

Lions Clubs International
MD31- North Carolina Lions
2007-2008 Council of Governors

November 10, 2007

Official Minutes of NC Council of Governors meeting held on November 10, 2007 at Camp Dogwood, Sherrill's Ford, NC.

Presiding Council Chairman, G. Steve Wilson, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. He announced that Lion Barbara Randall, wife of NCLF President Tony Randall was hospitalized and they requested prayers for her recovery. District Governor John T. James was absent due to a death in the family.

Council Chaplain Wayne McGohan gave the invocation. District Governor Tommy Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Council members present:

DG Paulette Gasperson	D31-A	DG Wayne M. McGohan	D31-G
DG James F. Foster	D31-B	DG George E. Fisher	D31-H
DG B. B. Oliver	D31-D	DG H. M. (Bud) Miller	D31-J
DG Sydney Eudy	D31-E	PDG G. Steve Wilson, Council Chairperson	
DG Tommy M. Brooks	D31-F	PDG George D. Ohm, Secretary / Treas.	

The Council met in caucus on Friday evening, November 9, 2007 at 7:00 PM. The above Governors and eight Vice-District Governors were present at the caucus and Council meeting.

Wilson called upon PID Sid Scruggs for comments. Scruggs stated that he had just returned from the 20K meeting in Sri Lanka. He was pleased to report that MD31 was one of the few US Multiples with positive membership. LCI has been seeing a 14% membership loss by dropouts. Retention is still a major problem. Even in MD31 with a loss of 305 last year, retaining even 10% would have amounted to saving one club. He complemented the Governors on their hard work. Any District that has a positive membership on March 31 will earn a Presidential Leadership Medal for the Governor. Governors are encouraged to apply for LCI Extension workshops in their Districts.

Scruggs encouraged Lions to visit his website: www.sidscruggs.com for news of the campaign. He stated that he has received the endorsement of the Lions of D324, India, representing 62,000 Lions. In December he will travel to the India, South Asia, Africa and Middle East Forum in Sri Lanka and in January to the Latin America and Caribbean Forum in El Salvador.

District Governor B.B. Oliver was named Parliamentarian.

Ohm read correspondence received for the Council. As of September 31, 2007, LCI shows North Carolina Membership at 8,997, a positive growth of 63 members since July. Unfortunately, six Lions Clubs had disbanded in that time frame. A letter from Leader Dog stated that the MD31 DG visit is scheduled for August 1 & 2, 2008.

Foster moved to approve the minutes from the August 2007 meeting; seconded by Fisher. Motion passed.

Ohm presented the November Financial Report: All first half dues are paid; \$647.80 was received in interest; the \$3544 received from the 2007 State Convention was forwarded to LCIF for Sight First II and credited equally among the nine Districts. Only fifteen car raffle tickets had been turned in.

Expenses are all within budget, including the \$4000 advance to the 2008 State Convention Committee.

McGohan moved to approve the financial Report: seconded by Oliver. Motion carried.

Wilson stated that some districts are applying for LCI matching grants of \$1750 for advertising. NC Division of Emergency Management will conduct a training session for Lions in Fayetteville. The Governors are conducting a raffle for an automobile of truck and are asking all lions to help find persons to buy the \$100 tickets. District winning Peace Posters are to be forwarded to PDG Ivy Iverson for the statewide judging.

PDG Paul; Bledsoe reported on the 2008 State Convention to be held at the Greensboro Airport Marriott on May 28 through June 1st 2008. There will be 299 rooms available with free parking for 400 cars. The room rate is \$89.00 per night. If a sponsor is secured to underwrite some meals they are hoping for a weekend package price of \$60 for meals. This will be the 85th anniversary of Lionism in North Carolina and we will host the International President as guest Speaker. (See Attachment "A")

PDG Herb Justice presented a report on the 2009 State Convention to be held at the North Raleigh Hilton on April 30 through May 3, 2009. Plans are to combine the State Convention and the Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Lions Foundation on this weekend. (See Attachment "B")

PDG Joe Silvers reported that the Ad Hoc Committee to revise the State Convention Agreement is still studying the agreement and will have a proposal before year end.

Brooks called for reports of the Council Committee Chairs.

