



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
District 27 B-1 ANNUAL CONVENTION
Saturday, October 29, 2011
Holiday Inn - Manitowoc, WI

1. **Call to Order** @ 8:38 a.m. by District Governor Merle Strelow.. The theme for this year's convention is "I Believe - LIONS Make a difference" Thanks for attending, we had a good hospitality turnout last night, lets hope for a great convention. With that he officially opened the 2011-2012 District 27 B1 Lions convention.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by IPDG Jerry Post.
3. **Prayer** by Lion/Lioness Kay Quinn.
4. **Introduction** of International Director Eugene Spiess from South Carolina. ID spies will be the keynote speaker at the luncheon. Please stop by and meet him, he promised he would not talk a lot. He is enjoying being here.
5. **Lioness Affiliate President** Sue Robinson said it is wonderful to be here. Thanks for inviting the Lioness to our convention. "Have FUN our work is never done "
6. **State Council Chairman** PDG Barry Boline spoke on behalf of WI Lions Association. It is FANTASTIC to be back in Manitowoc. The District Governors are committed to make WI Lions more financially sound. There are no plans to raise dues. Thank you and have a great year.
7. **Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin** President PDG Tom King announced that the 5 year Capitol fund mortgage has been burned after only 3 ½ years, THANK YOU ! There are a lot of projects that still need funding, so keep making your donations. District 27 B1 has making funds for a KNIGHT OF SIGHT award until June 30, 2012. The Eye Bank has elected a new Director, Arthur O Neal, Jr. He is pleased to be here. There are 3 things PDG Tom wants to let everyone know about, 708 donors this year, 2-3 people are helped each day and Wisconsin's transport system is: "Great and Incredible." He had all the transporters stand for recognition. Please remember to apply for the Donor Registry. Wisconsin is the fastest state to get to 1 million donors due to LIONS word of mouth.
8. **Mission to Mexico** report by Lion Ralph Schneider. At this time there is only 1 mission planned for the end of January due to political unrest. Thank you and keep contributing your supplies, they are always needed.
9. **Peace Poster** entries report by Lion Wendy Hartmann for Lion Dawn Christensen. Thank you for participating. There are 8 posters to be judged on this year. The criteria for judging are: 1)Originality, 2) Artistic Merit, 3)Theme . This year's theme is "CHILDREN KNOW PEACE." "Keep these in mind when doing your voting. January 15th the new kits will be released, so order early. The peace poster contest is not only for schools but for any type of youth organization.
10. **District Pin** update was given by Lion Wendy Hartmann. There will be 10 designs to vote on for the 2012-2013 district pin. Winning design will be awarded \$ 25.00.
11. **GMT/GLT REPORT** by PCC Dean Haas and IPDG Doug Fleming. GMT/GLT is the old MERLOW refocused. Its intentions are to get NEW Leaders. Retention has been a part of the problem. There will be more focus on LEADERSHIP. They went through the new organization chart on where everyone fits into the flow of GMT/GLT. IPDG Doug spoke on the Membership side of GMT/GLT. GMT's goals are GROWTH, CLUB SUCCESS and LEADERSHIP. We need to sell ourselves. ASK !! Keep on asking. Lions are based on "SERVICE". We love what we do! PCC Dean spoke about the Leadership side of GMT/GLT. Their focus is on future leaders and training current leaders, to find potential leaders. Those that show leadership qualities and may not know it. There are numerous great courses on the Lions

Website. PCC Dean reviewed various programs out there to help individuals and clubs. We need to work together. DG Merle concluded that GMT/GLT is important to developing the future. We need to grow leaps and bounds in new members.

12. Nominations Lion Ralph Schneider. "We need Leadership, that is what nominations are about"

District Governor Nomination for 2012-2013 for VDG Meg Post of St. Nazianz Lions was heard from IPDG Jerry Post. Lion/Lioness Meg was first inspired when she visited Lions Camp. This started her LOVE for Lions. She found time to volunteer and had that DESIRE to help. In 2002 she joined the St. Nazianz Lions. She has held various officer and club positions. In 2009 she asked, "What does it take to be a District Governor?" This started her journey forward. IPDG Jerry "It is an Honor and with Pride he nominates his wife Lion/Lioness Meg for District Governor." The 2nd was given by PDG Len Quinn. He is honored to give the 2nd for VDG Meg and to accept Meg as our next leader. Lions Jerry and Meg are team leaders. "When she says she will do it, get out of the way, she will do it!" Lion Meg will be the first woman to hold this position in District 27 B1. It is a great honor to give the 2nd. VDG Meg accepted the nomination and thanked IPDG Jerry and PDG Len. She read an article about "I AM.....YES I AM A LION" for her acceptance. "Lions NEVER, EVER refuse a challenge." Thank you. Meg looks forward to working side by side with the clubs. Lion Ralph made a call to the floor three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were heard. Motion by PDG Ken Rohde, 2nd by PDG Clayton Sengbusch to close nominations for District Governor. **MOTION CARRIED**

