



# The Lions' Roar

*August 2006 -- news for the Lions of MD5M*

## *MD5M's 2nd Int'l VP Candidate PID Ross Thorfinnson*

Ross needs your support in 2007 in Chicago! 1000 voting delegates from MD5M. The Ross Thorfinnson campaign needs you! If you haven't been to an International Convention yet, the time to go is Chicago. Show your support for Ross to elect him 2nd International Vice President and make plans for the Windy City in 2007.

Be sure to check out Ross' website: [www.lionross.com](http://www.lionross.com)

## *10 things Lions needs to know about Campaign SightFirst II*

1. Lions have saved the sight of 24 million people worldwide through the SightFirst program.
2. The world looks to Lions as leaders in the international effort to eliminate avoidable blindness.
3. More than \$185 million in SightFirst grants have been awarded by LCIF.
4. Lions made SightFirst possible by raising \$143 million in 1991 - 1994 which increased to \$200 million through investments and other donations.
5. Less than \$15 million remains and there is much more work yet to be done.
6. New challenges to sight could raise the world's blind population from 37 million to 78 million by 2020. Millions of children are blind and another child goes blind every minute.
7. After careful study, Lions International Board of Directors have endorsed Campaign SightFirst II, a worldwide campaign to raise at least \$150 million to continue SightFirst's success and combat emerging threats to sight.
8. An additional \$50 million will extend Lions "vision for all"

through rehabilitation, research and reaching out to vulnerable populations in developed countries.

9. Because SightFirst is an extraordinary worldwide effort, CSFII seeks funds in addition to those provided for other important Lions activities.

10. Campaign Sight First II was launched at the 2005 International Convention in Hong Kong and will celebrate success at the 2008 International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.

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## *Lions Day with the Twins*

The Minnesota Twins take on one of their Central Division rivals the Chicago White Sox on August 20th at 1:10pm at the Metrodome in Minneapolis. Lower reserved seat tickets are only \$22.00 (normally \$26.00) \$2.00 from every ticket sale will go to the Minnesota Lions.

This discount is available to all Lion and Lioness club members, their families and friends. (Offer is not valid day of game, and tickets are limited.) All clubs ordering tickets will receive a welcome on the Twins scoreboard.

Join fellow Lions in cheering on the Minnesota Twins. Call the Eye Bank at 1-866-887-4448 with questions or to receive a ticket order form.

Lions Day is a collaboration of the Minnesota Twins and the MD5M Lions.

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## *2006 Youth Exchange Banquet*

*--submitted by VDG Deb Harms, photo by Exec Sec. Bob Harms*

Sunday, July 23 was a very hot day in Mankato Minnesota, but for a group of people celebrating the MD5M Youth Exchange Program, it was a cool time of sharing cultures. Annually, part of the summer program for incoming youth through the MD5M Youth Exchange Program is a week of camp. Camp Spicer is held the last week of July in Southern and Central Minnesota. This year approximately 27 young people from 17 different countries attended the camp.

One of the activities of the camp is to host a banquet of foods from their home countries. Invited to the banquet are the District Governors and Vice District Governors and other people the camp directors feel would benefit from the experience. Some who attended this year are: DG Mike & Sue Vos (5M2), DG Jim and Marge Demaree (5M4), VDG Deb and Bob Harms (5M4), DG Wally and Emma Sapp

(5M6), Acting VDG David and Terrie Moen (5M6), PID Maynard and Eunice Rucks, PDGs Orville and Elvera Trettin (5M2). The camp is organized and run by Lions Nancy and Darwin Mathwig, the MD5M Youth Exchange Chairs.

The youth did an awesome job of preparing their dishes. There was a large variety of foods to sample. Dishes included potato salad (with big chunks of pickles), flat bread and smoked salmon, smashed potatoes and meatballs, rice and chicken pieces, chicken wings, chocolate drop cookies, strawberry salad, smoothies and much more. Each dish was identified and the country was listed. Everything was delicious.



This year's group of youth was especially friendly and anxious to mingle with the adults. They very much wanted to share about their country and why they were visiting the US. Many of the youth expressed their gratitude for being able to participate in the Lions Youth Exchange Program. There was quite a variety of personalities among the young people. Some were shy, some gregarious, some a bit kooky, some serious, but all were polite and courteous.

If you ever get invited to one of these banquets, jump at the opportunity to attend. If your club, or a nearby club sponsors a youth, be sure to attend the meeting they speak at. These young people are anxious to meet you and to share their culture with you.

A big thank you needs to go to Lions Nancy and Darwin Mathwig and those who help them, because they work hard for this program and it shows!!

## *Newsletter Contest winner*

To qualify for the random drawing of the correct guesses, you must email me back with the location of the exclamation point that is used incorrectly.

*Look for it in this issue and get your entry in today!*

Email your entry to: [atbailey@hcctel.net](mailto:atbailey@hcctel.net)

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## *Important Dates to remember*

Sept 14 - 16 2006 USA/Canada Leadership Forum  
Columbus, Ohio  
Sept 30 2006 - MERLO Training - Mahnomon, MN

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## *The Last Word*

*If you or another Lions member have or will be changing your email address, please send me an email with the change!*

VDG Allen Bailey  
MD5M Public Relations Chair  
2006-2007