



“LOVING INDIVIDUALS OFFERING NEEDED SERVICES”



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DG COLUMN

It's hard to believe that April is already here! I would like to thank everyone who joined us for our District Convention in Aurora last month. (Didn't the Aurora Lions Club do a fantastic job?) I would like to thank everyone for helping to make it a "roaring" success. I could not have been prouder of our District. You all certainly put on a great convention for our visiting ID Gary Brown and his family. The display booths were outstanding, the informational sessions were informative and interesting, and the facilities could not have been nicer; we even had a great day, weather wise! (VDG Earl was in charge of that department.) I hope that everyone else had a great time, because I know that I did. This event was actually the fifth official gathering of Lions in our District for a special District event during my term of office. Each time, you have all helped to raise the bar for having a great time together. When ID Gary and Lion Brenda Brown were getting in their car to leave, ID Gary told me that he figured it would take at least two days for all of us to come back down from that great feeling of euphoria that you all had provided to all of us as part of our District Convention this year. The two of them indicated that they have been to District Conventions all over the world, and you still managed to make a lasting impression on them with our District Convention as one of the finest, and most fun, that they had ever attended. My hat is certainly off to all of you! Well done.

As a separate note to all Lions who were not in attendance, that's too bad. We all had a great time. Ask anyone who attended. Maybe you can join us next year.

Hopefully, most of you did get an opportunity to meet ID Gary and Lion Brenda Brown at our District Convention. After spending 3 days with the two of them, several of us can certainly attest to the fact that they are great Lions to be around. Not only are they great Lions, they are also genuinely fun people to be around. Lion Patti and I are really looking forward to spending some time with them after each of our terms of office expire for ID Gary, and for me, this summer.

Fortunately, you still have at least one more opportunity to join your fellow Lions in a convention type atmosphere this year. Later this month, we will be traveling to Lafayette, Indiana for our State Convention, where Past International President J. Frank Moore will be our keynote speaker. I hope to see most of you there. If you hurry, you should still have time to register. Since, we need all of our voting delegates to attend, please plan to join us there. We are going to be pushing very hard to make one of our District projects, the Indiana School for the Blind, a state project. Please show up and help us support this cause. As PDG Fran Shaul has challenged each of us, let's all be a Knight for the Blind!

Speaking of good news, we just received word that we have an opportunity to earn some additional funding for our Vision Van Program. Apparently, the "powers that be" at the Indy 500 Race have heard that we have a worthwhile program on our hands and have offered us the option to work some additional shifts selling tickets at the track to help support this program. Please note that these are additional shifts, over and above those that they are already offering to us for the Indiana Lions Foundation. We want to support both of these programs. Please contact Lion Paul Shane to discuss available shifts that support the Vision Van Program and contact PDG Peg Dawson for available shifts that continue to support the Indiana Lions Foundation. As most of you are aware, our participation level at this event had been reduced in recent years due to the large number of "working campers" who had taken over many of our shifts. It is really nice to get some of those shifts back for Lions projects. Lion Paul will have more details about this new opportunity in a separate article that appears later in this same newsletter.

How to run a better business meeting:

One of my goals this year has been to enlighten each Lions Club in our District on ideas

(Continued on Page 2)

for making our Club meetings run better. The first step in this process was my GRINCH program, which primarily focuses on the atmosphere of the Club and its members. (You remember: Greet everyone. Remind everyone of meetings and activities. Involve everyone. Name tags. Community service is our reason for existing. Have fun!) However, there have also been a number of Lions and Lions Clubs that have requested more specific instructions for improving their Club meetings. In an effort to summarize all of these ideas in one place (all of which I have stolen liberally from the various Clubs that I have visited this year), I offer you the following suggestions, ideas, and edicts.

Please note that these same basic rules will generally apply whether we are talking about a local Lions Club meeting, a District event, a corporate meeting, or even a session of Congress. In an effort to make these suggestions more memorable, I have titled them:

"The Ten Commandments of Business Meetings"

I. The moderator (Club President, District Governor, etc.) should have a clear cut (previously prepared) agenda for each meeting. When possible, copies should be provided to all in attendance. A sample format for a typical Lions Club meeting appears below:

1. Call Meeting to Order (*at the appropriate time*).
2. Lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Have an Opening Prayer.
4. Take Attendance. (*This can be oral or silent. At large events, such as a District Cabinet meeting, this is usually done ahead of time in the form of a registration desk or by using sign-in sheets.*)
5. Sing one or two verses of a song.
6. Have a reading of the Minutes by the Secretary.
7. Have a reading of the Financial Report by the Treasurer.
8. Individual Committee Reports:
 - a. Community Service Projects
 - b. Fund Raising Projects
 - c. Etc.
9. Old Business:
 - a. Items tabled from a previous meeting (if any)
10. New Business:
 - a. Items raised from the floor - e.g.:
 - 1) New project ideas
 - 2) New Funding Requests
 - 3) New Service Requests
 - 4) Etc.
11. Presentations:
 - a. Break Out Sessions (when appropriate)
 - b. Special Project Presentations
 - c. Guest Speaker (e.g., District Project Chair, ZC, or DG)
12. Tail Twister Time:
 - a. Keep it light.
 - b. Keep it funny.
 - c. Keep it fun.
 - d. Keep it short.
 - e. Include some fun facts about Lions.
 - f. Have your 50-50 drawing, if one is done.
 - g. Collect your fines and sit down...
13. Announcements - e.g.:

- a. Upcoming Cabinet Meetings
- b. Upcoming Zone Meetings
- c. Upcoming Training opportunities
- d. Upcoming projects that need workers
- e. Etc.

14. Closing Comments for the Good of the Organization – e.g.:

- a. Illnesses & Deaths
- b. Births & Birthdays
- c. Thank you notes
- d. Etc.

15. Close the Meeting (*on time*).

II. Oral reports should always be BRIEF. Typically, an oral report should be a maximum of 2 – 3 minutes in length, unless otherwise directed by your moderator. If anyone feels they need more time to give an oral report, they must first request (and receive) permission for the specific amount of additional time that they feel they need from the meeting's moderator. If the moderator is unable to grant you extra time, stay within your allotted time frame.

If someone uses more than their fair share of time in giving an oral report, they are "stealing" time from some other part of the business meeting. This is both rude and boring. ("Thou shalt not steal time from thy fellow Lions!")

III. Oral reports should be informative and interesting and should be given with both, enthusiasm and excitement.

IV. Oral reports should only highlight the key points that appear in your accompanying written reports. (NOTE: Do not read your written report verbatim when giving an oral report!) - See Rule #II.

V. Do not confuse an oral report with a presentation. Presentations are intended to be more comprehensive and therefore require more time.

VI. All presentations should be interesting, amusing, and informative. They also need to stay within their time limitations, as specified by the meeting's moderator. Use handouts and visual aids as needed. Make your presentations worthwhile.

VII. Written reports should be more inclusive than an oral one, and can be as detailed as necessary. Unless specified otherwise, a written report can actually be as long as necessary. However, please note that the longer the report, the less likely that it will be read in its entirety by its intended audience.

VIII. Written Reports should be neat, legible, and well written. They should also be free of spelling and grammatical errors. It is preferable that all written reports be typed. With today's readily available technology, there is really no reason to turn in a handwritten one.

IX. Copies of written reports should always be prepared and distributed to all necessary recipients to support an oral report – unless directed otherwise by the meeting's moderator. (Note: In many instances, a written report may be required, even when an oral report is not requested.)

X. HAVE FUN

I hope that these general guidelines (my "Ten Commandments of Business Meetings") will help all of us to have better, more interesting, exciting, and fun meetings. Please feel free to adopt these guidelines immediately. Also, as a separate note to all meeting moderators:

1. Be sure to contact everyone who has a report or a presentation to give, prior to the meeting, to make sure that they understand your expectations of them.
2. Be sure to give them enough notice so that they will have time to prepare reports and presentation materials as well as produce the required number of copies that they will need to bring.
3. Be sure to limit the number of oral reports to be given in order to keep your overall meeting length within acceptable guidelines.

Charter Events:

Speaking of having fun, don't forget to attend two upcoming events that are both scheduled to occur in just a few days. The first is the Charter Event for the University of Indianapolis Lions Club, which we will celebrate at 2:00pm on Sunday, April 10. The second is later that same evening, when the Indiana Pacers will be hosting a special "Lions Clubs of Indiana Night with the Pacers" event. Additional information for both of these events is also included in this month's newsletter. However, I would like to point out a couple of very special things about the University of Indianapolis Lions Club Charter Event which will be the first that our District has hosted in the past two years. First, Lion Shelbie Stanford (President of the Indy Washington Twp Lions Club) will be our keynote speaker for this event. She is an outstanding speaker and I'm sure you will enjoy her presentation. Secondly, her father, International Director Walter R. "Bud" Wahl, will then honor the charter members of this new Lions Club by inducting each of them as new Lions. This is not an event to miss. Please be sure to attend.

