



# Paw Prints

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

## What's Happening

- Jan. 7-8**  
Council of Governor's Mtg.  
Indianapolis
- Jan 6**  
Mid-Winter Convention  
Indianapolis
- Jan. 16**  
Official Visit - Baugo
- Jan. 19**  
Official Visit - Granger
- Jan. 23**  
Official Visit - Lakeville

### FUTURE EVENTS

- Feb. 6**  
Official Visit - Plymouth
- Feb. 11**  
Cabinet Meeting - Elkhart
- March 3-5**  
District Convention - Plymouth
- March 23**  
Official Visit - Greene Township
- April 28-30**  
State Convention - Evansville
- May 13**  
Cabinet Meeting - Warsaw
- June 28-July 5**  
International Convention - Boston

## District Podium Fund Still Needs Help

As I had previously mentioned in my newsletters and at Cabinet Meetings, I have embarked on a District wide project to help improve our communication to club members and District Meeting attendees by hoping to be able to purchase a portable podium sound system. I'm requesting that each club consider donating \$25 towards the purchase of this system. Have you considered a club donation? Please review with your Board of Directors and hopefully you can see both the need and the solution. Your cooperation is certainly appreciated.

*Governor Nelson*

## Governor's Growls

With the weather being what it is this time of year, this is a great time to plan all of the great things we as Lions will be doing once Springtime rolls around. It won't be too long before we're doing barbecued chicken sales and building ramps, painting houses, white cane sales, candy sales and the list goes on and on. Now is also the time for you to do a Community Needs Analysis to see if there may be other areas of opportunity for your Lions Club to serve your community. Meet with your community leaders, social service agencies, schools, churches; and develop a plan to fill some of the gaps in community service that so often is overlooked. January will bring us the Mid Winter Conference at Lawrence North HS in Indianapolis. This is a great full day of learning and visiting with Lion friends from throughout the State. It's still not too late to attend. You can walk in on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and register at the door. Hope to see you all there. Also the Council of Governor's will be having its 3<sup>rd</sup> council meeting that same weekend; sandwiched around the conference. Plans are being finalized for the state convention to be held in Evansville this Spring. The district is beginning to show some positive signs in membership growth and I encourage all of you to continue to Share the Pride, Show the Pride, and to Strengthen the Pride (thru membership efforts). Thanks for the clubs that have donated to the district podium fund, but I know that there are a number of others that would like to send in a \$25 donation, but have forgotten. This is just a little reminder. I would also be in remiss if I failed to thank all the clubs Dee and I have visited to date that have shown us such wonderful hospitality. Stay out of the cold and snow and we'll be seeing you sometime, somewhere in January.



DG Nelson

## It's that time of year (again!)

Within the next several days, dues statements for the second half of the year will be in the mail to District 25-G clubs. The statements will be mailed to club treasurers per the list that was prepared and forwarded at the beginning of the current Lions' year. If your club has made a change in officers, be sure to contact Treasurer Lion Marty Juel so that the statement can be sent to the correct person and address.

The membership numbers are taken from the most recent reports as sent to the District's Secretary. Any adjustment to the November 30 figures on the dues statement should be noted on the dues invoice. Clubs may direct questions to District 25-G Treasurer Marty Juel, 3204 Village Ct., Goshen, IN, or by calling (574) 534-8868, or be email to [marty@martyjuel.com](mailto:marty@martyjuel.com) (best way).

## 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

## Attention Photoscreening Workers

Operation KidsSight is presenting an informational program about Photoscreening during an 11:00 a.m. seminar at the Mid-winter Conference on January 7.

Dr. Daniel Neely, medical director of the program, will be presenting all the latest information about the program. He will also have with him the new hand held autorefractor which is presently being evaluated for use in the program. You will have the opportunity to ask him questions and also see exactly how this new technology works.

This is an excellent opportunity to introduce members of clubs who have not participated previously to the program. We will also have information on additional sources of funding clubs can obtain for photoscreening the children in their communities.

You might also want to attend the seminar on White Cane Day collections at 3:45 p.m. Fifteen Lions clubs have exceeded collecting \$1000 in one day this year.

Please share this information with others on your photoscreening teams.

I hope you all have a Happy Holiday Season.

Yours in Lionism,  
PDG Charlie Haffner  
Operation Kidsight Co-Director  
(574) 457-3054  
ahaffner@kconline.com

## Hello fellow lions.

The North Webster Lions club is looking for someone to give a bid on a new speaker system for the parade route in North Webster on Main St. We have an existing system but we are wanting to upgrade with a better sound system. If there are any audio contractors in our district that would be interested in the job, please have them contact Mermaid Festival Chairman, Lion Mark Tevis.

