



# Paw Prints

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

## What's Happening

- Oct. 5  
Official Visit - Syracuse
- Oct. 8  
Dist. D Banner Night  
Madison Township Pork Chop Dinner  
(Details on page 4)
- Oct. 11  
Official Visit - Pierceton
- Oct. 13  
Official Visit - Laketon
- Oct. 17  
Official Visit - Millford
- Oct. 19  
Official Visit - Mentone
- Oct. 21-22-23  
Council of Governors Meeting,  
Brownsburg, IN
- Oct. 22  
District C Banner Night
- Oct. 26  
Official Visit - Claypool
- Oct. 27  
Official Visit - Rochester  
Zone Meeting - Mishawaka Public  
Library, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 29  
Official Visit - 4 clubs, combined with  
Zone meeting at Wabash

## FUTURE EVENTS

- Nov. 3  
Official Visit - Mishawaka
- Nov. 11  
Rich Valley Tenderloin Dinner
- Nov. 12  
25-G Cabinet Mtg, Culver Lions Bldg.
- Nov. 15  
Official Visit - Bourbon
- Dec. 13  
Official Visit - Etna Green
- Dec. 4  
Lions Eye Bank Board Mtg. - Indy



## Governor's Growls

We have all been devastated by the news that continues to come out of the deep south of our nation. The many, many thousands of people that have lost everything material are crushed, but even more tragic is the untold number of lost lives, displaced and missing families and the tragic list goes on. What can we do to help? Lions Clubs International immediately sent over \$260,000 in immediate aid thru local Lions clubs to begin to serve those most in need. As the months and yes, even years go by, LCI through LCIF will be on site giving real hands on help to those most affected. I have already read bulletins of local Lions clubs in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Texas that have been right on the front lines providing shelter, medicine, glasses, food, water and the basic necessities of life. Lions Clubs International is asking every club and every Lion to help with cash donations; we ask that you forward them thru the district cabinet treasurer who will forward your checks directly to LCIF. Please make out your checks to LCIF – in the memo section put "Hurricane Katrina" and you can rest assured that 100% of your donations go directly to victims through a local Lions club. All funds are fully accountable with a voucher and audit system to ensure proper disbursements. The mailing address for our district cabinet treasurer is Marty Juel, 3204 Village Court, Goshen, Indiana 46528. Donations can be from clubs and individuals, large or small...\$1.00 or \$1,000.



Also, LCI has asked me to encourage all Lions Clubs in the district to schedule an immediate special fund raiser for emergency aid, and to plan a long term fundraiser for assistance in housing reconstruction and other long term individual needs. Won't you HELP? Remember, we are Lions; Our motto is **WE SERVE**.

I have received the monthly report from Lions International regarding the receipt of monthly membership reports. 19 of our district clubs were delinquent in submitting the required and necessary reports of membership and activities to Lions International. These reports are extremely important to LCI and the district for keeping track of all the various activities that your club is doing and hey you might have a great idea that we would like to tell others about. How can we do that if your club secretary doesn't send in their reports. It is the responsibility to the club president to ensure that these reports are filed properly and timely. I have even had a club secretary tell me that they weren't going to send the reports because he had nothing to report. If your club is active and meeting you always have something to report. I would greatly appreciate all clubs fulfilling this simple responsibility.

**District Governor Nelson J. Nix**

## Share the Pride

Everyday is a perfect day to share your pride and enthusiasm regarding your being a part of the greatest service organization in the world. Have you shared your PRIDE with your friends and family? Today is the day to relate to those around you all of the good, that we, as Lions, continue to accomplish on a daily basis. You will never help to improve your club and

our district's membership base if you're not a proud Lion whom is willing to *Share The Pride, Show the Pride, and Strengthen the Pride.*

A prospective member may admire all that we do, want to become a member; and needs to be invited to witness the fun, fellowship and service. If not you, WHO?...If not now, WHEN?

## Mid-Winter speaker urges all to take action and help with Katrina

It's time to think seriously about making reservations for the 2006 Mid-Winter Conference. The conference will be held Saturday, Jan. 7, at Lawrence Central High School.

This year's keynote speaker, Kevin Eikenberry, has all the quality a leader should have and will be sharing his ideas with the Lions in attendance. Immediately after Katrina struck the Gulf Coast he listed seven things people could do to help. In the interest of space, only some of his comments are listed for each point.

