



Lions Tales

July - 2009 Elkhart Lions Club

IMPORTANT DATES

July 8

Summer Schedule for July
Noon, Matterhorn

July 6-10

International Convention (Minneapolis)

Aug. 5

District 25-G Golf Tourney
Maxwelton, Syracuse

Aug. 12

Summer Schedule for August
Noon, Matterhorn

Sept. 24-26

USA/Canada Leadership Forum

**Don't forget the
July Meeting,
Wednesday
July 8
Noon - Matterhorn**

Local and District Lions Organizations Lose Great Leaders

Within the past week, two Lions passed away, leaving a great legacy of service behind them for their respective clubs and the district.

Gordon MacKenzie, a member of the Elkhart Lions since 1961 passed away on June 27, 2009. He served as club president in 1968-69. In recent years, it was his meticulous work keeping our bylaws and state registrations in order that helped us maintain our legal status in the State of Indiana.

Over twenty members of the Elkhart Lions Club attended his funeral on Thursday, July 2.

We just learned that Past District Governor Art Birk passed away Monday, July 6 from cancer. He was a member of the Culver Lions and most recently was serving as treasurer of the Indiana Eye and Tissue Bank.

From the Nu(nan) Prez

So, here we are at the start of a new Lions year. It's my hope that the coming year will bring new and exciting opportunities for our club.

There is no doubt that for our club to grow, we've got to embrace change...it's a different economy, and fund raising is going to be harder **if we keep doing things the way we've always been doing them.**

If we are going to continue to be able to finance the many projects that help our community locally, as well as across the state, the nation, and the world...we have to try new things.

One example is the new concession trailer. There are a lot of exciting possibilities for that. We'll be looking for new events to attend, not just as fund raising, but for visibility and community involvement. Our own trailer, freshly redone, bright new graphics – this can be a source of pride for our club...as well as a fun opportunity for our members to serve.

I'd like this year to be one where we consider new projects, and pursue them open minded.

Daniel Burnham, architect of Chicago said: "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and they probably will not be realized."

I think we have some big things in the works that should energize our membership, and bring new members as well – both of which are vital.

We need our current members to show up...to the lunch meeting, to projects, and events. How can we get people to participate if they're out of touch with what we're doing?

This isn't something one person can do, or just the board...all members who are active can make a difference. What do we need to do to show up and to participate? Who can you encourage that hasn't been involved for a while?

Exciting, fun projects & fundraisers are part of it...so are interesting meetings. What can we do to achieve this? If you have ideas, or a potential speaker or fundraiser, bring them to me or a board member...this is your club. Help it thrive!

With that said, my mantra for our membership this year is to:

**Show Up!
Participate!
And
Have Fun!**

Lion President Chet



Coming soon ... as part of our Membership Mentor Program ... you may be asked to **adopt** a Lion!

We are hammering out the details of an exciting new program to keep all of our Lion's involved in the Club. The mentoring program may be just right for you, if:

- a) You want to see the club flourish
- b) Enjoy being around excited young cubs
- c) Desire to do your part to see that we succeed!

Membership Spotlight

Do you know this member? *“When I was growing up I contracted Rheumatic Fever. I was bedridden for an entire year. During that year I went to school via telephone. I had a box in my bedroom for homework assignments and the school had a box that my classmates carried from classroom to classroom. It was a popular thing to carry me around in a box. Do you know who I am?”*

(Answer at bottom of page)

As we enter a new Lion's Year
Lion President Chet made it clear
If we want to grow our club
We all have to seek out new cubs

Let's not forget why we are here
To Serve is our fervent cheer!
The desire to bring sight to all we can
Is a worthy cause for any man.

What brought you here today?
To help others and try to re-pay
For the kindness and goodness shown to you
We are LION'S and that's what we do!

Take an extra moment today to try to get to know a fellow Lion in our club that maybe you do not know so well. I encourage each of you to be involved in growing our club. I assume you have friends outside of the membership here...bring ONE of them to a meeting.

Let's work TOGETHER to advance our club so we can Serve more and Serve Better!

Membership Spotlight Answer: Lion Stan Rupnow

See you ALL at the July 8th Meeting!