

2015 MD Camp Abilities Report
Compiled and Written by Lion Margaret E. Webber

Amazing! This year marks the 14th year of Camp Abilities Alaska. We will begin to secure venues for the camp in the spring. Vision teachers, Parents of visually impaired, low vision and blind will be recruited and welcomed. We also have seasoned campers coming back annually because they LOVE it!! Returning campers also want to pitch in to help and support the new younger campers. The campers and their 1:1 volunteers, Coaches, and Directors become family for a week.

As most of you know our volunteers pay their own way to Alaska to be a 1:1 volunteer buddy to a camper. This year we had approx..25+ applicants it is crazy and great!!

Lauren Leiberman Ph.D is the founder of Camp Abilities, located at the State University of NY @ Brockport. This is the camp I visited and brought back to Alaska, 14 years ago. This year Camp Abilities, Brockport developed a grant to photo journal all of the existing camps including Camp Abilities Alaska. This was a exciting project to be part of and a learning experience for all of us. Our photo journalist was Mathew Yeomen. He was snapping pictures of campers and sports venues as well as leisure time activities.

Camp Abilities Alaska ROCKS!! Alaska is a huge draw for the volunteers and staff that join our camp. We always try get as media coverage for Lions as possible. Without our Lions Club Sponsors our Alaskan blind and visually impaired children would not have a camp that breaks down barriers. Thus, revealing a camp that is auditory rather than vision oriented. It works, the athletes love it. They learn that they can excel at sports..., saying "I DID IT" It just can't get better than that!!

November 10, 2015

To: LIONS District 49 A
Fm: Michelle Cassano Diabetes Chairman
Re: District Activities

Lion Larry & I am sorry we are not with you...didn't watch the calendar when booking Mexico...will miss you all

Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in the United States of American and a major factor in blindness across the world, since 1984 LIONS have been dedicated to the cause of diabetes care, cure & prevention. It has been my pleasure to work with LIONS to reach our mission: to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. 68,500 Alaskans

Activities – July - November

Lions assisted sending 64 children to ADA's diabetes summer camp hurray!

I have no requests for club visits during this administration...I must be getting dull

- The Muldoon Lions again did a great job with facepainting at our fall Trail Run
- Mendenhall Flying Lions Club...BBQ Auction was a great success \$????
- Mt View Lions are hosting the Tour de Cure bicycling event in Mt. View Lions Park...many Lions serving on committees
- Mt McKinley Lions hosted the Kincaid Chalet for the 2015 Defeat Diabetes Trail Run
- Educational materials and health fair supplies sent out to clubs as requested
- ***Thank you to clubs who have made financial contributions and dedication to our mission..to prevent and cure diabetes and improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.***



Lion Michelle Cassano
Diabetes Chairman



Lion Ted Burke
District 49A Global Membership



“WE SERVE”

P. O. Box 022030 * Juneau, Alaska 99802-2030

November 11, 2015

2015-2016 District 49A
Global Membership Team

Global Membership Report

**MICHAEL BROWN
DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

District 49A Lions Year 2015/2016 Mid-Winter Conference
AND District 49A 2nd Cabinet Meeting in Kodiak 11/13-
14/2015

**KAREN BURNS
1ST VICE DISTRICT
GOVERNOR**

Membership Numbers as of November 1st, 2015

**JEANNINE MORSE
2ND VICE DISTRICT
GOVERNOR**

MEMBERS	THIS MONTH	YEAR START
Opening	1578	1604
Added	87	
Dropped	113	
Net Gain/Loss	-26	-1.62%

**CINDY BEARDSLEY
IMMED. PAST
DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

**KARAN HUPPERTEN
CABINET
SEC./TREASURER**

Note: As you can see, so far this year we are moving a little too slow in new member recruitments thus we are Minus 26 members. My goal, after this Conference is to work with the Zone Chair Lions to bring to their attention the clubs in their area of responsibility those clubs whose membership activity is falling behind or that are doing very little to encourage and invite new members. I sent one email of encouragement to each Club President and Membership Chair Lion previously. After the Mid-Winter I intend to try and communicate with the Club Membership Chair Lions that we need to work harder on our membership goals. The Membership Training I am presenting at this Mid-Winter provides information in four areas – (1) Invitations, (2) Retention, (3) Leadership Development and (4) Club Publicity.

**JOY BLACKBURN
GLOBAL LEADERSHIP**

**TED BURKE
GLOBAL
MEMBERSHIP**

ALL 49A ZONE CHAIR
LIONS

Club Membership Activity: According to LCI Reports there are 40 clubs in our District. At present our membership activity, in general terms, is as follows:

- Ten (10) Clubs are currently showing Minus #'s
- Twenty-one (21) Clubs are showing 'No Change'
- Nine (9) Clubs having a positive increase in membership

Continued – Lions_GMT_Membership_Rpt_MidWinter 2015 Page 2

Unfortunately we now have Thirty-one (31) clubs out of the Forty total clubs showing membership losses or no activity. This lack of membership activity has now placed our District in a minus membership percentage. My job as District Global Membership Chair Lion is to work on bringing us back to positive and/or increased membership in all clubs. Again, I intend to work with Zone Chair Lions in regards to each Club's Membership statistics.

