



# A Lions Tale



## Governors Message

First of all, I want to say “thank you” to all the Lions of 33-K for the honor you have bestowed upon me as your District Governor for the Lionistic Year 2009-2010. While I realize that most of the clubs are “quiet” during July & August, your district team has been busy with preparations for the ensuing year. We have already had a successful Cabinet & Advisory Meeting that actually ended when I predicted it would (1:30PM) so I am happy about that. We are forging ahead with the information for the District Directory which will be given to each club at the Fall Advisory Meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> at Anthony’s. We do need your input though to make sure the directory is as correct as it can be (at least when it is printed) Please take the time to look over the information on your club, i.e. officers contact info, meeting dates & locations to ensure it is correct. You can contact either the CST Matthew Richardson or your Zone Chair to get the info we have. If you don’t know who your Zone Chair is please contact me and I’ll put them in touch. Like all governors before me, I have set out several goals for us and I hope I can count on you and your club to help us achieve them. In return, I commit all the resources of the District Governor to assist your club in attaining its objectives. The list will be set out in the directory, but I do want to touch on just a few here;

One of my top priorities this year is improved communications between the district and the clubs. To make this communication effective, it is necessary that you communicate with us. You can expect to hear from me, perhaps more than any time in memory because I will utilize electronic media to the utmost extent possible to achieve this goal. Hearing from your Governor is great, but I also need to hear from you; Tell us how we are doing; Tell us what you are doing; and what we can do to improve and be more helpful to you and your club’s needs. The Lions motto “We Serve” applies to me as well as you.

I will re-energize the district bulletin this year and will publish it on a monthly basis. It is my hope to get this bulletin into the hands of every member in the district. For this, I will need your help. It is not likely that the district will be able to maintain 1800+ e-mail addresses; so I am asking that the clubs do and that they commit to forwarding the bulletin to each of their members with an e-mail. If you have some members without; then regular US Mail will have to suffice.

We will work together toward quality memberships for the clubs of 33-K. If your club is losing members, we want to help you find out why as well as how to reverse such a trend. Clubs should be conducting exit interviews of all dropped members (except for death naturally). Zone Chairs will be asked to help in this endeavor in an effort to retain that member; perhaps in another club if appropriate. At the same time, we will provide assistance (if your club agrees) in recruiting new members for your club, although we fully recognize that this effort is most effective when employed by your club members. We are also willing to conduct some training in the art of recruiting; you need only to ask. We have trained several lions to add to the existing cadre of Guiding Lions and they are available to you. 33-K suffered some of the worst membership losses in the state and I, along with the MERL Team are committed to reversing that trend. We have a cracker-jack MERL team in place and they are eager to go to work for you and our district. We will work toward improving club participation in such Lions programs as the Peace Poster Contest, the Best Club Contest and the Youth Speech Contest. Each of these committee chairs is prepared to offer whatever assistance you need to participate and there is perhaps no better way to re-invigorate your club than to participate in a contest.

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## DGs Message Continued

I will be visiting each club in the district at least once during the year; and Vice District Governor, Joyce will be doing the same. She and I along with CST Matthew Richardson and Vice CST Tom Kerr will be working as a team with the objective of making 33-K the very best it can be. You can also expect visits from your Zone & Region Chair and they will be monitoring your progress on a more intimate level. Beyond the visits, however, if your club has an event at which you'd like the District Governor to be present, please extend the courtesy of sending an invitation (preferably through the CST) It will not benefit either of us for you to assume that we simply know of your event. I see great achievement and challenges ahead in the coming year. International President Eberhard Wirfs theme this year is **"Move to Grow"** and indeed if we move; we will surely grow. If we collaborate on the challenges, we can jointly bask in the glow of our success. I am excited by the challenges that lay ahead, but I am confident about our approach. Unlike past years, we will take a team approach this year. That team includes me, Vice-District Governor Joyce Hogan, CST Matthew Richardson and Vice CST Tom Kerr. Lions have long believed in the adage that "Many hands make for light work" and I believe it is no different here. It is a great team that will work hard to ensure your success because your success is our success. On behalf of everyone on the district level, I wish each of you every success in the coming year and I remind you that we are here to help you succeed; because your success is our success.

