

**District 5M2 Cabinet Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2011  
City Center Hotel, Mankato, MN**

Prior to calling the meeting to order District Governor Eunice Rucks told an Ole and Lena joke. She then called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by PDG Mike Vos

**Invocation**: Given by 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Ron Dahlke

**Roll Call**: Taken by Lion Cindy Walters, showing 44 present, 7 absent.

**Introduction of Guests**: International Director Haynes Townsend and adult traveling companion: Lion Donna Townsend; PID Bill Crawford and PDG Julie Crawford from San Diego, California.

**Secretary's Report**: Everyone was e-mailed or mailed a copy of the minutes. Correction by Kathleen Williams, Core 4 Grant change to the checkbook, multiple signers, Dale Oldenburg, Eunice Rucks and Kathleen Williams instead of Mike Williams. Motion to approve with correction by Lion Maynard Rucks; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Lori Klein, MC.

**Treasurer's Report**: Lion Dale Oldenburg had a copy of his report for everyone. Pretty much on budget, Actual revenue to date is \$74,332.34; actual expenditures are \$36,529.31 for a current balance of \$37,803.03. All dues are paid. Total inflows since July of \$51,106.54 plus a Core 4 grant payment of \$6,455. Motion by PDG Bill Curtis to accept the report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Shirley Hesperheide. MC.

**Communications**: A card is being sent around for Sheila Stahler, she had a kidney replaced but all reports seem to be positive.

**Old Business**:

1. **Core 4 Quest Grant and Lions Quest report**: Lion Kathleen Williams reported that since the October Cabinet meeting, they have done the Lions Quest presentation to 7 clubs. "We hope to be able to say that we have given our presentation to EVERY club in our district, we have only 20 more to go." At the present time we have 14 teachers expressing an interest in taking the Lions Quest training this summer. We were approved for the Core 4 grant of \$19,000 thanks to Paul Stahler, the money hasn't arrived yet. Mike reported that he called International and they needed the name of the account to release the dollars. Should be on the way, soon.
2. **Disaster Relief LCI Grant Report**: DG Eunice reported on the \$10,000 grant received in 5M2, 286 WalMart cards were purchased and passed them out to families, Clubs in Minnesota Lake, Owatonna, Northfield, Faribault, Amboy, St. Peter received the cards and distributed them to needy families. Thank you notes have been received. Grant paperwork report has been completed. If you wonder where LCIF money goes this is one place.
3. **Can Do Canines LCI Grant Application**: Lion Darlene Breamer reported that the Lions from MD5M have done it! They have raised over \$75,000 for the Can Do Canines LCIF matching fund campaign. On January 12, 2011 the total raised was \$77,049. 5M2 raised \$6,240. The next step is to apply for the LCIF matching grant. The application has to be at Lions Clubs International Foundation by February 16, 2011 in order to be reviewed at the April Board meeting. The application involves many pages and lots of information including the Can Do Canines entire building plan, their financial condition, Lions donations and who donated, etc. They were planning on sending the application the 1<sup>st</sup> week in February. If LCIF comes through with the entire amount there will be a total of \$150,000. Can Do Canines will be able to construct 10 new kennels and outside runs adjacent to the kennels they now have. Construction of the kennels and outside area is scheduled to begin this summer and be finished by September. Hopefully the new kennels will help alleviate the long waiting time that some of the clients experience as the facility will be able to house

more dogs at one time for training.

Can Do Canine Matching LCIF Campaign Results:

- 5M8 \$11,055
- 5M7 \$10,057
- 5M9 \$9,695
- 5M5 \$8,180
- 5M10 \$6,303
- 5M3 \$6,247
- 5M2 \$6,240
- 5M6 \$5,210
- 5M1 \$4,528
- 5M4 \$3,126
- 5M11 \$1,665

**New Business:**

1. No New Business at this meeting

**Region/Zone Reports:**

Region 1 Lion Janet Hall reported that the total membership in Region 1 is 1090, up 1 since Fall Cabinet Meeting, so we have gone in the right direction. All clubs are doing a wide variety of successful project and doing a good job of getting their M & A's in. Looking forward to the upcoming Spring Zone Meeting and hearing about all the accomplishments of the Clubs.

