

**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 26-M6 OF MISSOURI
Cabinet Meeting
October 13, 2012**

MINUTES OF MEETING:

District Governor Walter Hamer called the second Cabinet Meeting of the year to order at 10:00 A.M. at the Freistatt Lions Club Building in Freistatt, MO. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for the giving of their time to further the work of our district. He asked everyone to make sure their cell phones were off or muted and said if he heard a phone ring the fine would be \$5.00.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 2nd VDG Peter Frantzen and PDG Bob Kitsmiller led us in singing a patriotic song. The invocation was given by 1st VDG Nick Paulin.

Appointment of Tail Twister:

DG Walter appointed Lion Junior Nease to serve as tail twister for this meeting and said he expected that there would be a lot of money collected today.

Protocol for Meeting:

PCC Steve Wise, our C & BL's chairperson, established protocol for the meeting. He explained the purpose for this procedure was to recognize current officers of the district and the PDGs so that speakers following would not feel obligated to continually repeat acknowledgement of those Lions. He asked all Past District Governors to stand to be recognized.

Roll Call and Attendance:

Cabinet Secretary Dave Harris called the roll of the cabinet. There were 26 Cabinet Members present plus 2 Past District Governors who hold no specific chair positions. A total of 44 Lions signed the attendance sheet.

Introductions:

DG Walter asked that each Lion stand and introduce themselves stating their home club, office held and any other information about themselves they cared to disclose.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the July 14, 2012 cabinet meeting were approved, as previously distributed, upon a motion by PDG Cliff Curtis, PDG Zana Botzow seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer's Report was given by our Cabinet Treasurer, PDG Bill Botzow. The Administrative Account as of 10/12/12 shows year to date income of \$12,665.00 and YTD expenses of \$9,234.86 leaving net income at \$3,430.14. The Summary of Accounts shows the total of all accounts at \$33,312.05 which includes Disaster Relief Funds in the amount of \$10,591.48. Upon a motion by PDG Cliff Curtis and a second by PDG Debbie Whittlesey, the Treasurers report was approved.

District Governor Remarks/Report:

It is great to be a Lion! Lion Karen and I discovered again how exciting Lionism is when we went to the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Tampa, Florida. We were motivated, challenged, instructed, and inspired about what is being done and what the future holds. There really is nothing as invigorating as fellowshiping with Lions from around our nation and continent. Please make it your goal next year to attend the forum at Overland Park, Kansas, in September of 2013.

I have started my visits to clubs in this wonderful district. As the fall season comes upon us it is a joy to watch the leaves change and feel the refreshing chill in the air. Many of your clubs will be active with fall fundraising events. Karen and I would love to be a part as a customer or even better, as a fellow Lion worker. But if you don't get the information out, we can't share in your programs. Surely other Lions from the district would also like to be engaged. So keep Lions Cathy Purvis and Gordon Wellman and the district officers informed.

October is membership growth month and I have challenged each club to have a net growth of one member. Certainly, unless your club is made up of all the residents in your area, you can find one person this month to become a Lion. As I said in the newsletter, that is one more set of hands to help with the work; one more mind to present new ideas to strengthen the club; and one more person to develop as a club leader. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have 55 new Lions active in our district? That is almost the total number of members we took in over the past twelve months. Just one new member!

Of course that assumes you do not lose any members. Each member that goes out the back door increases the number of new members you must reach to have a net increase. So retention of our present members is key to club growth. We have no control over members who move away or who pass away. But we can do much more to deal with members we drop from our rolls for inactivity and non-payment of their dues.

There are two things we need to generally do to help retain members. The first is meaningful service, which includes fund raising activities and community projects. People want to make a difference in the world and this is even truer for Lions. Folks join because of our motto being put into visible action. Projects that make a difference in the community become sugar to the fly that wants to be significant in the world. This means inviting the community to join you in your projects and it means good use of public media to let the community know what you are doing.

The second thing needed to help retain members is good, interesting club meetings. A good tail twister is key to club morale. A planned agenda is important for a smooth meeting. And an interesting program will draw members to attend.

Your best sources of programs are the Lions who serve on sight, hearing, youth, Leader Dog, and many other agencies. We also have on-field professionals at MLERF and Vision Centers. But in your own community you have government and school officials, coaches, debate students, people that travel, have interesting hobbies, and representatives from civic groups. Make the meeting worth coming to and encourage your members to be present to make it worth the speaker's time and effort.

On a more personal level, you need to let people know they are important to your club. When a member misses a meeting, let them know they were missed with a phone call, email, postcard, or note. If a member keeps missing, make a personal call to find out what's up. Be sure to give an invitation to work projects to members who don't attend meetings.

Certainly you can find other ways to let people know they are important to your club. The key is to keep all your members active, interest, and involved. By this way you will keep your club strong.

I want to give a little recognition to one of our strong clubs. Over the past twelve months they have had a net growth of nine members. They are not in a big city, but are a typical rural Missouri town. But they are active in their town with bingo nights, fish fries, community events. Soon they will be hosting a special basket ball event. I presented to the Miller Club the "Way to Go Deeper" award.

Let us all step up to make our clubs stronger by first retaining our present members and then growing through new member recruitment. Let's keep going deeper in Lionism.

Governor's Privilege:

DG Hamer presented Certified Guiding Certificates to several Lions who took that training last February at the Mid Winter Forum. He presented Guiding Lion Certificates to PCC Steve Wise, PDG Zana Botzow, PDG Debbie Whittlesey and PDG Bob Crump. He also announced that a Guiding Lion Medal has been awarded to Lion Richard Sturgeon for his service as a Guiding Lion to the Mountain Grove Lions Club. Lion Richard worked with that new club for two years and it continues on as a strong club. Also, please note the "Going Deeper" award above, in the Governor's remarks, given to the Miller Lions Club.

First Vice District Governor:

First of all, I'd like to thank the Freistatt Lions for hosting this meeting.

Those of you who haven't read the September District Newsletter are probably wondering where I've been.

As I most of you know, Noma and I have moved from Eagle Rock to Battlefield, and I am in the process of transferring my membership to the Republic Lions.

In July Noma and I took family visit trips to Louisville, Kentucky, and Colorado Springs, Colorado. In between those trips, I attended the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute in Crete, Nebraska.

