



# Paw Prints

May, 2006



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

## What's Happening

- May 4  
LaPaz Lions Special Visit
- May 13  
Cabinet Meeting - Warsaw  
**FUTURE EVENTS**
- June 7  
Syracuse Lions Install Officers
- June 11  
Eye & Tissue Bank Board Meeting  
Indianapolis
- June 20  
Official Visit - Peru
- June 29 - July 5  
International Convention - Boston

### STATE CHOIR

Participants and anyone else who sings that is interested, when you sign in at the State Convention Registration desk ask where and when the Choir is practicing. They will be singing at the Saturday noon luncheon and at the Sunday Necrology service.

### WANTED!!!

Reminder – Ads for our district directory. Advertise your club's fundraisers and special activities. Business card size - \$25; one half page \$50; or a full page \$75.

Send your print ready ad to PDG Art Birk, 614 North Plymouth St., Culver, IN 46511-1016 or e-mail iambirk@culcom.net

Thank you,  
**DGE Pat**

## Governor's Growls

Here it is the merry month of May and a season is bursting forth with Lion's clubs full of activities including festivals, parades, food sales, porch & ramp building, clubhouse updates, etc, etc, etc. But what about rebuilding and strengthening the most important part of your club- YOUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER? Has your club done all it can to end of the year PLUS ONE? Only 2 months to go to earn the gratitude of all your Lion leaders and ensure that Lions will continue to be a strong influence in your community for the future. Don't hesitate; Don't Procrastinate; Don't eliminate; but, do create new Lions at every chance you get. All clubs will be hearing from your Campaign SightFirst II Sector Coordinators shortly regarding your club's plans for Campaign SightFirst II. Lions International is asking each club to plan an extra fund raising project for the next two years (2006-2007 & 2007-2008) dedicated solely to continue LCIF's fight to eradicate preventable blindness worldwide. This is a very worthwhile and reachable goal and every member and every club is being asked to participate in some degree. Whether you raise \$100 or \$100,000 you can be assured that 100% of the funds raised will be going to aid the visually challenged at home and abroad. Plan now to do your part.



I'm looking forward to seeing our district Lions at the State Convention in Evansville, the end of April. Thanks to all who will make the effort. I know Evansville is quite a distance for most of the district. Lastly, our final cabinet meeting is scheduled for Warsaw on Saturday May 13, 2006 with registration beginning at 10:30; the meeting will begin with opening Ceremonies at 11:30, followed by lunch and the business meeting. Once again, I promise that the meeting will be completed by 3:00. See you there.

DG Nelson

### Cabinet Meeting Registration is Included with this Newsletter

Inside this award-winning issue of Paw Prints is the registration form for the final cabinet meeting of the year, scheduled for May 13, in Warsaw. But then, you already knew the date and location, as it's been included in the calendar for the past several

months! But what you haven't known are the details, such as what kind of beans will be served, will there be bread and water available and all those other very important details. Well, those details are now available, so all that's left is for you and your club

members to send in your reservation and check. Yup, **PLUS** your check. Your check is the only way we can plan adequately, to let the caterers know exactly how many green beans to cook. Please send in your reservation right away so the 'bean counters' can do their planning! !

## Meeting the Challenge

Thank you to all the Lions of District G who are completing the 2005-2006 year of service. There still is time for us to "Get-r-Done." New members are out there waiting for you to ask them to join us in our community activities. Please do all you can to have your club finish plus one. We need to stop the drops. If you have members that may drop – talk to them, find out why they want to leave your club. Retention is very important if we are to have the needed hands to serve our communities. Every district in Indiana is pushing membership. No doubt you've heard it over and over, but we will not go away ..... not even when you get the plus one!!!!

Governor Nelson challenged each of us back in February to use our resources, chart our course and to continue our journey. Take these steps toward reaching your club goals. Faithful Lions – we need to ensure the future of our clubs.

