We Have Only Just Begun!

We are going to have a great time together. I am still settling in as your governor and as a retired person. I retired from teaching in June and it still seems a little surreal. I want to thank all the wonderful Lions who have stepped forward to serve in the District 4-A2 cabinet. With these wonderful people working together we are going to have an awesome year. Always remember, this is your district and it needs each of you to run successfully.

We had a terrific turnout at the Officers School of Instruction on June 14, 2008. There were over 60 in attendance with sessions for the presidents and vice presidents led by our very own past district governor Judy. The secretaries and treasurers had two great presenters, VDG Jim Bartleson and Cabinet Treasurer Jan Beatty. The plan was to have our talented Dave Borcky lead a class on orientation but work called him away. A great big "Thank You" to David Beeman, who stepped forward and did a great job with no advance notice. DG Betty met with the new cabinet officers for some quality team building. There were Lions who didn’t fit into the four classifications offered who were flexible and picked a class to attend. Thank all of you who came and those of you who were willing to help make the day run smoothly. We have some awesome Lions in our district.

This year’s International President’s theme is Miracles through Service. As Lions we are familiar and comfortable with Miracles and are part of seeing that they happen often. I know many of you are truly Miracle Workers, so keep up the great work you are doing for others. WE SERVE BECAUSE WE CARE is my theme this year. The star fish story is my inspiration and thanks to Joe Guiffre for introducing the story to me a few years ago. He used the story when he was District Governor and a good thing can always be repeated.

The district newsletter editor and directory editor Jim Copner has been doing a fantastic job of organizing, editing, deleting, cajoling and getting both of these huge project completed in a timely and effective manner. We hope to have the directory in your hands at the first cabinet meeting on August 15th and 16th at the Lamp Litter Inn. I would encourage each of you to make your reservations, it will be a great evening and cabinet meeting. PCC Bob Smith and his wife Lion Vicki has agreed to be there and Bob will be our installing officer, so come prepared to have a great time.

We will continue to collect tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, so keep popping them off. My students at Goshen Elementary last year enjoyed collecting tabs and the competition between classes was a lot of fun. Sunset Lion Victoria Bockman, my daughter also had her students at Highland Elementary involved. This is a great way to get young students involved in something they all can relate to and accomplish.

At the Cabinet Meeting there will also be some great presentations and reports. Lion Al and Christy Kroell will be introducing an exciting new project from Habitat For Humanity. These two dynamitic Lions are also ready to introduce a new club to our district. They are a great example for all of us to follow, spreading the news and reaching out to get more people involved in our wonderful service club.

Special invitations have gone out to all the new Club Presidents and we will be recognizing them at the Friday night installation. There will be an attendance STAR for the club who has the most members in attendance at the cabinet meeting on Saturday, so please plan to attend the entire weekend. Bill Diltz, a very special friend and Lion has among his many specialties the ability to create beautiful things out of wood. The STAR is his creation and will have its debut on Saturday so be there for the unveiling.

We can’t forget our great Past District Governor Judy. She is working to establish a new club also, so even though she now as the distinction of being PDG, she still is involved and working. Make sure when you see her to let her know how much you appreciate all of her hard work for our district both as District Governor and as a Guiding Lion for the new club.

I want to thank all of you again for the honor of serving as your District Governor this year. This is truly the best district in both the multiple and Lions Club International. However, I need each of you, so please continue to come to the District functions and with your help this year will be a wonderful year. We have lots of lives to touch and miracles to help happen so stay well, stay involved and the lines of communication flowing and the possibilities are endless as to what we can do.
Thank You Lions for Your Support!

Thanks to all of you who promised support and help for me this coming year. I expect Lion Betty, DG to have a great year and am looking forward to taking credit for her hard work.

I will be asking you for help preparing for next year. Right now I am planning on the first weekend in May for the Convention. I need to set a date now in order to have an international officer present. I am going to need cabinet officers and advisors for next year as well as assistance in setting up cabinet meetings. I hope that you will email me if you can help whether it is with region or zone chair, song leaders, preparing for cabinet meetings or any of the many jobs that need to be done to make a successful year.