Yours in Lionism



Ned Merrick

District Governor

## Changes happen!

Please note in your directories:

PDG Bob Winthrop telephone number isn't correct! Please update to 781-762-6812

PDG Doreen Martel has a new phone number it is: 508-488-7304

2009-2010

# Massachusetts Lions Youth, Speech Competition.

The topic for this year:

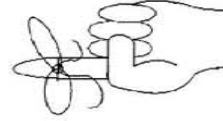
## "Is America Truly The Land Of The Free



The purpose of the competition is to provide an opportunity for students to speak publicly on a designated topic of interest. The competition starts at the local club or school level. It then proceeds through levels of competition ending several months later with the statewide contest. After the Club level, the student, if successful each time, moves through the Zone, Region, and District levels. The competition culminates with the five (5) statewide district winners vying for the title of *BEST IN THE STATE*

The competition is open to ALL students, including Leo's, technical schools, and home-schooled students in grades 10, 11, and 12 (or equivalent), provided that they are sponsored by a Massachusetts Lion, Lioness, or Leo Club. A student can participate on only one Club level competition in a school year. If a Club decides to seek students outside its geographical boundaries, i.e. city/town, it must make sure that it is operating within the guidelines of Lions Club International.

*Speech  
Calendar*



- DECEMBER 12 2009 - DEADLINE FOR CLUB LEVEL SPEECH CONTEST.
- JANUARY 9, 2010 - DEADLINE FOR ZONE LEVEL SPEECH CONTEST
- JANUARY 30, 2010 - DEADLINE FOR REGION LEVEL SPEECH CONTEST

For additional information about this years speech contest contact :

Lion Bill Donnellan at [wdonne2658@aol.com](mailto:wdonne2658@aol.com)

Don't forget: The District could use your assistance in funding this contest!!

## **MEMBERSHIP IS EVERY MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITY!!**

Without the support of great Lions from all over our District, increasing membership, having great leadership programs and retaining our existing members would not be possible. Towards that end, we have brought on a great MERL team to help us this year. Led by VDG Joyce, the MERL team is here to serve the Lions of District 33K. Each of them are available to help each Lions Club in this district meet their membership and leadership goals..

Take advantage of all they have to offer you, the Lions of District 33K and don't forget to check out the great materials that are available on our website. As always, resources are plentiful in District 33K. If you don't find what you're looking for or what you need, please feel free to contact any member of the MERL team and ask for their assistance. We can't help you if you don't tell us you need help!!

### **MERL Chairperson**

1<sup>st</sup> VDG Joyce Hogan  
(Quincy)

147 Wilson Ave

Quincy, MA 02170

(H) 617-479-6210

(C) 617-835-4526

[joycehogan@comcast.net](mailto:joycehogan@comcast.net)

### **Membership Growth and Development Chairperson**

Lions Judy Hyotte (Ashland)

7 Lenox Way

Westborough, MA 01581

508-366-5780

[Judy.hyotte@verizon.net](mailto:Judy.hyotte@verizon.net)

### **Extension Chairperson**

Lion Chip Lennon (Medfield)

PO Box 152

Medfield, MA 02052

(H) 508-369-6552

[mfdmaps@aol.com](mailto:mfdmaps@aol.com)

### **Retention Chairperson**

Lion Jeannette Potter

(Hopkinton)

240 Main Street #221

Marlboro, MA 01752

(H) 508-481-8829

(C) 508-395-4076

[lionjpotter@verizon.net](mailto:lionjpotter@verizon.net)

### **Leadership Chairperson**

Lion Linda Reynolds

(Medway)

148B Holliston Street

Medway, MA 02053

(H) 508-533-2603

[Linda.reynolds@pobox.com](mailto:Linda.reynolds@pobox.com)

## Retention Challenge

**Clubs that are unable to bridge differences and unite for a common goal will create dissatisfied members**

People join a Lion Club for many reasons, but chief among them is to volunteer their time and help those in need. If they are not given the experience they are looking for, and don't feel that their contributions are needed or valued; they will look elsewhere for an outlet to volunteer.

Begin by observing your Club

- Does your Club warmly welcome new members?
- Do you have a diverse membership base?

Is there friction between club members?

If so, is it between the men and women members, younger and older members, or outgoing or more reserved members?

If so, does the friction interfere with the club's functioning?

Do you encourage members to actively voice their opinions?

Are there people you regularly communicate with club members?

Does your club feel like a unified group?

Does your club have common goals?

Do all your members know your club's goals?

Has attendance at your meetings dropped?

Has participation during your service activism dropped?