Clubs that deserve Special Recognition for notable membership increases thus far:

Anchorage Mabuhay – 25.71%
Kenai – 12.50%

Respectfully Submitted,

Lion Ted Burke

To: Mid-Winter Conference, District 49A, Lions International

November 13, 2015

From: Walt Hays, International Relations

The pace of change will continue to impact our lives – as individuals and organizations. Technology, trade and tourism all will have an effect on LIONS as our world changes. We will see structures and programs change as we start our second century. The INTERNATIONAL OF Lions International will become increasingly more important. Some Comments.

PEACE POSTERS. If you aren't participating, you should. This is a signature program of LIONS and a marvelous way to relate to local schools. 400,000 students (ages 11-13) from 60 countries were involved. This year's theme "Share Peace". We will have 20-25 entries from the district and we could double that easily. The Dimond Center has donated gift cards ice skating and bowling passes to add to the awards for the schools in the Anchorage Metro area.

LQ This quarterly video magazine is a MUST for every club proving 4 short segment of Lions humanitarian work around the world. This 15 minutes can give your club a wonderful window on the world of Lionism.

Twining. Make 2016 the year when you start a connection with another Lions club outside North America. Exchange emails, videos, photos. See if you can meet these Lions at the LIC. You will learn a lot about other lands and cultures and how Lions serve world-wide.

PET Mobility Cart. Alaska Lions have been very generous in supporting this humanitarian effort that serves the poor and handicapped of the world. 52,00 PET carts have been distributed free to those in need in 100 countries world wide. Lions have been involved in distributions since 2007. Lions and other Alaska volunteers have had the joy of delivering PET carts in Honduras, Guatemala, Sri Lanka, Kenya, S. Sudan and Cameroon.

If you will be traveling in TX, FL, ME, MO, IA, MI, KS, WA, IA, IN, IL, TN or AL this year "google" PET International, Inc. and find the locations and contacts for our 23 shops. You will be a welcomed visitor. Lions are a valued part of the volunteer corps. Or call contact me and I can put you in touch (walthays9@gmail.com)

Humanitarian Service Teams. There is keen interest in forming another team to serve in Guatemala in 2017. A variety of skill sets are needed. If you would like a presentation on our 2015 experience or want to know more about plans that will be developed for 2017, please contact me.



DISTRICT 49A CABINET MEETING

November 13, 2015 Kodiak, Alaska

DISTRICT LEO REPORT by Bonnie Leonhard

I am happy to report that we have approximately 18 to 20 Leo's attending the Mid-Winter Conferences in Kodiak. They have each been asked to bring their own club reports to give on Friday at the Lions Cabinet Meeting. Friday evening we have a fun filled evening with 2 community service projects in Kodiak, putting together packages for the Women's Shelter and making sandwiches for Salvation Army. There will be pizza, swimming and a movie following the projects. Saturday we will hold a District Leo Meeting and hands on training for Leo's and Advisors.

The Kenai Leo Club and the 1st Hmong Leo Club are both working on reorganizing and we hope to have more information upcoming. We are also excited to hear that Bethel is working to get their youth organized in a Leo Club. This will put our District at 9 Leo Clubs. Copper River Leo's, Kids In Community, Bear Mt. Leo's, Anchorage Performing Arts, Mabuhay Leo's, Kodiak, Kenai and 1st Hmong and the NEW Bethel Leo's (Club name to be announced). The Leo Clubs keep busy and I want to acknowledge **ALL** the Leo's for their outstanding services and **ALL** the Advisor's that take their time to work with their Leo's.

THANK You

November 11, 2015

District 49 A Second Cabinet Meeting
November 13-14, 2015
Kodiak , Alaska

Nominations and Elections Committee Report

I am sorry that I will be missing this midwinter conference due to travels out of state, and commitment to support our club's planned activities. Please excuse my absence and accept this letter as my report.

I have received notice of their intent to run from individuals for the following offices:

49A District Governor – Karen Burns
49A 1st Vice District Governor – Jeannine Morse

Lion Jeannine was endorsed by the Soldotna Lions Club at their 10/8/15 meeting and Lion Karen was endorsed by the Sleeping Ladies Lions Club at their 11/4/15 meeting

Letters of intent to run for the 2nd Vice District Governor office must be filed with the Nominations Committee by email, a return certified or registered mail no less than 45 days before the opening of the Multiple District Convention. That deadline will be around the second week in March.