Via email: mtevis@mchsi.com or mermaidfestival@mchsi.com Phone number 574-518-0938.

This year's dates for the 61st Annual Mermaid Festival June 12-17, 2006.

We would also like to invite any of the District Clubs to be a part of the Mermaid Festival. Being one of our Largest Fund raising events for the year we invite your club to use this time for a fund raiser for your clubs.

Thank You. (from Lion Mark Tevis)

## Starting the Second Half

I start with an apology and a correction. Many clubs meet only once in December, making the January 16<sup>th</sup> return of the "Get Ready Packets" very difficult or maybe impossible. For all club members to have input we'll need to extend the return time to the end of the month. But, please work on the packet when you can involve a large percentage of your club members. I'm sorry it's my mistake I should have remembered; our club only has one meeting in December. The correction is: postage goes up to 39 cents on January 8<sup>th</sup>. The post office clerk gave me the wrong date.

In every newsletter, membership seems to be a major item. It must be a priority that every club finish June, 2006 "Plus One". We need new hands to help those that have worked so many years. New thoughts and ideas breathe fresh life into our community service. If this sounds like a broken record, you're right it is!!! The DGs and the VDGs get this plea so often – we wonder if "International" knows any other word. So tell us how we can help you reach the "Plus One" goal.

Each and every one of us knows someone who could benefit our club.

Ask that special someone today, to attend with you the next club meeting.

Did you "Spread Your Wings" during the first half of this Lions year? We have worked hard – completed many projects and raised lots of money for worthwhile causes. Now, become a CHEERLEADER, SHARE your enthusiasm with a NEW LION during the second half of this year.

Another Helen Keller quote is "Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood". For communities to understand the importance of Lionism, we must be the teachers of the lessons. We teach what we live, are we good TEACHERS and LEADERS in our communities??

VDG Pat

## Indiana Lions Mid-Winter Leadership Conference

Lawrence Central  
High School  
Lawrence, Indiana  
Saturday  
January 7, 2006

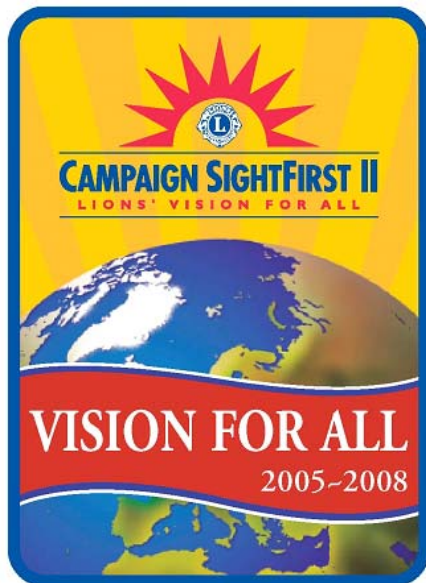


We need your help in encouraging attendance at the 2006 Mid-Winter Leadership Conference. A contest has been established, which you may already know about it since it was in the Sept. 10 minutes. The Mid-Winter Conference Committee has set a goal for each district. If the goal is met the governor and leadership and PR chairpersons will each receive a certificate. Goals, based on an increase from last year's registration, are as follow:

A — 15	E1 — 33
B — 96	E 2 — 23
C — 30	F — 81
D — 88	G — 28

These figures are based on individual district registrations last year. You are only competing with your own district's 2005 registration. All goals are reachable if the conference is promoted. Please help us encourage the Lions of Indiana to take advantage of the many workshops and seminars that are being presented for their benefit and the benefit of their clubs. If all districts meet their goals this year there would be 394 people at the conference compared to the 304 who registered for the 2005 conference.

## Extra CSFII Fund-Raising Event Can Lead to Early Banner Patch



Because all funds raised for Campaign SightFirst II will be included in the totals that lead to CSFII recognition, an early start can maximize Clubs' chances of achieving a high level award.

All Clubs have been asked to conduct one extra fund-raising event this Lions' year, with proceeds designated for Campaign SightFirst II, to prepare for intensive fund raising in 2006-2007 or 2007-2008.

"The leadership of District Governors is vital in encouraging Clubs to take this step," said PIP Dr. Tae-Sup Lee, chairperson of the Campaign. "Your encouragement could make the difference between simply participating and truly high achievement."

CSFII events will not only familiarize Clubs and their communities with the Campaign and its goals. They also give Clubs a head start toward success in CSFII and the recognition that comes with it.

### Lions Make River Blindness a Part of the Past in Chiapas, Mexico

Pitasia Gonzales is a rarity in the 21st century. Living in a region where river blindness is about to become an artifact of the last century, she is one of the few remaining people who have lost their sight to this painful, parasitic disease. She is a reminder of the



*Pitasia Gonzales lost her sight to river blindness and must depend on her daughter for help with daily living.*

suffering this feared disease once spread throughout the equatorial regions of Latin America and Africa.