Vice District Governor Nomination was heard for Lion Dawn Christensen. The first was given by Lion Mike DeBaere. He proudly nominates Lion Dawn. She is a charter member of the Brandon Lions, Peace Poster chair for the district, currently serving also as Zone Chairman and has held numerous other positions with the club. The 2nd was given by Lion Helen Mork. She is honored to give the 2nd for Lion Dawn Christensen. She has known her for many years and she is active and enthusiastic and has been a Lion for 10 years. Lion Dawn did accept the nomination. She thanked everyone who has helped her get this far and for all the support she has been given. She will always work to promote LIONS. Lion Ralph made a call to the floor three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were heard. Motion by PDG Ed Filemyr, 2nd by Lion Helen Mork to close nominations for Vice District Governor.

MOTION CARRIED

Second Vice District Governor Nomination was heard for Lion Jim Zamzow of the Berlin Lions Club. The first was given by Lion Chuck Teske of the Berlin Lions. Lion Jim is a member of the Berlin Lions and has held many club positions. He is involved in the Berlin business committee and 2010 Berlin Citizen of the Year. Lion Chuck has known him for 5 years and has it in his heart for Lions and will do anything to help. The 2nd was given by Lion Marv Henke. Lion Marv knows he will get the job done! He has worked with him as zone chairman and also with the Berlin Lions. He is a good worker. Lion Jim did accept the nomination and thanked Lion Marv for all the help he has been. He is now retired and loves what he is doing.... HELPING LIONS! Lion Ralph made a call to the floor three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were heard. Motion by Lion Jerry Schmidt, the 2nd by Lion Dale Counihan to close nominations for Second Vice District Governor. **MOTION CARRIED**

District Bowling Nomination for Berlin was made by Lion Chuck Teske. Berlin ran last year and would like to do it again. Please consider Berlin to host next years District Bowling. Thank you and please vote for Berlin. A second nomination for District Bowling was given by DG Merle for the Markesan, Kingston and Fairwater Lions clubs. Markesan would be proud to represent District 27 B1. Lion Ralph made a call to the floor three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were heard.

Advisory vote for the site for next years district convention. There will be 2 to choose from: 1) Holiday Inn-Manitowoc or 2) Fox Hills Resort-Mishicot. Lion Dave Holschbach spoke on behalf of the Holiday Inn. The date available will be October 26 & 27, 2012 and will offer a hotel rate of \$ 74. Since the convention has been at Holiday Inn the past two years, everyone is familiar with the hotel and what they have to offer, "You know whether you like us or not". Please vote for Holiday Inn – Manitowoc. PDG Vern Pautz spoke on behalf of Fox Hills-Mishicot. The date available will be November 9 & 10, 2012 and will offer a room rate of \$70, with a special rate of \$ 61 on Saturday. We hope this will encourage better attendance for Saturday. Fox Hills is also willing to give a rebate of \$ 8 back to the district. Condos will be available for rent. Please vote for Fox Hills.

Peace Poster competition will have 8 to vote on as stated earlier in the agenda.

District Pin competition will have 10 to vote on as stated earlier by Lion Wendy Hartmann.

BREAK – Voting Certification held

Reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

13. Loop Presentation by Dr. Juliette Sterkens who is an Audiologist from Oshkosh. She was introduced by Lion Wendy Hartmann. Dr. Sterkens mission is to show how hearing improves a person's life and personality. There was a show of hands of those that have hearing aids. Hearing loss is very common. Hearing aids do help, however technology has advanced. Hearing aids have a range of 10-12 feet. The hearing loop is a system that a room is wired and has a microphone and PA system; you could call it the WIFI for hearing aids. Hearing aids need a T coil to accept the signal and 60% of hearing aids today have that. To equip a room for the hearing loop cost \$ 2500 - \$ 4000. LIONS have a vision to provide this service. How can LIONS help? Hearing loss support groups, provide a room with the hearing loop. Hearing loops can be found at senior centers, churches, auditoriums, and libraries. You can even provide a TV room with the loop for someone hard of hearing. Lions Camp currently has a bid to get a hearing loop installed, approximate cost \$ 6000 - \$ 8000. Let's work to get that done!