Thanks to every Lion that said yes to a cabinet position for 2006-2007. I feel very blessed to have such great Lions working together in our district. The PU 101's are coming in – please send them as soon as your elections are completed. MANY club histories are in but we still need more than have been received. {Yes, you're right – we still need more than 50% of the club histories.} Remember to have your club schedule the Governor's Official Visit date. Thanks to the clubs that have their date on our schedule.

We will be busy Lions getting ready for our state convention in Evansville and all our year end reports completed. Then we move into the new Lions 4 year in Boston with high hopes and goals.

TOGETHER WE SERVE.

Thank you – in Lionism,  
**DGE Pat**



## Wanted:

Advertising giveaways for District G's Hospitality Room at the State Convention. If you can acquire any items in any amount, please send e-mail to [iambirk@culcom.net](mailto:iambirk@culcom.net) or call (574) 842-3690 to let us know.

## RACE WORK DATES

Listed below are the race work days at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Those who wish to work any day should let me know at least 30 days before the date desired.

PDG Charlie Haffner  
(574) 457-3054  
[ahaffner@kconline.com](mailto:ahaffner@kconline.com)

### INDIANAPOLIS 500

Sat., May 13 1st Day Qualifying

Sun., May 14 2nd Day  
Qualifying

Sat., May 20 3rd Day  
Qualifying

Sun., May 21 Bump Day  
Qualifying

Fri., May 26 Carburetion Day

Sun., May 28 Race Day

### U.S. GRAND PRIX

Fri., June 30 Practice

Sat., July 1 Practice  
& Qualifications

### ALLSTATE BRIDKYARD 400

Fri., August 4 Practice

Sat., August 5 Practice &  
Qualifications

Hope this information will help the Lions throughout the State to assist the Indiana Lions Foundation in their needs for these various functions.

Your Indiana Lions State Office



## 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

## Help Needed At State Fair

Many of the Lions in Indiana have inquired about the work schedules and times for the Races (500, Grand Prix, and Brickyard 400) and also about the Indiana State Fair. The information you need has now been put on the Indiana Lions State Web Page at:

<http://www.indianalions.org>

They are listed on the sidebar (left side on the Home Page) and also on the Printed Forms page.

## Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing

PDG David Court of the Lakeville Lions Club has requested that I remind each and every Lion and Club in the District of the dramatic need for used hearing aids for our State project. Used hearing aids are reconditioned when possible, or sold for parts when practical. Any funds raised are utilized to offset the costs of our Affordable Hearing Aid Project. 100 affordable hearing Aids were purchased thru Lions Clubs International and worked very well for those individuals with low or moderate hearing loss. Please be certain to visit the displays of your Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing Committee when attending the Lions State Convention in Evansville in Late April.

Also, another reminder to every Club to please support The Indiana Lions Speech and Hearing with a generous Club Project Donation. Regardless of the amount every club should support every state project

### CLUB OFFICER TRAINING DATES SET!

It is very important for all incoming club officers to attend Club Officer Training in order to be well prepared for a successful year ahead for your club. Plan now for all officers and any interested Lions to attend one of these training sessions. Drinks and snacks will be provided. All sessions will begin at 7:00 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 18

TALMA COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

MISHAWAKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### TUESDAY, MAY 30

MILFORD COMMUNITY BUILDING

#### MONDAY, JUNE 12

DENVER COMMUNITY BUILDING

This year's sessions will include information on:

- BANNER PATCH MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM
- INDIANA LIONS FOUNDATION GRANTS
- Exciting new fund-raising programs

- Latest specific information for Secretaries, Treasurers, Vice Presidents and Presidents
- Remarks by District Governor Nelson Nix
- Remarks by District Governor Elect Pat Birk
- SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR BOARD MEMBERS
- Free WHITE CANE DAY COLLECTION MATERIALS
- Successful Photoscreening Program
- And Much More!  
More details to follow.

