



District 11-E1, District Governor Lion John Monahan
“Together We Serve” **“October Newsletter 2011”**



District Governor John & Carolyn Monahan

Fellow Lions,

We have two new cabinet positions in our district this year: Global Membership Team District Coordinator and Global Leadership Team District Coordinator. Our GMT Coordinator is Lion Pete Conarty; our GLT Coordinator is Past Council Chair Lion Dick Perrin. These two Lions are responsible for keeping the District in business by maintaining or increasing membership and by training club officers and discovering and nurturing future leaders. These functions are vital to maintaining any organization. Further, of course, they insure that Lionism continues in the heart of Michigan.

Both Lions Pete and Dick coordinate their activities through 1st Vice Governor Lion Bill Simpson and 2nd Vice Governor Lion Tim Anderson as well as through the Multiple District Coordinators, PDG Lion Wayne Kreitner and PDG Lion Brian Shepard. Thus, their roles are complicated; they coordinate through two people with different perspectives, but the same desire: to make Lionism in Michigan stronger. Lion Pete has done a great deal of club officer training this year and Lion Dick has taken that task over and begun holding training sessions. Training is very important for two groups of Lions. For Lions who are new to a club officer position, training helps them discover their full set of duties and obtain the skills necessary to accomplish them. For Lions who are experienced in their positions, training reminds them of their duties and gives them a chance to improve their skills, but more importantly, it gives them a chance to share their experiences with Lions who are new to the position. It is helpful to all if experienced Lions in club officer positions come to club officer training; they can learn a little and give a lot.

Another task of our GMT and GLT coordinators, as well as all district officers and district Lions is to encourage potential Lion leaders to become leaders within their clubs and to attend the Higgins Lake Leadership Institutes if possible. If you are willing to become a Lions Leader, Higgins Lake Institute is a great place to get started. You don't have to want to be International President or even District Governor for Higgins Lake to be a valuable experience. The leadership skills presented there are useful in many situations from business to church to home. I hope you will consider attending the Institute in the near future.

The major new initiative from GMT and GLT this year is the Club Excellence Process. As the title states, this is a process by which clubs can maximize their potential to serve their community and their ability to recruit new members. It consists of two parts; the first is a community needs assessment. Using this process a club can find out and prioritize the important, unmet needs in the local community, after, all we are community organizations serving our communities. The second part is a club assessment, determining how well a club operates in four areas: club meetings, membership, club activities, and personal satisfaction. The assessment is based on a survey, filled out during a club meeting and summarized by GLT facilitator. The information is then given back to the club so that they can discuss it and determine

what they think they should do. The entire process is built around the club so that the club can determine what is best to do.

I hope you will invite me to one of your club meetings so that I can meet each of you and tell you more about what is going on in the district.
Let's get together soon,

John Monahan
DG 11-E1

International Convention in Korea 2012

Lions Club International Convention in Busan, South Korea. The convention runs from Friday, June 22, 2012 through Tuesday, June 26, 2012.

The annual highlights include the International Parade on Saturday morning, June 23, the International Night Show that same evening and Humanitarian Year Award as well as other internationally known speakers and presenters.

This year the convention returned to a traditional format being hosted over a weekend stay. This helps make a pre or post-convention stops of a few days to catch up on jet lag and yet not take more time from a busy schedules.

Michigan Night will be a little less formal as it will include a dinner gathering at a local Korean restaurant on Sunday evening.

Michigan's Delegation Hotel is the Haeundae Centum. We are pleased to announce that it is next to the convention center. The cost per night is very comfortable at \$137.00, tax included. We will be in this hotel with delegations from 10 other delegations from the United States plus Canada and New Zealand.

1st Vice District Governor Lion Bill Simpson we be installed as our new governor for the 2013-13 Lion's year.

Reservations for the convention can be made on-line by using www.lionsclubs.org Also; you may register by using the registration form in the October Lions Magazine found on page 30. Register before December 31, 2011 and the registration fee is \$100.00 per registrant.

If you have any questions, please contact PDG Lion Harry Johnson at 231-745-4524 or lionharry@maxnet-usa.net PDG Lion Harry Johnson is on the International Convention Committee.



