



OFFICIAL CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

**SINGLE DISTRICT 10
LIONS OF MICHIGAN**

**Island Resort & Casino
Harris, Michigan**

April 25-27, 2008

**Published by
LIONS OF MICHIGAN STATE OFFICE
5730 Executive Drive
Lansing, Michigan 48911
(517) 887-6640
lions@acd.net**

**86th ANNUAL CONVENTION
SINGLE DISTRICT 10 - LIONS OF MICHIGAN
HARRIS, MICHIGAN
APRIL 25-27, 2008**



**MIX & MEET
APRIL 25, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.
Paradise Room, Island Resort & Casino, Harris, Michigan**

There were 192 Lions and guests in attendance at the Mix and Meet, which featured a buffet supper and DJ/karaoke entertainment. A silent auction and live auction raised over \$4,000 for various charities.



**GENERAL SESSION
APRIL 26, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
Club 41, Island Resort & Casino, Harris, Michigan**

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by District Governor Duane Goltz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation, dignitaries and guests were introduced.

CREDENTIALS REPORT – Jim Decremer, PDG

The preliminary report from the Credentials Committee showed that there were 61 delegates, 19 Past District Governors, and 10 alternates certified to vote. Total convention registration is 210 people.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT - Bill Whippen, PDG

1. **Order of Business:** Except as herein otherwise provided, the “Order of Business” shall be in the order given in the Business Session Agenda, a copy of which has been furnished each certified delegate and alternate.
2. **Deviation from the “Order of Business”:** Deviation from the “Order of Business” as adopted by the convention shall occur only when authorized by proper motion approved by a majority of the delegates duly assembled.
3. **First “Order of Business”:** The first “Order of Business” shall be the report of the Credentials Committee. No other business shall be transacted until the Credentials Committee shall have certified the number of delegates and alternates registered at the convention.
4. **Second “Order of Business”:** The second “Order of Business” shall be the report of the Rules Committee. No other business shall be transacted until the Rules have been adopted.
5. **Parliamentary Procedure:** Except where otherwise herein provided, the “Newly Revised Edition of Robert’s Rules of Order” shall govern matters of Parliamentary Procedure.
6. **Quorum:** A quorum for any duly scheduled meeting shall consist one more than half of the registered delegates certified to the Convention by the Credentials Committee and present at such meetings.

7. **Resolutions:** All proposed resolutions, except amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall be presented to the Convention by the Chair of the Constitution and By-Laws under the conditions prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
8. **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws:**
 - A. **Amendments:** Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be presented to the Convention by the Chair of the Constitution and By-Laws under the conditions prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
 - B. **Discussion:** Except as authorized by the Chair, discussion shall be limited to one principal speaker for and one principal speaker against, and three additional speakers each, pro and con. All discussion on any one amendment shall be limited to fourteen (14) minutes.
 - C. **Voting:** Any vote pertaining to amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, or resolutions requiring a vote, shall be by show of hands, except where otherwise required by the Constitution and By-Laws of District 10 and Lions International.
9. **Limitations on Speakers:**
 - D. **Subjects Before the Convention:** Each speaker discussing any matter, including proposed amendments or resolutions requiring a vote, shall be limited to three (3) minutes. An additional three (3) minutes shall be granted by the Chair without objection from the delegates.
 - E. **Presentations:** Presentations shall be limited to the time allowed by the presiding officer.
10. **Duties of the Sergeants-At-Arms:** The Sergeants-At-Arms are authorized to enforce the rules herein set forth.
11. **Suspension of the Rules:** Suspension of the Rules may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates assembled.
12. **Call for Nominations:** The Call for Nominations shall be made three times before a motion to close nominations is in order.

MOTION – Whippen, Kelly, to adopt the Rules. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION – made, seconded, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the 2007 convention held in Rapid River, Michigan are posted on the website.

MOTION – made, seconded, to approve the minutes of the convention. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Bruce LaBelle, SD 10 Treasurer

The Lions of Michigan Single District 10 checking account began the 2007-08 fiscal year with a balance of \$26,736.98 on July 1, 2007. Total income for the fiscal year is \$27,243.74, with disbursements totaling \$34,957.06, leaving a balance as of April 20, 2008 of \$19,006.96. Total income minus expenses is (\$7,713.32).

