



OFFICIAL CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

**SINGLE DISTRICT 10
LIONS OF MICHIGAN**

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

May 19-21, 2006

Published by
LIONS OF MICHIGAN STATE OFFICE
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**84th ANNUAL CONVENTION
SINGLE DISTRICT 10 - LIONS OF MICHIGAN
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN
MAY 19-21, 2006**



MIX & MEET
MAY 19, 2006 - 6:00 p.m.
Peacock Cove, Cislser Center, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



BUSINESS SESSION
MAY 20, 2006 - 9:00 a.m.
Fine Arts Center, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by District Governor Richard Johnsen. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation, dignitaries and guests were introduced.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT - Bill Whippen, PDG

1. **Order of Business:** Except as herein otherwise provided, the "Order of Business" shall be in the order given in the Business Session Agenda, a copy of which has been furnished each certified delegate and alternate.
2. **Deviation from the "Order of Business":** Deviation from the "Order of Business" as adopted by the convention shall occur only when authorized by proper motion approved by a majority of the delegates duly assembled.
3. **First "Order of Business":** The first "Order of Business" shall be the report of the Credentials Committee. No other business shall be transacted until the Credentials Committee shall have certified the number of delegates and alternates registered at the convention.
4. **Second "Order of Business":** The second "Order of Business" shall be the report of the Rules Committee. No other business shall be transacted until the Rules shall have been adopted.
5. **Parliamentary Procedure:** Except where otherwise herein provided, the "Newly Revised Edition of Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern matters of Parliamentary Procedure.
6. **Quorum:** A quorum for any duly scheduled meeting shall consist one more than half of the registered delegates certified to the Convention by the Credentials Committee and present at such meetings.
7. **Resolutions:** All proposed resolutions, except amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall be presented to the Convention by the Chair of the Constitution and By-Laws under the conditions prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
8. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws:**

- A. **Amendments:** Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be presented to the Convention by the Chair of the Constitution and By-Laws under the conditions prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
 - B. **Discussion:** Except as authorized by the Chair, discussion shall be limited to one principal speaker for and one principal speaker against, and three additional speakers each, pro and con. All discussion on any one amendment shall be limited to fourteen (14) minutes.
 - C. **Voting:** Any vote pertaining to amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, or resolutions requiring a vote, shall be by show of hands, except where otherwise required by the Constitution and By-Laws of District 10 and Lions International.
9. **Limitations on Speakers:**
- D. **Subjects Before the Convention:** Each speaker discussing any matter, including proposed amendments or resolutions requiring a vote, shall be limited to three (3) minutes. An additional three (3) minutes shall be granted by the Chair without objection from the delegates.
 - E. **Presentations:** Presentations shall be limited to the time allowed by the presiding officer.
10. **Duties of the Sergeants-At-Arms:** The Sergeants-At-Arms are authorized to enforce the rules herein set forth.
11. **Suspension of the Rules:** Suspension of the Rules may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates assembled.
12. **Call for Nominations:** The Call for Nominations shall be made three times before a motion to close nominations is in order.

MOTION – Whippen, seconded, to adopt the Rules. Motion carried.

CREDENTIALS REPORT – Barry Frisk

The Credentials Committee reports that 80 delegates are certified for the convention from 26 clubs.

MOTION – Doubledee, seconded, to accept the Credentials Report. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION – made, seconded, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL HANSEN, CANDIDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

Past International Director John Walker introduced PDG Bill Hansen, who has been endorsed by MD 11 to run for the office of International Director. PDG Hansen explained that the concerns of the Lions of SD 10 are the same as those of other districts. Membership, retention, and leadership are crucial concerns throughout Michigan. Lions need to look at things from a new perspective, to be innovative and creative in order to survive. The continuing loss of membership and clubs in Michigan and throughout the United States represents a huge loss of revenues, as well as a loss of service. PDG Hansen asked the Lions to communicate their concerns to him. He

emphasized that it is individual Lion members who implement actions taken by the Lions International Board, so their input is essential.

