



Loken's



Tomten Tribune

“Lighting the Path to Service”



JANUARY 2009

Meet Our Saturday Evening Speaker

Neil R. Spencer was elected to serve a two-year term as an International Director at the association's 91st International Convention held in Bangkok, Thailand.

Director Spencer is from Cocoa Beach, Florida and is a member of the Cypress Gardens Lions Club and a Lion since 1987. He has held many offices including club president, zone chair, district governor and council chair. Also, he has been active in Multiple District 35 as chair of the following committees; Long Range Planning, Constitution and By-Laws and Information Technology.

Director Spencer has received numerous awards including Club Lion of the Year, 8 100% Club Secretary Awards, 100% President Award, 100% District Governor Award, 2 District Governor Extension Awards, a membership key, 3 Golden Chain Awards, 5 International President's Certificate of Appreciation, Leadership Medal, International President's Medal, and he is a Melvin Jones Fellow. He has 19 years of perfect attendance.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Spencer is a board member and past president of the Cocoa Beach High School Alumni Association Educational Foundation and the Space Coast Little League. He is a former business owner and an employee of the Boeing Company.

Director Spencer and his wife, PDG Donna, have one daughter, also a Lion, and one son.



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NEWS FROM OUR VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Happy New Year Lions, Lioness and Leos!

It's almost time for our 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention. Have you sent in your registration and reserved your room at Cragun's? Please help out the convention committee and get this done as soon as possible.

I would like to send a special welcome to our International Director Neil Spencer and his wife, PDG Donna. I know the Lions, Lioness and Leos will give them a warm 5M8 welcome.

It's time to evaluate the goals that were set for this Lions year. **Has your club invited program chairs to speak at one of your meetings?** I have heard several positive comments from the clubs that had programs. **Has your club found new ways to provide "Miracles Through Service" in your community?** The food shelves are in great need of donations of food and money. Students at our local schools are in need of boots, snow pants, warm hats and mittens. You can be the "Everyday Hero" every time you help your community.

Also, we need to support our District and International projects at the Parade of Green. Thanks so much for all the money your club donates to these worthwhile projects.

We need to evaluate our membership. Our Multiple District Membership Chair, PCC Brian Sheehan, has a goal of +1 for each club by the end of the Lions year. How is your club doing with its membership? Have you dropped more members than you have gained? Do you have members who never attend meetings or projects? Please consider having a membership drive. First, ask your members to bring prospective names to the next club meeting. Then have your Membership Chair invite the prospects to a meeting. Offer refreshments or a meal and invite two or three district chairs to share their programs. Finally, ASK the prospects to join your club. The clubs that have done a drive have gained new members.

We need to have FUN! I look forward to seeing you at Cragun's. Please join us for great speakers, delicious meals, informative seminars, and Lots of Fun!

DG Judy

In one of my earlier articles I wrote that, **"Lions Clubs' that have fun, get things done"**.

I was at a club meeting a few weeks ago where I saw living proof of that proclamation.

The meeting began by singing a patriotic song addressing the flag. Then the fun began by continuing to sing songs led by the traditional song leader. Who by the way got a lot of guff for not introducing new songs.

The spirit of fellowship was inspired by a spirited round of tail twisting which spared almost no one.

I am just beginning to make club visits so I don't know how typical I might find this demeanor in club meeting settings. I know from my experience that this meeting was an inspiring example of fellowship and accomplishment. This group of Lions contributes a lot to their community.

Before I began this article, I reviewed several of my previous articles. I have spent a lot of "ink" on membership and retention. As I have mentioned, I believe you will continue to see a lot of ink and verbiage about these two topics.

There are parts of the world Lions community that are seeing significant growth in membership. I wonder what we could learn from them about membership and retention.

We are approaching our Midwinter Convention. This is another opportunity for us "local" Lions to "spread our wings" and find out about the Lions activity in outlying areas of our district and multiple district

There are several constitution and by-law amendments on the ballot for this convention. We will be electing a new District Governor, a new Vice District Governor and a 2nd Vice District Governor. This is a new position in the District Cabinet that was introduced at the international convention.

