



Paw Prints

Official Publication of Indiana Lions District 25-G
Nelson Nix, Governor

What's Happening

- Feb. 6
Official Visit - Plymouth
- Feb. 11
Cabinet Meeting - Elkhart
- Feb. 18
Campaign SightFirst Training Session
Indianapolis
- Feb. 20
Official Visit - Wakarusa
- Feb. 28
Official Visit - Denver

FUTURE EVENTS

- March 3-5
District Convention - Plymouth
- March 12
Eye & Tissue Bank Board Meeting
- March 23
Official Visit - Greene Township
- March 25
International Convention Planning
Session - Carmel
- April 27-30
State Convention - Evansville
- May 13
Cabinet Meeting - Warsaw
- June 11
Eye & Tissue Bank Board Meeting
Indianapolis
- June 20
Official Visit - Peru
- June 27 - July 5
International Convention - Boston

Let's talk membership, AGAIN!

TEN years ago the LIONS of INDIANA had a total membership of over 20,000. Today that number is in the mid-14,000 range. That relates to a **30%** drop in membership in just over 10 years. How does your club stack up? If it weren't for the formation of new clubs throughout the state the picture would be even more

Governor's Growls

Here it is, the month of January is coming to a close and the new year is upon us. How have you planned to complete the many resolutions that you have promised for 2006? You've made the commitment, now chart the course and follow your plan. Remember, it's not a plan until you commit it to paper; and in order to succeed you have to plan your work and work your plan. Good things come to those who plan and work their plans to achieve success. This is true in your personal, professional and service life. We, as Lions, are committed to our service and clubs and the final five months of the year can take you from ordinary to extraordinary by following through on your plan to achieve the goals you set when you first agreed to take charge of your club and zone. I have visited many, many successful Lions Clubs so far during my term of office as your Governor; and without question the clubs that are truly committed to service in their community are the same clubs that succeed in all aspects of Lionism; Projects, Fund-raising; Fun; Membership; Retention and involvement at the district, state and international level. Will your club be 'Plus-One' come June 30th?

Will you have done your part to have the district show a positive growth in membership? The ball is in your court now and your membership committee needs to step in and hit some 3 point shots to ensure our TEAM victory this year. District 25-G was the only district in the state to show a positive growth through the first 6 months of the Lion year; let's not let that slip away. There are too many smiling faces with new ideas and strong hands just waiting for you to ask the question Why aren't you a Lion?

Our district was honored with two awards at the recently completed mid-winter conference in Indianapolis in January; for the largest percentage gain in attendance for a district. Particular thanks go out to Mishawaka and Pierceton Lions for their outstanding participation. However, many clubs didn't even send a single representative and unfortunately, their clubs are missing the opportunity to grow and glow. I hope that every club will be represented at our next cabinet meeting to be held on February 11th at North Side Middle School cafeteria in Elkhart. I promise again to keep the business session moving along and look forward to seeing many of our Lion friends again. Keep smiling and ask a friend to join you in service to your community.

Governor Nelson



dismal. Apathy towards developing a working membership program in every club, zone and district is a reality. If you believe in serving others as I do, then we have to turn the tide. Now is the TIME and you have the potential to do extraordinary service to your club and your district. It has to begin with **YOU**. You are the Lion leaders of today and it is your

responsibility to develop the Lions and Lion leaders of tomorrow. **IF NOT NOW, WHEN? IF NOT YOU, WHO?** You have to show the leadership to your members that you possess the *Passion to Serve*, the *Passion to Grow*, the *Passion to Lead* and the *Passion to Excel*. Every one of our communities is counting on you and you alone.

Indiana Lions Corporate Status For Clubs in District 25-G

Before I retired last year I became aware that the Indiana Secretary of State's office was not properly notifying corporations of their corporate status renewal date. Many corporations were not filing their renewals and were therefore facing the eventual of lose of their corporate status.

I searched the State's corporate web site and compared it with Lions International's Indiana club listing and prepared a report that I sent to the then Governors.

