

**The meeting minutes writeup was amended on February 21, 2024 to more completely describe the Treasurer's report for the January zoom meeting and to include the Dec 31, 2023 Income/Expense Statement for the PDGO account.**

**Meeting Subject:** PDGO Member Meeting

**Meeting Date/Time:** January 13th, 2024

**Meeting Location:** Hotel Marshfield

**Attendees:** See attachment

**Officers in attendance:** Presiding was Vice-President PDG Greg Pryor, Secretary PDG Dave Lee, Treasurer PDG Evett Hartvig, and Sergeant-at-Arms PDG Tim McClain. Immediate Past President PDG Eric Holthaus was excused. President PDG PID Connie Le Cleir-Meyer was excused.

## **Notes**

- a. Meeting called to order by Vice-President PDG Greg Pryor at 1:17 pm with 13 members present, in person and by Zoom. Others joining by Zoom during the meeting.
- b. Vice-President Greg Pryor provided a brief introduction and welcome to attendees.
- c. Vice President Greg Pryor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- d. Secretary Dave Lee led the Prayer.

## **Reports**

1. Secretary's Report:
  - a. The 9/30/2023 Board Meeting minutes were previously posted online by Secretary Dave Lee. (attached).
  - b. Motion by PDG Judy Hatz and second by PDG David Strudthoff to suspend reading of the minutes and to approve the minutes as posted. Motion passed.
  - c. There was no correspondence to report.
2. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. PCC Evett indicated that she will send out a treasurer's report (the Dec 31, 2023 Income/expense Statement is attached). The Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> balance is \$9,938.22 and reflects \$.04 interest earnings per month since the last report. It also includes \$380 revenues from meals paid by PDGs at the previous meeting along with a \$380 payment to WLF for compensation for the meals. Furthermore, there was a reimbursement of \$25 to PCC Evett for filing the PDGO group certification annual \$25 fee. A \$94 expense reimbursement for PDGO meeting milage was made to President

PID Connie. There was also a revenue of \$150 for one life membership for the PDGO group.

- c. Motion by PDG Brian Dulmes and second by PDG Collette Sorgel to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Motion passed.

3. International Report: ID Lee Vrieze's international report will be added to the minutes.

4. State of the State report by CC BJ Blahnik:

- The 2024-5 Council Chair selection is currently underway.
- WALLI will be conducted the following weekend, led by PDG David Strudthoff.
- The current number of Wisconsin Lions training faculty is 28 and they should be fully utilized.
- The final training for the DGEs will take place in June.
- Scrap Like a Lion, the composting project is making great progress, led by PCC Stacey Nesseth.
- Net Lions membership for MD27 is +8 as of early January (+781 with new members and -773 with membership drops).
- For Membership, PDG Bert Freeman has been active with messaging the importance of membership retention. PDG Judy Hatz, PCC Tammy Rockenbach, PDG John Reil, and PDG Tim McClain have worked to build membership. And the Global Extension Team (GET) has been working as well, PDG Judy Hatz with PCC Jodi and PCC Tammy.
- The Lions Eye Bank grant for purchased equipment allowing for cataract surgeries in Guatemala is expected to have a trial run in February. A \$27,000 LCIF grant helped to make the \$57,000 equipment purchase possible.
- The pediatric cancer state initiative for raising funds to assist families of need who are dealing with childhood cancer is off to a great start.

5. Wisconsin Lions Foundation Report: The WLF written report is attached.

6. Lions Pride Report: A written report is attached.

7. Lions Eye Bank Report: A written report is attached.

8. Lions Missions Report: A written report is attached.

9. Convention Chair Report: A written report is attached.

10. LCIF Report: A written report is attached.

11. Childhood Cancer Report: A written report is attached.

12. Research & Long Range Planning Committee: PID Connie Le Cleir Meyer submitted the attached written report.

## **Unfinished Old Business**

1. Two ad hoc committee appointments for 2023-2024

- a. policy and bylaws – Lions Dave Brinkman, Roger Weber, and Tom Wendt submitted a draft of changes but withdrew it pending further efforts.
  - b. marketing – Lions Brian Dulmes, Bob Bertch, and Art Marson provided a Marketing handout, which is attached.
2. PDG Roger Weber provided a handout of deceased PDGs, which is attached, and encouraged more discussion as to how these PDGs can be honored.
3. PDG John Reil said that there have been no further developments for CPR training.

### **New Business**

- PDG Roger suggested that the PDGs have a table and display at the state convention.
- The topic of state convention seminars was briefly discussed. There will be paper and QR opportunities for survey responses to seminars.
- The PDGO will have an ad in the state convention booklet. Motion made by PDG Dave Strudthoff and seconded by PDG Judy Hatz for a \$150 half page ad. Motion carried.
- PDG Dave Sievert raised the question about getting a room in the WLF building for PDGO archives. PCC Evett indicated that the building will be torn down in the near future, but the concept will be included in the master plan discussion.

### **Approval of expenditures**

None.