- Zone 1 Lion Duane Jindra – Presently: We have 10 clubs in Zone 1 with 287 members down by 3. **Brownston Lions** reported 49 members, **Glencoe Lions** reported 36 members, **Hutchinson Lions** reported 28 members, **Hutchinson Lioness** reported 9 members, **Lester Prairie Lions** reported 25 members, **New Auburn Lions** reported 16 members (had the zone chair visit on November 18<sup>th</sup>), **Plato Lions** reported 32 members, **Silver Lake Lions** reported 51 members, **Stewart Lions** reported 20 members, **Winsted Lions** reported 21 members loss of 3 members. Just in January the clubs in Zone 1 donation over \$10,000 and have been very active in many projects. All clubs have been visited by Zone 1 chair. November 9th had the Fall zone 1 meeting held in Stewart with a great attendance with all 10 clubs represented. **Spring Zone 1 meeting April 12th to be at Silver Lake American Legion with social at 6:30 and meeting at 7 p.m.**
- Zone 2 Lion Marvin Grimm – 7 clubs in Zone 2. January membership numbers total was 462, this is up from October members of 455 or a gain of 7 members. We need 6 members to be back at July 1, 2010 membership of 468. Spring Zone meeting in March 28 at B's on the River near Watertown. Mayer Watertown Dandy Lions is the host club. (e-submit)
- Zone 3 Lion Bob Wolf – Has visited all the clubs in the Zone once and most of them twice. Shakopee Valley has 22 members, Shakopee 102, Veseli 22, NEW 54, Jordaness 34, Jordan 60, Prior Lake 45 and Belle Plaine 27 for a total of 366. Our spring zone meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Ridges Golf Club and will be hosted by the Jordaness Lions.

Region 2 Lion Kevin Blank. Region 2 consists of Zones 4, 5 and 6 which includes 19 Clubs and 4 Leo Clubs. Region 2 has 752 members, which is down 15 from my October report. He has received all M&A's electronically and for the most part on time, which has been great! He attended Zones 4 fall meeting, but was unable to attend Zone 5 and 6 meetings. He looks forward to attending this year's spring meetings.

- Zone 4 Lion Dennis Hewitt reported that the six Lions Clubs of Zone 4 have a combined 277 members, this is a plus 12 from the October. Club visits are going well, they are always interesting and fun. All the Clubs are doing well and have many projects and fund raisers on going. Courtland Lions has a waffle breakfast scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>. Gibbon Lions have a Jackpot Junction Casino event on Monday Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>. Lafayette Lions had waffle breakfast two weeks ago, and has a Jackpot Junction Casino event planned for March. Nicollet Lions has a Pork Chop Fry, Saturday Feb 19<sup>th</sup>. St. Peter Lions are having a waffle breakfast this Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Winthrop Lions has a German Dinner planned for Feb 26<sup>th</sup> and a omelet breakfast in April. The Zone 4 Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> at Courtland.

