

Let's do it Now!!



Official Newsletter of the District Governor of District 410 D



Volume 1, Issue 8

April 2010

From the Desk of District Governor
Joggie Kastner

First of all I must apologise for the late birth of the March edition of our Newsletter. As they say it was caused by circumstances beyond our control

What follows is an updated summary of our report which was submitted to Council and Conventions. As you will note, you as Lions have excelled so far this year and it was so nice to be able to hold your head high.

GOALS:



District Governor Joggie Kastner
&
Lion Bettie

Special points of interest:

- Convention 2010
- New Club Suspension Policy (LCI)



ITEM	GOAL	PROGRESS/ COMMENTS
New members	+75 (net)	We had a net growth of 41 by the end of April 2010. The chances of meeting our goal is slim but we refuse to give up. Our District has the highest growth rate
New clubs	3	One so far. No other potential club is on the horizon. Unfortunately Aberdeen's Charter was cancelled. Everything possible was done to avert this step but the Club just refused to co-operate. The Club had 4 members.
Branch Clubs	1	None as yet. Port Alfred will be born on 4 June. Renewed efforts are focused on Mossel Bay. Adelaide has also expressed interest in starting a Branch under the guidance of Fort Beaufort. These will hopefully materialize next year.
Leo Clubs	2	There are presently four Clubs, ie at PE Host, KWT, Uitenhage and Eden Lions Clubs. The chances are there that PE Host and Eden will Charter their Clubs before the end of June
Retention	20% drop in losses	As on 31 March we had gained 93 members but lost 52. We are positive in having 30% less losses than last year but even that is not good enough.

WE SERVE



Admin/ Fin	80% improvement	At the end of April, 4 MMR's were outstanding for no longer than one month, whilst 26 were NOT OUTSTANDING. This is an achievement and demonstrates the dedication of our Clubs. The financial side has also improved. As at the end of March all dues were paid by Clubs, baring small amounts in some cases which is attributed to fluctuations in the exchange rates
PR/Marketing	1. Regular news-letter 2. Link to MD initiatives 3. Guidelines to Clubs	1. In place and dare I say we are proud of its content and quality, Of wat sê jy Vic 2. Ongoing 3. Targeted for 31 May
Xmas cakes	12 000 cakes	Although we did not achieve our goal, our sales again exceeded the 10 000 mark (10 044) which is, under prevailing economic circumstances and the price hike, more than acceptable
Contribution to LCIF	20% increase	To date R 71 700 has been contributed to LCIF. We have not only surpassed our goal by far, but also our wildest dreams
Peace Poster	15% (changed to 100%) increase in Clubs participating.	The procedure has been changed in that Clubs could order their kits from the Distr who in turn placed a "bulk" order from LCI. Last year 6 Clubs participated. This year 17 Clubs placed orders whilst at least CLUB ordered directly from International. It seems that at least 18 Clubs will participate which is great and represents an improvement of 200%
Training of incoming officers (including incoming members of Cab)	25% increase in trainees	This training will be conducted from 21 to 23 May. Trainees will be expected to have compiled their plans for the 2010/11 lionistic year, clearly setting out their quantified goals and target dates. Training was discussed in our previous Newsletter."

DG's Notes

I am sure that you are also proud of what we have achieved. Lets not take our feet off the pedal as there are some two months to go before this Lionistic year ends. Then we have a new year in which to improve on this year.

I would also like to share the following with you:

TRAINING AND PLANNING

Just a friendly reminder that the challenge still stands, namely six attendees per Club. The training will not only benefit you as Lions but also contribute to your personal development – and that for a very low cost.

CLUB VISITS

Bettie (my GPS) and I continued with our Club visits to clubs. During April we paid visits to 6 Clubs in PE and Fort Beaufort/KWT. I wish to thank these Clubs once again for their dedication, hospitality and friendship and for making special arrangements to accommodate us. These visits confirmed our rewarding experience which I wrote about in the previous newsletter. Last but not least we were

also invited to what turned out to be a most enjoyable "Noll" fellowship at the home of Bets and Leon.

These visits do have their disadvantages though and which reflect on ones equator. My belt had to be adjusted in order to make provision for extra size.

CO-OPERATION ACROSS BORDERS

Eden Lions Club of George recently hosted a Pledge Night with the aim of drawing together all the service clubs in George in unity as they pledge their services to the community. The Rotarians, Round Table, Vryburgers, MOTHS and three Lions Clubs attended. To commemorate this event a professionally made scroll was signed by each delegate as a sign of their commitment to the pledge. This will now become an annual event.

The potential benefits associated to closer links with other service organisations are numerous when taking into account the additional hands, experience and talents which is made available without losing the identity of the organisa-

tion you belong to.

CONVENTION

As you are aware, the Convention was held at Goudini Spa near Worcester and was attended by some 34 Lions/Partners in Service from our District. We were welcomed by rain and when we left on Sunday, it was still raining. Coming from a drought stricken Still Bay this was mecca.

