

District 20Y2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes of November 7th, 2009 at Longfellow's in Saratoga Springs

Submitted by CS/CT Lion Verna Plummer

Attendance: District Governor Edward Stano, Partner in Service Lion Elizabeth Stano, International Director Gary D'Orazio, PDG David Harris, PDG Joseph Jarvis, PDG Joan Scott, PDG Dick Ralston, PDG Lettie Saheim, PDG Roger Swartfiguer, PDH Surnoff Judy, Lion Mike Obrien, Lioness Becky Beatty, Lion Tom Kevlin, RC Lion Valerie Kevlin, Lion Mary Claire Noakes, Lion Bill Suchy, RC Lion Tim Brown, RC Lion Mary Grimm, RC Lion Karen Rager, ZC Lion Scott Rager, ZC Lion Tom Snowdon, VDG#2 Lion Rick Quick, VGD Lion John Samples, ZC Lion Tim O'Conner, ZC Lion Adam Pandori, Lion Marianne Lynch, Lion Stephen Lynch, Lion Joyce Hardenburg, Lion Kirk Hardenburg, Lion Pete Slover, Lion Nancy Nevins, Lion Neila Nowicki, Lion Jerry Gordon, Lion Sheila Comar, Lion Ed Moore, Lion Robert O'Malley, ZC Lion Steve King, Lion Fred Emery, Lion Christine Judy, Lion Bob O'Malley

Meeting was called to order by District Governor Lion Ed Stano at 9:09am. Pledge to the Flag was led by Lion Tim Brown. Lions Prayer was led by PDG Dave Harris. There was a moment of silence in honor or servicemen, past and present. Secretary's report from Sept 12 Cabinet Meeting was accepted on a motion by Mary Claire Noakes, 2nd by Tom Snowdon –motion passed. Treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Mary Grimm, 2nd by PDG Joan Scott- motion passed.

District Governor Lion Ed Stano introduced International Director Lion Gary D'Orazio.

Region and Zone Reports were submitted prior to the meeting.

Region L: Lion Timothy Brown Sr. –

Zone A: Lion Timothy O'Conner

Zone B: Lion Michael Stark

Region I: Lion Valerie Kevlin

Zone A: Lion Adam Pandori – Following is a summary of activities conducted by the Scotia-Glenville Lions Club: Golf Tournament – September 28; Raised over \$5000; Adopt-a-Highway Cleaning project – October 17; One-mile segment of Sacandaga Road (RT 147); Membership Drive Dinner meeting – October 20; invited eight potential members; 3 guests applied as of this date (Kermit Ackley, Eric and Heather Buskirk). Began Christmas Wreath Project – November 3

Ballston Spa Lions Club activities: Dedicated the Awning at Maplewood Manor that was purchased with the help of a grant from Lions International. Press and elected officials present; Dedicated the Unlimited Gardens at the 4H Complex in memory of Lion Ron Maynard. Press with story in local paper; Website created to bring us into the 21st Century at www.ballstonspalionsclub.org; Celebrated 60 years of Lionsim at the Holiday Inn on October 17th. Press with story in local paper; 501 (c) 3 application is in the works and expect it by the end of the year.

Greenfield Lions Club: Hosted a visitation from Hadley-Luzerne Lions Club and were presented with the Governor's banner which will be entrusted to our care for the next year. Several members attended anniversary celebrations for the Gloversville and the Ballston Spa Lions clubs. We had one cooking engagement for the local rod and gun club. Our club sponsored the annual town wide Halloween party

for local youths, complete with crafts, games and magic show. We have placed eyeglass collection containers in local schools; with a pizza party prize for the classroom collecting the most glasses. We are looking forward to the delivery of several hundred Christmas trees and wreaths for our annual club fundraiser.

Galway: Galway had a "pretty fun" Halloween mtg. complete with costumes and a prize for the best costume; Galway had an awesome Oktoberfest with 207 people in attendance, terrific raffles and a good time was had by all. The club made over \$4,000 profit for their efforts; Work continued on the food pantry as well and is progressing nicely.

Amsterdam: Amsterdam had its blood screening clinic. It also had its haunted house for the second consecutive year.

Zone B: Lion Linda Walsh – Northville-Sacadaga: Held a 10 K race, made 4 medical donations, inducted 3 new members, planning Christmas bags for kids at their school.

Johnstown: Celebrated their 48th Charter Night.

Gloversville: Celebrated their 20th Charter Night, were Grand Marshall for their Veteran's Day parade.