14. Leader Dog Field Representative Lion Pauline Ulrey was introduced. Leader Dog has enhanced the lives of those who can not see. She is on her 8th leader dog in 48 years. It is great to see guide dogs working with people. Leader dog is now breeding their own dogs. The dogs must pass intensive training. Leader Dog also has seeing and hearing dogs available. Technology now has come a long way and brought the talking GPS, the Trekker Breeze and has now advance past the Trekker to be quicker and more efficient. How can LIONS help?? We should familiarize ourselves with all of the Lions programs and our representative, find potential people and make donations. Thanking Lions for what they have done over the years to help Leader Dog. Wisconsin is 4th in Leader Dog donations. MD27 B1 has donated \$145,000 and has 11 working dogs.

15. Lions Foundation update was given by Foundation President Lion Andy Deinhammer. A big THANK YOU to all of the Lions in attendance for what we do and have done.

16. Lions Pride Campaign Chairman Lion Dewey Carl and Lion Geri Schlender were here to give a PUSH to everyone to be active in PRIDE. PRIDE was designed to be a lasting source of income for the Lions camp to continue long into the future. Make PRIDE personal.

Adjourn to lunch.

17. Lunch Program

Called to order at 12:00 by DG Merle Strelow. Pledge of Allegiance was led by IPDG Jerry Post. Song and Prayer led by Lion/Lioness Kay Quinn. Recognition was given to PID, PDG and DG in attendance.

Introduction of Guest Speaker ID Eugene Spiess by ID Mark Hintzmann. ID Mark mentioned that ID Eugene was like the Great Great Grandpa to all of us, providing his wisdom.

ID Spiess mentioned that District 27B1 is a great district. ID Spiess presented his Friendship banners to DG Merle Strelow, ID Mark Hintzmann and DG Jerome Spies. He congratulated the 14 newcomers who attended and gave recognition to the Lioness. He remarked "Let them be Lioness " Special recognition was given to all veterans there. Four Presidential Certificates of Appreciation were given to Lion Gary Silah, convention chair, Lioness Sue Robinson, PDG Len Quinn and IPDG Jerry Post. Membership has been down in the United States since 1983. "When does a LION really become a LION?" We joined because someone ASKED! Most citizens do not know who we are. When was the last time you sponsored a new Member?? Thanks for the invitation to attend our convention.

Awards presentations were given for the following: PDG Tom King on behalf of Lions Eye Bank presented two special awards. The KNIGHT OF SIGHT award was given to Lion Sherman Hamilton for his years of eye transporter and Lion Dave Holschbach for his years of dedication to Lions as District Secretary/Treasurer and Zone Chairman. PDG Tom King also reminded Lions that if you donate \$500 a matching fund of \$500 is available until June 30, 2012. Thank you to all the eye transporters.

Three Birch Sturm awards were given out on behalf of District 27 B1. They were presented by WLF President Andy Deinhammer, they were to Lion Lou Cecil of the Sheboygan Evening Lions and Lion Pat Harder of the Menasha Lions. Outgoing District Governor Jerry Post of St Nazianz Lions was also presented a Birch Sturm.

100% President, Secretary and Treasurer Certificates were also given out to clubs who responded and qualified. DG Merle presented a special plaque to 4 past zone chairman who moved forward and let someone else step in. They were Lion Sherman Hamilton, Lion Marv Henke, Lion Dick Schaefer and Lion Jack Johnson.

PDG Len Quinn presented a **Melvin Jones** to a person willing to do anything, 24 hours a day a LION, MORE than a normal LION, this person was Lion Meg Post. Lion Meg responded, "I am humble and speechless. I love LIONS "Thank you.

Lion Pauline Ulrey on behalf of Leader Dog thanked everyone for what you do.

The Necrology Service followed with PDG Len Quinn giving the eulogy for the 41 Lions and 2 Lioness who past away this past year. They have picked up the torch and lighted the world. Names were read and candles extinguished in reverence to them.

Auction for possession of the District Lion Bank followed with PDG Len Quinn closing the bid at \$ 2800 from the Fairwater Lions Club with \$1500 of the bid to be used for the hearing loop at camp.

The Parade of Checks was held following the necrology service, all clubs with checks, presented them to the cabinet Secretary Treasurer. Dismissed to attend the seminars.

