

STATE CONVENTION DISTRICT GOVERNOR REPORT

APRIL 24, 2021



International 1st Vice President Douglas Alexander, PIDs Joyce Middleton and L. Doug Sime, Lions, Leos and Guests

What a year to be serving as a District Governor! Little did we know that we would be serving during such challenging and troubled times. When we were sworn in last spring, we were disappointed because we were denied the opportunity to participate in the “Pomp and Circumstance” and the traditional ceremonies that we had been anticipating these past 3 years. We were all wondering how we would conduct business during our Governorships. We had no idea how we would be able to negotiate all of the hoops, obstacles, state mandates, rules and regulations that the pandemic threw at us. I am pleased to report that we have remained strong. We stayed safe. We began to think outside-the-box; our Cabinet and our Clubs remained strong and resilient and came up with all sorts of new and creative ways to fundraise and to do what we do best, and that is to Serve. I am pleased to report that we have stayed the course and we are a better and stronger District for it.

It was difficult to plan our visitations and to navigate the regulations for meeting in person. We scheduled our visitations expecting to meet with our clubs in person. We knew that we had the “Zoom” safety net and could meet virtually if it became necessary. We had to remain flexible regarding our scheduling. Some visits went off without a hitch while others needed to be tweaked to accommodate the realities of the current world. My CST, Curt Jameson, and I are pleased to report that of the 46 clubs in District 33A, we have visited 17 clubs in person, 16 clubs “virtually” and we are scheduled to visit the remaining 13 clubs in the near future.

All of our clubs are doing great work and have managed to carry out a very impressive list of fundraising and service projects. A sampling of these includes: assisting at food pantries, doing grab-and-go breakfasts, lunches and dinners, Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, car sanitizing, “Boo-A-Friend”, “trunk or treat”, decorating houses for Halloween, a variety of creative on-line raffles, virtual 5k road races, an outside concert, a poker run car event, a rubber duck derby, the making and selling of face masks, a car rally, and a boot drive, just to name a few. Our clubs have been very, very busy, and I am so proud of them for thinking outside-the-box and continuing to serve those in need and continuing to serve their communities.

District 33A began the year with a membership of 1,363. As of this writing we have had a net loss of 44 members. However, I like to look at the bright side.

We are still 1,319 strong which includes 32 new members who have plenty of enthusiasm and lots of new ideas. As District Governor, I am also pleased to report that I have installed many officers, inducted some of the new members, and have held three informative Advisory Meetings, four productive Cabinet meetings, and a fun and informative Mid-Winter Conference with our special guest from North Carolina, PID Gwen White. Our Mid-Winter Conference included an informal Friday evening virtual pajama party and a complete Saturday Business Session. During my Governorship, I was able to present a variety of personal awards and to recognize many Personal and Club Accomplishments. We are currently in the planning stages of an in-person, end of the year celebration. I truly hope that we will be able to be together; that we will be able to celebrate our accomplishments; and we will be able to have some fun.

District 33A has lots to be proud of. The Harvard Lions Club put in a grant at the end of IPDG Colleen’s Governorship to make and distribute face shields for our first responders. Due to an LCIF grant, this became a District-wide program and many of our clubs distributed face shields (PPE) to their local first responders and received some well-deserved press. Many towns that did not have a Lions Club also received PPE from the Harvard Grant. The Harvard Club, through the help of an LCI Community Impact Grant, was also able to purchase some flooring to help renovate a Wellness Center at the Clear Path Veterans Center in Devens, MA. District 33A is also waiting for final approval from LCI on a matching grant

application so that we will be able to purchase a new Sightmobile and get it on the road. District 33A is truly appreciative of the assistance that LCI has given us this year. LCI has made this a year to remember. Please make it a priority to support LCIF. The Lions Club International Foundation serves all of us. This year, substantial LCIF funds came back to us through a series of well thought out grants.

It has been an absolute pleasure to work with 1st VDG Cindy Mainini, 2nd VDG Marianna Reimer, my Awesome CST Curt Jameson, and all of my Cabinet and Committee Chairs. I could never had made it without your support and your encouragement. I also want to say thank you to all of the Lions in District 33A for giving me the opportunity and the honor to serve as your District Governor. I would not be in this position without your support, encouragement and friendship and without the wonderful training that I have received from the District, Multiple District and International. One of the most important things that I learned about being a good leader is TEAMWORK. I am so fortunate to have a great team in all of the Awesome Lions of District 33A. I have named us "TEAM AWESOME" and I am so proud of all of you.

In closing, I want to remind ALL of you to stay positive and to continue the great work that you are doing. There are still two months left in my Governorship and I, along with you, am looking forward to the great things that we will accomplish in that time. Thank you for all that you do and let's continue to make a difference with love, smiles, and hugs.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Andrews
District Governor 33A