August and September I attended the Lions Weekend visit to The Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills, Michigan, and we attended the USA/Canada Forum in Tampa, Florida.

In addition to getting up to speed with the activities of my prospective new club and participating in District Convention Planning Committee meetings, I attended two zone meetings, and look forward to attending more in the next few months.

So much for the past! Next week I will visit the Seymour Lions, and in two weeks will be at the Council of Governor's at Lake Ozark the 26th and 27th.

Over the next several months, I will be working to outline my theme for the 2013-2014 year, and seeking to fill District Cabinet positions.

LCI has scheduled training for 1 VDGs for January 4th and 5th in Dallas.

Second Vice District Governor:

Good morning fellow lions. This is my first visit here, (to Freistatt) and I am looking forward to the meeting.

First let me tell what I have been doing. I went to a Zone meeting at Half-way, and at Marshfield. Both meeting had a nice turn out. I also attended a youth activity meeting in Springfield; this was concerned with our Basketball game. I have attended two convention planning meeting also in Springfield. I went to Ava's 75th anniversary; they probably had 80 or 90 people. I was on my way to Seymour's Zone meeting, but I feel short. My dentist introduced me to oral surgery, I still have not recovered. It has not too bad, if you like Mac & Cheese and Jell-O. I am planning attending the Council of Governors Meeting October the 27 at the Lake of the Ozarks.

I am somewhat of a history buff, and I have an interesting story. A few weeks ago a Lion stopped at a garage sale, and she ran across this photo album and bought it for me for .25c. The album covers the Forsyth Lions Club from 1994 to 1996, and it shows my father receiving his Melvin Jones Award July 1996 and his 32 year award for 100 % attendance, and a picture of my mother, father and myself. My father passed away in Sept 96.

If your Club does not have a photo album, I would strongly recommend you start one. If you do keep it up to date.

Special Report –“Champions of Change”:

PDG Debbie Whittlesey told about her trip to the White House in Washington, DC to receive her “**CHAMPION OF CHANGE**” award. Lion Debbie was nominated to receive this award by our Lions International President Wayne Madden for her immeasurable work with the Joplin Tornado by obtaining grants to help the victims, working in the cleanup efforts weekend after weekend, administering the funds that came to the District from other Lions Clubs as well as organizing the events for a visit from then LCIF Chair, Immediate Past President of Lions International, Sid Scruggs and his wife, Lion Judy, along with a team from the LCIF office. This is not to mention her leadership abilities which showed in every facet of the District's efforts. She also was instrumental in obtaining emergency funding for the tornado victims in the Branson – Kimberling City that same year.

PDG Debbie said that the White House visit “scared her to death” but those who have seen the video thought she handled it very well.

Vision Center of the Ozarks – Grant Request:

The director of the Vision Center, Lion Wendy Jackson had been invited to our meeting to tell about the center and the need it is facing. She told us what they do at the center and the growth they have seen in the short time they have been in operation. The low vision services department gets a lot of use and so far this year, they have seen 445 patients; most of them come from the 4-state area. Lion Wendy said their most pressing need was to add another exam room since, at the current time, they have only one. She asked that our District to endorse the application for a grant from LCIF in the amount of \$89,000.00 to build another exam room at the center.

Since Lion Wendy had to leave before the end of the meeting Governor Walt called for action on the request. During discussion it was determined that we needed to recognize the center as an official District M6 project.

PCC Jim Tesreau made a motion that District 26-M6 establishes the Vision Center of the Ozarks in Springfield, MO, an official project of our District. PDG James Rosbrugh seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was then made by PDG Jim Wilson that the Cabinet endorse a grant application, on behalf of the Vision Center of the Ozarks, in the amount of \$89,000.00 to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). PDG Zana Botzow seconded the motion and it passed.

Correspondence:

A Thank You card from the Lebanon Host Lions Club was read. It was to thank the District Lions for their support of the Diabetes Seminar that they will be partnering with the Lebanon Mercy Hospital in a few weeks. There were a couple more communiqués to the District, thanking our Lions for their support.

REGION CHAIRPERSON REPORTS:

North Region – Lion Jennie Mosher:

On August 6th we had a combined Zone A and Zone B meeting = a Region meeting at the Half Way Lions Club. We had a good exchange of ideas from all the Lions in attendance. District Governor Walt and 2nd VDG Peter were in attendance. The Half Way Lions Club provided our meal for the evening, many Thanks to the Club for hosting our Region meeting.

PDG James W. Rosbrugh has scheduled his second Zone Meeting for Monday 10/15/2012.

Zone B second zone meeting will be hosted by Lebanon Host Lions on October 29th, 2012 at Dowd's Catfish House located on Elm Street (6:30 - 8:30 PM). The Lebanon Host Lions Club will have a silent bake sale auction to raise funds for their administrative account.

Since the last cabinet meeting I have been working with the Lebanon Evening Club to develop a plan for increasing their membership from 7 to 35 (that was the number of new members they wanted to target).

Other Club visits have been scheduled so I can deliver the new District Directories during the next 2 months.

South East Region – Lion Sharon Morris: No Report

North West Region – Lion Craig Lehman: No Report

Central Region – Vacant Position:

South West Region – Lion Leroy Potter:

I attended Zone A meeting but I failed to attend the Zone B meeting.

I have visited the following Region Clubs since July 1st, 2012; Carthage (twice), Diamond, Joplin Host (my home club), Monett, Seligman and Granby.

In addition, I have visited the following District Clubs and events: Lamar, Aurora, Sarcoxie, Lockwood, Arcola, El Dorado Springs, Golden City, Lamar Fair Parade (entry), Miller Fish Fry, Miller Harvest Days Parade (entry was a 2nd place winner.)

ZONE CHAIRPERSON REPORTS:

NO Reg. – Zone -A – Vacant Position:

NO Reg. – Zone B – PDG James W. Rosbrugh:

Zone A-NE joined with Zone B for a combined Region/Zone meeting at the Lions Community Building in Halfway on August 6th • Zone B was well represented, Zone A, not quite so much.

The meeting went well; Governor Walt gave a very thorough update on the happenings on the district, and some of his plans for the coming year.