The Vice District Governors of Multiple District 5M are sponsoring a raffle on behalf of Leader Dog. We will be selling chances on a **Malibu Woody Driver** for \$5 a chance at the Midwinter convention. The drawing will be at the Multiple District Convention in May. All proceeds will be going to Leader Dog.

I look forward to seeing you at the Mid Winter convention. Let's have fun and get some things done.

VDG Jim

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VDG Jim Diehl for District Governor
5M8 2009–2010

St. Augusta Lions
24693 CSAH 75
St. Augusta, MN 56301
320-255-1199

December 1, 2008

District Governor Judy Loken
District 5M8
PO Box 50
Sandstone, MN 55702

Governor Judy

This letter is being written in support of the candidacy of Jim Diehl as District Governor of District 5M8.

The St. Augusta Lions supports Jim in this pursuit. Jim has served twice as President of our club. Jim served in 2001-02 and again in 2007-08. He has served as Zone Chairman for the past five years.

Jim has been active in our Lions club for over 10 years. In addition to his service as a Lion, he is a city council member in the city of St. Augusta and a trustee in his church.

In the event that Jim's candidacy is successful, we will continue to support Jim in this leadership capacity.

Sincerely

Tom Sis
President

Dear District Governor Judy, Vice District Governor Jim, Immediate Past District Governor Allen, and 5M8 Lions

After a great deal of thought and contemplation I have decided to run for the office of 1st Vice District Governor of 5M-8 Lions for the year 2009-10.

I have been a member of the Staples '93 Lions Club since 1997 and have served my Club on the Board of Directors and as Vice President and as Club President in 2003-04. I have also been our Club secretary for the past 4 years, and have received the endorsement of the Staples '93 Lions Club.

On the District level, I have been the Zone Chairperson of Regions 3, Zone 1 Lions for the past two years, and have served as Cabinet Secretary of District 5M-8 Lions in 1998-99. I have attended numerous District and Multiple Conventions.

I attended the International Convention in Minneapolis in 1993 and served as a Sergeant of Arms. I have also attended the International Conventions in Birmingham, England; San Diego, CA; Indianapolis, IN; Denver, CO; and Boston, MA.

I have attended USA/Canada Forums in Syracuse, NY; Lexington, KY; Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada; Reno, NV; and Columbus, OH.

Other background information includes being a Middle School/High School Teacher and I am now retired from teaching.

Yours in Lionism, Lion Amy Leidenfrost



Amy Leidenfrost
or Vice District Governor
5M8 2009–2010

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District Governor Judy, Vice District Governor Jim, Immediate Past District Governor Allen

Please consider this my letter of intent to run for second Vice District Governor of 5M-8 for the year 2009-2010. My home club, Sandstone Quarry Lions, will vote on my endorsement on November 24. If the club members vote for the endorsement you will receive that official notice. I believe I do meet the qualification requirements and more as follows:

- Member in good standing of a club (Sandstone Quarry Lions) in good standing
- Zone Chair of Region 1 Zone 1, 2002-2005
- President of Sandstone Quarry Lions 2004-2005
- Board of Directors of the Sandstone Quarry Lions, 1998-2006, 2009-2009
 - Other District 5M-8 Level Cabinet Positions
 - Leadership Development and Orientation Co-Chair 2008-2009
 - Membership/Retention Co-Chair 2005-2008
 - Publicity Chair 2001-2002
 - Sandstone Quarry Lions
 - Charter Member 1998
 - Received: Helen Keller award, 100% Perfect Attendance Pin every year since 1998,
 - Proud Sponsor pin
 - Sponsored 5 new Lions members
 - Chaired or Co-Chaired numerous projects including: Miss Sandstone, Christmas Bazaar, Raffle, Christmas party, Peace Poster, Pine medical Center Community Health Fair, Quarry Lions Heel and Wheel Team and others
 - Sandstone Lioness (club dissolved to transition to the Sandstone Quarry Lions in 1998)
 - Charter Member 1984
 - Served as President, Secretary, Tail Twister
 - Perfect Attendance each year
 - Conventions
 - Attended USA-Canada Leadership Forum in 2008 (Saskatoon) 2007 (Grand Rapids, MI)
 - Attended numerous 5M Multiple Conventions was a Sergeant at Arms in 2008
 - Attended the majority of the Mid-Winter Conventions since 1998
 - Attended all Mini-Forums since 1998
 - Community Involvement—Current Kanabec-Pine County Chapter of Thrivent for Lutherans—Vice President 2008; President 2009
 - East Central Regional Library Board of Directors
 - East Central School District Community Education Board of Directors
 - Grace Lutheran Church, Sandstone, Council Stewardship Liaison