### **Meetings to come**

Lion Connie announced the upcoming meetings:

- 2/19 – virtual meeting with ID Lee Vrieze
- 4/29 – virtual meeting to discuss upcoming state convention
- 5/17 – state convention – meeting time/room TBD
- 6/24 – virtual meeting – 2024 year end review and introduction of 2024-25 goals/plans

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Lion Judy Hatz, second by Lion Collette at 2:11 pm – motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
PDG Dave Lee, PDGO Secretary

## Attendance

Date:

1/13/24

	Printed Name	District	Email address
1	Judy Hatz	C2	hatzjl@aol.com
2	David Strudthoft	D2	david.strudthoft@gmail.com
3	Brian Dulmes	E1	bldulmes@gmail.com
4	Dave Lee	B1	drslee@new.rr.com
5	Greg Pryor	A1	gpryor@gmail.com
6	BJ Beahrnk	B1	
7	Erett Hartvig	C1	
8	Collette Sorger	C2	
9	Tammi	D1	
10	Dave Siebert	B2	
11	Stacey Nasseeth		
12	Ronda		
13	Dick Helbach		
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# PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS' ORGANIZATION

## Income and Expense Statement

December 2023

Checking Account Balance as of December 1, 2023 \$ 9,788.18

### Income

Life Membership

150.00

Interest

0.04

**Total Income**

150.04

### Expenses

None

0.00

**Total Expenses**

-

Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2023

\$ 9,938.22

### Account Reconciliation

December 2023

#### Deposits in Transit

Date

Amount

TOTAL

0.00

Ending balance shown on statement

9,938.22

Deposits in transit

0.00

Outstanding checks

0.00

#### Outstanding checks

Check #

Amount

TOTAL

0.00

Actual balance in account

9,938.22



## Council of Governor's and Past District Governors Organization Report

Lee Vrieze, International Director

[lvrieze2@outlook.com](mailto:lvrieze2@outlook.com)

12/23/2023

### International President Dr Patti Hill's Theme and Focus

- The theme is "Changing the World"
- President Hill also has strong interests on environmental issues.

### International Awards (District Governors)

- The good news – five nominations were received by the December 1, 2023 deadline.
- The bad news – five districts did not submit nominations by the December 1, 2023 deadline, nor responded to the reminder email that they are or are not going to nominate anyone.
- The MD27 submission deadline for nominations is to allow the MD27 [Past] International Directors to review, endorse, and forward approved nominations by the International submission deadline. *I am certain we have deserving Lions in every district for these awards that can not only provide recognition, but may help with retention and encourage future Lion Leaders.* Although I have been encouraged to not do this, unless there are extenuating circumstances, nominations not submitted prior to the January COG (preferred yesterday!) meeting will not be considered for submission this year, as the PIDs will be discussing the nominations at the January COG meeting.

### October International Board Meeting Updates

- The discounted member policy was amended to require that a non-discounted member must be a Lion for one year and a day to be a delegate in an election to prevent people from switching membership type last minute so they can vote, then switching back to a discounted member.

### Technology

- **Lion Portal (MyLCI/MyLion replacement)**
  - Status updates and information, including links to training videos and a link to the survey noted previously are available at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/digital-products/portal-updates> or use your favorite search engine (e.g. Google) and search for **Lion Portal**. I highly recommend that anyone that will use the portal watch the "Member view" video, that club officers watch the "Club Officer view" video, and that anyone at the with district or multiple district roles (e.g. zone chair, etc) watch the "Regional Officer view" video at links on the page referenced above.
  - Just announced 12/22/2023, the Lion Portal Launch date has been updated: "The new Lion Portal is coming in 2024. We'll have more information about this new product to share over the next several months."
  - Recommendations
    - Ensure your clubs know this change is coming.
    - Ensure your clubs validate their rosters (names, contact information, etc) once the transition to Lion Portal has completed.
    - Plan live training sessions to smooth the transition.
  - DG goals will be automatically transferred from the previous system to the Lion Portal.



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- The initial objective is to have equivalent functionality to the existing applications using a single database/source of truth on a platform that can provide a foundation for future improvements and additions (e.g. a potential LCIF donors portal)
  - **International Web Site**
    - A new partner has been obtained to maintain the lionsclubs.org web site.
    - Several improvements are underway, including:
      - Better differentiation between member information and information to attract new members.
      - Improved search capabilities
    - The updated site is now slated to be rolled out in 2024 to prevent confusion with the Lion Portal rollout.
  - I serve on and chair the technology committee -- please contact me if you have questions, comments, or suggestions, or would like to be submitted as a tester for the new Lion Portal.

