



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

District 27-B1 Annual Convention
Saturday November 14, 2009
City Center Hotel – Oshkosh, WI

1. **Call to Order** @ 8:30 a.m. by DG Len Quinn
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by PDG Kenneth Wallander
3. **Prayer** by Lion Bill Wessing
4. **Welcome to Oshkosh** by Mayor Paul Esslinger who thanked everyone for the volunteering that they do. He discussed the projects that are in process in Oshkosh and why he thinks Oshkosh is a great place to live. He thanked everyone for coming to Oshkosh and wished everyone an enjoyable time at the convention.
5. **Lioness Affiliate President** Ella Stanelle said she has learned that district convention is about having fun Friday night, meeting a lot of friendly people on the elevator, and gaining information on Saturday that you can take home to share with your club.
6. **State Council Chairman** PDG Sam Kochel said we are here for two reasons: One to Celebrate What's Right with Lionism; and Two to make a connection by reaching, touching and improving lives. He discussed some of the tasks of this years council including to set policy, follow the constitution, update the new directory on line, run the Youth Exchange program and help with the state convention. PDG Sam then praised DG Len for his excellence and dedication to Lions.
7. **Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin** Second Vice President, PDG Tom King introduced himself and the Eye Bank staff and indicated they are willing to talk to clubs upon request. PDG Tom explained the Capital Campaign that is set up to help fund the purchase of the new Eye Bank building.
8. **Mission to Mexico** report was given by PDG Bob Showers who stated that 28 people just completed a mission to Victoria, Oct. 23rd – 26th. They fitted 2,479 people with eyeglasses. He thanked all the Lions for collecting eyeglasses. The next mission will be to Matamoros, Mexico.
9. **Peace Poster** chairperson Lion Dawn Christensen thanked all the clubs that had entries in this year's contest, especially Random Lake who ran 3 contests. Posters are judged on 1) originality, 2) artistic merit, and 3) expression of this year's theme "The Power of Peace." Next year's kits will go on sale January 15th.
10. **District Pin** Chair Lion Harvey Hansen reported that the convention pin represents Oshkosh Corp. and the district pin is the pink cancer ribbon. Extra donations will go to Oshkosh Hospital. Lion Harvey is looking for designs for next year's pins.

11. **MERLO Report** by Chairman, PDG John Schwab. PDG John thanked the district for their good job with membership. The multiple is down only by 100 members for the end of October. PCC Dean Haas gave the details for the Mid-Winter Conference on Dec. 5th in Stevens Point. PDG John discussed the need to continue to get new members and to be an active sponsor. New members will become future leaders with continued mentoring.

12. **Nominations** conducted by Lion Ralph Schneider.

District Governor nomination for VDG Jerry Post of St. Nazianz Lions was heard from PDG Victor Voigt of Collins Lions. VDG Jerry and his wife Meg are very active Lions and will do a great job in this future endeavor. The 2nd was heard from PDG Ken Wallander from Collins Lions. VDG Jerry is a dedicated Lion who gets things done. No other nominations were heard. Motion made to close nominations, seconded, and motion was carried. VDG Jerry Post accepted the nomination. If we believe we can accomplish anything. Because we believe we can make the impossible possible.

Vice District Governor nomination for Lion Merle Strelow of Fairwater Lions was heard from Lion Beverly Karst of Fairwater Lions. Lion Merle has been a club member for 31 years and has served in all positions. He has sponsored 12+ members and has received 3 “key” awards. Lion Merle has received International and District awards. Currently he is a zone chairman and serves on the state convention committee. Lion Merle is supported by the Fairwater Lions as a candidate for VDG. The 2nd was heard from Lion Jeff Frederick of Brandon Lions. Brandon Lions also support Lion Merle for VDG. No other nominations were heard. Motion to close nominations, seconded, MC.

Second Vice District Governor nomination. No nominations received from the floor. Motion to close nominations, seconded, and motion carried.

WLF Director nomination for Lion Irv Korth of Butte des Morts Lions was heard from PDG Tom King of Oxford Lions. Lion Irv’s qualifications include district and state tailtwister and sergeant-at-arms for many years. He was a zone chairman and was a charter member of the Larsen-Winchester Lions. It gives me great pleasure to nominate Lion Irv for WLF Director. The 2nd was heard from PDG Vern Pautz of Mishicot Lions. Lion Irv has served 33 years as a Lion and has earned the right. He served me well on the cabinet when I was Governor, twice. He has a good partner in his wife Deanna. I’m proud to 2nd the nomination. Motion to close nominations, seconded, MC. Lion Irv accepted the nomination. He stated, I will do the best I can for the Foundation.

District Bowling nomination for St. Peter Lions was made by Lion Michael Reichling of St. Peter Lions. He requested consideration for district bowling to be held at Luedtke’s in Mt. Calvary. There are 8 lanes and food on site. They would appreciate your support. No other nominations were heard. Motion to close nominations, seconded, MC.

There will be an advisory vote for the site for next year’s district convention. There will be 3 to choose from 1) Fox Hills – Mishicot; 2) Holiday Inn – Manitowoc; 3) Heidel House – Green Lake.

PDG Gary Colton introduced PCC Mark Hintzmann with his wife Lion Jayne as a candidate for International Director. Lion Mark has served as Club President, District Governor, Council Chair, Host Chairman for the 2010 USA/Canada forum, as well as, many other positions. Lion Mark is a team player and believes it’s all about “We Serve”. Lion Mark said Lions is all about family. He enjoys working with his large Lions family.

