



13-J NEWS

We're Proud of Our Pride!



JULY 2008

Remember the Vision
The theme for 13J for the 2008-2009 Lion year is "Remember the Vision." What vision am I talking about remembering? Helen Keller had a vision when she challenged the Lions of the world in 1925 to become Knights of the Blind. She revealed this vision during a speech to the Lions Club International Convention in 1925. At that time the organization was searching for a new direction from a fraternal organization to become a more purposeful focus for their energy.

It is a sad fact that many people and even many Lions do not know much about this remarkable woman who changed the focus and future of our organization by her simple challenge. When I was a young

girl everyone knew about Helen Keller. She was one of the most admired and respected people in the world. She was rich in life experiences which she shared all over the world in her efforts to make life better for the blind and the deaf.

Helen Keller was born on June 27, 1880 in Tuscumbia, Alabama. She was able to see and hear as a young child. In February 1882 when she was less than two years old she became ill and lost both her sight and hearing. It wasn't until she was six, that her family met Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, who recommended that they contact the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston for help for Helen. They sent their star pupil and valedictorian, Anne Sullivan in March 1887.

A month later a "miracle" breakthrough

was made when she was able to teach Helen to spell water at the family's water pump. And then Helen knew that things had names! A year later Helen had made so much progress that she visited President Grover Cleveland at the Whitehouse and the Perkins Institute in Boston. And so began her public life at the age of eight.

She graduated with honors from Radcliff with a Bachelor of Arts degree in June, 1904.

Ann Sullivan remained at her side as her helper and tutor until Anne's death in 1936. In October 1914 Polly Thomson joined their household and the three of them traveled the world together raising awareness of the deaf and blind.

In 1920 Helen and Anne began a vaudeville career speaking and answering questions

from the stage. In a letter to Henry Ford on September 9, 1922, Helen wrote about Anne. "Ever since she took my hand on the doorstep of my home, she has been not only my eyes and ears, but also a light in all dark places, a bond between me and the life of the world."

Helen began working for the American Foundation for the Blind in October 1924. In 1925 she spoke to the Lions of the world. She traveled to more than fourteen countries before 1946. Among them were Japan, Korea, Greece, Iceland, Australia and New Zealand. All are can be difficult trips even today with jet airplanes! Between 1946 and 1957 she visited 35 countries on 5 continents. She visited with blind and deaf soldiers during and after World War I and World War II.

During her lifetime she wrote many books about her life. Two documentaries, at least two movies and a Broadway play were based on her life. President Lyndon Johnson conferred the

Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, upon Helen. Helen retired from public life in October 1961. She died June 1, 1968. She is buried at the National Cathedral along with Anne and Polly.

Helen said, "A person who is severely impaired never knows his hidden sources of strength until he is treated like a normal human being and encouraged to shape his own life." And in 1930 she said, "Anyone can be happy, whatever one's lot may be, if one has a reasonable, steadfast faith. What really matters is the will to meet with courage the difficulties of life."

I am asking each Lion of 13J to remember this inspiring woman during this Lion year. We can all dedicate ourselves to remembering her vision for the Lions of the world and become true "Knights of the Blind." You can read more about Helen Keller in the June 2008 issue of the Lion magazine.

Governor's Goals for 2008-2009

1. Double club participation in the Peace Poster Contest from ten posters in 2007 to twenty posters in 2009.
2. Charter two new Lions Clubs.
3. All clubs be current with all dues by the District Convention.
4. By January 1, 2009, District 13J will have fifty new members and by June 30, 2009 the district will have an additional fifty new members.
5. Establish a District Leo Club of the Year Award.

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Zone Meetings in

August are schedule as

follows:

August 12 Zone 6

August 14 Zone 7

August 18 Zone 4

August 20 Zone 5

August 21 Zone 1

August 27 Zone 3

August 28 Zone 2

Cabinet Meetings for

the year:

July 19-Mini Cabinet
in Jackson

August 10-1st Cabinet
in Jackson

November 9-2nd
Cabinet, location to be
announced

February 22 -3rd
Cabinet, location to be
announced

March 14-4th Cabinet,
at District Convention
in Jackson

May 16-District
Caucus in Dublin at the
State Convention

**DON'T LEAVE IT
FOR YOUR
NEXT OF KIN,
DONATE THAT
PIN**

Got a classic pin (State – Prestige, Regular or Mini's) sitting around in a drawer, stuck to a vest in the back of the closet, or still in the plastic wrap it came in just lying around the house? Don't leave it for your next of kin; donate that pin to the "2009 MD-13 Convention Collectible Pin Raffle." Whether it is only one or a handful, every donation will help

defray the cost of the next state convention which will be a milestone in Ohio Lionism as it will be our 90th Anniversary.

Current Governors and PDGs are encouraged to also donate their personal pins to the collection. All duplicate pins will be auctioned off during the convention as an additional fundraising endeavor. Everyone attending Ohio Lions functions over the coming year will have an opportunity to watch the collection grow in size leading up to the May 15-17, 2009 weekend drawing and auction in Dublin, Ohio.