Ohm read the report on Boys and Girls Homes from Chairman PDG Brad Logsdon. The first Lions Day open house at B&G Homes was a resounding success. Thirty first time visitors were among those attending. The B&G Homes is offering a Christmas card mailing service for interested Lions. Contact Jean Jordan at jean.jordan@bghnc.org. (See attachment "C")

PDG Dave Butler presented the report of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. The Committee is still reviewing the State Constitution & By-Laws and will have another meeting this afternoon. The NC Lions Web-Site Administration Policy was added to the Policy and Procedures Manual and copies distributed by e-mail and placed on the NCLF web-site. As LCI has approved the dissolution of District 31-C and the distribution of counties as proposed to Districts 31-A and 31-E. These changes will be incorporated in the Constitution. Butler also invited applications for Council Chairperson and Council Secretary-Treasurer to be submitted by December 31, 2007. (See Attachment "D")

PDG Houston Henderson gave the report of the Extension Committee. Houston extended a "Challenge for Survival" to organize Extension Teams in every district in the state. Governors should request extension consultants from Lions Clubs International to hold training workshops, at no cost to the Districts. In addition the MERL teams should be energized to lead the way. (See Attachment "E")

PCC Diane Whitley reported that the History Committee will meet on December 1 at Camp Dogwood to continue work on the History Book. Lion Gwen White has been in contact with the publisher to determine the number of pages the book will include.

PDG Bob Shook stated that he Leadership Committee will hold the second DGE Training session on Nov.30 - Dec. 2, 2007 at Camp Dogwood. He has also applied for the grant request from LCI to offset the cost of training. (See attachment "F")

PDG Jim Edmunds distributed the new Liberty Booklets and the new Liberty Pin, depicting the US Air Force, to the Governors. Wachovia Bank printed the booklets on an expense basis saving the Lions of North Carolina several thousand dollars. The site of this year's celebration will be Goldsboro, NC. Plans are to have a representative from Seymour Johnson AFB speak at the celebration. PDG Dave Butler asked if the name of the Committee will be changed. Edmunds stated that he was negotiating with Liberty Day to determine if we will have to change. (See attachment "G")

Edmunds suggested that the council pass a resolution to thank Wachovia Bank for printing the booklets at cost.

Foster moved to thank Wachovia Bank for printing the booklets at cost; seconded by McGohan. Motion Passed. Ohm was asked to send the Resolution to Wachovia.

PCC Harvey Whitley reported on LCIF and Sight First II. Whitley stated that LCIF has made emergency grants of \$55,000 and catastrophic grants of \$100,000 to assist victims of the California wildfires. The Financial Times has ranked LCIF as the number one NGO worldwide.

Worldwide donations to Sight First II have reached \$119,254,606 vs. a goal of \$150,000,000. We must approach lions through their hearts than their heads. He has conducted Sight First II seminars at several district conventions. Only D31-G has shown 100% club participation leading the state with \$124,395 in donations and pledges. NC donations amounted to \$425,000. (See attachment "H")

PDG Gene Everett e-mailed the Membership Committee report. He challenged those in attendance, the leaders of the state, to have brought in at least one new member each year they served as lions. Clubs should insure that they have an active 3 member Membership committee and consult the district MERL team for help in recruitment. (See attachment "I")

PDG Allen Deaton presented the report of the Nominating Committee. He introduced the candidates for District Governor and Vice District Governor of each District. (See attachment "J")

PDG Morris Van Vleet reported on the activities of the Promotions Committee. He thanked several Lions for their help in raising funds for the International Officers Campaign Fund at the D31-F Convention. He also presented a form to be used for pledges for the Fund. Lions planning to go to Bangkok should give their names to the Campaign Committee.

PDG Frank Brooks reported on the Retention Committee. Current Membership is at a plus 63 which is the first time we've been positive for a long time. He reiterated the need to have a 3 member Membership committee in each Club. Education and Orientation are vital if we want to retain Lions and provide our leaders of the organization. (See attachment "K")

Brooks made a motion to approve the Council Committee Reports, seconded by Foster. Motion Approved.

Council Chair Wilson repeated the call for applications for Council Chairperson and Council Secretary Treasurer. Applications for the NC Lions Hall of Fame are required to be sent to the District Governors by January 31, 2008.