### **International Guest Speaker Requests**

- International guests are scheduled for all District Conventions and the Multiple District Conventions.
- Links to the list are below and any updates will be applied there.
  - International Guest Lions in Excel format:
    - <https://1drv.ms/x/s!AnvTnVTxOe-FgtQwqgFF7ZYEp7Fdiw?e=ld8k9Y>
  - International Guest Lions in PDF format:
    - <https://1drv.ms/b/s!AnvTnVTxOe-FgtQyret9el9ZFCnA8A?e=i5OcLh>
- **District Governors:**
  - *If you have not already:*
    - *Please verify your convention dates in one of the documents above and let me know if dates change, as your speaker may also need to change.*
    - *Complete the Speaker Request Form at the link in the documents above as soon as possible so your guest can book their travel.*
- International guest pictures and biographies are available at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/discover-our-clubs/our-leaders>

### **Midwest Breakfast(s)**

- Multiple Districts to host future Midwest Breakfasts at USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forums and International Conventions have been requested,
- MD27 missed the near term breakfasts, including the Forum in Louisville, Kentucky.

### **International Convention 2023, Boston, Massachusetts Reminders**

- Four resolutions passed.
  - An amendment to eliminate the minimum membership and club thresholds to be able to run and International Third Vice-President Candidate.
  - An amendment to eliminate the minimum membership and club thresholds to be able to run an International Director Candidate.
  - An amendment to change the convention delegate formulas by the addition of a new membership category for members paying discounted dues.
  - An amendment to clarify district leadership roles.
- The link to the detailed amendments is [https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md\\_oNNZ9eL5fP02kYE5.jpg.pdf?v=1](https://cdn2.webdamdb.com/md_oNNZ9eL5fP02kYE5.jpg.pdf?v=1)



- PID Mark Lyon was elected as the International Third Vice-President.
- Mission 1.5 was launched – a goal to reach 1.5 million members by June 30, 2027.
  - Detailed information is available at <https://www.lionsclubs.org/mission1.5>

**Other**

- The Advanced Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI) training is being integrated into the Second Vice-District Governor training. 2023-2024 is planned to be the last year for ALLI.

**Upcoming Events (dates subject to change)**

- 6/21/2023 – 6/26/2023 - International Convention, Melbourne, Australia
- 9/5/2023 – 9/7/2023 - USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Louisville, KY



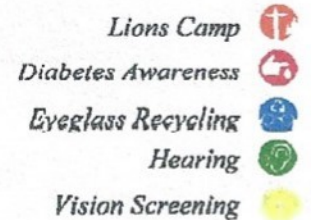
*In Memoriam 2023-2024*

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# Wisconsin Lions Foundation



## Wisconsin Lions Foundation Inc. (WLF) Report to the Council of Governors January 13, 2024

Our second WLF Board Meeting took place on December 9, 2023 and all Directors were in attendance. The main topic at our meeting was the 2024 Budget. The staff worked very hard to get this budget together. Executive Director Evett noted it was one of the hardest budgets to put together since she took over as Executive Director.

The Strategic Plan and Master Site Plan continue to be important documents as we plan for the future.

2024 Visitor Day reservations will begin on January 15, 2024.

Deer Hide Collection has been very busy around the state. On December 21st, the Buyer picked up 57 pallets of deer hides. There are 10 pallets remaining at Camp and I'm sure more are going to come in over the next couple of weeks.

Deer hide gloves continue to sell at a good pace. I will be sure to have a sufficient inventory with me at all of the upcoming District Conventions.

## Project Statistics

### Diabetes Awareness Project

Water Bottle stickers distributed – 35,800

Year One with Type One children's book distributed – 174

Coffee sleeves distributed – 67,075

Other Diabetes resources distributed – 26,298

### Vision Screening Project

Number of children screened – 116,847

Of that number, children that were referred – 14,010

Number of Districts reporting numbers – 10 (Started receiving reports from B2, please keep sharing the most current reporting form)

**Hearing Aid Project**

Applications received – 65

Approved – 43; Denied – 7; Pending – 4; Purchased – 49

Hearing aids collected – 3,855

**Eyeglass Recycling Project**

Used eyeglasses received at Center – 930,334

Eyeglasses shipped – 137,138

Mission served – 86

*The above statistics cover the period of January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023 (unaudited).*