In the Region/Zone forum, we discussed the importance of Lions participation beyond the club level, especially at Zone and District events. The host club, Halfway will complete fifty years of Charter in January 2013, and may likely wish to celebrate the occasion. We need to encourage them in their endeavor.

The next Zone A meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p. m. on Monday, October 15th hosted by the El Dorado Springs Lions.

To date, I have visited only the Weaubleau Club; they are struggling some for members, but are not ready to quit. They are also approaching fifty years. I asked if they were planning a Charter Night. The idea had not occurred to them, but they thought it might be fun. They are the majority supporters of the Weaubleau Fire Department and host a Pig Roast for their annual fundraiser. The date had not been set the evening I visited, but will most likely be Sunday, November 11th. We need to encourage them and keep them active.

SE Reg. – Zone A – Lion Jon Mendenhall: No Report

SE Reg. – Zone B – PDG Bob Crump:

Zone Clubs: Ava, Grovespring, Hartville, Mansfield, Mtn. Grove and Seymour.

The first zone meeting was held on August 28, 2012 in Seymour with 13 in attendance. District Governor Walt Hamer and First Vice District Governor Nick Paulin were also in attendance. Clubs in zone continue to work on various projects both of fundraiser and service. Information was presented so clubs would make appropriate filings to IRS and secretary of state. Also stressed was the importance of using a club calendar of events, club budgets, and reminder of increase of Int'l Dues as of July 1. Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 30, 6:00 p.m. at the Rusty Spurs Cafe in Seymour. Meeting will start at 6:30.

NW Reg. – Zone A – PDG Dean Westbay: No Report

NW Reg. – Zone B – Lion Ron Baldwin: No Report

CEN. Reg. – Zone A. – Lion Judy Young:

The Central Zone A met at the Heritage Cafeteria at 6:00 for dinner and 6:30 to start the meeting. The meeting was opened by the Springfield Host Lions who were the hosts for the meeting. Prayer was led by Lion Shirley Scott of the Christian County Lions Club.

They discussed and agreed to take part in the renovation of the Ferris Wheel that had been at Doling Park years ago. This is pending on Springfield Greene County Parks Dept. buying it from a person in Neosho. Each club in the zone agreed to start the fund with \$100.00 and then there would be fundraising to complete the renovation. This project was presented by the Springfield Alpha Lions Club President Lion Phyllis Lovett.

Reports from each club in the zone:

Republic: Camp Barnabus, cooking breakfast for the community kitchen, Helped Host Lions at the duck pond.

Christian County: 35 members at 2 years old, club garage sale, helped Host Lions at the duck pond.

Springfield Host: Duck Pond, collected used eye glasses, they adopted 4th grade classes at the Delaware and Hickory Hills grade schools for the 10th year.

Springfield Queen City: Collected used eye glasses, Amblyopia screening, Ozark Empire Fair selling tickets and working with low vision clinic and a golf tournament. **Spring Evening:** worked the fair and collected eye glasses.

Springfield Alpha: Clean Bennett Street between National and Glenstone, Working on the Ferris wheel.

We discussed work projects and service projects and passed out a list sent out from LCI as well as some marketing ideas also from LCI.

This zone meeting had 100 % attendance from the 6 clubs. Next zone meeting is October 29, 2012 at Mr. Yens in Springfield hosted by Springfield Queen City.

CEN. Reg. – Zone B – Lion Junior Nease:

A zone meeting was held on 9-12-2012 at the Marshfield Lions Club Building with 2 clubs in attendance. Marshfield had 15 members present and Elkland had 11 Lions present. Clubs not attending were Fairgrove, Willard and Rogersville.

We had two guest speakers; PDG Debbie Whittlesey talked about her experiences while attending the International Convention in Busan, South Korea this year. Also, 2nd VDG Peter Frantzen spoke to us.

Lion Eldon Moore president of the Elkland Lions club gave a report on some of their projects and Lion Kevin Cantrell president of the Marshfield Lions reported on their Pancake Day project.

SW Reg. – Zone A: - Lion Chris Howard:

We held our first Zone meeting at the Joplin Host Lions club building on August 4th with the following in attendance, Lion President Mike Brower of the Carl Junction Lions Club, Lion President Randy Holzwarth and Secretary Lion Nellie Holzwarth from the Carthage Lions Club and Lion President Leroy Potter, First Vice President Lion Doris Carson, and Secretary Lion Cheryle Howard from the Joplin Host Lion Club. No Lions were present from the Diamond Lions Club. I received reports from the clubs of different fundraising events they would be doing in the future and will put these into schedule to be distributed through the district. Carthage's biggest event is coming up on October 20th and is the annual Maple Leaf festival. The club runs concessions for the Maple Leaf car show and has asked for help in manning the concession stand Joplin Host intends to have at least 4 or more volunteers. Anyone wishing to help can contact President Randy Holzwarth at 417-850-5933. Our next tentative Zone meeting will be in Carthage on October the 27th. Carthage is a very small club and can definitely use our Districts help at this event and any other help we can offer them in recruitment of new membership.

Carl Junction reported that they will be having their quarterly pancake feed in August and that they also will be having their concession booth at the annual Bluegrass Festival on Sept 22 and the Fall Hotdog Sales at Atwood's in Webb City on Oct 13th. I was able to attend the September 27th Club meeting where it was reported that the club had a successful Bluegrass Festival. On October 25th the Leos club of Carl Junction would be having a wiener roast and was inviting the Carl Junction Club members to attend. A report was given of the upcoming Peace Poster contest and plans for implementing it in the Carl Junction School District. The Clubs Next Pancake breakfast is set for November 3rd and will be at the Carl Junction City Center.

The Joplin Host Lions Club; They would be running the concessions for the upcoming National Fireworks Display on September 5th thru the 8th and serving a Pancake breakfast for a fly-in at the Joplin Airport on Sept 29th. District Governor Walter Hamer visited the Club's meeting on October 4th and presented plans for the upcoming new Club drive in Joplin in October. A discussion of increasing present membership versus a new club that possibly could hinder such increase was had. Plans were also discussed of the Tree planting in April by the District at the site of the new Irving School. Preliminary plans were also discussed for doing the concessions for 2013 Joplin Chambers of Commerce Expo event in January. Announcement of the upcoming District cabinet meeting had promises from several members to attend.

