

DISTRICT A-1 DISTRICT MEETING

June 13, 2010
Wardsville Golf Club

Governor Evelyn Spiering acted as the Chairperson with the following District Cabinet officers in attendance:

DG Evelyn Spiering	RC 2 Wayne Cudney
VDG John Ross	ZC 2N George Croft
CS Anne Neill	RC 24 Janet Gawne
CT Joyce Doucet	ZC 24W Bob Tanner
RC 1 Mary Mahovlich	ZC 24N Bob Radtke
ZC 1E Mickey Puddicomb	ZC 24S Murray McDonald
RC 2 Wayne Cudney	

Regrets received from:

PDG Don McKessock
ZC 2E John Johnston
ZC 2S Bob Bride

Attendance 36: (9) Presidents, (5) Secretaries, (22) Others

The District Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by DG Evelyn with the singing of O Canada and then a Minute of Silence for the departed members of the Lions Family.

District Governor Evelyn welcomed everyone. DG Evelyn asked that everyone sign in and recycle the envelopes.

Lion John McColl advised that a BBQ lunch would be at 12:00 p.m., golf would be shotgun at 1:00 p.m. and supper would be at 5:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Report:

Bank balances:	
Effective Speaking	\$ 3,617.00
Lake Joseph Transportation Committee	\$ 9,825.25
Youth Exchange	\$10,052.86
District A-1	\$12,823.93
GIC's (3)	<u>\$25,942.46</u>
Total Assets	\$62,261.50

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by RC Lion Janet Gawne and seconded ZC Lion Mickey Puddicomb. Carried.

Outstanding invoices:

\$32.71 – office supplies

\$775.00 – Youth exchange

\$3,000 – Youth Camp expenses

A motion to pay the bills was made by ZC Lion Bob Radtke and seconded by RC Lion Janet Gawne. Carried.

Cabinet Secretary's Report:

Copies of the Minutes of the April 10-11th, 2010 District Meeting, Agenda and Reporting Schedules were emailed to all Cabinet Officers and all Cabinet Chairs. All Club Presidents and Club Secretaries were emailed the minutes of the April 10-11th, 2010 meeting and the Agenda.

Emails were sent to all clubs for the Petrolia Leo Clubs Mother's Day Breakfast fundraiser. Reminders were sent to all club secretaries to remind them to submit their PU-101 Form. Emails were sent to all clubs to remind them of the District Golf Fun Day.

A letter was forwarded to Union Gas to thank them for allowing us to use their facility for our School of Instruction.

Thank you to District Governor Evelyn for giving me the opportunity to serve as District Secretary. It has been a great year and I have enjoyed working with the District Officers and Committee Chairs.

There were two corrections to the Minutes from the April 10-11th, 2010 Minutes. In the slate of officers for 2010-2011, it states that ZC 2S is Bob Bridge. It should have read Bob Bride. On Page 6 under MERL, states that Jacqui Flood is Extension Chair. It should have read Retention Chair. My apologies.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the April 10-11th, 2010 District Meeting with corrections was made by ZC Lion Bob Tanner and seconded by RC Lion Mary Mahovlich. Carried.

Correspondence

Letter from Lion Peter Best, Chair of Lake Joseph Transportation.

Vice District Governor Lion John Ross:

The year is coming to a close and I am now looking forward to my year as your Governor of District A-1.

Since my last report I have had the honor to visit Hyde Park for the induction ceremony of a new member and to travel to Sarnia Township for the Installation of Club Officers and my home club Thorndale. Bonnie and I also went to see the start of the walk in the park fund raising for Lions Foundation of Canada that the London Lions join together and raised over 10,000.00. You have never seen so many kinds and sizes of dogs, since I don't have a dog, next year I would take my cat. We also shared a day in the sun for our own Zone golf tournament, which was sponsored by the Springfield Lions.

The School of Instructions in Chatham was a great success and I encourage all Clubs to promote over the next year how important this school is. It not only prepares all Lions to move forward but also learn more what other Clubs are doing to promote growth in their community.