In new Business, Wilson presented a proposal to add a line item of to the budget to provide \$3500 travel funds for the Council Chairperson to travel to the Bangkok Convention.

Foster moved to add a line item to the Budget to provide \$3500 travel funds, to be taken from reserve funds, for the Council Chairperson to travel to the Bangkok Convention. Motion seconded by Gasperson. Motion approved.

McGohan moved to adjourn, seconded by Miller. Motion passed to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

George D. Ohm
State Secretary-Treasurer.

2008 NC Lions State Convention

Greensboro North Carolina

Multiple District 31

11/8/07

Presented by Paul Bledsoe, State Convention Chair 2008 and all the fine Lions of 31-D

Overview of 2008 Convention Committee Meeting

2008 NC Lions State Convention to be held at the Greensboro High Point Airport Marriott.

- 1) Dates 5/29-6/1 2008
 - Total Rms: 299 - 400 Free Parking Spaces
 - Rm Rate: \$89 per night plus tax
 - No Charge meeting spaces or events
 - Meals all charges inclusive:
 - Thursday: \$24
 - Friday Night: \$22
 - Sat Breakfast: \$19.50
 - Sat Lunch: \$22
 - Sat Banquet: \$27

3rd Convention Committee Meeting Set for 11/20/07

The state convention committee held its second meeting at the Marriott Greensboro on October 16th. at 6:30pm.

The committee reviewed information and assignments given by Paul Bledsoe. The committee

helped and agreed upon various aspects of the convention including:

- I Logo design.
- II Committee chairpersons and assistance help from individuals and clubs.
- III Reported progress on particulars including the preplanning already arranged.
- IV Reviewed menu costs and arrived at \$60 pkg price for FFN-TTB-DG Banquet based upon corporate sponsorship TBD.
- V Creating an 85th Anniversary Pin to help offset costs of convention. #500 pins.
- VI Agreed to postpone registration and ad sales form until Dec. after most Midwinter's are held.
- VII Golf Tournament set for Pleasant Ridge Golf Club at \$30 per person. Friday 10am

NC Lions State Convention

Greensboro, North Carolina

Multiple District 31

- IX Lion Fred Francis, Konnoak Hills, will be in charge of the Welcome Lions Team offering concierge services with golf carts and direction during the convention.
 - X Bill Stewart and the Gate City Lions Club will be in charge of Hospitality. They will be assisted by the other local Greensboro Clubs. Tentative times set for Friday 1p-5pm & Saturday 1p-5pm.
 - XI JROTC Color Guard procured for Saturday DG Banquet. Protocol Committee will get Sri Lanka national flag.
 - XII Next meeting on 11/20/07, the meeting will follow-up on corporate sponsorship of special events and continued planning.
3. News and Notes:
- I The WFU Eye Center will sponsor Friday Fun Night
 - II The ad sales form is being released this weekend and we have copies of the corporate sponsorship form if you would like to help get a business sponsorship.
 - III Since we are celebrating our 85th convention... District Governors we are looking for 85 Lions throughout NC who have made a difference in their community. Submit photo, and a brief summary of the person. The first 85 submitted will be highlighted with visual plays throughout the convention.
 - IV Friday Fun Night will feature a live dance band... with oldies, dance and current music.
 - V Saturday Banquet will include music by the Eastern Guilford High School Concert Band.
 - VI Entertainment and visual displays will envelop the property of the Marriott during the complete convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Bledsoe. PDG 31-D. NC State Convention Chair

NC Lions State Convention

Greensboro, North Carolina

Multiple District 31

PROPOSED BUDGET 2007-2008 STATE CONVENTION

Estimate Attendance Meal Costs... (Inclusive of tax and gratuities)

Thurs Night- 42 @ \$24.00	\$ 1,008.00
Friday Fun- 400 @ \$22.00	\$ 8,800.00
Tailtwisters B- 300 @	\$ 5,850.00
\$19.50	\$ 2,200.00
PDG Luncheon- 100 @	\$13,500.00
\$22	
DG Banquet- 500 @ \$27	
	\$31,358.00

Total Estimate Meals:

Estimated Expenses

Convention Program/Printing:	
Registration/Office Materials	\$6,500.00
Committee Expenses:	\$2,500.00
Entertainment:	\$2,000.00
VI P Rooms: (32) (3 nights)	\$2,500.00
VI P Meals: T/F/S	\$9,056.64
Thursday Night Meals: (52)	\$5,759.60
Hosp ./Flowers/Gifts	\$1,272.00
Contingency	\$2,500.00
Golf Tournament	\$2,500.00
Audio/Visual:	\$750.00
Signage:	\$1,000.00
	\$ 500.00

Total Estimated Expenses: **\$36,838.24**

Attachment "B"

**2009 State Convention Report to State Council
Herbert Justice, Convention Chair -
Camp Dogwood
November 10, 2007**

The 2009 State Convention will be held at the North Raleigh Hilton on April 30 thru May 3, 2009. As state before, this will be a combined State Convention and the Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Lions Foundation. This will be a challenge, but we accept the challenge. The Vice Chairs have been selected and they have been assigned their areas of responsibility. The Committee has met 2 times since the last Council Meeting to lay out our approach to handling and funding this convention. The Committee members are enthusiastic and looking forward to beginning work on this convention. We are currently exploring potential corporate sponsors and will begin contacting them after the first of the year so that they will have time to put money in their budgets for 2008-2009 if they agree to be a sponsor. We plan on making this convention a little different than what we have had in the past and we hope that it will be the best State Convention that you have ever attended. We hope to have more details to share with you at the next Council meeting in February, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert A. Justice

Lion Herbert A. Justice PDG

2009 State Convention Chairperson

What a great time was had by the 40 Lions that attended our 1st Annual "Lions Day" at Boys and Girls Homes on October 20. What was even greater was that 30 of the Lions made their first visit to Lake Waccamaw; we were all greeted by the 9 boys of our cottage. The boys, some more outgoing than others, all were very polite, well mannered, friendly and a joy to spend some time with.

The visit gave every Lion the opportunity to tour the Chapel, a main stay in the lives of the 54 residents in the nine cottages. Many took the time to visit the farm area and were surprised with the size of the arena and the large number of stables. Yes, some of the boys work on the farm and tend to the horses, all 135, many have been donated do to the hay shortage and the approaching winter weather; people with horses are reducing their number. We all left the with a better understanding of what Boys and Girls Homes has to offer in addition how we can better help.

Another way for us to help the Homes is with the "Christmas-in-Lieu" program. It is a terrific way to help the children, spread the message about BGH, and take care of that Christmas card list! Simply make a Christmas-in-Lieu donation and a special card designed by one of the residents will be mailed to those on your list - family, friends, customers, clients, employees or other to whom you wish to send season's greetings. To participate, contact Jean Jordan at 910-646-3083 or email: jean.jordan@bghnc.org and she will provide you with all the information you need.

For a special Holiday event will be the annual "Open House" on Sunday, December 9, 2007 at three o'clock p.m. in the Leamon Rogers Memorial Chapel. Refreshments will be served following the performance in the chapel fellowship hall. Make a full day on campus with "Hayride through Bethlehem" Live Nativity in the BGH Exhibition Center. The performance will take place on December 7-9 and December 14-16 for this production by the children at no charge. For more information contact Chaplain John Cobb at 910-646-3083 or email: john.cobb@bghnc.org.

Yours in Lionism,

W. Brad Logsdon, PCC
State Chair Boys and Girls Homes

Council Chairperson Steve, State Council Members, fellow Lions and guests.

Since my report at the August State Council meeting, it has been a busy time. My Committee spent two hours reviewing the State Constitution and By-Laws, but we did not get through reviewing the entire document. We will try to finish today after the NCLF By-Laws review meeting, if time permits.

After the approval of the "North Carolina Lion's Web Sites Administration Policy" at the August Council meeting, I revised the MD-31 Lion's Policy and Procedures Manual index and inserted this policy in the Manual. I then emailed the revised Manual to: Council Chairperson Steve to send to the Council of Governors and if he had their addresses the Vice District Governors; NCLF Executive Director, Steve Walker; PDG John O'Malley, Long-Range Planning Chairperson; PDG Bennie Pugh to set up on NCLF Web Site; VDG Mike Schwartz to set up on NC Lions State Web Site-when available; and the Past International Family.

I did get the word that LCI had approved the redistricting plan for the dissolving of District C, as requested. Revisions to the State Constitution will be done at the end of the year as approved in the Resolution at the 2007 State Convention.

