, co-worker or even family member if they would like to attend a meeting or help out with a project.

Like the sight of a robin red breast signals spring the Lion yellow vest being seen around your community in the spring lets the people know that we're here and we care! Let's get out and do what Lions do best help our communities!

Thanks yours in Lionism, Tim Anderson 2nd VDG, 231-920-9905, vdgtim11e1@charter.net

Why raise Future Leader Dogs?



Future Leader Dog Journey



In training, FLD Calvin

FLD Journey was the 10th Leader Dog pup that I have raised and on Jan. 15th I made the long 4 hour drive down to Rochester Hills to return him for his next leg of training. I gave him lots of hugs and kisses and told him to make me proud, breeze thru the next 4 months of training and be selected to do what you were bred to do, be a super duper guide dog for someone very special. As I got into my car to drive back Up North I cried and wondered why am I doing this again and again, my heart hurting more each time I say goodbye? I was feeling pretty low and then decided that I cannot do this anymore ... let someone else go thru this ... but then I made a call to my friend who quickly changed my way of thinking. My friend, Pam Blizzard, as you know co-chairs with me the Leader Dog position for our District. She is blind and has Nicholas, her guide dog, a black Standard Poodle who is the love of her life. I was feeling blue when she started to tell me that it's people like me who continue to raise the best possible guide dog ... for people like her who want and need to be totally independent. She said that the blind community knows how hard it is to say goodbye after a full year of training and loving this beautiful dog. But because of that love, their lives are changed, forever. They can now go shopping, banking, visiting friends, or going to work without the help of a sighted guide (person). They have a dog ... a dog that doesn't care if they are blind ... a dog that will take great care of them ... a dog that will love them unconditionally, no matter what ... a dog that gives them independence. So I snapped out of feeling sorry for myself ... I then felt how lucky I am to BE ABLE to raise a beautiful, fun dog for a year. I have my sight. My gift to others is a loving, confident, and great guide dog. What better gift than that? So, two weeks after I said my goodbyes to FLD Journey I said hello to my new little bundle of joy, FLD Calvin. He too is a black lab like Journey. I have another fun, fulfilling year to raise and train this special labbie of mine.

Pam and I would love to visit any Clubs to talk about what Leader Dogs do ... and how much they are so appreciated. Leader Dogs for the Blind is a wonderful non-profit organization that depends on the Lions to not only spread the word of Leader Dogs but help support them. Lions Club thru-out this world gives 20% of the Schools funding. Leader Dogs annual budget is around \$ 10,000,000.00. With the help of all of you we are able to continue to give over 250 Leader Dogs per year to the blind community.

Did you know: that to raise and train a Leader Dog cost \$ 40,000.00?

Did you know: that any Lion can take a wonderful tour of the facility in Rochester Hills? You, as a Lion, are treated like Gold and they appreciate what you do for them, so if you are close by or want a group tour, either call them or just stop in.

Did you know: that Leader Dogs have a special week long camp for kids between the ages of 16 to 18? This is hosted in the summer and each day an activity is planned for the group of kids. They are trained to use the new GPS and have it given to them, FREE! They also get a chance to work with a Leader Dog. The kids stay on campus in the dorms for the entire week ... Free!!

Did you know: that the clients (the blind / visual impaired) are trained and given a GPS for Free? Our newest GPS unit is called a Kaptan Plus. We love to show you how it works.

We have lots of exciting news to share about Leader Dogs ... please contact either myself, Kim Wattles or Pam Blizzard to schedule a visit to your Club.

Kim Wattles, 231-325-0055, watts24@centurylink.net or Pam Blizzard, 989-640-4046, pamblizzard@cmsinter.net

Message from International President

Dear Lion,

In an era in which membership in all types of civic, service and social organizations is declining, Lions Clubs International posted membership gains for four consecutive years. In the past four years the number of Lions clubs members worldwide has grown by 50,000.

We are indebted to all who worked so hard to make this possible and we recognize that this success is due in large part to the steadily growing numbers of women in local Lions clubs. More than 300,000 women are now Lions, making up 23 percent of our total membership.

Perhaps just as important, women now make up approximately the same percentage of Lion leaders. Having women advance into leadership positions in proportion to their overall numbers is a tremendous success and a source of pride for our association. It helps ensure that membership in a Lions club will be an even more attractive option for dedicated; energetic women who wish to serve their communities and the world.