Lions District 5M-8
Lion Sandy Sandwick
Sandstone Quarry Lions Member



Sandy Sandwick
for 2nd Vice District Governor
5M8 2009–2010

The Princeton Lions Club held their annual Ladies Night/Awards Banquet on Dec 1st.



The presenters and recipients are as follows: Lions Don Faulkner, Diabetes; Bill Gaede, Hearing Foundation; PDG Wayne Oak, Eye Bank; Carol Peterson, received a Lions Hearing Fellowship & Melvin Jones Fellowship; Jerry Hoof, received a Helen Keller Award; Bruce Lacher, received a Hearing Fellowship; Dale Dunham, received a Dream Catcher Award; Arnold Alferness, received a Club Award; George Freichels, received Leader Dog Founder's Tribute; Arnett Alferness, received a Club Award; David Spain, received a Helen Keller Award; Roger Hanson, received a HSDM "Top Dog" Award; Elaine Maples, received a Melvin Jones Fellowship; Duane Finger, HSDM; Roberta Schiel, Leader Dog; John Scheil, LCIF; and David Thompson, received a Leader Dog Founder's Tribute.

Another group of "Everyday Heroes"

Cabinet Travel after December 31, 2008

The IRS mileage rate for travel after December 31, 2008 will be \$0.55 per mile. Thus, reimbursement rate will be \$0.44. Please adjust your reports accordingly.

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NEEDED:

CLUB NEWSLETTERS: Share and display your club newsletter at the Mid-Winter Convention. There will be a table displaying club newsletters so that Lions Clubs can get ideas. Bring a newsletter to the convention or send it to Lion Sandy Sandwick.

TAIL TWISTING IDEAS: Tailtwisting—More than 101 Ideas _ Send your favorite tailtwisting ideas to Lion Sandy Sandwick at ssandwick@scicable.net. Thanks go to Zone Chair Carol Merten who sent ideas from her club. All ideas will be included in printed form and will be given to the club Tailtwisters who attend the spring officer training in April or May. "It's fun to be a Lion! Tailtwisting is a perfect place to start. In fact, tailtwisters have the best job in Lions" according to Past Zone Chair September Stokes, Burnaby Lougheed Lions Club, British Columbia. Lion Stokes has graciously given permission for her 1011 Tailtwisting Ideas to be used at 5M8 officer training.
Lion Sandy Sandwick, ssandwick@scicable.net, PO 561, Sandstone, MN 55072

HALL OF FAME AWARD

As we go to press, there are three candidates for the 5M8 Hall of Fame Award, PDG Janette Dingmann, Lion Donna Landwehr and Lion Richard Hiemenz (deceased).

The purpose of this award is to honor a Lion or Lioness member of character and substance who has demonstrated the highest level of commitment and dedication to the efforts of their club, district or multiple district and the motto of our association "We Serve".

We will be electing one of the candidates at our Mid-Winter convention.

The winner will be inducted into the MD5M Hall of Fame at the next multiple convention.

NOMINATING:

PDG Dr. Ray Lindeman, Chair
PDG Bob Hoofnagle
Lion Diann Belmont

ELECTIONS:

PDG Larry Schul, Chair
Lion K. H. (Charlie) Gunderson
Lion John Hotz

RESOLUTIONS:

PDG Frank Leidenfrost, Chair
PDG Pete Kleingartner
Lion Duane Finger

Convention Committees

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS:

PDG Linus Dingmann, Chair
PID Gerry Robbins
Lion Bruce Grosland

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

PCC Bill Bard

RULES:

PDG Ralph Gorecki
Lion Dennis Loecken
Lion Donna Orstad

CREDENTIALS:

DG Judy Loken, Chair
PCC Frank Loken
Lion Kory Olson

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:

Lion Deb Bialke, Chair
PDG Wayne Oak
Lion David Thompson
Lion Lori Steinemann
Lion Pam Cramer
Lion Joe Musel
Lion Fred Holthaus
Lion Amy Leidenfrost

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2009 PARADE OF GREEN DONATIONS GUIDELINES

Please make your checks out to the following organizations as follows;

LIONS DISTRICT 5M8 FOUNDATION, INC. The District Foundation is set up to accept donations for **Diabetes, and LEOs, or Youth exchange, or Quest**). Please write the program in the memo line as all funds must be designated to one of the above programs.

MD5M HEARING FOUNDATION, INC. OR

MD5M HEARING FOUNDATION, INC. (Children's Hearing Clinic in memo line)

HEARING and SERVICE DOGS OF MINNESOTA

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. (LCIF)

MINNESOTA LIONS EYE BANK OR

MINNESOTA LIONS EYE BANK (MAC or Children's Eye Clinic in memo line)

LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

If your club has Charitable Gambling, make sure you follow the Minnesota Gambling Control Board's rules.

SPEAKERS AND SEMINARS

2009 5M8 MID-WINTER CONVENTION

Saturday Morning:

Project New Hope (for returning Veterans and their families) –

PDG Dale Johansen

The Law and Lions – PDG Wayne Swanson,

Multiple District Legal Advisor

Saturday Lunch:

Lion Dr. Bevan Yueh, Chair of Dept. of Otolaryngology,

Medical School, University of Minnesota

Saturday Afternoon:

Spring Point Diabetes Project

Leader Dogs for the Blind –

Field Representative Linda McLane and Disney

Retention –

Lion Ted Peterson, PDG Larry Schul, 5M8 Chairs and PCC

Brian Sheehan, Multiple 5M Chair of Membership & Retention

Women's Membership Development –

PDG Janette Dingmann, 5M8 Chair and PCC Brian Sheehan

Are You Smarter Than A 5th Grader?- Lion Jack Breitreutz

Saturday Banquet: International Director Neil Spencer

Sunday Brunch: Chris Golden, mother of autistic child and recipient of service/autism dog from Hearing & Service Dogs of Minnesota

Chicken & Pork Dinner

January 30, 2009

El Paso Club

Serving 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Dinner Cost \$10.00

All Proceeds Benefit Lions

Endeavors.

Contributions to the St. Joseph
Lions Club are not tax

Deductible as charitable
contributions.

Meat Raffle & Silent Auction

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Wanted new Lions in 5M8!

As of December 30th 5M8 has dropped 158 lions and added 120 lions for a net loss of -38 for the year. I need each club to work on increasing their membership. This month alone we have dropped 45 members! Please consider asking a family member or a friend to join our great organization!

DG Judy Loken

5M-8 DIABETES

The Mid-Winter Convention will soon be upon us. Once again we respectfully ask for your continued support for our district's efforts. The past several years your Dollars have funded, the recertification of the Diabetes Educator Program at area hospitals, Youth going to camps, along with grants to America Diabetes Association, International Diabetes Center, University of Minnesota, and the Spring Point Project. Your dollars given to the 5M-8 Foundation for Diabetes are used 100% for Research, Education, or Youth with Diabetes. None of your dollars have been used for legal fees, or other expenses. At the "Parade of Green" make your checks payable to: Lions District 5M8 Foundation Inc. with Diabetes written on the memo line.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Lion District 5M8 Foundation Inc.

Lions Gerry Altrichter and Don Faulkner,

Diabetes Co-Chairs

HEARING & SERVICE DOGS OF MINNESOTA

Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota (HSDM) has been helping people with disabilities through the use of assistance dogs since 1987. They work with people who are deaf, hard of hearing or physically disabled, pairing them with specially trained dogs to alert them to important sounds or assist them in the activities of daily living.

Service dog clients have a wide range of disabilities including spinal cord injuries, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy, fibromyalgia, severe arthritis and seizure disorders. Recently they added service dogs to help people with uncontrolled diabetes and help children with autism.