My own opinions of my Zone are that you have two strong clubs in my Zone. The Carthage Club really needs help in attracting new membership and as of so far I have not been able to contact the Diamond club to make any assessments but have heard that they also are in need of new members to revitalize that club.

SW Reg. – Zone B: - PDG Zana Botzow:

Zone B consists of five clubs including Monett, Cassville, Seligman, Granby and Neosho. I have visited all the clubs except Cassville and that was because either cancellation or a conflict of my dates. I have held a zone meeting at the Happy House Restaurant on September 24, 2012. Each club had and has a rotating responsibility to host, entertain or provide a lions program.

I visited Seligman Lions club on September 11, 2102. They inducted two new members getting their total out of the red on the club health assessment. I suggested that the secretary update their MMR, so that the officers who do not have email maybe could use a family members email. There were 10 out of the 15 members present at the meeting.

I visited Neosho Lions Club on September 14, 2102 with 20 of their 31 member attending. They hand out to visitors the club brochures which tell about projects including "Tour de Tick" bicycling tour, Chopper for Children a fundraiser for the Children Miracle Network. They have guest speakers. I suggested to the secretary to update the activity to get their club no red marks of the club health assessment.

I visited Granby Lions Club on September 13, 2012. There were 10 out of 15 members attending plus I had invited the Madison, Alabama Lions Club members to come along with me. Granby's projects include annual hearing van at East Newton School coming up the weekend after my visit; they are also trying a new membership drive approach putting a brochure type letter in the electric bill mailings. Update of the response will be later. The secretary needs to update the activity report.

I am also secretary for the Monett Lions club and of course we have been focused on Apple Butter (it's for sale today in Mt. Vernon). All the club health assessment is in the black. The membership stands at 50 members.

Our next zone meetings will be November 26 and March 25.

The Cabinet Meeting was recessed at this time and a 45 minute workshop was presented by PCC Jim Tesreau who is our District's Global Leadership Chairperson. The subject was "Communications" and Lion Jim said that we all do a lot of talking and that isn't always the problem. The problem is, "do we hear what is being said?" In other words everyone communicates but few of us connect. He told us how we could do a better job of speaking, listening and connecting. It was an interesting workshop which was presented with enthusiasm and expertise by PCC Jim who was a professional speaker and instructor before his retirement.

After the workshop, and a great lunch served by the Freistatt Lions Club, the meeting was called back to order by DG Walter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Alert – Lion Kevin Cantrell: Written Report – Lion Kevin said that he has sent some letters out explaining the Alert program on the local and district levels. He has offered to give programs to clubs. He will also be conducting a Red Cross Disaster Training session in Springfield and hopes that every club will send at least one person to take the information back to their club. A copy of his letter is attached to these minutes.

Athletic – PDG Sue Blakley, Chair: The Athletic committee met in Columbia on September 29, 2012 at the MLERF Building with only 3 of the districts attending.

Our newly elected State Chairperson will be PDG John Anderson. The 2013 All Star Game will be held in Warrensburg again with the game being played on July 20th.

After reviewing our financials and next year's budget we will be presenting MLERF a check for over \$ 15,000.00. The check will be given to MLERF at the Council of Governors by PDG Eldon Shipp this year State Athletic Chairperson.

An evaluation of how the districts individually are doing in raising funds and I am sorry to announce we are in the bottom only one District below us. Our District has got to improve! I am asking that each club in this district donate whatever you can I understand a lot of our clubs do not have football players but all clubs are around and close to schools that do have players so please help our young men.

For those of you who say, "Well they never have anyone from our club", the fact is the boy you want to play doesn't even have a chance if the coach from your school doesn't nominate him. If you know of someone you want to play in this wonderful game then go to that coach tell him you want him to nominate this boy to play. You cannot sit

around and wait for someone else to do it for you. These nominations can be made but understand when you have two coaches that need to form a 70 man team and they have 156 applications someone is not going to get to pay and that can't be helped. So please do your part to help by making a club donation. Go out in your community and ask for donations, and get that young man nominated.

PDG Sue closed by presenting awards to the clubs who sponsored players in this year's game and read some letters from parents and friends of some of the players expressing their appreciation.

Audit – 2nd VDG Peter Frantzen, Chair: No Report Needed

Band – Lion Nancy Eaves, Chair: **Lion Irene Voyles** The Missouri Lions Band Committee met Saturday September 15, 2012 at the lake home of PDG Ron Jordan. Band camp will start on June 22, 2013 for drums and flags. Ron Jordan continued with the discussion of the Southwest Missouri trip for 2013. The Southwest Trip will include a concert at Mt. Vernon Veteran's Home with the band staying at Ft. Crowder. The band will continue to Little Rock staying at Ft. Robinson. Plans are being made for sightseeing and concerts. The band will then travel to New Orleans, staying at Jackson Barracks. From there they will travel to Memphis and stay at a naval station. Another concert is planned at Cape Girardeau veterans home.

All-Star Basketball Classic: PDG Bob Crump, Chair: The 36th annual classic will be Saturday, June 8, at BBC in Springfield with the girl's game beginning at 6:30 p.m. I will be looking into the possibility of two new trial endeavors to increase attendance, visibility, and profits.

Basketball – Lions All-Star Twin Classic: PDG James W. Rosbrugh, Chair: Until this week, things were well underway for the 2013 Lions All-Star Twin Classic Basketball game. The five- member reconciliation team met to resolve the date conflict problem and decided to go with a same-date program with the All-Star Basketball Classic on June 8th and I communicated our decision to Doug Miller at Ozark Christian College. A week ago, I sent an updated copy of our Facilities Use Agreement, reconfirming the dates and use of their facility. On Wednesday, I received an e-mail stating they had added another basketball camp to their schedule, and that their facility was booked full for this summer.

We are currently searching for another location. My first contact will be with Crowder College in Neosho, the place where it all began. I refuse to let a thirty-four year tradition die without a fight. Yes, the Lions All-Star Twin Classic Basketball games are still planned for Saturday, June 8, 2012.