I would like to remind any active Past District Governor, who has never served as Council Chairperson before, and who would like to be considered for 2008-2009 Council Chairperson, to send their name and resume to the State Secretary-Treasurer by December 31, 2007. Procedure is in the State Policy & Procedures Manual on page 4.

Since our current State Secretary-Treasurer will have served the maximum of five (5) consecutive one year terms by June 30, 2008, I would like to remind any active Lion who would like to be considered for 2008- 2009 State Secretary-Treasurer, to send their name and resume to each currently serving Vice District Governors by December 31, 2007 (must be received by December 31, 2007). Procedure is in the State Policy & Procedures Manual on page 7.

Thank You

Council Chair Steve, District Governors, Distinguished Guests, Fellow Lions and guests, it is an honor and a privilege to again serve the Lions of North Carolina as your Statewide Extension Chairperson.

This is supposed to be a report, a report of the successful extension activities across the state of North Carolina. Well, based on the information I have received, there has been two, possibly three new clubs actually chartered by LCI since July 1. That's my report.

Is that enough for me to drive halfway across the state and spend three days and two nights away from home to make such a measly report to a group of dedicated Lions that we have here today? I don't think so.

Therefore, I decided to issue a CHALLENGE; a "CHALLENGE FOR SURVIVAL"- A challenge to get nine extension teams organized and working across the state. Governors, you cannot do it alone, no matter how much you want it. You must have help.

I hope you will energize you MERL team, especially your District Extension Chairperson, to take the lead. This team can serve as a core for your District Extension Team. Hopefully they can encourage several dedicated Past District Governors, some of your hand picked Zone Chairs and Region Chairs, and several other hard working, interested lions in your district to start your extension team. This team can utilize the experience already in your district, the materials available from LCI and most importantly, your "MERL: Teamwork for Growth" booklet re-published for North Carolina Lions last year. In addition if you wish, LCI will send an Extension Consultant to your district to hold an extension workshop without cost to your district. This extension workshop program has proved to be successful. We can assure you that with the training of 12 or more lions in recruiting techniques, the actual on the street recruiting activities and the necessary follow up, you can organize and charter at least two new lions clubs to better serve the needs of your communities and their citizens.

If you are interested in any of the material I have mentioned or in scheduling an extension workshop, you can get it all from the internet except for the "Teamwork for Growth" booklet, and those are in your district. For copies of those, ask your immediate Past District Governor, his cabinet members or other leading lions in your district. I'm sure they will share their copies with you.

I wish you much success in meeting this "CHALLENGE FOR SURVIVAL". I hope I can make a report at the next council meeting that will make us all proud of our growth in Lionism in North Carolina.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Houston Henderson
State Extension Chair

The second DGE training session has been scheduled for November 30 through December 2, 2007 at Camp Dogwood. There is a full agenda of events for both Vice Governors and spouses during the weekend. Please make sure your vice governor will participate in all activities.

As your 20K coordinator, we will be meeting or/ have already met, this weekend to discuss the progress on your membership growth plan. I am impressed with the results for most of the districts. We need to discuss how we can better utilize the resources available to us. Above all, please do not become discouraged. The wheel of Lionism often turns slowly. Remain positive!!

Bob Shook, Chairman
Leadership
Development

The following is our report:

1. The Committee met August 11, 2007 in Hickory, NC. New members Lions Sherida Stevens, District C; Dr. Angela J. Fryer, District D; and Peggy McGohan, District H, were welcomed to the Committee. The new members were briefed by the returning members on activities around the state. The final report from 2006-7 was distributed to all members.
2. It was agreed that the Air Force would be honored with a pin this year and that Goldsboro would be the site for the statewide Celebrate Liberty event. A program focusing on a local high school junior class or classes will be planned and the site will be a local high school.
3. The Liberty pin design and new Liberty booklets were approved. The booklets were printed by Wachovia Bank on an expense only basis saving the Lions of North Carolina several thousand dollars.
4. On October 29, DG George Fisher, Harriett Edmunds and I met with Ms Robin DeMark, Chief of Civic Outreach for Seymour Johnson Air Force Base to plan the 2008 Celebrate Liberty program. Ms. DeMark was enthusiastic about the potential* for the program and will work with the school system to come up with an appropriate date and location. She will also make sure that a speaker from the Air Force Base is on the program.
5. I have also contacted the Presidents of both Goldsboro clubs. Lion Stephen Jordan President of the Goldsboro Downtown Lions Club and Lion Tony Camaioni, President of the Goldsboro Host Lions Club, to advise them of our plans. In fact Lion President Tony was on this Committee last year.
6. We have received the pins and the booklets which I will distribute to you.
7. Thank you for allowing me and this Committee serve Lions in North Carolina this year.