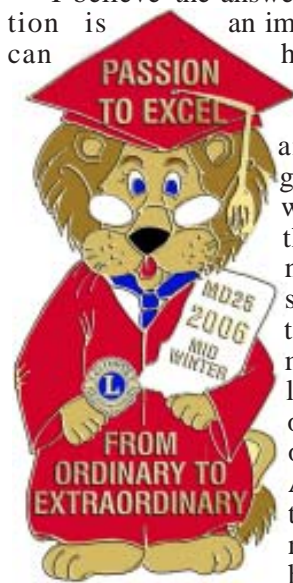
Eikenberry notes, "If you are like me, you are living some distance from the devastation wrought by Katrina. If you are like me you are not physically impacted and can watch the plight of others on television in the comfort of your home. And if you are like me, you are wondering what you can do.

"I believe the answer to that question is an important one. It can help define who you are and what you have and choose to give to the world. The list that follows is not meant to stimulate your thinking. It is meant to stimulate action. All of us can do all of these things. And in doing them we will not only be helping others, we will be helping ourselves deal with and grow from these events as well."

His seven suggestions are as follows:

**Give resources** — . . . The resources required by these events will be unprecedented. Open your wallet and give . . .

**Give yourself** — . . . Many of us won't be able to give and lend a hand di-



rectly. You can still give of time and talents locally and have a direct impact on efforts there. . .

**Encourage others to give** . . . Use the leadership and influence skills that you have to encourage others to give . . . match employee contributions . . . start a fund-raising effort . . . Get creative! And get started.

**Say a prayer** — Regardless of your religious beliefs, or how you would state this, say a prayer . . .

**Keep your perspective** — It is sometimes hard to keep a healthy perspective as you watch the events on television . . . Be grateful for your situation. Rethink how upset or frustrated you become at little inconveniences or challenges, because these situations mean little in the bigger scheme of things, and the events of recent days should make this very clear to us.

**Conserve** — Our country is going to be dealing with the aftermath of Katrina for a long time . . . Conserve fuel. Carpool to work. Combine your errands, or just stay home . . . Every little bit helps.

**Give again, later** — Many will give not, but agencies like the Red Cross will tell you that after the situation leaves most people's conscious thoughts, the needs will still be great.

If he can think of this many things to do to help our neighbors to the south, just imagine how he can help the Lions of Indiana to become better leaders.

His concluding thoughts on his seven points are, "I'm sure there are many



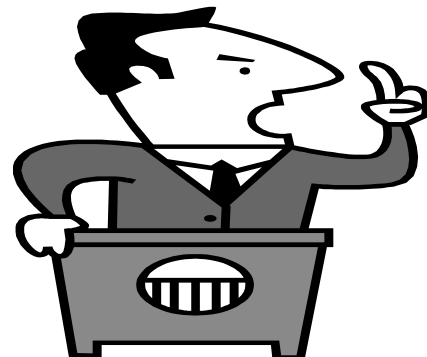
for One interested, caring Lion to serve as district liaison to the Indiana Lions State committee for the Indiana School for the Blind...Requires some travel to Indianapolis for board meetings and events (four times annually)..Compensation.

Great sense of accomplishment and gratification from assisting in a very worthwhile program for the visually impaired. If interested please call DG Nelson @ (574-862-1410) or VDG Pat Birk (574-842-3690)..Don't need to send your resume, just your willingness to SERVE and enthusiasm..

more things that you can do to help both yourself and others in the coming weeks. It matters less what you do than that you do something. That is my urging to you. You can make a difference, but only if you take action."

## New Officers Named for South Bend Lions

Please make the following corrections in your District 25-G Directory for the South Bend Lions Club: President: Robert Kord, 14296 Worthington Dr., South Bend, IN 46530 (kord@1stsource.com); Secretary: Susan Chen, 1400 Lincolnway West, Osceola, IN 46561.



## District Podium Fund

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)

## Past Issues Still Available

You may view previous issues of PawPrints (the not-yet-but-soon-to-be award winning district newsletter of the International Lions) on the district's not-yet-but-soon-to-be award winning website at <http://www.lions25g.org/> and follow the links.

If you're not receiving this publication by the internet and you have an email address, please save the district valuable postage and printing costs. Send your email address to [marty@martyjuel.com](mailto:marty@martyjuel.com).

Despite suffering damage to their own homes and communities, Lions in the states devastated by Hurricane Katrina are reaching out to those most in need. Lions are responding to the tragedy with an untold number of service hours and with great concern and compassion.

I also am pleased to tell you that donations for Hurricane Katrina relief are eligible for Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF) recognition. LCIF's normal policy is that MJF recognition is not allowed for designated donations. To encourage donations for Katrina victims, the LCIF Board of Trustees amended this policy. Donations sent to LCIF for Hurricane Katrina relief from Aug. 29 to Nov. 30, 2005 (postmarked by Nov. 30), are eligible for MJF recognition. To count toward an MJF, the donation must be a single US\$1,000 payment from a donor. The Melvin Jones Fellow does not have to be named when the donation is made. For more information, e-mail LCIF or call LCIF at 630-571-5466, ext. 574 or 581.