The large negative number is due to the fact that the Restricted Accounts (Hearing and Speech and Mint Distribution and Sales) were moved on 12/3/07 to separate savings accounts so that their associated funds would not be considered available district funds. In addition, \$10,000 was

transferred from the district checking account to a 5-month certificate of deposit earning 4.41% interest on 12/3/07.

Adjusting for the transfer of \$12,823.55 to savings/CD, the adjusted income minus expenses is \$5,110.22. The district showed a profit for the fiscal year. This does not take into account that the district spent \$3,850 for development of the SD 10 website (www.district10lionss.org).

The SD 10 Cabinet made donations totaling \$383.37 during the fiscal year. The following organizations were recipients of these monies:

1 st Cabinet Meeting Fines	Campaign SightFirst II	\$25.00
2 nd Cabinet Meeting Fines	Campaign SightFirst II	31.35
3 rd Cabinet Meeting Fines	Bay Cliff Health Camp Capital	27.02
District Budgeted Funds	Lions Leadership Institute	300.00

The Hearing and Speech restricted account began the fiscal year with a balance of \$996.55. An additional \$1,075.00 was received from 11 Lions Clubs, and \$.84 in interest, leaving a balance of \$2,072.39 as of April 20, 2008.

The Mints Distribution and Sales restricted account began the fiscal year with a balance of \$894.17. An additional \$1,074.78 was added to the account, along with \$1.16 in interest, leaving a balance of \$1,970.11 on April 20, 2008. These funds are received for warehousing and distribution of Lion Mints and 5% gross sales of the mints.

The \$10,000 certificate of deposit will mature on May 3, with a value of \$10,184.92. It will be reinvested automatically into a 3-month CD.

2008-09 District Dues Structure

Lions International Dues Breakdown

The Lion Magazine	\$4.75	12.18%
International Convention Fund	.50	1.28%
District Govs/Govs-Elect	8.82	22.62%
Liability Insurance	4.02	10.31%
Special Club Programs	7.40	18.97%
General Operations	13.51	34.64%
Total International Dues	\$39.00	100.00%

Each club is required to pay Lions International \$39 per member per year (Equivalent to \$0.75 per member per week, billed semi-annually)

Single District 10 Dues Breakdown

State Office Service	\$1.49	12.41%
Restricted Fund Service	.50	4.17%
International Convention	<u>.60</u>	<u>5.00%</u>
Lions of MI State Office Total	\$2.59	21.58%
U.P. Lions Magazine	2.00	16.67%
District 10 Admin. Fund	<u>7.41</u>	<u>61.75%</u>

Total District Dues 12.00 100.00%

Each club is required to pay Single District 10 \$12.00 per member per year (Equivalent to \$0.23 per member per week, billed semi-annually)

Semi-annual dues billings are due in January and July.

International Dues (\$39.00) + District Dues (\$12.00) = Total Dues (\$51.00)

Your Lions Club needs to charge at least \$51.00 in dues per member, plus whatever additional monies are needed for club operations.

Two clubs in Single District 10 have past due balances that put them in danger of losing their charter if they do not bring these accounts up to date with Lions International. On July 1, 2007, LCI implemented a new suspension policy. Lions Clubs that have unpaid balances in excess of \$20 per member or \$1,000 (whichever is less) outstanding past 150 days will be automatically suspended for a period not to exceed 90 days. If the club does not reach good standing within the suspension period, their charter will be automatically cancelled.

Treasurer LaBelle reviewed a chart showing membership trends in District 10 over the past 13 years. The number of members has declined from 2,299 in 1995-96 to 1,820 in 2007-08. During that same time period, the number of the Lions Clubs in the Upper Peninsula has decreased from 67 to 60.

MOTION – made, seconded, to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

PROPOSED BUDGET – Bruce LaBelle, SD 10 Treasurer

The proposed budget for 2008-09 is \$25,035.00, based on 1,820 members. The budget was reviewed with the Cabinet during their meeting on Friday.

MOTION – made, seconded, to accept the proposed budget. Motion carried.

NORTHWOODS AIR LIFELINE – George Kelly, PDG, Chair

This past Lions year has been a very busy and expensive one for our operation. With our two aircraft, the Synca 111 and the Bonanza, and the help of the volunteer pilots and their aircraft, we have been able to keep up with the demand of the missions. Over 2,200 missions have been completed since our beginning up to present date.

In October and November, I called every Lions Club in the district at my own expense, explaining that more financial help was needed. Lions Club participation has increased over 25% from last year. Donations exceeded \$5,000 this year.

