



## Highlight Zone

Region 3-Zone 2

March 2011

District 11-B1

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### **Merge Between Districts 11-B1 and District 11-C2**

In December of 2010, I reported that representatives from Districts 11-B1 and 11-C2 had met to discuss the feasibility of a merger between the two districts due to continuing difficulties in substantial membership growth and the increasing difficulties of running a district with fewer members than Lions Clubs International defines as a healthy district.

Our District formed a Study Committee consisting of 10 former, present or incoming District Governors to discuss the pros and cons of a merge.

On January 22, 2011, your cabinet voted to put the concept on the agenda of the upcoming District Convention and place it in the hands of the membership as an advisory vote.

Since that meeting there was so much discussion, comments and e-mails between Past District Governors, clubs and individual members that District Governor Barb Treichel felt it was necessary to call a Special Executive Cabinet Meeting for February 26. The majority of the PDG's were saying there wasn't enough time or information given to the clubs at this time to make a decision as important as merging with another district at this time.

After much discussion a motion was made, and approved, to rescind the original motion to place the merger proposal on the April convention ballot, according to the wishes of membership.

### **Membership**

District 11-B1 wants to help all Lions Clubs grow and thrive in the communities you serve! As an incentive to potential members, the district will provide your club a check for \$40 towards each new member's first year membership dues.

At the January 22 Cabinet Meeting, we voted to extend the membership incentive program and add \$1,000 to cover the first 125 members this year.

Take the opportunity to ask someone to join your club today!

## **District Convention April 15-17**

The 2011 District Convention will be held at Hillsdale College, Dow Leadership Center, at 22 E. Galloway Drive in Hillsdale, MI.

The registration deadline of March 25 is quickly approaching so make your reservations as soon as you can, if you haven't already.

If room reservations are required, please make them directly with the Dow Leadership Center. The convention rate is \$74.20 per night, including tax. There were a total of 36 rooms available at the center, exclusively for the Lions Convention until April 1, 2011. Afterwards, rooms will be made available to the public and their availability cannot be guaranteed.

Please read the paperwork sent to your club presidents and secretaries carefully. The convention committee is encouraging each club to be involved in a "Western Theme" game for the festivity evening as well as a gift or \$30 donation for raffles.

## **Spring Leadership Forum April 28**

Our District's Spring Leadership Forum will be at the Vandercook Lake Junior/Senior High School at 1000 East Golf Avenue in Jackson, Michigan, off of East McDevitt. Clubs should be scheduling your nominating meetings to choose your club officers for the year 2011-12. All newly elected, as well as returning club officers and all Lions in the District are encouraged to participate in this valuable program. New programs, trainers and information will be distributed this year. There are important updates for club secretaries and treasurers.

Deadline for registration is Friday, April 21. Cost is \$10 with a meal, or \$2 without a meal. There will be no refunds after April 20. Time of registration is 5:30-6:30 PM. Training sessions will be at 6:45-8:45 PM

Make checks payable to District 11-B1. Mail reservation and payment to Lion Corky Bouldrey, 209 Park Drive, Jackson, Michigan, 49203.

## **Lions of Michigan All-State Band**

The 94<sup>th</sup> Lions International Convention (July 4-8, 2011) will feature the Lions of Michigan All State Band, consisting of members from Michigan schools, grades 9-12, who play woodwind, brass and percussion instruments.

Students are responsible for payment of their tour fees (\$2,099) to Seattle, with the final installment due by May 15. Fees cover all transportation, meals, tours and admissions for the entire trip beginning with the pre-tour rehearsal in June. In addition, it covers the cost of the basic travel uniform and souvenir recordings of the band.

We encourage your clubs to donate to the three students in our District.

For more information, contact District Secretary Diane Schweda at (517) 787-2547 or email at [dischweda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dischweda@sbcglobal.net)

## **Project Kidsight**

Did you know that 1 out of every 4 school age children has a vision issue? Yet, poor vision often goes undetected by physicians, parents and teachers. Since 80% of what a child learns is visually acquired, these conditions negatively impact a child's ability to learn to thrive and ultimately to succeed.

Project Kidsight is a FREE vision screening program offered by Lions Club volunteers to conduct vision screening sessions for preschool children.

