



The Lions' Roar

July 2009 -- news for the Lions of MD5M



Lion Eberhard Wirfs elected Lions International President

Eberhard J. Wirfs, of Kelkheim am Taunus, Hessen, Germany, was elected president of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 92nd International Convention, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA July 6-10, 2009. He is the first German citizen to be elected international president of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service club organization and the global leader in humanitarian and community service.

President Wirfs, an entrepreneur and retired CEO of his own company, is a pioneer in marketing frozen food specialties across Europe.

As president, Wirfs will lead the association that has 1.3 million members in 45,000 clubs in 205 countries and geographic areas around the world. He will also help set the direction for Lions Clubs International Foundation and the foundation's SightFirst Program, a US\$226 million effort to rid the world of preventable and reversible blindness.

President Wirfs is an experienced and effective leader with particular strength in membership development and leadership training, and in combining service and fellowship.

Using as his presidential theme "Move to Grow," President Wirfs plans to build momentum or movement and "grow" association membership in order to meet the increasing needs for community service around the world.

A member of the Hofheim am Taunus Lions Club since 1985, President Wirfs has held many offices within the association, including club president, district

governor and international director. He served as CEO of the German Lions Foundation, “Deutsches Hilfswerk.” In addition, he systematically implemented Lions Quest, a mentoring program for young people, in Germany. He is an honorary member of the Kelkheim am Taunus Lions Club.

International President Wirfs’ theme, **Move to Grow**, expresses the thought that all things need momentum in order to progress. The adaptable ginkgo tree represents this idea, and symbolizes hope and peace. Like Lions Clubs International, the ginkgo has an esteemed heritage, longevity, value and global abundance.



The mighty 5M snowman was a hit at the Lions International Convention



Peace Poster kits available now

Peace Poster kits are available until October 1, 2009 and an order form is posted on this website. The theme of this year's contest is, "The Power of Peace."

What a great way to showcase the talents of our young people in the Multiple District and get them involved in this Lions International sponsored project. If your club has not been involved in the Peace Poster contest, please contact your District's Peace Poster Contest Chair or your District Governor for all the details.

We, Lions and non-Lions alike, can learn much from the children of our Multiple and from those around the world in their expression of, "The Power of Peace."

5M9 Project for Lakeland Hospice House is underway

Parkers Prairie, Minn. - July 1, marks the beginning of a partnership campaign with Lakeland Hospice Home Care and the District 5M9 Lions to help fund a Hospice House in Fergus Falls that will serve terminally ill persons and their families.

Lakeland Hospice was founded in Fergus Falls in 1984 as the area's first provider of hospice care to people diagnosed with a terminal illness. Currently, Lakeland Hospice provides healthcare to over 65 patients per day in their homes. The Hospice House will provide a place where people unable to receive necessary care in their home will be given exceptional end-of-life healthcare. It will provide round-the-clock, clinical and family support combining state of the art medical technology with all the comforts of home. The Hospice House provides the patient's family with a place to stay as well as bereavement services and compassionate care and support during their difficult time.

The goal of the Hospice House is to provide extraordinary healthcare to every patient, promoting independence, comfort, and dignity through all stages of life. Hospice isn't about dying; it's about living each day to the fullest. Cicely

Saunders, the founder of the modern Hospice movement said, “At the end of the day, you matter because you are you. You matter to the last moment of your life, and we will do all we can not only to help you die peacefully, but to live life until you die.”

The house will be our region’s first residential hospice facility. The closest facility of its kind is over 120 miles from Fergus Falls. People in the counties of Otter Tail, Grant, Clay, Becker, Wadena, Wilkin, Traverse, Douglas, Stevens, Pope, Swift and Roberts County, SD will benefit from the wonderful care hospice house has to offer.

The hospice house will be staffed 24 hours a day by an interdisciplinary team that includes nurses, social workers, home health aides, bereavement counselors, chaplains, and volunteers. The house will include an eight-bed residence, large great room with fireplace, an aquarium, piano, sunroom, chapel, kitchen, dining areas, library, rec room, and beautiful gardens overlooking Opperman Lake and the city of Fergus Falls.

Hospice is a benefit of most insurance, as well as Medicare and Medicaid to cover the actual end-of life care provided by Lakeland Hospice, including all visits from nurses, home health aides, social workers, chaplains and volunteers as well as all the medications, equipment, and supplies related to the patient’s diagnosis. Thanks to the generous support of the communities and families we serve, Hospice House is able to care for every eligible patient, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay. Room and board is on a private pay basis. District 5M9 Lions have set a goal to raise \$75,000 for this 2.2 million dollar project with the help of clubs in District 5M9 as well as surrounding districts. Once raised, the Lion’s Club International Foundation (LCIF) will provide a matching grant of \$75,000 that will also go to the hospice house. The LCIF has provided grants for local projects in our district including the rebuilding of the Parkers Prairie City Hall. Over \$600,000 has already been raised to aid this project through other organizations.

Tammy Anderson, Lakeland Hospice Foundation Fund Development Coordinator is available to make presentations and answer questions about the Hospice House project. You can contact her at 218-998-1423 or E-mail her at Tanderson@lakelandhospicehomecare.org.

Send your club’s contribution to the District Treasurer, Past District Governor Dale Johansen.

Lions International Licensee information

We are pleased to announce that all [Official Licensees of Lions Clubs International](#) are posted online in the Lions Store. You may access this

information by going to www.lionsclubs.org, clicking on "Shop" at the top of the screen, and then on "Official Licensees" on the left side of the Club Supplies Store home page.

Official Licensees are authorized to sell items bearing the Lions trademarks directly to our Lions members. Lions may contact the companies listed on our website directly for further information about the products that they have available.

The Licensees' online information is updated on a regular basis with new Licensees, changes to contact information and PDF flyers, so be sure to refer to this page any time you need to find an official supplier of Lions merchandise.

Important Dates to remember

July 25, 2009 - 5M Council of Governors Meeting - Holiday Inn, Mankato, Minnesota

September 24 - 26, 2009 - USA/Canada Leadership Forum - Memphis, TN

October 15 - 17, 2009 MD5M Leo Forum - Camp Friendship, Annandale, MN

October 22 - 23 2009 - Vice District Governor training - Mahnomen, MN

October 24, 2009 - Council of Governors Meeting - Mahnomen, MN

October 31, 2009 - Thanksgiving for Vision - Brooklyn Center, MN

The Last Word

Remember, if you have an interesting event in your club and you want to share it with the rest of the Lions in the Multiple district, send me the information by email.

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2009-2010
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