Central Mohawk: Held their variety show, are serving meals at Manahouse

Broadalbin-Perth: Are providing meals for Thanksgiving, Christmas for families in their area. Christmas gifts for 4 families, Getting ready to sell Christmas Wreaths, selling raffle tickets for Giants/Philly game on December 13th, held concession stand for Broadalbin youth Commission soccer with ½ the money raised going back to the youth commission.

Region O: Lion Mary Grimm

Zone A: Lion Steve King – Albany Troy Lions Club: Sale of wreaths and other holiday greens; sale of popcorn at Troy's Victorian Stroll on Dec. 6th; club supported NABA's low vision technology fairing September; Albany will be providing hearing aids for two women from LCIF's AHAP program; Club adopted a family of 4 for Christmas; Club donated towards two deaf 8th grade students for a marine biology trip to Key-Largo FL; and towards a Troy family's expenses arising from their 9 year olds rare cellular disease; They collected over 10,000 used eyeglasses and more than 50 hearing aids; provided eyeglasses for 8 kids and 15 adults.

Bethlehem Lions: Provided financial support to Town of Bethlehem Senior Service Dept by supplying File of Life documents for use in medical emergencies; annual Christmas tree sale will begin Thanksgiving weekend; will be hosting the Zone Holiday Party at Normanside Country Club on Dec 2nd; Club conducted a Highway clean-up on October 17th; Club receive two applications for membership, and will be adding two new members at Nov 18th meeting.

Greater Ravena: Held a new members night on October 28th, five potential members were entertained and educated on the Lion's mission.

Zone B: Lion Thomas Snowdon – Duane Lions Club: Currently at 33 members. Donations: totaling 4400 were included in the club budget passed on 10/7/09. Held a joint White Cane Day fundraiser with the Leo Club members and raised \$858.80; Collected 927 pairs eyeglasses; Held a "New Member" night with 7 prospective members in attendance; Inducted 3 new members; Distributed 10 Eye Care America posters to various medical and professional facilities in Duaneburg and the surrounding communities in conjunction with World Site Day; Collected 204 lbs. of pull tabs and received \$88.67; Collecting canned goods for the local food pantry;

Collecting hats and mittens for City Mission; Donated 100 chickens to the Duaneburg Volunteer Ambulance Corp; Sponsored student for HOBY (\$175).

Fundraisers: Super Bowl TV Raffle - to be drawn January 20th; Annual Christmas Tree Sale.

Future Events: February 27th - will perform adult eye screenings and feet exams at Duaneburg Days; April - will plant a tree in conjunction with Earth Day; May - 5k walk with 100% of the proceeds to be donated to Juvenile Diabetes; June 16th - celebrating our 55th anniversary.

Richmondville-Cobbleskill Lions Club: Membership: Currently at (18) members. Donations: Club budget has not yet been finalized. Activities: The Club plans to work with a local organization to put on a Thanksgiving dinner. Sales of Easter Bunnies are planned for the New Year. A Chili Cook-off is also planned for the New Year. Club reports are being submitted on line. Most recent District report is for July 2009. An offer to help has been e-mailed to the club secretary.

Town of Wright-Schoharie Valley Lions Club: Membership: Club has (20) members.

Donations: Donations totaling \$2800 are in the club budget passed on 9/23/2009. Activities: The Club lending program for hospital equipment has shown increased activity. This mostly caters to clients referred by the Office for the Aging. Hospital beds are most in demand with all available beds being used at present. The Sight and Hearing Chairperson attended the 9/28/2009 meeting of the Sight and Hearing Association. A motion to raise the Club's donation was deferred as the donation check for last year has not yet been cashed. A Veteran's day program will be held at Borealli's Restaurant on November 11, 2009. The Club will celebrate its 35th anniversary in April 2010. Club reports are being submitted on line. Most recent District report is for Nov 2009.

Zone B activity- Visitations were made to the (3) clubs in Zone B. A Zone meeting was held at Borealli's Restaurant, on November 11, 2009, hosted by the Town of Wright-Schoharie Valley Lions Club. Zone Chair plans to attend the Fall Conference and Cabinet meeting on Nov. 7th.