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Edmunds, PD

LCIF/Campaign SightFirst II Committee

Attachment "H"

Report to the MD 31 Council of Governors

Camp Dogwood November 10, 2007

PCC Harvey F. Whitley, Chairperson

LCIF continues to make its presence felt throughout the world. Most recently, emergency grants of \$55,000 and a catastrophic grant of \$100,000 were made to assist the victims of the California wildfires. Once again, Lions have answered the call to provide much needed humanitarian assistance.

We can also be proud of a recently released report which shows that LCIF has been ranked as the best among non-governmental organizations worldwide. Among 34 global organizations evaluated by The Financial Times publication, LCIF received first place ratings in the following:

- Execution of programs
- Demonstrated accountability
- Communications—internally and externally
- Program adaptability to surrounding community

We can be proud of this recognition but what does it really mean? In my opinion, it means that we are most effective because we put the people first and are able to bypass government bureaucracy to get the funds and services where they are needed the most.

LCIF beat out such organizations as Rotary Clubs International, Habitat for Humanity, UNESCO, and UNICEF.

Our efforts during this last year of Campaign SightFirst II continue as we have now raised \$119,254,606 worldwide. Here in North Carolina we have surpassed \$452,000 in cash and pledges. I have attached a chart to show you how your district is doing. Congratulations to Districts G, H, and E as they continue to lead the way in funds raised as well as participation. We also now have 8 Model Clubs.

I have given a Campaign SightFirst II seminar at the District 31 C convention and am scheduled to do seminars at 31 A and 3 IE. There are still a lot of Lions who do not understand why CSF II is important. Please request your District Coordinators to give you material for your newsletter. I have seen very few articles about CSF II in your newsletters.

Finally, please assure that your clubs understand that our clubs should not be diverting funds away from White Cane to give to CSF II.

Campaign Sightfirstll Progress Report

11/2/2007

	Clubs	Clubs	% Participation	Cash/Pledges	Unassigned
			Reporting		
53	9	17%	18,593	4,056	
40	12	30%	25,736	3,056	
36	12	33%	29,446	9,056	
44	11	25%	57,479	4,311	
45	31	69%	66,473	9,156	
54	19	35%	37,028	4,056	
40	40	100%	124,395	7,056	
41	24	59%	84,338	4,056	
44	9	20%	8,767	4,056	
397	167	42%	452,255	48859	

Top three districts highlighted in red-

Unassigned=Money not assigned to a club. Includes money from last years State Convention

George Ohm

Attachment "T"

From: "Gene Everette" <gegolfJions@surry.net>
To: <ohmg@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2007 11:27 AM
Subject: Membership Report

THE STRUGGLE TO JUGGLE MEMBERSHIP IN MD-31

Fellow Lions, I have come to the conclusion that our MEMBERSHIP GROWTH 01-lack of Growth in Membership is not because of the lack of INCENTIVES provided by Lions International or even incentives offered by our individual Districts. Neither is it a lack of COMMUNICATION or PUBLICATIONS, we have all the "Tool Box" INFORMATION, we need to enhance CLUB MEMBERSHIP; however, WE do not utilize what we have at our finger tips.

First, looking out at our AUDIENCE in attendance today, I see the NUCLEUS of LIONISM in North Carolina.

You are the LEADERS within your respective District, thus YOU should be setting the EXAMPLE for every LION in your respective District in Membership Growth. I would venture to say, that each LION in attendance today has been in LIONISM for more than SIX YEARS, thus each and everyone of YOU should have introduced and brought into Lionism at least SIX NEW LIONS during your tenure. YES, each LION should be able to average at least ONE NEW MEMBER per year. HAVE YOU?

