



DISTRICT 410C
District Governor's Newsletter
Issue VII: February 2006



DG PAUL BRAUTESETH
2005 - 2006

Dear friends,

These past couples of months have really been an eye opener for me. As I have visited Clubs and shared in the hospitality of all you lovely folk. One common denominator comes up again and again, the desire to serve our community, and then, to SEE our service acknowledged in print. Either photo of a work party, photos in this newsletter or in our local or national media.

Friends, we are by birth, naturally conditioned to help someone in need. There is an inner need, to help others. No matter how hardened we may have become in our own lives through other conditioning, we still put our hand to the wheel to make others happy.

Friends, what am I trying to say? We have all just felt a couple of chilly days? What have we thought? Think about it. Many folk that I have spoken to and the "cold" issue has come up. I have heard the comment - "Well, at least I'm thankful I've got warm clothes and a home, I'm fortunate"

Yes friends we are fortunate. Here is a project that every Club can run with, especially now. Blankets or soup kitchens. Let us pass on our blessings and see the smiles on those faces. Take your cameras with to capture those moments, send us your photos and let us receive a blessing from seeing others blessed.

Friends, we are gearing up now for three important dates on our calendars -

1) Voting for your new board of Directors in Clubs, 2) Annual Convention and, 3) Incoming Officers.

Have we all prepared ourselves for these events?

1) Board of Directors

To serve our community better, have we got the right Board in position? Friends, make sure your Board is prepared to really get involved in serving. Do not put in place, a board that could embarrass your Club. Your Board should be strong and determined enough to allow the Club to grow and - "Soar to New Heights" Place Directors who want to serve with conviction to our cause.

Please make sure your PU 101's (Club officers forms) are correctly filled in and clear to read.

2) Convention 2006 - Port Elizabeth.

Every year, we have the opportunity to find out more about our Association, by attending Convention. Fellowship amongst fellow Lions is good and many long lasting friendships are formed here. This is really a time to hear and see, success stories on what Lions are doing in South Africa and Internationally. This year we are very fortunate to have secured an International Director, A P Singh. This is an incredible man who oozes Lionism. AP is a man of conviction, determination and solid as a rock. Everyone that I know who has heard or met AP, have come away saying – “what a man!” This Convention is going to be reasonably cheap; I am also trying to organize some kind of sponsorship for those that cannot afford it. Please, if you are in that category that needs this help, don’t hesitate to contact me in confidence. This sponsorship will not be available to those who can afford it, as it is a limited amount, if, it is available.

Personally and selfishly, I would really love to see a good turn out from “District C”

3) Incoming Officers – Ladysmith

This training course is getting better and better. Training facilitators are committed fellow Lions who love and are concerned about our influence in our communities. Friends, it is very, very clear to see the Clubs who don’t send officers to training. These are generally speaking, the Clubs that have problems! This Incoming Officers Course, led by VDG Heather, is a must. Friends, these officers are the people to lead us successfully in our Clubs and communities, think about it, do it! We need trained leaders!

Conclusion

Dear friends, my year is nearly up and I am continually aware of my dedication to all of you. Hopefully, I have been able to instill in the Clubs I have met with – the “Passion to Excel” of International President Dr Ashok Mehta. Is that Passion still with you and alive?

Clubs have been “Soaring to New Heights” when I hear of all the projects being undertaken and inductions taking place. My daily prayer, is that our Lord will go out with each and everyone of us and our families, to guide us, give us wisdom, to soften our hearts to the needs of our communities, also that He will become real to us.

We need to stand together, support each other, and be there for each other. Share our joys and sadness with each other – “to build each other up”.

Be careful how we treat each other – “do not break down”

Lion Gwen Ellis shared this point at a recent Zone meeting and would like to share it with all of you. Read it and let it sink in and let’s change our ways. It is a quote of Goethe, a prominent German writer:

“Treat people as if they were, what they ought to be, and you help them be that they are capable of being”

Your servant and friend
Paul Brauteseth
082 553 4745.