MOTION – Schermer, Jim Olson, to have the Lions of Single District 10 endorse Bill Hansen as Michigan’s candidate for International Director. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 30, 2005 MINUTES

MOTION – made, seconded, to approve the minutes of last year’s convention as printed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Bruce LaBelle, SD 10 Treasurer

The Lions of Michigan Single District 10 checking account began the fiscal year with a balance of \$21,950.78 on June 30, 2005. Total income for the fiscal year was \$25,086.97, with disbursements totaling \$26,128.12, leaving a balance of \$20,909.63 on May 15, 2006. Income minus expenses resulted in a loss to date of \$1,041.15.

The Hearing & Speech Restricted Account began the fiscal year with a balance of \$1,320.95. Twelve Lions Clubs donated an additional \$975.00 this year, with one disbursement of \$183.27 to the Grand Traverse Ophthalmology Clinic for \$183.27, leaving a balance on May 19, 2006 of \$2,112.68. Donations were received from the following Lions Clubs:

Bark River - \$100	Escanaba - \$50	Negaunee - \$100
Carney-Nadeau - \$100	Gladstone - \$50	Powers-Spalding - \$25
Chippewa - \$100	Marquette - \$50	Rapid River - \$200
Daggett - \$50	Menominee - \$50	Rudyard - \$100

The Vision Equipment Fund is another restricted account, and it has a balance of \$81.22

The Sight First II Restricted Account that was established on January 6, 2006 within the SD 10 account was dissolved on May 8, 2006 at the request of PDG Joe Potvin, Sight First II District Co-Chairperson. The \$100 donated by the Chippewa Lions Club was disbursed to LCIF for Campaign Sight First II.

The SD 10 Cabinet made donations totaling \$647.83 during the 2005-06 fiscal year. The following organizations were the recipients of these monies:

1 st Cabinet Meeting Fines	Bay Cliff Health Camp Capital Campaign	\$39.55
	Lions of Michigan Service Foundation	200.00
2 nd Cabinet Meeting Fines	Northwoods Air Lifeline	45.00
	Lions of MI Leadership Institute	300.00
3 rd Cabinet Meeting Fines	Project Kid Sight	30.00
Sara Doubledee Donation	Bay Cliff Health Camp Capital Campaign	33.28

Dues are still outstanding from two clubs: Gulliver (\$76.05) and Ottawa (\$45.63), for a total of \$121.68.

MOTION – Klaus, seconded, to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

PROPOSED BUDGET – Bruce LaBelle, SD 10 Treasurer

Four budget proposals were presented for 2006-2007, all based on 1,950 members. (However, actual totals to date show 1,917 members.) Proposed budget #1 includes no cuts or dues increases, but it eliminates or combines a few committees. It will result in a net loss of \$4,135.00. This means in 4-5 years, if no changes are made, the district will be broke.

Proposal #2 increases dues by \$.85 per year, eliminates Cabinet and Advisory meals, and decreases the mileage reimbursement from \$.26 to \$.20 per mile. If adopted, budget proposal #2 would result in a loss of \$1,316.50.

Proposal #3 increases dues by \$1.32 per member per year, eliminates Cabinet and Advisory meals, decreases the mileage reimbursement from \$.26 to \$.20 per mile, and decreases support for Project KidSight by \$400. Adoption of this proposal would result in a break-even budget.

Proposal #4 increases dues by \$1.35 per year to \$11.50/year, eliminates Cabinet and Advisory meals, decreases the mileage reimbursement from \$.26 to \$.20 per mile, and decreases support for Project KidSight by \$400. Adoption of Proposal #4 would result in a budget surplus of \$58.50.

The Cabinet voted on Friday to adopt Proposal #4, but it was amended to increase district dues to \$12/year (total increase of \$1.85). The \$400 allocation for Project KidSight was also reinstated.