13. **Motivational Video** – “Celebrate What’s Right with the World!” presented by PCC Dean Haas. DeWitt Jones uses his photography for National Geographic as a basis for his video to find what is right in the world. He stressed that we need to look for the positives in life. We need to have a vision with purpose and passion. This opens possibilities for change. Lion Dean entertained ideas from clubs about what is right with their club. We need to remember that there is more than one right answer. We need to think of possibilities for our clubs future. We need to be the best for the world. That follows the Lions motto, We Serve.
14. **WLF Report** was given by President Glen Moegenburg. Lion Glen showed a video of campers at camp. There are some things that never change. He sees people as fitting into two categories. The first type of people see things that need to be done but wait for others to do them. The second type are those people who make a difference by doing the things that need to be done. The Lions and Lioness fit that second type of people. The Foundation is one large family of Lions who make a real, tangible difference. The accomplishments of this family are immense and the campers count on this. The Foundation has met and conquered many challenges since 1956. To make wishes come true isn’t easy or cheap. The Wisconsin Lions Family will overcome that challenge to make dreams come true.
15. **Lions Pride Campaign** Chairman Dewey Carl talked about the PRIDE campaign and the dream that started in 1956 and developed into our Lions Camp of today. PCC Dewey thanked the 44 clubs and 126 individuals that have already donated to PRIDE. He presented many different ways that people can donate to the PRIDE campaign including the use of the Good Search website. He requested that everyone use this holiday season as a time to consider donating to PRIDE so we can preserve the legacy of our Lions Camp.

16. Lunch Program

Prayer and song led by Lion Bill Wessing

Introduction of Head Table by PDG Steve Pautz

Lion Wendy Hartman from St Nazianz Lions did a great reenactment of Helen Keller’s plea to the Lions at the 1925 International Convention in Dallas, Texas.

Introduction of Guest Speaker PID Ross Thorfinnson was made by PID Wayne Heimann.

PID Ross Thorfinnson said He, like many other Lions, joined the organization for the wrong reasons. He joined for networking, to help him in a future career change. It wasn’t until he attended the USA/Canada forum that he discovered what Lions was really all about and he truly became a Lion. Many of us have that similar experience that makes us really understand what Lionism is all about.

Awards presentations were a Melvin Jones Fellow to Lion Craig Hansen of the Two Rivers Lions club and 5 Governor’s President’s Excellence Awards to: Lion Tom Wendt, Van Dyne Lions; Lion Robert Raeder, Plymouth Lions; Lion Gary Kegler, Elkhart Lake Lions; Lion Robert Bonneville, Neshkoro Lions; and Lion Rudolph Pineda, St. Nazianz Lions.

USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum Host Committee secretary PDG Jerry Wille requested every one support and volunteer for the upcoming USA/CANADA forum to be held next fall, Milwaukee on Sept. 23rd – 25th

Necrology Services were held to commemorate the Lions and Lioness who have passed away this last year.

Parade of Checks followed the Necrology Service.

17. Afternoon Seminars:

- A) Campers Experience presented by two campers
- B) Technology for the Blind - by Gregg Grabowski, CEO/President of Leader Dog
- C) Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin – Special Guest Karen Neumah
- D) WLF/PRIDE – WLF President Glen Moegenburg and PCC Dewey Carl
- E) Meet Past International Director Ross Thorfinnson

18. **Voting** started 15 minutes following the seminars and continued for 30 minutes. There were 112 delegates certified.

19. **Evening Banquet** called to order at 6:30 PM by Emcee PDG Steve Pautz

Pledge of Allegiance led by PDG Ken Wallander

The Lions Hymn led by Lion Bill Wessing

Flag ceremony presenting the Flags of the U.S., State of Wisconsin, Lions International, Lions Foundation and State of Minnesota.

Invocation led by Lion Bill Wessing

Introduction of the head table and visiting District Governors.

Introduction of Guest Speaker, Gregory Grabowski, President/CEO of Leader Dogs for the Blind. Greg explained the history of Leader Dog and gave several individual stories of Leader Dog recipients. He presented DG Len Quinn with a Trekker Breeze donated by his district clubs.

PID Ross Thorfinnson presented the International Presidents Certificate of Appreciation Awards to: Lion John Duchatzchek, Pickett Lions; VDG Jerry Post, St. Nazianz Lions; PDG Gary Colton, Fond du Lac Lions; and All the PDG's Partners in Service.

Presentation of appreciation gifts to PID Thorfinnson and his wife Lynda.

Parade of Checks reported by Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer Gary Colton.

WLF Camp \$10,200; Leader Dog \$3,255; Mission to Mexico \$425; Diabetes \$1,150; Youth Exchange \$550; WLF Hearing \$1,375; Lions PRIDE \$1,500; Eye Bank \$2,950 American Diabetes \$100; LCIF \$1,275; Emergency Fund \$25.

Voting Results given by PDG Steve Pautz

District Governor – Jerry Post

Vice District Governor – Merle Strelow

WLF Director – Irv Korth

Bowling Tournament for 2010-2011 – St. Peter Lions

Pin Design - #1 Maple Leaf

Peace Poster - #4 by Pavxia Vue, Sheboygan

Advisory Vote for 2010 Convention site – Holiday Inn, Manitowoc

District Raffle conducted by PDG Victor Voigt. He thanked all the clubs for their participation. This year's total was \$3,074 of which District 27-B1 maintains 50%.

Benediction – Lion Bill Wessing

Closing comments by District Governor Len Quinn. Thank you to PID Ross and Lynda. Also, thank you to the convention committee and all members who attended.

Respectively submitted, PDG Gary Colton, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer

