



# ***SERVING OTHERS!!!***



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## **DG COLUMN**

Here is the news from the State Convention held in Fort Wayne. First, PDG Tom Slattery lost to PDG H. David Fandt by 79 votes. The Amendments all passed except for Amendment 6. This was to change the registration and voting of the State Convention to Saturday but the voters still want it as it has been. Also PDG Sam Miller was elected Convention Chair and Lion Ron Hinshaw, State Comptroller,

At the District Caucus held Saturday morning, there were 89 delegates attending. The ballots were passed out and the voting took place. PDG Bob Price, PDG Jack Buckland, and PDG Jim Hall counted the votes. During the counting for Vice District Governor, the position for the state projects were selected and voted on. They are: Cancer Control Trustee: Lion Chuck Condra; Eye & Tissue Bank Trustee; Lion Boyd Pence, withdrew his name and nominated his son Lion Mike Pence. Nomination was closed. The other Trustee positions were: Leader Dog, Lion R.N. Bud Chambers; Speech & Hearing, Lion R. Wayne Reynolds; Indiana Lions Foundation, PCC Bob Booher. The above were seconded and all passed.

During the year, as you know, District 25-F had two Lions running for the Vice District Governor. Either one would have been a good choice. During my visit to the Clubs I always picked on the two Lions running. As I said they both were gray headed, both had a last initial W, but to look at them you could tell them apart. Well, the count was given to me to read; when I read it I picked on him this way. The Lion who is your next Vice Governor, has curly hair that he rolls in a hot iron every morning. Your next Vice Governor is none other than 'THE WHIP' Lion Earl Whipple of the Connersville Lions Club.

## **LIONS QUEST TRAINING**

The Lions Quest Teacher Training will be held May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at the Northeastern High School in Fountain City, North of Richmond on Indiana 27. This training is free to the teachers who want to attend this training. Contact the School in your area to see who wants to attend this training for K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. There are hotels on Indiana 27 at Interstate 70 in Richmond. For more information contact Lion Robert Nocton at 1-765-886-5712. Don't let Lion Robert down, get as many teachers there as you can. This is free, don't pass it up.

As for my calendar, I have no more visitations scheduled. The next date is the International Convention at Detroit, MI/ Windsor, Canada, July 5-9. See you there.

My last farewell will be in next month's newsletter.

*DG Ed*

## **DGE COLUMN**

It's hard to believe that my year as Vice District Governor is almost over. In just over a month, I will be given the honor (and the duties) of being your incoming Governor in beautiful downtown Detroit! How ironic that I am already planning another trip to nearby Dearborn in June to attend a national car show.

At this time, I would also like to congratulate all of our former candidates for their terrific campaign efforts this year. Obviously, there can be only one winner at the polls in any contested race; but, all of our candidates were winners in their positive campaigning efforts and in their image as Lions in 25F.

I would like to especially thank Lion Earl Whipple and Lion Gene Wagner for their positive attitudes and their assistance at the state convention in Fort Wayne. Also, as I'm sure you are all aware by now, Lion Earl and I will be able to car pool this year for our Club visitations. But, I would like for each of you to help me keep the pressure on Lion Gene to run again in 2005 for VDG in 2006. I am very proud of both of these candidates and would have been honored for either of them to be my VDG.

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Likewise, we may have lost our bid to send a candidate from 25F to Detroit as an International Director Candidate, but it was by only a very slim margin that was not determined until almost closing time at the polls. We carried most of the Districts in the state, but not most of the votes at the convention. However, it is important that we now get behind our new ID candidate in Detroit, or we may lose our bid to have an International Director from Indiana, altogether.

Since all of the voting results will be reported elsewhere, I will instead focus for just a moment on thanking everyone for participating in our State Convention. Specifically, I would like to thank the Club Delegates for attending and voting, the non-Delegates for attending and supporting all of our candidates, and for all who donated food to our hospitality room this year and helped to make it such a resounding success.