We also attended the MDA convention in Kingston and it's starting to get very real and exciting that next year is about to happen. "Ready or not". I could never take this next step without the support of the District and the training that is provided.

Next year this convention is in Ottawa and it is one I would recommend.

The last 2 months have also been spent gathering the correct information for the 2010 – 2011 Directory; the directory really becomes your guide for the year to come. The who is who, with emails and addresses, keeps you informed of meetings, so on behalf of my wife Bonnie and Lion Carolyn "Thank you" for getting the information to us ASAP (I know those women were getting a little pushy.)

If anyone has any email changes PLEASE send to lioncarolyn@sympatico.ca. as we are leaving June 14th (tomorrow). It is a huge job putting this together and we, Lion Carolyn, and Bonnie would like to say Thank you for your support.

It has been quite a year, working with so many good people. The MERL team & Cabinet have started a momentum towards growth and leadership and I am confident that will continue. I believe that the 2010 – 2011 team is bar none the greatest District A -1 has ever had.

IPDG Lion Don McKessock:

This is my last opportunity to report to you as a Cabinet Officer and I am not able to be with you! What a bummer!

My year under District Governor Lion Ev's leadership has been thoroughly enjoyable.

Campers are going back to Lake Joe, Children's Health Foundation are helping us with an LCIF Grant application, and the School of Instruction was quite successful.

Thanks for taking me on this journey. Enjoy the golfing.

Region Chair 1 Lion Mary Mahovlich: No Report.

Zone Chair 1 Central Lion Linda Fowler:

I am pleased to report that I have completed all scheduled visitations for Zone 1 Central and Zone 1 West since our last District Meeting and have even made a few extra visitations, with possible follow up visits to two more Clubs prior to the conclusion of this Lions year. I am happy to report that we have retained all Lions Clubs and that many of the Clubs have seen a net increase in membership.

It has been my pleasure to serve this past year and I am looking forward to the upcoming Lions year with much anticipation.

Zone Chair 1 East and Zone 1 West Lion Mickey Puddicomb:

I have completed all official visits and all 6 Zone Advisory meetings in both Zones. I went to the Region Rally and to as many Lion Memorial Services in and out of my Region as I could.

Helping in a few club situations with the aid of our District Governor and Region Chair.

Achieving my aim in growth of education in our wonderful Lions organization.

I had the honor of installing one member (Tilbury Lions Club)

I have attended all Cabinet meetings, our School of Training, the District A-1 Convention and the MDA convention.

I have turned in all my reports to both my Region Chair and District Governor on time.

It was a pleasure to work with Region Chair Lion Mary Mahovlich.

I wish to take this time to thank District Governor Lion Ev Spiering for having me serve during her year, it has been a pleasure. I also look forward in working with our incoming Governor Lion John Ross and cabinet for the 2010-2011 term.

Region Chair 2 Lion Wayne Cudney:

Since our last District Meeting, Zone Chairs Lion Bob, Lion George and Lion John have completed all their official visits. All clubs in Region 2 are busy completing their club projects for this year. New Club Executives are looking forward to the coming year with many challenges on the horizon. Most clubs have set very ambitious goals and fund raising projects.

Region 2 held our Orientation Meeting in St. Thomas on May 26th with 8 members attending. Zone Chairs Lion Bob and Lion George assisted with the presentation and I think all the new members felt it was a very worthwhile session.

I would like to thank the 3 Zone Chairs from Region 2 for all their hard work and many hours spent in promoting lionism.

I would like to thank everyone for their support this past year and look forward to serving this district as 2nd VDG 2010-2011.

Zone Chair 2 North Lion George Croft:

All clubs in Zone 2 North now have lady members, an excellent membership advance with great future potential.

Our four clubs will all show membership growth this Lion's year.

I regret the charter surrender by the Forest City Lions Club effective at the end of November despite efforts to rebuild. I applaud former President Bill Overchuk for his efforts in this respect. The enthusiasm displayed by Presidents Eric Dolansky of London North and Bill McLachlin of London East in recruiting members will continue in these clubs next year and hopefully they will reach 20 members soon.

London Central and Hyde Park & District Clubs continue to prosper with their many service and fund-raising events.

It has been a positive experience to work with London North President Eric Dolansky and Secretary Shawn Davison, London East President Bill McLachlin and Secretary Jon de Jeu, London Central President Greg Millar and Secretary Ron Lindsay and Hyde Park & District President Peter Seguin and Secretary Roy Mason this year. Thank you all.

A special thanks to Lion Eric Dolansky for assisting me as Zone Secretary and agreeing to stay on next year.

Thank you Governor Evelyn for the opportunity to serve the District as Zone Chair for 2 North.

Zone Chair 2 East Lion John Johnston:

Before giving my report I would like to thank all of the clubs within my zone. They are a great bunch of people who are generous, caring, compassionate and dedicated Lions who have helped me throughout my year as Zone Chairman. I cannot thank them enough for making 2009-2010 so enjoyable.

I would also like to thank Governor Ev for her year of leadership of A-1. She has been a mentor, a leader, an inspiration and a friend to me this past year and I thank her for letting me serve with her during her time as Governor. I'm sorry I am not able to personally tell her this myself today but will do so when I next see Ev.

All Zone Meetings and Club Visits have been held and attended.

Our Zone project this year was the VON meals on wheels and I am happy to say that project has also been completed.

Belmont:

- Club activities and fundraisers continue to progress.
- New officers for 2010-2011 year will be inducted
- Continue to work on the Belmont Lions Community Park.
- Hosted a Ribs and Tails night.
- Purchased 2 new tents for rental

Dorchester:

- Club activities and fundraisers continue to progress.
- New officers for 2010-2011 year will be inducted
- Held a very successful Vegas Night.
- All are eagerly preparing for these summers activities.
- Added Paul Lewis's name to the member's memorial at the Dorchester fishing hole.

Springfield:

- Club activities and fundraisers continue to progress.
- List of new officers for 2010-2011 year will be inducted
- Held the annual wild game dinner.
- Auction of the Lions Hall assets was held in May with substantial profits going to the club.
- Hosted the Zone Golf tournament.

Thorndale:

- Club activities and fundraisers continue to progress.
- List of new officers for 2010-2011 year will be inducted.
- Successfully held a social gaming night.
- Catered the Lioness dinner theatre and also the brunch.
- Had a very successful Mystery tour to the Elmira Lions Club with 32 of our 39 members in attendance.

Membership:

- At this time Zone 2 East is currently up by a net growth of 5 new members for the 2009-2010 year.
- The zone is very confident going into 2010-2011. We are growing in membership which means we can do more within our communities. More members bring with them new ideas, new projects, and new fundraisers. With more we can do more and we are doing more.
- I look forward to working with the clubs within my zone in 2010-2011 because I feel Zone 2 East best exemplifies our motto "WE SERVE"

Zone Chair South Lion Bob Bride:

All Zone meetings and visits have been completed. All 6 clubs had very busy and productive years.

We should show a net gain in membership of 2-4 new members for this year.

Not only are all clubs starting to work on next year's projects and fund-raisers, the Zone is as well. We are starting to schedule workers for 2 gates at the Plowing match at St.Thomas in September.

We have had a very busy year but a lot of fun was had. I thank all the clubs for their hospitality on my visits. I also thank Governor Evelyn for asking me to be part of her team.

Region Chair 24 Lion Janet Gawne:

The clubs in Region 24 continued to be active during the 2009/2010 Lions year in their support of many things from minor sports and community needs to Lions projects and events. Our new club of Strathroy Caradoc is doing well and has done a wonderful job of getting to know the Lions of Region 24 through invitation and visitation. It is something that all clubs within the Region would find beneficial and I hope that all clubs will consider putting out invitations to encourage visitation in the future. One of the most important facets of Lionism is the fellowship that you experience as part of this organization and it is also very satisfying to spend time with others who share the belief that we get a whole lot more joy out of giving than we ever do out of receiving. I have enjoyed the chance to provide a new member orientation for Region 24 and being able to assist at the School of Instruction in Chatham on May 15th.

I want to thank the Lions of District A-1 for the opportunity of serving at the District level in a number of capacities. I've learned a lot from a lot of very special and committed Lions. As Lion Bob and I work toward selling our house in Parkhill and moving to Searchmont, I am excited about the next phase of our lives but I will miss the regular contact that we have had with our friends in A-1. We are in the Sault Ste Marie phone book and if any of you are traveling in that part of our province, we would love to hear from you. Thank you for your friendship and fellowship and please keep showing our communities that Lions are the largest and best service organization in our world.

Zone 24 North Chair Lion Bob Radtke:

We were asked to make our presentations short so we can get on the course. So here is an incredibly short report.

We are deeply saddened by the death of 5 lions in Region 24.

I am pleased to tell you that District 24 North has another new member. Ailsa Craig has their second new member this Lions Year.

All clubs in 24 North have been very busy in the last two and half months.

Granton will be busy with Granton Fun Days Saturday July 10. They will be doing a food drive the same day. They are making some repairs to their club house as well.

Arkona has donated \$10,000 to Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. They are also very busy with bingo in Sarnia.

Parkhill is very involved with the North Middlesex 150 year celebration.

Ailsa Craig had a food drive on May 19. The club hosted the first annual Purina guide dog walk on May 30. In May the club also had a Friday evening BBQ on Main Street in Ailsa Craig. This is the first of Friday long weekend afternoon BBQ's.

Lucan has also been very busy with various activities.

Zone 24 West Chair Lion Bob Tanner: No Report.

Zone 24 South Chair Lion Murray McDonald:

Three members were inducted to Poplar Hill Lions on June 8th, 2010.

Motion to accept the Reports as presented was made by ZC Lion John Johnston and seconded by ZC Lion Bob Tanner. Carried.

Finance Chair Lion Ray Adam: No Report.

MERL Report:

Membership Chair Lion Joan Cope: No Report.

Extension Chair Lion Dale Taylor: Lions, we have had a very good year, and just a reminder, I will be enlisting everyone's help in forming more new clubs next year. So to all Club presidents, Membership Chairs, Zone Chairs, Region Chairs, Vice District Governors and Governor, start thinking about locations, we can establish a club to offer the rewards of Lionism to more of our friends.

Retention Chair Lion Jacqui Flood: I have completed all presentations that I have been requested to do by the zone Chairs. To date, I have presented at 4 Zone Advisory Meetings Zones 1 Central, 1 East, 2 North, 24 West and 24 North, resulting in the information available to 25 clubs.

The DVD that has been circulated to the MERL teams from the TTT committee (Transfusion, Transition and Transformation), supports positive change and has proven to be a very helpful tool for all club members. Over the summer months, I hope to get the DVD copied for each club for the upcoming year and will distribute them during my presentations.

On a positive note, the statistics prove that we are up 9 members since July 2009. We have 6 transfers in, reinstated 1 and have recruited 79 new members but 77 were dropped; again proving that retention is our main problem. We are presently at 1,197 members indicating that we still have a long way to go to reach our 1,250 members. Remember just "Ask". There are guidelines available on how to offer an open house in your community. Anyone interested it is on the MD"A" Resource Centre web site. Hopefully everyone that attended the MERL session after the Cabinet Meeting found it a helpful and informative workshop.

Thank you Governor Ev for allowing me to serve District a-1. It has been a rewarding year and real pleasure working with you.

Leadership Chair Lion Dave Balmos: No Report.

School of Instruction – advised that 65 Lions attended. We received \$1,000 from MDA for MERL and \$1,500 from the District. Expenses for the day were \$873. \$1,624 was left over. PDG Lion Mark thanked RC Janet Gawne for getting the Union Gas facility for us for the past 2 years.

District A-1 Convention Chair Lion Bill Bissonnette:

The convention was a huge success. It certainly exceeded the committee's expectations. Attendance was 209 Lions, 52 Lioness, 20 Leos and 42 guests for a total of 303. Feedback was that all had a great time. According to the Treasurer we made/lost money. All the bills are just in so we don't have a final tally. The wine tour was well received. The convention next year is at the Four Points, London and then we return to Leamington for 2012.

Youth Exchange Chair Lion Jim Deslippe:

I would like to start by thanking the Lion members who came forward to be host families this year or that gave me names of families that were interested. We have 8 new host families this year.

Once again this year, we have 18 youth that are planning to come to the camp from 16 different countries. The exchange program this year runs from July 3rd to July 31st. I would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone who would like to join us on July 30th for International Day to please feel free to come and join in the celebration with the youth and it is a great time to learn more about what goes on with youth exchange. I do need you to contact me to let me know if you are coming though so that we have some numbers for supper.

So far this year, we have received donations of \$6,178 and I would like to thank the clubs that have donated.

I would also like to thank the clubs that volunteer to host the youth for either lunch, supper or as Strathroy does, for a day of fun.

Thank you to all the Lions for your participation in this amazing program.

Effective Speaking Chair Lion Ron Lindsay:

Thank you for the privilege of running the Effective Speaking for District A-1 and to represent the District as the MDA A-1 Chair this year 2009-10.

Once again, we had amazing speakers from our youth participants. We had 3 Region Effective Speaking Speak-Offs this year.

Region 1: (4 Juniors) Chatham Lions Club - Host Club

Region 2: (5 Juniors - 1 Senior) London Central Lions Club - Host Club.

Region 24: (7- Juniors – 2 – Intermediates – 3 – Seniors) Petrolia Lions Club - Host Club.

Total 22 Region Speakers.

Again we did not have any French Speaking Candidates.

Clubs that participated with Speakers are Chatham Lions Club, Thorndale Lions Club, Hyde Park & District Lions Club, London Central Lions Club, Lambeth Lions Club, Petrolia Lions Club, Glencoe & District Lions Club, Delaware Lions Club and Delaware Lioness.

District A-1 Effective Speaking Finals was held in St. Thomas hosted by St. Thomas Lions Club at the Legion Hall. We had 11 Speakers for the A-1 Final Competition, 3 competitors, one in each category represented District A-1 at the Multiple District Speak-Off. That was held in Toronto on the 7-8 May 2010.

Senior English 1st Place Winner Natasha Raval Hyde Park Lions Club

Intermediate English 1st Place Winner Heidi Carter Glencoe Lions Club

Junior English 1st Place Winner Keeley Baker Thorndale Lions Club

Our District A-1 Senior Winner Natasha Raval placed 2nd in the MDA Completion.

We have 49 Lions Club in the District and 15 Lioness = 54 Clubs.

This year we had 37 Club donations to support this fine Youth program. Last year we had 49 Clubs. That's 12 less this year and we had more Youth participating this year. This program is to provide an opportunity for Complete Effective Speaking and to stimulate self-expression and independent thinking among Youth.

Thank you to all the Clubs that sent support money to help this fine program to continue. To run these programs, we rely on the Lions and Lioness members and Clubs to help, without your help we would have a hard time running the program so again may thanks go out to all the Lions and Lioness Clubs members that helped me this year.

All Financial Statements have been turned over to the District Treasurer for audit and anyone wishing to review expenses and cost of running the District A-1 Effective Speaking and the MDA Finals are free to look at my recording and transaction book.

Governor's Newsletter/Webmaster Chair Curtis Marwood:

Thank you, Governor Ev for entrusting me with your newsletter this past year. I have to confess that I have not been able to complete one since December because of my personal schedule and family health challenges. I have just completed the fourth issue. It is posted on the web page.

I redesigned the web site this year to make it more user friendly, I hope. I have managed to keep the web page updated fairly well with changes and notices that have been sent to me. I added a new Photo Gallery hosted by Tripod and I have created a Google Calendar for members and clubs to post notices of events. The more it is used, the more people will consult it and the more it will be useful.

A few members have called me for help with technical issues on the web site. While not an expert, I am glad to help when I can.

District Reporter Chair Lion Marilyn Madacsi: No Report.

Hearing and Work with the Deaf Chair Lion Barb Tuxford:

In A-1 we are still collecting hearing aids and sending them with the eyeglasses to Calgary where they are forwarded to B.C. for recycling.

I had sent a survey out to the clubs with the Region Chairs, but have only received a couple of responses in what their clubs do with hearing aids and collections.

I did talk to the people in Mississauga who deal with used hearing aids, and theirs are sent to other countries, when cleaned and repaired, I am still exploring the concept of having at least a percentage of what we collect, remain in Ontario after repair.

On November 14th, 2009 I attended the mortgage burning for Mercel House, a residential facility in London for Deaf Blind young people. It was a very interesting day, since we had a tour of the house and met some of the residents...seeing it in brick and mortar made all the donations for this project real.. The Lions of MDA can be very proud of themselves for this project.

I will be the chair of this committee again next year. As with most committees, you spend the first year finding your footing...hopefully I will make some progress in the recycling for Ontario's deaf.

Diabetes Awareness/Cavalcade Chair Lion Bev Wirta:

I would like to thank the Lions family of District A-1 for their continued support of Diabetes Awareness and Research during the 2009/10 Lions year.

The Cavalcade presentation of cheques in November was the beginning of A-1's support and it continued on with 6 clubs taking on the new project of Tag Day on November 14. In one day, Lions collected \$16,000 to help support Diabetes Education and research. This money was credited back to each Regional Office for support in your area.

The CDA/Liaison committee was so proud of the results of our first tag day, they are asking all Clubs across Canada to participate on Saturday November 13th, 2010. They are hoping to have 350 clubs participate with a revenue of \$70,000.

CDA will distribute posters, tags, banner, tally sheets and receipt sheets to each club. The collection boxes will be made up by each club. Last year we canvassed at Tim Horton's, Shopper's Drug Mart, Canadian Tire and some favourite spots of individual Lion's Clubs.

We would also like to approach our local banks and ask if we could put a coin box up in their branch to help support Diabetes Month in November.

I will be sending out letters to each club asking for support of this project.
Thank you again and I look forward to Cavalcade and Tag Day next year.

LCIF Chair Carolyn Oshell: No Report.

Leader Dog for the Blind Chair Lion Mickey Puddicomb:

Visited: 3 lions clubs.

Displays: Chatham Lions Breakfast, A-1 Convention and MDA Convention.

Donations from Clubs: as I know them to date. \$14,000.00

Draw from Chatham Breakfast, A-1 Convention & donation can \$ 445.00

Draw from MDA Convention \$ 117.00

As Leader Dog Chair, donation to Charter Club Strathroy Caradoc
and in memory of passed lions \$ 150.00

Total given in my term to Leader Dogs for the blind from my district \$ 14,712.00

PLEASE NOTE: there may have been a club donation I am not aware of at this time. I will report it in my next term.

Leader Dog Founders Award: I had the honor of presenting one to a Windsor Downtown Lion and encouraged two more in my District to order them and present them to a deserving lions in their club. This was the first time for the two clubs doing this. I was very pleased.

Leader Dog Talks Outside Lions: Total 50 -- Hospital training sessions (36), scouts, women's groups and schools (14).

Total 38 Displays outside lions: Hospital Training Sessions, Accessibility Advisory Committee's 3rd Annual Educational Fair. Accessibility Advisory Committee's Educational Program for the Crisis Centre.

I wish to thank District Governor Lion Ev for letting me be her Leader Dog Chair this term and look forward in being the incoming District Governor Lion John Ross' Leader Dog Chair for the term 2010/2011.