Constitution and By-Laws – PCC Steve Wise, Chair: At the last cabinet meeting, use of District Diabetes funds was approved for an education program. The question was raised regarding the local club and the requirement that they must match the funds approved as per the M6 Policy Manual. That requirement does indeed exist, though it has apparently been ignored. The Policy Manual has been set up to provide some structure in addition to the district constitution and by-laws with provisions that make it possible for change fairly easy if needed. A majority vote at a cabinet meeting is required to change policy with no requirement for notice. Any change is to take effect at the close of the cabinet meeting where approved. I would like to recommend that the following change be made:

Article XI: Special District Accounts

Section 1: District Diabetes Fund

The Diabetes Fund shall be a separate savings account maintained by the District Treasurer to deposit donations to the Diabetes Fund. Disbursements are made by the District Treasurer through the administrative checking account with two (2) signatures of properly bonded cabinet officers and report made at each cabinet meeting of the account balance and any activity since the last cabinet meeting of the account balance and any activity since the last cabinet meeting.

- (A) When District Diabetes funds are distributed as a grant "they shall be matched equally by" (remove words in red and add the underlined to read): "the club requesting the grant may be required to match the funds received".

I will be reviewing the constitution, by-laws, and policy manual the next few weeks, for revisions or corrections needed for cabinet action prior to the district convention. Please contact me regarding any changes you feel need to be made.

Convention Committee– PDG Bill Botzow, Chair: Your next **District Convention** will be held on March 15 & 16 in Springfield, MO. at the Howard Johnson Convention Center (formally the Clarion). The International Guest will be International Director Lion Stacey W. Jones and his wife Lion Mary from Norland Florida. We have completed two planning meetings and the next meeting will be November 7, 2012. The committee would like any suggestions that would improve the convention & submitted them to Lion Bill. You can also attend the meetings and help plan YOUR convention.

The committee requests your approval of the 2013 convention budget and the approval of having the convention at the Howard Johnson’s Hotel & Conference Center. The room rates will be \$ 69.00 + tax per night.

The registration form will be posted on the M6 web page soon. The tentative program will also be posted soon.

FUTURE STATE CONVENTIONS:

2013: Thursday, April 25-Sunday, April 28, 2013 Kansas City, MO. at the Holiday Inn SE.

2014: Thursday, April 24- Sunday April 27, 2014 -Sedalia, MO. at the Best Western State Fair Inn.

2015: Thursday, April 30- Sunday May 3, 2015 -Cape Girardeau, MO. at the Drury Lodge.

Cultural & Community – Lion Craig Lehman, Chair: No Report

Diabetes – Lion Sharon Morris, Chair: No Report

Environmental – Lion Jennie Mosher, Chair: The Lions Green Team is a great way to improve the environment and work with fellow Lions, Leos, and local community members doing a "hands-on" or high visibility service project. Need some ideas:

- Removing debris from roadway, waterway, nature trail, school or public areas.
- Cleaning up after a heavy rain or flood
- Raking leaves
- Removing graffiti from public buildings, bridges or fences
- Landscaping a public area

There are many more areas to help our local environment. Last year's tree planting program was a great success, but with the local area drought it appears we should continue to plant trees to replace the ones that did not survive during the past 16 months.

Another area for community service with very little cost is a local recycle day where the items being recycled can be anything from A to Z depending on your creativity.

Every Lions Club should have an environmental goal on their list for the 2012-2013 Lionistic year.

Family & Women’s Membership Development – Lion Alice Lewis: No Report

Global Leadership Team (GLT) – PCC Jim Tesreau, Chair: No written report but Lion Jim reviewed progress on the upcoming Mid-Winter Forum.

Global Membership Team (GMT) – Vacant Position: No Report

Hearing – PDG Jerry Young, Chair:

1. Hearing Sweepstakes tickets are to be distributed to all District M6 clubs through the Region and Zone chairs.
2. Ava, Republic and Mountain Grove Lions have conducted hearing screenings at local and nearby schools, using the portable audiometers.
3. Granby Lions conducted a screening using the Lions Hearing Van.

Helen Keller was DEAF as well as BLIND. Lions Clubs International has adopted Hearing as an International humanitarian program and has established programs to help the hearing impaired. Worldwide, hearing loss affects 278 million persons. In the United States, some 36 MILLION Americans have hearing loss - 7 million of whom cannot afford hearing tests and hearing aids.

Lions International Foundation has established the Affordable Hearing Aid Program as a way to help some of these persons. In Missouri, we have a partnership program where the local Lions work with the person needing a hearing aid, Missouri Lions Hearing Committee provides the cost of the AHAP hearing aid, and LCIF orders and provides the high quality digital behind the ear hearing aids.

Let me read you a letter our club received from a recipient: (read the letter here)

Several M6 Clubs have used this program. We have made a difference in a number of lives! The Missouri Hearing program, using the AHAP aids, is still in place but smaller because we aren't taking in as much money through the hearing sweepstakes - OUR ONLY SOURCE OF INCOME.

- 2011-12 M6 Lions sold/bought about \$2,800 in Sweepstakes tickets - just over 2 tickets per Lion in the District.
 - o We had the second lowest total in the State.
- Two Lions Clubs accounted for 37 of the total sales.
- 1/2 of the clubs did not contribute or sell a ticket - 2 of those used the portable audiometers.
- We need your help and your support to make the hearing program viable - we are asking every LION to participate by selling and buying tickets.
- The committee is making changes to be more economical
 - o Cancelling the State Fair Hearing screening to save about \$1,800 in space rent
 - o Reduced the amount of prizes to better fit our income
 - o All prizes are CASH - no savings bonds in the future.
- I will provide an envelope with tickets and instructions for each club. If that club is not here today, I will give the envelope to the Region or Zone chairman. If you don't have yours yet, please see me.

Call me if I can help or answer any questions. I will be glad to do a personal appearance at your Zone meeting to make this pitch to your clubs if I am invited.

Thank You for your help in making this a banner year for helping the hearing impaired.

Hobo Day – PDG Howard Hawkins, Chair: No Report

Honorary Committee (PDGs) – PDG Zana Botzow, Chair: The second meeting of the district honorary committee for 2012- 2013 was held in the Chamber of Commerce meeting room in Eldorado Springs, Missouri on October 5, 2012. There were eight Past District Governors, three Lion guests. The members enjoyed pork tenderloin, baked beans two types of salads, rolls, drinks and HUGE cookies provided by the Eldorado Springs Lions Club.

