

August Newsletter

by 2nd Vice District Governor Lion Bruce LaBelle

The year has been off to a very busy start for many of us. It seems that spring had just arrived and now summer seems to almost be over with the kids going back to school soon. We had held our 1st Cabinet meeting along with hosting a Lions Open House at Bay Cliff Health Camp on July 8th. Governor Jim Whalen spelled out his goals for the coming year. Before the meeting, the teens of Bay Cliff held tours of the facility and afterward we had lunch with the camp residences. Everyone should visit Bay Cliff once to see what our District Project is accomplishing with the children throughout the District.

This year the 100th Anniversary of Lions International Convention was held in Chicago, IL with some 30,000 plus Lions members from around the world attending the event including 300 plus Lions Members from the State of Michigan SD10 & MD11 Districts. The State of Michigan had the 5th largest United States Delegation in attendance. Some 20,000 Lions from more than 125 countries participated in the "Parade of Nations" showcasing their countries native costumes during the parade, taking up blocks and blocks of the street as they marched. The Michigan All-State Band has been appearing at the International Convention since 1978 and only missed one convention (South Korea) due to the cost of travel. They once again had the privilege to lead off the parade of nations with the International President, the Board and International Directors then return later to march with the Michigan Delegation. The Lions of Michigan ALL State Band took 2nd Place among all the Bands that marched in the International Parade. The International President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal's theme for the next three years will be "The Power of We". Our Five Initiatives for this year will be (1) Pediatric Cancer – New, (2) Diabetes Awareness, (3) Vision, (4) Hunger and (5) Environment. The Engaging Youth initiative has been moved to the Leo Program.

I just returned from Grand Rapids in attending my first Council of Governors meeting and the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame with our 1st Vice District Govern Lion Mike Kobasic. We had two very long and eventful days of training, meetings and getting to know the Governors and Vice Governors that we will be working with over the next three years. This year Single District 10 had another inductee into the Lions Hall of Fame, PDG Bud Weber induction made him the 5th member of SD10 to be honored. He will be joining PID RALPH M. SHEEHAN, PID JAMES O. FRENDEWEY, PCC LOYST TROMBLEY and PCC BILL WHIPPEN.

Last year many Lions Clubs and other non-profit groups were being barred from collecting and/or solicitation of money along the roadways due to an existing State law resulting in a potential loss of about 1 million dollars for charitable organizations. Multiple District 11 took the initiative and formed an adhoc committee headed by IPCC Justin Faber to work with the State Government to pass a bill that would allow charitable contributions to be collected on public streets and roadways. Seven months later they acheived their goal when House Bill HR4160 was signed into law by Governor Rick Snyder on July 27th. It is now known as Public Act 112 of 2017. This law now allows an individual to solicit contributions on behalf of a charitable or civic organization (501C3, 501C4 and veterans' organization only) during daylight hours on a public street or roadway, under certain conditions. The individual collecting donations must be at least 18 years old and wear highly-visible safety apparel. The portion of the roadway where solicitation occurs can not be a work zone and would have to be within an intersection where traffic control devices are present. The organization would have to maintain at least \$500,000 in liability insurance and would have to comply with applicable local government regulations. Money to proceed with this endeavor was supplied mostly by Lions of Michigan Service Foundation (LMSF), MD11 Council of Governors Special Program Fund, and MD11D2. Smaller contributions were donated by the individual clubs of

MD11 and individuals. A Lobbyist/Consultant was hired by the committee at \$2900/month to assist with getting this legislation introduced and passed.

Leader Dog is both a District and State project yet only 32 of 59 Lions Clubs donated to this project during the 2016-17 year for a total of \$20,497.36. For the clubs that have not donated, please consider making a donation of \$50.00 or \$100.00 to this great program this year. Let us shoot for 100% participation. You can visit the Leader Dog website at <http://www.leaderdog.org>. I would like to thank each of you for your support. It is because of Lions clubs and districts across the State of Michigan or others individuals that Leader Dog organization exists today. You have helped place over 15,000 Leader Dogs in the hands of people who are blind, Deaf-Blind or visually impaired. I will be having the opportunity to visit Leader Dog this month for a presentation of the Programs and services that Leader Dog provides to individuals at no cost. If your club would like a Leader Dog presentation please contact the Leader Dog Chairman, the District Governor or one of the Vice District Governors and we will arrange a presentation, which provides a great opportunity for your club to increase its membership by inviting the local people to attend this presentation and see some of what Lions do.

