

COMMUNICATION ... COMMUNICATION ... COMMUNICATION

Here's a little hint: Communication does not work if it is only one way!

In 13-J, we provide several outlets for you to receive information which can help your club be successful and meet the guidelines of Ohio Lions and Lions International. On the club level, you should make every effort to take advantage of the information offered to you as well as make sure that your club is providing correct information in its reporting.

ZONE MEETINGS



Following every Council of Governors' meeting, a Cabinet Meeting is held. Following the Cabinet Meeting, Zone Meetings are held. To get the latest information, your club must have at least one representative at their Zone Meeting. It's that simple!

What will you learn at a Zone Meeting? Changes in LCI or MD-13 policies, new program information, reporting deadlines, potential pitfalls, how to grow membership, how to retain members, and guidance for numerous issues, to name just a few topics.

We frequently find that clubs who don't attend meetings are often those who don't file timely reports and/or don't file them properly.

Don't be one of those. Help your club by attending Zone meetings. **See the dates, time, place, and meal cost for your upcoming meeting on the last page of this newsletter.**



NEWSLETTER

We aim to make every newsletter interesting, informative, and succinct.

The newsletter is the responsibility of more than the District Governor, Vice District Governors, and the Newsletter Editor. Club officers share a major responsibility in making this newsletter useful.

First, officers who receive this newsletter (generally the club president and club secretary or their designee) are responsible for sharing the information with their club --- either through redistribution via emails, hard copies, or sharing pertinent information at club meetings.

Second, club officers should also take it upon themselves or assign the duty to supply the newsletter editor with pictures and articles about club activities, special meetings, and/or fundraisers. A timely article just might make your fundraiser even more successful.

Deadline for submission is the 20th of the month for the next month's edition.



How often do you "surf the web"? The Internet has a rich trove of information, both good and bad. So let's look at the good stuff.

- ◆ Lions Clubs International www.lionsclubs.org.
 - ◆ Lions of Ohio www.ohiolions.org.
 - ◆ 13-J Lions www.district13j.com.
- All of these websites have one thing in common, to inform Lions.

But the webmasters cannot do it all by themselves. They need the help of all Lions. And the way you can help is to send information and pictures. Information/announcements about the next car show or pancake breakfast or festival or holiday flags or.... And then take pictures of these events and send them to the webmasters. This way, you can both publicize your event and give credit to your workers.

The District J website has a monthly calendar; a list of conventions, and pertinent forms; a page devoted to forms needed to inform the District leadership of your club's activities; a gathering of club newsletters; and a picture scrapbook! Take a look while you are "surfing the web".

And always, please send any suggestions for improving the District website to PDG Norman Cupps at ncupps@horizonview.net.



From the computer desk of **District Governor Georgia**

This last month I had the privilege of attending Lions Club International training for incoming district governors. What a great experience. My classmates were from the United States, Hungary, Poland, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. At lunch time I sat at a table with governor elects from Turkey, Peru, Dominion Republic and Canada. In spite of language difficulties, we were able to share and learn together as Lions. Over the week of daily classes, a strong friendship was forged between us. I learned that Lions are truly an international organization that follows the mission of Lions.

Each day we heard from our leaders, especially our 2011-12 President Wing-Kun Tam. His message to us Lions is to believe. Believe in giving back and our motto "We Serve". We were taught that believing is different from thinking because it has three key elements....* Courage *Commitment *Action.

He talked about his Lion family and how important his club has been to him. His program "My club, My family" speaks to Lions' common belief that by working together we can accomplish great things and change the world through service. The strength of our organization, our family, lies with our clubs, and our members form the basis of our clubs. By keeping members involved, instilling pride and treating them with mutual respect as we would our own family, our clubs will be successful.

The front page of this issue shows the value of communication. A governor can not have a successful



This is going to be a different kind of letter from me. By now my trip to the international convention is over and it certainly didn't go as planned. My trip out was absolutely wonderful and I arrived on July 3. The morning of July 4 about five o'clock in the morning, I ended up in the emergency room of a local hospital where I spent the remainder of the week. On Saturday morning I was released to fly home on the condition that I would enter a local hospital for the needed surgery. I did so and surgery was performed the following Tuesday.

I'm now at home recovering, and finding that it's taking longer than it did when I was 50. Since July 4, I have been of little use to the Lions.

I have continuously encouraged all of you to constantly grow your clubs and my situation emphasizes that need even more. As we grow older, we as members grow older, too. Thus, we have to take care of ourselves, if we're going to be of any use to our local Lions clubs, our families, and our communities.

district unless they have a strong team dedicated to service. The Lions in 13-J are my family, my team. As a mom, my children know they have to check in once a week, or mom will be calling. The same as Governor, I will need to hear from you each month or the governor will be calling. Remember, I believe in you.