Next, as I have observed my own District, as well as, other Districts (Clubs). I see that the majority of the clubs DO NOT HAVE an ACTIVE Membership Committee consisting of three Lions to promote Membership. Each District has a MERE TEAM, thus they should be invited and encouraged to give programs to the clubs in their respective District, also they can be called upon to give MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS and INDUCT and give ORIENTATION to NEW MEMBERS.

We have heard ALL the EXCUSES of WHY one cannot join a Lions Club, but WE must show them how and why they should become a member... after all "SERVICE TO HUMANITY IS THE BEST WORK OF LIFE". WE cannot stand around and wait for someone else to ASK and RECRUIT, WE must be willing to take on the task. We must strive to get our MD-31 Membership back in the 10,000 range, as we are NOW BELOW the 9,000 in Membership.

Every LION in attendance here today, should be able to say "I am a KEY MEMBER recipient"...are YOU?

In conclusion, please go back to your Club/District and encourage each club to activate their Membership Committee (if they have not) and extend an invitation to your Districts MERE TEAM to come and give a program to your Club or District Cabinet Meeting.

Past International Directors:
Sid Scruggs, Lacy Presnell, Howard Stallings.
State Council Chairman Steve Wilson
State Secretary/Treasurer George Ohm

Attachment "J"

District Governors:

District A will elect Lion Mike Covell of the Hendersonville Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their district convention on November 17. Lion Marti Hill of the Greater Asheville Lions Club will be elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District B has elected Lion Jerry Mertz from the South Iredell Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009. Lion Dot Nichols from the West Jefferson Lions Club has been elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District C has elected Lion Mike Schwartz of the Gaston Evening Lions Club as Vice District Governor for 2007-2008.

District D will elect Lion Paul Gilgo of the Walkertown Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their convention January 25-26, 2008. Lion David Osborne from the Jamestown Lions Club will be elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District E will elect Lion H. Gordon McAdams from the Fair Grove Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their convention January 25-26, 2008. Lion Theresa Matthews of the Denton Lions Club will be elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District F elected Lion David R. Martin from the Sanford Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009. Lion Dan Boudreau from the Western Hamett Lions Club was elected as 1st Vice District Governor and Lion Randy Kirby of the Whiteville Lions Club was elected as 2nd Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District G will elect Lion Jerry Day from the Raleigh Host Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their convention January 11-12, 2008. Lion Don Henry from the Lake Gaston Lions Club will be elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District H will elect Lion Carlton Weeks from the Mt. Olive Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their convention January 11-12, 2008. Lion Al Greene from the Pikeville Lions Club will be elected as Vice District Governor for 2008-2009.

District J will elect Lion Alex Thannikkary from the Roanoke Rapids Lions Club as District Governor for 2008-2009 at their convention January 11-12, 2008.

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November 10, 2007

Attachment "K"

MD 31 Statewide Retention Committee Report
I. Frank Brooks, Jr. PDG
MD 31 Statewide Retention Committee Chairperson

Dear Council Of Governors,

In my initial report to the Council of Governors for 2007- 2008, I emphasized the need to stress development and structure of the three(3) person Membership Committee on individual club level and MERL Teams on District level. I come before you now asking for more involvement from your Region and Zone Chairs, (as it applies) in promoting this effort.

We must concern ourselves with not only increasing and retaining membership on all levels of Lionism, but offering proper and timely orientation program as techniques and strategies to our new Lions and current membership. This goal can definitely be accomplished by introducing these programs at our Club, Zone and District level meetings. Please encourage the Zone and/or Region Chairs in your district to plan and publicize more orientation programs in support of this effort. It is in our best interest that people joining Lionism, in concert with existing members understand their value to the most vibrant and relevant service organization in the World.

COMMUNICATE – COMMUNICATE - COMMUNICATE! We must always strive to communicate better with each other, sharing the wealth of knowledge we have accumulated over the many years in our service to Lionism. Our membership and retention goals may appear extremely challenging but are by no means impossible to achieve, if we are to remain vibrant and relevant to those in need of the programs and services we offer.

In closing, good communication is vital to working together as a team. I look forward to a very challenging but productive year of service with you for 2007-2008.

Respectfully Submitted,


Lion I. Frank Brooks, Jr. PDG

MD-31 Statewide Retention Committee Chairperson