



Start small



FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Focus on service

The past nine months I have had the privilege of traveling the highways and backroads of eastern South Dakota to meet with fellow Lions at their regular club meetings. It is a privilege I truly wish you all had throughout your Lion journey.

Each club visit inspires me to keep focused on simply serving others through large and small efforts. We don't always need to have our service projects put on a grand scale.

Sometimes our smallest gestures can have the greatest impact — visiting someone who is ill or who is limited in their mobility; volunteering at the school or library; cleaning up at the park with fellow Lions without being asked. Service is from the heart, and its ultimate goal is to make the world a better place.

How are you doing this year on your Lion service journey? Have you been inspired or, better yet, have you inspired others?

As we enter the last three months of this Lion year, let's strive to be Lions of inspiration for the better of humankind through our grand and small efforts. Invite others along on your journey by asking them to join your Lions club so we can provide more service to more people.

Spring Forum

How can you help change the world with a packet of pollinator seeds, a handful of mason bee tubes, and a few pieces of scrap wood or a log? Come to the 2024 5SE Spring Forum and find out.

April 6 is quickly approaching, so please get your registration sent in. Club secretaries, presidents and treasurers will have training/ question and answer sessions.

Our speakers are inspirational, and our host club of Freeman will keep us all well fed. Please join us.

Lion LeeAnn Haisch
5SE District Governor

SPRING FORUM

Register today!



2024 Spring Forum - Agenda

8 a.m.

- Registration; Viewing of display tables; Silent auction bidding (Proceeds for SD Lions Foundation)

9-9:25 a.m.

- Opening Session
- MC
- Invocation
- Recognition of Guests
- Welcome

9:25-9:50 a.m.

- State of District

9:50-10:30 a.m.

- Celebrate Community

10:30-11 a.m.

- Membership Approach in Lions & SWAT

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Noon Luncheon
- Invocation
- Video

12:30-1:30 p.m.

- PDG Meeting (basement South East Corner)
- New Voices in Lions
- Service for Millennials
- Young Lions

1:30-1:50 p.m.

- Q & A

1:50-2:10 p.m.

- Break

2:10-2:50 p.m.

- Training for New Officers... and Needy Lions
- Presidents/Vice Presidents/BoD - Basement South West Corner
- Secretaries - Basement South East Corner
- Treasurers - Basement North East Corner
- Zone Chair - Basement Middle Section
- Mentoring a New Lion - Basement NorthWest Corner

2:50-3:05 p.m.

- Coffee Break with Snacks

3:05-3:25 p.m.

- Social Media ... the New "Party Line" for Clubs -

3:25-3:45 p.m.

- Creative Service Projects - BeeHive -

3:45-4 p.m.

- Announcements/Misc.

4-5:30 p.m.

- Break
- Free visit to Heritage Hall Museum and or walk the Prairie Arboretum

5:30-6:50 p.m.

- Banquet
- Invocation
- Address
- Results of the silent auction (Proceeds for SD Lions Foundation) & Game
- Closing remarks

Lions 5SE Spring Forum 2024

Friday April 5, Cabinet Meeting at Freeman Citizens Center, 202 E. 4th St. Freeman, SD

Saturday April 6, Forum, and Meals at Pioneer Hall, 428 S. Juniper St. Freeman, SD

Registration starts at 8 am with Forum program at 9 am.

Spring Forum Theme: LIONS ARE CHANGING THE WORLD

Registration Form

Name _____ Lions Position (or spouse) _____

Name _____ Lions Position (or spouse) _____

Address _____

Home Club _____ Club City, State _____

Best Phone Contact _____ Email _____

Is this your first Lions Forum? ____ Your highest Lions Office held _____

Registration Fees:

	Before March 5	After March 5
Full (Breaks, Lunch, Banquet)	\$50/person	\$70/person
Banquet & Keynote Only	\$30/person	\$40/person

Mail Registrations to:

Lion Sam Sorensen PO Box 234 Freeman, SD 57029

Include check for payment in full made out to: "Lions Spring Forum 2024"

Venmo Payments: Please contact Sam Sorensen to arrange payment.

Any dietary restrictions: _____

Lodging Available for April 5 and April 6, 2024, at (block name is Lions District 5SE Forum):

Freeman Country Inn, \$90.00 +tax/night for 2 people 1 bed, & \$95+tax/night for 2 people & 2 beds (20 rooms available)

1019 S. US Hwy 81 Freeman, SD 57029

Phone: 605-925-4888

Fensel's Motel, \$68.12 +tax/night for 2 people 1 bed, & \$71.90 + tax/night for 2 people & 2 beds (9 rooms available)

520 N. US Hwy 81 Freeman, SD 57029

Phone: 605-925-4204

These blocks of rooms will be released on March 5, 2024/ Must call for reservation because of block of rooms reserved.



SIoux EMPIRE LIONS

At the Kirby Science Center



Sioux Empire Lions have completed a new service project we have not done before. We sponsored a module at the Kirby Science Center in the Sioux Falls Washington Pavilion relating on South Dakota Environmental Facts.