Attached hereto is a current year's report for your review. In District "G" there are 13 clubs that have past due reports that could be anywhere from 1 month to 2 years delinquent. There are 14 clubs in good standing (through 12/31/05). There are 14 clubs that lost their corporate status prior to 2005 and 17 that have never been incorporated.

You can do with this report as you wish, but I would suggest that the 10 clubs that are past due be advised so that they can file their papers with the Secretary of State as soon as possible in order not to loose their corporate status.

Hoping to be of service
David L. Bates
District 25-D Treasurer

The following clubs are not listed as being incorporated in the state:

Argos	New Paris
Bristol	Pierceton
Etna Green	Sidney
Granger	Somerset
Lagro	South Bend
Leesburg	Talma-
Mexico	Newcastle
Mid-Lakes	Winona Lake
Milford	

The following clubs are listed as being LATE in filing their corporate status reports with the state:

Bremen	Lapaz
Claypool	Madison Twnshp
Denver	Millersburg
Grass Creek	New Carlisle
Greene Twnshp	Plymouth
Lakeville	Rochester
	Urbana

The following clubs are listed as being INACTIVE with the state:

Akron	Goshen
Baugo	Lydick
Bourbon	Mentone
Clay Twnshp	N. Manchester
Converse	Rich Valley
Dunlap	Roann
Fulton	Silver Lake

Are We There Yet?

Can you believe this Lions' year is one-half over? It makes me wonder if we are half way through the list we need to complete before we call this year a success.

Do you remember when after five minutes in the car – someone in the back seat asks, "Are we there yet"? Were you driving or asking the question? As Lions, are we asking or doing the driving?

Now is the time to work on the list. Do that new project with another group. Take a guest to your next Lions' meeting and then ask them to become a Lion. Put your goal or plan on paper – then put that paper where you can see it every day. Find the 'Passion' about Lions that excites you enough to institute changes for the better.

If service to our community is going to happen, each Lion needs to be involved in some way! Put that plan into action — make whatever it is better than it was last year!

The 'Get Ready Packets' are coming back. Thank you for taking time to answer the questions. These

PCC Tom Flack Candidate for International Convention Committee

PCC Tom is looking forward to this opportunity of service for the Lions of Indiana.

Indiana Lions State Convention
April 28 – 30, 2006
Evansville

answers give us some insight about your club as well as help us plan the future.

Are We There Yet? No, of course not! The many future generations of Lions may have an answer. The question for us is "Are we building the roads that future Lions need to travel in the years ahead? **WHAT DOES YOUR ROAD LOOK LIKE?**

VDG Pat

Seeking Help for Community Center

We can use some one like you. Pretty much full of, I mean with lots of ideas. The Akron Lions Club is spearheading the fund raising for a new community center. We have raised approximately \$225,000. The building will cost \$1.3 million. We are hoping to fund much of the rest with grants.

Since this is a Lions' undertaking, we would like to ask area Lions if they would consider a contribution. It would be nice to list several area Lions clubs in our list of contributors.

Thank you
Brian Potter
Akron Lions

STRENGTHEN The Pride

Our club numbers continue to fall from death, demise, lack of interest, and lots of other reasons. I have been explaining the solutions on adding new members, but the real answer is keeping the members your club already has on its rolls. The answer to retention of members is properly indoctrination of all members, quickly involving them in all facets of the club, but particularly projects, and breaking old habits and cliques. At your next meeting, request all members to sit at a different table to become better acquainted with your newer members and reacquainted with many others. Make it a game with a tailtwister involvement. Lastly, is your club going to earn a membership patch this Lions year? Will you grow from ordinary to extraordinary? 'Plus One' is a realistic goal. Keep track of where your club is at and work diligently to ensure its growth by adding at least one new member by July 1, 2006.

District Podium Fund

The District Podium Fund is growing but we still need your help. If your club hasn't sent in a donation of \$25, we can certainly use your help. I hope to have this project completed so that VDG Pat Birk and our future district governors can use this valuable tool at all of our meetings. Thanks for your help.

You Need to Know

Every club needs to know their incorporation status! Seventeen (17) of our 58 clubs have never been incorporated. To protect your club and all club members, please look into getting the club incorporated.