- Zone 5 Diana Kroells – The Spring Zone meeting is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> with the West Carver Lions hosting the event at the Norwood Young America Pavilion. I had an opportunity to visit a few of the clubs and have the others scheduled for Feb & March. I visited with the Sibley East Jr. High Leo Club and was very impressed with the enthusiasm of the 30 students in attendance and also the projects in which they are involved. I am excited about attending the Regional Lions Leadership Institute in April. Zone fund raising activities include- Waffle and Pancakes Brunches, Walking Taco sales, raffles, meat raffles, & bingo, with a fish Fry and 2 dinner & show events planned. Funds have been generously given to many community projects. Arlington Lions have established a Darwin Mathwig Memorial Scholarship. Since our last meeting we have dropped 6 members, added 5 new members and lost two to death, Roger Hesperheide from LeSueur Lions and Kenneth Oelfke from Hamburg Lions. Our Zone 5 total is now 234 members strong.
- Zone 6 Lion Bruce Lieske – Zone 6 has six Lions clubs including Faribault, LeCenter, Lonsdale, Montgomery, Northfield, and Northfield Cannon Valley. **LeCenter** has 45 members currently. Completed Pork chop feed on 2/5/11 and helped with Mid-winter convention. **Faribault** has 52 members currently. Recently Completed Peace poster contest, Meals on Wheels, and Salvation Army Bell ringing, helped lead Midwinter convention committee. **Lonsdale** has 36 members currently. Recently had Lions Quest Presentation and worked on Midwinter Convention. **Northfield** has 39 members currently. Recently no meetings but helped with Midwinter convention. **Northfield Cannon Valley** has 31 members currently. Assisting with Midwinter convention planning. **Montgomery** has 36 members currently. Upcoming pancake breakfast 4/17/11, helping with Mid-winter Convention. The zone 6 clubs have had a very busy time scheduling the Mid-winter convention! April 19 in LeCenter for the spring Zone Meeting.

Region 3 Lion Bill Bowman reported that Region 3 consists of zone 7 (6 clubs), zone 8 (6 clubs) and zone 9 (8 clubs), resulting in 20 clubs. Region 3 had 618 members as of Sept. 30, and as of Jan. 31 there was 631 members. Zone 7 lost one member, Zone 8 gained 5 members and Zone 9 gained 12 members, for a net gain of 16. Region 3 has 4 clubs having trouble getting their M&A's done. Zone 7 has 2, Zone 8 has 1 and Zone 9 has one. He then called on the zone chairs from Region 3.

- Zone 7 Lion Paul Gorman – One club visit to schedule yet. Spring Zone meeting hasn't been set up yet. The big activity this year is working on the Multiple Convention. Zone 7 is responsible for the raffle room and will be sending a letter asking for a donation of a \$50 item for the Convention or a cash donation. There are 154 members in Zone 7.
- Zone 8 Lion Allie Larson – There are 6 clubs in Zone 8 with a membership of 226, which has remained the same since the last Cabinet Meeting. All of the clubs in Zone 8 have donated a considerable amount of money to families dealing with natural disasters and hard economic times this winter. The clubs, also, have been holding their usual Winter activities, and are now gearing up for Spring and Summer. The Spring Zone 8 meeting will be held on March 24, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. social, dinner at 6:30, at the New Richland, MN City Hall. It will be hosted by the New Richland Lions Club. More information will be forthcoming.
- Zone 9 Lion James Broberg – is in sunny Phoenix at the moment. There is a schedule spring Zone meeting, April 20 at the Blue Earth Hamilton Hall.

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG Comments:** 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Sue Bowman addressed the cabinet with appropriate protocol. Please limit your report to two minutes per committee.

### **Committee Reports:**

Can Do Canines: Lions Vern and Darlene Breamer attended a Can Do Graduation Ceremony and open house on November 6 at the facility in New Hope. They graduated 17 new teams. Corey Briest of Yankton, South Dakota was the first Iraq veteran to receive a dog from Can Do Canines. They are hoping to help more veterans in the future.

Highlights for 2010:

- Finished Phase One of the new building and moved in February 1, 2010
- 30 teams graduated
- Strong demand, longer waiting lists

- National attention for our Diabetes Assist Dog program
- General support income from Lions for 2010 was less than previous years
- Completed raising \$77,049 for Lions Multiple 5M

#### Highlights for 2011:

- New prison program in Waseca federal prison-looking for volunteers in the Waseca area to assist with the puppy raising to take the dogs out in public on weekends
- Place 25 to 30 puppies in three prisons this year
- Plans to increase production.
- 33% increase in 2011, to 40 teams
- Ideally will add 25% more in 2012, to 50 teams
- Plan to finish more of the facility
- Lions \$75,000 local funds should be matched to LCIF
- Plan to construct the **Lions Wing** of our kennel during 2011

They are currently conducting monthly tours of the New Hope facility. Just call for a list or go to their web site. They next open house is February 26 from 1 to 4 PM. Information on being a "puppy foster family" for a weekend should be available by Mid-Winter convention.