**VDGE Dave Eisen**  
**District Leadership Development**  
**Chairperson**



### MADISON TOWNSHIP LIONS CLUB PORK CHOP SALE

Saturday, May 20, 2006

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Madison Township Fire Station

State Road 331

Wyatt, Indiana

\$4.00 per Chop for 1 to 24

\$3.50 per Chop for 25 or more

Carry Out Only

### Fighting a Tiny But Devastating Enemy

Multiplied many times over, the tiny bite of a black fly is powerful enough to topple the traditional social order in village after village in Africa and on other developing continents. The blindness eventually caused by the bite results in young adults, normally the caretakers of their parents, relying on their mothers and fathers to survive.

Children whose parents lose their sight must drop out of school to support the family. The elderly who are blind, instead of serving as models of grace and dignity to the generations that follow, are led around by long sticks by children as young as three years old.

Onchocerciasis, or river blindness, has devastated river areas in Africa. More than 18 million people have the disease, which causes severe itching and rashes before blindness sets in. The bite of the fly unleashes worms inside the body. The worms lay eggs. An infected person may be plagued by as many 150 million first-stage larvae inside his body.

Through SightFirst, LCIF has helped to greatly reduce river blindness. Two years ago LCIF donated \$16 million and entered into a partnership with the Carter Center on a five-year initiative to control river blindness in Africa and Latin America. (About \$7 million of the grant was to combat trachoma, another frequent cause of blindness in developing nations.) In 2001, \$2.6 million was approved to control river blindness in Cameroon. So far, 40 million treatments have been delivered in 12 nations.

The disease is controlled by annual doses of ivermectin (Mectizan®), donated by Merck & Co. Besides helping to establish a drug distribution program, Lions provide monitoring teams to ensure that those who are at risk are not infected and to control the disease in those already infected.

Africans fearful of becoming blind often abandon fertile lands near rivers. Thus another consequence of onchocerciasis is a severe drop in agricultural production in areas where resources already are few and income is low. Communities treated for river blindness have seen a doubling or tripling of economic production as people move back to fertile strips of land. The value of the treatments to family bonds, to the vibrancy of communities and to the human spirit, is, of course, incalculably high.

## Campaign SightFirst II Update

It's a stark fact. But, by the time you finish reading this one page, one child somewhere in the world will have gone blind. One child goes blind every minute. Half-a-million children will have lost their sight by the end of this year. But, childhood blindness is only one part of the global vision crisis we currently face. If nothing is done, experts say that the world's blind population will probably double from 37 million to 74 million by 2020. But Lions will not allow "nothing to be done." True to our commitment to be "Knights of the Blind," Lions have launched Campaign SightFirst II to help prevent this tragedy. CSFII has set out to raise at least \$150 million in order to continue and expand the extraordinary work of our original Campaign SightFirst program, which has been combating preventable blindness around the world since 1990, saving or restoring sight for 24 million people. However, the fruits of our fundraising for the original Campaign SightFirst program in the early 1990's are now nearly exhausted. The money has been used wisely, but, it is nearly gone. The next generation of SightFirst programs which CSFII will fund, have the potential to save as many as 37 million people from a life of darkness. CSFII is intended to be a coordinated, global fund-raising effort involving all 1.4 million Lions in 46,000 clubs from around the world to raise the money that is needed to continue the fight against preventable blindness. The Campaign SightFirst II fund raising effort is being conducted by (LCIF), the grant-making arm of the International Association of Lions Clubs. This campaign is being conducted on a three-year timetable, with intensive fund raising at the local level scheduled for 2006-2008. That's right, during the next two years we, as Lions, plan to raise at least \$150,000,000 to help combat preventable blindness on a worldwide basis. (This year, 2005-2006, was set aside to organize the required efforts.) To accomplish the goals of CSFII we need your support. Because SightFirst is intended to be an extraordinary initiative of all Lions and because our other important Lions programs must also continue, CSFII is only seeking funds over and above your existing support for LCIF and your local Lions projects.