Thirteen (13) of our clubs are past due on their filing date. Fourteen (14) more of our clubs are declared inactive. Inactive means that the clubs have been past due long enough that the incorporation status was lost prior to 2005.

Using the above interpretation only 14 clubs are current with the State of Indiana laws. The month due for these clubs are as follows:

January - Elkhart, Osceola, Warsaw, February - Culver, Laketon, Wakaruse, Syracuse, March - Elkhart Community, April - Mishawaka, North Webster, May - Atwood, June - LaFontaine, October - Peru, December - Centre Twp.

PLEASE check your club status!!! If you have never been incorporated - please do it now - it is not difficult and it will give your club members liability security

Thanks to Lion David Bates (District D) for forwarding this information!

VDG Pat

(See also the article on page two of this newsletter)

Lions Law Camp

Please be advised that the dates for the Indiana Lions - Indiana State Police Law Camp have been finalized. They will be:

Anderson University- July 5-8

Vincennes University- June 21-24

Applications will not be available until mid-February. They will be available online before we have copies so you might want to check the Indiana Lions Website occasionally.



Governor Nelson receiving District Award for greatest increase in % of members attending Mid Winter Conference.



Mid-Winter Conference Awards to District

District 25-G made its goal and Gov. Nelson, Dave Eisen (leadership chairperson) and Jeri Seely (public relations chairperson) all received plaques. In addition, 25-G received the plaque for the highest percentage of Lions in attendance at the Mid-Winter Leadership Conference, held in January at Lawrence.

All contributions should be sent to the cabinet treasurer.

Any questions contact me. Linda Tincher, State Law Camp Chair
812-894-2750



Lucky Lion!

You are cordially invited to a celebration honoring
50 Years of the Dunlap Lions Club



Saturday, March 18, 2006
Concord High School Cafeteria
6:00 Social
7:00 Dinner

8:00-10:00 Program and Entertainment

Guests will get a choice of chicken, turkey, or roast beef.

Tickets are \$20 and can be reserved by calling Lion Ron Dean
at 574-295-0039. This event is business casual.



Indiana
Lions



District
25-G

CABINET MEETING

Saturday - February 11, 2006

North Side Middle School
300 Lawrence St. • Elkhart, Indiana

Registration & Social Period - 11 - 11:45 a.m.
Lunch - 12 - 12:50 p.m.

Menu

- Fresh Baked Bread or Cornbread
- Tossed Lettuce Salad
- Center-cut Roasted Pork Chops
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Bread Stuffing
- Green Bean Almondine or Scalloped Corn
- Fresh Baked Fruit & Cream Pies
- Beverage

\$10.50 per person (registration & check received by 2/6/06)

Late registration: \$11.50

MEETING BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 1 P.M.

Retired cop tackles global problems and will be nominated 2nd Vice President of Lions International

An article was recently received that details the background of Al Brandel, a retired police detective, a past International Director (1993-95) and current member of West Hempstead Lions, New York. Al has been nominated as second vice president of Lions Clubs International and will be voted on at the convention this year in Boston.

We don't have space to reprint the entire article and to abbreviate it would not do it justice. You can see the entire article, complete with photos, on the District 25-G website. The address for that site is www.lions25g.org and there will be links on the home page.

You'll read about an individual who has spent his entire life in the public sector, helping kids in trouble-runaways, teen mothers and abused or kidnapped children. He traveled to New Delhi last winter to help set up the Lions' \$1.8 million measles vaccination program there. In 2001, after terrorists struck the World Trade Center, he was at Ground Zero as coordinator of Lions' recovery support efforts. Most recently he was the Lions representative to UNICEF, a partnership responsible for delivering 23 'schools in a box', kits that enable a teacher to establish a makeshift classroom for as many as 80 children, to areas in Mississippi that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Lions making a difference- read about Lion Brandel.

Include this form with your check payable to District 25-G.

Lions Club _____

Names of those Lions attending: _____

Mail this form and payment to:
Marty Juel, Dist. 25-G Treasurer
3204 Village Ct.
Goshen, IN 46528

Total Enclosed (\$10.50 per meal) \$ _____