Reports are coming in almost hourly to LCIF on the relief efforts of Lions. Following is the latest summary of how Lions and LCIF are helping hurricane victims:

## **Lions/LCIF Aid Katrina Victims**

Lions in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida are staffing shelters and collecting funds, food and supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims, and LCIF is mobilizing support and providing funding for Lions on the ground in the affected areas. Lions from around the United States and as far away as Germany and Thailand are donating money to LCIF.

LCIF awarded a US\$200,000 Major Catastrophe Grant within days of the disaster. LCIF is focusing its short-term relief in three areas: 1.) providing shelters with unmet substantial needs such as food, clothing, personal hygiene items and bedding, 2.) offering health services such as eyeglass distribution, and 3.) meeting needs of Lions camps and facilities housing victims of the disaster.

LCIF also has awarded seven US\$10,000 Emergency Grants for Lions in the affected areas to issue vouchers for food, water and clothing to hurricane victims.

LCIF Chairperson Clement Kusiak has appointed a steering committee of four leading Lions from the four states most affected by the tragedy to serve as liaisons between LCIF, Lions in the disaster areas and Lions who want to help.

LCIF will soon set up a special Web site ([www.lions-katrina.org](http://www.lions-katrina.org)) on Lions' hurricane relief effort. The site will in-

clude a Web-based Help Link to connect Lions who want to volunteer time or donate goods with Lions in the affected areas who are staffing shelters or otherwise helping victims.

Lions in heavily damaged Districts 8-S and 8-N in Louisiana evacuated their homes as did the general population. Louisiana Lions in 8-L, several hours north of New Orleans and generally not directly touched by the disaster, are helping to take care of thousands of displaced people who left New Orleans and other places before the hurricane hit.

"I've never seen anything like this in my life and I never want to see it again," said District Governor Ann Sanders of 8-L. "People came here with only the clothes on their back. We have babies who need diapers and food."

Lions in her district have quickly collected at least several thousand dollars so far to assist the refugees, said Sanders. Lions from Connecticut, Massachusetts and Maine have called her to offer help. The Lion from Maine who called is coordinating a shipment of two 18-wheelers of supplies. A Lion from Lafayette, La., is driving over with a car full of meat.

Lions are assisting at improvised non-Red Cross shelters that have sprung up. Lions also are helping out at larger venues such as the gym at Louisiana State University in Shreveport, which is holding some 2,000 displaced people.

Some Lions have opened shelters in their capacity as a state or government employee. Vice District Governor Dinah Landry of 8-O is housing 500 displaced people in Cameron Parish, where she is head of the Council for Aging.

The Louisiana Lions Children's Camp in Leesville is housing and feeding 114 people who fled north from New Orleans before Katrina hit. Half of them are Lions themselves. Just because they are displaced does not mean they are forgetting about their identity as Lions "They've kept busy. They've cleaned the campgrounds," said Ray Cecil, camp director. "They're refugees who've lost their homes and livelihood but they've been busy the whole time they've been here."

Lions are filling the unmet needs they come across. The Opelousas Club and Carencro Club in Louisiana are helping people get drug prescriptions filled. The Grandlake-Sweetlake Club has helped churches put together packages of necessities for people at shelters.

Vice District Governor Nancy Farr of 8-N in Louisiana toured several shelters to assess the need. She discovered that the Judson Baptist Church in Watson had been converted into an instant maternity ward with 12 babies after agreeing to lend a hand to Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge. Another church operating a shelter built makeshift wooden showers outside the church and still

another church shelter with 700 people was being visited by a doctor who was treating patients with embedded roofing nails.

At Faith Family Church in Watson, Farr discovered that 80 people were forced to sleep on pews that were unceremoniously pulled together. Farr arranged for food for the shelter residents and called a judge-friend to recruit young people to unload the trailers.

"I could just go on and on about the things I saw and the people that I spoke to," wrote Farr in an e-mail. "Their faces, their stories ... make you thank God even more often than we normally do."

The ability of Lions in the devastated areas of Mississippi to offer aid to others has been partly limited because of damage to their own homes. "Most of us have to clear debris around our own homes, clean out freezers of spoiled food and take care of other household duties that could not be addressed during the power outages," Raymond Roberts of Brookhaven, Cabinet Secretary of District 30-I, wrote in an e-mail to LCIF. Gas shortages and loss of communication services also has made it difficult to launch a coordinated relief effort, he added.

Still, the Brookhaven Lions purchased \$250 worth of paper plates, cups, napkins and toilet paper for two local shelters and gave children at four shelters oversized coloring books it had been selling as a fundraiser. The Wesson Lions Club has been staffing a shelter at a community college set up for emergency electrical power workers.

