

# District 38-I August 2021 Newsletter



Motto: WE SERVE

International President's Theme: Service from the Heart

My Theme: Experience the Joy of Service

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Ainsworth, Amherst, Atkinson, Bartlett, Bertrand, Broken Bow, Burwell Area, Callaway, Clay Center, Edgar, Elm Creek, Grand Island, Harvard, Hastings Noon, Hastings Evening, Heartwell, Hildreth, Holdrege, Kearney, Macon, Minden, North Loup, O'Neill, Ong, Orleans, Pleasanton, Ravenna, Red Cloud, Shelton Area, Sutton, Taylor, Valentine, Wilcox, Wilcox Lioness

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Greetings District 38-I!

By the time you read this we will be well into our new Lion's year. The pandemic has made many of the things we do very difficult, so we should look at this as a rebuilding year. Service to our communities and the individuals must be our top priorities. Many major needs in our communities have been forced to wait, but now that our restrictions have been mostly removed, we must re-evaluate the needs of our communities and do everything that we can to fill those needs. The same goes for the individuals that have delayed medical issues and now all of those individual needs, plus the current individual needs must be addressed as soon as possible.

We must be kind, helpful, considerate and thoughtful as we help those that could use a helping hand. We must always keep in mind that sometime in the future it may be us on the receiving end and we should treat others as we would like to be treated. Our new International President Douglas X. Alexander would like me to remind you that we must "Serve from the Heart" in everything that we do. Of course we can't forget to have fun as we are serving the needs of others!!

We need to get back to the critical issue of membership. We have had a declining trend in Lions Club's membership for several years and we must reverse it. Of course it is difficult to figure out exactly where we are with membership, because many of our clubs are not filing their membership reports every month. Even if there are no changes for the month, it must still be reported using the simple "No Changes for the Month" button. Hopefully all clubs did file a year-end report so their dues will be properly calculated for the number of members in their club. We will continue to work with the club secretaries and get all incoming secretaries trained to keep their membership reports up to date in MyLCI and enter their club activities in MyLion. We had club officer training at the Summer Cabinet Meeting and will do additional training at Zone Meetings and even one on one where necessary.

I know it was very difficult to recruit new members during the pandemic, but hopefully as things have now loosened up we will should be starting service projects, fundraisers and regular meetings again. But it is time that we start looking at the causes of our declining membership and put together some plans on how we are going to reverse the trend. Last year we started working on some plans through a new program called North American Membership Initiative (NAMI). The program has been expanded

internationally and renamed Global Membership Approach (GMA). Here in Nebraska we decided to keep the original acronym NAMI to be used for Nebraska Advanced Membership Initiative. The endeavor of this project is to provide tools and resources to recruit new members, retain old members and train all Lions on the principles of being a Lion and serving your community. These are all actionable things that we can do and we can measure our success. This will require a lot of work to accomplish these goals, but isn't our organization worth a lot of work??

Our new Global Membership Team Coordinator is Jeff Loschen from Hildreth and our NAMI Champion is Jeanne Grantzinger from Broken Bow. Together we will be continuing to develop our membership improvement plans and your input will be very instrumental to this process. One of the first things to come from this project is the reminder that we must make Lions fun. Our members didn't join Lions to just go to meetings. They came to serve their community and we must make it so it's not just work, but a fun experience and hopefully they will "Experience the Joy of Service" and ask their friends & neighbors to participate as well.

Since one of our objectives is to attract new younger members, we need to be planning service activities that young families and youth would enjoy. Maybe that is sponsoring a fishing contest, a fun day in the park or some type of youth competition. Our young parents have a little idea about Lions from the MSU school screenings that we are doing, but the more we get out there in our community sponsoring family activities, the more likely they are to be interested in helping us to serve our communities. Our Peace Poster Contest is another way that we can interest our youth and get them to think about what it would mean to have peace in our world. The creativity of youth is totally amazing and they are always looking for challenges. The Peace Poster kits are available now from the Lions Store.

I would like to get club visits started. Please contact me with the possible dates that you would like a visit to your club so I can build a schedule. 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Jeanne Grantzinger and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Joni Pritchard will also be available to visit clubs and can possibly visit on special dates when I am not available.

The KidSight vision cameras are available for check-out and are hosted at the following clubs:

Hastings Evening Lions – Contact me Wayne Hinerman 402-613-7872 [w\\_hinerman@hotmail.com](mailto:w_hinerman@hotmail.com)

Bartlett Lions – Contact Kimmie Reed 308-750-1336 [kimberly\\_99@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberly_99@hotmail.com)

Broken Bow Lions – Contact Don Wolford 308-870-2426 [liondonwolford@hotmail.com](mailto:liondonwolford@hotmail.com)

Ainsworth Lions – Contact Dr. Evan Evans 402-387-1394 [ecech@threeriver.net](mailto:ecech@threeriver.net)

Now is the time to start using them again! Contact your daycares & preschools to get them screened during the summer months.

### Special Dates Coming Up:

August 7, 2021 Nebraska Lions Foundation (NLF) and Council of Governors (COG) in Columbus, NE  
NLF 10:00am, Lunch & COG to follow – Federated Church 2704 15<sup>th</sup> St.

September 9-11, 2021 USA/Canada Forum in Des Moines, IA

November 5-7, 2021 MD38 Fall Rally at Ramada Inn South Locust in Grand Island, NE

March 4-5, 2022 District 38-L & I Mid-Winter Convention in Kearney, NE

March 19, 2022 Winter NLF & COG at TBD

June 3-5, 2022 MD38 State Convention in Columbus, NE

### District 38-I Club Activities:

I will start including club activities reported in MyLion next month.

Please use MyLion and get your service activity reporting up to date. If you are having some problem accessing the MyLion application, you can call me at my contacts listed above or our District Global Leadership Coordinator Joanna Faber by phone at 402-469-0232 or by email [joannaf@gtmc.net](mailto:joannaf@gtmc.net) and we will help you with it. They added a quick method for entering activities which is easier.