The coordinators have been busy visiting several clubs since our fall meeting. We want to thank all the clubs in 5M2 for their current and future support of the Can Do Canine project. We are hoping that Lion members will visit the facilities and see what their contributions have done! It is truly amazing. It would be a good club outing to take in one of their monthly tours.

Computer & Technology Support: Lion Steve and Lion Lori have been working together to update the website as information has become available. E-mails on various technology need/questions are handled and sent to update or help district members requests. Multiple mass e-mails have been sent to inform district members of various things going on. At present, 20 of the 63 clubs in the district have websites, including 4 who are using the new LCI "E-Clubhouse". Lion Steve reported how easy it is to do with the e-clubhouse and recommended that clubs look into using it. There will be a link on the 5M2 website. You can have a members only section on the e-clubhouse as well. As he was reviewing websites he found that there are lot of Lions Clubs websites that aren't very current. VDG Sue recommended that Lion Steve

Constitution & By-Laws: Lion Harry Klenke reported that the Constitution and By-Laws Committee of the Lions International Board of Directors did some minor revisions in a couple of areas. They also adopted a resolution to increase our membership dues by \$4 over a two year period beginning July 1, 2012.

Conventions: PDG Rick Wagener reported that he has a table display at this convention. Brochures and information will be available for the U.S./Canada Forum, International Convention, and 5M Multiple Convention.

Diabetes Foundation: Lion Anna Wickenhauser reported that Lions Arne and Anna have been braving the snowy winter weather this year to visit clubs throughout our districts. Lions Arne and Anna have been spreading the knowledge of Diabetes Research and Lionism throughout the state and are hoping that their selfless endeavors show themselves in the Parade of Green this year. Various clubs have been donating checks to the Diabetes Foundation and these donations are greatly appreciated. Lion Anna has the honor of presenting 3 Dream Catcher Awards to the NYA Lions Club. In closing Lion Arne and Anna will continue braving the Minnesota weather to visit as many clubs as they can to spread the word about Diabetes and Lionism.

District Activities: Lion Nancy Mathwig reported that Pins - Both the Seattle snowman and the District bird pins are available from her this weekend. Memorial Service - This evening we will be honoring 29 Lions who have passed away since last year's Mid Winter convention. She asked that the Zone chair or Region chair come forward, if family and/or club members are not present to come forward during the candle lighting and to accept the flowers. 1st Timers contest - We have 26 first timers registered and will again be holding a first

timers contest. The winner will receive full registration and all meal package for the 2012 convention; second place will receive registration paid. Last year we had no participants. She revamped the books that need to be completed. The cabinet will still have a place to sign, however, you will no longer be listed by your position. Please encourage the first timers to meet convention attendees and complete the book. Winners will be announced at the Sunday a.m. brunch.

Historian: Lion Ken Farrell reported, PID Debra has shared a box of old District Newsletters with the Historian, and he has been pondering how to put them into a useful file. He has started putting a file together with a copy of a newsletter from each PDG, and will archive the rest. Historian has also been able to help several Lions with questions about the 5M-2 History.

Journey for Service: Lion Jack Webster reported that this year's Journey for Service will be April 13-15 looking for 100% club participation of all 69 clubs. As usual this will be another whirlwind Journey, starting at 7 a.m. on Wednesday with a delicious breakfast hosted by Lions Debra and Steve Wasserman of the Faribault Lions Club. DG Eunice and Jack will visit all 69 Lions, Lioness and Leo clubs in the District during our 2½ day tour. I am again asking for the support of my fellow cabinet members in making all clubs aware of the upcoming visit/fundraiser to make this fun even a profitable one again this year. All funds collected go to district-approved health related projects, and we have distributed nearly \$300,000 to these projects over the last few years so we hope this will prove to be another successful endeavor. We are hoping for 100% participation of the clubs again this year and expecting to once again have several thousand dollars to benefit those less fortunate than ourselves. Thanks for your support and have a fun convention.