I have asked some of our most accomplished women leaders to play a special role in making this happen. International Directors Sonja Pulley, Gudrun Yngvadottir, Claudette Cornet, Carolyn Messier, and Board Appointees Alice Lau and Thersa Mann are serving on the Women's and Family Membership Development Task Force. For the remainder of our leadership year, these women will be attending women's workshops, participating in symposiums and talking with individual Lions to gain insight on how to increase female membership and advance women into leadership positions.

Preliminary reports back are indicating that it is all about providing needed services in their community. I believe what we learn now will provide guidance for all clubs to provide greater service to their community. I look forward to seeing their findings and receiving their recommendations which will be shared with you so that we can make the most of this important resource for our communities.

Sincerely,

Wing-Kun Tam, International President

MIDLAND LIONS

MIDLAND LIONS ACT TO RELIEVE HUNGER

The Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network (EFPN) held a successful mobile food distribution on January 18, 2012 at the Midland Civic Arena. This year over 13,000 pounds of free food was provided to 239 families, representing more than 700 people. The Midland Lions Club contributed \$600.00 towards the event which was organized by Lions Thayre Talcott and Jim Ostler of the EFPN. Twelve Lions along with 52 other volunteers unloaded and distributed the food.



THANK YOU BELL RINGERS The Salvation Army reports that our club collected the sum of \$1,225.00 during the two days of bell ringing. [Last year we collected \$1,169.00.] Thanks again to all of our bell ringers for a job well done!



NOTES FROM LION PETE, GMT DISTRICT COORDINATOR

“JUST ASK”, is our District GMT theme for the year. Last month, I suggested that every District Club have a “JUST ASK WEEK”. Organize it with your Lions and set a club date with an entertaining program to invite potential candidates to. Let them learn about Lions, and then invite them to join. How can they refuse such a well serving, lively group? Lion’s International statistics indicate that 50% of our Lions never ask anyone to become a Lion. Many Lions don’t like to counter objections. Such as: Objection Number 1) I need to think it over. It could mean – I need to talk to my spouse about it; I want to find out more about Lions Clubs, first; I want to check to be sure that I can fit it in. Agree with your candidate and ask when you can follow up. 2) It will take up too much of my time. Explain that you understand that family time and work are important and whatever time that they would have to assist the Lions in their activities would be meaningful and helpful. Objection number 3) Cost – money is a concern for everyone these days. Break the costs into monthly increments rather than saying it will cost \$85.00 a year for dues. It is more realistic and usually more affordable. 4) I can’t join now, maybe later. Thank them and continue to invite them to your Lions events. Being around an involved Lions Club may change his/her mind. “Just Ask!”

Lion Pete Conarty, GMT District 11 E-1 Coordinator

Cadillac Lions



Cadillac KidSight

Recently the Cadillac Lions Club was invited to hold a Project KidSight for the Cadillac area public school. Over 2 visits all the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten children in Cadillac at all 4 of the elementary schools were screened. Using 2 of our new "Spot" cameras we screened 229 students averaging about 1.5 minutes per child. The schools were very impressed as were we with the screenings and it was a GREAT learning experience and test of our district newest cameras. Lots of tips and tricks were learned and lots of smiles and laughs from the children as pictures were taken by this goofy guy wearing a lion hat and the chirping birds in the camera caught the children's attention. Thanks to PDG Dan Gibbons one of our District KidSight chairs for helping with this screening and helping to make this a HUGH success! TV 9&10 covered our 1st screening and the Cadillac Newspaper covered our 2nd so it was GREAT PR for our project and Lions! 31 children were referred as a result of this screening!

A PARENT'S 'FEEL GOOD' COMMENT FOR CADILLAC LIONS CLUB

A parent called Project KidSight Central Office on January 30th. She told Executive Director Linda Bosma that her child received the 'gift of sight' from the Cadillac Lions.

She expressed 'great gratitude' to the Lions that screened her child at the Cadillac School screening on January 11th. The parent said she was shocked that her child received the referral packet but immediately made an appointment with the local eye Doctor anyway. Her child has glasses now. The parent stated there were no indications previous to the Lions screening that her child had any difficulty with her sight.

She asked Executive Director Linda Bosma to send a special thank-you to the Cadillac Lions Club Members so they will know how important they are to her family.

HURRAH TO CADILLAC LIONS!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS THAT ARE PROMOTING PROJECT KIDSIGHT SCREENINGS IN DISTRICT 11E1

If your club is interested in screening in schools:

Lions have a **Memorandum of Understanding** between *Lions of Michigan Project KidSight* and *Michigan Department of Community Health*.