The Synca 111 is down for inspection. The cost of this is \$40,000 per engine, and comes out of reserve funds. The average cost of a mission is approximately \$950 to \$1,200. In the past month, we had 23 missions scheduled. Only 15 were completed, due to the weather. Three of the completed missions were small children. A number of the cancelled missions were scheduled for later dates.

Here’s an example of a day with one of our pilots using his own aircraft: At the airport at 5 a.m. Get the plane out of the hangar, preflight the aircraft, take off and head for Escanaba. Pick up a patient and head for Rochester. Pick up returning patient to Hancock. Fly from Hancock to Green Bay, pick up a patient, and on to Minneapolis. Fly from Minneapolis to Rochester with a patient. Take

returning patient to KI Sawyer and end flight to Iron Mountain. Land and put the plane into the hangar at 5:30 p.m. Time from leaving IMT to return – 12 hours, including flying time, landings and take offs, and in some cases taking the patient to their appointment with a loaner car.

How proud we can be of our volunteer pilots and the use of their aircraft. They take time away from their families and jobs. A lot of times, they pay the cost of the flight out of their own pockets. They double up a lot of flights to save funds. I cannot give enough credit and thanks to these volunteers. They never refuse to help.

BAY CLIFF REPORT – Tracee Kauppila, Co-Chair

Thus far this year, \$9,448.98 has been received from 26 Lions/Lioness Clubs for operations at Bay Cliff. This amount is roughly 46% less than what was brought in for operations at this time last year. I urge clubs that have not made a donation to Bay Cliff this year to please do so.

We also continue the effort to raise funds for Bay Cliff's capital campaign, in particular the Shady Nook building. Since July of 2007, \$16,347.02 has been received from 15 clubs and 6 other sources. The bulk of this is from one Lions Club, Bark River. I personally thank them for their fine efforts. Overall since the campaign began, donations from Lions and other sources total \$110,502. Of this amount, over \$47,000 has come from the three Bay Cliff/Lions raffles. Another \$15,220 was raised by the Rapid River Lions Club for the gateway entrance at the camp. Bay Cliff is hoping this project will be completed prior to Lions Pride Day this year.

Unlike the past three years, a raffle was not conducted this year to benefit Bay Cliff, so we will not have a drawing to look forward to tonight. We were NOT in favor of another raffle for these reasons: (1) Poor tracking and returns – over 30% of the tickets mailed out last year were not returned and we never heard from the clubs, and (2) Negative feelings and comments from some of the Lions Clubs. Many refused them at the Post Office or wrote/called/emailed to say they did not want to participate. They said the tickets were too hard to sell.

The raffle represented a huge investment of Bay Cliff's and the committee's money in printing, postage and staff time that was not effective. We felt the clubs resented this project and felt like they were being told how to raise money (i.e., through this raffle). This is not the way the relationship is supposed to work. Clubs should decide on their own how/when they raise funds. We can't make volunteers do something they don't want to do. Bay Cliff did not want to alienate any of their community supporters or Lions Club members, so the decision was made to not conduct a raffle this year. I'd like to thank the clubs and individuals who bought and/or sold tickets in the past. It is too bad that a few bad apples spoiled it for those who were supportive of this.

Solicitation letters asking clubs to send their 2007-08 donations to Bay Cliff have not been sent. Instead, an article will be included in the next magazine reminding clubs of this. One problem we continue to have, even though we've stressed it many times, is that clubs are not putting "camp operations" or "capital campaign" in the memo line of the check. If a specification is not made, the camp automatically allocates the donation to operations.

Lions Pride Day was a huge success last year, so Sunday, June 22 has been designated as Lions' Day this year. In scheduling this event on a weekend, I hope to see an increase in the number of people attending. A notice was sent out this week to club secretaries with details about the event. This summer Bay Cliff will celebrate 75 years, so please join us in honoring this milestone.

As has been done in previous years, each club is encouraged to send a representative to present a check, along with a stuffed toy lion to the staff at the camp. The toy lions are used as awards and incentives for campers. They will be distributed at the end of the season, as determined by the camp staff. A limited supply of toy lions are being sold at this convention, or a lion can be purchased from the LCI catalog or any other outlet of your choice. These symbols of Lionism will help to promote the awareness and presence of the support of Bay Cliff by the Lions Clubs across the Upper Peninsula.

I hope to see a large contingent of Lions on June 22 at 10:30 a.m. to visit the camp, see the newly renovated teen barn complex, laundry/linen facility, and new pavilion and BBQ pit, plus tour the grounds and hear an update on the capital campaign. All visitors will enjoy lunch with the campers.