The dogs deliver personal dignity through the gifts of independence, freedom and peace of mind. Pairing trained dogs with people with disabilities benefits the clients as well as their families, employers and communities. Whenever possible, the dogs are adopted from local animal shelters to train for the programs.

All this is done at no charge to the clients.

HSDM depends upon generous donors and volunteers to make their program possible. Last year over 400 volunteers contributed 119,315 hours.

Could you or someone you know benefit from an assistance dog? Would you like to know more? You may log on to the website at www.hsdm.org to find out about their programs.

Will you find a few extra dollars to make or increase your donation at the Parade of Green so HSDM can continue their programs to help people with disabilities.

Please visit your Hearing & Service Dog Chairs, Lion Terri Bailey and Lion Duane Finger at the donation table before the Sunday Brunch.

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22ND ANNUAL PRINCETON LIONS

ICE FISHING CONTEST

ON GREEN LAKE
(7 miles east of Princeton on Hwy. 95, Watch for signs)

SUNDAY, FEB. 1, 2009
1:30 - 4:00 P.M.

GRAND PRIZE: \$1,500 largest fish
Sponsored by Crystal Cabinet Works, Inc.

Raffle Items Drawn Throughout The Contest Including:
MARCUM LX-3 SONAR FLASHER
Donated by Marv's True Value and Prairie Restorations, Inc.
Winner of MarCum LX-3 Sonar Flasher need not be present to win!
Aqua-Vue Underwater Camera, Ice Augers, Vexilar Fish Finders & much more!
Drawings held continuously on ice.
All Prizes Donated by Local Businesses.

FREE KIDS DRAWING!
KIDS MEDALLION HUNT*
*Kids 12 & under find 2 hidden worth \$25 Each!

TICKETS \$10⁰⁰

Available at Prince Bait, Tails & Trails Sport Shop, Coborn's, Bremer Bank, Plaza Country Store, Ace Hardware, Pamida, Back Woods Sports, Marv's True Value Hardware, Oakwood Outdoors and on the ice day of the contest.

In case of inclement weather the contest will be Sunday, February 15, 2009



16th Annual Sobieski & Swanville Lions Clubs Fishing Contest and Raffle

Saturday, February 21, 2009 on Long Lake, Swanville, MN

12 Noon to 3PM

Tickets are \$5.00

Raffle to be held at Herbie's in Sobieski at 6PM
\$200 for the largest fish and cash prizes given for largest fish in each species.

1st 100 kids under 12 entered on the lake will receive a free jiggle stick.

Lions will sell bait and drill holes.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact any Sobieski or Swanville Lions member.



St. Augusta Lions 25th Anniversary

January 27, 2009

Time: 6:30

St. Mary Help of
Christians Parish Center
24588 Cty Rd 7, St. Augusta

Please join us as we celebrate
25 years of Lionism.

The cost of the meal is \$12.

Please RSVP by January 15th
to:

Lion VDG Jim Diehl

24693 CSAH 75

St. Augusta MN 56301



6th Annual Sobieski Lions Snowmobile "Ride For Hearing"

When: January 9-10, 2009

All proceeds go the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation.

The snowmobile run ends in Sobieski Minnesota. For information, please contact Lion Sue at 320-632-8909 or Lions Annette or Tony at 320-632-

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Sobieski Lions Ride For Eyes

For the past 17 years the small town of Sobieski, Minnesota hears the rumble of a group of motorcycles that is very welcomed. The 3rd weekend in August, the Sobieski Lions sponsor "The Ride For Eyes" which raises money for the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and MAC Center. The club of approximately 70 members have raised approximately \$50,000 for this wonderful cause.

It started which a couple of members who thought that bringing a group of motorcycle riders together for a cause was a great thing. Well 17 years later some of those same motorcycle enthusiasts are still taking part along with about 150 others being "Knights for the Blind".

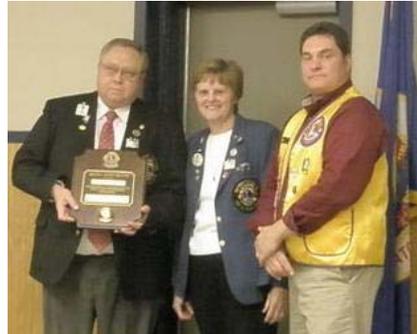
The motorcycle run starts at Herbies Bar in Sobieski and is approximately 75 miles long with one stop and then returns to Sobieski. At the end of the run there are drawings, auction, food, refreshments and entertainment. "Ride For Eyes" t-shirts are also sold during some of the years.

