



Between the LIONS



www.molionsm6.org

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Governor Stuart

Lions of MD26-M6,

I am writing this article on a jet flying to Anchorage for the USA/Canada Forum. As I bump along in the air, it reminds me that a trip like this would take days bumping along in a train, or months bumping along in a wagon.

I had the opportunity to visit a couple of clubs that are struggling to remain a club after only a few years. It is encouraging to me to see these Lions making the effort to remain on the trail even through the way has gotten difficult. I hope to be able to help them through this difficult passage. This is the reason we need District, State and International presence in this organization. When one club needs help, all levels of the organization can help. However, it will always be up to the club members how well they can face the challenges. Will they "Believe"? Do you "Believe"? I Believe.

Trip 3 – This next trip report is about my most recent canoe trip over Labor Day. Lion Marlene asked me after the trip, "what did you learn?" Well, I did learn a life changing lesson that I want to share. Elk River was LOW and water wasn't flowing. It was a trip where you know you earn every mile. Sometimes we had to get out of the canoe and portage it over the gravel bars. Sometimes we were dragging, and only a few times, we floated. During this trip, an extra inch of water would have made all the difference between paddling down the river, or walking.

In my canoe, I had our youngest daughter, Megan. I found myself doing what I have always done with my girls in the front. I was directing the path we needed to take. Ten years ago (or more), when she was learning to read the river, this was a working arrangement, but on this trip it wasn't working that well. I finally realized "my little girl" was making suggestions on the direction we needed to take and her suggestions were correct. She had the best view of the river, she had confidence in her herself because of past experiences, and she was an able guide. The next time we go down the river, I will let her do the navigation, and I will simply listen.

What does this have to do with Lions? Simple. It is our duty to teach and train our successors, and if we do it right, they will take the lead, and all we have to do is enjoy the trip.

Remember, "It's the Trip"

Lion Stuart Payne

District Governor

Directory Errata
(typos, mess-ups and new stuff)

Page 45 - Monett President Rob Davis' email address; davis1888@sbcglobal.net

Page 58 - Please add PDG Sue Blakley



VDG Walter and Karen man their sled

Lion Karen and I have just returned from the USA/Canada Leadership Forum in Anchorage. It was a wonderful three days of learning more about being an effective leader in M-6 district.

We flew in five days earlier to Fairbanks and visited inland Alaska through Denali to Anchorage. We would love to share some of our experiences with your clubs. One of the neat times was twice seeing Iditarod dog teams in action. When we first arrived, the dogs were docile, most napping, some just enjoying the attention from the visitors. But as the mushers started to select the dogs for the team, all pandemonium broke out. Every dog rose to the moment, barking and yapping.

Now I do not understand “dog language” so I was not sure whether they were asking to be chosen or if they were speaking words of encouragement to the elect. But it was beautiful.

And I thought...

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Lions clubs would be like Iditarod dogs? Imagine that the call goes out for a project and all the Lions would stand up and volunteer to help. And those who cannot help would give words of encouragement to those who serve. Clubs filled with the pandemonium of excitement and involvement as Lions bark and yap their full support of the projects that fulfill the goal of serving the community, nation, and world.

Lion Walter Hamer
First Vice District Governor

***Planning a weekend trip?
You're lucky because October 2011 has five of them!***

Sorry to have missed the USA/Canada Forum in Anchorage. We have been involved in various family obligations, including helping with getting Noma's parents moved to and settled in assisted living.

I did manage to visit the Springfield Host Lions Club, and look forward to attending their 90th Anniversary celebration October 8th. Plans are to visit several clubs during the next month, and attend the Marshfield Lions' 80th Anniversary dinner November 5th.

This coming Monday, October 3rd, I will participate in the 2012 District Convention Committee meeting in Mt. Vernon.

October 28th we will be attending the Council of Governors meeting at Lake Ozark.

We are looking forward to getting together again with the team, since we were unable to attend the July meeting. I was apparently a little late making my hotel reservation, so will be staying at the Resort at Port Arrowhead.

The MD26 GLT is trying to schedule a meeting to begin planning for the 2012 Mid-Winter Forum. If there will be time, it would be convenient to hold the meeting the same day as the Council of Governors, since all will be there anyway. Correspondence seems to indicate everyone is tied up most weekends.

I have not heard whether I have been accepted to attend the Senior Leadership Institute in Oak Brook, Illinois, November 17-20. Hopefully, I will know something soon, so I can plan for the block of time.



2nd VDG Nick



Thousands of Glasses Give Sight to Patients in Mexico

For many around the world, clear vision through the convenience of pair of new eyeglasses is unaffordable and inaccessible. However, thanks to the dedication and hard work of mission groups going abroad to deliver recycled eyeglasses, thousands of individuals living in third world countries can know the joy of seeing clearly - some for the first time in their lives.

