



District Sounder

27A2 DG Bert Freeman
November 22, 2022



As I begin my 4th District Sounder as your District Governor, it prompted me to reflect and revisit the goals I set for our district back in May of this year.

*** End of the Fiscal Year, our district will be +1**

For the past 12 years, our district at the end of each fiscal year has averaged -40. As of Nov 1st, we are currently -10. The need to address increasing membership will be front and center for the remaining 8 months of my term as District Governor. Along with GMT Dan Montaine and the Governor Team, we have a plan in place and will be discussing with the clubs ways of increasing membership. It is much more than “asking one”. The focus will be on seeking quality Lions, mentoring them, and getting them involved. To do nothing is unacceptable and the time to act is now. NOW!!!!!!

*** Charter one new club**

GMT Dan Montaine gave me a list of unchartered clubs for the past 20 years and WE are looking into re-energizing these communities about the value of having a Lions Club. Quick fix? Unfortunately No. PLANT THE SEED and watch it grow.

*** Continue the monthly newsletter**

As you can see, I remain committed to our district newsletter and find value in providing updates. We ran into a couple of issues in sending the newsletter to all members of the district. We remain committed to solving that issue. District IT Kase is seeking a solution and hopefully we have that in place this month.

*** Reduce service / activity reporting to 10%**

Since I have been a part of the Governor Team 2 1/3 years ago, clubs have not been reporting their service and activity reports and the average club not doing so (12 months without reporting) has been around **40%**. That means 40% of the clubs are 12 to 24+ months behind on reporting. In my 2 1/3 years as a member of the District Governor Team, some clubs are 2 years PLUS behind the whole time I have been receiving the reports. SOLUTION: I have appointed a District Administrator to place service and activities in MYLION... Problem solved...see below

NEWSFLASH TO SECRETARIES IN THE DISTRICT

Plain and simple, if you do not provide this reporting, Lions International thinks you are doing nothing, providing no services and zero activities, and if a natural disaster strikes your community and you seek a grant, odds are you get very little because they think your doing nothing because you report Nothing. Not my rules. I know you pay dues and donate to worthy causes, but this is they're criteria for grants in a disaster. Once again, NOT MY RULES. Who can place service and activities in MYLION? Club Secretary, Club President, service chair and the District Administrator. Who is the

district Admin? District Governor Bert Freeman. I called Lions International and provided the paperwork to be our District Admin. And provide club activity and service reporting.

What is the issue?

1. Forgot my password
2. I don't have time
3. It is too difficult to navigate and place in club activities.

Honestly, it takes 5 minutes to update your club service and activities, and if you need help getting your password straightened out, call me. My cell number is at the bottom of this sheet.

*** One new Leo Club**

District Leo Chair Deb Freeman is hot on the trail for a new Leo Club in our district. More on that when the Leo Charter date is set.

Why mention my goals? Because we need to stay focused and work together to meet OUR goals

NEWS FLASH

The paperwork is in, signed and delivered. I am pleased to announce that we have a candidate for incoming Second Vice District Governor. To be voted on at the 27A2 District Convention Feb 18th, 2023. Past President of the Grafton Lions Club, Slava Krol has put his name in for this prestigious position. Slava is currently serving as a zone chair and Lion Slava will have his name place in nomination at our 27A2 District Convention.

Speaking of our valued Convention. The convention team is working hard to provide a great time, fun speakers, visit with old friends, and make new friends. We gather again in Port Washington at the Port Washington Inn and Suites, formally Comfort Inn and Suites. Feb 17th and 18th and the theme will be "PLANT THE SEED". Friday night we will have a pie eating contest, country music/polka music, dressing up in a farm theme. (Farmer, scarecrow, fruit/vegetable, or farm animal). Joining us will be International Director Ken Ibarra and partner in service Amy Fink from California. Saturday afternoon, Andrea Yenter, Wisconsin Lions Camp, will provide insights in regard to the camp and entertain you with her enthusiastic story . Trust me, Andrea is a fantastic and energetic speaker. Saturday night, you will be entertained by magician Ryan Martin.

RAFFLES... Once again, our district is conducting our district cash raffle, as your zone chair has those in hand, along with the Lions International Chevrons. Heading the Cash Raffle is PDG Dan Montaine. Also, I am bringing back the District Governor Raffle with 3 prizes. 1st prize is a collapsable wagon filled with alcohol. Wine, booze, beer and additional items. 2nd price is \$100 and 3rd Prize is \$50. All prizes are donated by DG Bert and 300 tickets have been printed. Winner to be announced Saturday Night at the District Convention.

In closing: **MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP**. Ask a friend or family member to join us

Wishing you and your family an eventful Thanksgiving holiday.

Respectively Submitted,

Bert Freeman

27A2 District Governor