Speaking of Charter Celebrations, please plan to join us for a special celebration for the new Nettle Creek Lions Club on Saturday, May 21st. Additional details about this event will appear elsewhere, but mark your calendars now.

Lions Law Camps:

I would also like to remind everyone of the need for Lions to visit their local Middle Schools to invite interested students to attend the Lions Law Camps that are held each year. These visits should be done during April or May. The Lions Law Camps are geared toward 7th and 8th grade students that may have an interest in a law enforcement career. The Lions Law Camps are geared heavily toward the forensics side of our criminal justice system. With the current popularity of crime shows on television such as CSI (Crime Scene Investigators), this year is a prime opportunity for us to promote our Lions Law Camps. This year, two camps will be held in Indiana. One will be held July 6-9 at Vincennes University, and the other will be held July 13-16 at Anderson University. The cost for either camp to the students is only \$95.00 for all four days. Needless to say, this is somewhat less than what it actually costs to run each camp.

Therefore, in addition to asking local Lions to physically do the invitations to attend Lions Law Camp (the State Police no longer make a personal appearance in each school to invite the kids to attend these camps), we also need some "extra" support from each Lions Club to help make the experience more enjoyable for each child that attends.

Specific areas of need include: funding for the "extras" (e.g., pizza parties, sandwiches for field trips, bus expenses to visit correctional facilities, crime labs, and courtrooms), the personal presence of Lions at their graduation ceremonies on Saturday at each camp, and possibly the hosting of a cookout at noon for those ceremonies by local Lions Clubs.

Any Lions Club that wishes to make a monetary donation, which will either be used to pay all, or a part, of the \$95 tuition fee for a needy child, or to help offset the cost of some of the "extras" that we try to provide for the campers, should send their checks to our Cabinet Treasurer, Lion Reed Fish with the notation: Lions Law Camp in the memo field. All monies collected will then be pooled at the state level, since children may attend either camp from all Districts. Our goal is to provide a similar experience for all kids that attend, regardless of which site they choose. Likewise, we don't want to turn away any child who would like to attend either camp, regardless of their family's financial situation.

Please contact VDG Linda Tincher, our State Lions Law Camp Chair, at (812) 894-2750 or by e-mail at: vtincher@ma.rr.com, for copies of promotional materials. A copy of a Lions Law Camp application is included in this newsletter for you to copy and distribute during your visitations of local Middle Schools. All Lions Law Camp checks should be made out to Lions-ISP Law Camp. All applications and payments (\$95/camper) should be sent to:

VDG Linda Tincher,
State Law Camp chair
PO Box 158
Riley, In 47871

If you have any campers from your community who would like to attend, but that cannot pay the \$95 fee, please contact VDG Linda regarding the need for a partial or full "scholarship" from Lions to cover this cost for them. If you have any additional questions about this program, please call our own District Chair for Lions Law Camp, Lion Bill Siegert at 765-698-2399 or myself.

DG Carl

DGE COLUMN

Spring! Spring! Spring!

It's finally here and was surely awaited, as these last few months have really been a time for all Lions to come together as one, and help others. It's really great to be a Lion, with that, we as Lions must ask our friends, spouses, family and those we meet in all walks of life to join a great service club. Then they can share this wonderful experience of compassion and love that is felt all over the world; in "We Serve".

Recently we held our District 25 Convention. It was great as always to be with our Gov. Carl Sharp, Jr. and wife Lion Patti as we traveled together with our guest speaker, ID Gary Brown and wife Lion Brenda. One of the places we visited was "Speech & Hearing."

A partnership between the Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing project, the Indiana University School of Medicine and Riley Hospital for Children. Indiana's Alternative Communication Program (IACP) is designed to provide Indiana residents, who are unable to communicate through spoken voice, access to alternative communication devices

that facilitate effective communication. A host of medical conditions such as autism, Down syndrome, multiple sclerosis, Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS), cerebral palsy, head and neck cancer and stroke as well as many other lesser-known conditions may impair communication.