Overall it was a great Convention. In fact it is always pleasant to see old friends again and to meet new people. Congratulations to the organisers who did a stunning job. The meetings also went down very well and the evening functions were super. I will not do justice if I do not mention the role our CC Wally played this year. His dedication to Lions and to serve the unfortunate can hardly be surpassed. His Leadership was also such that he always brought out the best in people. I also wish to extend out sincere appreciation to CT Dudley and CS Mike for all their tireless efforts.

One can say an awful lot but for the immediate I will confine my-

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Some Photo's from convention



self to the following: Hearty congratulations to Brian, Frances and Russell who were elected to the positions of DG, 1st VDG and 2nd VDG respectively for the period July 2010 to June 2011. A formidable team I must say. We wish them all the best in their quest for growth in all our activities, except off course losses. It was decided to keep the selling price of Christmas cakes at the present level of R 55.00 per cake. District dues will be increased by R25 pa due to rising costs. There is really only one way to keep dues at the same level or to even lower it, and that is by way of increased membership. If we keep up our present growth rate, we might just experience that.

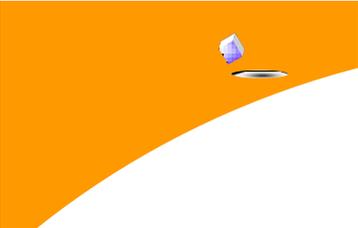
Its time to say tot “wedersiens”. Pardon me for saying it again, but all of you and your partners are great. [Bettie also sends her warm regards](#)



This one compliments of DG Denis Meyer—
“It’s Payback Time”

Peace Convention
Goudi ni





New Club Suspension Policy

Here below is the new Suspension policy as advised by LCI:

In April, 2010 the Board of Directors approved an amended policy, effective July 2, 2010 that affects Clubs that have not paid their club balances on time. The policy is as follows:

A Club which has an unpaid balance in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 per club, whichever is less, outstanding past 120 days will be automatically suspended including the charter, rights, privileges, and obligation of the Lions Club. In the event, the Club does not reach an active status by the 28th of the following month the club's charter would be automatically cancelled.

Suspension is the temporary deferment of the charter, rights, privileges and obligations of a Lions club due to an unpaid balance.

Clubs on suspension shall not:

- (a) Conduct service activities*
- (b) Conduct fund raising activities;*
- (c) Participate in district and multiple district functions or seminars;*
- (d) Participate in any voting procedures outside of the club*
- (e) Endorse or nominate a candidate for district, multiple district*

and international office;

(f) Submit Monthly Membership Report and report forms;

(g) Sponsor a Lions club, or organize a Leo or a Lioness club. Clubs on Suspension shall:

(a) Hold meetings to discuss the future of the club and identify the steps needed to regain an active status.

(b) Make payments to clear the existing outstanding balance, or request a payment plan.

This revised policy has serious consequences for clubs that are in arrears in paying their club balances. This policy could affect Clubs that have as little as two per-capita billings or less unpaid at 120 days. Clubs placed on suspension may regain an active status by sending payments sufficient to pay the balance. A re-activation report will not be required to regain an active status, however, officers should immediately review and update the membership roster after a Club is released from Suspension.

Dues are the primary source of income used to support the programs and services provided to our membership.

Regular and prompt payment is expected to ensure continued sup-

port of this great operation.

[snip]

We hope all clubs will review their statements regularly, and will send the necessary payments to ensure their good status is protected. Membership Billing and Accounts Services

The changes are serious and it determines now that the unpaid balances of a club in excess of US\$20 per member, or US\$1000, whichever is less, past 120 days, (previously 150 days), will be automatically suspended. If the club does not reach active status by the 28th of the following month, (previously 90 days) the clubs charter will be automatically cancelled.

Suspension Policy (LCI)

LIONS LIFESKILLS PROGRAMME for YOUTH-George

LIFE Community Services is a local organization that looks after disadvantaged & homeless children. A few years ago the George Lions Club organized a Lions Life Skills course for them and some teachers in George. It is encouraging to receive feedback and know that Lions are making a difference in the community.

The following is feedback received from Sally Versveld.

Greetings from LIFE Community Services. I thought it would be good to inform you and your members that we are about to embark on our 3rd season of the

LIFESKILLS programme with the children at LIFE Community Services. We have completed 2 full courses and will now start a 3rd 2-year



course with adolescents in the disadvantaged communities. We have trained another 10 facilitators and 10 groups of approximately 20 children in each group will meet at our Centres,

on a weekly basis from next week onwards.

This programme has had a huge impact on the 10 - 13 year old age group, equipping them with lifeskills that changes their lifestyles and gives them hope and goals to aim towards as they live in extremely difficult circumstances.

Thank you again for introducing us to this excellent programme, and for investing in LIFE and our children.

The photo shows some of our children on completion of their course.

7-A-Side Soccer—King William’s Town Lions

King William’s Town Club recently hosted the Inaugural Nicks Food Spar 7-a-side Soccer Tournament. This is meant as a combination fundraiser / Service Project to get people from all walks of life involved in Sport together.