Region N: Lion Karen Rager

Zone A: Lion Scott Rager – Glens Falls Lions Club: Balloon Festival: We raised over \$6,000.00, with 15 Lions and 14 Friends-of-Lions volunteering for the two days; Road Clean-up: 5 Lions volunteered to clean up our 2 mile stretch of Ridge Road; We supported 3 Eye Exams and 2 Hearing Exams; \$250 was given to Glens Falls Lion, towards his trip to Guatemala with the Glens Falls Medical Mission

Zone B: Lion Loretta Saheim –

District Governor Lion Ed Stano reported on the Council of Governor's Meeting: New state dress code is brown/khaki pants, white shirt, blue blazer, brown/khaki belt, socks and shoes. Since the last dues increase was passed in 2007-2008, but not carried through. It was implied that #3 per member would come back to the district - \$1 the first year and \$2 the next – to make sure it happens the council voted unanimously to send \$1 back to districts. All the VDG's agreed this should start next July with VDG John Samples reign. Other districts support sending zone and region chairs to USA/Canada forum. With regard to Youth Committees: various ones have been set up but are no longer active. PDG Noani from E2 is working on a Youth Council – we need coordination at a district level –including HOBY, Youth Quest, Leos, etc. We need to get these youth programs moving. Diabetes needs more awareness – it is an epidemic.

With regard to Region and Zone chairs, PDG Lion Ed Stano wants to make sure all information he has been sending (Club Health Assessment) is getting read. Being a Zone Chair is the hardest job in the district – and we are here to help.

Conventions & Meetings – Lion Mary Claire Noakes: A 4th Cabinet Meeting is scheduled this year. When it was combined with the Governor’s Testimonial, we did not get a lot of work done. The testimonial is for fun.

Constitutions and By-Laws: Need a chair!

News Editor –Lion Stephen Lynch: Lion Steve received a round of applause for his great job on the newsletter. He hopes to see a page from each club, as well as photos of club events.

Camp Badger – PDG Lion Joseph Jarvis: Mentioned name change for the Camp – Now called Empire State Special Needs Experience. The camp has a new initiative – should make the camp run better. There is a new camp website. They are looking to get new students – There are over 620 school districts in the state – there is no reason why the camp should only have a few students. Every club should take camp badger information and get it to the school nurse in every school. The camp is more geared to sight/hearing plus other special needs. They are going to offer a diabetic camp, etc. to get more students attending; as well as find other uses for the camp property. This is the District Governor’s district project.

LCIF – PDG Lion Dick Nason: Lion Dick Nason is on the road again. Lion Scott Rager spoke on each club donating \$1 per member for a District Melvin Jones.

Lioness Clubs- Lioness Becky Beattie: Granville Lioness are sponsoring a basket raffle. Hadley Luzerne Lioness are sponsoring a blood drive, Christmas wreath sale, Christmas Craft bazaar and 25th Charter on Nov 18th. Three charter members have had perfect attendance.

MD20 Magazine – PDG Lion Dick Ralston: Please get pictures and articles in prior to Nov 25th.

MERL Team-VDG John Samples, Lion Bill Suchy: John Samples will have a short meeting after lunch today. Zone chairs can pass on information to the clubs.

- Membership
- Education
- Retention
- Leadership

Peace Poster – Voting on during lunch – Winner was Heather Emerick from the Stuart Townsend Middle School in Luzerne.

Publicity and promotions- VDG John Sample: You will see a big push on PR in the last week in January – “Lions in Sight”. October 1st, 2010 Leadership Institute –is a valuable tool to train future leaders \$350 motel/food and seminar. Regarding the District Governor’s contest – forms are on the table- will close on June 1st, 2010. Winner’s will be announced at Governor’s Testimonial. Tail Twisters take note –At the Holland Patent Visitation the tail twister was terrific! He dug up dirt on every member on the club. He fined them \$1 – we will have to have him put on a work shop. He made the meeting fun.

Sight & Hearing Team – PDG Lion Surnoff Judy: Lion Bill Suchy spoke of Hearing Awareness at local fairs. Volunteers handed out ear plugs and brochures on hearing loss. The hearing society approved a grant for two deaf girls from the Farnsworth Middle School, for a field trip. The hearing society sent out a request - raised \$1400 – still more coming in for them. They will come back to the Guilderland club to make a report.

New York & Bermuda Foundation –Lion Mary Claire Noakes: Grant formats are the same as last year. She has the applications – send via snail mail 10 copies of the application. The car raffle was down from last year. The quilt raffle netted the foundation \$5,900 and was won by Peter Newbauer – a member of the Foundation committee.

VCB (Visions Center for the Blind)–Lion Michael O'Brien: There was a work day on Oct 10th. They will be doing another employment institute.

