



Beacon of Light

"Shine a Light on Service"



District S Newsletter - August 2011

Message from DG Mel



During The last two month your DG has done officer installation in Baxter Springs, Columbus, Chanute, Parsons, and Arkansas City Early Bird clubs. I have attended the International Convention in Seattle for 10 days and published our first newsletter.

It is now time to go to press with our August newsletter.

DISTRICT CABINET MEETING AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING

SATURDAY AUGUST 27,2011

Commercial Bank Community Room (enter through West entrance)

PARSONS, KANSAS

Please advise Don Cunningham at cunning98@yahoo.com if you plan to attend so we will know how much food to fix.

The morning session will start at 9:00 A. M.. It will be primarily training for Zone Chairs, Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, and Club Treasurers. The Second session starting at 10:30 A.M. will be round table discussions which will last 15 minutes each on the following subjects:

1. Conducting Club Meeting (Leader will be 1st Vice District Governor. Bill Kincaid.)
2. Conflict Resolutions (Leader DG Mel Greene).
3. Resources and Foundations (Leader PDG Chris Bauer).
4. Accepting Change (Leader (2nd VDG Jess Larison)
5. Sure Sight Screener (Leader VDG Terry Weldin)
6. Duties of Club Officers and Mentoring Program (Leader PDG Don Cunningham)
7. Public Relations (Leader PDG Tim Hayes)

At 12:30 there will be a Past District Governors meeting.

The price for lunch is \$7.

After lunch we will have our Cabinet Meeting starting at 1:00 P.M. We are going to try something different by having everyone who submits an e-mail report in advance to Secretary Chris Bauer and not give an oral report. lionchris@sbcglobal.net

If you are getting this newsletter by mail then it is because I do not have your e-mail address. It would save me lots of stamp money if I could send them all by e-mail.

My e-mail address is melgreene@columbus-ks.com

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mel Greene'.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 12-14, 2011 MD-17 Council Meeting Great Bend, Kansas
- August 27, 2011 District 17-S Cabinet Meeting Parsons, Kansas

If your club has a particular date you would prefer a visit from DG Mel, please advise me soon so I can make a travel schedule. There are some clubs who do not meet in August, so I will begin to travel to your clubs in September.

1st Vice District Governor

I would like to thank the Lions of District 17-S for selecting me to serve as their 1st Vice District Governor for 2011-2012. My job will be to support DG Mel Greene with all of his projects and provide my assistance in governing this district. I will be learning everything that I need to know to be an effective governor next year. One of my goals is to motivate all of our club Presidents and Secretaries to take a more active role in District and Kansas Lionism. I have seen Lions throughout the state of Kansas performing need services for their communities – however – by working together as a district, we can do so much more for our communities and state. Every club President needs to know that he or she is a member of the District Governors council and each one has something to contribute. I am glad that several of our clubs have volunteered to help with the Mobile Screening Unit at the Kansas State Fair. I hope to see all of the district Lions Clubs represented at the District Cabinet Meeting in Parsons, KS, on August 27.

VDG Bill Kincaid

Accepting Change

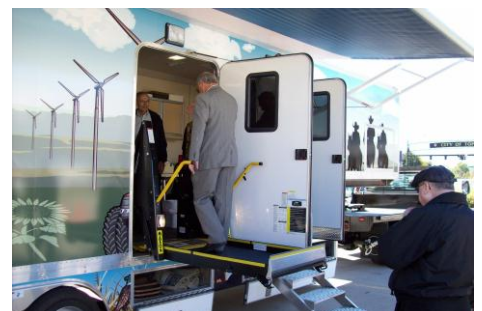
Change, change, change.....We all have to, whether it is in our daily lives or in our clubs. Join in on the round table discussion (er, rectangle table, as it were) on the need, resistance, implementing and monitoring of changes.

Let's hear your concerns, ask questions and share your possible solutions and comments on these never ending situations.

Jess Larison
2nd Vice Dist. Governor

NEW MOBILE SCREENING UNIT

The Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas Foundation and Kansas Lions Sight Foundation Mobile Screening Unit is going to be at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchison from September 9 thru September 18 and we are looking for volunteer Lions to assist with that project. They need help on Sept. 9th and other days may also need assistance so please contact Lions Ron Bretz at wildfires@cox.net or call 316-283-1921.



SURE SIGHT VISION SCREENER

The story of Welch Allyn Sure Sight Vision Screener use by District S Lions began in New Strawn, KS in August of 2010. Mrs. Jill Whitworth (right) is the individual whose daycare was the location where Burlington Lions Club was able to screen 8 preschool children and the results were that 4 children were referred and 2 of the referrals were for serious problems that required eyeglasses for correction.