A traditional business meeting was held. Minutes of the last meeting were approved. We have \$1,768.78 in the account. PDG Charlie encouraged members to paid dues and/or also to consider the lifetime membership. The group was reminded that anyone seeking an office of DG, 1 VDG or 2VDG should have letter of intent filed before thirty days prior to the convention.

Champion of Change recipient PDG Debbie was unable to attend having taken all vacation time for her trip to Washington D.C. She had to work ... but her award was discussed. Debbie is one of 11 Lions across the United States to be selected to receive Champion of Change. Congratulations, Debbie!!!

Discussion whether D.O.I.T. (District Organization Information Team) can be used as a seminar at the district convention. This is intended for those in the district offices.

Dates to remember were discussed. The next meeting will be January 11, 2013 at Smith's restaurant in Bolivar, Missouri. This concludes my report.

Information & Technology – PDG Stuart Payne, Chair: No report

LBOMB – Lion Bob Stewart, Chair: Changes continue to occur in the LBOMB financial situation. With the changes in the 2013 budget we project going from a loss of \$151,000 to a profit of \$122,000.

Those changes include:

- Closing the Capital cafeteria
- State agrees to pay the first \$50,000 in machine repairs
- Blind Vendor Vacation pay eliminated

Blind Vendor Annual meeting expense reduction in the following areas:

- No open bar
- No cash drawings after each meeting session
- No expensive professional entertainment at banquet
- Lower cost meeting location

These changes and a new aggressive involved LBOMB Board will allow this program to continue serving the Missouri blind for many years to come.

LCIF – PCC Jim Tesreau, Chair: No written report, but Lion Jim thanked all the clubs and individuals who have made donations to LCIF and reminded us that any individual, Lion or not, can make donations to LCIF. Those funds may be applied toward a Melvin Jones Fellowship, if desired.

Leader Dog – Lion Phil Krebs, Chair: No report.

Leos – Lion Katie Smith, Chair: Carl Junction Leo Club: The Carl Junction Leo Club currently has 28 active members. New members will be inducted on November 2nd. They have currently been involved in fundraisers at the Carl Junction Bluegrass Festival, the Carl Junction PTO Harvest Moon Festival, and the Carl Junction City Wide Yard Sale. A new "service project rotation" has been implemented where Leos rotate through different service projects each month. This month, for the service rotation, the club is volunteering at the Carl Junction Residential Center, the Joplin Humane Society, and Watered Gardens (a homeless shelter where the Leos are serving a meal). They also participated in the Carl Junction Breast Cancer Walk, helped with the Carl Junction Bright Futures food drive, volunteered at the Joplin Association for the Blind's Beeper Ball Tournament, and volunteered at the CJ Bright Futures Backpack Program. They have also made donations to the CJ Breast Cancer fund and to the Shrine Club (to buy hats for children burn victims at the Shrine Hospital). The Carl Junction Leo Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month at the CJ High School library.

Monett Leo Club:

The Monett Leo Club began this school year and is being advised by Lion Derek Shields. They have been involved in various projects such as a car wash, volunteering at the Community Kitchen, and picking up trash on the Monett Lions Club's section of adopt a highway. They meet at the Den Youth Center in Monett at 404 E. Broadway.

Joplin Leo Club:?!:

The Joplin Lions Club has expressed a keen interest in starting a Leo Club. Lions Chris and Sheryl Howard have contacted me and are currently in the informational stage of starting their club. I am planning to meet with them to discuss the formation and stages of starting a Leo Club.

*** As far as I know, The Granby Leo Club is not currently active.

Lions Opportunities for Youth – Youth Exchange – Lion Marlene Payne, Chair: No Report

Lions Services/Children – Lion Judy Young, Chair: No written report but Lion Judy challenged the zones on how to get into the local schools to do some reading, tutoring, etc.

Lions Quest Program – Lion Karen Hamer, Chair: No Report

Long Range Planning – Lion Michael Miether, Chair: No report

Mid South Lions Sight and Hearing – PDG Bob Kitsmiller, Chair: No Report except to say that he is available to give programs at club or zone meetings.

MLERF – PDG Sarah Stout – District Board Member: PDG Stuart Payne had attended the MLERF Board Meeting and DG Hamer gave this report in his behalf: I attended the MLERF board that met September 22, 2012.

There have been a lot of changes in the last couple of years and I will try to catch us up.

First, the domestic demand for cornea tissue from the eye bank has gone down. This was expected because of the push across the nation to improve the donations of all tissue and organs. Other eye banks across the nation have been able to meet their local demand and not rely on Heartland Lions Eye Bank to supply their need. As any business person know, this is a loss of revenue.

MLERF is in involved with a consortium of other eye banks to find global markets that will purchase our cornea tissue. The distribution to the other countries will be handled by MLERF because of pass experience. We will be reimbursed from the consortium for the handling and process cost that will occur.

There is another eye-bank that will handle the billing and collection of the monies from the foreign market. They will reimburse the MLERF and the eye bank that supplied the tissue.

Tony Bavuso, MLERF's Chief Operations Officer is the Chairperson of this consortium. As you can see, MLERF is a key player in this consortium.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN that Missouri patients will not receive needed tissue. What is sold to the other countries is excess inventory. The consortium is setup to track which eye banks have excess tissue that can be sold.

Another issue that came up is a committee to look at fund raising ideas for MLERF. Last year MLERF **lost** money. The reason is that additional money was applied to the Eye Care Assistance program outside of the budget. This is because other organizations have stopped supporting eye care assistance and MLERF picked the slack for Missourians.