We submitted questions and answers for the staff to enter into a computer game which contains multiple choice answers pertaining to environmental issues we face in South Dakota. This was a way we could focus on the largest number of youth in our community and educating them on the environment.

Lion Jackie Cerkowniak

Sioux Empire Lions

LCIF

**Buy your raffle
tickets today!**



It is LCIF RAFFLE TIME AGAIN!!! We are promoting LCIF's Sight for Kids 20th Anniversary and would like to keep the momentum from Campaign 100 going into this year.

The intent is to get all the members of our District, District 5SE, to purchase a \$20 ticket by selling tickets at club meetings or to the general public. Last year, we had the highest individual participation of any District in Area D.

The prizes are awesome. CASH!!!

If we can get every Lion in District 5SE to purchase a ticket, we would have 100% participation by individual Lions in our District. This is an excellent way to get individual Lions to participate without having to Login to LCI to make a donation or to mail in a donation.

Just take a ticket for yourself and your missing Lions friends at club meetings, throw in \$20 for each ticket, fill out the ticket stub and give it to your Club Secretary. Make checks payable to District 5SE Lions.

If you want to buy tickets for family members, you can do that also. The club will get credit and if you sell more tickets than there are club members then the club becomes a 100% Participation Club for LCIF.

We have included enough tickets for each member. If you need more tickets let me know. We need the ticket stubs and money back by April 19.

Your Club or individual Lions will get credit for the money sent to LCIF for a future Melvin Jones! Some Clubs might even have an expert raffle ticket salesperson.

That person can sell the tickets to the general public to generate the one ticket per club member. This raffle is legitimate and has been registered with the South Dakota Secretary of State's Office so you can sell to everyone.

Let's have fun with this Raffle and see how many tickets we can sell. It would be great to beat our numbers from the last couple of years. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or DG LeeAnn Haisch, 605-321-9707.

We look forward to your continued support of LCIF; an essential part of the Lions Clubs International organization.

Lion Tom Grimmond

District LCIF Coordinator



VERMILLION LIONS

Get ready for
pancake days

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES **Community Fundraiser**

AT THE ARMORY NEXT TO LIONS PARK



ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES WITH SAUSAGES & BEVERAGE ♦ CHOCOLATE CHIP PANCAKES TOO

JOIN US BOTH DAYS!

WEDNESDAY, APR. 17

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Tickets \$10/Person

AGE 5 AND UNDER EAT FREE

THURSDAY, APR. 18

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

5:00 - 7:00 pm



Vermillion Lions Club

Find us on Facebook and on our website

SUGAR-FREE SYRUP AVAILABLE ♦ TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ANY CLUB MEMBER



Lion Marie Anne Ben

Vermillion Lions Club

GROWING YOUR CLUB

Ideas to recruit new members



Zone four recently held a SWOT analysis and a few ideas came forward to help increase membership:

- Offer member referral perks.
- Partner with local organizations.
- Host open events.
- Use social media.
- Prioritize email marketing.
- Publish up-to-date testimonials.
- Keep current members engaged.
- Make joining easier.

For more information about these ideas, [check out the complete report here.](#)

Lion Paul Fixen
Brookings Lions Club



MD5 CONSTITUTION

Proposed changes

The MD5 Council approved the following Constitution changes to come before the membership at the business meeting in May.

Change who will fill the MD5 Vice Council Chair position.

Current Constitution

Article VI Sec 2 – change who will fill the MD5 Vice Council Chair position.

Article VI

Section 2. OFFICERS

The officers of the Multiple District shall be:

B) The Vice Council Chairperson of the Council, who shall be the immediate Past District Governor of the District in the state or province hosting the next Multiple District Convention. The Vice Council Chairperson shall fill the position of state or provincial representative for their respective state or province.

Proposed change

Article VI. 2. B

B) The Vice Council Chairperson shall be filled by the state or provincial representative of the state or province hosting the next Multiple District Convention.

2. Article VI. Sec 1 B – Change the number of PDGs that can run for the State/Provincial Rep. positions.

Current Constitution

Article VI. 1. B

Three immediate Past District Governors and/or Past District Governors from the previous two years, which number cannot exceed one-half of the number of District Governors who shall have been elected by the voting delegates of their respective province or state at the Multiple District Convention meeting of the previous fiscal year. There shall be at least one (1) immediate Past District Governor or Past District Governor from the previous two years each from Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again.

Proposed Constitution Change

B) Three immediate Past District Governors and/or Past District Governors from the previous four years, which number cannot exceed one-half of the number of District Governors who shall have been elected by the voting delegates of their respective province or state at the Multiple District Convention meeting of the previous fiscal year. There shall be at least one (1) immediate Past District Governor or Past District Governor from the previous four years each from Saskatchewan, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The State or Provincial Representatives shall serve for a one-year term only and cannot serve in that capacity again.

Lion Lois Ruerson
MD5 Secretary

NEW VOICES

Celebrate
International
Women's Day



The International Women's Day symposium was sponsored by MD5 New Voices on March 9, and was held at the YWCA facility in Fargo, N.D.