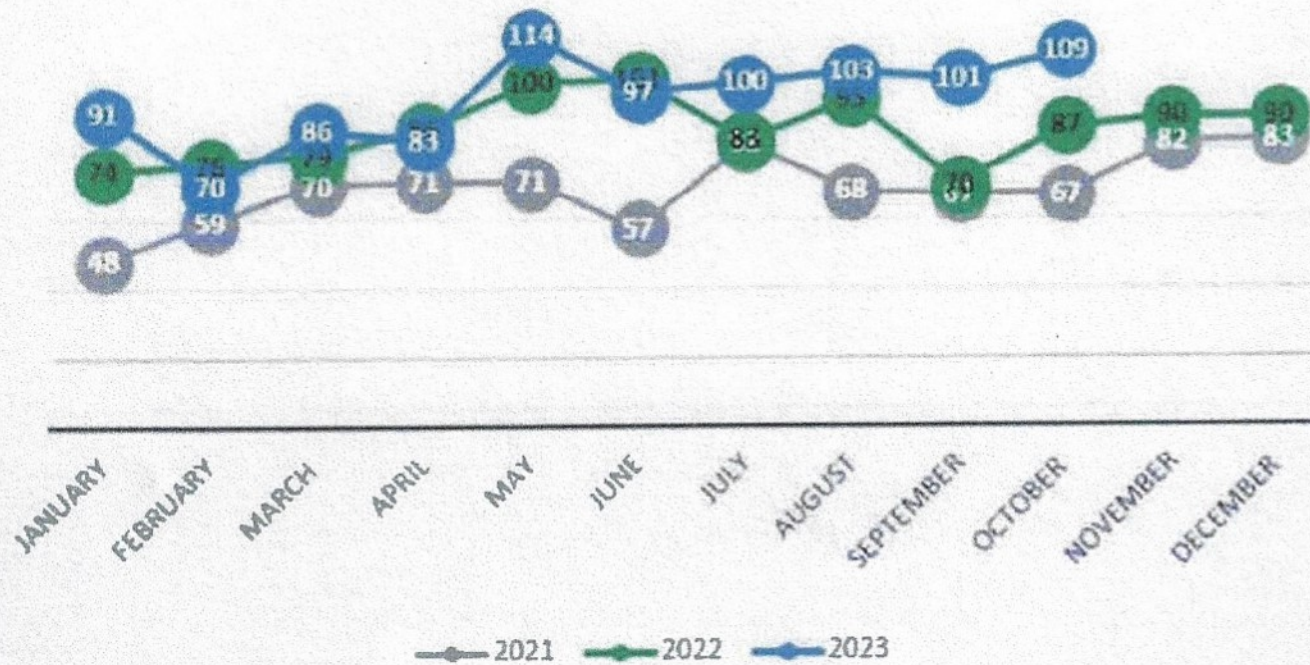
Respectfully submitted,

PDG Brad Behrens  
President



## LEBW Council of Governors Report

### Number of Donors



### LEBW Transporter Stats

- Approximately 153 Wisconsin Lions Clubs made over 752 transports from September 1, 2023, through Dec. 13, 2023 – thank you!

### LEBW hires Chief Development Officer

- LEBW is pleased to welcome our new Chief Development Officer, Stefanie Dziedzic. The Chief Development Officer is responsible for developing key relationships and funding sources that will help support and advance the Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin. Stefanie is a Wisconsin native originally from Tomahawk and has great stories to share about growing up in Wisconsin, including being on the lookout for Hodags in the backyard at night. She comes to us with 20 years of progressive leadership experience in nonprofit, health and human services. Among her many accomplishments, Stefanie was the Director of Development for The Cradle (an adoption agency in Illinois) and later Director of Development for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Foundation. Stefanie worked for 10 years at Gift of Hope Organ and Tissue Donor Network as a Requestor, was later promoted to Supervisor of the Requestor team and Manager of Donor Family Services. Stefanie has a deeply personal connection to donation as a donor family member whose loved one gave the gift of life and sight. Most recently she served as VP of Development for an organization focused on access to high quality, low-cost public healthcare programs and services in East Africa. She is looking forward to getting to meet Lions and learn about the work we do at the upcoming A1 and A2 conventions. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to Stefanie and welcome her back home.

### Health Fair/Eyeglass Fitting

- Planning is underway for a second health fair and eyeglass fitting clinic. LEBW is once again partnering with Anderson & Shapiro Eye Clinic to provide this in the Madison area. This year's event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Anderson & Shapiro office at 1200 John Q Hammons Drive, Suite 100, Madison, Wis. The event features free vision screens, eye glasses,





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## LEBW Council of Governors Report

eyeglass fittings and hearing screenings, information about diabetes care, and organ, eye, and tissue donation registration opportunities. At last year's health fair 139 adults were fitted for recycled eyeglasses received from the Wisconsin Lions Foundation. In addition, Lions volunteers screened 20 children and made 17 referrals. Lions from Cross Plains, Edgerton, Lake Wisconsin, Madison Central, Madison West, Madison Monona Lion Lioness, Mazomanie, McFarland, Mount Horeb, New Glarus, and Verona helped volunteer for this event. We are excited to once again put this event on and provide this service to our community. For more information, contact Eden Brunson at [ebunson@lebw.org](mailto:ebunson@lebw.org) or 877.233.2354, ext. 275.

### LEBW Open House

- Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin will host an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, May 16 as part of the 2024 Wisconsin Lions State Convention activities. LEBW will be offering guided tours throughout the afternoon. For more information, contact Eden Brunson at [ebunson@lebw.org](mailto:ebunson@lebw.org) or 877.233.2354, ext. 275.



# Lions Pride Endowment Fund

Today's Help, Tomorrow's Hope

for those served by the Projects of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation

## LPEF Report for MD 27 Council of Governor's Meeting LPEF President Renee Peterson

January 13th, 2024

1. Mark your calendar for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for the Annual Lions Pride Sporting Clay Shoot at Milford Hills, Johnson Creek.
2. We are just finishing our annual audit.
3. Our website has been updated, with easier mobile accessibility.
4. We are currently seeking a board member in the A1 District. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more.
5. We just updated our by-laws to reflect our President, Vice, Treasurer and Secretary roles to 2 year positions, instead of 1.
6. We gave a \$50,000 check to WLF at their recent meeting, as a total of \$250,000 this year.