The definition of team is a group of people that believe in each other"

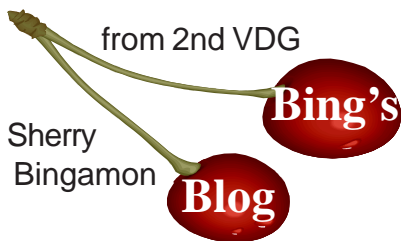
Ladies tend to put everybody else before themselves. Remember ladies, you can't help and take care of others, if you're not well yourself.

Men, don't put off going to the doctor. It only makes the problem worse, and at my age it seems to take twice as long to recover as it did when I was 50.

I don't mean to sound like the Grinch who stole Christmas, but do you all realize how many members we lost since our district convention? How much of that knowledge and experience was lost? My point is that we need to work with our younger members, and transfer as much of our knowledge as we can to them. They will gain their own experience by doing. So take care of yourselves, and while you're at it, ask somebody to be a Lion.



Ernie McCoy, left, accepted a \$1000 raffle prize June 30 from Chillicothe Evening Lions Club President Emmitt Hempstead. Five runners-up each received a \$100 prize. The 82-member club, celebrating its 87th year, has conservatively estimated that it has, over the years, contributed at least \$1 million to such causes as eyesight conservation, scholarships and other charitable causes.



As Zone Chair, I traveled to various clubs in my zone and others. During my service in

this position, I observed and listened to what the different clubs were involved in, how they served their communities and members of their clubs.

Strengthening members, both new and long-term, is an important function of all clubs on community, district and international levels. For new Lions, it's about getting acquainted with a new service organization. For long-term Lions, it's about getting back to the basics. Listed are some ideas that might help our organizations grow and become stronger in our communities.

1. Member orientation provides new members with information they need to get started as a Lion. It is also a refresher course for long-term Lions, showing the history, structure, purpose, and ethics.
2. Provide a mentoring program. Partner knowledgeable long-term Lions with new Lions. This creates a stronger club background and possible new leaders.
3. Create a membership retention committee to come up with programs to strengthen and encourage long-term members to become our future leaders.
4. Celebrate new members once a year. Encourage them to become involved in all aspects of our organization, club, district, even other clubs. This retains members and creates new leaders.

Every club should work to involve every member in service. This creates club members who happily serve their community year after year.

In order to retain our members, we need to focus on four things:

1. We need to work together
2. Hold regular meetings and make them informative
3. Dynamics of the club. What are we about, how do we operate, how does that affect our community?
4. Get everyone involved. Everyone has something to offer.

A club that learns to work and play together becomes stronger and becomes an asset to its community.



Why was Our Club Billed *THAT* Amount?

Once in awhile there is confusion over a bill which a club received from LCI or District 13-J. Here is a quick explanation.

International dues are \$39 per year, with discounts given for family memberships. The bill is received twice a year from LCI and is based on the number of members on file with LCI as of May 31 and November 30.

State and district dues total \$17 per year and is billed twice a year by the district Cabinet Treasurer. It is also based on the number of members on file as of May 31 and November 30.

While it is possible that a mistake has been made at either LCI, MD-13, or District 13-J, most problems arise when the club secretary has not kept the MMR up to date for the club. LCI does not know you have lost or gained a member unless the club secretary reports the change.

Making sure that your club is current with the MMR on a monthly basis should avoid most problems. For future questions, contact this year's 13-J Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer/PDG Jay Carey. See back page for contact info.

Environmentally Speaking

International President Tam has pledged that Lions will plant **ONE MILLION** trees during his year at the top.

Trees are important to our environment for many reasons, chief of which is that they are Mother Nature's air filter. Therefore, it is important for us to replace trees which are lost to timbering and disease. In Ohio, the threat to ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer brings this threat home.

Thus, 13-J is taking President Tam's pledge seriously and DG Georgia has set a goal of planting 1,400 trees in our district by June 30 next year. If that sounds like an overwhelming task, consider that if every Lion in 13-J would plant one new tree, we would meet our goal.

13-J Environmental Chair Amy Jenkins is coordinating this effort and has many good ideas to help achieve this goal including participating in a Cox Arboretum program in Dayton for clubs in that area along with the National Arbor Day Foundation programs. She also has information on how to become involved in the environmental photography contest, the Kans for Kamp Program, and Captain Recycle.

To find out more about these programs and/or to become involved with the district environmental committee, contact Amy at forestgreen1@earthlink.net





Power of Peace

2010-2011 Lions International Essay Contest Grand Prize Winner

By Amy Bosko, Age 12, Illinois, USA



There are three simple solutions to peace. The three solutions are, eliminating war, communication, and respecting people's differences.