We have surpassed the \$75,000 we need as “match funds” to apply for the grant. Thanks to all who helped make this possible. We continue to work on the draft for our grant application. We hope it will be complete by this fall.

WELCOME HOMES REPORT – Nancee DeVogel and Rod Prys

Rod Prys – “Welcome Homes Residential Services was formerly known as Welcome Home for the Blind. As you know, we had a residential facility on Monroe Avenue in Grand Rapids that handled 36 residents. It is no longer there. We have changed our focus and are now spreading out across the state. We now have a presence in six homes in Michigan, including one in Munising.

“I’ve heard a lot of chatter going on, wondering where your dollar is going when you contribute to Welcome Homes. It is going directly toward serving residents in facilities around the state. It no longer goes into bricks and mortar or overhead, but into assisting visually impaired and blind individuals in facilities throughout the state.

“We are identifying homes that currently have residents with vision problems. Those facilities are evaluated to make sure the staff is qualified and capable of handling the needs of individuals with visual impairments. In many places, the staff is not trained professionally to handle their needs. The training we bring to these facilities helps the visually impaired to maintain a dignified and independent life style. During the evaluation, we look at the building, the interior, the exterior and the grounds to make sure everything meets ADA standards. We meet with the staff to advise them on how to work with the blind and visually impaired. We also meet with the nurses.

“We presently have a member home in Munising. The problem we are having there is that the home changed hands recently. Once that process is complete, we will be able to get back on track and work directly with that home. We are also working with a national agency that has 19 homes around Michigan.

Nancee DeVogel – “I want to tell you a story about Jo. When she first came to Welcome Home—as we originally knew it—she had been sitting around in her house alone. Her daughter was worried about her because she was starting to burn herself while cooking. She came to Welcome Home and became very independent. She loved it there. When Welcome Homes changed its course and began to look at ways they could serve **more** visually impaired and blind individuals by enabling them to stay in their own communities, Jo found a new home that she was very excited about moving into. This was one of our new Welcome Homes “member” facilities. However, she moved in before Welcome Homes had a chance to meet with the staff. I visited her and asked how it was going. She

said she wasn't doing a lot. There were activities, but she didn't know where to go or how to get there. She didn't know anybody and was feeling afraid. I asked to see her room. She took me to her deck, and right away I noticed that there was carpeting that was not secure and blowing in the wind. I talked to the facilities manager and explained to him that Jo was blind and the loose carpeting was a hazard for her. He took care of it right away, and then checked all of the other rooms to make sure it was not a problem for anyone else. This is one example of what Welcome Homes Residential Services does.

"Then I sat down with the activities people to find out what they do for their visually impaired residents. They said they didn't do anything because they didn't know how to include them. That was the saddest thing I ever heard. So, we worked with the staff and gave them some ideas about how to involve them. We sent in a mobility instructor to work face-to-face with residents to teach them how to use a white cane, how to get from one point to another, how to color-code their clothing, how to put toothpaste on a toothbrush, how to butter bread, how to fill a glass with causing it to overflow. There are a lot of things people don't know how to do when they lose their vision as they age—they weren't born blind. It's new, and it's very scary for them.

"I called Jo the next week to find out how she was doing. She said she couldn't talk because she had to help the lady across the hall who just moved in. She was going to show her around. What a change Welcome Homes made after they started working with that facility! Jo got her independence and her confidence back.

"I'm going to end with this. We can build buildings, but they break down, deteriorate, get old and need updating that costs tons of money—or we can build confidence and we can build lives for those who are visually impaired and blind. I thank you, Lions, for your support."

Rod Prys – "Welcome Homes Residential Services is a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, which means donations are tax deductible. We need donations from Lions Clubs to continue to operate.

"In 1925 Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become Knights of the Blind. That is what Welcome Homes is doing. It makes no difference if the people we are helping are residents on Monroe Street, Elm Street, or Main Street. These people are visually impaired. They are citizens, and they need our assistance. That's our job. We send money halfway around the world to keep people from going blind (which also is a great program), but these people are right here in our own back yard. They look like us and dress like us. They could be our grandfathers, grandmothers, fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers or just friends. Whoever or wherever they might be, they need our help. They are not to be forgotten. Your continued support and donations to the Welcome Homes Residential Services program will keep the challenge alive for Lions to assist the blind and visually impaired as Knights of the Blind."