1st Vice District Governor Lion Bill & Vickie Simpson

This year's US - Canadian Forum was held in Anchorage, Alaska from Sept. 22nd thru 24th. The setting in Anchorage was near perfect including the approach of the short but spectacular fall color season. Anchorage changed my perception of the Alaskan wilderness. This is a city larger in population than Grand Rapids with lots of tourist activities to fill your days. Vickie and I went a few days early and were able to sightsee and hike until our legs and camera batteries were exhausted. We hiked up to Exit Glacier, visited Prince William sound, traveled thru a 2 ½ mile long tunnel, saw a humpback whale (a small one - only 30 feet long), sea lions, otters, moose, jellyfish a foot in diameter and scenery only available on the National Geographic channel. What a great place for those who like the outdoors. We rode in an aerial tram and ascended 2200 feet on a 4500 tall mountain to view ski trails, glaciers and golden aspen trees in full autumn color. It was a wonderful trip and made just the more enjoyable with the association of fellow Lions from across the US and the Canadian provinces. One night at a banquet, after attending our classes, we sat with District Governors from Alaska. The forum was their show and they were very proud of the time and effort they invested to show off their home state. We talked with them of common problems and were very interested to learn how club visitations were handled in their district. Some of these Governors' clubs are 700 miles apart. To complete their visitations, they left home early Monday morning and didn't return until Friday evening. This schedule continued for a period of six weeks! The clubs, very mindful of the distances, provided hotel accommodations or space in their own homes to aid them on their way. The Governors had up to 66 clubs to visit and most tried to complete visits before winter really sets in by December.

The Forum provided classes on lots of topics for every interest in Lionism. They covered promotion, legal advice, training for zone chairs, 1st and 2nd VDGs, using social media, and the resources provided by Lions International to name only a few. In addition, the keynote speakers were extremely motivational and made you proud to be part of an organization that gives aid to so many people.

I would strongly recommend attending the Forum to help develop and broaden your knowledge of Lionism. Future Forums will be held in Tampa, Florida 2012, 2013 in Overland Park, Kansas, 2014 in Puerto Rico and Grand Rapids, Michigan 2015.

Lion Bill, 1st VDG



2nd Vice District Governor Lion Tim & Chris Anderson

Greetings Fellow Lions

Fall has officially/unofficially arrived at least in my area the trees seem to think so; the colors are vibrant one day then disappearing the next with the leaves having fallen and landing all over the ground which can get discouraging if you've already taken the time to rake and clean up your yard.

Working hard at something anything, taking the time, putting in the effort, gaining that sense of satisfaction with a job well done just to look again a short time later and see your right back where you started if not even farther behind can get you down.

This can almost make you want to throw up your hands and walk away but you don't! You go back out and rake and clean and if need rake and clean again taking the time and "PRIDE" in your home and community wanting to do whatever you can to make it look its best, wanting at least in your own part of it to make a difference.

Of course if the work is too much just for one person then you might recruit some of your family, your friends, and even your neighbors to come over and help. Involve your kids, grandkids, make it FUN! You must all remember as kids raking up piles of leaves then jumping into them or having leave fights with your friends. Including kids, younger people can brighten up even enthuse a project, and who knows maybe their ideas and spirit might just rub off on those around them.

Ok by now you've figured out that everything I have been saying also applies to Lions, we can all get discouraged at times even feel overwhelmed but we keep on "raking" knowing what we do DOES make a difference. The Boy Scout troop that gets help from the Lions, or the food pantry, free clinic, the list could go on and on; we as Lions touch affect so many lives. We are a family, we are the "PRIDE" of our Communities, be proud that you're a Lion and just let our Community "PRIDE" shine through. BELIEVE!

Community "PRIDE" - Lions we make a difference!

Thanks, Yours in Lionism

Tim Anderson, 2nd VDG

Please feel free contact me about coming to visit your club!

Nomination Procedures

Lions who wish to run for a district office (Governor, 1st VDG, 2nd VDG or Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee) are reminded to send in their intent letters by **Monday, January 30, 2012.** The letter should come from the club's secretary, signed by the club president indicating the club's support and sent to the persons indicated below. If you have any questions, please contact the Nominations Chair who is listed below.