Gregory Crapo of Gulfport, Cabinet Secretary for District 30-N, reported to LCIF that "basically [there is] nothing left to this area. Very few homes and businesses survived. The majority of our schools and churches have been destroyed. Many parents are already relocating to get their children into school before it is too late. There are no prospects for jobs because there are no businesses left."

Yet Crapo said he and others remain undaunted. "Each day is a little better as power comes back to those buildings that are still standing," he told LCIF. "I know the Lions are coming. We are getting contacts via various means from Lions and clubs all over the U.S. wanting to help. The local Lions are helping individually through the Red Cross and personal volunteering at the hospitals and distribution points."

The Mississippi Lions state office asked clubs to purchase chain saws. "We figure one person can clear his home and then pass the chain saw on to the next person," David Barham, council secretary, wrote in an e-mail to LCIF.

Lions in Alabama are focusing their efforts on the coastline area where 3,000 homes were destroyed. "Everyone keeps

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hearing about New Orleans and Mississippi and it's like nothing happened in Alabama. But it did," said Council Chairperson Rick Berry of Enterprise, Ala.

The Alabama Lions dispatched one of their eye vans to the coast to do screenings and eyeglass recycling for hurricane victims. A second eye van will serve the needs of displaced people who are in shelters in the middle of the state.

The Dothan, Ala., area has 4,000 refugees, most of them from Mississippi, said Berry. At one shelter, Lions are helping to feed 80 to 100 people each night. Lions in

34-I sent a truckload of water and supplies to Mississippi. Anticipating the donation of goods, Lions in Alabama have secured in advance a large storage space at a Wal-Mart building in Mobile. "Lions here are at work. We're doing everything we can," said Berry.

Lions in the affected states are using the LCIF Emergency Grants to issue vouchers to victims to purchase food, water and medicine. Government and civil resources are stretched to the limit in rural areas especially, and Lions are filling in gaps.

Supported by LCIF, the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center will distrib-

ute eyeglasses and offer eye care services to evacuees at the Astrodome in Houston and other nearby shelters. Fourteen Lions will work with the Houston Ophthalmological Society on the project.

"I cannot express my appreciation enough to the Lions who are supporting us in recovering from this disaster," District Governor Robert Andrepont of 8-O wrote in an e-mail to LCIF. "LCIF was very helpful and timely with processing my grant application. I have received e-mails with promises of support and prayer from around the world. I cannot tell you how much we treasure our fellow Lions' thoughts and prayers."



## Banner Night Successful

A Great Group of Lions from District 25-G, along with a number of visiting Lions from outside the district were on hand on Saturday night, September 10<sup>th</sup> for our district's 50<sup>th</sup> Banner Night celebration. I am confident that all who attended had a wonderful time and the evening flew by. I'm sorry that I didn't get the opportunity to visit with many of our friends whom had traveled great distances and Dee & I sorely missed visiting with you. The food was fabulous, the company outstanding and the fellowship unparalleled. We were also able to raise \$386 for immediate relief regarding Hurricane Katrina and LCIF. Thanks again to all who made it such a wonderful evening.

Sincerely, Gov. Nelson and Dee

## Nurture

Nurture, is according to my trusted dictionary:

1. To supply with nourishment
2. To further the development

Lions, we have a very big job ahead of us! If we are to help those in need following Katrina, we must first make sure that we are strong enough to be of help. Some time ago I heard this commercial, "If one person could do it - we wouldn't need \_?\_". Put in the blank any group or organization you can name.

Isn't that why Helen Keller challenged Lions to be Knights of the Blind? Together we can do so much - applies to every task and project Lions undertake and accomplish.

It is also very true that "If it is to be it is up to me." Each member (please note the first two letters of this word is me) has accepted the responsibility of helping their club with their community service. Opportunities to serve or volunteer come to us from local, district, national and international levels.

If you sold a light bulb, flipped a pancake, attended a meeting or spon-

sored a new member - you have served. But service is not a one time thing - in some form we serve daily. Be proud of your club and everything you do in your community and world wide. Do everything you can to be sure your club is still serving 10, 25, or 50 years from now. Are we putting together the plan that will help Lionism achieve our goals for a better future?

Will those with needs from Katrina or someone in our community be able to say - "When I needed help Lions were there to help me and my family?"

Lions, to serve is to nurture.  
VDG Pat

## Madison Township Lions Club

### Pork Chop Dinner

Sat. - October 8

4-7:00 p.m.

Madison Township

Elementary School

Adult meals:

\$7<sup>50</sup>/per person presale

\$8<sup>00</sup>/per person at the door

\$4<sup>00</sup>/children under 12

Pork Chop only - \$4

INFO:

(574) 633-4914

mtlcsecabee@aol.com