Question: Is any special training required to teach people to work with the visually impaired?

Nancee DeVogel: "They attend college for four years to get a degree. It's a special field for mobility and orientation. The curriculum is specifically geared toward working with blind and visually impaired individuals."

Question: Do you work with blind individuals in their own homes or just in facilities?

Rod Prys: “Right now, we are working just with residential facilities, but that is in the future. Some day we hope to be doing that.”

Question: Do you have enough instructors to handle training for the entire state?

Rod Prys: “We work with ABVI (Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired) to provide mobility training and specialty services in designated areas throughout the state. Wherever we go in Michigan, north, south, east or west—including the Upper Peninsula—we identify mobility specialists from the area who can handle the homes in that area.

Nancee DeVogel: “We are having a Board Meeting in two weeks to discuss getting our own orientation and mobility specialists on board.”

Question: Do you receive any financial assistance from outside the Lions?

Rod Prys: “No. We receive no funding from the State of Michigan. We receive support from the Lions and from the fundraising projects we put on.”

Question: Did you take a poll of all the facilities in the Upper Peninsula to find out if they would willingly participate in your program?

Rod Prys: “We have a listing of all residential care facilities in the Upper and Lower Peninsula. We are contacting all of them to see if they would like to participate in our program.”

Nancee DeVogel: “We could have Welcome Homes facilities all over Michigan. Everyone who hears about our program is excited and thinks it is badly needed. They say, ‘Where have you been?’ We’re involved with the Michigan Assisted Living Association Conference in a couple weeks. The Director happens to be the daughter of a Lions’ member from Mt. Pleasant. He heard one of our presentations and told his daughter, ‘You’ve got to hear about this.’ She wants to work with us all next year and have us at their conferences. She wants everyone in assisted living and nursing homes to know about our program. That’s how important she thinks it is.”

Comment: In these tough economic times, budget cutbacks have caused facilities to eliminate staff members. If visually impaired residents are able to care for themselves and have the skills they need to be independent, the staff members will be able to use their time more effectively because they won’t be spending time feeding them or guiding them from room to room.

Comment: The Lions of SD 10 are currently supporting 17 district and state projects. The reports we have received show that we are not very strong in our support of many of them. We need to contribute to the projects we have voted to support.

Following the discussion, Rod and Nancee were escorted from the room so the delegates could debate whether to continue to support Welcome Homes.

MOTION – made and seconded, to continue to support Welcome Homes as a state and district project. Motion carried.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS REPORT (written) – Bill Whippen, PDG, Chair

Bill Whippen – “We have the following item for you to consider: A resolution to create the position of Second Vice District Governor. As I explained on the webpage and in the article I wrote for the magazine, we are doing this as a resolution. In the event that it might be defeated, I tried to avoid weeks of work to draft the language to include it in the By-Laws. It is my understanding that LCI has an amendment to be presented at the convention in Bangkok to adopt the position of 2VDG. It is much more detailed and highly specific, with guidelines and so forth. The resolution we are dealing with today requires a simple majority to pass.”

RESOLUTION TO CREATE THE POSITION OF SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the International Association of Lions Clubs approved, in March 2007, the position of Second Vice District Governor for districts and sub-districts, and

WHEREAS, the position of Second Vice Governor in District 10 would increase the number of qualified Lions available for administrative advancement, and

WHEREAS, the office of Second Vice District Governor offers the Lions of District 10 an opportunity to experience, without commitment, the role of Vice District Governor and Governor.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lions of District 10 establish the position of Second Vice District Governor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the position, if utilized, shall not be an elected one. The holder shall be appointed by the District Governor with duties to be established in the Policy Manual.

MOTION – Whippen, Klaus, to adopt the resolution.

Question: Is there a cost estimate?

Bill Whippen: None is available. I would anticipate that the cost would be negligible. They will be performing duties similar to those currently done by the DG or VDG.

Question: Is the 2VDG automatically in the line of succession for the District Governorship?

Bill Whippen: No.

Question: What are the duties of the 2VDG?

Bill Whippen: We’re holding on that until LCI deals with the amendment at the convention in Thailand. We listed no duties in our resolution because those are determined by the DG. We’ve designed this as a ‘permissive’ position. It’s up to the District Governor to determine whether or not he needs one. If you look at our geography, it’s as far from the bridge to Detroit as it is from one end of the UP to the other. So, in the event that you have two people (like we had this year), the VDG and the DG, from the same part of the district, it’s conceivable that it could have saved us money to have a 2VDG in the other end of the district to save some of that travel. You need to look at it from that perspective. There are times when it might be advantageous, depending on circumstances. As long as the position is permissive, the Governor doesn’t have to use it.