Emcee Crystal Dueker, the MD5 coordinator, welcomed all the Lions from Bismarck, Mandan, Carrington, New Rockford, Grand Forks as well as PCC Marie Ann Ben and Lion Betty Cossett from Vermillion, South Dakota.

Karen DaSilva, 5NW second district governor, from Bismarck, spoke about the Gateway to Science along with a portable display of an eye and optic nerve.

Fargo Gateway Lion Jihan Brifki of Kurdistan spoke about arriving in the USA as a 7-year-old refugee from war torn Iraq. She is now an International translator. (She is in the front row & her daughter, each wearing a gold-threaded gown from material from Kurdistan.)

Fargo Gateway Lion Nyamal Dei-Pajock of South Sudan spoke about being a member of a UN committee. She also presented a blueprint for building a medical/dental clinic to replace the current thatched open-air hut with a few cots currently used in her former village.

Fargo Gateway Lion Fowsia Adde of Somalia, now a business owner, spoke about helping other immigrants find jobs and becoming self-sufficient.

Gateway Lion Vivian Johnson in her orange Liberian dress and turban, spoke about being from a war-torn area. She spoke from the heart about how becoming a Lion member has given her a purpose to serve others.

Fargo Lion Ann Sara Ben-Amie spoke about being from Haiti and how her uncle in Haiti, who is now legally-blind from glaucoma, could have been helped years ago if the eyedrops donated now could have been available back then. As a Lion, she is comforted knowing the Lion's main mission is vision.

Next, she introduced Horace Lion Kristin Follman who is the director of the Haiti Eye Mission and medical nurse. The mission group includes Lion Dr. Lance Bergstrom, medical staff, and volunteers who perform cataract surgeries upon Haiti villagers of all ages.

When blind young children have gained their sight then they are able to go to school. Sadly, social services for the blind or visually impaired does not exist in Haiti.

The symposium included a service project; creating 50 Dignity Kits. Volunteers became an assembly line-placing inside each re-useable bag a large bottle of shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, deodorant and a new hairbrush.

All the packages of toothpaste and 50 toothbrushes donated by five different dental offices in Fargo. Fifty eyeglass cleaning clothes were donated by eye clinics. Each kit remained at the YWCA for women in crisis.

Any questions? contact Crystal, MD5 New Voices coordinator, moonmadnd@aol.com or 701-388-9676

Lion Crystal Dueker

MD5 New Voices



ABERDEEN LIONS CLUB

Gives away bikes



Three happy bikers! Enjoy your new rides. The Aberdeen Lions Club has been refurbishing used bikes to donate to children in need. Some bikes are broken down for parts while others just need a quick wipe-down and tune up!

Lion Sari Merriman
Aberdeen Lions Club

GROTON LIONS CLUB

Serve the youth









The Groton Lions Club provided lunch and presented to Groton Area High School students at Table Talks held March 20 at St. John's Lutheran Church. More than five dozen listened to Lion Karyn Babcock as she spoke about how the club serves our Groton SD Community by sponsoring many yearly local activities including the Robotics Pancake Feed, Groton Lions Club Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Groton Citywide Spring Rummage Sale, Groton Citywide Fall Rummage Sale, Ditch Cleanup, Transit Fundraiser, Summer Fest 2024 as well as assisting at the Brown County Fair and serving meals at the Groton Fly-In.

Scholarships are also offered to GHS Seniors annually. Applications were handed out to students that were interested in joining the Leo Club Program. The Leo Club is a part of the Lions family and provides young people, ages 12-18, with an opportunity for contribute to our community as well. Individuals interested in either the Lions or Leos Club are encouraged to reach out to a Lion for membership details.

Groton Lions Club



DELL RAPIDS LIONS

*Attend leadership
institute*



Becoming a Lion can give you many opportunities for self growth as well as community service. Recently, Dell Rapids Lion Carmen Rogen traveled to Minnesota to attend an Emerging Lions Leadership Institute. She learned more about Lions opportunities, and connected with fellow Lions from Minnesota, North Dakota, and Canada. (Carmen is pictured in the front row, third from left.)

Lion Sue Hovey

Dell Rapids Lions

DISTRICT 5 SE

Meet the
leadership team



Wonder who's on the 2023-24 District Leadership Team? Click the links to find out:

- [Officers](#)
- [Zone Chairs](#)
- [Committees](#)
- [Past District Governors](#)
- [Meeting minutes](#)



SAVE THE DATE

Important meetings and events

2024 District 5SE Spring Forum; April 5, Freeman.

- [Find the registration forms here.](#)

2024 MD5 Convention: May 16-18, Minot, N.D.

- [Find the registration forms here.](#)

2024 Lions International Convention; June 21-25, Melbourne.

- [Find the registration forms here.](#)

2024 State Lions Convention; Sept. 27-28, The Gulch, Deadwood.

- [More information coming soon!](#)



SUBMISSIONS WANTED

Send your club news to:

5seenews@gmail.com