LCIF: Lion Ron Dahlke reported that as District LCIF Coordinator, he is continuing to work toward the completion of goals that were set at the beginning of this Club year. Club presentations have been completed at Owatonna, Winthrop, Plato, Victoria, and Lester Prairie. Upcoming presentations are scheduled for Albert Lea, Alden, Silver Lake, Waterville, and Winsted. Club presentations are personalized using up-to-date report information provided by LCIF Support Staff, which includes:

- Current and historical Club LCIF donation data,
- Campaign Sight First Phase II donation data,
- Melvin Jones Fellowship Listing,
- Grant history for District 5M-2, and more.

Also, updated disaster assistance information, both globally and locally, will be provided from the LCIF Web Site.

In addition to receiving donations from Clubs, individuals can also participate in the LCIF Contributing Membership Program. For a donation of \$20, donors receive a bronze lapel pin. For a \$50 donation, donors receive a silver lapel pin, and for a \$100 donation, donors receive a gold lapel pin. In view of the ever-increasing and on-going needs of LCIF, I can not think of a better time or a better way to help promote LCIF, as 100% of your donation will be applied to a humanitarian need in the world.

You belong to Lions International... but the Lions Club International Foundation belongs to you... This is your Foundation. Thank you for your continued support! Lion Steve Wasserman asked whether there is a way to auto-deduct a monthly donations to LCI. VDG Ron will check into this with LCI.

Leader Dog: Co-Chairs Lions Shirley Hespenheide and Joan Blank; Since the last Cabinet meeting in October, presentations were given at the Glencoe, Winsted and Minnesota Lake Lions Clubs. February 15 a presentation will be given to the Hutchinson Lions and March 24 to the N.E.W. Lions. Lion Shirley also attended a Leader Dog Seminar in St. Cloud on December 11 which was a very snowy weekend. She also made a trip to the airport this morning to pick up Lion Len and Ginger.

LEO Clubs: Lion Allen Heidorn was not in attendance, no report for this meeting.

Liberty Day: Lion Charlie Knakmuhs reported that he attended the Region III meeting. There was a program held at Alden-Conger High School with about 450 in attendance. The program was given to grades 6-12; 300 students, 150 Legion, Lions and public, it was very successful. They want to put another program on in three years. PDG Mary Spille reported that there was no new activity to report. She will have a small display

at Midwinter. Had hoped to see a winter program in NYA, but has not materialized. Shakopee may still have their spring program scheduled. No other requests for booklets on the north end.

Lions Lights on for Life: PDG Rick Wagener reported that he has started a Letter to the Editor/News Article campaign that was sent to all club presidents. The article simply reminds drivers about the safety factor of driving with their lights on and how to get signs from the local Lions club. He has heard back from several clubs with a positive response. This seemed to be the most economical to get the word out. Info will also be available at mid-winter convention.

Long Range Planning: PDG Tom Ferleman reported that he continues to work with individual Lions to make a 5-year plan. This plan should include both their personal life and where they will be as a Lion in 5 years. He is also working with clubs and encouraging them to write a 5 year plan. Lions also need to be encouraged to work on short term goals for themselves and their clubs. There will be a display at this convention and will use similar displays for the Region Meetings in the fall.