USA/Canada Forum – Lion Christine Judy: Anyone that has gone, has loved it. Suggest we attend more in the future. Next one in Milwaukee.

Webmaster – Lion Jerry Gordon: Please check contact information under your club name. There is also a place for Lioness Clubs. Also appealed to the Region and Zone Chairs to have Lions members sign up on the website. There are 5 clubs with no email information.

Leo Clubs –PDG Lettie Saheim: The Shenendahowa Leo Club has 10 active members, up to 28 members. They meet 2 times per month – the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the school at 2:45pm.

Lions Quest/Youth- Need a Chair! Leos are our future!!

PDG Organization – Lion Jace Tuccio: District Governor Ed Stano held a pre-cabinet meeting in August and a regular Cabinet meeting in September. Number one on all our minds is to increase our dwindling membership. However the last membership report showed that 20-Y2 was 1 of only 2 Districts with a membership gain, we were plus 20. Diabetes awareness is also in the forefront.

Our clubs continue to support the many sight and hearing organizations and societies. These include the Central Assoc. For the Blind, Glens Falls Assoc. For the Blind, the Northeastern Assoc. For the Blind at Albany, the Sight Society of Northeastern NY, and the Assoc. For the Hearing Impaired in Queensbury. We support the Lions Hearing Conservation Society which includes eight loan out centers. We are home to the Lions Eye Institute in Albany which is also supported by other Sub-Districts and we support VCB as well as Camp Badger and The-Hole-in-the-Woods camp for children with devastating and sometimes terminal diseases. We also contribute to the many dog training schools including Canine Working Companions, Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Freedom Guide Dogs, Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind Inc., Guiding Eyes for the Blind, and Leader Dogs for the Blind. Most if not all our Clubs contribute annually to LCIF.

As Director, I have had my first PDG Organization Meeting. The meeting was attended by ten PDGs and sitting Governor Ed. Governor Ed reported on his goals for membership this year which includes at least one new Lions Club and a net gain of at least one member per Club in our District. Over the next few months we will be going back to areas which had strong Lions Clubs at one time but have since folded. We also reviewed International's and MD-20's accounts receivable reports for dues and other outstanding bills. We all agreed that it was the duty of the Region chairs through their Zone chairs to get in touch with the officers of these delinquent Clubs and remind them of their monetary responsibilities to International and the Multiple. If this brings no results, then DG Ed stated he would start contacting these officers direct. Also, a letter was presented in which a present Region chair wishes to be considered for VDG in the next Lion Year. She is a very good and active Lion and will make a great District Governor. The only drawback is, at this time, she's not very computer savvy. She still has a couple of year's and we'll help her anyway we can to bring her into the 21st Century. We continued to discuss other candidates who names have come up before. I have distributed the applications for the

Leadership Achievement Awards including our website and newsletter and we will be reviewing and choosing a nominee at our next meeting in January.

Lions Foundation at Albany – PDG Lion Dick Nason: Lion Dick Nason was on the road – VDG Lion Rick Quick spoke on the election term being up –looking for someone to run.

There was a 15 minute break at 10am.

Membership– District Governor Lion Ed spoke on retention and extension. He would like to get a report from each zone detailing a written membership plan from each club. If the plan doesn't work –make a new plan. What may work for one club may not work for another. We need to share information so everyone is on the same page. Youth will be our big push – how do we get younger members- Leo's are one way. At our last cumulative report from International – we were tops in the district for membership.

Regions L, I, O, N – all gave some ideas on recruiting new members. Many good ideas were submitted for club consideration.

DG Lion Ed introduced our Guest Speaker International Director Gary D'Orazio from Eagle Idaho. He has been a Lions member for 26 years, he had held numerous offices and been on several International committees. He is married to wife Linda (who was ill today), had 5 sons and one daughter, and 13 grandchildren. He presented a special Medal from Past International President Al Brandel to Lion Roger Swartfiguer. Lion Gary spoke to us on retention – retention is the key. The key to retention is involvement. Lion Gary's motto is Reach Out and Recruit –or ROAR – more members. He also spoke on LCI President Eberhard Wirfs theme –Move to Grow. If we don't move – we won't grow. He suggested we ask someone to be a Lion at least once a week. They may say no now, but if you keep asking them they will eventually check Lions out. Membership is everyone's responsibility. Don't be afraid to share about Lionism – be relevant to young people, show them we have something for them.

Blessing was said and Lunch was served at noon.