This year three individuals of the Upper Peninsula were winners of the 31st Annual Sight & Hearing Sweepstakes. The 1st Prize of \$5,000.00 was won by Carol Waltman of Newberry, the 8th Prize of \$300.00 by Valerie Parrish of Carney and the 9th Place prize of \$200.00 by Christine Mouch of Newberry. Twenty three of the 57 Lions clubs of SD10 participated this year selling 1391 tickets and generating \$6,955.00 in grants back to those Lions Clubs from LMSF. Wells Lions club sold the most tickets at 488 this year. Wells Lions used this Raffle as their new fundraiser hoping to sell 600 tickets. They received a grant from LMSF for \$2,440.00 for their efforts. The most tickets sold were by the Oscoda Lions Club of MD11-E2, selling 693 tickets.

The 15th Annual Lions Candy Days is schedule for September 29-30, 2017. Order your mints before September 1st and LMSF will apply a discount of \$5.00 Per Case on Mint Rolls and \$10.00 per Case on Mint Drops. They are also offering a 65/35 Percent Profit Sharing Option Available for Lions, Lioness, Campus and Leo Clubs that don't want to purchase the mints outright for Candy Days. LMSF will provide the mints to the Club at no charge, and the Club is required to submit a written report of their sales to the foundation with 35% of their profit from Candy Days. Contact Chad McCann or the District LMSF Trustee for further details and ordering of the mints.

It is that time of year again to get your Non Profit Forms back to the State of Michigan (\$20.00 w/filing) and get your Tax Form 990 with IRS. The 990 Forms must be submitted by November 15th.

The District Roster booklets have been printed and should be mailed/delivered in the next few weeks. We had a number of clubs (11) that have not submitted their PU101 (Officer Reporting Forms) to the District or International so those clubs officers are not currently listed in the book or on the district website. I encourage any club that has not submitted the form to get it completed and submitted. Additionally, mail or email that information to the District Secretary Joe Maki so that he can get that information out to the District. Neither the District nor Lions International has any way to communicate with these clubs without this information. We cannot assist you if we do not know who and/or how to contact your club.

There are a few training opportunities coming up this fall that Lions Members should consider attending for their personal development and leadership. The information that you learn at these training sessions can help you in all aspects of your life. The first is the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Portland, Oregon from September 21-23, 2017. This is the largest and best Lions Club Leadership training event in the world, with over 90 specific training sessions related to

developing quality Lions Clubs and where thousands of Lions Leaders share their experiences. There's something for everyone at the Forum. Whether you are the newest Lion or longest serving, the Forum offers leadership training for Lions & life. Registration can be done at www.lionsforum.org.

- CLUB LEADERS - learn how to grow & manage your club
- LION LEADERS - hone & advance your leadership skills
- YOUNG LIONS - network & grow your marketable leadership skills to advance your Lion & professional careers.

Another is the Lions Leadership Institute held at the R.A. MacMullan Center in Roscommon, MI from November 10-12th. Participants will gain leadership tools and confidence which may be helpful to improve Michigan Lionism and gain skills that may be applied to their job and personal life. There are currently two courses available, (1) Leadership Institute Basic and (2) Graduate Institute. The deadline to submit applications is September 30th. Registration forms are available on the District 10 website www.district10lions.org and the Lions of Michigan website www.lionsofmi.com. The course, housing and meals are included with your registration. Consider attending the Institute with a fellow Lions Club member. You will not regret attending this training session.

The Emerging Lions Leadership Institute and Advanced Lions Leadership Institute for the Lions of United States of America and its Affiliates, Bermuda & the Bahamas & Canada will be offered in Denver, Colorado, USA on November 11-13th, 2017. These institutes will be held concurrently, but independently of each other. Both institutes will be conducted in English. We will be accepting 75 (seventy-five) Lions for the ELLI and 125 (one hundred and twenty-five) Lions for the ALLI. Completed forms must be received by: August 28, 2017.

The [Emerging Lions Leadership Institute](#) (ELLI) teaches valuable leadership skills at the club level and is targeted to Lions who have not yet been club president. Application forms can be downloaded from their website at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/all/pdfs/elli-denver.pdf>.

The [Advanced Lions Leadership Institute](#) (ALLI) teaches valuable leadership skills at the zone, region and district levels and is targeted to Lions who have completed a term as club president but have not yet attained the position of first vice district governor. Lions who are region and zone chairpersons, as well as second vice district governors are encouraged to apply to this institute. The application forms can be downloaded from <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/advanced-leadership-institutes>.

Just a reminder for the Club Secretaries and Club Treasurers that beginning July 1st the Lions International membership initiation fee will be \$35.00 (Not Prorated) for new members including Family Members and Students. The new member annual dues will be \$43.00 prorated with a Family Member or Student fee set at \$21.50/year prorated. The International Dues does not include the State, District or Clubs Dues. Currently the SD10 State & District Dues are \$10.00 annually.

I will be contacting the clubs that have been assigned to me by DG Jim Whalen in the next few weeks too setup my visits. I would encourage every club that has not been contacted by DG Jim Whalen, 1st VDG Mike Kobasic or myself by the end of August to contact us so that we can get our visits scheduled with your club.