



Paw Prints

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

What's Happening

- Oct. 21-23**
Council of Governor's Mtg.
Brownsburg, IN
- Oct. 24**
Official Visit - Lydick Lions
- Oct. 26**
Zone Meeting (New Carlisle)
- Oct. 27**
Zone Meeting (Plymouth)
- Nov. 1**
Official Visit - North Manchester
- Nov. 8**
Official Visit - Pierceton
- Nov. 10**
Official Visit - Bremen
- Nov. 12**
25-G Cabinet Mtg, Culver Lions Bldg.
- Nov. 15**
Official Visit - Bourbon
- Nov. 18**
Rich Valley Tenderloin Dinner
- Nov. 21**
Official Visit - New Paris
- Nov. 28**
Zone Meeting (Urbana)

FUTURE EVENTS

- Dec. 1**
Official Visit - Mishawaka
- Dec. 4**
Speech & Hearing Trustee Mtg. (Indy)
- Dec. 12**
Official Visit - Etna Green
- Jan. 16**
Official Visit - Baugo
- Jan. 19**
Official Visit - Granger
- Jan. 24**
Official Visit - Lakeville
- Feb. 12**
Cabinet Mtg. - Elkhart
- March 3-5**
District Convention - Plymouth
- March 23**
Official Visit - Greene Township
- May 13**
Cabinet Meeting - Warsaw

Governor's Growls

Time is marching on and before we know it the holiday season will be upon us all. Let's plan now on giving the district a great holiday present by each club sponsoring a new member during the month of November. I know that you can do it; however, I also know that I can't do it for you. You're the one that has to ask your friend, neighbor, work colleague, church buddy, etc. to come and have dinner with you and meet some new and exciting friends. I'm convinced that we have turned the corner on membership decline for the district and now we need to pick up the momentum with new member-



ship. Do you have a working membership committee? Do you have a plan rather than wishing and hoping? PDG Charlie is loaded with exciting membership ideas and many clubs have taken off with them. North Manchester had a guest night and have 8 prospects (4 have already committed); Talma-New Castle has added 10 new members since July and 6 more were inducted on Sunday, October 16th. How? By not being afraid to ask that wonderful question: "Why aren't you in the Lions Club?" 95% of the time the answer will be, nobody asked me. Don't let that happen to you and your club; You be the Lion that always thinks about new blood, new ideas, and new hands to help with projects and Fun.

I want to thank all of the club's that have contributed to the LCIF Katrina Relief Fund, and remember any donation of \$1,000 or more, does qualify for a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. To date, over \$10,000 in cash donations have been forwarded by the clubs of District 25-G. Keep those contributions coming as you all know how desperately those folks are needing our help. Remember also that your club needs to consider a special project for Katrina relief and Campaign SightFirst II for the next few years. Our motto is 'We Serve' and we will continue to prove it every day.

Please plan on joining us on Saturday November 12th for our district cabinet meeting to be hosted by the Culver Lions Club. If you haven't seen the Culver Lions Den at the railroad depot in downtown Culver, now is your chance to see what can be done through innovation, imagination, perspiration, motivation and inspiration. Lunch will start at 11:00 and the meeting at 12:15. I promise you that the business session will be completed by 2:00. Those of you that would like to stay around and visit afterwards are always welcome. However, I do realize that many of our members have family obligations and I have promised to keep the meetings rolling along. The cost for lunch will be \$8.00, which will include gourmet spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, deserts and drinks. Please make your reservations with Lion Marty Juel, district treasurer. (See reservation form elsewhere in this issue.)

As you have probably heard by now; Lions International has announced that the 2005-2006 International Convention has been moved from New Orleans to Boston, Mass. Also, please note that the dates have changed to June 30th through July 4th 2006.

Lastly we have 6 clubs that are months behind in both their financial obligations to Lions Clubs International and your own district. I am charging each and every club president to verify with their secretary that the MMR's are up to date and that your club treasurer is up to date with payments to LCI and the district.

