

Council Chair

April 24, 2021

Hello Lions!

Oh, how I've missed saying that in a room full of us all. If this past year could be described in one word, I would say it was AMAZING!

I'm not going to candy coat it. This year was very hard. The Council has met virtually every month. We have missed sitting around the Council table, sharing ideas, and doing the business of our State Lions. I have been amazed by the creativity, endurance, dedication, and courage of the many Lions in our State that found ways to continue to meet and serve in spite of everything that stood in their way.

I commend the District Governors for leading their districts through the quagmire of the pandemic. Offering assistance and staying connected to all the clubs whether they met in person, virtually or not at all. Theirs was an unwavering dedication to serve their Districts.

The Council Officers were always ready to assist beyond their own job description. Parliamentarian PCC Paul Schleicher talked me down off the ledge more than once. Assistant Parliamentarian PDG Colleen Oncay was always at the ready to help. Council Treasurer PDG Bill Donnellan, with the assistance of Bookkeeper PCC Dave O'Brien, gave us accurate accounting of income and expenses, and Council Secretary PDG Deb Grassi went over and above. I am grateful for each one of them.

PIDs, CSTs, VDGs, GAT Team, NAMI Champions, MD33 Committee Chairs all did their best to do everything they could to encourage and assist the Council.

We have missed the personal comradery that comes from sharing a meal and the face-to-face talks, the laughter, and the good feeling we get from seeing our brother and sister Lions at Mid-Winters and here at the State Convention.

Thank you all – stay safe, get your shot, wear your mask when necessary, wash your hands, keep distance, and get out there and SERVE. We will be together again soon.

Peace

Joni Baptiste