I am asking each of you to support Campaign SightFirst II fund raising during the next two years using a very simple three pronged approach:

I. I am asking each Lions Club in our District to do one "extra" fund raising event for which all proceeds will be earmarked for CSFII. This project is not to take the place of any of your current fundraising. Again, we do not want to take our current support away from any existing projects at the Local, District, State, or International levels.

II. Each Lions Club should also ask its own members to raise enough money (from our own pockets) to purchase at least one "extra" Melvin Jones Fellowship during this campaign. For a Club of 30 members, a mere \$33.34 per member will do this. This can be spread over a three year period and would average just over \$11.00 per year per member. Most of us could easily donate that much just by saving our spare change each

day. In fact, when we spread our donations over 3-5 years, most of us would be able to personally donate enough to earn a Melvin Jones Fellowship for ourselves with very little sacrifice. Many of our members may even have the option of receiving matching donations from our employers that will double the effect of their donations to CSFII.

III. We are also asking each Lions Club to identify local community leaders and businesses that have "deep pockets". Most of them are already looking for a worthwhile, philanthropic project to which they can donate money. We simply need you to help identify them so that we can share the story of the Lions organization and the goals of Campaign SightFirst with those individuals and organizations. (Many of these folks may even be existing Lions members of your local Club...)

Why should we all work so hard to make CSFII successful? Why has LCIF asked us to make this effort during the next three years? There are many reasons, but some of them include the following facts:

- On the average, for every \$6 we raise, LCIF, through SightFirst, has been able to save or restore the sight of one person somewhere in the world.
- It is possible to completely eliminate river blindness in Latin America by 2010.
- A pair of eyeglasses can make the difference between a child who grows and learns normally and one who has little hope for the future.
- For as little as \$20, we can provide someone with cataract surgery to restore their sight.
- For less than \$1 per treatment, we can treat one person with Mectizan® to prevent River Blindness in that individual for an entire year.
- 95 percent of those with low vision do not receive adaptive equipment or appropriate education, making their condition little better than those who are fully blind.
- If the Lions don't step forward to help, just who will?

Therefore, I am asking every Lions Club in our District to conduct one additional fundraising event with the proceeds dedicated to Campaign SightFirst II during either 2006-2007, or 2007-2008. Likewise, I am asking every Lion in our District to give personally to CSFII, at whatever level they feel comfortable with. Lastly, we need you to help us identify individuals and organizations in your community that might be interested in a very worthwhile philanthropic project where they can put their dollars to work.

Please note that LCIF is a 501(c)3 organization, which makes any, and all, donations to LCIF for Campaign SightFirst II fully tax deductible for the donors. Non-cash donations will also be accepted (e.g., stocks, bonds, paid up life insurance policies, etc.). For some donors, a gift of an asset that has greatly appreciated since its original acquisition may very well save them a substantial amount of money at tax time. (For details, they should consult their tax professionals.)

Will Campaign SightFirst II succeed is its mission? That's really up to you and me, and the thousands of dedicated Lions clubs around the world. Will you, and your Club, do your part? Will you give a personal gift? Remember the old saying: **"If it is to be, it is up to me!"**

Indiana  
Lions



District  
25-G

# CABINET MEETING

**Saturday - May 13, 2006**

American Legion Hall  
301 N. Buffalo, Warsaw, Indiana

Registration & Social Period - 10:30 a.m.

Meeting opens at 11:30

Lunch - Noon

Balance of meeting after lunch

### Menu

Broasted chicken  
Mashed potatoes & gravy  
Salad - Vegetables  
Bread - Drinks - Desert

**\$7 per person** (registration & check received by May 8)

After May 8 - \$8 - At the door registration is \$9

**Your check is your reservation !!**

**Your Voice — Your District**

**ATTEND !**

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 (\$7 per meal) \$ \_\_\_\_\_