

December 2010



Howard Lake Lions Club



WE "GET TO" SERVE

PO Box 13 Howard Lake MN 55349

Website: www.hllions.org

Email: lions@hllions.org

President: Cathy Rufer

1st Vice: Darren McAlpine

2nd Vice: Terry Thorson

3rd Vice: Dennis Massey

Secretary: LaNette Thorson

Treasurer: Debbie McAlpine

Board of Directors:

Harvey Krohn

Judy Mattson

Karen Hill

Donald Oestreich

Lion Tamers:

Renee Lahr

Tail Twister:

Gary Hagemann

Membership:

Chris Main

Susan Grangroth

Dan Oestreich

Immediate Past President:

Darren McAlpine

GOVERNOR'S NIGHT AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Governors Night and Christmas Party will be on Thursday, December 2nd. We will be having a gift exchange. Men bring a Man gift, Lady bring a Lady gift, with approximately \$10.00 value. The meal will be **potluck**. This is a great chance for you to meet and get to know our Governor, Lion Brian Toews. Please plan on attending and bring your spouse or guest.

SERVING WITH PRIDE

***Members, here's an opportunity to serve!** The HL Lions have committed to help serve ice cream at the HL Nursing Home. **Lion Susan reported the event will be on December 12th beginning at 3:00 PM.** We will serve residents ice cream supplied by the club. The care center has asked that we arrive early and help transport patients. We will need 8 to 12 volunteers to serve ice cream and visit with residents.

***Members can help with Silent Santa chaired by Lion Deb and Breakfast with Santa chaired by Lion Judy or if you can't serve in person maybe you could serve by donating money to help make the event more successful! We would love to have you join us for this GREAT upcoming event! Breakfast with Santa is Sunday, December 5th.**

***Donkey Basketball will be chaired by Lion Paul.** The event will take place in March at the HL Middle School Gym. Help is needed setting up and tearing down as well as selling tickets.

***The 8th Annual HL Lions "Sight Night" and Halloween Party was another huge success!** HL Lions Susan, Harvey, Renee, LaNette, Steve, Harvey, Paul, Karen, Gary, Tammy, Donald, new member Bonnie and Lion President Cathy Jo along with volunteers from the Blessed Hope Church were in attendance and helped with games, food, judging, and distributing prizes. Co-chairs Lion Susan and Lion Cathy Jo both indicated this year was one of the best attended events since the HL Lions took over their new meeting location. "We distributed 60 "treat" bags to children ages 0 to 13 and held a costume contest." said Lion Susie during a recent HL Lions meeting. Lion Cathy Jo

added, "The Sight Night event brought in over 300 pair of glasses." HL Lions Steve and Bonnie helped distribute plastic pumpkins in community businesses to capture donations of glasses for the event. HL Lion Cathy Jo ran a contest at the local HL Middle School to see which class could gather the most glasses. Two MS advisors' classes brought in over 50 pair and enjoyed rolls and juice one morning during their advisory time. The event was funded by the HL Lions, with the help of public donations and the City of Howard Lake. **Collecting Eye glasses is not new to the club; it started and continues with past HL Lion President and past District Governor Darrell Main.** Chairperson Lion Susan and Lion Cathy Jo work on this special event to help make the communities aware of the need for the glasses that are collected and how the HL Lions, Lions International and Lens Crafters work together to help give sight to others who can't afford the cost of new glasses or hearing aids and really need them. HL Lion Darrell's vision and list of services as a HL Lion, is long. **Co-chair, HL Lion Cathy Jo said, "Lion Susan and I honor Lion Darrell's vision each year. We are proud of the work Lion Darrell did before we joined and it became a passion with a vision of our own. We added the actual "Sight Night" and "Halloween Party" as a means of making our voices echo his vision."**

***The HL Lions donated \$500.00 to the Wellness Van Program.** Wellness Program Supervisor, Brenda Link, RN BA commented in a recent thank you letter to the HL Lions, "We acknowledge and commend your focus on improving the health of your community through this program and we are very grateful for your financial support to help us in this effort."

***HL Lions welcome our newest member, Bonnie Weber.** Bonnie is the wife of Lion member Steve Weber. The HL Lions agreed in a recent meeting that Bonnie will be a great addition to the club. "She has been volunteering at several of our events prior to joining the club and we look forward to working in Lionism with her in the future" stated HL Lion President Cathy Jo Rufer. She will be inducted into our club on Governor's night.

***The Maple Lake and Buffalo Lions thanked the HL Lions for their generous gift** to help celebrate 65 years as a Lions Club. Maple Lake Lion Secretary, Mel Armbruster said in a recent email, "We really appreciate your thoughtfulness and Lionism."

***HL Lions donated with PRIDE,** proceeds from our annual "**Hot Dish Supper**" chaired by Lion Gary, to the Kevin Erickson family. The donation will help assist them with medical bills due to Kevin's illness.