Nomination Procedures:

Any qualified member of a club in the district seeking the office of District Governor, 1st Vice-District or 2nd Vice-District Governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the (1) Nominating Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening session (**March 30, 2012**) of the District Convention, with copies to the (2) Cabinet Secretary and (3) Multiple District Executive Secretary and furnish evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the district convention the name(s) of all candidate(s) so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. A candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Nominations for the office of Trustee of the Foundation shall be written and shall be certified by the President or Secretary of the Nominee's Lions Club as being the act of a majority of the members of the Club, and shall be filed with the District Nominations Committee Chairperson not less than (60) days prior to the convening date of the District Convention (**March 30, 2012**). The procedure and rules for nominating and electing a trustee of the foundation shall be the same as for District officers, which are indicated in Article 1 of these By-Laws.

Lion Dick Perrin, PDG
Nominations Chair
13948 Jet Drive
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: 231-796-5675
email: perrinr@hotmail.com

BOTTOM UP COMMITMENT AND TOP DOWN SUPPORT FROM ALL!

State GMT Chair PDG Lion Wayne Kreitner

To the Lions of this Great State of Michigan MD-11

While thinking of many things to say to every one of you, I think of one thing that comes to mind and it comes from my heart? **WHY? Why** did you become a Lion? **Why** are you still a Lion? **Why** do you support your community and **why** haven't you asked a friend, fellow worker, your wife or even your child to serve with you? Again **why** do you work so hard to support this group? **Why** do you have fun with your fellow Lions? **Why** are they like your family? **Why** don't you just stay at home and forget the whole thing? **Why**, because I don't think that you became a Lion to give up and walk away. **Why** don't you think of a new way to get people involved in this great organization? How can we do that, it's called **commitment**. **Commitment** comes from the bottom to the top or from the club level to the District Governor. If we all work as one, we can succeed in anything that we put our mind too.

Lions Club International has started new programs GLT and GMT Global Leadership and Global Membership teams. I have heard many comments like; the last program didn't work so they changed the name and started all over. I believe that in my 40 years as a Lion, I have never seen such **commitment** from an organization to work at growth, training and leadership as we are seeing from Lions Clubs International. **Commitment is to work with all Lions, to help with growth and training**. Let's give these programs a chance to succeed, this commitment and work has to come from the club members and all the way to the International President. For these reasons both I and my GMT Group along with GLT chair and his groups are asking for your **commitment** to help the MD-11 grow, succeed and live in our communities forever. If for any reason that you or your club or district wants more information, please contact PDG, GLT Chair Brian Shephard e-mail: bl.shephard@comcast.net or PDG, GMT Chair Wayne Kreitner e-mail: wkreitner@charter.net for information and your district coordinators name.

We in this State are blessed with the greatest leadership program and instructors of any multiple district in the world and I do not believe that after people go through the program, not all Lions put it to use and I say not all because from the ranks of Higgins Lake have come some of our greatest leaders, Lions and Instructors. I have talked to many Lions who say that they use what they learn there not only for Lions but for business or personal use. The leadership is succeeding and now we need the growth. I know that I say from the bottom to the top, it has to start at the club level. We are all great Lions remember the old saying "**JUST ASK,**" and we will be there to help.

REMEMBER IT STARTS AT THE BOTTOM ON THE CLUB LEVEL AND GOES ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP AND THAT'S COMMITMENT. LET'S GIVE IT A CHANCE TO SUCCEED!!

Lake Ann Lions



Lake Ann Camp opened its doors to Camp Quality in 2010 and for the second year the Lake Ann Lions Club donated refreshments (pop, juice, water and snacks) and provided set up and clean up for the two dances that Camp Quality puts on for their campers. Dances usually take place at the Lake Ann Elementary School but this year one dance was held at Jacob Witkop's Barn due to the theme being western this year! At Witkop's they also had hay rides and went through the famous corn mazes! Lake Ann Lions Club will be providing our services for as long as Camp Quality will have us!

Camp Quality provides the ability...to allow children with cancer to be children again...creates exciting activities, fosters new friendships and helps give children courage, motivation and emotional strength.