19. **Afternoon Seminars:**

- A) City of Manitowoc Police Drug Dog with Officer Jason Koenigs and drug dog Ullly
- B) Visually impaired Adult Camper Caroline Neerhof
- C) National Association for Mental Illness – Mike and Sherry Williams

20. **Voting** followed ½ hour after seminars to determine the following: Vote for District Governor, Vote for Vice District Governor, Vote for 2nd Vice District Governor, Vote district bowling tournament site, vote for district pin for 2012-2013 year, vote for district representative for peace poster competition and advisory vote for 2012 convention site.

21. **Evening Banquet** called to order at 6:30 pm by DG Merle Strelow.

Pledge of Allegiance and a song. Flag Ceremony presenting the flags of the United States, State of Wisconsin, State of South Carolina, home of our invited ID Eugene Spiess, the Lions International, Lions Foundation and Wisconsin Lion Eye Bank. These flags were led in by Lion newcomers and other District Governors. Lion/Lioness Meg Post explained the history and meaning of each flag.

DG Merle then introduced the head tables and special guests.

DG Merle introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Lion Rita Spiess. Highlight of her speech was, Good leadership in any type of organization is needed. We need both Men and Women to be leaders. Women are being more and more involved. Clubs need spark and sometimes women can provide it. We need representation by good leadership. Think outside the box!! LIONS care enough to touch someone's lives. "Best wishes to the upcoming female leaders"

ID Eugene Spiess commented on President Tam's "I BELIEVE" theme. ID Spiess inducted two new LIONS to the St Nazianz club sponsored by Lion Wendy and Lion Mike Hartmann. "We are all just LIONS, He is just like you and me!" LIONS International is the #1 non-profit organization in the world. It is our job "TO SERVE"

Appreciation gifts were given to ID Spiess and Lion Rita for their visit to District 27 B1. ID Spiess was given a Wisconsin shaped clock and Lion Rita a cookbook.

Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer Lion Dave Holschbach reported on the **Parade of Checks. Donations** were up by about \$ 7,000 over last year. A total of \$ 46,575 was presented to the various programs.

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| WI Foundation & Camp | \$ 16,375 | Leader dog | \$ 6,400 |
| Hearing Loop | \$ 2,500 | Diabetes | \$ 1,250 |
| Mission to Mexico | \$ 225 | 27B1 Hearing | \$ 3,375 |
| Youth Exchange | \$ 550 | Eye Bank | \$ 3,300 |
| Campaign Sight 1 st | \$ 100 | LCIF | \$ 1,250 |
| Lions Pride Campaign | \$ 10,050 | Emergency Fund | \$ 25 |
| American Diabetes | \$ 1,075 | UW Eye Clinic | \$ 100 |

DG Merle would like to see all clubs donate to the hearing loop at camp.

Voting results were given by Lion Ralph Schneider. There were 239 possible delegates, 86 Lions certified, 75 voted. The results were:

- District Governor Meg Post
- 1st Vice District Governor Dawn Christensen
- 2nd Vice District Governor Jim Zamzow
- Markesan Bowling Tournament site
- Pin Design was # 2 which was the blue flag with the eyeglasses & hearing aid
- Peace Poster -1st # 8 which was submitted by the Sheboygan Noon Lions Club
- 2ND #2 submitted by Random Lake Lions Club
- 3rd # 3 submitted by Sheboygan Falls Lions Club

Advisory vote for 2012 convention was for November 9 & 10 at Fox Hills Resort – Mishicot

Lioness President Sue Robinson reported the Lioness will have a President and a Vice Lioness next year.

Lion Mike De Baere conducted the District Raffle drawing. Lion Mike thanked all of the clubs for their contribution and everyone's support in his first year in charge. This years total was \$ 3,634.00 of which District 27 B1 maintains 50%. Winners were: 1st Larson-Winchester Lions, 2nd Chuck Keifender-St Peter, 3rd Larsen-Winchester Lions, 4th Jodi Kohn-Kingston Lioness, 5th Wautoma Lions & 6th Ray Price- Town of Sheboygan Lions

Benediction was given by Lion/Lioness Kay Quinn. Table decorations were given to select seats.

DG Merle Strelow thanked Lion, Lioness and Leos for a great weekend.

DG Merle Strelow officially closed the 35th Annual District 27 B1 Convention at 8:40 PM.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED by LION DAVE HOLSCHBACH, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer