

Minutes
District Convention-District 27-B1
Saturday, October 30, 2004
Holiday Inn–Manitowoc, WI

- Call to Order:** 1. Meeting was called to order at 8:16 a.m. by District Governor Richard Christianson.
- Pledge:** 2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by IPDG Tom King.
- Song & Prayer:** 3. PDG Dwaine Habrat and Lions of 27-B1 joined in singing "God Bless America."
PDG Dwaine led us in prayer.
- Lioness Affiliate:** 4. Lioness Affiliate President Sue Robinson greeted the Convention Delegation on behalf of the District Lioness.
- Introductions:** 5. DG Richard Christianson introduced the visiting District Governor's and then introduced our visiting dignitary–International Director Gary Tsachache from Montana.
- Guest Speaker:** 6. ID Gary Tsachache was given a standing ovation–upon which he stated that was the last time we would have to do that–he said he should be standing for us–the great District of 27-B1–because of the many great projects and the great Lions Camp that he had a chance to visit. Every member was to try to meet him individually and get the "things" sticker placed on their badge. " It's not about things–it's your club–out of your body and soul." ID Lion Gary also stated he was proud to be here for the Lions all around the world.
- State Secretary Report:** 7. Executive State Secretary PDG Dwaine Habrat reviewed the many orientations and activities that your District Governors have already participated in and to thank them for their time and dedication. DG Richard Christianson is the Council's Honorable Tail Twister and he is reported as doing a great job and isn't too difficult on the pocketbook! State Secretary Dwaine went on to report that there are several District Conventions on the schedule. Then the State Convention is in Fontana on May 13 & 14th, 2005. Most all of the Convention activities will take place at the Abbey Resort. This year the State Convention will again have a parade–later on Friday afternoon–so plan to have a float or band unit to enter at no cost. Housing and Registration information will appear in the State Lions Magazine or check the website: Lions convention.com. June 27, 2005 to July 1st will be the International Convention in Hong Kong. PDG Wayne Heiman will be a candidate for International Director. State Pins are here and available from your district Governor. Prestige pins might be available yet–check with Dwaine. Membership–Wis. At the beginning of the year was 21,733 and at the end of August it was 21,567—27-B1 at the beginning of the year was at 2521 members and at the end of August was at 2509 members. Make sure your clubs are aware of the dues adjustment from International and that local dues adjust accordingly. Wisconsin Lions State Magazine is available in Audio-Cassette version–so if you have any members in need of this version please contact the State Secretary–along with any address changes so Lions do not get charged for returned magazines. May 8-14–2005–is proclaimed Wisconsin Lions Week–get out and do your publicity and make your good deeds known. Midwinter Leadership Conference is January 29, 2005 at Stevens Point. The Council of Governor's is working on budget cutbacks so the numbers will be balanced–so be cooperative with these efforts.
- WLF Report:** 8. WLF President Kurt Kjendalen began his report by thanking the Lions of District 27-B1 for the great support and for being #1 with 100 % of the clubs donating. Thanks to Director Lions Ken Wallander and Dave Wood for their dedicated service. President Kurt gave an update on the personnel changes–Lions Pride Campaign Coordinator–Lion Gary Foote–Camps Operations Manager is Andrea Yenter, Russ Martindale is acting Executive Director until November 1, 2004 and Craig Barness will be the new Executive Administrator. There are new office personnel as well and now we have a very dedicated staff for more successful adventures. In 2006, WLF will be

celebrating 50 Years! WLF President Kurt presented recognition awards to: Ken Wallander and Dave Wood and IPDG Tom King and Lioness Affiliate IPP Louise Ebert. Lions Clubs that donate \$5000 or more get special recognition. The Sherwood Lions and the Winnebago East Shore Lions Clubs received that special recognition. The History of Wisconsin Lions book was presented to ID Gary Tschache. WLF is not just the Lions Camp but also several statewide projects that are helping people in your community. Last summer there were 1542 children attending Lions Camp and there were 123 hearing aids recipients and 6830 children went through the Vision Screening Program—these are all people in your community in Wisconsin. Lions Camp is the “Crown Jewel” of Lionism in Wisconsin. Be proud to be a Lion member and have 100% participation in giving again this year!

Lions Eye Bank

9. Wisconsin Lions Eye Bank President PDG Steve Groene thanked the Lions of 27-B1 for their support. It is the biggest District involved in eye tissue transportation. The Wisconsin Eye Bank has just been accredited for three years through the Eye Bank of America Association. They are proud of that accomplishment. Pres. Steve then turned the mike over to the Administrative Director of Wisconsin Lions Eye Bank—Mark Larson. Mark had good news and bad news. The good news is the 3 year accreditation and the bad news is we do not have enough donor eyes. So he made a plea to the Lions members to get the word out and to encourage and educate people about the donor program and donor signing—such as on the drivers license, etc. They do 600-700 cornea transplants a year. March will be National Eye Donor Month—so plan to have your clubs involved during that special month. Not only is it transplantation—it is also for research. In the year of 2020 it is projected that the amount of people afflicted with blindness will double. Spread the good word about the Wisconsin Lions Eye Bank.