Lions Foundation of Canada Chair Lion Rick Letton:

Since my last report, I have been to a Zone Meeting and updated the clubs on the building of the new veterinarian clinic and dog kennels.

LFC had its first graduating class of clients from the autism assistance program in January 2010 and the second class of clients will be graduating in July.

LFC is on target to graduate over 150 teams this year and with the renovations nearly done, they should be able to meet their target of graduating over 200 teams next year.

I would like to thank all the clubs who held a Dog Guide walkathon in May and the clubs that held a walkathon in September for their great support. I was really pleased that 2 new areas held walkathons; Ailsa Craig, who held their first walkathon in May and even had a participant from Toronto. Ailsa Craig has a beautiful park, with a great path along the river that the club maintains. Windsor held their first Dog guide walkathon in May and it was started by a client of LFC and hopefully it will continue to run even after Julie graduates from university.

As is the case with all Lions projects, every donation helps, as LFC always needs to replace items such as dog beds, water bowls, food dishes etc.

I would like to thank Governor Ev for the opportunity to serve as the Lions Foundation of Canada chair; it was a great learning experience.

Sight First/Work with the Blind Chair Lion Rob Neill:

I was able to attend all Eyes Right meetings this year and reported information to the Governor. St. Thomas Lions Club continues to collect eye glasses this year – over 500 pairs have been sent over to Lenscrafters for processing. I know other clubs collect glasses also but I have not received any other reports.

PDG Lion Mark Mahovlich advised that in addition to Lion Rob's report, over 10,000 pairs of glasses have been donated from his region. Lion Greg Miller from London Central Lions advised that they have sent 1,000 lbs of glasses to Uganda and Guatemala.

Peace Poster Chair Catherine Heberle: No Report.

Leos Chair Tony Beaulieu: No Report.

Long Range Planning Chair Lion Bill Bissonnette:

Governor Evelyn, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Research and Long Range Planning Chair for this year. It has certainly presented new challenges in my long career of service in Lions.

Long Range Planning had a busy year with a number of issues presented and addressed.

1. Rules of Audit for MERL- Extension – approved by Cabinet Nov 15
2. Convention questionnaire- distributed and currently being tallied. There were questionnaires returned.
3. District A-1 DG Manual- in progress
4. Finance committee- amended – to Constitution and By-Laws for voting
5. Amendments to 'Death of a Lion' protocol
6. Region Rallies- It was accepted that the roll of the Region Chair was coming to an end with the introduction of the 2nd VDG. Who will host and do we still need Region Rallies?
LRP recommends to 2010-2011 Cabinet that 'there should be a joint advisory 'social' meeting to be held in the same time frame as the current Rally and that it would rotate Zones (when Region Chair eliminated).
7. Timing of Zone Meetings- For the proper dissemination of information and discussion the Zone Advisory meetings should be held in the pre-Christmas, Christmas to Convention and post-Convention time frames.

There is a need for EVERYONE to promote Leadership, not only at the District level but within clubs as well. We need to get new officers to attend the training sessions.

Bulletin Contest/Public Relations Chair Lion Mike Kresky: No Report.

Lioness Liaison Region 1 Chair Lion Gord Anderson: No Report.

Lioness Liaison Region 2 Chair Lion Joe Elliott: No Report.

Lioness Liaison Region 24 Chair Lion Peter Geene:

I have completed my visit to all Lioness clubs in Region 24. It took a while because of changes in dates. I found most clubs very enthusiastic with a lot of planned activities and raising a lot of funds which are distributed in their respective communities and elsewhere. Some clubs

experience membership problems with a low number of Lioness attending but there is a good effort to increase the numbers.

All in all things look pretty good for the Lioness in Region 24.

District A-1 Eyes Right Sight Conservation Foundation

Chair Lion Harry Wismer: No Report.