"I lost my vision as a young woman and I'm very sad that not only do I

depend on my daughter to take me places, but I have not seen her face since she was a child," Pitasia says.

But Pitasia's daughters, grandchildren and neighbors in Barrio Brasil in Chiapas, Mexico do not live in fear. Through SightFirst, Lions have provided more than 65 million treatments with Mectizan, a drug that prevents river blindness. "I'm glad

that my family is taking the medicine. I want to thank the people who bring us the medicine," says Pitasia.

### Early Fund Raising Leads to Campaign SightFirst II Success

To help Campaign SightFirst II get off to a successful start, all District Governors are asked to encourage Clubs to conduct one additional fund-raising event this Lions' year with proceeds designated for the Campaign. CSFII Model Clubs are leading the way in this effort. Model Clubs have raised US\$1.2 million toward a combined goal of US\$7.9 million.

Wherever they are in the world, Model Clubs find innovative and appropriate ways to raise funds for the worldwide fight against blindness.

To dramatically demonstrate the reality of blindness, Lions in Rockville Centre, NY, USA, are planning a "blind dinner" in which the entire meal and activities will be experienced in total darkness. Proceeds from ticket sales and gifts from community members will go to CSFII.

The 46 members of the Bozeman (Montana, USA) Lions Club plan to raise US\$100,000, says Lion Jeff Cotterell who is coordinating the effort. Members have already acknowledged plans for personal gifts exceeding US\$50,000.

The Marbella Francofono Club in Spain has already raised US\$5,000 through personal gifts from members.

The Istanbul Faith Lions Club is planning a benefit concert featuring some of Turkey's most famous entertainers.

In Valenza, Italy, Lions are designing and selling jewelry with proceeds designated for CSFII.

The Bonita Springs (Fla., USA) Lions Club receives enough revenue from the resale shop it operates to have made an initial payment of US\$20,000 toward its Club goal of US\$100,000.

All gifts to CSFII should be sent to LCIF in the same manner as other donations and payments. Please ensure that CSFII is clearly marked on all checks and money orders for proper campaign recognition.

### Campaign Update...

- More than \$9.7 million raised
- 30 Lead Gifts received totaling more than \$3.4 million
- More than 340 Clubs have volunteered to lead the way as Model Clubs
- 185 Sector Coordinators recruited and eight orientation meetings completed
- 750 District and more than 7,000 Group Coordinators are being recruited



# Lions Challenged To Create 'Model Clubs'

## ***Q: What is a model Club?***

A: This is a club that, because of its extraordinary commitment to Lionism and the SightFirst program, agrees to lead the way in Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII) by conducting a fund-raising campaign during fiscal year 2005-06, in advance of all other clubs.

## ***Q: Why are Model Clubs important?***

A: All of LCI and its 46,000 Clubs will benefit from the leadership and wonderful example of these dedicated Clubs. Model Clubs will:

- Demonstrate the effectiveness of the campaign plan for Clubs of varying sizes, locations, and capacities.
- Encourage participation from Clubs in all seven Constitutional Areas.
- Receive regularly published recognition with special honors at International Conventions, feature stories in The Lion Magazine, and CSFII banner patch awards
- Be held in the highest regard by other Clubs throughout the world.

## ***Q: What is necessary to be a Model Club?***

A: Most importantly, members must be willing to reach out to the blind— not only at home, but throughout the entire world. To participate as a Model Club, the Club must agree to implement a specific kind of fund-raising effort named the Comprehensive Method. Key components of the Comprehensive Method are:

- Personal gifts and pledges by members
- Personal gifts and pledges by non-members
- Club fund-raising activities and events
- Matching or outright gifts and/or pledges from Club treasury

## ***Q: How will Model Club goals be set?***

A: Model Clubs must challenge themselves to set a goal at the highest possible level. To assist in this process, a range of goal options will be presented with an explanation of the impact that the Club's generosity will have on those in need of vision care, as well as the recognition available at each goal level.

## ***Q: Will all funds be raised from Club members?***

A: No. Personal gifts and pledges from members are only part of the Comprehensive Method. Non-members and local businesses will be asked for meaningful gifts and the campaign should also include a Club fund-raising event(s).

## ***Q: Who will be asked to participate?***

A: All clubs throughout the world will be asked to participate in Campaign SightFirst II.

## ***Q: What help do Model Clubs receive during their campaign?***

A: In addition to support by CSFII professional staff, materials including videos, brochures, kits for volunteers, posters, etc. will be furnished. All of this is without charge to your Club.