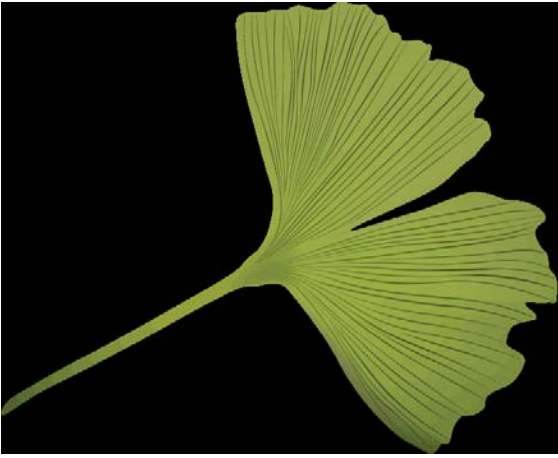
**Look** closely at the current state of your Club

**Listen** to input from fellow club members

**Learn** where problem areas exist

**Respond** by implementing appropriate changes

From our International President: Eberhard J. Wirfs



### **Leadership and Teamwork**

Movement and growth in Lions Clubs International greatly depends on the movement and growth of our leaders. This year district leadership teams will grow to include first- and second-vice district governors. This change is expected to invigorate district leadership and provide a practical arena for the development of future leaders.

First vice district governors will be the district governor's chief administrative assistant and representative. First vice district governors will also help district governors review the strength and weaknesses of clubs within the district, work with the district extension and district membership committees. They are specifically charged with working with district leadership and development committees "to develop and implement a district-wide leadership development plan to enhance the enthusiasm and capability of district officers," according to association bylaws.

Second vice district governors will also assist district governors with administration and are specifically assigned to working with district retention committees and LCIF committees.

The personal growth and development of leaders at all levels is also critical to Lions Clubs International. We are committed as an organization to provide greater access to high quality training resources for all Lion leaders. We are endeavoring to identify potential as early as possible in their Lions careers and to encourage them to participate in e-learning programs and Lion Leadership Institutes.

## **Did you know?**

### **Did you know that Lions recently:**

- Brought 3,000 volunteers together to build [a playground for children of all abilities](#) in California,
- Fed 60,000 people in a township in South Africa. It's something Lions do there every day.
- Sent a team of eye surgeons to Honduras to treat more than 100 adults and children.

Check out [LCI's](#) new and improved website and see what else is going on!



2009 • 2010



# District 33k: Peace Poster Contest



**THEME FOR THIS YEAR : "THE POWER OF PEACE"**

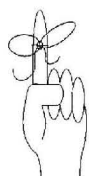
Lions Clubs can sponsor the program in their community for children in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups. Students ages 11, 12, and 13 on November 15th, are *eligible* to participate.

The deadline to purchase a kit is October 1, 2009. You can order the kit on the International website. **(THE CLUB IS RESPONSIBLE TO ORDER THE KITS ON-LINE.)** The cost of the kit is \$9.95, plus tax.

Each poster is judged on originality, artistic merit, and expression of the theme.

Posters advance through several judging levels: *local club, district, multiple district, and international.*

## Important dates to Remember:



- November 15, 2009** - Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster to District Chair.  
Please send posters to: Dick Sabin – 9 Appletree Dr – Plainville, MA 02762
- December 1, 2009** - Postmark deadline for the DG to send one winning district poster to the Multiple District.
- December 15, 2009** - Postmark deadline for the Multiple District Council Chairperson to send one winning poster to the Public Relations Department at International Headquarters.
- February 1, 2010** - International Winners will be notified *on* or before this date.

Thank you, Peace Poster Chair, Dick Sabin -508-699-0237

Need help? Contact **Lion Dick Sabin** at **508-699-0237** for additional information or assistance!





**Have you attended an Advisory meeting lately?** Not only can you learn more about the Districts goals and what our leadership is doing to promote them but it's also a great time for fellowship and friendship.

Enjoy dinner and chatting with old friend and use the opportunity to make new friends from other Lions Clubs. Don't miss out on this great opportunity!



## Got Photos???

Our website has a number of photo albums that are fun to review. If you have photos of your special events to share email [Doreen\\_Martel@yahoo.com](mailto:Doreen_Martel@yahoo.com) or mail to Doreen Martel 90 Oakland Street, Medway MA 02053 and watch for them on our website!

## Upcoming events?

Highlight your clubs upcoming events by going to the calendar on our District website. Not only will your event be entered quickly and easily by you but an email will go to all those who subscribe. Tell us about what your club is doing and let other clubs participate!!



## The Lighter Side



(From USA Today) Animal experts — most of them at least — say dogs just don't experience a singularly human reaction like embarrassment. When we think we see such an expression splayed across their mugs, we're merely attaching to animals the feelings we humans would experience in the same situation. I have to accept the experts' position—I am, after all, taking the stand that dogs aren't people. But any dog prissed up to the nines in some frilly fiasco that makes her look like a dog-shaped wedding cake is not, at that mo-

Happy Fall! The deadline for our November issue is 11/05. If you have something you'd like to contribute please email to [Doreen\\_Martel@yahoo.com](mailto:Doreen_Martel@yahoo.com) The bulletin will be published on 11/15.