MOTION – Myers, Klaus, to adopt budget proposal #4, along with the amendments approved by the Cabinet. Motion carried.

ALL STATE BAND REPORT (written) – Jenny Ware, PDG, Chair

The band consists of 80 students from across the state of Michigan, with three from District 10. The most current report regarding donations shows that 21 clubs in SD 10 donated a total of \$1,430 to the band's administrative account and over \$300 to students. Donations continue to come in, and I am hoping we can attain our district goal of \$3,000.

The band will hold pre-tour rehearsals on June 22-25 at Michigan State University. They will leave for Boston on June 26 and return on July 5. The band tour includes multiple events, including performances at the Lions International Convention in Boston, the National Battlefield at Gettysburg, Independence Mall in Philadelphia, and a VA Hospital in Boston. It will be a fun-filled 9-day trip for the staff and students.

It is with pleasure that I introduce Lion Debbie Bengry from the Marquette Lions Club as my All State Band Co-Chair for next year. Debbie is an energetic Lion with an

exceptional musical background. I look forward to working with her in the months to come.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the All State Band Chair for our district. It has been a pleasure and ongoing reminder why I enjoy Lionism.

PROJECT KIDSIGHT – Chuck Nicklas, VDG, Co-Chair

This has been an exciting year for Project Kid Sight. In the last 12 months, the Lions of SD 10 have held 17 screenings. They screened 312 preschool-aged children. Six were referred for further testing. Two that we are aware of have required and received corrective eye wear. We also held six trainings and currently have 39 Lions trained to perform screenings.

In March, with the collaboration of the Intrepid Teens 4-H Club from Rapid River, Jenny Ware was able to write and submit a grant to the Hannaville 2% matching funds grant. This grant requests money to buy another MTI Photoscreener camera and enough money to provide screenings to 700 preschool-aged children in Delta and Menominee Counties. The goal is to use this grant as a template to seek other grants from around the Upper Peninsula. Jenny will be presenting at the fall meeting of the UP Ophthalmology Association in September. Her goal is to get their input regarding this screening process and to seek their support to help ensure our future.

The enthusiasm for this project is overwhelming! Lion Bruce Hallinen from Trenary has agreed to take over the co-chair position from me and to assist Jenny in continuing this vision saving project. We would also like to acknowledge the dedication and support of Lion Willy LaMarch from the Wells Lions Club who has been instrumental in screening over 160 children in Delta County. Last but not least, thanks to Governor Richard Johnsen for his participation in the photo screenings and his ongoing education to the Lions Clubs he visited throughout the year.

2005-06 Club Donations –

Chocolay Twp - \$50	Menominee - \$100
Daggett - \$25	Munising - \$100
Escanaba - \$100	Negaunee - \$20
Ishpeming - \$20	Powers-Spalding Lioness - \$50
Lake Linden-Hubbell - \$100	Rapid River - \$200
Marquette - \$50	Skandia - \$50
Mackinac Island - \$100	Wells - \$300

District Photo Fund:

Bark River - \$250

In-Kind Donations:

\$931.98

Children Screened by Age from 1/1/06 to 5/4/06

Age	Children Screened	Unreadable	Referred
6-12 mo.	6	2 33.33%	0 0.00%
1	78	78 23.08%	3 3.85%
2	94	94 19.15%	3 3.19%

3	219	219	14.16%	3	1.37%
4	329	30	9-12%	8	2.43%
5	122	9	7.38%	2	1.64%
6	9	0	0.00%	1	0.00%
8	3	1	3.33%	0	0.00%
9	1	0	0.00%	0	0.00%

Referrals by Diagnosis from 1/1/05 to 1/1/06

<u>Diagnosis</u>	<u>Number of Occurrences</u>
Anisometropia (Refractory problem)	24
Astigmatism (Irregular Cornea)	49
High Hyperopia (Farsightedness)	14
High Myopia (Nearsightedness)	1
Strabismus (Crossed Eye)	27
Other	6