Submitted by Lion Renee Peterson

920-210-8940, [reneep@horiconbank.com](mailto:reneep@horiconbank.com)





# Restoring *Hope* Transplant House

Lions Club Council of Governors Report  
**December 2023**

7457 Terrace Avenue ■ Middleton, WI 53562 ■ (608) 831-1726 ■ [www.restoringhope.org](http://www.restoringhope.org)

Dear Lions Council of Governors Friends,

Here are some of our Restoring Hope Transplant House updates that we wanted to share. We appreciate all your support once again this year. Thanks for all you do to help give our transplant families a home away from home when they need it most! May you all be blessed with a happy holidays and healthy and happy New Years!

- What a great year of visiting Lions throughout the state. It was one of our biggest years for Lions speaking miles in a long time. It meant so much to be able to at so many conventions and personally thank you for letting us serve the families of your communities. To be so welcomed with loving arms and kind words while we traveled to district conventions and welcomed Lions dignitaries to RHTH for personal visits speaks volumes about Lions leadership and the entire membership. So many incredible people with big hearts that help to strengthen our communities through their service. It was a great honor to visit with you all. I also appreciate those who helped fill out the attached questionnaire for your community.
- This year, we hosted several families with Lions connections including one lady who was in Madison today for her double lung transplant checkup. Cindy from Stevens Point stayed here 6 weeks following her transplant. Her dad was an active member of the Junction City Lions for 50 years and made deliveries for the Lions Eye Bank for 30 years. Great to see Cindy moving forward so well in her healing journey and breathing free and easy now without the assistance of supplemental oxygen.
- Lions are proud supporters of diabetes related causes which includes so many of our friends who come to Madison for pancreas transplants to help with a lifetime of effects from type 1 diabetes. UW Health is the #1 pancreas transplant hospital in the country on a regular basis. We recently hosted a young lady, Jillian, in her mid-30's who has been a type 1 diabetic since she was 4 years old. In her recovery post transplant, we watched Jillian sit at our dining room table and eat spaghetti for the first time in her life. Something she never ate as a diabetic and oh how she enjoyed it for the very first time. A new and healthy life in so many



ways. Of her extended stay at RHTH, Jillian said: "My family and I are so thankful that you and the Restoring Hope Transplant House exists. We can't thank you all enough for the warm, cozy, beautiful home I was welcomed to after transplant." Lions are always leading the way in their efforts to help with diabetes advance so your ongoing support for RHTH really does make an impact here at ground zero for so many people who battle this condition for most of their lives.

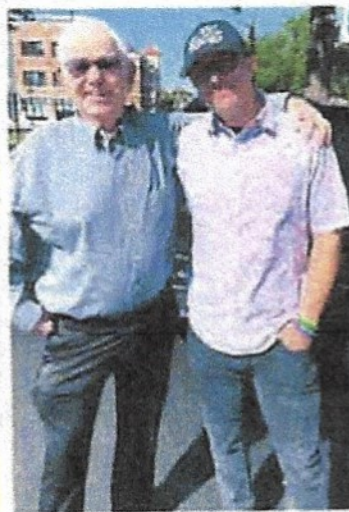
- Your ongoing support helps people like Miranda who at just 22 years old has battled years of chronic pain. UW Health is the national leader in kidney autotransplants which helps to relieve what has been described as one of the most painful conditions in medicine as well as relieve some of the overwhelming nausea as well. After discharge, Miranda sent us a message: "Thank you for everything you've done for me! This trip wasn't easy but you really helped get me through it all. Also, thank you for making sure we meet others at the house and learn about their stories. It's a whole other world I didn't know existed. From being at the house and learning more about transplants and how all of it works, I have decided to change my career. Not quite sure where I want to go specifically yet but something to do with transplant."

What an amazing thing to hear from a guest about how their stay here impacted them to that degree that it is now shaping the direction of her future. Sadly, we received a message from Miranda this morning saying that her transplant team wants her to come back to Madison to deal with some post surgical issues that have popped up. Miranda will likely be here now with her family over Christmas, so please keep her and our holiday families in your thoughts. May you take great pride in her words knowing that you have helped to give her this house whenever she has needed it.

- We were honored to welcome the new Wisconsin Lions leadership group to RHTH this August and have them tour the house and learn more about our mission. I wish you all could spend just one day with us while our families are here to experience what a special place this has become. This is a healing home to so many and we hope that the above stories help to illustrate just how much your work helps to make it all possible.
- We are proud to continue collecting eye glasses and plastic bags for Lions from the collections of our guests and the house. We even recently had a UW Health staff member drop off a big load. Great cause that we are happy to support.
- We are grateful for the increased interest in learning more about RHTH and coming for in-person visits with this new group of Lions leadership who maybe weren't quite as familiar with RHTH as the previous group. We appreciate that genuine interest.



