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Officer Training

This is an opportunity for every Lion officer and new member to prepare to serve his/her Lions club next year and beyond.

Individual breakout sessions are being offered for:

- Presidents & Vice Presidents
- Secretaries
- Treasurers
- Tail Twisters
- Lion Tamers
- Membership Chairs
- New Member Orientation

It is recommended that each and every club should have at least six Lions attend.

To ensure the best turn-out, three training dates are being offered at locations throughout 27-D2:

Tuesday, April 20th
New Lisbon American Legion Hall
110 Welch Prairie Rd
New Lisbon, WI

Thursday, April 22nd
Phoenix Bowling Center
1005 Orange St.
Richland Center, WI

Tuesday, April 27th
La Crosse VFW Club
630 6th St.
La Crosse, WI

All sessions will follow the same agenda:

6:30-7:00 Assembly & Social
7:00 – 7:45 Dinner
7:45 – 8:15 Lion Presentation
8:15- 9:15 Break out Sessions

Cost of the meal should be a club expense and will vary in cost at each venue.

If you have any questions please call PDG Virgil Thompson at (608) 786 – 0651 or e-mail thomsrv@centurytel.net.

ask a prospective member to join you on your next project

Continuing Education

by 2nd VDG Joe Fisher

Most of us in our "everyday work world" periodically avail ourselves of opportunities to "brush up" or update our knowledge base in many areas. This may take the form of formalized instruction, shorter seminars/conferences or maybe just the opportunity to sit down and "talk shop" over a coke, coffee, "barley pop" or whatever seems to fit best. While this can be edifying and enjoyable, the central reason for these types of activities is so that we can function/serve better in any of these efforts.

I would argue that in our Lionistic lives these same types of opportunities and obligations exist throughout our years of service.

Yearly, in the Spring the District runs three officer training seminars at selected locations pretty well geographically dispersed across 27-D2.

At these sessions incoming, serving or aspiring Lion leaders learn the "nuts and bolts" of various club level Lion leadership positions. These are typically taught by Lion members who have served long and well in these positions (and usually more) in their careers of service.

Each February, the MD27 Leadership team hosts a leadership training that helps prepare members for leadership roles in the club and beyond.

Emerging Lions is another educational offering for members with eight or less years of membership. This three and a half day course introduces a variety of leadership skills that prepare you for leadership roles in Lions and all areas of your life.

A few years ago I was privileged to attend the Senior Strategic Leadership Seminar at Oakbrook, Ill. This is for Lions to prepare themselves to lead at levels above the club. As in most continuing education opportunities, while the formal classroom offerings were, in the main, excellent I felt I probably learned at least as much from "rubbing elbows" and sharing experiences with my fellow Lions (remember the "barley pops") from many and varied backgrounds.

This Fall, Lion Mary and I look forward to attending the USA/Canada Forum in Milwaukee. "First time for us," but all who have attended rate it highly.

In any event, just as in other walks of life, we never stop learning as Lions either and these are just a few of the opportunities by which we can increase our Lionistic knowledge and the quality of service as well. If you want to learn more about the types of learning opportunities out there I would recommend going to the web or talking with the veteran Lions we are privileged to serve with.

27-D2 District Governor
Kathy Friske
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608/372-2192

Spring is around the corner. But watch out for those silly snow storms that can make us remember we still live in Wisconsin.

Hopefully you have finished with elections and have your PU101 submitted and have let the First Vice District Governor Don Nelson know who your new officers are so he can finish the Directory in a timely manner.

When Lions use the excuse that I am "too busy " to attend meetings, or worse yet to resign, remember these members did not qualify because they had leisure time on their hands.

They were asked to join because of their ability to organize work, or organize schedules, to give an hour or so for Lions.

We need to sit down and do an exit survey. We need to know why we are losing members.

We need to do a club orientation every few years to remind all Lions what Lionism is all about.

Let's spring into the new season, by recruiting new Lions Members. Remember all you need to do is "ASK".

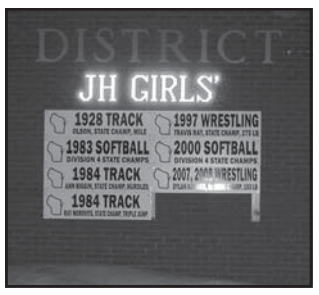
Remember after a new Lion joins the sponsors duties do not stop there. Make sure the Club makes them feel at home. They must be made to feel free to talk, laugh and sing with the gang. They joined to try and help your community to be a better place to live and work in. Also we must let them help and work on projects. If they come up with a new project discuss the idea and maybe let them run with it.

If you need some help check the March newspaper to find a Guiding Lion in your area to help and answer your question that you have or if they cannot answer your question they will find someone who can.

Also Officers training is this month. The dates are April 20, 2010, New Lisbon, April 22, 2010 Richland Center, and April 27, 2010 La Crosse. Make sure your club officers, new members and even old members attend the orientation session.

If you have any events coming up please get those to Lion Pat Kennedy, your District Publication Editor. Stories about your projects and photos of Lions in action are also welcome.