Because I have been elected (railroaded) as Chairperson of the Sight Committee it was decided by the Sight committee that I should be on the committee for fund raising ideas.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – PDG Sue Blakley Chair: No Report Needed

Peace Poster – Lion Leroy Potter, Chair: Lion Leroy told us that ‘Now is the Time’ to be or get involved with the Peace Poster Contest and outlined the following:

NOW IS THE BEST OF TWO YEAR'S:
2012-2013 CONTEST IS ENDING - POSTERS DUE NOV 15TH, 2012 –
-----AND-----
THE 2013-2014 CONTEST IS STARTING -- KITS WILL GO ON SALE JAN. 1ST, 2013

CLUBS NEED TO:

1. DECIDE TO HAVE A CONTEST
2. HAVE A COMMITTEE
3. ORDER POSTER KITS
4. CONTACT YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS
5. WORK WITH SPONSOR, YOUTH & PEACE POSTER CHAIR
6. FOLLOW RULES & DEADLINES
7. HAVE CLUB WINNING POSTERS TO DISTRICT GOVERNOR BY NOV. 15, 2013

Lion Leroy also had copies of the LCI Contest Rules available.

Pin Traders – Lion Craig Lehman, Chair: No report

Public Relations – PDG Debbie Whittlesey, Chair: State Public Relations Committee Members have changed a bit this year. DG Lisa Alexander, M3 is our Liaison Governor. We have our first State PR Meeting Friday night October 26, 2012 at 6:30.

Currently, I am working with Kyle from 417 MAGAZINE and doing research on placing ads in 417 MAGAZINE. The magazine is distributed throughout M6. I am looking at possibly doing a series of "Did You Know?" type ads trying to educate the public about Lions being much more than eyeglass recyclers! Once I complete my research and develop the campaign I will be presenting it for approval. If approved, I would then begin writing and pursue a second PR Matching Grant for our District. Yeah!

One way we can produce some PR about Lions is to apply for Missouri Lions Special License Plates. This puts our LOGO out in public every day as well as generates conversation and income for both the State and our District. I have copies of the Application for those interested. Let's consider this a District wide campaign to see how many new plates we can get issued in our District. Region AND Zone Chairs please take these and present/promote this at your meetings. It also makes a great club program if you invite a guest from the license bureau to go over details and mechanics of getting the personalized plates.

Once again...One of our greatest PR Tools as Lions is ourselves ...continue telling stories about Lions and how we make life a little better for those less fortunate. This has helped my own club to GROW the past few months.

District Tornado Relief Effort– PDG Debbie Whittlesey Chair: The Emergency Grant for \$10,000.00 for Branson, Kimberling City and Lebanon has been completed.

We have held several emergency grocery/supplies voucher events in Branson at the Super Center Wal-Mart providing needed groceries, medicines and cleaning supplies to those that lost their homes.

There were three events held in Branson to deliver in emergency supplies to tornado victims. These events were held on weekends to make it more convenient for those in need to participate. Vouchers were issued and shown at the checkout counters. All three of these events were very welcomed and all were great successes.

One family in Lebanon was assisted with clothing for her children and some of the money was used for these emergency items.

Another young family from Kimberling City was sleeping on the floor until the Lions came to their aid! We purchased beds and much needed emergency supplies for the lady and her small children.

The last event was for cleaning kits for families that had been affected by the tornado.

\$ 0.00 was the unused amount and will be returned to LCIF with the Final Report from our District once it is filed.

A special "Thank You" to LCIF for coming to the aid of disaster victims in our District, once again.

PDG Debbie also attached a copy of the original application to LCIF to obtain the \$10,000.00 grant. Lion Debbie then talked about the Irving Elementary School Tree Project in Joplin. This new school will be built on the former St. John's Hospital property. The proposal is for the Lions to plant all of the trees on the property once the school has been built. Dr. C. J. Huff, School Superintendant thinks this is a great project. The total cost is estimated to be \$25,000.00 of which \$10,000.00 is in hand. Lion Debbie plans to present the project to the Council of Governors later in October and hopefully they will approve it as a State Wide Lions Project to help raise the needed funds. The proposal to LCIF is herein noted: (*Revised to conserve space*)

Why Irving Elementary School?

After the EF-5 tornado in Joplin, Missouri the Lions had many service projects we were involved in. One of them was to adopt ten classrooms providing classroom books, materials and supplies. It was extremely important to us to do projects that directly affected the children. Especially since Joplin lost five schools in the tornado. We (M6 Lions) became very attached to Irving Elementary (K- 5th Grade) when Mrs. Moore, a kindergarten teacher, began sending us pictures of her class using supplies provided by the Lions as well as hand-crafted notes and letters and gifts, showing true appreciation to the Lions. This was not one brief thank you it was connecting us to her, the school and the children we were able to provide much needed supplies to!

PDG Jim Wilson and his wife went to read to Mrs. Moore's class at their temporary school and to deliver an additional donation to help students from the Lions.

What at Irving Elementary School?

Since the tornado and classroom adoptions I have been working closely with Joplin Schools Superintendent CJ Huff. Lions have already donated and have on reserve for a project \$10,000.00 for the trees and landscaping at the new Irving Elementary. I have been communicating via email trying to get a "magic" number to fully fund the Irving Elementary tree project. My [dream](#) is to have the Lions do this for Irving Elementary! I just received the number from Dr. Huff and here is what he said...

"Great! Hope to know something soon. Thanks so much for your commitment to our community. CJ" Then, "Debbie. Took me a while to get an answer...SORRY! Still working on the numbers. The landscaping package for the Irving school will probably end up being around \$100,000 ... depends on how deep you want to get into it. \$25,000 should take care of most all the trees, shrubs, mulch, etc. Hope that helps!! CJ"

In order for **Lions** to fully fund the Joplin, Missouri Irving Elementary Tree Project we (Lions) will need to come up with an additional \$15,000.00! This will bring our donation up to the \$25,000.00 needed. We shall see ... **I believe** we can do it!

Where will Irving Elementary School be located?

Irving Elementary will be located at the old infamous Joplin St. John's Hospital site. (Now, MERCY Hospital.) This location was the center of many news casts presented across the nation and the world at the time of the tornado in 2011. This just makes sense for Lions to adopt the grounds WHERE the devastation began and then WHERE the school will be built. It will be such a great and worthy project for the Lions to claim as their own. Children will play on the school grounds and it will be beautiful simply because the Lions dared to care in Joplin. As a side note Mercy Hospital has donated the land for Irving Elementary to be built on.