BAY CLIFF REPORT – Tracee Charboneau Kauppila

Bay Cliff is raising funds through a capital campaign. Last year the SD 10 Lions took on the cost of one building (Shady Nook) as “their” project. They planned to apply for a grant from LCIF as soon as enough money was raised for the matching portion. At this point, they are still shy of the \$50,000 needed. The total cost of the Shady Nook project is approximately \$400,000. The Shady Nook building is designed for campers, aged 3-5.

June 25, 2006 is “Lions Day” at Bay Cliff. Lions Club members are invited to visit the camp to see the improvements that have been made. Tracee Charboneau Kauppila presented a slide show of the renovations that have taken place to date at Bay Cliff.

LIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – Jim Decremer, PDG, Chair

Fifteen applications were received this year, and nine scholarships were awarded. A letter will be given to each recipient at their school’s awards ceremony, if possible by a Lion. The checks will be given in August after verification of college admittance.

The Scholarship Fund has \$10,000 in a CD and \$7,735.24 in a checking account. In addition, there is \$26,081.16 in a CD from which only the interest will be used for scholarships. The principal remains intact.

Scholarships Awarded –

Emily Stinson	Escanaba High School	\$500.00
Kate O’Donnell	Negaunee High School	\$500.00
Cody Nivison	Gladstone High School	\$500.00
Kenneth Coombe III	Kingsford High School	\$500.00
Tony Walin	Ishpeming High School	\$500.00
Patrich Mullin	Escanaba High School	\$500.00
Nathan Dodge	Negaunee High School	\$500.00
Lisa Hoffman	Ishpeming High School	\$500.00
Jarred Querio	Norway High School	\$500.00

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT – Jim Decremer, PDG, Chair

A 2-hour training session for club officers will be presented at the convention after the luncheon. There will also be an open forum with the District Governor and the International Director, where Lions can write down their questions about the district, state, or international and get them answered. Both sessions will start at 1:00 p.m.

Lion Ed Vinoski from Bessemer will be setting up training sessions in the western part of the Upper Peninsula in June.

LIONS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION REPORT – Marvin Shimp, Trustee

All of the funds budgeted for grants in 2005-2006 have been expended. There were three or four grant requests that could not be funded, but they will be considered next year.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT – Larry Klaus, PDG, Chair

The Long Range Planning Committee was asked to recommend ways for the district to reduce costs without damaging the effectiveness of district operations. Some of our suggestions included reducing mileage allowances, eliminating unnecessary committees, eliminating meals at Cabinet Meetings or asking members to pay for them, increasing district dues, and increasing membership.

Our recommendations were discussed, and a balanced budget was constructed for presentation to the members today. The Long Range Planning Committee took this job very seriously, and we all felt very strongly that the district should operate on a balanced budget. The Cabinet didn't accept all of our recommendations, but they did a good job. We now have a balanced budget in place.

EYE BANK REPORT – Larry Klaus, PDG, Chair

This year has been a very exciting one for the Eye Bank. We have felt for some time that we needed more space. Last year, Susan Mozena, the President and CEO, asked the board for permission to explore options. In a surprisingly short time, the staff found a good building for a reasonable price. The board authorized the purchase and remodeling. The Eye Bank now has their corporate office space and lab in one building.

At our last annual meeting, the members voted to allow the Board of Directors to become autonomous. The Board also created a Michigan Lions Advisory Committee. PDG Jack Holzworth is a member of that committee.

The Eye Bank answered a request from the New Jersey Lions to operate their Eye Bank. The New Jersey Lions Eye Bank is now part of the Midwest Eye Banks. Under new federal requirements, the Michigan, Illinois, and New Jersey labs have all passed surprise government inspections. We have an excellent staff in all three states.

