



The International Association of Lions Clubs
District 20-Y1 Newsletter

JUNE 2008



District Governor David Rutkowski



DISTRICT GOVERNORS MESSAGE

Fellow Lions,

As we approach the end of the Lions year we still have work left to do. We need to continue our efforts to recruit more new members and strive to retain every member currently on our rosters. We cannot afford to lose any of our valuable members. We are currently down fifteen members for the year. We need to reach out to our communities and enlist new members. Now is the time to bring in new members. Don't wait till fall to bring in potential members. Your new member may lose interest or think you're not interested. Act **NOW** don't wait. There is no advantage in waiting. You will end up the loser.

Campaign Sight First II is nearing the end of the pledge segment. As of May 28, 2008 Lions around the world have pledged \$176,915,146.86 and are continuing to pledge more. Our district has pledged \$65,920.45 and I am hopeful of more. At this point in the campaign we still have fourteen clubs who have not contributed. Rest assured you will receive a phone call or visit from me to encourage your pledge. Remember we are the Knights of the Blind and the world's greatest service organization. Let's uphold our tradition and support this very necessary campaign.

This will be my last message as your governor and I want to thank all the Lions of District 20Y1 for their support and friendship. Lion Helen and I have met many GREAT Lions as we have visited clubs across the district. We have had the opportunity to travel to Conventions, Leader Dog, and Council of Governor meetings where we have met dedicated Lions from around the world. We have met and enjoyed time with International officers. We especially enjoyed our Fall Conference weekend with International Director Maurice Kahawaii and his wife Lani. I'm sure the Lions who attended will never forget his chant. I know Helen I will never forget them. There is a group of Lions whom I owe an immeasurable amount of gratitude. Those are the members of District Governors advisory committee. PDG's Stanley Deminski, Robert Caswell, Doug Cook, and Charles Wallace. Although this Lion is not a PDG he is as valuable as any advisor in the world, he is a man who has worked for me as hard as anyone could hope for. That Lion is Max Pepper. Lion Max has provided help, guidance and sometimes he even chewed me out and he even told me I was NUTS. He was probably right.

Finally I must recognize another PDG who gave the nudge I needed to undertake this responsibility. That Lion and PDG is Clayton Bagnick. Without his support and guidance I would have never taken on this responsibility. I have called PDG Clayt on many occasions to seek his advice and council and he has always provided me solid and sensible advice. I could go on for hours thanking everyone for his or her support and friendship.

I am looking forward to continue serving all of my new and old friends in the future. I look forward to visiting clubs and Lions while supporting future Lion projects and campaigns.

Finally I wish DGE Paul and Lion Rae the best of luck and success in the coming year.

Yours in Lionism,

DG Dave and Lion/Lioness Helen



VICE DISTRICT GOVERNORS MESSAGE

I can't believe in 1 month I'll be your DG. With the great Lions in this district I have no doubt that we will have a good year working together. I want to thank all the clubs who gave to CSFII and helped to get rid of some of the O we had.

I'm going to repeat the important dates I put in last months letter as I would really like to see a good turn out for these events.

1-On Aug. 10,2008 I'll be having an officers training and family picnic at Little York Park in Preble off rt.81. So people can go to church the classes will start at 10:am and there will be a family picnic after. You will receive a form in July for a head count which I have to have back by Aug. 3rd.

The classes will be for pres.,sec'y.,treas.,zone chairman and membership chair.

2- On Oct 5th, will be my 1st cabinet meeting and golf tournament at Rough Roost Golf Course in Bridgeport. You will receive more on this over the summer.

For the clubs who haven't got your pu101's in please do so I can get them to the printer for the directory before I leave for the International Convention in Bangkok Thailand.

I'm really looking forward to a great year and working for you all and I hope you and your clubs will do the same for me.

In closing I ask you to make sure your clubs get this information on the up coming events. Keep up the great job you all do.

WE SERVE
VDGE PAUL HAYNES

MEMBERSHIP - THE USA PROBLEM

Throughout the world Lions membership is growing - except here in the USA. Our Clubs are failing to recruit ! There are people in our communities who would join but we do not go out and find them ! The end result is that we slowly slide down hill in Lions numbers.

Our own District 20-Y1 has dropped 18 members since last July. Some of our Clubs have gained many new Lions but many more are declining.

The ones that are gaining have a Membership Chair !!! Those that are losing most likely do not.