Charles Lundmark: It's my understanding that the 2VDG cannot run for DG. Is that right?

Bill Whippen: He can run for Governor if he's qualified. The idea behind it is to give someone who might be thinking about it, but is a little tentative, an opportunity to have experience. He can decide if he wants to give up two years of his life to do this.

George Kelly: What qualifications does a Lion have to have to be appointed to this position?

Bill Whippen: Those are not established yet, but I would assume that the qualifications would be similar to those of a Vice District Governor.

Joe Potvin: For many years, we had Region Chairs. They came to meetings, we gave them mileage, and we'd feed them, but they didn't do anything. They had the opportunity to move up, but they didn't. We finally got rid of them.

Bill Whippen: No comment.

ID Ed Lecius: I think the critical thing is this is not going to be mandatory. At the Board Meeting in India in September, we put the onus on the Zone and Region Chairs to step up and be more active. We eliminated the 100% DG Award and the 100% President's Award. We have created the Governor's Excellence Award, the President's Excellence Award, the Region Chair's Excellence Award and the Zone Chair's Excellence Award. In order for individuals in those positions to get those awards, they're going to have to do something and they're going to have to work with each other—and it starts at the President and works its way up. If someone drops the ball in between, the next person in the food chain is not going to get recognition. They're going to be waiting on the ZC or the RC to fulfill their obligations. We're trying to put a little more emphasis and importance on those positions—more than just giving them a title and a job on paper. As far as the 2VDG, there will be criteria and qualifications if the proposal is approved in Bangkok. There is even a line of succession outlined for those who care to use it. Again, we did not make it mandatory. So, if your DG chooses not to appoint a 2VDG, no harm, no foul.

Question: Is the intent of the proposal creating the 2VDG position to eliminate Region Chairs?

Bill Whippen: No, there is no proposal at this time to eliminate Region Chairs; they are already optional. The 2VDG position is not intended to replace the Region Chairs. The 2VDG position would be based on perceived need by the DG. If he sees a need for it, he would have the ability under this resolution to fill that position. If he doesn't see a need for it, then it will not be utilized.

Duke Snyder: I think this would enable us to have two candidates for the office of VDG. That's a scenario that we could run into—which is not a bad thing. It would be wonderful for the district to have competition. It's been years since that has happened.

VOTE ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT: Motion carried – 42 ayes, 23 nays.

Bill Whippen: The next thing you have is a document entitled Amendments. They are housekeeping in nature only. You will recall that last year, we adopted the Standard Form District By-Laws. We now have three documents that operate our district. One is the Constitution and By-Laws (the standard one). The second one is a section of amendments to the standard district by-laws. It is

basically amendments that we had in the old by-laws that we want to keep because they are still germane and extremely relevant. The third document, of course, is our Policy Manual. All three documents are inter-related, but clearly distinct.

STANDARD DISTRICT CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE I: This organization shall be known as District No. **10**.

ARTICLE III: The boundary lines of this district shall be as follows: **All counties in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.**

ARTICLE VI, Section 1 (**new last sentence**): **The first full weekend in May of each year shall be the date of the District Convention.** (Adopted in Munising, 2004)

ARTICLE VI, Section 2 (**new paragraph**): **Past District Governors are entitled to vote at the District Convention. Said vote shall not count against the total allowable convention votes for their club.** (Adopted in Marquette, 1983)

Bill Whippen: The change in Article I is necessary because there are blanks in the standard form. We are known as District 10. The change in Article III simply says ‘all counties in the Upper Peninsula’ instead of listing them separately. In Article VI, Section 1, there is a new last sentence. This came from the old constitution and designates the date of the district convention. Then in Article VI, Section 2, we are adding a paragraph that was adopted in 1983 relating to Past District Governors voting at the district convention.

MOTION – Whippen, Nicklas, to adopt the proposed amendments to the constitution. Motion carried.

STANDARD DISTRICT BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE I, Section 9 (**new last sentence**): **An advance, repayable from net income, not to exceed \$750, may be made to the host club.** (Adopted in 1998)

Page 19 (By-Laws – Article VII, Sec. 1a – line 5) – insert **30** for number of days required for delivery of intent.