Lake Joseph Chair Peter Best:

As previously reported, I am very pleased to announce that we will be continuing our Transportation Project for this summer. Communications with the CNIB LJC has improved and we once again have an agreeable working relationship. I am busy making final arrangements and confirming details and will be sending out passenger information outlining travel details very soon. A block of thirty beds had been booked for the period of July 11 through July 17 and a Greyhound wheelchair accessible coach has been chartered. The CNIB LJC staff has expressed a real interest in having our service returned and have informed me that a wide range of requested activities will be available for our group. I have filled all of the block and have thirty visually impaired vacationers who have requested to travel with us. There is a growing excitement in their anticipation. The return of this project has sparked a great deal of interest not only from the blind vacationers and their families but throughout the general community as well. We, the Committee and the blind clients we serve, wish to express our deepest appreciation to everyone for their efforts, support and encouragement that has enabled the continuation of this valuable service. Your response to our funding request has been very good and I hope you will continue. (Refer to District Treasurer's Report)

Thanks to your generous support, it's all aboard for 2010 summer fun.

Comment: As previously reported, my interest and focus is on transportation for the blind to and from the CNIB LJC camp, however it is important to understand that there are many issues that are beyond the scope of transportation, but are directly related to the accessibility of the blind to the camp and the kind of service they receive. CNIB LJC clients from Southern Ontario have some unique interests and require a voice to represent those interests from this District. I suggest we continue supporting the CNIB Lake Joseph Centre, while improving our working relationship through direct communication and requests to receive clarification, accountability and client service satisfaction reports. ***"If they can't get there, they can't benefit"***

This project is our opportunity to serve. *Thank you for your support.*

Healing Garden Chair Lion Eugene Graham: Through the work of Lion Don McKessock, we are waiting for a response from LCIF regarding additional funds. Work on the new hospital is proceeding with a 2011 completion date. The type of recognition Lions will receive needs to be worked out with the hospital authorities.

No Child Without Chair Lion Bruce Edwards:

By now, I hope that all A-1 Lions know that *"No Child Without"* is a program in cooperation with the MedicAlert Foundation of Canada to provide a MedicAlert bracelet or necklet free of charge to all Canadian children that have a condition that could cause an anaphylactic reaction.

Over the last two years, in Lions District A-1, 14 Lions Clubs and 1 Lioness Club have sponsored a total of 27 elementary schools in South Western Ontario. Most of these schools have been under the jurisdiction of either Public School Boards or Roman Catholic Boards.

However, A-1 has been the first District to sponsor a Christian School and a school from the Ontario French Board. The Clubs involved were the Wyoming Lions and the Stoney Point Lions.

In 2008/09, as Committee Chair for No Child Without I concentrated on contacts through Zone Meetings. In 2009/10, I contacted the Club Presidents directly. Next year I hope to work more through the District Governor, Region Chairs and Zone Chairs.

I would ask Clubs to call me directly when you have questions regarding the “**No Child Without**” program, or about the viability or reliability of the MedicAlert Foundation. Remember that Lions Clubs of Canada were not recruited to help with this venture, we **volunteered** though International Director Lion Terry Graham to help with this important program.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

District Governor Elect Lion John Ross:

Cabinet Meetings:

August 29 – Tilbury

November – Thorndale – Diabetes Cavalcade

February – Wyoming – Eyes Right Meeting

Goals – to increase membership by 2 members per club.

DGE Lion John’s choice of charities for 2010-2011 are Leader Dog or Guide Dogs.

Changeover will be held on July 18, 2010 at DGE Lion John’s home.

Announcements:

Ailsa Craig Lions Club – Golf Tournament at Arkona Golf Club – August 21, 2010-07-17

St. Thomas Lions Club – 80th Anniversary – October 16, 2010 – further info to follow

Lucan & District Lions Club – raffle tickets available on 60 Camaro

St. Thomas Lions Club – AutoFest – June 20, 2010

Closing remarks from DG Evelyn – thank you to al.

A motion to adjourn was made by ZC Lion Bob Radtke and seconded by ZC Lion Bob Tanner.

Respectfully submitted
Cabinet Secretary
Anne Neill