Does your Club have a Membership Chair on the Executive Board as required by the International Constitution ???

Maybe its time to discuss this requirement in your Club and then elect an effective Chair !??

Since 2000 our District has dropped over 350 members - no need to !

The thrust from Lions International this coming year will be recruiting. There will be recruiting contests !

Our own International President, Al Brandel will be leading the effort. Help him out ! Its the north-east that has the greatest loss in membership in the nation !!! Come back in September ready to recruit !

LCIF - CAMPAIGN SIGHT FIRST II

To complete the obligation of CSFII the District Governor is asking the 14 non-participating Clubs to either send to him a single \$ 100.00 check or \$ 6.00 per member. This would make 20-Y1 a 100% doner to this great cause.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

Don't forget to order your Peace Poster Kits from the Intn'l supplies Department. Teachers need them during the first week of school.

20-Y1 WEB SITE CHANGE

The address for the 20-Y1 Web Site will remain the same which is (www.centralnylions.com). The Web Site Chair will be changing and will be included in the July Newsletter.

VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR CANDIDATES

The District Governor and the PDG Association are looking for future candidates for the position of Vice District Governor. New structuring plans formulated by Lions International will require two VDG's per District to allow the District Governor to attend to District administration. Candidates are needed for July 2009. Qualifications are (1) to have been a Club President and (2) to have been a District zone chair or secretary or treasurer. Contact DG David Rutkowski, VDG Paul Haynes or PDG's Bob Caswell or Stan Deminski.

NYS LIONS MAGAZINE

The Council of Governors (MD-20) has decided on 4 issues of the Magazine for 2008-2009. Club articles for the magazines will be sent to Lion Helen Rutkowski, 246 State Route 38B, Endicott, NY, 13760. Due dates for articles will be in the July newsletter.

Helens phone number is (607-748-5199).



NYS LIONS CONVENTION 2009

The next MD-20 Convention will take place in Binghamton, NY, May 22,23,24, 2009. If you want a room in the Convention Hotel, call Maria at 315-478-3131 - reservations are going fast.

FINGER LAKES REGION LIONS HEARING FOUNDATION (F.L.R.L.H.F.)

At a executive board meeting in early May the Directors came to grips with the fact that hearing aid technology is fast changing over to digital technology. The Foundation made a decision to convert to digital as the donations of over-the-ear aids is declining rapidly.

A committee was formed to research grant organizations to proceed with the conversion to digital which is estimated to cost about \$ 50,000.00 for a base supply of aids. This process will take a full year or more. Lions donations would be greatly appreciated also ! Technology change is costly !!!

LIONS CAMP BADGER

Camp Badger has been encouraged to change from a young childrens clientel to an "all adges and disabilities" mix in order to keep its NYS funding. The ADA specified a large and expensive list of physical improvements to the camp in order to accomodate wheel chairs and handicapped persons of all ages. Some of the improvements have been completed but Lions help would sure help the projects mandated.

LCIF CHAIRPERSON 2008-2009

The LCIF Chair for the coming year is soon to be PDG David Rutkowski. Dave will be badgering you all at Cabinet meetings for personal donations to LCIF. You will receive a collectors pin for your generosity. Help Dave complete his new mission !!!

MD-20 LIONS NYS& BERMUDA DUES

At the NYS LIONS CONVENTION in Niagara Falls the dues increase passed by a 5 to 1 margin. The increase calls for a \$ 3.00 increase the first year and a \$ 2.00 increase the following year. The last increase was in 1996 - costs have increased considerably since then. Over the past ten years funds have been borrowed from the reserve fund - time to replenish same !

(DISTRICT - STATE - INTERNATIONAL)