MD5M Hearing Foundation: VDG Sue Bowman reported that PDG Mike Vos and she thank you for your support of the Lions Hearing Center and Lions Children's Hearing Center. Through the financial effort of the Lions and the skilled medical staff at the University of Minnesota, hope has been renewed every time sound is restored or improved for our hearing challenged citizens. As part of a master plan to centralize children's health care, the Pediatric ENT and Audiology clinics, including the Lions Children Hearing Center, will move across the Mississippi River just off Riverside Avenue next to the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. The move is scheduled for this April. The pediatric clinic with play room, exam rooms, parent lounge and library and offices for the pediatric staff will be located at 701 25<sup>th</sup> Ave South in Minneapolis. Having all medical specialties that deal with children from otolaryngology to pulmonary to orthopedics, in a two square block campus will make it easier for patients and medical staff to get there and collaborate. Certainly that was the idea behind the Lions Children's Hearing Center, and it is great to see that good idea copied. The Lions Hearing Foundation Trustees are scheduled to meet February 26 in St. Cloud to continue building and revamping the infrastructure of the Foundation to meet the challenged ahead. Dr. Kathy Daly is a researcher at the University and a leading authority on otitis media (ear infection) and was instrumental in developing a vaccine for one type of bacteria that causes pneumonia. This past fall, Dr. Daly received continued funding from the Lions Hearing Foundation for her project called "Barriers to Newborn Screening". As you know, the Hearing Foundation spearheaded newborn hearing screening in Minnesota because early detection of hearing loss means better outcomes for children. Even though Lions made sure all hospitals can screen newborns' hearing, some children still leave the hospital without having the critical hearing test. Based on about 70,000 live births per year in Minnesota, statistics tell us to expect 70 to 210 of these infants to have hearing loss at birth. However data from 2005 show that only 55 babies with confirmed hearing loss were reported to the Minnesota Department of Health. Dr. Daly's project seeks to find out why some babies are still not being screened for hearing loss. She is surveying parents to discover their perceptions and attitudes about screening. She hopes to use the findings of this survey to help clear up misconceptions and eliminate barriers to newborn hearing screening. This weekend Marlene Martinek, the Hearing Foundation President will be one of the seminar presenters. She has spent the last 25 years working in hearing health and will share her thoughts with us. Stop by the display table and pick up literature about the Lions Hearing Center and Children's Hearing Center.

MD5M Convention: Lion Nancy Mathwig reported regarding the areas that will need volunteers and lots of help during the convention. International President Sid has service projects related to kids as well as hunger, so PDG Orville will be bringing "Food for Kids" for the service project for this convention. PID Maynard reported that they were down to needing only one speaker, unfortunately the guest of honor will not be able to attend so they are also looking for a replacement for him. There will be three types of speakers, including surprise entertainment. Some things will be different. Business meeting will be in the morning instead of the afternoon. There will be more detail forthcoming later during this convention.

Mid-Winter Convention: Lion Lori Klein reported that Zone 6 Lions have planned and are ready to put on a great convention in Mankato. There are 354 total registrants: 313 Lions, 1 Lioness, 2 Leos and 38 guests.

There are 26 first-timers. Share "peace and love" with those attending the convention and enjoy the weekend full of information and fellowship.

Minnesota Lions Eye Bank/Children's Eye Clinic/ MAC: Co-Chair Lion Jean Dahlke & PDG Marlys Meskan reported that on February 5, 2011 they attended the Board of Directors meeting in St. Cloud. They learned that on July, 31, 2010 the Minnesota Lions donated \$1 million toward a new \$3 million pledge to establish the Minnesota Lions Fund to Prevent Blindness in Infants and Children at the University. The money will advance research, education and care in the Department of Ophthalmology to help children.

The pledge represents a milestone in the Lion's dedication to the University's work in blindness prevention and marks the 50 year partnership of the Minnesota Lions, Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and the Department of Ophthalmology.

Delegates to the Multiple Convention on April 30, 2011 will be considering a name change of the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank, Inc. to the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. The Board members believe the proposed name will better reflect the broad nature of the vision-related work supported by Minnesota Lions.

The Spring Lions Tours to the University of Minnesota and the Department of Ophthalmology and Department of Otolaryngology scheduled for April 2, 2011 is filled, names of clubs are being taken if there are any cancellations. Reservations are now being taken for the Lions Fall Tour and Eye Bank Open House on October 1, 2011. The co-chairs have given several club presentations and will also be attending the Spring Zone Meetings.

