

LIONS POSTED NOTES, JANUARY, 2012

1. Cheers to Lion Don Mock (Clarion) for making available to all 14-N clubs his two exceptional radio PSAs and the DVD video "The Lions Story". These are valued resources for any club that is wanting to better market Lions in its hometown. Thanks Don for your continued interest in Lions telling their story...a great strategy for recruitment, as well as telling our communities who Lions really are and what we stand for. The PSAs and DVD can be found on the district website.
2. Congratulations to Little Beaver Lioness Club for their very productive member recruitment efforts in November...NINE new members! Great job Ladies!
3. Thumbs up to GLT Coordinator Mark Carter (Little Beaver) for his facilitation of the District Action Team meeting held on December 10. The GLT Team in conjunction with the district Zone Chairpersons held a very productive training and planning session to create improvements to our communications at all levels of Lionism. Thanks to Mark, VDGs, and Zone Chairs for all the thoughts, ideas and discussions to further describe our accountabilities and further open our communication doors between clubs and the district.
4. Thumbs up also to GMT Coordinator Bob McComas (Slippery Rock) for his continuing efforts on club extension. The GMT Team is "pounding" on the doorways of communities and colleges to open the gates for new club development. Is your club interested in being a new club sponsor? As we progress in our extension strategies, we will want and need clubs to step forward...as a mentor for new club sponsorship...as a resource to find potential club sites and subsequent leaders in those communities who will work with us to further Lionism. Presently, the GMT Team is focusing its efforts on Northeast Butler County, Aliquippa, Geneva College, Westminster College, and Clarion University. Your thoughts and ideas are always welcome on new sites, new contacts, new strategies for new club development. Help us burst the district's 1250-member barrier through new club extension in your county.
5. Thanks to Ambridge and Butler Lions for their continued efforts on developing new LEO clubs in their respective counties. One of the District Governor's goals has been to create new LEO clubs in the district, and to maintain and work more with existing LEOs. International President Tam has focused much of his effort toward increasing our club activity with and for young people. We are hopeful that all clubs in District 14-N will increase their youth involvement programs, consider sponsorship and work toward the creation of new LEO clubs ...especially in those counties where they should be better represented.

6. Special thanks to PDG Don Davison (Beaver Falls), Chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws Committee, who has been working diligently on updating and revising our district documents in preparation for structural and functional changes that have occurred over recent years. Thanks also to all Lions who serve on this committee for the time and work they have contributed to date...much appreciated as we look forward to the revisions this year.
7. Thanks to Lion Linda Gibala (Butler), Chairperson for the district's Leader Dog program. Linda has given four Leader Dog presentations in recent months to Zelienople Lions, Slippery Rock Lions, Butler Lions, and to the Butler Shriners' Club. Thanks also to those Lions clubs who proactively arranged the presentations to learn more about Leader Dog. We are hopeful that all clubs will take more opportunity to utilize our district resources such as Linda to further our knowledge about the many programs and services we share. If your club is looking for educational programs during your club meetings, call on our district chairpersons to offer some new perspectives to your membership.
8. District Governor Don reports that our membership growth has slowed down recently, but we are still on track to reach our goal of 1250 members this year. We have held fairly steady to date, through November and December, and we are presently at 1153 members. This represents a plus-47 to date, primarily due to the large contingent of new members at Slippery Rock University. We MUST work very seriously on our retention strategies in the coming months. To date, we have attracted 93 new members through a lot of hard work, but we have lost 46 members also. Most of these lost members made a choice to leave, for reasons we as Lions must work on. DG Don is asking each of us to step up our individual efforts to seek out new members for our individual clubs, assist us in finding and developing new sites for new clubs in your counties, and most of all to nurture and maintain existing memberships to assure that retention is a positive factor in our growth strategies this year.
9. On occasion clubs need to say "thanks" to their own members through honorable service recognition. Some of you have done so in the past, and deserving Lions have been recognized. Please be reminded that there are a number of ways to do this. Applications are always available for Melvin Jones, PA Lions Foundation, 14-N Honor Roll of Lions, PA Counsellors Distinguished Service Awards, Lioness of the Year, Leo of the Year...to name a few. Please consider honoring those deserving Lions in your club by submitting their names and applications to the district.
10. As we burst with enthusiasm, we must all give Lion David Beale (Elderton) thanks for his hard work to receive financial authorization from the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative to plant over 11,000 trees in southern Armstrong County. We are presently in the planning stages to gain participation commitments from all Lions,

Lioness and LEO clubs in District 14-N to plant the trees on May 5. We are committed and obligated to this district-wide project, and we have begun the recruitment of our Lion volunteers to ensure success of our obligation. All clubs in the district are invited to participate. Trees planted by each participating club will count toward club totals at the end of June. More information is to follow. Save the date for your club to help plant over 11,000 trees in southern Armstrong County on MAY 5, 2012. We will need your help and support to be part of this major celebration that includes the largest reintroduction of the native American Chestnut back into our country/world...right here in District 14- N.

11. The District Governor announces that his pins have finally arrived, and that they can be viewed and ordered from the district website. There are two sets of pins this year from which to choose. If you have questions regarding the pins, contact DG Don directly.