Each year, thousands are treated for their communication deficits at Indiana University and Riley hospitals. Those with the most severe communication deficits are referred for evaluation of Augmentative-Alternative Communication systems (AAC)-electronic communication devices. AAC systems are expensive and require time to evaluate the effectiveness of the devices for each individual. With a \$112,000 grant from LCIF and Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing, Inc. Indiana's Alternative Communication Program has been established. The program maintains a large and diverse inventory of AAC devices along with a dedicated staff of speech pathologists.

Indiana's Alternative Communication Program now is able to provide access to an extensive loan library for any person who needs AAC. With the establishment of the IACP, individuals have immediate access to the AAC devices they need. Moreover, the program allows individuals to "check out" the devices and try them at home, at work or at school for a three-month period. At the end of the loan period, a decision is made between beginning the process to purchase the recommended device or to continue to evaluate other devices. When a device has proven successful, Medicare, Medicaid, and/or private insurers may become involved for the purchase of the communication system.

Also, please remember to set the date, April 23, aside for the spring work detail at Camp Woodsmoke. Bring your tools: rakes and whatever you will need to prepare this camp for the spring and summer ahead. Also, bring food for a pitch-in.

Remember----Do it now, for today will be yesterday tomorrow.

District Governor Elect, Earl "The Whip" Whipple

District 25-F Lions

DG Carl noted earlier in this newsletter that we have an opportunity to raise some additional funds for our Vision Van Program. Due to a volunteer organization that will not be returning to the Race Track this year we have been offered their spots as Ticket Sellers. There are some rules we must follow. **All workers must wear Black or Khaki pants. No shorts, no blue jeans, and no blue pants of any kind may be worn.** Please adhere to this rule. The Track will be enforcing this and if you come wearing any of the no-no items above you will be turned away. Also everyone must have a ticket to enter. I will need the name, address, and telephone no. and e-mail address if possible of volunteers. However if a carload is coming together I will send the tickets to a contact person and they can distribute the tickets to their group. If you have any questions please contact me: Lion Paul Shane, P. O. Box 1052, Columbus, Indiana 47202-1052, telephone (812) 314-0806, Cell No. (812) 350-2969, or e-mail shanept@yahoo.com.

We will need 8 workers per day for each of the days in the following schedule. You will enter the Track through Gate 10. Enter Gate 10 from 30th Street at the North end of the Track. Boxed Lunches will be provided.

Friday May 13, 2005 at 7:00 AM
Saturday May 14, 2005 at 6:00 AM
Sunday May 15, 2005 at 7:00 AM
Saturday May 21, 2005 at 7:00 AM
Sunday May 22, 2005 at 7:00 AM
Friday May 27, 2005 at 7:00 AM
Sunday May 29, 2005 at 4:00 AM

I have received 1 volunteer for May 21st, and May 27th. I have 5 volunteers for May 29th. Get your request in early for the day or days you would like to work. Shifts will be filled on a first come first served basis.

The Indiana Lions Foundation will be working some days also. PDG Peg Dawson will be contacting you for Volunteers to work for the Foundation. Please keep this in mind.

EYE GLASS MISSION

District 25-F will conduct an Eye Glass Mission to Mexico in February 2006. Tentative Dates are from Feb. 14th to Feb. 21st, Tues. to Tues. We will take as many as forty Lions and will work for five days and have a day to be a "tourist". We will leave from Indianapolis and fly to Mexico City. We won't know the Mission Site for another month or two. The airline cost is going to be around \$500.00 per person.

I have the names of twenty Lions now and will be adding to the list as we go along. Training sessions will be held so that everyone will have an understanding of the work involved. We will have enough people so that everyone will get as much "break" time as needed. If you would like to go or have any questions please call PDG Tom Slattery.

ANNUAL SPRING PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST BISCUITS & GRAVY TOO!!!

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CARTHAGE LIONS CLUB

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2005
6:30 AM TIL' 11:00AM
CARTHAGE COMMUNITY CENTER

FREE WILL OFFERING

EVERYONE PLEASE COME JOIN US FOR SOME GOOD FOOD
AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP!!!!

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL GO TO THE
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

RUSH COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

HAGERSTOWN LIONS CLUB 60TH ANNIVERSARY ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2005. DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. COST
IS \$8.00. CONTACT KAREN RIFNER AT (765) 489-5413
OR rifners@peoplepc.com by APRIL 22, 2005

STATE CHOIR

If there are Lions who would like to sing in the Indiana Lions State Choir at the State Convention please contact PDG Mary Henry at (765) 654-7694 or henry7398@sbcglogal.net The Choir will sing at the MJF Luncheon and Necrology Service.