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I will be calling the delinquent clubs very shortly. Have a great month in Lionism and remember to **Share the Pride** with your friends and family; **Show the Pride** to your community and let them see all the good that you do; and lastly, **Strengthen the Pride** by asking others to join with us in the Greatest Service Organization in the World.

**District Governor
Nelson J. Nix**

Having a Goal

A goal is something for which an effect is made, something desired, so says the trusty dictionary. A lot of talk centers around goals in Lionism. Hours of VDG & DG training are spent talking about how we need "attainable and realistic goals." Every year each district believes that they'll meet at least one of the goals. We hear - more members, better attendance, reports filed on time.....etc!

So what happens to each of us? A day, a week and then a month slip by and what about the effort? We want our club to be strong and hard working in our community.

We can't be the same old - same old forever; it doesn't work. Our clubs will become stagnant or wither if we don't stretch and grow.

A new member brings us a new perspective. They're things we miss because "its there" - stick out like a red flag or a need we haven't seen before.

Two hands to help work come with this new member. Isn't that good for every club?

DG Nelson's #1 goal is: Strengthen our district through membership. The benefits of having each club finish the year plus one would take us from ordinary to extraordinary.

Our year is 1/3 over - have we reached 1/3 attainment for our district or club goal? A personal goal as a Lion to help our club could be a new member. If we focus on this goal as well as we do projects that help our community and world - we would be the world's **Greatest Service Organization!** It is time to give Lionism a special gift.

Thank you,
VDG Pat

Help Wanted

Remember the Uncle Sam posters - finger pointing - We Need You?

Take out Uncle Sam and insert our Lions emblem and make the words read "You can be a great Lion. Help Us."

As a Lion we are looking for each of you to help plan 2006-2007. No, it's not too far away to start thinking and planning the 50th anniversary year.

In the near future each club president will receive a Get Ready Packet. Please give serious thought to the following questions. Club presidents and secretaries will need information and input from every club member. The questions are.....

1. Please tell us what as district of-

ficers we can do to help our Lions realize the importance of zone and district meetings. What should we try differently?

2. What can we do as district cabinet members to help your club?

3. How important are the district motto, pin, and banner? Would you like to see or help design a 50th celebration motto, pin, or banner?

4. Each year as the DG & VDG visit a club they go looking for information about that club - to see what makes them special. To help us know more about our clubs we'd like to put together a district history.

Information needed from clubs would be.....

A. Date chartered (formed) with _____ members. If chartered before 1956 were you in District A or B?

B. Meeting dates, times, and meeting place for board meetings and regular meetings.

C. The special projects and activities done in your community.

D. Fund raising events and who or what received the proceeds.

E. Special interest and bits of history, that new Lions of 3 years or less won't know - such as building projects - mission trips - what makes your club special in the district.

With all this information we should be a step ahead in planning this special year. Watch for your packet.

Thank you,
VDG Pat

November Cabinet Meeting Reservation Form

November 12, 2005

Lunch begins at 11 a.m. - Meeting begins at 12:15 p.m.

Culver Lions Den at Railroad Depot - Downtown Culver

Menu: Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, Desserts, Drinks

Cost \$8 (Hey, don't miss out on this bargain!)

Lions Club _____

The following Lions will be attending the Cabinet Meeting:

Mail this form and your check, payable to District 25-G Lions, to: Marty Juel, District 25-G Treasurer, 3204 Village Ct., Goshen, IN 46528 Deadline for reservations: Nov. 5.

It's Tough To Face Reality

During this year, more people will file for bankruptcy than will graduate from College.

The average American gains fifty pounds between high school graduation and age fifty.

Because of increasing weight the fastest growing operations in the US are hip and knee replacement and gastric bypass surgery

Over 1000 American children A YEAR go legally blind in one eye and over 40,000 suffer lifelong vision problems all because the problem wasn't

diagnosed soon enough.

Over 90% of new Lions were asked to join by less than 5% of existing Lions.