To learn more about the camp go to www.campqualityusa.org/mi

Cedar Maple City Lions



Monday Sept. 12, 2011 the Cedar/Maple City Lions held their annual raffle with 60 donated prizes. Left photo Lions Rob Serbin, Kary Tosch, Jim Lyskawa (chairman) and Tom Triebes did the honors. Right photo, Lions Rob Serbin, Kary Tosch, Jim Lyskawa and the official observer was Buddy, chairman Lion Jims Lyskawa's "Yorkie Poo".

Midland Lions



Announcing: Lions Club Social Night Tuesday October 18 "It's Magic"

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 18, for our Lion's Club Social Night. A time to bring your spouse, significant other, best friend or potential new member To an evening extravaganza. The dinner menu includes appetizer, main course including Beef Wellington and concluding with Flaming Cherries Jubilee. The program is Gene Anderson, the most intriguing practitioner of the Art of Deception. The dinner will be served at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3701 Jefferson, at 6 p.m. Reservations will be made through the normal process. The cost will be at least \$15.00. Hope to see you on the 18th.
The Social Committee: Lions Bernie Philabaum, Sandy House and Dick Bukowski

CHICKEN BBQ REPORT

Profits this year were approximately \$600 less than last year. The reasons included fewer pre-sales by Lions and fewer sales at the Tridge coupled with higher food costs. On a high note, off-site sales picked up totaling 325 meals, up from 175 last year. The operation went smoothly with Lions on site performing in an excellent manner. One change recommended for next year is the serving of applesauce. Because we package the applesauce, the health department has tight restrictions on temperature levels which are difficult to maintain within limits. If we serve this next year, we will change to pre-package packets which do not require such tight restrictions. Next year we will also seek more sponsors for food items to help keep costs down, realizing a higher net profit. Lion Ostler indicated he has a sponsor lined up for the potatoes. All in all, it was another highly successful event.

Fremont Lions



Lions International Outstanding Club Patch
Presented to King Lion Ron Gibson by PDG Lion Lynnwood Mast.

Coleman Lions



On Saturday, September 17, Coleman Lions Club celebrated 71 years serving the community. Our third annual "Charter Night" fundraiser was a fun evening of games and drawings as well as a delicious catered dinner. 130 friends attended the event, including PDG Wayne Kreitner and Lion Deb and PDG Lynwood Mast and Lion Jan. There was a bidding war on home baked sour dough bread for the third year in a row with 3 of the 5 loaves going for \$100 each! We also had our annual raffle drawing that night, and for the first time ever, all three winners were Coleman residents, two of whom were present that night. Lion Esther Gordon, pictured with her daughters, won the top prize, a 23 " HDTV. Our special thanks to everyone who bought our raffle tickets and or attended Charter Night. You have helped us continue to do good things in our community another year!

News from Lions International

An announcement was made in Anchorage of the location for the 2015 USA\CANADA Leadership forum. The Lions of Michigan will again be hosting the Forum in Grand Rapids! This is a great opportunity to hear exciting speakers and attend up to 8 workshops that will hone knowledge of Lionism. Plan to attend!

Luther Lions

Sept. 3rd 2011, the Luther Lions Club sponsored a Horse pull at the club. The winning team is owned by Sid Miedema from Hudsonville MI. The team pulled 6500 pounds. The horse pull is becoming an annual event. The club also held a craft show and a concession. It was a good fund raiser and many people attended.



Cadillac Lions Clean-up

The Cadillac Lions hit the road recently working their fall highway clean-up project tackling a stretch of M115 near Cadillac. 4 Lions clad in yellow reflective vests armed only with "Litter Sticks" (short stick with a pointy end) spent 8 hours combing the roadsides and collected 13 bags of discarded trash. Besides the trash collected a Priority Health Medical Card was found and subsequently returned to its owner and in another area of the roadway a wallet containing \$9 was found and turned into the Michigan State Police Post to hopefully be returned to its owner.

Cedar Maple City Lions



On Monday October 10, 2011, the Cedar/Maple City Lions honored their 3 Charter Members for 47 years of service. The photo was taken after they lit the Lions Memorial Candle. Left to right; are Charter Lions, Robert Stachnik, Glen Noonan & Charles Flaska.