MT Membership: Lion Steve Wasserman reported that as of the January 4, 2011 LCI Register Report, District 5M2 stood at 2502 members in 63 clubs. This is a net gain of 26 members since the September 30, 2010 report, but still a net loss of 9 members for the 2010-2011 year. So far this year, 36 clubs have added a total of 98 new members. In addition, 4 members have been reinstated and 6 have transferred in. By comparison, last year at this time we stood at 2496 members. 41 clubs had added 110 new members, with 1 additional reinstatement and 8 transfers in. Last year we added 128 new members from January 1 to June 30 with a net gain of 15. If we can duplicate that performance again this year, we will finish the year with a positive net growth for the fourth year in a row.

MT Extension: PID Maynard Rucks reported that the boss said if he didn't get to work he would be fired. No projects are in the works right now. He wants to talk with PDG Tom Ferleman regarding an Extension project.

MT Retention: Lion Jeff Williams reported that retention was the focus at the fall zone meetings. Breakout sessions were held with discussion questions designed to inspire new ideas. He is working on compiling this information and will have reports to distribute at the spring zone meetings.

MT Leadership Development: Lion Brian Thies reported that training for new officers will be the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.

MT Orientation: Lion Nancy Mathwig reported that she hasn't made any visits since the last cabinet meeting. There is a display at this convention.

Newsletter Editor: PDG Bill Curtis reported that the 5M-2 Newsletter is doing fine and with the help of District Governor Eunice Rucks he tries to get it out by the 15th of the month. He brought a few copies of the upcoming February Newsletter. If you would like to have a copy see him after the meeting. The Lions in 5M-2 look forward to the newsletter. Many clubs send in material for the newsletter.

Project New Hope: Lion Donna Wolter reported that Project New Hope is coming along nicely. She has had the opportunity to speak to a few clubs and have a few more visits scheduled. She looks forward to getting more speaking engagements at the Midwinter. Project New Hope was incorporated in 2010. Our first training session was held on 06/23/10 in Kingston. In August the convertible was given away to a family from the Hewitt area. In September PDG Dale and PCC Deb Harms held a seminar at the USA Canada Leadership Forum. In October a shortened version of a retreat was held in St. Cloud. Currently, PNH is actively pursuing obtaining 501(c)(3) status, a new website and trademarking the PNH logo. Retreats have

been held in New York, Wisconsin, and Massachusetts. Washington has scheduled retreats. Arizona, Kansas, Michigan, North Carolina and West Virginia have all expressed serious interest in Project New Hope. It has been very exciting being a small part of Project New Hope and I look forward to PDG Dale's presentation tomorrow.

Protocol/Public Relations: Lion Paul Stahler was unavailable for this meeting.

Spring Point Project: PDG Rick Wagener reported that he had no new program information lately from the Diabetes Institute. His next programs are in April and May. More info is available at this convention.

Write Off: Lion Jim Spille reported the he helped all Zone and Region Chairs that requested it to complete their contests. He contacted all Region winners and invited them to read their essays at Midwinter. All have agreed to attend. He awarded all relevant prizes to Zone and Region Winners. He arranged for all Region Winners and their families to attend midwinter and have lunch with us. He would like to request a review of this program for the future. This year's entries were down. We don't seem to be expanding the coverage of the program, and there is some concern that the quality of the entries is not what it should be. In his opinion, we should either improve the program or abandon it.

Youth Exchange/Youth Camp: Lion Chris Hall, Co-Chair of the Youth Exchange Program. This is my first year with the Program, and it has been a year of learning. I started out the year by attending a Training session, as well as all three Region Meetings, trying to introduce myself to as many Clubs as possible. I was able to set up a couple of Club visits, and still accepting invitations for more. I recently sent out letters, via e-mail to all the Clubs, trying to set up more visits, and see if anyone would be interested in serving as a Host Family, or possibly knowing of someone that would like the opportunity. I have been able to get a couple of names for possible Host Families, but could always use more as there is a list of students, waiting to come over here. There's more information at a display I have set-up. Feel free to take this with you back to your Club.