- Our connection to UW Health has never been stronger. A great year of relationship building with UW leadership, doctors, nurses, coordinators and staff throughout the hospital. It has been such a wonderful year on that front of strengthening bonds after a lengthy stretch of Covid and preparing the house for the future.
- Construction and expansion plans are still in the works behind the scenes. Additional cost savings measures are being discussed as are meetings with financial people and foundations.
- Please know how much we all appreciate you all for the great work you have done this year. As a Lion myself, I know how important it is to serve our communities and people in need. It means a lot to be seen as a Lion, too, and not just the Executive Director at RHTH. I care deeply about eye bank and our vision mission, children impacted by family medical bills, food scarcity, how we as Lions stay healthy as we serve and so many of the causes we support as Lions. Nobody does it better than Lions. Happy Holidays!





**Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)**

Lion Mary Vrieze

January 13, 2024

As we are entering the third quarter and Convention season, the LCIF District Coordinators remain committed to educating Wisconsin Lions about LCIF and its importance. LCIF continues to be strong and is providing funds to those in need. These funds are supported by both Club and individual donations to LCIF.

Please make sure you, your clubs and your members stay aware of LCIF, how to donate, and what LCIF does in CA 1 and around the world. Your District LCIF Coordinator is also willing to make visits to Clubs and attend Zone/Region Meetings as well.

At your District Convention, please consider having an LCIF display table and time on the agenda for an LCIF presentation. Your District LCIF Coordinator should be contacting you regarding this.

Below is the breakdown of MD27 clubs and individual donations to LCIF for the 2023-2024 Lions year to date:

District	# of Clubs	Amount	Individual Donators
A1	51	\$970.00	0
A2	39	\$5,726.00	\$170.00
B1	64	\$9,525.00	\$350.00
B2	67	\$25,795.00	\$2,845.00
C1	51	\$5,140.10	\$90.00
C2	40	\$12,920.00	\$3,520.00
D1	58	\$11,883.00	\$3,338.00
D2	47	\$3,170.00	\$490.00
E1	44	\$6,860.00	\$1,650.00
E2	44	\$1,875.00	\$445.00
Total	505	\$83,864.10	\$13,868.00

**Activities of LCIF District Coordinators**

- LCIF District Coordinators participate in Monthly Zoom Meeting (excluding December)
- Several LCIF District Coordinators participated in Area D Zoom Meeting with PIDs Ardie Klemish and Connie LeCleir-Meyer
- Districts C1, B1, and B2 had LCIF display tables at Convention and were present to answer questions and promote 2023-2024 MD27 Fundraiser
- Four (4) LCIF District Coordinators sent letters to all the Clubs in their District promoting Giving Tuesday and requesting to visit the Club
- LCIF Coordinators are attending Zone Meetings and making Club visits to raise awareness of LCIF
- LCIF District Coordinators are working on getting Club LCIF Coordinators named



**LCIF Fundraiser for 2023 – 2024 – The Pie's the Limit (to be held at 2024 State Convention)**

- \$10.00 donation – donator can select who they would like to see get a pie to the face
- Each LCIF District Coordinator is to submit 1 Lion leader from their District to volunteer to possibly taking a pie to the face
- Kick-off at MD 27-C1 Convention
- Donations and votes will be collected at each District Convention, Zone Meetings and Club Meetings (if appropriate)
- Top 5 vote getters will be announced at State Convention – time and location to be determined
- Purpose is to raise funds for LCIF while having fun
- Pie volunteers:
  - ID Lee Vrieze, E1
  - DG Tal Janowitz, A1
  - PID Mark Hintzmann, A2
  - CC BJ Blahnik, B1
  - PID Wayne Heiman, B2
  - DG Patty Hollis, C1
  - PDG Judy Hatz, C2
  - DG Jeff Winker, D1
  - WLF VP Pat Hart
  - DG Dennis Sykora, E1
  - PDG Brad Barth, E2
- Goal to increase personal donations to LCIF by 30% from 2022-2023 personal donations
- Goal to increase LCIF fundraiser goal by 50% from 2022-2023 fundraiser (from \$4,000 to \$8,000)

**2023 – 2024 LCIF District Coordinators:**

A1 – PDG Jerry Gibbons  
 A2 – PDG Dan Montaine  
 B1 – CC BJ Blahnik  
 B2 – PID Wayne Heiman  
 C1 – Lion JoAnne Burke  
 C2 – PDG Dennis Knott  
 D1 – PDG Conrad Dreyer  
 E1 – Lion Mary Vrieze  
 E2 – PDG Brad Barth

Please contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Lion Mary Vrieze – MD27 LCIF Chair  
[mvrieze2@outlook.com](mailto:mvrieze2@outlook.com)  
 715-404-5041



**MD27 GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH TEAM**

12/21/23

2023-2024 MD27 GMA Team PCC Tammy Rockenbach, PDG Judy Hatz, PDG Tim McClain & John Reil

**Accomplishments**

- Welcomed John Reil
- Participated at the September COG. The presentation GMA, The Stool explained how GMT, GST & GLT work together.
- Attended GAT Area "C" meeting which includes ND/SD/MN/IA/WI.
- Attended GMT, GLT and GMA team meetings.
- Helping to build a multiple school Leo Club with Boulder Junction Lions .
- Attended District Convention's with hallway SWOT. The results will be presented at the State Convention in May.
- Attended District Service Project "Food For Kidz" packaged over 215,000 meals in 4 hour with over 500 volunteers.
- **Next Steps**
- Finalize Program for December COG
- Working on putting together a GMA workshop for the Multiple District.
- Working on Zone meeting presentation.