Many of our loved ones have died in wars. And regardless of where one is from, we can all agree that death is a tragedy that can be avoided. Soldiers are risking their lives and leaving families in fear wondering whether or not they will return home safely. There is a vast amount of people from various countries who have no food or shelter. Meanwhile, we are disputing over unnecessary topics such as race, money, and cultural differences, which leads to war! People should not be judged by who they are, what they have, or what they believe in. For instance, I am a 12 year old who has to cope with and accept my disability of being blind. I wouldn't want people to judge me for only that. I am no different than anyone else.

Everyone needs to put forth an effort to communicate in order to avoid conflict. Without communication, it would be very challenging to come together as one, and promote world peace. It takes a team effort to make the world a peaceful place. It's encouraging how the world works together in a synergistic union to make the world part of a more peaceful universe. If we don't respect people's differences, then we can't have peace. You can't just look at somebody and judge them because they are different. For example, if your best friend suddenly became terminally ill, offer them moral support and try to see things through their perspective. This might inspire you to treat them more equally. Most people who are different are more aware with their other senses. I am blind. However, I have senses that make me see a clear vision for world peace. I can hear the laughter of families floating across the borders of all countries. Laughter and communication skills are universal languages. I can taste the various foods from across the globe, blending seamlessly together, making their way to the less fortunate. I can smell the clean air from everywhere knowing that everyone needs air to breath and would enjoy feasting on the various aromas weaved throughout the world. Most importantly, I can feel the sense and feel the power of peace when I meet a stranger and offer a peaceful greeting without being judgmental. People are different. People have much to offer, whether it be an act of kindness or discovering a cure for an illness. Joined together, different types of people are a powerful force and could inspire the world to function more successfully and peacefully. I may be blind, but I have the power to promote peacefulness on a daily basis.



All the things that I have mentioned should be practiced on a daily basis. If we all put our best foot forward, then the world would be a better place. So, as you can see, if we try to avoid wars, communicate more, and respect people's differences, we would have a more peaceful environment.



Upcoming Zone Meetings

Help your club succeed. Attend your Zone Meeting listed as below. Here is the date, meeting and meal times, location, and meal cost per zone. Watch for information from your Zone Chair for reservation information. **IT'S IMPORTANT! If you make a reservation, you must pay, present or not!**

- Zone 1: 8/ 25 Meal: 6:30; Mtg: 7:15 PM Spring Valley (Senior Center, 498 W. Spring Valley-Paintersville Road) \$10
 Zone 2: 8/16 Meal 6:30 ; Mtg: 7:15PM; The Crown Room, 1801 Columbus Avenue, Washington C.H. \$12
 Zone 3: 8/17 Social 6:00; Meal 6:30; Mtg 7:00 First United Methodist Church, 405 South St, Greenfield, \$10
 Zone 4: 8/24 Meal: 6:30 Ripley Life Squad Bldg, 799 S Second St Cost TBD
 Zone 5: 8/15 Meal 6:30; Mtg 7:15 PM Lions Den, Chillicothe \$10
 Zone 6: 8/ 29 Meal 6:00; Mtg 6:45 Ponderosa Steak House, 601 E Main St, Jackson Order from menu
 Zone 7: 8/ 18 Meal & Mtg 6:30, Portsmouth Holiday Inn, 702 Second St, Meal: baked steak or chicken w/ 2 sides, \$12



Spreading the Word

Mike Hathaway, 13-J PR Chair
 deemike1@roadrunner.com

August starts the second month of this Lions year. We had a successful training and information session in Washington C.H., June 18. Several clubs shared information about their PR programs and we all gained some fresh ideas to enhance our club's PR efforts.

One topic of particular interest was club newsletters. All agreed that timely and interesting newsletters serve several purposes for a club: upcoming events and projects can be underscored, and club members recognized. If a member misses a meeting, he or she can check

the newsletter to stay current. Finally, a newsletter serves as a good historical record of club activities. Some clubs use e-mail, others U.S. mail or a combination of both. It is always a good idea to post a copy of the current newsletter at the club's meeting site.

Check the Ohio Lions website at www.ohiolions.org as referred to on Page 1. The "Resource Center" gives a wealth of topics and information. Near the bottom of the page click on "Club and District PR Tools", then scroll down to "PR Reference &

First Cabinet Meeting August 14



Place: 24 Wagon Wheel Circle
 Lake Waynoka
 Meal: 1:00 PM
 Bring a covered dish and table service
 Soft drinks and meat will be provided
 Meeting: 2:00 PM
 ALL Cabinet Members should plan to attend and bring a report which contains your goals for this year. If you cannot attend, notify DG Georgia ASAP.

Training Materials". There are over a dozen topics regarding PR, both internal and external. All offer good information.

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