A capital campaign has been created to help pay off the loan for the new building. It is a 5-year campaign. Clubs will be hearing more about this in the months to come.

To date, SD 10 clubs have donated \$5,075.00 to the Eye Bank, plus one donation of \$100 to the capital campaign.

NORTHWOODS AIR LIFELINE – George Kelly, PDG, Chair

This has been a very busy year for NWALL. Last year we reached the 2,000-mission mark, and we are presently doing three flights a week. Our volunteer pilots are doing a yeoman's job, and not enough can be said about their dedication. We receive many letters of appreciation from patients and families that have been helped. There is no cost to the recipients of NWALL services.

It is becoming more costly to fly the missions and maintain the aircraft. We appreciate any amount the Lions and Lioness Clubs can give us. We have received donations from approximately 40% of the clubs this year.

To save funds this year, I did not mail out packets but relied on individual requests and the information being printed in our magazine. Due to problems in getting the magazine out, the information did not come out until just recently.

This program is one of the greatest PR tools the SD 10 Lions have. If you're not promoting it in your local news media, you are missing the boat. The clubs that do think it's just great.

The NWALL aircraft will be at the airport this afternoon between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. for Lions who want to go out and see it.

Last month Bob Larson, NWALL founder, passed away suddenly. He was an exceptional individual. I had the pleasure of working with him ever since the Upper Peninsula Lions voted to support NWALL.

MOTION – Klaus, seconded, to voice continued support for NWALL by the Lions of SD 10. Motion carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT – Rose Olson, PDG, Chair

Articles on PR were published in the district magazine. Articles were also brought to Cabinet Meetings for Lions to take. Information was given out at Zone Meetings. Clubs need to continue seeking ways to let the community know about the Lions and what they are doing.

Each club should have a PR Chair to advertise Lions' activities through radio, TV, and/or newspaper articles. Each club should have a highway sign that is in readable condition and can be seen by tourists and by the community. Clubs can contact the PR Division of Lions Clubs International by e-mail at pr@lionsclubs.org or by calling 630-571-5466 to get information about the Peace Poster Contest, the Gift of Sight Program, or the Recycle for Sight program.

YOUTH EXCHANGE REPORT – Joe Potvin, PDG, Chair

SD 10 hosted exchange students from Italy, Finland, Australia and Japan this year. One student from the Upper Peninsula will be traveling to Finland this summer.

Host families are still needed for Youth Exchange students coming into Michigan. If you are interested, please contact me. It's a tremendous experience.

RETENTION REPORT – Jim Olson, PDG, Chair

Every club should be working on retention and trying to make members feel welcome, useful, and needed. Orientation materials can be obtained from Lions International and should be given to all new members. Sponsors should work with the members they bring in. There is information about a mentoring program available from LCI.

As Retention Chairman, I put articles in the district magazine and sent information to clubs. I provided materials during a Zone Meeting and brought handouts to Cabinet Meetings.

I recommend that the MERL team should be stronger. MERL stands for Membership, Extension, Retention, and Leadership. The MERL team should meet before or after the Cabinet Meetings to form goals and ideas to improve membership and Lions Clubs.

Lions are encouraged to attend the 2007 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Columbus, Ohio in September and the 2008 Forum in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

TEACHING FAMILY HOMES REPORT – Marvin Shimp

In January of 2005 the administrative, counseling and education services provided by TFH were relocated to the 40-acre parcel of land in Marquette that was given by the State of Michigan. In August, the first group home on the campus was completed. This program, the Regional Treatment Center, is a home for eight severely emotionally impaired children. These children and seven others from communities in Marquette County now attend our Day Treatment School in the Campus Center. The Center, made possible by the generous contributions from SD 10 and LCIF, includes two special education classrooms and a community education room equipped with technical equipment. The Center is available for use by the community for meetings.