I have attended my first Council of Governors meeting, will attend my second on July 31 in Costa Mesa and am attending an Eye Foundation meeting in San Francisco July 25 & 26. They are presenting a lot of information for me to absorb. This will be a busy year learning the duties of a District Governor.

I am visiting as many clubs as I can this year. I hope to visit your club soon. Please let me know if I can do anything to make this year better.

Lion Jim Bartleson, VDG

Cabinet Meeting & Golf Coming Up!

On behalf of our District Governor Elect Betty Morris and the District Officers we would like to greet you, and our hope is that your club is already in action for this exciting year that is beginning.

We are sending the registration form so that you can make preparations to attend the Installation of the District Cabinet and to honor your Club President, on Friday, August 15, 2008 @ the Lamp Liter Inn in Visalia, California.

The following day there will be an exciting District Cabinet Meeting on Saturday, August 16, 2008, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, with a lunch buffet and Root Beer Floats. Make plans to attend this important meeting, because it has been said that Lion members that are kept informed, are those Lions that will help us carry on this tradition of service for many years to come. (Club Presidents and Secretaries, you are an active member of the District Governor’s Advisory Committee and as such you will attend the quarterly meetings of your District.)

It’s important to establish a network between our clubs, so that we can be of help to one another and support each other at the same time.

I want to thank you in advance for all your cooperation and help during this new Lions fiscal year 2008-2009.

Sincerely Yours in Lionism - Lion Benjamin Fregoso - District 4-A2 Secretary

New IRS Rules in Effect

As you may be or not be aware that starting with the tax years ending December 31, 2007 or any date thereafter, you are required to file a return with the IRS. Many clubs that have not previously had to file a return before will be required to file the new 990-N (e-Postcard) if their total GROSS revenue is $25,000 or less for the tax year. (Most Lions clubs tax years are from July 1 – through June 30.) When I refer to GROSS revenue I mean ALL funds collected by your club for either your Administration or Activities (Project) accounts. This is a total of both accounts.

If you are eligible to file the 990-N you can go to the following website and complete the necessary information: http://epostcard.form990.org. You will need your (TIN) tax identification number, tax year (usually 7/1-6/30/XX), name and address of the principal officer (President), website if your club has one.

If your GROSS revenues are more than the $25,000, you will need to file either a 990 or a 990 EZ. These forms can be found on the www.irs.gov/forms website.

Any of these filings are due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the end of the tax year. That means if your tax year ended June 30, 2008 this filing is due on or before November 15, 2008.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our first cabinet meeting, August 15-16, in Visalia. If you have questions, please see me there and I will try and help you resolve any issues.

Yours in Lionism - Lion Jan Beatty, Cabinet Treasurer
Cous Cous…
is a big Boy Now!  He weighs 167 lbs. and construction is commencing, as we speak, at Cat Haven Wild Animal Park in Squaw Valley, his new home.

The Bangkok Lions Club also has a “Live Lion” (shown above) at the Zoo in Thailand and they are so proud of their Lion, but guess what? Immediate Past President Al Kroell & his wife & current Fresno Host Lions Club president, Christy pictured above, were proud to say, “So Do We”.

This Lion Habitat Project is a District Approved Project, voted on and approved in the last Cabinet Meeting and is now a part of our Constitution and Bylaws which are included in your New District Directory.  Please get your Contribution in as soon as possible.  Thank You in Advance.

Academy Awards of Lionism

As your District Governor I want to encourage ALL LIONS of MD-4 to be thinking about someone you can nomination for an Academy Awards of Lionism honor.

Once the form is filled out please send via email: morris_bl@yahoo.com or by mail to: Governor Betty Morris 805 W. Myrtle Avenue Visalia, California 93277

Please get your nominations in TODAY!

