

**Reorganization Meeting
District 14-B
July 31, 2004**

Meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by DG Dennis McCarthy.

Invocation by PDG Bob Johnson Jr. and the Flag salute.

DG Dennis welcomed everyone to the reorganization meeting. We want to try to establish and make some changes in the District this year. The goal of course is always membership growth but we don't want to spend as much time focusing on this because we are in a rut thinking of ways to increase membership. Although I have a box of membership applications for those who need them.

The directories are here. Zone chairs take the ones for your clubs and all the rest are going to be mailed out today. District Cabinet Secretary Greg made labels so the directories can be mailed to all club presidents and secretaries as well as cabinet members not present today. If you need more let me know.

Those interested in the DG position let me tell you it is fun. Since I have got in at the end of June I have enjoyed it so far. In my travels across the state all the 17 other District Governors are outstanding. The State Secretary Marcia has been very helpful if I need anything.

I am asking in the next newsletter for all PDG for their valuable information and input. State Council meeting is next week and the following weekend is the 1st Cabinet meeting. At that point we are going to some major changing. Lisa Blaney Stewart is going to kick some butt this year on marketing. We have some great things we are going to do this year. International just emailed me that we got the International grant for marketing. It is \$1,000.00 so we can go out marketing in our District. We are going to look at ways to get members into our clubs. (All clubs) in our District. We are going to be coming to our Cabinet members for your ideas and suggestions. We are the only District in the state to apply for the International grant.

Roll call was taken by District Cabinet Secretary Greg.

VD Governor Jim Brubaker remarks about looking forward to a great year. I know the rest of you here are looking forward to helping DG Dennis and his efforts in revitalizing Lionism here in the District. I want to thank those of you that helped me learn my job. My first job is to handle the District phone. Started with 70 calls and are down to 6 calls that need further action. At the last Cabinet meeting the board approved sponsoring the sale of the Enjoy book. The feedback that I have is that there are 15 clubs planning on ordering the books and have ordered about 1000 books at \$9.00 a book profit. That is a pretty good start. There are a lot of clubs that have not yet responded to this. As Lions we have a lot to be proud of.

Secretary's remarks-Lion Greg

Anyone that has an email address that we don't have or is going to get one. Let me know. So I can send you the meeting notice and minutes by email.

Comments by DG Dennis to let us know your email. Lion Jim Hartman our newsletter editor will email the district newsletter to you. Our goal this year on the 28 or 29th of the month is to mail it out by US mail and email by the 30th.

The first Monday or Tuesday of the month some clubs have meetings and we want to get the newsletter to them before their meeting.

We want to hear monthly on Leader Dog, Beacon Lodge and Diabetes coming in from you the newsletter is going to be a source of information (things of interest and of education). There is a lot going on with Leader Dog, Beacon Lodge and Diabetes to name a few plus the International President message and any other things we get in. We are going to get away from the newsletter being an advertisement that clubs who submit their activities will be put on the calendar on the newsletters last page. If anyone that has any information that they think is important let us know. PDG Harold Fletcher will be giving us some history. We went back to the old name on the newsletter THE CAULDRON.

IPDG Rich Keller-No comments/

Coordinator of District Activities Lion Alison Weber. The Cabinet meetings will be held at the Center for Hearing and Deaf Service, 1945 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh. That is in the uptown section. See me for directions. Please use the back parking lot because I will have the back door open. We will be meeting in the Basement Conference Room.

DG Dennis comments that we usually have our meetings here at the Vision Services or the School for Blind Children and it maybe is good to take a look at some of the other agencies that we gave money to get an idea of what they are doing. The Center for Hearing and Deaf Services has made some changes and it would be good to look at.

Explanation of Duties/Expectations.

In the Zone Chairpersons manuals on the back page there is the Advisory Committee Mtg. Please read your manual. It explains what your duties and what you are expected to do as zone chairpersons. When I swear you in and give you your pin I will tell you what I expect you to do and what I want to know (meeting you attend) and fill out the back form and send it to me. We are dropping an average of a club a year, we know there is a problem but we are not doing anything to fix the problem... That is why we have regional advisors this year. If a club is having difficulties then we will look at helping them. I don't want to lose any more clubs at last count there are 50 clubs in our District. We cannot say that we will build more clubs because my club was the last one formed 10 years ago. When you send me that form I will at least know what is going on in your zone. VDG Jim and I along with IPDG Rich will be working together to try and save the clubs that are having problems.