**GLOBAL EXTENTION TEAM**

- Attended monthly meetings.
- Identified 3 areas for new clubs, Madison & Abbottsford.
- Working on a workshop for the Multiple District.

The GMA team will continue to Educate MD27 Leaders on GMA and assist as requested.

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Judy Hatz



January 12, 2024: Marshfield Wisconsin

**Learning Center Pre-Assignments****First Vice District Governor / District Governor Elect Learning Path:****Complete**

Succession Planning, Conflict Resolution, Working Together in a Mutually Respectful Environment, Effective Teams, Effective Listening, Selecting Your Team, Goal Setting, Communication Skills for District Governor, Policy Practice, and Expense Claims Training.

**Instructor**

MD-27 GLT and LCIP David Strudthoff

First Hour: Extraneous Speaking Team Activity

Second Hour: Ladder System (Large Group Goal Setting Session and Action Plan Development) Plus: GAT Information Session

**2nd Vice Governor Lessons****Pre-Assignment**

Create two speeches: one to inform and the other to persuade. Speeches should be no longer than 4-minutes in length. Speeches will be written on two of the following 6-topics:

- Membership retention
- Membership recruitment
- Marketing your club
- Service projects
- Leadership training
- Branch, Specialty, and Virtual Clubs

Instructor: Evett Hartvig PCC & LCIP

First and Second Hour:

- Analyze Your Two Speeches
- GAT Information Session



## Wisconsin Lions Childhood Cancer Chair update for the January, 2024 Council of Governors meeting

December 20, 2023

Here's a brief update on our efforts for the Wisconsin Lions Childhood Cancer Fund initiative

1. We have established or revitalized monthly communications among the childhood cancer district chairs (i.e. A1, A2, ...) via group zoom meetings.
2. Proposed established support groups have been identified for the Fund initiative and discussions have been had with representatives of these groups. Various district childhood cancer chairs have participated.
3. Summaries of each of the prospective support groups were shared/discussed with the district childhood cancer chairs on our December zoom call – the group expressed a vote of confidence for supporting this approach and proposal.
4. This past fall, we had speaking time at the C2 and B1 conventions, but unable to get an opportunity at the B2 convention (the Council Chair included messaging in his remarks). Working on speaking slots for 2024 conventions. Lion Terry Tveita, A1 district childhood cancer chair, will be speaking at the A1 convention on January 6<sup>th</sup>.
5. As of early December the fund donations approached \$26,000 with more than 100 of MD27 clubs already donating. The goal is to have 100% participation by the 505 Wisconsin clubs. An update will be given at/before the January COG meeting.
6. There is an effort to look at making online donations possible for the Wis Lions Childhood Cancer Fund, subject to the approval of the COG. A status update may be provided at the COG January weekend.
7. More than 250 LCI childhood cancer pins (private funds) have been purchased for encouraging individual Lions donors to make a donation of \$50 or more to get a pin in recognition. We will procure another 250 pins for donors if necessary. Obviously then, the goal is to get 250 to 500 individual Lions donors supporting the Wisconsin Lions Childhood Cancer Fund.
8. Given the current status for donations with 80% of the clubs awaiting to make a donations, along with the individual donor effort, it is feasible to foresee a possible accrual of \$100,000 during 2023-2024, but this will not occur without an ongoing collective effort among the current district governors, their vice district governors, the childhood cancer district chairs, all zone chairs, club officers, and state Lions members!! Each club helping a little so that together we can help a lot!!
9. A draft of the proposal which is supported by the district childhood cancer chairs has been provided to the Council Chair. This will be a topic for discussion and approval at the January COG meetings.

Thank you.

PDG Dave Lee

Wisconsin Lions childhood cancer state chair



## **Marketing the PDGO**

### **1. Consider developing a PDG Advisor Group:**

Ask PDGs how they would like to specialize as a member of the Group to help enhance Lionism in Wisconsin. Keep a list of skill sets. Categories could include:

Organize of new clubs

Resolve Conflicts and Rebuild Clubs

Help Develop New Projects (take an idea and develop it into a service project or a fund raiser).

Trainer (list topics)

Facilitator for planning or meetings

Provide IT Support

Liaison with LCI

Succession Planning

Skill set groups could meet quarterly by Zoom to share information and develop tools.

Have a Recognition Program (certificate, pin or badge) to recognize success and be presented at the PDGO meeting at the state Convention.

2. Accept the challenge to develop Leo Clubs and Campus Lion Clubs. Develop a succession program whereby Leos have a path from Middle School to High School; then to Campus Clubs (Leo to Lion); and finally, a transfer bridge to Regular Lion Clubs.
3. Need to update the PDGO web site. Include a link to the newly formed Advisory Group (discussed above) with easy contact information. Add a link to the training reimbursement form. Add some pictures of PDGs in action.
4. Get the word out in the State Newspaper possibly 2 – 3 times a year.