IPDG Laura & PDG Harry Johnson Trip to Alaska



While in Anchorage to attend the USA/CANADA Forum, PDG's Laura and Harry Johnson had time to take a road trip north to the Fairbanks area. While driving around the area, being your typical tourist, they came to the community of Fox, Alaska. Going in the only gas station in the town, PDG Laura noticed cook books being sold. So she bought two copies, only to discover the Fox Lions clubs were the ones selling them. She inquired about when and where they meet. So off they drove, across the street, behind the Weigh Station, turning down an alley like, dirt trail only to find the Fox Lion's Den! Although it was not their meeting day, there were several cars there, so we decided to go up and knock. We were greeted by Lion Carol White Bear. After we exchanged greetings and told her we were in Alaska for the forum, she gave us a tour of the two story building. The upstairs was the clubs' meeting room, complete with a wet bar and full kitchen. Lion Carol took on the task of bringing the kitchen up to code to get it certified as a licensed commercial facility. In gratitude for her effort, the club allows her to rent the kitchen area to run her cheesecake and sandwich business. She supplies the newly opened Fort Knox gold mine with over two hundred sandwiches per day, plus cookies and desserts! She also has taken on the task of club historian. Having over 75 members, they have collected hundreds of friendship banners over the years. She has two entire walls covered with them so far, with enough more to cover a third wall! The downstairs is used for community purposes. They have a large display case showing photos of their many fund raisers and service projects. I was very surprised to see a LEADER DOG banner patch among the collection! Lion Carol said they have supported Leader Dogs for many years. Way to go Fox Lions! The club just finished their big service project of the year, a community wide appreciation picnic, complete with children's games and prizes. That is their way of thanking the local residents for supporting their club. Before leaving, PDG Laura was able to trade pins with Lion Carol. They were also able to buy a Fox Lions hat and shirt. The shirt shows a photo of a child sitting on Santa's lap, with the caption stating "Santa is a Fox Lion!" The current DG Juanita Webb is from their club and from District 49-B.



Pictured are Lion Barb Pellerin from 11-C1, IPDG Laura & IP Tam.

Standing room only at Fall Conference

If you missed this year's Fall Conference you missed a lot! With the theme being summer vacation there were toys scattered long the tables to play with, the Cubs running a lemonade stand handing out beverages and some of the Fremont Leos helping out in the kitchen and checking people in at the front door.

Besides all that we had excellent speakers from our State and District Projects, tasty food and you got to enjoy the companionship of 71 of your fellow Lions. The highlight was the hands on demonstration with a prototype of the new PediaVision Camera.

Anyone who wanted to was able to try it out to see just how easy and accurate these new SPOT cameras are. We also had a great Q&A with Steve Lomonaco the PediaVision Representative who did an outstanding job answering all the various questions we threw out at him.

Governor John passed out certificates participation for all of the 23 clubs that were present, a 50/50 was held and I didn't see too many Lions with their fingers stuck in the Chinese Handcuffs that were amongst the toys on the tables.

We would like to thank all the Lions that came and made this event a success, also the White Cloud Lions Club for handling the food, the Cadillac & White Cloud Cubs for helping out and the Fremont Leos that also worked and with their help made this Conference a **GREEN** event recycling the trash from the bins we had placed out. Last but certainly not least our speakers some of whom traveled great distances to be here with us and all of which put on informative presentations for us to enjoy.



Pictured are: Shelia Ferrel (Mesick) tries out the camera; Caro Uhlemann-Short (All State Band);

PDG Brian Shepherd (Welcome Homes)

Cadillac Lions



Project KidSight

Each year on September 11th the Cadillac Fire Department in remembrance of their fallen brothers holds a Child Safety Expo. Service groups and organizations from all over the community come together offering help, ideas, and screenings to protect our children and the Cadillac Lions and Project KidSight are proud participants of this day.

This year we were lucky enough to have Lion Pat McFarland from 11-B2 along with his Digital Camera to help us out. With Lions from White Cloud remaining after the KidSight Training held earlier in the day also helping and community volunteer Michelle Whitley for the 2nd year acting as our registration secretary along with several Cadillac Lions members and Cubs we proceeded to meet great and screen 37 children.

The number of screens was less than ½ of what we did last year but 4 referrals were made and there was even a goofy looking guy with a lion on his head wondering around recruiting and making kids laugh. All in all it was a successful day for the Expo, the kids and Lions. We've already been invited back again next year!