The goal of preschool vision is to prevent blindness through early childhood detection of far and nearsightedness, astigmatism, strabismus (misaligned eyes) anisometropia (unequal refractive power) amblyopia (lazy eye) and media opacities (cataracts).

On March 21 the Tekonsha Lions Club will present a program from Project Kidsight, with its new PediaVision technology.

The PediaVision screening camera was purchased through the tireless efforts of our project coordinator Larry France and the generosity of a grant from Michigan Braille Transcribing Fund and the contributions of District 11-B1.

The Tekonsha Lions meet at the Union Church (on the corner of Church and Randall Streets) in Tekonsha.

And if you miss that, the Albion Lions Club will have the same program at the Johnson Child Care & Development Center at 615 South Dalrymple St., in Albion.

## **Calendar of Events (ZC Mike Dauphinais)**

March 19	Executive Cabinet Meeting, VCL, 9:00 AM
March 19	Hillsdale Lions Rummage Sale
March 21	Tekonsha Lions-Program: Project Kidsight
March 22	Marshall Lions Club Meeting
March 25	Deadline to register for the District Convention to Margie Horsch
March 30	Deadline for District Convention Delegate Form to Esther LaMothe
April 1	Convention Meeting, VCL, 2:00 PM
April 5	Jonesville Lions Visitation
April 5	Albion Lions-Program: Project Kidsight
April 12	Marshall Lions Meeting (PID Ken Lautzenheiser)
April 14	Greater Jackson Habitat for Humanity Auction.
April 15-16	District Convention, Hillsdale College
April 17	Cabinet Meeting, Hillsdale, Dow Center, 8:30 AM
April 28	Spring Leadership Forum, VCL Junior/High School
April/May	White Cane Week
May 13	Greater Huron Valley Habitat for Humanity Auction, Washtenaw College
May 20-21	Multiple District Convention, Auburn Hills
June 18	Executive Cabinet Meeting, VCL, 9:00 AM

## **When a Lion Dies**

There is a new opportunity that will be available to the families of Lions, Lioness and Leos within District 11-B1 beginning in April 2011.

This program is “When a Lion Dies” and it has several components that will be available to any family wishing the support and appreciation of the District.

An Honor Guard, composed of Lions, Lioness and Leos from around the District, organized by Region and Zone, will be notified when a fellow Club Member dies, and travel to the funeral or visitation, as requested by the family, to show our respect and appreciation for the service their loved one provided to the Club and the District during their lifetime.

Members of the Honor Guard will be coordinated by a Regional Leader appointed by our District Chaplain, and training will be provided for all members of the Honor Guard, coordinators and Club Presidents.

A book describing the entire program, including the protocols, dress code, roster information and example Memorial service. One copy will be made available for each Cabinet Member and Club in our District, and an electronic version will be accessible through the District Website.

We are respectfully requesting that each club appoint two members to attend the Honor Guard training that will be held at a late date in the spring.

The program is being developed jointly by the Leadership Committee, the Public Relations Chairperson, and your District Chaplain.

To submit your nominations, or learn more about the details of the program, please contact any of the following Lions:

Lion Art Turner (District Chaplain)	517-769-4972 <a href="mailto:arthurturn@gmail.com">arthurturn@gmail.com</a>
Lion Alison Claerhout (Public Relations)	734-780-2638 <a href="mailto:aclaerhout@michiganeyebank.org">aclaerhout@michiganeyebank.org</a>
PDG Roberta Sexton (Leadership Comm.)	517-748-3097 <a href="mailto:RobertaSexton@comcast.net">RobertaSexton@comcast.net</a>

## **Truths for Mature Lions**

1. Was cursive really necessary?
2. MapQuest really needs to start their directions on #5. I’m pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.
3. Nothing is worse than that moment during an argument when you realize you’re wrong.
4. How many times is it appropriate to say “What?” before you just nod and smile because you still didn’t hear or understand a word they said?

## **Habitat for Humanity**

“Spring Cleaning” season is upon us. The District 11-B1 Habitat for Humanity committee is encouraging all club members to donate used books, magazines, CDs, VHS tapes & records for a book sale fundraiser, the date(s) to be announced.