Please be aware that there is different procedure and timeline for nominations to the District 49A Foundation. The District Governor shall appoint a nominating committee (>75 days prior) consisting of one member from each region in the District. The Nominations are processed through that committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lion Larry Helgeson
Nominations & Elections Chairperson

The American Diabetes Association® Launches Eat Well, America!SM Campaign during American Diabetes Month®

Contacts

Michael Wachsmuth mwachsmuth@diabetes.org

907-272-1424 ext.7133

Alexandria, Virginia

November 2, 2015

Campaign Helps Americans Put Good Food and Good Health on the Table

Every 19 seconds, someone in the United States is diagnosed with diabetes, and it is estimated that by 2050, as many as 1 in 3 American adults will develop type 2 diabetes if current trends continue.

That means over 68,500 Alaskans are affected by diabetes, one-third who have yet to be diagnosed over 194,000 have pre-diabetes.

To promote healthy habits and wellness that will last throughout the year the American Diabetes Association® (Association) launches the theme of this year's **American Diabetes Month®**, [Eat Well, America!SM](#). Throughout the month, the Association will empower Americans to make healthy eating a fun and simple part of daily life by equipping them with tips from cookbook authors and chefs for planning and preparing delicious and nutritious meals, whether at home or on the go. [To keep up to date on local activities for American Diabetes Month go to our face book page American Diabetes Association-Alaska](#)

November 6th First Friday at the Hotel Captain Cook 5-9 PM featuring artist Cindy Pendleton

Proclamations have been issued by both Governor Bill Walker and Anchorage Mayor Ethan Berkowitz

November 11th Dr. Ross Tanner Lecture at Providence Health Park 3815 Piper Street room 2281

November 18th Buffalo Wild Wings is donating a portion of sales to Stop Diabetes

Any day you can volunteer with the American Diabetes Association – be an advocate – move our mission forward to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all Alaskans affected by diabetes.

A healthy lunch is a great way to bring wellness into the center of your day, especially for Americans looking to manage weight, combat low energy and better prevent, delay or manage diabetes. The Association will celebrate the inaugural **National Healthy Lunch Day**, Nov. 17, by providing tips geared toward helping Americans prepare or buy healthier lunch options. Eating well is an important step toward committing to healthy habits, and lunch is an enjoyable way to involve friends, family and coworkers in the journey.

To Celebrate National Healthy Lunch Day go to our facebook page American Diabetes Association-Alaska LIKE our page – post your healthy lunch – entry randomly selected will receive a \$50 gift to Natural Pantry

"Our goal is for every Alaskan to learn how to prepare and choose healthy foods and never feel like they are sacrificing flavor or the enjoyment they get out of a good meal," said Janel Wright, Alaskan and national board chair of the, CEO, American Diabetes Association. "As the Association marks its 75th anniversary, we are even more committed to empowering Americans to achieve health and wellness every single day. So let's start making lasting healthy habits with a healthy lunch or a revamped holiday meal."

Join the Eat Well, America! campaign throughout November to learn how you can put delicious and nutritious food on the table by following #EatWellAmerica and on social media. Be sure to inspire friends and family to participate in National Healthy Lunch Day by sharing photos of your healthy plates on social media using the hashtag #MyHealthyLunch.

For more information go to diabetes.org or call 1-888-DIABETES free statewide



2nd Cabinet Meeting, Nov., 2015

Sight/Vision screening:

LCI members have worked on projects designed to prevent blindness, restore eyesight and improve eye health and eye care for hundreds of millions of people around the world for nearly 100 years.

The District 49A Lions continue to do the Vision screening for our schools and at various events

Our school screenings started in Sept. We have many openings on our teams. I promise not to overwork our volunteers this year. In the Anchorage School District the school nurses have been told that we will be screening only 3 days a week instead of 5 as we did last year. With enough helpers we should be able to be in and out in less than 4 hours; in by 9 and out by lunch. But we have done some schools in Anchorage with only two volunteers. We need screeners, "floor managers", sticker people, glass cleaners and anyone else that would like to volunteer. We'll find you a job. We can't continue to be of service without our Lions volunteers.

With up to date reports from the Juneau Mendenhall Flying Lions, the Big Lake Lions, the Wasilla Lions, the Kodiak Lions and the 8 Anchorage clubs participating in screening plus Chugiak and the Sleeping Ladies of Zone 6 we have a total of 7,475 screenings with 1,156 referrals to date. This includes our school screenings and health fair events.

Every club in each of our 8 zones have helped in the crusade against darkness from eye screenings to sponsoring and participating in health fairs to taking care of the expenses for someone's eye surgery. We all have our stories to tell of the children we have helped. Keep up the good work and Thank you all for your service.

Respectively Submitted in Lionism,

Esther

PDG Esther L. West
District Sight/Vision screening Chair