According to Mrs. Whitworth both families did not suspect that there were any problems with the eyesight of their children and they are very thankful for the screening. One little girl has told her mother that she was seeing things in books for the first time since she received her glasses that they had read the same book many times before. Those parents are glad Mrs. Whitworth took the initiative to accept the offer of Burlington Lions Club to screen the children at her daycare. Mrs. Whitworth is planning for Burlington Lions Club to screen the children at the daycare this fall of 2011.

The story of these children having vision problems IS NOT AN ISOLATED INCIDENT. Children that have vision needs exist in every community in our district.

In the screenings that have taken place there have been other families who have had children identified that they did not recognize the eye problems their children had. The One thing that each one of these situations has in common is that the families are extremely grateful.

Below are photos of Lions training or providing screenings in District S.



SCREENER EQUIPMENT IN DISTRICT S

The first Welch Allyn Sure Sight Vision Screener was purchased by the Jones Foundation and was used by Burlington Lions Club and Lebo Lions Club in Coffey County and Emporia Lions Club in Lyon County. Sure Sight Vision Screener Chairman Terry Weldin secured permission from District Governor Tonja Wienck to start a fundraising effort to purchase another screener through contributions from district clubs for use in all of District S. A request is being made for each club in District to make, at least \$100, contribution towards the screener fund to purchase a screener and provide necessary supplies and maintenance to keep the screeners functioning. Each club contributing to the District S Screener Fund will receive a patch for their club banner.

The Hillsboro Leo Club contributed \$500 to the screener fund and Screener Chairman Terry Weldin presented a pennant with the screener fund patch attached.



Another Welch Allyn Sure Sight Vision Screener was purchased through funds from the Ronald O. Thomas Foundation shortly before the end of 2010. The Baxter Springs Lions Club was an essential part of this effort. Our district has enough screener equipment so that screening service can be scheduled by clubs in our District.

Screening Schedules as we know them

- August 29 Parsons Lions Club in Parsons Schools

Burlington

The Coffey County Fair was especially hot this year with the days over 100 degrees but the Burlington Lions served over 40 gallons of ice cream during the 5 days of the fair. The funds raised will go to support the community activities like the backpack program and the Lions Peace Poster Contest this year. We had an extra shade up so customers did not have to wait in the hot sun.



District S Sure Sight Screener Update

We are ahead of the pace we had last year. August 1st 2010 we had no screenings accomplished and only 2 scheduled. Today we have completed 27 screenings (Burlington 4, Emporia 10, Neodesha 13) with zero referrals and we have School Districts in Parsons, Pleasanton, North Lyon County, South Lyon County, Lebo-Waverly, Anderson County (Garnett, Greeley, Westphalia), Leroy-Gridley, Burlington, Baxter Springs (and surrounding area) Yates Center that are scheduled already. Locations in Independence and Fort Scott that are waiting to be screened this week and next.

I presented at the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute in July and Lions from Iowa told me about their program that screens 35,000 students a year. That is where we need to be with our numbers. We need to get more Lions trained on how to use the screeners and get them into the business of screening children. Come to the cabinet meeting in Parsons and pick up a training DVD for your club and get hands-on training while you are there.

Children in Kansas and in your communities are in need of this screening. I will be in Winfield at the Winfield Lions Club meeting presenting a program at noon on August 10th. If I can deliver a copy of the training DVD to your club on my travels to Winfield and back home I will be glad to do it.

PDG Terry Weldin

Orientation

Every new member needs a good orientation about Lionism in the State of Kansas and Multiple District 17 and the Kansas Lions Sight Foundation, Kansas Lions Foundation and the Kansas Band Foundation. An orientation disc that can be played in almost any Windows compatible computer is available and has been created as a part of the Long Range Planning group activities. One is available for each club.
WE SERVE!!!!!!!!!!!!

Global Membership Team Chair

We need to provide the service of the eye screening so that members/citizens of our communities see what a great service organization that Lions Clubs are to their communities. As Global Membership Team Chairman I plan to be visiting a lot of clubs to help Lions Clubs in District S to be known as the great bunch of service oriented clubs that we are. **I believe** is the theme of International Lions President Tam and **I believe** that when we serve our communities by planting trees and screening the eyes of children we will be known for the great things we do and others will want to join us.

See you in service activities this year!!! I BELIEVE 2011-2012 will be a great year!
PDG/GMT Chairman Terry Weldin