In November of 2005, two new group homes were started. They were completed in the past week. This summer the baseball and soccer fields, playground, pavilion, and basketball court will be completed for the TFH and community children to enjoy.

Several Lions Clubs in SD 10 supported TFH during the Tour da UP Bike Tour which was in Mackinaw and Chippewa Counties this year. In addition, 15 clubs donated a total of \$2,500.

Future opportunities for clubs to assist include ongoing contributions to help renovate the ball fields and work bees to help prepare the court and fields. TFH would like to establish an Annual Lions Appreciation Day to recognize their generous contributions.

WELCOME HOMES REPORT

MOTION – made and seconded, to continue to support Welcome Homes as a state project. Motion carried.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS – Duke Snyder

There are three positions to fill, with written ballots to be cast for all three. For Trustee of the Michigan Lions Service Foundation, there are two candidates: Richard Johnsen from the Wells Lions Club and Robert Miller from the Drummond Island Lions Club. For the office of Vice District Governor, there is one candidate, Duane Goltz from the Drummond Island Lions Club. The only candidate for District Governor is Chuck Nicklas from the Munising Lions Club.

MOTION – Snyder, Whippen, to accept the Nominations Report. Motion carried.

MOTION – made and seconded, to close nominations and proceed with voting. Motion carried.

COMMENTS BY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR ERNIE YOUNG

“I would like to share information with you about things that are ongoing at the International level. I will begin by telling you about some things that are going to be on the ballot in Boston.

“The first item is something that is of great interest to me. It’s the family dues plan. This is something I think is long overdue. One family member will be designated as the ‘primary’ member and will pay the normal entry fee and the normal dues to Lions International. Up to four additional family members will be able to join without an entry fee and will pay ½ of the International dues. The goal is to make it easier for families to do service together as Lions.

“If this is approved in Boston, it won’t become effective until January 1st. That’s because the mechanisms have to be put in place to make it happen. January 1st also coincides with the next dues billing period.

“It may look on the surface like we’re giving away \$19.50 (half of the annual per capita of \$39.00), but we’re not. The family members will not receive the Lion Magazine. They will not receive the full membership kit—only the Lions pin and the new member certificate. Mailings from LCI will be sent only to the primary member. This will have no impact on club, state or district dues—only International dues.

“I am encouraging you to cast a vote for this if it’s something you’d like to see because it not an automatic thing. Something that has been a real awakening for me is the fact that what seems obviously to be the right thing to do for North America is totally unacceptable in other parts of the world. Just getting this to the ballot has been somewhat of a struggle. There are some areas of the world where this is not a popular idea. There will be some people who vote against it—because they’re not family oriented, and they’re not interested in having their spouses and children become a part of their Lions Club.

"We have Lions Clubs in seven geographical areas of the world. Typically, anything we do is not going to be good for all seven. Does that mean that we do nothing? Absolutely not. It means that we do what is best for the majority of our association, and I think this is one of those things.

"Family membership would also apply to those who are already members. There is a form that will be mailed to Club Secretaries to be filled out. Members who come in under the Family Plan are considered active members. They are eligible to run for office and to vote.

"We looked at this from a financial perspective, and it appears that we will have about 68,000 Lions who can take advantage of this program if they choose to do so, at cost of about \$1.4 million. We understand that this is an investment. A cost effectiveness analysis tells us that within four years, we will have recouped those funds based on our projections of new members.

"To qualify for the family plan, the members must all live at the same address, they must be of the age of majority, and they must belong to the same club. Adoption of the family plan means that clubs will also be asked to create a family-friendly environment for meetings and projects. When we started looking at the younger members we are targeting, we found that they have young children that they don't want to leave home alone or with babysitters. They want to spend time with their families, and this is a way we can accommodate them.

"I understand that there are some who are not going embrace this. We have clubs that haven't embraced the idea of women members yet. Not every club is going to reach out and welcome this. In those cases, we're going to look at starting new clubs that are family-friendly. This is not a pie in the sky. It's an inroad. Watch it grow because of the things we can do by making ours a family-oriented organization.