Club News & Events



SENECA LIONS SUPPORT LOCAL SCHOOLS - *an excerpt from the Seneca Schools January/February newsletter* - In December, the Seneca Lions Club donated $275 for a replacement battery for the defibrillator, $150 to the Spanish Club for their trip to Costa Rica, and $225 to the Advanced Placement Government class for their trip to Washington D.C. this spring. The Lions Club has been very active in our community and very generous to our school. Among their gifts is the scrolling sign on the front of the building, which makes all of us aware of school and community events. **ABOVE:** Santa met took time out from entertaining area boys and girls at the Seneca Lions Pancake Breakfast to help with a check presentation. With Santa looking on, Seneca High School Junior, Brandon Johnson accepts a check for $225 from Lion Don Hoelker to be used by the AP Government Class for their trip to Washington DC. BELOW: The new scrolling sign keeps the community informed.

THE SENECA LIONS 5TH ANNUAL WILD GAME FEED was very well attended as roasters were filled with venison, rabbit, turkey, beaver and pheasant. Proceeds are used to provide scholarships for area High School Seniors.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER - (L to R) West Grant Lioness Doris Fremont, Arlene Stoeffler, and Jean Opperman enjoy the camaraderie. It is somewhat interesting that their club is in 27-D1 club - just across the Wisconsin River.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN RECOGNIZES TWO MEMBERS - Maury Oehler, left, was given the Lion of the Year Award for his work in managing the Lions Mint Project, arranging for monthly meeting speakers and submitting PR to the local media. Wilmer Books, right, was given the President's Appreciation Award to recognize his tireless work for the Lions over the years.

ATTENTION 27-D2 PR CHAIRS - Please send news of your club activities to Lion Pat. To those of you who are regular contributors, thank you so much and keep up the great work. Just a quick reminder – pictures in newspaper clippings and pictures printed on plain paper will not reproduce properly in the Wisconsin Lion. Digital cameras now take excellent pictures that can be saved on a computer and attached to email. This is the preferred method of sending pictures of your club activities. If this will not work for you don't despair. Our technical staff can scan any good commercial photograph and deliver it to the Lion Editor in a format she can use in the paper. If you send photos please indicate if you want them back and they will be returned to you. Contact us if you have any questions or need assistance, 608/462-5636 or pjkennedy@centurytel.net. Deadlines are six weeks prior to publication. That means you need to plan ahead. The June deadline is April 20.

Events

APRIL

SAT, APR 24 - Coon Valley Lions 50th Anniversary at the Coon Valley American Legion Hall. Social at 5:30pm; dinner at 7pm with program to follow. Keynote Speaker: 27-B1 DG Len Quinn. Entertainment by the Time Travelers. A vintage Lions pin silent auction. $20/person includes a special golden anniversary pin.

— RSVP with check to: Lion Brian Rude, P.O. Box 367, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Child Abuse Awarness Month

by ADP Myrna Kelley

April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month. However, as a retired first grade teacher I saw many examples of child abuse and it should be observed every day of every month. Lioness work hard to educate the public to the threat of child abuse. It can be found in neglect, violence, substance abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional turmoil. We are just one of the organizations who support the Prevention of Child Abuse.

In 1989, the Blue Ribbon Campaign to prevent Child Abuse had its early beginnings as a Virginia grandmother's tribute to her grandson who died as a result of child abuse She tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her car to remember him and to alert her community to the tragedy of child abuse. The Blue Ribbon Campaign has since expanded across the country, and many wear blue ribbons each April in memory of those who have died as a result of child abuse. In other communities, special fund raisers are held to support prevention activities and treatment facilities for victims. Candlelight vigils are sometimes held as a remembrance. Recently, the focus has shifted toward a more positive message of celebrating "blue ribbon" individuals, organizations and communities who have done much to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Whatever you can do to prevent child abuse might directly or just indirectly change a life. You never know. Please help!

Camp Counselor Experience

Eric Ewing, son of Monty and Mary Ewing and a student at UW-La Crosse recently spoke to the Richland Center Lions Club about his experiences as a summer camp counselor at Wisconsin Lions Camp at Rosholt. The camp is dedicated to providing a quality camp experience free of charge to Wisconsin residents with disabilities courtesy of Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs throughout Wisconsin generously supporting the camp.

He stated the counselor to camper ratio is about one to six. Different weeks are open for blind and visually impaired youth age 6-17, deaf and hard of hearing youths age 6-17, youths with mild cognitive disabilities age 9-17, youths with type 1 and type 2 diabetes age 8-16, and an Adult Resort Program for adults with visual or hearing disabilities.

While safety and proper instruction are an important part of all camp activities, fun and enjoyment are the key elements for the camp. The program provides opportunities for children to grow in their interestsand foster self-confidence and independence.

Activities include swimming, canoeing, sailing, paddle boating, inner tubing, kayaking, rowing, fishing, archery, crafts, nature programs, sports and games, cookouts and canoe trips, hiking trips, and challenge courses.

Ewing stayed in a cabin with six campers he counseled each week. He spoke of one little boy, somewhat frightened, who was his buddy and hung onto his finger all week. He summoned another counselor to help with the rest of the campers in his cabin.

He states that it was a very rewarding experience and a great opportunity for someone who has the time to take on a challenge.

DG Kathy's Calendar

APRIL

9-10	E1 District Convention
10	D2 Affiliate District Convention Norwalk
14	Wauzeka
16	C2 District Convention
17	C2 District Convention
20	Officer Training - New Lisbon
22	Officer Training - Richland Center
24	Spring Work Day at the Camp
24	Coon Valley 50th Anv.
27	Officer Training - La Crosse

MAY

1	Diabetes Focus Group
13	Council Meeting
14-15	State Convention
22	Holeman 50th Anniversary.
24	Gays Mills