The 748 District Governors from around the world were all sworn in together. It was a moving experience. When you see all the people, their ceremonies and the Lionism and

fellowship it is really worth taking the office. We are in need of a Vice District Governor candidate for next year. Think about it.

DG Dennis is passing out the Zone Chair Manuals.

Discussion held on the District's Constitution and Bylaws. DG Dennis will be sending out the District policy manual and bylaws to voting members of the Cabinet.

DG Dennis gave the Oath of Office to VDG Jim Brubaker, Zone Chairperson in attendance. District Cabinet Secretary Greg Borichevsky and Cabinet Treasurer Mick Wrbas.

Voting Members of the Cabinet are DG, VDG, IPDG, Secretary, Treasurer and Zone Chairs.

Goals and Objectives of the year are in our directories. The most important one is membership growth and the District staying strong. District Directories are the same size as last year. Any changes or corrections will be put in the newsletter.

Marketing-Lion Lisa Blaney Stewart

Lion Lisa is the past president of North Boroughs Lions Club. She is in telecommunications. Her first imitative is getting a billboard.

DG Dennis comments that we will be looking at billboard advertising (artwork by the International), newspaper advertising (in the form of an application). We want to get back over 1250 members in the District. Lion Lisa and I will be calling on the Regional Advisors as well as the PDG's to look at what areas are the best and try to put in clubs we have lost. We are working with DG Bob from 14-E and we are at the first stages of putting in a Leo Club at the School for the Deaf with my club as sponsoring club. We will be meeting with the school super indent in August to put in the Leo Club. I would like to bring in a Leo Club by my clubs 10th anniversary in November. It doesn't count towards membership but I hope we can get the parents involved. Maybe we can get a Swissvale club with the parent's involvement.

Old business-None.

New Business

DG Dennis passed out to his Cabinet his DG pin. For those who know me I do a lot of animal rescue. That is what I do for fun. What I am sharing with you are two of my children. Unfortunately the dog that I used for a model Bridle Boxer (Carly) died the day I went to State Convention of a heart attack. The two dogs on the pin are a boxer and a pug. Spike filled in for her and is with Sombra on the pin.

The District pin is done it has Helen Keller and Ann Sullivan at a water pump. The significance of this is this year is the year for service. The year to share success through service. Ann Sullivan was a fantastic servant with Helen Keller; she did a lot for Helen. She not only acted as her eyes but she did a lot of the secretarial, the traveling and the arranging. Choosing this was a good thing. I took this back to my club over nine month

ago. It's our 10th anniversary and we are the Last Club established in the District. It not only represents us, it represents the District and presents service.
Discussion held on pin trading and it will be brought up at the Cabinet meeting.

Peace Poster video available. Mary Beth Chester will be mailing out information to schools for the peace poster the first or second week in August.

Eye glass recycling, hearing aid recycling-Lion Jason Altmire handles the Eye glass collection. Questions on how many eyeglasses collected. According to Lion Jason from the last Cabinet meeting 50,000 pairs were collected. Lion Alison Weber handles the hearing aid recycling. Most Giant Eagles in Allegheny County collect them at the pharmacy. They can be sent to the center. They will accept any hearing aid no matter how old or what condition.

Discussion held on hearing aids collection at Giant Eagle.
A committee was started to brainstorm ideas and report back to Cabinet. Members are DG Dennis, VDG Jim, Lion Alison, Lion Lisa, PDG Jack, other volunteers will be accepted. This would be a good District service project.

Dates to remember.

The Fall Rally.....October 8, VFW in White Oak
Still working on it but I can just say it will be loud and Fun.

Spring Party Still TBA

Bob Casey and I were working on getting Jimmy Carter at the Spring Party but he can't. I wanted to get him because of his work with River Blindness, his work with LCIF and that he is a PDG and Lion. President Clinton is booked as well in advance and charges \$100,000 to speak. More to follow.

Newsletter articles get them to Lion Jim Hartman.

IPDG Rich comments on the Passing of the Banner. It is a nice affair for the Cabinet to go to. Pgh. DeafBlind Club will host and White Oak Club will be there. Sept 14, 2004 at Duranti's in Oakland.

PID Carl Battistone comments on the on going development and testing of low cost hearing aids. More information to follow.

Beacon Lodge.

No winners from District 14-B at the Ducky race. It was very successful and raised \$7,400.00. They will be having one next year and will be starting to sell tickets earlier.

Meeting adjourns: 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
District 14-B Cabinet Secretary
Greg Borichevsky