"Another item that will be on the ballot in Boston is the matter of districts that do not meet the requirements for being a full district (that is, less than 1,250 members and 35 clubs) being disallowed to endorse a candidate for International Director or International Vice President. This is not very meaningful to you in SD 10 right now because you have over 1,900 members; but if you had 1,245 members you would not be able to endorse a candidate for International office. Most of the 136 transitional districts in existence right now are the United States and Canada, with a few in Australia, New Zealand and Africa. If this amendment passes, the impact is going to be primarily in North America.

"Something else that will appear on the ballot in Boston has to do with redistricting. Right now, every sub-district that is impacted by a redistricting proposal has to agree to that proposal before LCI will even look at the application. What will be on the ballot in Boston is a provision that sub-districts that don't meet the full district requirement (1250 members and 35 clubs) would not have to agree to redistrict. There are times when a

multiple district is unable to redistrict because some of its smaller districts are unwilling to approve it, and so there is a stalemate.

“Another item that was approved at the last Board Meeting was to provide Lions Clubs that sponsor Leo Clubs a banner patch that shows you have sponsored the club for at least five years. That will be done each five years thereafter, beginning in July. You will be able to have a banner patch added every five years. If you have already been sponsoring a Leo Club for 10 years, you will get an initial patch that shows 10 of sponsorship. This is something, obviously, to encourage the sponsorship of Leo Clubs.

“You are probably aware of the fact that beyond the United States, there are a lot of Leo Clubs that are of the Omega variety. We have the Alpha type here. Overseas there are a lot of programs that take Leos up to age 28. Recently the Board also approved extending that age requirement to suit the particular locality. So you’ll find in some areas of the world that we have Leos that are in excess of 28 years of age. In many cases, Leos are not able to afford the Lions dues structure. In India, for example, the affordability is just not there for a large part of the population. This is a way for them to be involved in community service without paying full dues. The dues requirement for Leos is far less than for Lions.

“Board approval has been given to allow members to talk about their business or profession at club meetings. This has been a long time coming, and I think the realization has come that members should be able to network. It just seems to make sense that someone who is going to be part of an organization should be able to talk about what they do, what business they’re in. Along with this, there is a prohibition of solicitation of members, such as getting a club roster and mailing unsolicited materials to members.

“A new vendor has been approved the Lions Affordable Hearing Aid Program. Some of you may not be aware of the fact that the vendor we had went out of business. That program should be up and running again shortly.

“We approved grants for the Urban Membership Marketing Plan. Up to \$20,000 is available for districts that have at least one million in population. We have accepted the idea that one size does not fit all for an organization the size of ours. Having one membership program for 197 geographical areas throughout the world simply does not work. We are providing grant money to allow Lions in large metropolitan areas to develop their own membership programs. One of those grants has been approved for the Detroit area in Michigan.

“We also approved \$600,000 for the Public Relations Division to implement local PR programs. Up to \$40,000 is available to help put a public relations program into action. LCI does some advertising at the international level, but we need to do more at the district and club level to get the word out about what Lions do.

“We approved a training extension program. In the initial stages, it will be for North America, Australia and New Zealand—the areas where we are having the greatest

difficulties in membership retention and growth. This program is designed to have specific individuals to teach MERL teams how to do their jobs. These trainers will be paid for by LCI. They will receive a stipend and expense reimbursements, not a salary."

FUTURE SD 10 CONVENTIONS

Next year's convention will be held in Rapid River on May 3-6, 2007. Convention plans include a golf outing and a BBQ dinner on Thursday, and a parade on Friday evening. The theme is "Roaring Into The 50s."

No bids were received for the 2008 SD 10 Convention.