The Sobieski Lions were able to raise \$5000 this year and presented District Governor Judy the check at our annual Governor's Dinner. The club has been very supportive each year as well as the entire community of Sobieski. There are plenty of volunteers to help out with registration, flag processional and putting up posters before the event.

You don't need a motorcycle to participate in the event. There has been many classic cars, limousines and even the Redneck Rescue bus!! All are welcome to attend.

If you would like more information on the "Ride For Eyes", please contact Ken & Carol Merten at 320-252-7804.

Governor's Visits



VDG Jim Diehl receives a Melvin Jones Award at the DG visit in St. Augusta. Congratulations to VDG Jim!



DG Judy installing new members for the Mora and Ogilvie clubs.



President Susan Kiley and Zone Chair Carol Merten present DG Judy with a check for \$5000.00 for the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank.

The money was raised during the "Ride for Eyes". Congratulations to the Sobieski Club for another successful fundraiser.



Pine City Lions singing a few Christmas carols at their Christmas party.

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Maricar Marquez and her Leader Dog, Dixie. Dixie was raised by Lions Dale and Betty Ness of Cushing, Minnesota.

Lion Betty Ness wrote that Dixie's mate, Maricar Marquez, is blind and deaf, lives in New York City and works at the Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) for deaf-blind students on Long Island. She is a Senior Independent Living Instructor and evaluates the Independent living skills of deaf-blind students and provides them with individual rehabilitation training. She has presented at state and national levels on many deaf-blind issues. She has been a mentor and trainer to deaf-blind teens, families and professionals.

Maricar received a BA degree in Communication Arts and an MS degree in Administration from Galaudet University.

Maricar has enjoyed skydiving, rock climbing, parasailing and competing in triathlons. Other interests include reading and attending Broadway plays (Dixie likes them, too.). She is married to Don Horvath, who also works at HKNC.

Lion Betty really likes to know what happens to the pups they raise and where they will live.

Received from Lion Bunny Tabatt

LIONS MULTIPLE DISTRICT 5M HEARING FOUNDATION, INC.

MD5M Lions partnered with the University of Minnesota and the Department of Otolaryngology to form the MD5M Lions Hearing Foundation in 1976. With the help of the kind and generous donations of our Minnesota Lions and Lioness members, this partnership has enabled the Department of Otolaryngology to become one of the top research, teaching, and clinical service facilities in the world. Our Lion and Lioness donations have helped to purchase necessary equipment, furnish rooms, and provide several start up grants that very often lead to much larger grants from outside private and government sources.

Lion and Lioness donations have been used to purchase the equipment needed to conduct Newborn Hearing Screenings for all of Minnesota's Hospitals and Birthing Centers. Thanks to the Lion and Lioness donations this program has been a tremendous success. Lion and Lioness members were also the driving force to help formulate the very successful Loaner Hearing Aid Program for cancer patients. Thanks to you and the state legislature, Minnesota now mandates each of these programs. The Lions Hearing Foundation also began one of the earliest Bicycle Helmet Safety Programs in Minnesota. This program has now been picked up by various groups throughout the state.

The latest program that Lion and Lioness donations help to fund is the Lions Children's Hearing Center. This center is one of only two in the upper Mid-West. The center allows patients to receive all aspects of diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up in one location, and in many cases, in one trip. Your donations helped to purchase needed equipment and to furnish this area and the patient-parent lounge area.

Here are a few of the many other areas that 5M-8 Lions and Lioness have helped to fund throughout the years: Auditory Biology and Tumor Cell Biology, Audiology Physiology, Cochlear Anatomy, Electron Microscope—Otologic Ultrastructure, Molecular Oareology, Otopathology and Molecular Biology, Laser Imaging, Otopathology Lab, Cochlear Stem Cell Research, Lions Voice Clinic, Vestibular Lab, Lions Conference Meeting Room, and furnishing the waiting room area.