The details of the Memorandum clarify the mandates for the Michigan Department of Community Health under the Rules of the State of Michigan Public Health Code.

The Memorandum also details the Lions Clubs authority to schedule screenings where the Health Department technicians do not schedule screenings.

Lions are **NOT authorized to approach schools** for screenings BUT IF WE ARE RECRUITED **BY THE SCHOOLS** FOR THE SCREENINGS OF THEIR CHILDREN the School **MUST** sign the attached document stating **we are NOT replacing** the Department of Public health screenings.

If you have any questions please contact one of the 11E1 Project KidSight Co-Chairs: Lion Lloyd Helder, MD (989-773-2520), PDG Dan Gibbons (231-889-4870), PCC Janalee McClure (231-689-1321) or 2nd Vice Governor Tim Anderson (231-775-2939). 2nd Vice Governor Tim is our 'politically correct' document guru for our SPOT Cameras.

As a reminder: our Lion Clubs are **not authorized to approach the schools** for screenings BUT if the schools recruit Lions for screening in their school it is acceptable. Just have the proper document signed by the school before you proceed.

2012 11-C1 & 11-E1 Annual Convention

March 30, 31 & April 1, 2012

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 28th St., Grand Rapids, MI



**This year we will be celebrating with an
Country & Western Theme**

You'll regret not wearing something Country or Western

**Friday's reception will be highlighted with
Country Music and some surprises!**

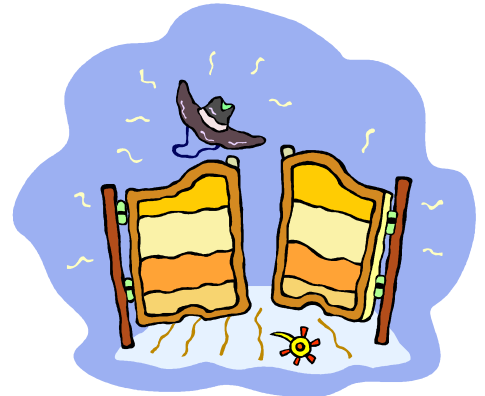
Friday's Reception begins at 6:00

Great Training Sessions Saturday Morning

Silent Auction of great prizes

Elections of our 2012 – 2013 Officers

Hospitality Rooms on Friday & Saturday



Join us as we celebrate the 2011-2012 Lions Year

For Room Reservations

Contact the

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Grand Rapids, MI

616-957-1770

Room Cost - \$85.00



Speaker International Director

Lion Douglas X. Alexander

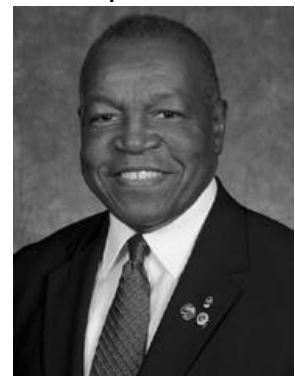
Will be speaking at Lunch on

Saturday with his main

speech.



For more information and
Registration contact your club
President or Secretary. Forms can
also be obtained on your district
website or call Debbie Kreitner
616-754-8409



These boots are made for dancing!



Greenville Lions Club Charity Golf Classic

1st Annual

DATE: May 19th, 2012
TIME: Registration at 8:00 am. Shotgun start at 9:00 am.
PLACE: Brookside Golf Course and Grill
1518 S. Johnson Rd
Gowen, Michigan 49326

Tournament Committee

Marketing/Sales/Promotions:

Steve Bursach
Andy Hurst
John Moy
Kyle Madole

Events Committee:

Sheri Bursach
John Hackett
E.J. Paas
Roger Wilson

ENTRY FEE: \$50.00 per golfer. (\$200.00 per team)

Entry Fee Includes:

Green Fees
Cart
Catered Lunch
Each Player will receive a "Goodie Bag"

Contests:

Hole-in-one for a new car.
Longest Drive
Closest to the pin
Longest putt
& many more.....

Format:

Tournament will be played in 4-person scramble format.
Individuals are encouraged to sign-up and will placed on a team.



For more information see: www.g lions.net

or our  Facebook page "Greenville Lions Club Golf Classic"

For more information please call John Moy @ 616-754-7324 or lionsgolfclassic@charter.net