Once the nominations are received they will be forwarded by me to the MD-4 Academy Awards Nominations Committee.  Governor Betty Morris

ACADEMY AWARDS CATEGORIES:

• Greatest Number of New Clubs by a District Governor
• Greatest Number of New Members by a Member
• Most Significant Service Project of the Year
• Most Outstanding Project of the Year
• Lion of the Year for the Multiple District
• Lioness of the Year for the Multiple District
• Leo of the Year for the Multiple District
• The Kay and Denise Fukushima Couple of the Year Award
• The Donald E. Banker CamperShip Award

REMEMBER - NO EXCEPTIONS
Deadline is December 1, 2008

Go to Website for a Copy of the Nomination Form

Introducing the 2008-2009
District 4-A2 Cabinet Officers

Betty Morris - District Governor
Jim Bartleson – Vice District Governor
Ben Fregoso – Cabinet Secretary
Jan Beatty – Cabinet Treasurer
Lions Tamers George Creamier & Chuck Searls
Lion Tail Twister – Carolyn Arcino
Northern Region Chair - Kaden Ferretti
Central Region Chair – Larry Morehead
Western Region Chair – Greg Martella
Southern Region – Shirley Welch

Northern Zone Chairs
Mike Bohigian, Glenn Keeney, Bob Casas, Al Kroell

Central Zone Chairs
Georgia Souza, Dean Morris, John Machado

Western Zone Chairs
Jim Boyd, Carolyn Arcino

Southern Zone Chairs
Rita Ruiz, Fred Hufnagel, David Longbottom, Steve Stratton

REGISTER TODAY!
Cabinet Meeting & Golf Tournament Aug. 15-16th

Dear Lions, Lioness and Leos:

It’s “Your Time” and it’s “Your Year” to make “Miracles Through Service”. We will be successful in making great things happen if we unite and work together.

Club Presidents and Secretaries, some changes have taken place in LCI, regarding your monthly reports. Although reports will still be accepted in written form, time can be saved if secretaries submit reports electronically. Secretaries, you should have already received a password from LCI to submit reports On-Line. Place this number with your minutes or reports so that it is available.

Club Secretaries you must keep in mind that your reports are due on or before the 20th of the Current Month if it is being done in a Written Form, and if you are submitting it Electronically, they are be submitted by the End of the Current Month.

We all have the opportunity this year to make “Miracles Through Service” our priority, in our projects and plans, so that we can inspire every member to take that step of faith. Yes, we have dreamed of miracles, and now we must allow ourselves to let those miracles, become a reality with dedication and perseverance.

I want to thank you in advance for all your cooperation and help during this new Lions fiscal year 2008-2009.

Sincerely Yours in Lionism, Lion Ben Fregoso, District 4-A2 Cabinet Secretary

New District Directory Has Been Published...

and will be distributed at the 1st Cabinet Meeting & Installation. Be sure to attend this informative event and get your directories for your club. The new directory includes some new tools including email addresses for All of the Presidents of the Clubs and the Secretaries of the Clubs. It will be so much easier, faster, more efficient and modern to communicate with all of the clubs as well as all of the officers of the District, the Multiple District and Lions Clubs International.
SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT, NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Upcoming District 4-A2 Meetings Dates &amp; Locations:</th>
<th>Upcoming Council of Governors (COG) Dates &amp; Locations:</th>
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<td>2008 – Oct 16 New Members Night Visalia CA</td>
<td>2008 – Aug 1-3 District 4-L4 Costa Mesa CA</td>
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<td>2008 – Aug 15-16 1st Cabinet &amp; Installation Visalia CA</td>
<td>2008 – Oct 24-26 District 4-L7 San Diego CA</td>
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<td>2008 – Nov 7-8 2nd Cabinet Meeting Fresno CA</td>
<td>2009 – Feb 11-12 District 4-A2 Fresno CA</td>
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<td>2009 – Feb 27-28 3rd Cabinet Meeting Taft CA</td>
<td>2009 – Jun 5-6 District 4-L5 Palm Springs CA</td>
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<td>2009 – May 1-3 4-A2 Convention Cayucos CA</td>
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<td>2009 – Feb 13-15 Fresno CA</td>
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<td>2010 – Feb 5-7 Riverside CA</td>
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<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<th>Upcoming Intn'l Convention Dates &amp; Locations:</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009 - July 6-10 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA</td>
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<td>2010 - June 28 July 2 - Sydney, Australia</td>
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<td>2011 - July 4-8 Seattle, Washington, USA</td>
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<td>2012 - June 22-26 Busan, Korea</td>
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<td>2013 - July 5-9 Hamburg, Germany</td>
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