

# Elkhart Lions Newsletter – Sept. 2008

The last monthly summer meeting went quite well. The few lions that attended had a great time with the Cub Flub. We played “Are You Smarter Than a 6<sup>th</sup> Grader”, and it was quite evident that the majority of us weren’t.

Lion Nancy Carter Made an impassioned plea for help with the Sesquicentennial Parade, both with set – up and actual parade participation. (She needs an Indian brave). Please give her a call and help out.

The Lions Club was well represented at Island of Blues among volunteers (Lion Ann made a new friend) It’s good to see us out and about.

Lion President Duane received the official GREEN LIGHT from the property owners (Bank’s Lumber) on utilizing their property for our Community Service Project – Flag Pole to memorialize Veterans near the Veterans Memorial Bridge. We will be rolling a plan out shortly to get this project off the ground (no pun intended). Lion Duane would like to have as many veterans within our club volunteer to be members of the committee to see this project to fruition.

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Lions:

## Elkhart Lion’s Club

### A message from your President

September is upon us! The newspaper ad

sales/campaign is well under way. I wish to reiterate the need for all of us to sell one more ad this year. We can easily raise an additional \$5,000 for our projects if everyone pitches in and does their share. Thank You to Lion Cliff, Lion Dave Dufour and Lion Marty for your continued hard work.

District Governor Lion Sam Fryback and his wife Marcia will be our guests on September 24<sup>th</sup>. We will also be holding an induction ceremony for new member(s) that day.

Have you read the Lion’s Code of Ethics lately? Here they are re-printed for your review and acknowledgement. Utilize these as stepping-stones to continue to build character that is worthy to be called “LION’S”!

#### Lions Code of Ethics

- **To Show** my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.
- **To Seek** success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.
- **To Remember** that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another’s; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.
- **Whenever** a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.
- **To Hold** friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.
- **Always** to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, as to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.
- **To Aid** others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.
- **To Be Careful** with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.

Thank you for your continued Service and Support. **Get involved and enjoy the blessings of being a Lion, an Elkhart Lion and invite a friend!**

Lion Pres. *Duane Klein*

P.S. - - I along with the Officers and entire Board of Directors wish you a safe and wonderful Labor Day! **God Bless America!**

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## **Mentoring Program Begins**

A program to better introduce new members to the many aspects of Lionism has been launched by the Elkhart Lions Club. Modeled in part from other programs throughout the country, the process begins with the introduction of a person to our club and then systematically acquaints that person with the club's activities, programs, history and relationship to District 25-G, the Indiana Lions and Lions Clubs International.

A New Member Manual is in the process of development, with many pages already created. A sample of that document can be viewed on our website, by clicking on the link located on the 'Links' page from the menu bar on most pages. Currently pages are being added by officers and directors responsible for the various programs and projects.

In addition to this manual, a new orientation program, featuring a PowerPoint presentation that is updated frequently, is presented to the new member and spouse. Following this presentation and after the new member has been formally inducted into the club's membership, two members are assigned to be 'mentors'. A separate 'Mentor Manual' details the work to continue keeping the new member involved in the club and continue to introduce the person to other members and the many unique facets of the club. For example, we learned from a new member that members often used terms such as 'Lions Den' and reference to ongoing projects were confusing to new members, since they were not being introduced to them.

A checklist in the Mentor Manual details the new member's progress, with dates recorded as many of the various milestones have been completed; i.e., attendance at a board meeting, participation in a fund raising event, and so forth. New members are given red badges to wear at meetings, in part to allow other members a quick method to recognize them so they can introduce themselves. The process to qualify for a regular blue badge is also recorded in the Mentor Manual and when those qualifications are met, the member is presented his new badge at a meeting.

The club realized a few years ago that it was losing members 'out the back door' unnecessarily, and if we could 'close the back door' through better orientation and introduction of new members to the club and its activities, we could reverse the downward trend in membership statistics.

Members of the Elkhart Lions Club are now challenged to not only work in getting new members, but to serve as mentors in this new program. Any member who is willing to participate as a mentor is asked to contact Marty Juel (574-534-8868 or [marty@martyjuel.com](mailto:marty@martyjuel.com)) . Now that you've read this article, please don't wait to make this contact. Do it now before you leave your intention where all those other 'good intentions' are resting. You know, the highway to hell is paved with good intentions. We need your participation as a mentor now, as the club will be introducing an aggressive membership recruitment program very shortly. Our goal is to bring out membership back to 100 members this year. Many mentors will be needed. If you would like to see the mentor's manual, it is also available on the Links page, or you can call Marty to have it sent if you don't have internet access.

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## **Elkhart Lions Announces Sesquicentennial Photography Contest**

Elkhart Lions Club is launching a photography contest designed to capture 'a year in the life' of Elkhart, with winning photos to be published in the club's annual 'Lions Tales' fundraising newspaper.

The 'Year in the Life of Elkhart' contest is open to any and all local residents who have interesting photos representative of Elkhart life today. and should fit into one of the following categories:

The editorial staff of the Lions Tales newspaper is looking for photos that 'tell the story of Elkhart' in six categories: events, work & business, family life, recreation, education & religious life, club activities & public service (including politics). All photos should be submitted in digital form and e-mailed to [newspaper@elkhartlions.org](mailto:newspaper@elkhartlions.org). Photos must have been taken within the City of Elkhart or city-owned property, between September 7, 2007 and November 21, 2008. All entries must be submitted to Elkhart Lions by November 21, 2008. More complete rules can be downloaded at the Elkhart Lions website: [www.elkhartlions.org](http://www.elkhartlions.org).

"With the Elkhart sesquicentennial year upon us, we felt it would be appropriate to orient Lions Tales around the rich history of Elkhart of the past, combined with a present-day 'snapshot' of our town that can be a reference point for future citizens," said Duane Klein, Elkhart Lions President. "We're hoping to get wide participation and of course, some quality pictures that can be enjoyed by everyone."

Eligible photos that are not published in Lions Tales will be included in an online photo gallery at the Elkhart Lions website. The Elkhart Lions Club is also exploring possible a possible local venue where some of the best photos can be displayed publicly.

The Lions Tales newspaper is an annual fundraising project that helps support the club's service projects as well as Lions Clubs International's mission to provide assistance to the visually impaired and to prevent blindness. Projects include KidSight, which locally provides free vision screenings for grade school kids and an extensive local eyeglass recycling program that provides used eyeglasses to those who cannot otherwise afford them.

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## **Indiana Lions Foundation Seeks Help for Indy Event**

The Indiana State Fair is now history. The next work project for the Indiana Lions Foundation is the Red Bull Indianapolis GP, or 'motorcycle race'. We need to have 20 people for each day on Sept. 12 & 13. These are practice days qualification days. The race will be on Sept. 14 and we DO NOT work on this day. At this time, I need only 8 workers per day. If you would like to help, get your name and information to: PDG John Eley, (765) 654-6788.

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## **September Programs**

**September 3** - Colleen Kielton, publisher of Wellness Insight Magazine

**September 24** - Mike Niedbalski (who is legally blind), owner of Integritas Search

Program information for other September dates was not known at the deadline time for this issue.