Over 50% of Existing Lions have **NEVER BROUGHT IN A NEW MEMBER.**

If one in five Indiana Lions brought in one new member each year, we would grow by over 1,000 Lions A Year.

At the present rate of decline (300/year). We will fall below 11,000 Lions in ten years. That's almost half as many Lions as we had in 1978, less than 35 years ago (we're already there).

It's hard to face the facts of life. The true challenge is to do something before it's too late. But it seems as if Americans have to be drowning before they start looking for a life preserver, and by then you're going under.

Living a successful life and having a healthy Lions club is all a matter of establishing lifelong priorities and sticking to them. We all know what needs to be done. Only time will tell whether we have the courage and concern to succeed.

Ask someone to Join your Lions Club Today...

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.

Yours in Lionism,
PDG Jeri Seely



Photo and story from Dunlap Lions

from vacation — the scheduling of screenings for preschoolers begins. There's room for you on a screening team. Sign up with Lion Judy or watch for information about the next training session.

METRO MEANS TEAMWORK

It couldn't have been more fitting. The poster on a wall in the conference room at Concord West Side School was labeled "Teamwork," and that's exactly what was exhibited recently at the final Metro KidSight screening of Head Start youngsters in Elkhart County. The team (photo at left) represented three clubs, Dunlap (Bill Douwsma at left in photo), Elkhart (Ann Kalman) and Baugo (Don Adams). Now that Head Start has been completed — and now that Chairperson Judy Wells is back

International Convention will be Brewing in Bean Town

THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE to move the International Convention to Boston. You will be the first to know when we find out our Hotel accommodations. Note the date change to June 30 - July 4. I was so looking forward to the New Orleans adventure. Now, what am I going to do with all these beads?

IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR THE CONVENTION - Sign up now. Registration is US \$100 until Dec. 31st and then it raises to \$115. If you wait until March you will pay \$130. Hotel deposit is \$150. Registration forms are in the Lions Magazine, on the Indiana Web Site www.indianalions.org, or lionsclubs.org or from any member of the Indiana Committee. Be sure to mark that you expect to stay in the Indiana assigned hotel. - 79 signed up so far - going for 400. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP watch for a confirmation letter from International and send back your reply immediately. If you are flying over with the group be sure International knows that you will arrive the evening of June 27th. and depart July 5th.

FLY THERE? We have reserved 40 seats from Indianapolis, on Continental Air Lines, June 27th leaving at 7:45 am and arriving Boston 12:30 pm - return July 5th leaving 1:30 pm arrive Indianapolis at 6 pm, This is a group roundtrip price, stopping in Newark for a 2 hour layover and then on to Boston, for \$239.48. If you want to leave from South Bend, via Chicago it is about \$312.31. If Louisville would be better count on approximately \$340.00. Deposit of \$40 per person is due now. There might be an additional fuel charge added later. Anyway, I have my personal money tied up in the deposit but that is okay as I can boil dandelion greens and drink lake water and get by some way until you pay. Just send your check payable to Indiana Racing Lions to PDG Rev. Will Lawson, Sr. at 3515 Gregory Farm Village, Rochester, IN 46975.

REMEMBER, CLAM CHOWDER IS NOT JUST FOR BREAKFAST ANYMORE,
PDG Rev. Will

Liberty Day Indiana

Lions Clubs Object No. 2: "TO PROMOTE the principles of good government and good citizenship."

Purpose of Liberty Day Indiana (Sep-Oct '05/Mar-Apr '06)

To provide 12,000 copies of the **Declaration of Independence and US Constitution** to US history students (8th & 11th grades) in selected schools in Indiana during September (Constitution adopted Sept 17, 1787) or October 2005, or March or April '06 (March 16th is the birthday of President James Madison, known as the "Father of the Constitution"). Liberty Day is a national non-partisan partnership with elected officials who talk about the meaning of the Constitution as Lions provide copies to students which are paid for by the sponsorship of patriotic businesses and foundations listed on the inside front cover.