Mission to Mexico:

10. PDG Bob Showers asked the members of the latest mission to stand up to be recognized. Great involvement by the District members. This last mission was in October, 2004 and twelve Lions went from the District. Keep looking for information in the Governor's newsletter for upcoming mission in February or contact Bob. They fitted just over 2000 people with glasses! Eye problems are not the only health problem in Mexico—some areas the women have high rates of breast cancer and they were asked if they could find a mammography machine for them and Lion Bob did just that and that will be delivered to Mexico. Many different items are packed and delivered in the vehicles they drive down to the mission. February 2005 is the next chance you can get to join them!

Peace Poster:

11. Lion Terri Harmsen reported that 9 Peace Posters have been entered so far—might be some more coming in. The theme this year is “Give Peace a Chance.” One poster had to be disqualified because the ID sticker was not on the back—so please follow all the rules. Lion Terri suggested the chairperson keep the ID ticket until the poster is judged and remember to have the parent or guardian sign the ID ticket—otherwise they can not display the poster.

District Pin:

12. IPDG Tom King reported that the District Pin with a Leader Dog could be made with 3 different colors—the golden lab, black lab, and chocolate lab. These will be posted before voting.

Nominations:

13. Nominations were directed by Lion Ralph Schneider:

For DG—Gary Colton
Nomination by Lion Mike Konen
Second by Lion Gary Silah
Acceptance by Lion Gary Colton

For VDG—no application submitted

For WLF Director—Tom Clausen
Nomination by Lion Jim Roberts
Second by Lion Sherman Hamilton
Acceptance by Lion Tom Clausen

Motion was made and second to close the nominations.

District Bowling—Markesan Lions Club
Club Representative

Motion was made and second to close the nominations.

Mid Morning Seminars: 14. MERLO Workshop.....VDG Gary Colton, MERLO Chairman
Lions Pride Wisconsin Lions Foundation—Gary Foote, Campaign Coordinator
Wisconsin Lions Camp-----Russ Martindale, Acting Executive Director

Lunch: 15. District 27-B1 Lions, Lioness, and Leos—about 275—joined together for lunch. Prayer was given by PDG Dwaine Habrat. The head table was introduced along with other honored guests. Guest Speaker was Leader Dog representative Ron Swartout and his faithful companion Zach.. Ron emphasized the importance of Leader Dogs for the Blind and the difference it makes in a person's life. WLF President Kurt Kjendalen awarded IPDG Tom King a Birch-Sturm Fellowship. IPDG Tom King and wife, Lion Sandy presented the 100% President, Secretary and Treasurer Awards. The Parade of Checks immediately followed.

Afternoon Seminars: 16. Healthy Athletes/Special Olympics
Dan Wiener, Rose Shehy-Schuelke
And a Special Athlete

Wisconsin Council for the Blind
Gary Goyke, Director of Development/PR
John and Jaimie Dahmer

What You Should Know About Diabetes
Colleen Dolata, RN, CDE

Necrology : 17. Necrology Service was held in memory of those Lions and Lioness who departed from us this past year.

Voting: 18. Voting started 15 minutes after the Necrology Service and continued for 30 minutes. There were 146 delegates certified.

Banquet: 19. ID Gary Tschache presented International President Certificates of Appreciation to: Lions Ken Wallander, Sandy King, Shirley Peterson, Tom Clausen, and Renee Seiler. ID Lion Gary also awarded some of his personal "banner-mouse pads." An inspirational speech was given by Lion Gary—from the heart. One of his favorite quotes is: "The best things in life are not necessarily things—that goes along with ID Gary's "Things"stickers. ID Gary also went over the many Lions and Wisconsin Lions Projects and reminded us how far reaching around the world our efforts touch people. Another of his quotes: "What you do for yourself will soon be forgotten, what you do for others will live forever." The message delivered was taken to heart by us because they are exemplified and lived by ID Gary and the Lions of 27-B1 could really "feel the Love!"

Election results presented by Lion Ralph Schneider were:

District Governor Elect: Gary Colton
WLF Director: Tom Clausen
District Bowling: Markesan
Peace Poster Winner—Taylor Nye, Elkhart Lake
District Secretary-Treasurer Renee Seiler gave the Parade of Checks Totals--
WLF--\$31573; WI Eye Bank--\$2700; Diabetes-\$4435; Hearing-\$2200;
Youth Exchange-\$975; Sight First-\$72.50; Mission to Mexico-\$525.
LCIF-\$3889; Quest-\$200; Council for the Blind-\$333; Emergency Fund-\$25;
Leader Dog-\$8500 Children's Pediatric Clinic--\$3500 Total:\$58,927.50

Affiliate President Lioness Sue Robinson gave the election results for the Lioness.

The Convention Raffle Drawing was conducted by PDG Vic Voigt. 1st place winner was the Ripon Lions Club.

A prayer was given by District Chaplain Lion Pat Knier.

Convention adjourned by District Governor Richard Christianson.

Respectfully submitted by Lion Renee Seiler