Descriptions of all committees, including duties, manner of selection and/or functions (shall) be incorporated into the Single District 10 Policy Manual [in lieu of inclusion in the By-Laws]. (Adopted in Munising, 2004)

The Vice District Governor shall be expected to attend the USA/Canada Forum during the term of his or her office. The District shall reimburse reasonable expenses according to the Rules of Audit of Lions Clubs International. (Adopted in Munising, 2004)

Question: Does the language relating to the USA/Canada Forum apply to the 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor?

Bill Whippen: The 1st Vice District Governor—it doesn’t say Second Vice District Governor, just Vice District Governor. I would encourage the 2VDC, if we appoint one, to go, but on their own dime.

MOTION – Whippen, Potvin, to adopt the proposed amendments to the by-laws. Motion carried.

DEFINITIONS SECTION

“District” – This term, wherever it appears in this document (Constitution or By-Laws or Policy Manual), refers to the official name of our District, which is **“Single District 10.”** (Adopted in Munising, 2004)

“Constitution or By-Laws” – For informational purposes, a Constitution generally includes basic provisions (Name, Officers, Membership, Meetings, basic administration and rules to amend, etc. By-Laws offer much more detail. Some organizations have only one document—a Constitution or By-Laws. Amendments require a two-thirds vote to pass.

“Resolutions” – Resolutions do not amend the Constitution or the By-Laws. They can be statements of praise that honor individuals or groups or they can be statements of intent to do something temporarily (institute a practice or create a position) that might otherwise require an amendment. They can be used for this purpose if the body wishes to try something temporarily without formalizing the action. Resolutions require 50% plus one to pass.

Bill Whippen: The definitions are primarily for information and will be put on the website. It is for your edification, and we don’t need to vote on it. It is here primarily because this is the first time we have used resolutions in the manner we did.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS – Duke Snyder

There are three positions to fill, with written ballots to be cast for all three. All candidates meet the requirements of the office for which they are running. For the office of Vice District Governor, there is one candidate, Don Wojokowski from the Stephenson Lions Club. The only candidate for District Governor is Robert Miller from the Drummond Island Lions Club. For Trustee of the Michigan Lions Foundation, there is one candidate, Duane Goltz from the Drummond Island Lions Club.

The call for nominations from the floor was repeated three times.

MOTION – made and seconded, to close nominations and to proceed with voting. Motion carried.

COMMENTS BY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR ED LECIUS

“I’d like to compliment you on your business meeting, as well as your Cabinet Meeting yesterday. It’s been enjoyable to watch you go through the issues that are facing your district. I also want to commend you for the many things you are doing. You are a very active district. I had an opportunity to go online during the last couple weeks and look at your website. I also looked at your magazine online to see what has been happening.

“I also want to say that it is an honor and a privilege to be representing you and the Lions of the world on the International Board. It has been an eye-opening experience. We are completing our first year on the Board. Like Governor Duane who is completing his year in office, we are both wondering where that year went. Seems like only yesterday we were in Chicago soliciting the support of the Lions. I have enjoyed working with the Director from the state of Michigan, Bill

Hansen. He and Carole are a delight to know, and in a couple weeks we will be hosting them in New Hampshire when he comes to our district convention.

“The youngest club in SD 10 is the host club for this convention. I have been impressed with the preparations by the Heart of the North Club. Having served as convention chair, I know it is not easy. It’s quite an undertaking for a new club, and they have done an excellent job.

“Elaine and I flew into Green Bay. We were told that our options were a 2.5 hour drive in an automobile or to be flown here in a private airplane. Terry and Nancy Glimn provided us with air travel from Green Bay. We were able to fly over the casino and over the mud track and get a bird’s eye view of the community.

“I look forward to meeting you this weekend. Again, I want to commend you for being Lions. Keep serving your communities.”

FUTURE SD 10 CONVENTIONS

The Drummond Island Lions Club will host the 2009 convention. It will be held on the first weekend in May. No bids were received for the 2010 convention.

ELECTION RESULTS – Duke Snyder, Elections Chairman

Robert Miller was elected District Governor for 2008-2009, and Don Wojokowski was elected Vice District Governor. Duane Goltz was elected to a 2-year term as Trustee of the Lions of Michigan Foundation. Officer patches were presented to DGE Miller and VDGE Wojokowski and acceptance speeches were made.