Concept:

A Lion volunteer coordinator in each of Indiana's eight districts:

a. coordinates the distribution of **Liberty Day Indiana** booklets to US History class students in 8th & 11th grades in eight school systems through recruited club coordinators. Estimate of six classes x 30 students per class = 180 students per school (rural areas) x 8 schools (e.g., 3 high schools + 5 middle schools) = 1440 students per district x 8 districts, or approximately 11,520 state wide in '05-'06.

b. coordinates with an elected official (e.g., Congressman, State Senator, State Representative, or other official for the school area) requesting that they speak to the selected US history class students at an assembly for 20-30 minutes to explain the meaning of the Constitution. Speakers should mention the first three Articles of the Constitution (the three branches of government) and that our Constitution has sustained the longest continuing representative democracy in the world. Allow 10 minutes for questions. Schedule legislative members for Monday or Friday if during the session.

c. invites local press, take photos and information. Forward to state chairman.

d. recommends a business or foundation for possible sponsorship.

Background:

Liberty Day was established as a national observance by House Concurrent Resolution 376 approved by the Government Reform Committee Oct 10, 2000. Governor Mitch Daniels signed a proclamation designating Madison's birthday as Liberty Day, inviting all citizens to take due note of the observance of the documents our founding fathers created. Liberty Day is a non-profit national organization which was initiated in Colorado by Lion Andy McKean. **Liberty Day Indiana**, now in its **fifth year**, started distributions on March 16, 2001.

Characteristics:

- All volunteer
- Private donations.
- Non-partisan—no political agenda.
- Coordinated by Indiana Lions.

Liberty Day Implementation Plans

Providing copies of the Declaration of Independence & US Constitution

PURPOSE: To make Hoosier 8th and 11th grade US history students familiar with the United States Constitution, the oldest instrument of national government in the world. The 2005-06 Liberty Day Indiana program goal is to place 12,000 copies of the Constitution in the hands of students in selected schools in each of the eight Lions dis-

tricts. The program, now in its fifth year, is volunteer; funded by patriotic businesses paying for printing and distribution; non-partisan with elected officials talking about the Constitution; and coordinated by Indiana Lions Clubs.

District Coordinators:

Please arrange for presentations in eight schools in your district during this school year. That can be eight club coordinators doing one middle or high school each, or as few as a couple clubs each doing one high school and three

middle schools. We have examples of each in the state. You will need a copy of your district directory to recruit a club coordinator for those communities targeted. Let me know the date of each scheduled presentation, speaker, number of booklets and where they should be sent (normally to club coordinator). There is no charge to clubs.

Club Coordinators:

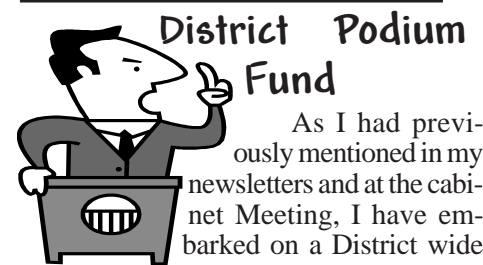
Liberty Day was originally observed on or about March 16th (birthday of President James Madison, "Father of the Constitution"). Beginning this year we are conducting programs in the fall as well as during the spring. A new Congressional provision requires every school and college receiving federal money to have a class on the Constitution on or about September 17th, the anniversary of its adoption. Plan now for next September's observance. Meanwhile, ask for a program during this school year.

1. Call the local high school and middle school principal and ask for a convocation (assembly) for the eighth and/or 11th grade classes. Offer two alternatives (would you like to have a program in October or November; in March or April?)

2. Ask an elected official to talk for about 25 min on the meaning of the Constitution on the date selected, and allow another 10 min for questions. Total program time about 45 min including introductions. Two to four Lions are needed to pass out booklets as students arrive for the program.

3. Notify the local media about the event and clip the story sending a copy to me.

Have books, need programs! If you need help, please call me at (812) 936-9450, or e-mail me at wgw@bluemarble.net. Thanks!



As I had previously mentioned in my newsletters and at the cabinet Meeting, 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 for the District. I have requested 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