In the past year, the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation was able to provide nearly 14,500 recycled eyeglasses to Jefferson City's Concord Baptist Church for two mission trips to Mexico. The mission group - led by member, Larry Merry - visited San Juan del Rio and Matamoros in summer of 2010, and then the city of Aquascalientes in summer of 2011. These cities are home to thousands living in poverty. Many of these individuals have never had glasses - it is simply a luxury they cannot afford.

The mission was a success and the group was able to fit thousands of patients with eyeglasses.

"Thanks for all your help with providing glasses," said Merry. "Most of the people we go to in Mexico are literally dirt poor. They live in shacks like we use to raise chickens in with dirt floors. Most of these people cannot afford glasses so they just do without."

Each year, the Foundation collects between 60,000 and 80,000 eyeglasses from both Lions clubs and individuals in our community. We invite you to learn how easy it is to contribute through our Eyeglass Recycling Program at www.mlerf.org.

Lions Pledging

One of the sessions that I took at USA/Canada forum was on LCIF grants and how to apply for them. I decided this would be a good session to take because of the various grants that have come and may come to M6.

I found out that a "Standard" grant is a matching fund grant and that 51% of the money must come from the clubs that are involved with the grant and the remainder can come from other parties. The club(s) and other parties pledge the amount and this amount will be turned in to LCIF as the matching funds. The District Governor is responsible for the grant until all of the money has been accounted for.

The Springfield Low Vision center is applying for a Standard LCIF grant to purchase more equipment. If the Springfield Low Vision center receives a \$50,000 LCIF grant, before this grant can be closed I will be responsible until all money including the matching \$50,000 has been raised from the club(s) and private parties, no matter how long it takes.

In our District we have two Low Vision centers, one in Springfield and the other in Joplin and I am sure that you or somebody you know will have to use their services. This is a good reason for the clubs to make a pledge to assist the Springfield Low vision center with the grant. The services offered will help many a person in our district.

Lion Stuart Payne
District Governor

FISH FRY!!!

Fundraiser

ALL YOU CAN EAT

Saturday, October 1st

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Miller Lions Club Building

Main Street Miller

\$ 7.00 Adults

\$ 4.00 Children 12 & under

We will be serving fish, ham & beans, corn bread, French fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, dessert, and drinks.

All proceeds to benefit local organizations and Lion's charities.

*These fish fries are on the first
Saturday of every month
from October until May.*



2025 Highland Street
Lebanon, MO 65536
417-664-2885 – dwhittlesey@central-bank.net

RE: M6 Sight Saving Scramble
Springfield, MO - October 14, 2011

September 28, 2011

Dear Lions of M6,

Please find attached a registration and flier for the quickly up and coming M6 Sight Saving Scramble. I would like to take a moment and echo 1VDG Walter's letter in asking you to please consider this worthy cause. This has been in the planning for about a year now, so lets rally and get this done well.

As 1VDG Walt stated; we visited the Vision Rehabilitation Center of the Ozarks together and were completely impressed with the facility and the Doctors we met as well as the Board. One thing I found unique to this Center is the fact that it actually has an area that focuses completely on children! This is something I have not seen in any other location and we have it right here at the Center.

This golf scramble is an attempt for our District to help raise money for a matching grant from Lions Clubs International. The more we raise the more that can be matched by LCI. Just think if your club does a Green Sponsor for \$100.00 it is like making it \$200.00 with the matching grant money! Look at what we could do if just half of the clubs in our District did this. We would have raised \$3,000.00 for the Scramble and in essence raised \$6,000.00 with the LCI Matching Funds!

Helen Keller said it best... "Alone we can do so LITTLE , together we can do so MUCH!"

Please consider a donation of any kind, soon... green sponsor, sponsor a team, longest drive, closest to the hole. An individual personal donation of any kind for such a grand cause would be appreciated as well.

Together We Serve,
Lion Debbie
Lion Debbie Whittlesey
Immediate Past District Governor M6
Attachments ~2~



District 26-M6 10th Sight Saving Scrambler Oct 14, 2011



Millwood Golf and Racquet Club Springfield, Missouri Sponsorship

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Gold Level: | Sole Tee Sponsor | \$300 |
| | Sole Green Sponsor | \$300 |
| Silver Level | Closest to the hole Sponsor Par 3 | \$200 |
| | Longest Drive Sponsor | \$200 |
| Bronze Level | Shared Tee or Green Sponsor | \$100 |

All Sponsors will be Listed and Recognized in follow – up advertising.

Company Name _____

Contact Person and Phone # _____

Return form completed and check to Alex Warner 4473 South Farm
Road 145 Springfield, Missouri 65810. Phone 417-882-8651

Make Checks Payable to Vision Rehabilitation Center of the Ozarks.
(VRCO)