2008-2009 CALENDAR

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 ST COUNCIL MEETING | JULY 25-26 2008 |
| LIONS DAY CAMP BADGER | JULY 27 2008 |
| LIONS WEEKEND GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND | JULY 18-19 2008 |
| LIONS WEEKEND VACATION CAMP FOR THE BLIND | AUGUST 18-19 08 |
| DISTRICT&CLUB OFFICER TRAINING TBA | AUGUST 10 TH 2008 |
| LEADERS DOG SCHOOL ROCHESTER MICH. | AUGUST 16-17 08 |
| USA/CANADA LEADERSHIP FORUM CANADA | SEPT. 18-20 2008 |
| 1 ST DISTRICT CABINET MEETING & GOLF TOUR. SYR. | OCT. 5 2008 |
| MD-20 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE SYRACUSE | OCT. 5 2008 |
| MD-20 PDG ORGANIZATION MEETING | OCT 17-18 2008 |
| 2 ND COUNCIL MEETING BINGHAMTON | OCT 24-26 2008 |
| INTER.BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MAUI | OCT. 29- NOV. 3 2008 |
| 20Y1 FALL CONFERENCE SYRACUSE | NOV. 7,8,9, 2008 |
| 3 RD CABINET MEETING TBA | JAN. 25, 2009 |
| 3 RD COUNCIL MEETING SYRACUSE | FEB. 20-21, 2009 |
| LIONS DAY AT THE UN | MARCH 13 2009 |
| MD-20 PDG ORG. SPRING MEETING | MARCH 20-21 2009 |
| INTER. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NY,NY. | MARCH 9-14 2009 |
| DISTRICT GOVENORS SCHOOL BINGHAMTON | APRIL 3-5 2009 |
| 4 TH CABINET MEETING TBA | APRIL 19 2009 |
| DG TESTIMONIAL TBA | MAY 17 2009 |
| 4 TH COUNCIL MEETING BINGHAMTON,NY | MAY 21 2009 |
| MD-20 CONVENTION BINGHAMTON,NY | MAY 22-24 2009 |
| INTER. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING | JULY 1-5 2009 |
| DGE SCHOOL MINNEAPOLIS MINN. | JULY 2-6 2009 |
| INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION MINNEAPOLIS MINN. | JULY 6-10,2009 |

20-Y1 CALENDAR 2008-2009

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| CLUB & DISTRICT OFFICER TRAINING | AUGUST 10, 2008 |
| USA/CANADA LEADERSHIP FORUM—CANADA | SEPT.18-20,2008 |
| 1 ST CABINET MEETING & GOLF TOUR. SYR. | OCT.5, 2008 |
| MD20- LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE SYRACUSE | OCT. 5, 2008 |
| DIST. 20-Y1 FALL CONFERENCE SYR. (TBA) | NOV. 7,8,9. 2008 |
| 3 RD CABINET MEETING (TBA) | JAN.25,2009 |
| LIONS DAY AT THE UN. | MARCH 13,2009 |
| 4 TH CABINET MEETING (TBA) | APRIL 19,2009 |
| DG TESTIMONIAL (TBA) | MAY 17, 2009 |
| MD CONVENTION BINGHAMTON | MAY 22,24 2009 |
| INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION MINNEAPOLIS | JULY 6-10 2009 |



CLUB AND DISTRICT OFFICERS TRAINING PICNIC

On August 10, 2008 (Sunday) there will be a training session for all Club Presidents, Secretarys, Treasurers, Membership Chairs and Zone Chairs at Little York Park starting at 10:00 AM. All participants are encouraged to bring their whole family as this is a family picnic affair also. Familys are asked to bring a dish to pass and their own beverages. Hotdogs and hambergers will be provided. A registration form will be mailed out early July and must be returned to me by Aug 3. Hope to see you there !!!

CABINET MEETING NO. 1

The first Cabinet meeting will take place on October 5 at the Rough Roost golf course in Bridgeport, NY. Yes - this will be the District Golf Tournament following the Cabinet meeting. More details on this in September.

PU-101 FORMS

VDG Paul Haynes needs your PU-101 forms in order to complete the District Directory. Please - Please send him the forms so that we don't have another late Directory !!!!!!!
Send directly to VDG Paul Haynes, 2646 Waterbury Rd., Canastota, NY 13032

**LIONS NIGHT - SYRACUSE STADIUM**

The Syracuse Host Lions Club is inviting all Lions to once again "play ball" at the 20th annual Lions Night at the Ballpark. The event takes place on Wednesday, July 9 at 7:00 PM (Chiefs versus the Buffalo Bisons.

General admission seats (level 300) may be purchased at \$210 for 1000 tickets, \$170 for 500 tickets, and at \$85 for 300 tickets. Checks should be made payable to SYRACUSE CHIEFS and mailed to me at the address below no later than June 30. Tickets will be mailed upon receipt of payment. Contact David Cheaka - 492-4202 (315)

117 Byrne Place - Syracuse, NY 13205

Lions Members Are Needed!

**Sponsor
A New
Member**