MOTION – Decremer, seconded, to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

ENDORSEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR CANDIDATE

Dr. Sara Doubledee from the Marquette Lions Club is seeking endorsement from the Lions of SD 10 to run for the office of International Director. She meets the qualifications of the position and has been endorsed by her Lions Club. She has also met the constitutional requirement of submitting her nomination at least 30 days prior to the opening of this convention.

A nominating speech was presented by PDG Bill Whippen. “Not only does PDG Doubledee have a Ph.D. from Michigan State University, she has a Ph.D. in Lions. She is Productive, she is Humble, and she is Dedicated.” A seconding speech was delivered by PDG Jenny Ware. “I have been impressed with Sara’s dedication to Lionism, and she has been a mentor to me. I could call on her any time for support and guidance.” The delegates assembled unanimously endorsed the candidacy of PCC Sara Doubledee.

The Business Session adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



AWARDS LUNCH
April 26, 2008 - 11:30 a.m.
Paradise Room, Island Resort & Casino, Harris, Michigan

Ken Meshigaud, Hannahville Tribal Chairman, was the luncheon speaker. He presented the history of the Hannahville Indian Community.

The Heart of the North Lions Club was recognized for their support of the Mints for the Military program.

International Director Ed Lecius presented the International President's Recognition Award on behalf of Immediate Past International President Jimmy Ross to IPDG Chuck Nicklas.

DG Duane Goltz presented several Governor's Certificates of Appreciation to Lions for outstanding service during the year:

- Zone Chairs – Helga Anderson and Don Wojokowski
- Website Development and Lions Magazine – Bruce LaBelle
- Lions Magazine – Tom Lanaville
- Constitution and By-Laws – Bill Whippen
- MERL – Chuck Nicklas
- Peace Poster Contest – Joe Baczkowski
- Campaign Sight First II – Joe Potvin
- District Convention – Bernie Haeusler
- Project KidSight – Jenny Ware

The Bark River Lions Club awarded Melvin Jones Fellowships to five members in honor of their fundraising activities and leadership roles in the club. Recipients included Don Crawford, Joe Pokladowski, Scott Palmgren, Dennis Motto, and Tom Lanaville. Bernadette Hauesler, President of the Heart of the North Lions Club, presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Past President and Convention Chair JoAnn Philbin.

The incoming President of the Marquette Lions Club accepted a patch from LCIF honoring the club for being the first and only Model Club in SD 10. They have contributed \$14,000 to Campaign SightFirst II.

VDG Bob Miller was recognized by the Munising Lions Club for making his club visitation by snowmobile.



GOVERNORS BANQUET
April 26, 2008 - 6:30 p.m.
Paradise Room, Island Resort & Casino, Harris, Michigan

ID Ed Lecius from Merrimac, New Hampshire was the featured speaker. He emphasized the need for Lions to be “shapers of change.” They need to embrace technology, to recruit young members and more women. Clubs should take on projects that meet a genuine need—which requires them to get to know their constituency. Communities need the involvement of Lions. Successful projects help members realize that a rewarding life includes service to their community.

Director Lecius presented Presidential Certificates of Appreciation to PDG Joe Potvin and PDG Sara Doubledee for their work on behalf of CSFII.

Director Lecius presented friendship banners to PID Chuck Weir, DG Duane Goltz, VDG Bob Miller, Heart of the North President Bernie Haeusler, Mike Kobasic, and Terry and Nancy Glimn.

Several awards were presented during the banquet. A plaque for SD 10's winner of the Peace Poster Contest, sponsored by the Negaunee Lions Club, was presented by Lion Joe Baczkowski. Awards from the Michigan Lions Foundation were presented to Mike Kobasic and Sara Doubledee. The district's highest recognition, the Ralph Sheehan Award, was presented to Cabinet Treasurer Bruce LaBelle from the Bark River Lions Club.

Following the awards presentations, students from the Hannahville School demonstrated three native dances in full costume and explained a few of their customs.



NECROLOGY & BRUNCH
April 27, 2008 - 9:00 a.m.
Paradise Room, Island Resort & Casino, Harris, Michigan

PDG Bob St. Peter conducted the necrology service. The memorial roll call was read, honoring club members who passed away during the year.

The convention's Traveling Trophy was claimed by the Drummond Island Lions Club. The plaque is awarded annually to the club that drives the furthest and has the most members at the district convention.

The convention concluded with brunch and closing comments from DG Duane Goltz. Thanks were expressed to the Heart of the North Lions for hosting the convention.

Final convention attendance figures were announced: 143 Lions from 32 Lions Clubs; 217 people registered.