

DISTRICT 9NC

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**Greetings to you, the members of the
 51 Lions Clubs in Iowa District 9 North Central!**

I was installed as the 2014-2015 9NC District Governor on July 8 during the Lions Clubs International Convention in Toronto, Canada. What a beautiful city it was. This was my first International Convention and I learned a great deal. District Governors-elect participated in three concentrated days of final training, followed by events such as the Celebration Banquet and the Parade of Nations. I met Lions Club members from all over the world and gained a great deal by talking with them, as well as with the U.S. Lions who came from every state in the nation.

We were also invited to attend a concert by American singer Neil Sedaka in the Air Canada Centre, with a concert by Australian singer Olivia Newton-John presented during the installation ceremony the last day of the convention. All Lions are invited to these conventions. Do think about attending in future. The next International Convention will be June 26-30, 2015 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

For those who haven't yet met me, I was invited to join Mason City Noon Lions Club in April 2000 by the late Rich Dean, a 50-plus year member. I have been employed as a fifth grade teacher in northeast Iowa and most recently as a reporter at the Globe Gazette newspaper in Mason City.

I am anxious to meet each one of you in person. We have a lot of work to do together and I will do whatever I can to assist you. Our calling of service to others is a high one.

Being a Lion has come to mean a great deal to me. I am proud



Mason City Noon Lions Club's float in the annual North Iowa Band Festival Parade Saturday, May 24 in Mason City was the winner of the Grand Marshal Award for the best use of the Festival theme, "76 Trombones." At right is Lion John Fritz, who designed the float.

of our long history as possibly the first and certainly the largest service club in the world. The resources that are available to us through Lions International in Oak Park, Ill., are tremendous. So many materials that can help us in our work are ours for the asking.

Before I proceed further, let me tell you how proud I am to be following District Gov. Gary Schriver. He has been a very knowledgeable Lion and tireless supporter of our organization for years, giving selflessly of his time and talents. He and his partner in service, Elaine, his wife, are a hard act to follow. I am grateful for the help and assistance Gary has given to me during the years when I served as a vice district governor preparing for this year.

Here are some things to remember in the coming year:

1. Club information for "The Iowa Lion" needs to be received by me no later than the 10th of each month. Photos are always much appreciated. They need to be large, as it is easier to shrink a large photo than to enlarge a small one. The more megapixels the better! Please label the photos with the names of the people shown and tell what the activity was and when it happened. Please email them to me at kbuehner15@hotmail.com.
2. Please remember that all clubs are to file monthly membership reports electronically with Lions International even if there is no change in membership. This is the duty of the club secretary. As a former secretary, I know the job can seem overwhelming but it is vital to our clubs.
3. Clubs also need to file activity reports each month, again the job of the secretary. So many clubs do not do this. I rely upon your activity reports to publicize your activities in "The Iowa Lion." Lions International also needs this report to be able to present an accurate picture of the strength of our organization when seeking partners to work with on a national or international scale. An example is our current partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, with whom Lions is collaborating on a worldwide measles vaccination campaign.

Our new International President is Joe Preston from Arizona. We met Joe in Toronto, where he was also installed in his new position. His theme for the year is "Strengthen the Pride" by helping to grow and strengthen our organization. We can do this by continually seeking relevant projects that we can perform in our communities, fundraisers that are also fun and seizing upon every opportunity to invite other people, especially young people, who have hearts like ours that are happy to be part of a group that wants to work together to improve the world as we know it. Joe Preston is urging us to "Ask One" person to join Lions. One way to do this is by inviting a guest to every club meeting and club project or social. Let them get to know us and they will see that we are part of a dynamic, high-minded organization that this world needs.

As your new District Governor, I will be working to improve communications from my new Cabinet and me to you. I want all of you to feel free to contact me. My home phone is 641-424-9631. Please know that each one of you is vital to this organization.

We are always in need of good leaders, but we all also need to be the Indians doing what is needed to make our clubs succeed.

A few of you have already invited me for a club visit during the year. I very much want to visit each club. Please understand if I try to arrange visits to the clubs located at a distance from Mason City during a season when the weather is favorable for driving.

Our 2014 9NC Fall Rally will be Saturday, Oct. 11 in Mason City (place still to be determined). The Spring Convention will be Friday and Saturday, April 17 and 18, 2015 in Mason City. Please put these dates on your calendars! These gatherings are designed to be of interest to every Lions Club member. I can tell you that it was by attending the District functions that I really started learning what it meant to be a Lion.

STRENGTHEN THE PRIDE

Allison Lions Club served an omelet breakfast for about 130 people Saturday, July 19 at Wilder Park. Proceeds will support senior scholarships, eye screenings for all pre-school children and other programs of the Iowa Lions Foundation.



Britt Lioness Club has voted to give \$100 to the Friends of the Library for the summer program for children.

Dumont Lions Club authorized \$1,200 to sand and paint the picnic tables in the city park

to make them presentable again. Five of seven students who received scholarships from the Dumont Lions responded with thank-yous to the club. The club continues to do well with its popcorn stand, even during periods of pouring rain.

Hampton Lions Club raised \$2,140 from a chicken barbecue dinner.

Mason City Noon Lions entered a float in the annual North Iowa Band Festival Parade Saturday, May 24 in Mason City.

Mason City Evening Lions held a successful chicken barbecue dinner at the annual Cannonball Day Saturday, June 28 in Mason City.



The Clarksville Lions Club has installed its officers for the 2014-15 year. From the left they are second Vice President Dan Cummings, President Bob Fenneman, Treasurer Katie Cummings and Secretary Bill Tjaden. Not shown is first Vice President Jerry Backer. Dan and Katie chaired the club's fundraising funnel cake stand at Pioneer Days and the club's fresh squeezed lemonade stand for Ragbrai. They were very successful. Thank you Dan and Katie.

The Clarksville Lions Club on June 14 held a fishing clinic as part of the Pioneer Days Celebration in Clarksville. There were 51 kids aged 3-16 registered at the fishing clinic held at Sportsman Park. Drawings for prizes were drawn and everyone



went home a winner. Shown is Kara Bohlen, age 5, with her first fish. Registration money for this event goes to the scholarships that the Lions club awards graduating high school seniors. The Lions Club also had a Funnel Cake and fresh squeezed Lemonade Stand for the 3 day celebration which was a successful fund raising event.



At its June 19 meeting **Burt Lions Club** Secretary-Treasurer Joe Heinen and President Dale Person presented the club's Certificate of Appreciation to J.D. Andrews (center). J.D. has been a member for 43 years, sharing his gifts and talents as a dedicated Lions Club member through service to the community. J.D. and Mary Andrews are relocating to Garner, where J.D. will continue his membership with the Garner Lions Club.



Stanhope Lions Club member Mabelle M. Romp, on right, receives the club's Lion of the Year traveling trophy, presented by club president Bill Muessigmann. She was further honored as parade marshal for the 57th annual Watermelon Day parade July 19.