Committee Name
MD33 IT Committee

This year's goals were fairly simple:

1. Keep the committee involved
2. Update the MD33 website
3. Transfer all MD33 websites to "secure" position
4. Set up Google Drive for the MD

What none of us anticipated was finding ourselves three quarters of the way through the year and we are still handling things remotely. This did cause some disruption in some of our plans. Here's what we DID accomplish:

1. Keeping Committee Involved - without our IT committee this year, there would have been far less ability for Clubs to continue meeting and for our Districts to conduct effective mid-winters and cabinet meetings. Some districts have also been able to handle Advisory meetings.

Our committee has stood by and been prepared to help our DGs achieve their communications goals effectively and when needed, we have helped clubs set up virtual meetings. We continue to be prepared to do this.

2. MD33 Website - thanks to the efforts of MD33 Webmaster Dennis Perron (who will be next year's chair) the website is up and running and is fully operational and has important information for the Lions of MD33.

3. Securing the MD33 Websites - this year, a LOT of effort has been put into making things work online. This includes the Youth Speech Contest, the MD33 State Convention and the MD33 Environmental photo contest. We HAVE identified the means of working within the Doteasy mainframe system to allow us to secure the websites without additional cost. However, we had some concerns about moving any of these mid-year which is when our first "free" time following working with the MD33 Youth Speech Committee came up. However, with that said, before July 1, we WILL be transferring all of the sites over to the secure option. This is more a matter of coming up with time than will. The commitment from the committee is simple: This WILL be accomplished before the start of the 2021 - 2022 Lions year.

4. GDrive Integration - this has been a bit more complicated because it involves MLERF. We need to have them move forward and get their account active with GDrive so we can use a "satellite" account. While we have followed up every couple of weeks, this has been a bit of a challenge because the person driving it does not have the same "time frame" we do -- our goal is to STILL have this complete by July 1 so that in the new Lions year we can move forward and make sure this is implemented for all the Sub-Districts use. It should be noted that Web Master Dennis Perron was able to get Grafton Lions on Google Workspace for Non-profits.

5. We would recommend if the Council is considering remaining online through the incoming year, there is a new program being offered through LCI called Connect. This application is a bare bones video conferencing system which is free of charge. There is no "host" per se but there is an option to record the sessions (but it's a back-end feature that requires exploring) making note-taking easier for secretary.
Connect IS free of charge and will host up to 75 people at a meeting. If there is an interest in learning more about this, the IT committee can do the legwork to determine how to most effectively use of this program.

Our committee has been as effective as we could be during the pandemic and we hope to be able to get to a more even footing going into the new year so we can pursue additional ways to make IT usage more acceptable across our multiple district.

Submitted April 14 by:

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