I would also like to give special thanks to the Connersville Lions Club, the Manilla Lions Club (and their ring leaders, Lions: Earl & Judy and Gene & Donna), and, especially to the Liberty Lions Club (and our Hospitality Room Host/Hostess Lions: Bob & Carol Dance, Carl & Ethel Sharp, Pat & Merl Gentry, Duane Nickels, and my wife Patti Sharp) not only for your donations of food, but especially for your cheerful presence and your countless hours of labor in preparing, hosting, and cleaning up after each evening's festivities. You made a great impression on the Lions of Indiana! And let's see, whom did I forget...oh, yeah, our terrific candidates who were running for office: Lion Earl, Lion Gene, and most of all PDG Tom Slattery and his campaign team!

I hope that everyone also got an opportunity to meet with our fellow Lions from 25A, with whom we shared our hospitality room this year. They were certainly a great bunch of Lions with whom to share a hospitality room.

On a different note, I would like to shift gears and thank everyone who participated in our Clean-up Day at Camp Woodsmoke this year. I understand that we set some sort of record for attendance (and work accomplished). By the way, we have two very special dates coming up at Camp Woodsmoke that you need to mark on your calendars.

On Sunday, June 27, we will be having a District-wide Family Picnic at Camp Woodsmoke. Please bring your family and a covered dish or two. (And as my Uncle Gary would say, "You may even want to put a little something in your dish.") The festivities (the gathering and socializing) will begin around 10:00 am with the meal starting promptly (?) at noon.

Then, after returning from Detroit, we will have our first Cabinet Meeting of the year at Camp Woodsmoke on Sunday, July 18. This is also commonly referred to as "Organization Day" for the new Governor. (This way, if I do a bad job, you can beat me over the head and leave me in the woods for...) The meal format for this meeting will also consist of a pitch-in picnic. We will have a short (I promise) business meeting at 10:00 am and the meal will begin at noon (maybe earlier). Those who wish to socialize (and hopefully that is all of us) should arrive early. We will also have a short meeting for all Club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Safety Chairmen following the meal. Likewise, I will be holding a short meeting with all Zone and Region Chairs following the

meal as well, which will probably drift into a Vision Van Board Meeting. Our socializing should resume no later than 3:00 pm and will last until the last Lion has left the camp!

On the subject of our Vision Van Program, we are off to a great start! I would like to give thanks to each of the individual Lions that are responsible for making this program possible – and name names. But, I know that if I tried, I would certainly leave someone out, which is not my goal. So instead, I would like to thank all of the Lions in 25F for the fantastic response that you have each given when asked to help. This is our project, and when we (actually PDG Jack Salsbery) took International Lions President, Dr. T.S. Lee on a tour of the Vision Van and explained what the program was designed to do, and showed him our screening equipment, we made a huge impression on him. However, he was a little dismayed to find that our LCIF grant had received a preliminary approval and had then been tabled. He kept pointing to the LCIF Logos on the bus, and became rather animated when PDG Jack pointed out that they are decals and they can be removed. We certainly hope that this will not occur, as we believe that President Lee will certainly "suggest" that our grant request become "un-tabled" right away.

I firmly believe that our Vision Van Program, even in its early phase, is providing us with a great deal of publicity in our own communities, every time it rolls into, or through, a town. As this program continues to evolve and we more fully utilize it, I believe that we will see great support for all of our programs and projects from the public. It is a very high profile (highly visible) project that is calling attention to all of our other projects. We need to capitalize on this response by scheduling the Vision Van to appear in each of our communities in our district. I realize that we all have fairly full schedules for each of our clubs, and I also realize that we often don't have enough person power to run the projects that we already have scheduled. However, I have a proposal for all of us as Lions.

In order to make the largest impact, we want to run our Vision Screening Program with at least some local club members doing the screening. To accomplish this, we will need to do a couple of things. First, we must have at least some members of each club trained as screeners. Second, we will need to support one another by volunteering to help other clubs. After all, our motto is "We Serve" – not: "We Serve Others, only." For example, if one Club sends a half dozen (or so) members to help a neighboring Club, we can use the "loaners" to fill in on the hosting Club's main project and on the Vision Van. Regardless, we want the public to see some of their local Lions on both projects. If there are other Lions working on either project that they don't recognize, they won't take that much notice, but they will remember the ones that they do recognize. It is important that they see people that they know and recognize on each activity. Then, when they are asked to participate in some other activity, they will remember someone from their local Lions Club did something for them.

