

District 11-A2

July 2021

Roaring News

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I want to thank all of you who believed in me enough to elect me as your District Governor again. I cannot tell you how much of an honor this really is. Even with it being the second time around, it still is incredibly special to me.

As you know, there wasn't an in-person International Convention this year. As tradition holds, the last day of the convention is when the International President gets sworn in, followed by all of the District Governors taking their oath of office and having their "elect" tags pulled from their badge to indicate



that they are officially sworn in. All of the Michigan Governors decided to do their own ceremony. We all met in Mount Pleasant to watch the virtual swearing in of Lion Douglas X. Alexander as our International President and then we all took our oath. I have included a picture below of my son, Lion Jacob Leach, pulling my tag. I am so happy that Jacob was able to pull my tag as it continues a tradition that was begun back in 1985 when I was able to do the same thing for my dad. He then pulled mine six years ago when I became District Governor for the first time. Who knows, maybe in 30 years I can pull Jacob's??? Also, I have included a picture of most of the other Michigan Governors and our Council Chair.





My theme for this year is “Together We Can, Together We Will.” It is very simple, you can only do so much by yourself, but you can accomplish so much more when you work together as a group. This goes not just at the club level but the district level, too. Face it, we are all here for the same basic reason and the only thing that makes us different is where we do it. Clarkston has the same general needs as Eastpointe does, as do Armada and Wixom-Walled Lake and every club in between. If we can all work together, we can achieve a lot more and help even more people. You will see in upcoming newsletters that there are a lot of flyers and information about club events and projects coming up.

If you have the time, it would be great if you helped another club, I know that they would appreciate it. Along that same line, starting with the next newsletter, I would like to have a section in the newsletter that is devoted to club happenings and events.

If each Club President or Secretary could send me & Editor Boomer just a quick update on what your club is getting ready to do or just done, it would be great to add that to the newsletter so other clubs know about it. Who knows, it might be a great way for one club to start a new fundraiser, especially if they hear about another club doing it and being successful.

I need to say Congratulations (heck, we all need to say Congratulations) to Immediate Past District Governor Leo Schaefer. Governor Leo’s year ended on a positive note for membership which is fantastic for all of us. Given what we all dealt with this past year, this is a huge accomplishment. I think building off that, this year can be even better. I think that I have a great Cabinet that is more than up to the

the challenge so it should be a great year. I want to thank you all again for your support and I will do my best to make District 11-A2 proud!

I am so excited to have 1st Vice District Governor Shawn Blaszczyk and 2nd Vice District Governor Kelley Unruh working along side of me! They are both ready to serve our District well and have some excellent ideas on how to energize our clubs and get Lions excited about serving again after the pandemic has shut most of us down.

Six years ago, First Lady Lion Kim, aka The G.B.H. or "Governor's Better Half," had her First Lady's Project be "Coins for Camp," where she asked everyone to kindly donate their spare change to Bear Lake. Thanks to all of you, it was a huge success and raised over \$4,500! She wants to top that this year and what is bigger than coins? Cash! Her project this year is, Cash for Camp and her goal is to double what was raised last time. Here is what she wrote about it six years ago: "Many of you may not know but Jim & I spent many summers working at what was then the Lions Visually Impaired Youth Camp. It is still very near and dear to our hearts. This camp brings extreme joy to many visually impaired kids that otherwise would not have a chance to go to camp. Being that the camp is primarily funded by only the Lions, with no cost to the families of the campers, there are many expenses incurred to keep this camp running. In saying this, I would like to start "Coins for Camp." I ask that any loose change that you have be collected at any of the District Cabinet or Region Meetings and at the end of the year, it will all be presented to the camp on behalf of the wonderful Lions of District 11-A2. I live by the saying that my grandfather used to have which was "watch your pennies and your dollars will take care of themselves." I feel if we can all give a little, at the end of the year, the camp will get a lot. Please be on the look-out at the meetings for a collection bucket so we can all see how we are doing through-out the year." So, there is your challenge for the year!

To wrap everything up, I am really looking forward to this year, I think it is going to be one of huge growth for our District, not only in members, but in people served in all the communities and money raised for all of our charities. I am excited to come out and visit with all of you, I have had a few clubs contact me already. For official visits, I have Region One, 1st VDG Shawn has Region 3 and 2nd VDG Kelley has Region 2. If any club, in any Region would like me to come out, I would be more than happy to do so, just contact me and let's set it up!

Talk to you next month,

Governor Jim





**DISTRICT 11-A2
CABINET MEETING**



Together We Can, Together We Will

**Wednesday, August 18, 2021
Hosted by RC Mike Pikelis
& the Lake Orion Lions Club**

**Location:
Johnny Black's Public House
3575 S Baldwin Road
Lake Orion, MI 48359**

**Doors open at 6:00 PM
Meeting starts at 6:45 PM**

**Meal Cost: \$15 per person with cash bar.
Please R.S.V.P. by August 9, 2021**

***Send reservations to: Cabinet Treasurer Angie Boomer
3250 Stacey Circle
Oxford, MI 48371***

Please Make Checks Payable to the: Lake Orion Lions Club

Person Name(s):

Club Name:

Number attending at \$15.00 per person:

Total Amount Due:

***All Reservations must be paid in advance to secure a meal.
Sorry, no phone reservations.***