



The Lions' Roar

November 2005 -- news for the Lions of MD5M



Frequently asked questions about Campaign Sightfirst II

Why are Lions concerned with global blindness?

Speaking at the 1925 International Convention Helen Keller, the noted American author who was both blind and deaf, challenged Lions to be "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Lions answered "yes," and ever since, blindness prevention and service to the blind has been Lions highest service priority.

Haven't Lions done enough?

Lions have done much, especially since 1990. In the process, Lions have become respected leaders in the international effort to combat avoidable blindness. If Lions withdrew, no one could take their place. No other organization can match Lions' experience, expertise and commitment.

Will Campaign SightFirst II help my community?

SightFirst helps prevent blindness and restore sight in communities in all parts of the world. In Africa, South Asia and China, which have the largest populations of blind people, SightFirst organizes and sponsors large-scale treatment programs, which can help thousands of people in one day. In Europe, the United States and some parts of Asia, where diabetes is epidemic and glaucoma a significant threat, Lions organize educational programs and provide local screening opportunities.

What does CSFII mean to Lions Clubs International?

SightFirst accomplishments and the depth of Lions dedication to sight have raised the profile of the Association and have made Lions a major force for good on a worldwide scale. CSFII will ensure that Lions do not relinquish their leadership of the place on the world stage.

What does CSFII mean to Lions Club members?

CSFII is every Lion's opportunity to participate in effective service on a worldwide scale - the most comprehensive and far-reaching expression of the "We Serve" spirit.

Will contributions to CSFII count toward Melvin Jones Fellowships?

Yes, any gift to LCIF can be designated for a Melvin Jones Fellowship. However, CSFII seeks funds over and above existing support for LCIF and local projects. Lions should take care to ensure that CSFII fund raising is in addition activities that support other important projects.

How will donors to CSFII be thanked?

Lions Clubs and individual donors will be honored and recognized in proportion to the size of their gift through a formal recognition program that will include banner patch awards, publicity and opportunities to associate their gift with a specific SightFirst project. Details of the program will be provided to all clubs and potential donors before local fund raising begins.

For more information: Campaign Sightfirst II website is www.lions-csfii.org

Campaign news for 2nd VP Candidate PID Ross Thorfinnson

--DG Bert Nelson, Campaign PR Chair



Fireworks in Boston!

If you like fireworks, then you'll head to Boston for the 89th Lions International Convention from June 30th through July 4th. Boston promises to be an exciting place to meet other Lions from around the world and to partake of the hospitality of this great historical city. Note the dates for this convention are different than in the past. The convention will start on a Friday and run through the weekend until Tuesday. Hopefully, this will help more Lions that are working to be able to take off the days they need to attend.

The Thorfinnson for 2nd VP campaign committee would like

to see 500 voting delegates from MD5M at the convention in Boston. When you consider there are over 23,900 lions in our multiple, this should not be a problem for us. If we could encourage "just one" lion from each of the 683 clubs to attend, the international family would recognize our support for PID Ross Thorfinnson as he continues on his quest towards 2nd Vice Presidency.

To learn more about the convention you can go to "<http://www.lionsclubs.org>" and click on convention. There you will find information for the hotels, travel services, itineraries, etc. Information on the specific hotels, such as which hotel will be the delegate hotel, will be available after October 31st. There is also a link to the city of Boston where you can learn about what the city has available, restaurant cuisine, etc. The link is "<http://www.bostonusa.com>".

Please consider this opportunity to attend an international convention, which is close to our multiple both next summer and in 2007 in Chicago.

For more information on Ross Thorfinnson's campaign, contact DG Bert Nelson, Campaign PR Chair ban@eot.com.



These organizations are represented (lt. to rt.) by Lion Joe Fox, Governor Lion Lynn Farley, Lion Deb Pedro, Lion Don Courteau, Lion Bob Reistad, Lion Rolf Overlie & Lion Al Pearson, and kneeling in front are volunteers from the NSP Fire Department. Donations of food and water (400#) were given to Second Harvest and cash collected (\$300) went to the Salvation Army. The purpose of this major fund-raiser during the Fall Round Up was for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Hurricane relief efforts from MD5M

At the Council of Governors meeting held in Mahanomen on October 15th, All 12 District Governors reported on their districts' relief efforts for the hurricane relief in the Gulf Coast area. At that time, \$116,000+ was donated, with most of the money going to LCIF. More donations are still coming in. In order to qualify for a Melvin Jones Fellowship, your donation must be a one time \$1000.00 US contribution to LCIF.

HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF FUND FOUR LIONS CLUBS JOIN TOGETHER!

President of the East Parks Lions club, Deb Pedro (representing the four clubs & White Bear Business Assc.), presented a \$5000 check to Lions District Governor Lynn Farley for the Lions Club International Foundation (Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund). The funds were raised during the North St. Paul Fall Round-up by the Lions clubs from North St. Paul, Maplewood North, Maplewood Oakdale and St. Paul East Parks. North St. Paul Lions donated all their proceeds from their food (brat) stand and St. Paul East Parks Lions their proceeds from their bingo concession. The White Bear Business Association and the North St. Paul Fireman also gave financial donations.

Newsbytes from around the Multiple

5M1- Treasure Island Health Fair November 6 & 7. Adams Lions Club Annual Chicken Fry on December 17, 2005.

5M2- No report

5M3- Aug. 12-13 Jackson Lions participate in Relay for Life, run the Bingo stand, and does an evening meal to kick off the Relay. Jackson Lions donate \$1000.00 to Relay and \$500.00 to sponsor T-shirts. Windom Lions and Windom Park and Recreation did a Buffalo Chili Feed and served 354 people. Proceeds will go to Leader Dog for the Blind a 5M3 District Project for Leader Dogs 30th Anniversary.

5M4- A bus tour was provided by the Watson Lions Club for Senior Citizens around Lac Qui Parle Lake. Danube Lions participated in diabetes screening.

5M5- The Minneapolis Hiawatha Lions Club will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on Thursday November 17, 2005.

5M6- Hastings Lions Club provided lunch to the Special

Olympics Golf Tourney. They served 120 athletes and 40 adults. Apple Valley Lions Club has donated over \$11,000 over the last 10 years to the Grace Community Meal Program and is the largest supporter of the program outside the church.

5M7- The Minnesota Wellness van is celebrating 15 years of service to the people in District 5M7. The Wellness Van provides cholesterol, blood pressure and diabetes screenings at events around the district.

5M8- St. Augusta Lions Club is sponsoring their 2nd annual Haunted House as a fundraiser.

5M9- The Battle Lake Lions Club is having a Meatball Dinner on January 20, 2006, in the high school multipurpose room before the Battle Lake/Underwood Boys Basketball game.

5M10- The Kenora Lake of the Woods Lions have raised more than \$90,000.00 since last year for the Ophthalmology surgical unit of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital. Their goal is \$300,000.00!

5M11- Crookston Lions participated in Oxcart Days Activities like float building, corn and brat fundraiser and bed races. The Newfolden Lions delivered Meals on Wheels and set up donated playground equipment at an elementary school.

5M13- The Sandy Lake Lions Club in Manitoba helped raise \$10,000 for "Baby Hannah," who was born with a heart defect. She has had 2 operations so far in Edmonton. Meanwhile the Roblin Lions are planning their 30th anniversary.

Please come to Boston for the good times...

**NEW CONVENTION LOCATION
AND DATES ANNOUNCED!**

The 89th Annual Lions Clubs International Convention will be held in **Boston**, Massachusetts, USA

Friday, June 30 through **Tuesday, July 4, 2006**

Plan now to join us in Boston next summer!
Registration information is available at:

www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/news_conv_register.shtml

Newsletter contest winner

This was a tough one! Congratulations to PDG Linus Dingmann, who correctly found the exclamation point in the October newsletter. It was found on page 2 in the paragraph in parentheses (My .02... Thorf!nnson.) PDG Linus' name was randomly drawn from the correct guesses to win this month's prize.

For winning the October newsletter contest, PDG Linus receives a roaring lion.

To qualify for the random drawing of the correct guesses, you must email me back with the location of the exclamation point that is used incorrectly.

Look for it in this issue and get your entry in today!

Email: atbailey@midwestinfo.net

Important Dates to remember

March 15 - 17, 2006 DGE Training Location TBA

March 18 - 19, 2006 Council of Governors Location TBA

April 28 - 30, 2006 MD5M Convention & Council Meeting, Rochester, Minnesota

The Last Word

Just a quick note on publication dates for this newsletter. I want to be able to get it out by the first week of each month. If you send me news about your club, district, etc., before that, I may be able to use it in the upcoming newsletter. I appreciate your help in getting this newsletter off to a good start and I hope that it is something that you enjoy reading and is of some benefit to you and your district and/or club.

Allen Bailey
MD5M Public Relations Chair