ELECTION RESULTS – Duke Snyder, Elections Chairman

Richard Johnsen was elected Trustee of the Lions of Michigan Service Foundation. Duane Goltz was elected Vice District Governor, and Chuck Nicklas was elected District Governor. Officer patches were presented to DGE Nicklas and VDGE Goltz. Acceptance speeches were made.

MOTION – made and seconded, to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST II – PID John Walker

Over 7,000 volunteers have been recruited to date to raise funds for Campaign SightFirst II. Thirty-three "lead donors" have been identified worldwide. These are individuals or organizations that will donate a minimum of \$100,000. To date, there are 1,200 Model Clubs (those who set a goal of raising at least \$400 per member for CSFII).

Funds from the original Campaign SightFirst have been exhausted. Through the assistance provided by CSF, the number of blind people worldwide declined to 37 million. However, those numbers will increase again without Lions' efforts. All Lions Clubs and individual members are encouraged to support CSFII.

NEW BUSINESS

Clubs were encouraged to submit their PU-101 Forms immediately. The information is needed to prepare the 2006-07 roster books.

The Business Session adjourned at 11:40 a.m.



PARTNERS LUNCH
May 20, 2006 – 11:45 a.m.
Crow's Nest, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



AWARDS LUNCH
May 20, 2006 - 11:45 a.m.
Superior Room, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

DG Richard Johnsen presented Appreciation Awards to the following Lions for outstanding service during the year: Joe Baczkowski (Peace Poster Contest), Jim Decremer (Leadership), Jack Holzworth (Leader Dog), Joe Potvin (Youth Exchange), Bob St. Peter (Hearing), Chuck Nicklas (Vice District Governor), Marv Shimp (LMSF Trustee), Don Myers (Convention Chair), and all Zone Chairs.

Awards were presented awards to Cabinet Secretary Tom Lanaville and Cabinet Treasurer Bruce LaBelle. Lion Larry Belanger was recognized for his work as Magazine Editor.

The Crystal Falls, Drummond Island, and Newberry Lions Clubs received special recognition for 100% Secretaries. The International Understanding and Cooperation Award was presented to the Marquette Lions Club. The Cultural and Community Activities Award went to the Crystal Falls Lions Club. The Rock Lions Club won the Environmental Award. The Range Lions Club received the Sports Award for hosting a golf outing. The Liberty Day Award was presented to the Bark River Lions Club, and the Best Tailtwister Award went to Chari Fischer of the Rudyard Lions Club.

Lion Joe Baczkowski recognized SD 10's winner in the Peace Poster Contest who was sponsored by the Crystal Falls Lions Club



GOVERNORS BANQUET
May 20, 2006 - 6:30 p.m.
Superior Room, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

ID Ernie Young from Lansing, Kansas was the featured speaker. He explained that Lions need to see themselves as exceptional contributors, because what Lions do matters. Last year they gave \$16 million for Tsunami relief, \$5 million for Hurricane Katrina, and \$5 million for earthquake relief. No level of government provides for all the needs of its citizens. Lions contribute to the world they live in.

Several awards were presented during the banquet. The district's highest recognition, the Ralph Sheehan Award, was presented to PDG Charles Lundmark from Gladstone. The SD 10 Distinguished Lion Award went to Cabinet Treasurer Bruce LaBelle from Bark River. International President's Certificates were awarded to PDG Sara Doubleddee, Mike Kobasic and Robert Lightle.

The convention's Traveling Trophy was claimed by the Delta-Menominee Heart of the North Lions Club. It is awarded annually to the club that drives the furthest and has the most members at the convention.



NECROLOGY & BRUNCH

May 21, 2006
Superior Room, LSSU, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

PDG Don Myers conducted the memorial service. Music was provided by the Northland Barbershop Choral Group. The memorial roll call was read, honoring club members who passed away during the past year.

The convention concluded with brunch and closing comments from DG Richard Johnsen. Thanks were expressed to the Sault Ste. Marie Lions for hosting the convention`