Presenter by Lions Bob Bertch, Brian Dulmes and Art Marson



**Council of Governors Report**  
**Research & Long-Range Planning Committee**  
 IPID Connie LeCleur-Meyer, Chairperson  
 January 13, 2024

Below find information for the Council of Governors (COG) on Committee activities:

a. Requests received for 2023 – 2024:

- i. **Submission 1:** received email from CC BJ Blahnik on 12/12/2023 forwarding an email from PCC Stacey Nesseth as shown below:

*I would like to request that the COG ask the Long-Range planning committee to look at the pros and cons of having State convention in Stevens Point each year. What would be the recommendations of how this should be chaired if we did this? Currently State Conventions are chaired by a district, if it is always in Stevens Point then would it be best to have the State chair the convention?*

**Committee Action taken:** the Committee members met via Zoom on 12/19/2023 with 4 members present: PID Connie LeCleur-Meyer, PID Mark Hintzmann, PID Dave Sievert, and Lion Reid Meyer. PDG Mike Carter and PDG Eric Zingler were absent, however they provided insight via email. Below find the results of our discussion, meant as a reply to Submission 1:

**Pros:**

- Ease of running an event in area of familiarity with known resources.
- Consistency in practice and administration over the long term.
- Centralized location for all Lions to attend.
- Near Wisconsin Lions Camp for visiting; money maker for our Camp.

**Cons:**

- Difficulty in having others outside of District C1 to work and be efficient in a community in which they are not familiar.
- Expenses and costs are growing such as hotel, food, convention venue and other required accommodations.
- Those involved in planning would need to physically attend some activities to cover all that is required; not everything can be done by Zoom.
- Location is only a part of it; other activities require local assistance such as the golf outing, a big dollar money maker, which would require a policy review and possible change.
- Any other area within the MD interested in running the convention might feel the opportunity to take in additional funds is no longer available.
- Moving the location around encourages Lions to attend, who might not always go because it is too far away and the costs too high.
- Difficulties with resource availability and capability/capacity requirements with larger number of attendees.
- In the long term, dignitaries might be the only attendees, as they have already determined the importance of going.



**If it stays in Stevens Point, how should it be chaired?**

- It should be overseen by the MD and those in District C1 and surrounding Districts would need to run it as they are familiar with the area and the resources.
- The same people and clubs would be getting booklet ads, filling volunteer tasks, fulfilling raffle items, producing interesting seminar topics and speakers, etc. It would be important to ensure variety and diversity in everything, so it isn't always the same old thing.

**Recommendations – it would be important to...:**

- Better understand the reason behind asking the Long-Range Planning Committee for its recommendations. Is it for lack of interested parties to run the event? Is it for lack of volunteers? Is there an issue with the accommodation?
- Understand how Wisconsin Lions feel about keeping the State Convention in the same location. Posing the question at District Conventions to get a broader pool of answers would be recommended.
- Market the State Convention in new and different ways, to give the Wisconsin Lion a reason to attend when they might not have wanted to attend in the past. That might entail rethinking the purpose of the State Convention and why it is a meaningful event for us to attend each year. This would require a review of current policy.
- Keep rotating the State Convention to different parts of the MD, run by Clubs, Zones, Districts, or consider offering a Mid-winter type of event to take care of Lions business usually done at a State Convention. <<end>>

**b. Reminders:**

- i. All suggested subjects to be presented to the Committee for consideration will be presented from one of the following bodies: COG, a MD Committee, the DG on behalf of his/her District, at the discretion of the Committee.
- ii. All suggested subjects presented to the Committee will be in writing.
- iii. All subjects addressed by the Committee will be submitted to the COG for approval or their recommendation for further action.
- iv. The Committee will report to the COG after each of their meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,

IPID Connie LeCleir-Meyer, 2023 - 2024 Chairperson  
MD27 Research & Long Range Planning Committee



State Convention  
January 2024 COG meeting

The State Convention Committee has been meeting monthly to put together a State Convention that is fun and educational for all.

Information was included in the January/February Wisconsin Lion for the following.

1. Convention Ad form
2. How to Register for the Golf tournament
3. How to Register for State Convention
4. Information to make a room reservation.

Friday night hospitality theme with be "TEAM NIGHT".

The committee is working to put together seminars and speakers that will be interesting and educational for all in attendance.

**\*\*\*District Governors – please be sure to make your hotel reservation. \*\*\***

Convention Registration form needs to be completed and returned to me to be submitted to the State office for payment and to the State Convention committee, so you are registered for the State Convention.

Any questions please let me know.

Submitted by: PCC Stacey Nesseth  
State Convention Coordinator



MD27 MyLCI/MyLion Coordinator  
Report to the Council of Governors  
January 13, 2024

MyLCI/MyLion is still being used.

The Lions Portal is coming in 2024.

PDG Brad Behrens

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Thanks