We will pick up the items you want to purge, but we will not take textbooks or encyclopedias.

Contact: Mike Dauphinais 269-781-6511 (Calhoun, Branch & Hillsdale County)  
Bruce Bates 734-428-9616 (Washtenaw & Lenawee County)  
Dave Burlingame 269-979-3324 (Calhoun & Branch County)  
John & Nancy Koker 517-740-4910 (Jackson & Lenawee County)

We are also exploring grants and various other fundraisers with the goal of selecting a severely disabled person for a home in one of six counties: Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee or Washtenaw by June 30, 2012.

**The Greater Jackson Habitat for Humanity Dinner Auction** takes place on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Cascades Manor House in Jackson on 1970 Kirby Road. The reception begins at 5:30 with a dinner and auction to follow. The cost of the meal is \$45/per person. Call 517-784-6620 for information.

**Greater Huron Valley Habitat for Humanity** is having a live a silent auction with live music, with food and drinks, to celebrate 100 homes built in Washtenaw County. The event is being held at Washtenaw Community College in the Morris Lawrence Auditorium. Everyone is welcome, and it is definitely a fun event. Date is May 13<sup>th</sup>. Time is 6-9 PM. Tickets are \$50 each. You can order tickets on line at [www.h4h.org/2011auction](http://www.h4h.org/2011auction)

## **Beacon of Hope Awards**

The following Beacon of Hope Awards were presented at the Zone Meeting held in Tekonsha on February 17:

**Albion:** Provided eye glasses to the Cameroon Eyeglass Project

**Hillsdale:** Adopted a mother of 3 children through the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving and XMAS dinners (Award sent through the mail).

**Homer:** Provided \$200 donation to Youth Haven Ranch & provided vision screening and assistance towards the purchase of eyeglasses.

**Jonesville:** Donated \$150 to purchase books for Braille class for the parents of a blind student.

**Marshall:** Donated \$1130 towards senior citizen transportation; screened & provided 14 people with eyeglasses; donated \$200 towards XMAS baskets; Donated \$130 to “Mints for Military” program; Donated \$100 to a Marshall Middle School student who is hearing impaired (and has helped Marshall with its pancake brunch) to attend an environmental and animal protection program in Alaska; donated eyeglasses to the Cameroon Eyeglass Project.

**Tekonsha:** Pledged \$250 to Project Kidsight for the new digital film system; donated eyeglasses for the Cameroon Eyeglass Project. **David Begg (Marshall):** Traveled to Cameroon, Africa, to deliver eyeglasses collected from District 11-B1 to the United Methodist Church Mobile Eye Clinic, connecting with the Padouk Lions Club of District 403-B.

**Jewell Burkwalt (Homer):** Sponsoring a new member, **Steven L. Hinkley.**

**Dawn Copas (Tekonsha):** Participated in a fire prevention program with grades K-4; played Mrs. Santa at the XMAS Parade, handing out toys; Sponsored new member **Darryl Cummins.**

**Erin Haas (Albion):** Sponsored new member **Karin McGee.**

**Margaret Howard (Quincy):** Sponsored new member **Aloma Welch.**

**Mya Kavanaugh (Tekonsha):** Volunteered 3 shifts to help the Tekonsha Boosters; worked with freshmen to prepare decorations for “Spirit Week”; Donated to the local food pantry for XMAS.

**Margo Knapp (Tekonsha):** Planned, organized & cooked for the XMAS food booth.

**Scott Long (Tekonsha):** Donated to “Coats for Kids” and “Paws w/a Cause”.

**Tammy Lons (Tekonsha):** Worked with the Humane Society & made a donation to them.

**James Russell (Quincy):** Sponsored new member **Francis Hard.**

**Mary Slater (Albion):** Sponsored new member **George Strander.**

**Martha Smith (Hillsdale):** Sponsored new member **Jeremy Spratt.** (Award mailed).

**David Begg (Marshall):** Traveled to Cameroon, Africa, to deliver eyeglasses collected from District 11-B1 to the United Methodist Church Mobile Eye Clinic, connecting with the Padouk Lions Club of District 403-B.

**Jewell Burkwalt (Homer):** Sponsoring a new member, **Steven L. Hinkley.**