A total of 8 teams entered and, even to the untrained Lion eye, the soccer was of high standard. What was also remarkable was the number of games were decided on a penalty shoot out after full time was played.

The final was contested between Standard Bank and Breidbach All Stars, with All Stars the ventual winners (by penalty shoot out).

The winning team received a cash prize and a floating trophy while the runners up received a Vuvuzela each as well as an Energy drink.

The Lions were on hand with the traditional Boerie and some “Liquid Refreshment.”

It was a great fun day that was thoroughly enjoyed by all.





Easter Cheer in Knysna



Wine Tasting with PDG Bob Dudley & Port Rex

Easter in
Knysna



7-A-Si de Soccer-King William's Town Leos

The fledgling King William's Town Leos Club tackled their second project as an addition to the Lions Soccer tournament.

They identified a need for children to be supervised while the parents played / watched the soccer.

They arranged a Jumping Castle, Pony Rides, a colouring in competition and a play pen for the little ones.

They also sold tea and cakes as well as cold drinks for the children.

They have also started their first real Service Project in the

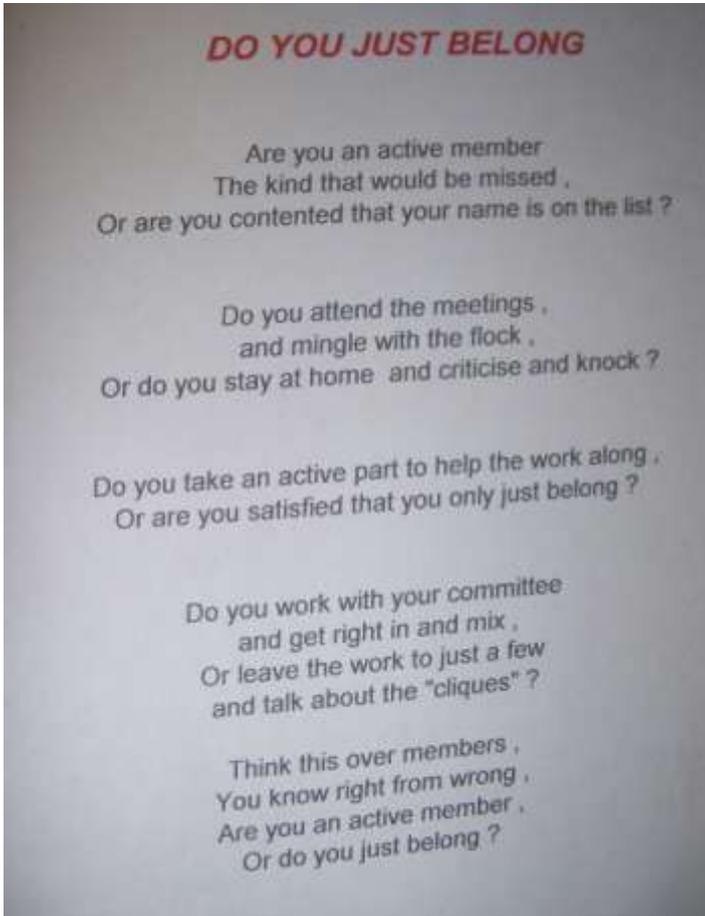
form of a "Winter Bin" to collect old clothing, blankets etc for distribution.

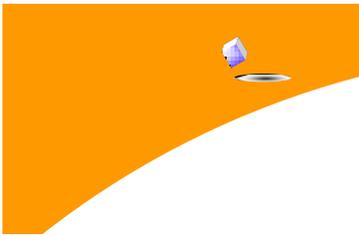
The Leo's, who now number 15, are adamant that they will charter

before then end of 2010.



From A Lions Den Somewhere in the District





The story about the tiny frogs....



There once was a bunch of tiny frogs,...
... who arranged a running competition.

The goal was to **reach the top of a very high tower.**

A big crowd had gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants...

The race began...

Honestly:

No one in the crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower.

You heard statements such as:

"Oh, WAY too difficult!!

They will NEVER make it to the top."

or:

"Not a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high!"

The tiny frogs began collapsing. One by one...

... Except for those who in a fresh tempo were climbing higher and higher...

The crowd continued to yell

"It is too difficult!!! No one will make it!"

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up...

...But ONE continued higher and higher and higher...

This one wouldn't give up!

At the end everyone else had given up climbing the tower. Except for the one tiny frog who after a big effort was the only one who reached the top!

THEN all of the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it?

A contestant asked the tiny frog how the one who succeeded had found the strength to reach the goal?

It turned out...

That the winner was DEAF!!!!

The wisdom of this story is:

Never listen to other people's tendencies to be
negative or pessimistic...

...cause they take your most wonderful dreams and wishes away from you. The ones you have in your heart!

Always think of the power words have.

Because everything you hear and read will affect your actions!

Therefore:

ALWAYS be...

POSITIVE!