Youth Outreach/Peace Poster: Co-Chairs Lions Sheila Stahler & Janet Knakmuhs. The theme for 2010 was "Vision of Peace". This year the 5M2 winners were 1<sup>st</sup> place Olivia Ferrer from Prior Lake, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner was Hannah Kunkel from Glencoe and there was a tie for third place, Corey Ehlert and Lukas Schimek from Wells. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will be awarded a check for \$100 and a plaque, \$50 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and \$30 a piece for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Lion Janet and I received 29 posters from 22 clubs. We would like to thank all the clubs that participated and hope to see more participation in 2011.

Spring is the time to get started! If any club needs help getting started, Lion Janet and I will be happy to help. The best way for Lions Clubs to become involved in the Peace Poster contest is by appointing a Peace Poster chairperson and asking the school art teachers in the Spring if they would like to participate in the Lions Peace Poster contest. Art teachers are planning their fall classes and can include the Peace Poster theme in their curriculum. Inform the teachers of the Peace Poster theme, rules, conditions, and deadlines. Occasional reminders are a good idea to check on the students' progress toward completing their posters on time.

If there is more than one school participating, each club may submit 1 poster from each school. A kit is needed for each poster submitted. This year Lion Janet and I received a couple of posters that did not have a sticker on the back. These posters could not be judged.

The deadline for the contest is November 15, 2011. All posters must be received by November 15<sup>th</sup> in order to be eligible to be judged. Please have your club send the posters to the Peace Poster Chairperson. Do not send any posters to the District Governor. Peace Poster Chairpersons-remember to check the posters for the accurate dimensions. All posters must be no smaller than 13" by 20" and no larger than 20" by 24". This year all the posters Lion Janet and I received were all the right size. The Rules and Conditions can be found in the Peace Poster Kit.

The 2011 Peace Poster theme is "Children Know Peace". Kits are available at the Lions International website or in the Lions Magazine. Again, we would like to thank all the clubs that participated in the 2010 contest. We would like to thank Carver Scott Cooperative for taking pictures so they can be displayed at the convention. The contest is a perfect opportunity to reach out to students in the community

and give them a chance to show what peace means to them.

Lions Quest: Report was given earlier in the meeting with the Core 4 grant report.

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG Comments**: 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Sue Bowman thanked everyone for their reports. We are very fortunate in this district to have such great workers willing to go out into the freezing cold to promote their programs and projects. Thank you very much.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Comments**: 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Ron Dahlke echoed VDG Sue's comments regarding how well the programs and projects run in 5M2. He thanked everyone as well and mentioned the hospitality rooms. "Visit soon and visit often."

**PID Comments**: PID Bill Crawford thanked 5M2 for the invitation to this convention. He is very excited and looking forward to the convention and made humorous comments. Complemented the DG on running a wonderful meeting. Thanks again for inviting him and his "hot dish" to the convention and he will have further comments tomorrow at lunch.

**International Director Comments**: ID Haynes Townsend also thanked 5M2 for the invitation. He stated that he is amazed at the projects 5M2 supports. He has never seen so much snow since he is from Georgia. He will have more comments tomorrow at the dinner. He then told a story and entertained questions. He explained the rationale for the dues increase and why it was split into \$2 increments over two years. He stated that the only Lions who vote down a dues increase are North Americans. VDG Sue Bowman asked regarding whether GLT, GMT are mandates causing MERLO to go away. He stated that Lions do not have a membership problem they have a leadership problem. That is why the Leadership component is being separated, so it can be highlighted. Thank you very much, see you later.

**Announcements** – DG Eunice commended the cabinet. We have a great cabinet and it makes her job easier. Called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by PID Maynard Rucks, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lion Darlene Breamer at 3:45 p.m. MC.

Respectfully Submitted

Lion Cindy Walters