I realize that this represents a shift from our original thinking on how this program should be staffed. But, now that we have had an opportunity to do some actual

screening in several communities, it has become very apparent that this is a much better solution than our original plan for several reasons. Bringing in strangers to do screening, might get the screening done, but it will do little to enhance the image of the local club. However, using local Lions Club members to do the screening, will do wonders for the image of the local Club, and it has already begun to generate a great deal of interest by the public in what we do as an organization.

Speaking of scheduling, each club in our district will need to schedule their Governor's Official Visitation. We have enclosed a form for your use to help get these dates on my calendar. Please try to help me get these scheduled right away. Also, in case you are not aware of it, this newsletter and a lot of other very useful information can be found on our District website at:

<http://www.district25f.org/>

I would encourage everyone who has Internet access to sign onto this website address at least monthly. Often our Governor's Newsletters don't get very far down the pecking order in a Club. Even though each Club president receives a paper version, the average Club member does not. However, any of us can sign onto our website each month and view this newsletter. We can also view information about the Vision Van, its schedule, and who the Club Presidents and Secretaries are for each Club in our district. So, please take advantage of this resource. It even has links to other Lions Club websites. Club Presidents, share the wealth! Tell your Club members how to access this website.

*DGE Carl*



## DOWNTOWN LIONS CLUB ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

# JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>

Important information about this year's fundraiser:

- It will be held at Greenfield County Club
- The Tournament starts at 1 PM
- Awards dinner – time TBD
- The cost is \$100/per player
- !!! FABULOUS PRIZES!!!

How can you contribute??

- Get together a team, or sign up individually
- Donate a gift certificate
- Have your company sponsor a hole
- Volunteer to help with arrangements
- Call Stacey: 538-7617

**We hope to see you there!!**



**We Serve**



**We Serve**

## IF I KNEW

If I knew it would be the last time  
that I'd see you fall asleep  
I would tuck you in more tightly  
and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.  
If I knew it would be the last time  
that I see you walk out the door,  
I would give you a hug and kiss  
and call you back for one more.  
If I knew it would be the last time  
I'd hear your voice lifted in praise,  
I would video tape each action and word,  
so I could play them back day after day  
If I knew it would be the last time,  
I could spare an extra minute  
to stop and say "I love you,"  
instead of assuming you would KNOW I do.  
If I knew it would be the last time  
I would be there to share your day,  
well I'm sure you'll have so many more,  
so I can let just one slip away.  
For surely there's tomorrow  
to make up for an oversight,  
and we always get a second chance  
to make everything just right.  
There will always be another day  
to say "I love you,"  
and certainly there's another chance  
to say our "Anything I can do?"  
But just in case I might be wrong,  
and today is all I get,  
I'd like to say how much I love you  
and I hope we never forget.  
Tomorrow is not promised to anyone,  
young or old alike,  
and today may be the last chance  
you get to hold your loved one tight.  
So if you're waiting for tomorrow,  
why not do it today?  
For if tomorrow never comes,  
you'll surely regret the day,  
that you didn't take that extra time  
for a smile, a hug, or a kiss  
and you were too busy to grant someone,  
what turned out to be their one last wish.  
So hold your loved ones close today,  
and whisper in their ear,  
tell them how much you love them  
and that you'll hold them dear.  
Take time to say "I'm sorry,"  
"Please forgive me," "Thank you," or "It's okay."  
And if tomorrow never comes,  
you'll have no regrets about today.

## GOVERNOR'S VISITATION REQUEST FORM

### TO ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS:

Please remember that District Governor Carl Sharp, Jr. is required to officially visit all clubs within District 25-F during his term of office. Please complete this form and send it to DG Carl.

Your early response will greatly increase the odds of your first choice being honored, as all dates will be assigned on a first request basis. Thank you.

Your first choice will be given priority. But, please remember that many clubs meet on the same day/evening, and DG Carl can only be at one place at a time.

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Lion: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX No. (If available): \_\_\_\_\_

1st Choice:      Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Time: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice:      Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Time: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Choice:      Date: \_\_\_\_\_      Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to Meeting Place: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone number (that can be called in route): \_\_\_\_\_

If there are any awards to be presented by the Governor, or new members to be inducted, please advise the DG in advance. Also, please have all necessary materials (such as pin, new member packet, and hat, etc.) available and present for these ceremonies. If you do not have the necessary items, please advise the DG in advance, so that they can be procured.

Thank you for your assistance.

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