***The HL Lions help with judging and recently helped vote on the "Peace Poster Contest - Visions of Peace." chaired by Lion Nancy Main.** The HL Lions support Lions Quest and the Drug Awareness Contest that Lion Nancy also chairs.

The Buzz from HL Lion President Cathy Jo Rufer:

I'm often reminded of the wonderful talents of our "busy" members when I attend a meeting or volunteer during an opportunity to serve with them in Lionism and I am so thankful. Our new motto, **We "Get To" Serve** means that together we "**share a vision**" to honor our service pledges in making a difference in the lives of others. We join other Lions around the world as we share one vision in particular, the vision of our Lion International President to become "**beacons of hope.**"

Several club members have "stepped up to the plate" when it comes to running a meeting, introducing a new member, maintaining members, cleaning our club house, creating the newsletter, advertising and maintaining the history of our club, cooking, attending meetings, serving on important club committees or as an officer, chairing an event or fundraising and for the charitable donating to our "Teen Center." To our "**active members**" I want to express my sincere gratitude for your willingness to serve with **PRIDE**. To those of you who continue your membership in the HL Lions club with your "**annual paid membership,**" I thank you for maintaining your pledge to the club and I salute you with **PRIDE**.

Stewardship in any organization can be compromised when membership is dropped. To maintain membership without member funds is costly to any organization and the HL Lions is not exempt from that dilemma. So, I speak now to those of you reading this newsletter and have not paid your dues or kept your pledge "**to serve with pride.**" I say open your pocket books and **send your membership dues in.** We do not want to drop you from our membership list; however we no longer can afford to pay your way. We know these are economically hard times and some members have difficulty coming up with the dues. Membership is due each July. We offer a payment plan if it is necessary. **This year we will drop you if we do not hear from you.** We will not only miss your name on our newsletter email or paper mailing lists but we will miss the relationship we have had with you over the years working together in **PRIDE**.

My goal as the HL Lions President is to encourage members to evaluate our club and find a shared vision that we can continue to be proud of. I want our club to be recognized for its effort and hard work. I commit to honoring members who "achieve and believe" in Lionism. Together I hope we will be able to come up with new ideas to serve our community and grow in membership. We already started something new, our **1st Annual School Supply Collection, chaired by Lion Steve Weber.** Together we will explore creating and distributing a brochure to help advertise our club. Finally, I will try to attend as many meetings, zone meetings, and the upcoming 5M-7 Mid-Winter Convention in January.

I encourage you to meet my pledge, continue your **membership** in a club that shows pride in all they do, **participate** when you can with your donation of time or financially, **volunteer to chair** a NEW program that you feel could be a part of our shared vision, **be active and volunteer** at one of the great opportunities we "**get to**" **serve at,** and **find your pride** with the HL Lions.

Join us for Bingo

Being a Lion member in the HL Lions isn't all work, you do get an opportunity to play now and again. Recently, at a November meeting the HL Lions played "Bingo" and we will have an encore presentation of B-I-N-G-O when we meet on the 16th of December. The whole family is invited and friends are included for an evening of relaxation, laughter, and good food. Join us at 6:30 PM for social hour, bring an appetizer to share, bring quarters to buy BINGO cards, listen to holiday music and the calling of numbers. The person who wins will win from the "pot of money" that was collected from each individual game.

Silent Santa

We are again hosting the Silent Santa program. Lion Debbie McAlpine has volunteered to be chairperson. Be sure to ask Debbie how you can help. This is a big project and there are plenty of things to do. More information will be available at the next couple of meetings.

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 5th is the date for our annual Breakfast Buffet. Breakfast will be served from 8:00am until 12:30pm. We are again planning on having pictures taken with Santa. Lion Judy has volunteered to chair the breakfast. The Howard Lake Business Association is helping again this year with gift bags for the children and taking the pictures.

Meetings

Our first meeting this month is Thursday, December 2nd at our Lions' Hall at 7:00 p.m. This is our **Governor's Night and Christmas Party**. This will be a **POTLUCK MEAL**. Spouses and guests are also invited.

The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. at our Lions' Hall.

Our second meeting this month is Thursday, December 16th at our Lions' Hall at 7:00 p.m. **NO MEAL** **Bring an appetizer to share** and let's play BINGO!

If you would like anything to be included in the newsletter you have to let us know.

Email: ions@hllions.org or mail to Howard Lake Lions PO Box 13 Howard Lake MN 55349.

Upcoming events

Governor's Night - December 2nd

Breakfast with Santa – December 5th

Ice Cream Social at the Nursing Home – December 12th at 3 p.m.

Donkey Basketball – March 26th

Links

Lions International – www.lionsclubs.org

Multiple District 5M- www.lionsmd5m.org

District 5M-7 - www.5m7.org

Lions 5M7, Region 1, Zone 2 - www.lions5m7r1z2.org

Howard Lake Lions Club – www.hllions.org



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all the Howard Lake Lion members who are celebrating their birthday in December: Joyce Thorson (2), Harvey Krohn (3), Chris Main (8), and Kathy Main (10).

**A BLESSED CHRISTMAS
TO ALL**