Did you know that over 61 thousand patients have been seen since our beginning and over 350 Cochlear Implants have been made? What a difference Lions make in people's lives. Lions truly do help make miracles happen.

Words are inadequate when expressing the gratitude and appreciation the MD5M Lions Hearing Foundation, Lions Children's Hearing Center and the Department of Otolaryngology for the generous donations the 5M-8 Lions and Lioness Clubs have made. We assure all of our Lion and Lioness members that your donations are spent wisely, and we encourage all of our members to take part in one of the tours that the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation and Minnesota Lions Eye Bank conducts each year. This will give you a first hand look to see how some of your donations are spent.

Please be aware that for every \$1000.00 donated to the MD5M Lions Hearing Foundation or Lions Children's Hearing Center each club is eligible to present one Hearing Research Fellow. This amount can be accumulated over a multiple year period.

Again, we thank you for your past support and donations to the Lions Hearing Foundation and Children's Hearing Center, and we ask that you please keep us in mind for this year's Parade of Green.

We encourage all clubs to contact either of your 5M8 Lions Hearing Foundation Trustees Frank Leidenfrost or Bill Gaede to make a presentation to your club.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

It's a stark fact, that every minute somewhere in the world a child goes blind.

Lions are trying to combat that and have raised \$200,329,000 towards combating preventable diseases. That is what our efforts thru Campaign Sightfirst II raised.

Now we are thru with raising funds for CSF II, except for clubs and individuals that still need to make payments on their pledges to complete their obligations. That was a tremendous effort put forth by Lions all over the world. Lions worked together.

This does not mean that LCIF doesn't need our support anymore. It just means that there are still many other areas that need our help. Since July 1, 2008 LCIF has awarded 93 emergency grants in the amount of \$744,000. The period from November 16-30 there were wildfires in California, tornado in North Carolina and a flood in Brazil, where Lions helped Lions recover.

Then there are also the standard grant requests like playground equipment for a school for the blind in Arkansas, funds to equip an eye center with diagnostic equipment in New Jersey. Funds for a Boys and Girls club in Minnesota to name just a few.

I recently attended a LCIF focus meeting where the discussion was about how we can increase the donations to LCIF to fund needed requests. We also discussed how we think LCIF can better respond to the needs of those less fortunate than ourselves. LCIF is all about Lions helping Lions.

I hope this helps you understand why we are asking Lions to continue their support to LCIF. We hope that you will include LCIF in your "Parade of Green" giving at the Mid-Winter convention this February.

Make checks payable to Lions clubs International Foundation. If you are paying on a pledge to CSF II made previously you can indicate that in the memo line. If you did not make a pledge previously and designate your donation to CSF II it may be determined to be designated funds and may not qualify for Melvin Jones Fellowship recognition.

We want to thank you for your support in the past. It is greatly appreciated.

If you need a club program or have a question you can contact:

Lion Pete Kleingartner 763/389-2676 e-mail: mpsaklein@sherbtel.net

Lion John Schiel 320/251-1152 e-mail: robyn45john@charter.net



5M8 Peace Poster Winner

The 5M8 Peace Poster
was won by
Leandra Martinson
of Eden Valley.
The poster was
sponsored by
the Watkins Lioness.

5M8 District Governor
Judy Loken
PO Box 50
Sandstone, MN 55072

5M8 Lions Events

- Jan 1:** Happy New Year
- Jan 9-10:** Sobieski Lions Ride for Hearing
- Jan 18:** Sartell Lions / Leos Annual Sausage / Egg Breakfast
- Jan 27:** St. Augusta Lions 25th Anniversary at St. Mary Help of Christian Parish at 6:30 PM, Meal \$12, RSVP to VDG Jim by Jan 15
- Feb 1:** Princeton Lions Fishing Contest
- Feb. 6-8, 2009:** 5M8 Mid-Winter Convention - Craguns, Brainerd
- Feb 21:** Swanville and Sobieski Fishing Contest
- Feb 21:** Lincoln Scandia Ice Golf Tourney
- July 6-8, 2009:** International Convention, Minneapolis, MN