"Our challenge, obviously, was in trying to find a suitable site for Irving substantial enough in size to accommodate an elementary school based on current standards. (We needed) 16 acres or so for 600 students," Huff said. "We were trying to keep Irving in the city limits. The tornado created a situation for a lot of potential acreage, but the Mercy site was one parcel and we didn't want to replicate what we went through for JHS properties. The location was good, and the price was obviously right." Dr. Huff

Mercy also will provide free excavated dirt from its new hospital site and is preparing the old site for the new school, Huff said. Mercy officials said no estimate has been completed on the monetary value of the donated land.

Who will benefit from Irving Elementary School Adoption Project?

Irving Elementary houses Kindergarten through Fifth Grade students. Many years to come hundreds and then thousands of children will benefit from the Lions Project at the school.

Joplin, Missouri will benefit as a whole as this is a highly populated area of Joplin and its beauty will be enjoyed by the entire city.

Lions everywhere will benefit as we can take pride in knowing we did a completed project for one of the elementary schools that was devastated in the tornado.

How will Lions Project for Irving Elementary School be commemorated?

I would like to have a memorial stone engraved for the school grounds with a beautiful Lion Logo engraved on it marking the project for years to come. Going forward then anytime Lions visit Joplin, Missouri they can know they can go to this school and take Lion pride in the beautiful landscape and take pictures at the memorial stone. Thus marking yet another meaningful project sponsored by Lions after an earth shattering disaster.

When will Lions be involved in planting at Irving Elementary School?

It is too early to get an exact date right now as the demolition has just been completed at the old hospital site.

Dr. Huff knows Lions want to be involved hands on with planting of the trees once the time comes. He will work closely with me on the progress and firming up a time for the Lions to come and possibly work for a few days with the contractor. This will be an awesome event where we can work together planting and having some closure after the storm.

So many Lions came and helped with the initial clean up, feeding and emergency projects, now they will have a chance to come and work together on this wonderful project for the children!

Sight Conservation – PDG Stuart Payne, Chair: DG Walter gave the following report for PDG Stuart who could not be in attendance today: The sight committee met September 22, 2012, following the regular MLERF Board of Directors meeting. The start of the meeting was conducted by Tamar Oberbeck, Vision Screening Program Manager. Sight Chairs present were PDG Roger Tieman M3, IPDG Stuart Payne and Lion Larry Duncan M7

The first order of business was to call for a Chairperson of the Sight Committee for the Lions year of 2012 - 2013. Lion Stuart volunteered to be the Chair at the request of Lions Roger and Larry. No secretary was appointed at this time. Tamara volunteered to act as secretary for this meeting.

The next Lions Sight week will be April 15 - 20, 2013. It was suggested that MLERF's Public Relations make half sheet leaflet to hand out at Lions meetings. The leaflet will state the dates of Sight Week, goals of sight week, cost of screening one child, suggestion that each member sponsor one child to screen, a few stats on how many children we have screened and how many more there are to screen.

The Sight committee needs to work more closely with vision screening team. The purpose is to get the word out to clubs of upcoming screenings so they can assist in upcoming screenings.

We went over the goal for donations to vision screening and all Sight Chairs present approved the 2012-2013 goals for each district as stated:

- M1- \$20,000
- M2-\$40,000
- M3-\$40,000
- M4-\$20,000
- M5 - \$30,000
- M6 -\$30,000
- M7 - \$30,000

Total donations: \$210,000 for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

If all of the Lions in M6 would donate \$10.00 to MLERF, our goal will have been met. Lion Stuart will work MLERF's fundraising committee, chaired by Non-Lion Board member Tom Rocco, to help develop fund raising opportunities.

Next meeting will be December 8, 2012 after the Board Meeting. It may be a phone conference, if so sight committee will stay on the phone for a meeting. All other sight committee meetings will follow the board meetings.

I will meet with any club, zone or region to talk about the MLERF, and the Sight conservation programs that can happen in local communities.

I have been requested by various Lions to run for the MLERF board position that will be open in 2013. I will tell you, that while I was sitting in the back during the board meeting, this same idea came to me. I have started the process to get my name on the ballot at the District Convention in 2013.

Web Master – Lion Cathy Purvis: Lion Cathy was not in attendance but PDG Bob Crump asked that everyone get their information and announcements sent to Lion Cathy in a timely manner so it will be useful for the whole district.

WSB – PDG Cliff Curtis, Chair: No Report

Old Business:

No old business came before the cabinet.

New Business: Motions were made as follows:

A motion to accept the Region, Zone and all Committee Reports previously given was made by Lion Leroy Potter, seconded by Lion Judy Young and passed.

It was moved by PDG James Rosbrugh that the contract with the Howard Johnson Hotel be approved as presented. Motion was seconded by Lion Jennie Mosher and carried.

A request was made by CT PDG Bill Botzow to open a separate account for the District Relief Funds. He explained, however, that this will be taken care of if the proposed changes in the District Policy Manual are approved. No vote taken.

After some explanation, a motion was made by PDG James Rosbrugh and seconded by PDG Debbie Whittlesey to reimburse 1st VDG Nick Paulin from the unused fund of 2nd VDG Peter Frantzen for his expenses to the Great Plains Leadership Forum. With concurrence from Lion Peter, the motion passed.

A motion to approve changes in the Policy Manual as presented in the C & BL report was made by PCC Steve Wise, seconded by PDG Bill Botzow and carried.

The Tail Twister, Lion Junior Nease, has been very active throughout the meeting, costing several Lions a few bucks, which he delighted in taking. Over all, the Tail Twister lightened the pockets of Lions by a total of \$33.38 due to infractions made by the Lions and the alertness of TT Lion Junior.

There being no other business Governor Walter asked for a motion to adjourn. That motion was made by Lion Junior Nease, seconded by PCC Steve Wise and passed.

Secretary's Note:

All written reports, financial reports, cabinet member roll call and general attendance records are hereby attached and made a part of the permanent minutes of this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lion David E. Harris, PDG
Cabinet Secretary
Missouri Lions District 26-M6

Note: The next cabinet meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, January 12, 2012 at the Kimberling City Lions Club building located at 48 ST. Hwy OO

NOTE 2: This is the same day as our HOBBO DAY at the Branson - Hollister Lions Club building. The fun starts at 4:00 P.M. so make plans to attend HOBBO DAY while you're so close. Good food, good fun, and good cause – it helps to support our District!