Pin donations will be graciously accepted by PDG Marty Savage, who is heading up this project. Envelopes should be marked "2009 MD-13 Convention" and mailed to PDG Marty at PO Box 108, Thornville, Ohio 43076. All questions should be sent to the e-mail address of moedadd@hotmail.com

More information on tickets sales will be forthcoming. Start hunting for those rare, one-of-a-kind or unique MD-13 classic pins today!

*Submitted by PDG
George Bachman & Lion
Ron Keller,
Co-Chairs of the 2009
MD-13 Convention Host
Committee*



We welcome all submissions to the newsletter. Please email or snail mail your articles by the 20th of each month to:
lthorne61@hotmail.com or
Laura Thorne
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Jackson, OH
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July08
Debbie's
Dateline

I am so excited about this new Lion's year! I have goals to meet. I get to visit all your clubs. We have the opportunity to participate in the new International President's theme, Miracles through Service. I will be learning more about President Al Brandel's ideas about service during the International Convention in Thailand. He has written about service and its value in the June Lion Magazine.

"It is in giving that we receive. Longtime Lions know this. The privilege of service is indeed ours. Helping others gives us a good feeling inside and changes us for the better. Service is not a chore. It is not an obligation. It's

something we look forward to, something that enriches our lives."

Often when we approach a potential new member we have them tell us that they are just too busy. Yet if you were to ask them what keeps them so busy you may discover that they have many activities and obligations that fill their time. What they are doing does fill their time but is any of that time producing service to others? We need to inspire others with what Lions do for others. Only then will they see the value in becoming a member of your Lions Club.

A friend of ours saw my husband, John, emptying the Lions' collection box for recycling eyeglasses and she asked what happens to the glasses. Wow, what an opportunity to share. So we explained about the work of Student VOSH at the OSU School of Optometry. She was very impressed that Lions then send the reconditioned glasses overseas. She had tears in her eyes and thought the work was

wonderful. Now she is on my list of potential new members. Why not ask her now? Well the Jackson Lions Club takes a break during July and August so the timing is not right

DG Debbie's Tentative Schedule:

All visits will be confirmed by phone call or email.

July 1-6 China
July 9 Waverly
July 15 Bellbrook Lioness
July 16 Bellbrook
July 19 Mini Cabinet Jackson
July 21 Portsmouth
July 24 Frankfort
July 26 Lions night at Cleveland Indians

Aug. 1-3 Council of Governors
Aug. 5 Ironton noon
Aug. 5 Chesapeake
Aug. 7 Manchester
Aug. 9 Grove City training
Aug. 10 Cabinet Meeting Jackson
Aug. 12 Zone 6
Aug. 14 Zone 7
Aug. 16 Bellbrook Festival
Aug. 18 Zone 4
Aug. 19 Martinsville
Aug. 2 Zone 5
Aug. 21 Zone 1
Aug. 27 Zone 3

Aug. 28 Zone 2

Announcing something new for the Leos of 13J!

In the new district directory clubs and advisors will find the details of a new contest. This contest is to identify the Leo Club of the Year for our District. Leo Clubs will self report on a form that will be available in January 2009. The contest is designed to reward the active Leo Club for their community work and for their activities with their sponsoring Lion Club. The new directory will be available at the first round of Zone Meetings in August.

The Importance of Zone Meetings

Zone Meetings are for all Lions. They are important networking opportunities for the clubs in the zone to learn about other club's projects and upcoming events. They are also opportunities to discuss problems and get advice from others.

When I am installing officers the secretary

and president make involves agreeing to attend zone meetings. Why is this important enough to include in installing officers? We learn from others. District information comes from the cabinet to the clubs at the zone meetings. Best of all information from the clubs goes out to others.

Zone Meeting dates are listed in this newsletter. Make plans now to attend your Zone Meeting in August.

Challenge to Visit

Club visitations are encouraged in the District Governor's Contest. It is not difficult to visit another club. Gather three or more of the Lions in your club and select a club to visit. Call ahead to make reservations and to confirm the meeting is being held. Car pool and attend the meeting. The more the merrier. You may start something. Soon your club may have visitors from another club. If you want to visit before you get your new directory call your Region Chair for club information so you will know the new officer's contact information. Region One Chair is PDG Jay Carey and Region Two Chair is VDG Charles Newland.

Region One Chair Appointed
Past District Governor Jay Carey has been appointed Region One Chairman. Last year 13J searched for a Deputy District

Governor. No candidate was located. District Governor Debbie Lloyd has appointed PDG Jay Carey to serve as Region One Chair until a Deputy District Governor can be appointed. If you are qualified and interested in this position then you should contact DG Debbie as soon as possible. A well qualified candidate will have served 13J as a club president, zone chair for two years and have a letter of support from their home club. It is also preferred that the candidate served on the District Cabinet for at least an additional year.

Workshop opportunity
A workshop for those Lions that want to receive training to become a certified Guiding Lion is being planned for August 16 and 17 probably in Grove City. These Lions will learn how to guide new clubs into becoming successful chartered clubs. They will spend the first two years guiding the new club. This is an exciting possibility for growth as a Lion. This is an opportunity to grow in knowledge and service.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

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REGION 1 CHAIR

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CABINET

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Carol Downton (David)