Zone 1 News

Escourt

The Club held its' Business Meeting on the 27th February. LP Arend thanked members for their hard work on White Cane day and Lion Patrick was thanked for arranging a wheelchair for a disabled teenager from Wembezi. The Club also had a successful Valentine's Day dinner. In terms of activities, the Club has entered a team (Lions Charles, Patrick and Stuart) to play in the local Business League Bowls tournament, has made a donation to NCVV towards providing meals to the needy, collects donations for Cerebral Palsy dolls, donates spectacles (Bright Sight) and purchases birthday gifts for residents of Shepstone Home. The Club intends raising funds for Shepstone Home through selling boerewors rolls on Saturday 11 March. The Club's Golf Day has been confirmed for the 18th May. Assistance is to be given to the local Hospice by removing leaking guttering. PR activity is centered on gaining maximum publicity for the Club to mark their 40th Anniversary in June.

Vryheid

The Club held its' meeting on the 19th February. In terms of fundraising, the Utrecht Golf Day is well in hand whilst the planning for Club's Mayfair is at an advanced stage.



Zone 2 News

Pietermaritzburg (Host)

The Club held its' Business Meeting on 6th February. Special mention was made of PDG Lion Ron Batchelor as February was Past District Governors Month. The Golds were congratulated on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Fundraising is centered on a race at Scottsville 19th March (sponsors were still being sort); a wine tasting evening at Lizards Rock and a planned Golf Day. In terms of projects: the Club marked the World Day of Peace with a party for sight impaired people who were holidaying at Lincolnmeade whilst Lion Wendy addressed a Church Group about Message in a Bottle.



Zone 2 News

Pietermaritzburg (Garden City)

The Club held its' Business Meeting on 15th February. The Club is involved with the following projects: The provision of tea and sandwiches to the TB Clinic at 33 Church Street; Northdale Hospital Outpatients and Gandhi Rd Assessment Centre Northdale. Distribution of food prepared by Divine Life Society of SA to Green Kop Primary School, Mattson's Farm to the benefit of 650 learners. Vegetable seedlings have been donated to Ramatha Road, Primary School and Sunlit Garden Children's Home. Ninety loaves of bread were donated towards a workshop for skills development and value based education training programme for the disadvantaged.

Hilton



This photograph was taken at a meeting of the Hilton Lions Club on Thursday 23 where a cheque for R7500 was presented to Gail Macdougall, Guide Dog Services Manager for the South African Guide-Dogs Association in Johannesburg. Gail was in Pietermaritzburg doing a weeks' follow up training with Lion Robin Giles who has just completed three weeks training at the Guide-Dog Centre where he received his guide dog, Hudson. The President and members of the Hilton Lions decided to pay for a guide dog for Robin in recognition of all the work Robin has done for the Club over the last 24 years. This dog will help Robin enormously to give him more independence to get around as his sight is very limited now. At the meeting the President Lion Robin Clayton welcomed the new four legged Black male member to the Club.



Zone 3 News

Cowies Hill

The Club is planning its participation in Comrades 2006 on June 16th. The Club operates the refreshment station at the top of Cowies Hill assisted by friends and Lions from other Clubs. As this year's race is uphill, the Club will begin setting up at around 4am to be ready for the race leaders (at around 7am – the road is closed to traffic from 06.30am). Should any Lions wish to assist please contact Wayne Brink (072-767-1117) or Keith Peel (082-8068-175) for further information. Lion Lyn visited the Club's "Twin" in the UK, Prestwich Lions Club (ex Club member – Jim Burton is current president of the UK counterpart) in January. Publicity for the SA Club was obtained in the local newspaper: The Prestwich Guide in which the Club's work with AIDS orphans was highlighted.

Pinetown

The Club held its' meeting on the 20th February. The Club is to participate in the latest Peace Poster Campaign with information having been emailed to schools that have shown an interest. The Club donated food hampers to Towers; purchased school shoes for a needy child; taken ladies on weekly shopping trips; taken a teenager from an indigent home to look for computer parts in the Club's container; delivered a computer as part of their public "Wish List" programme and continues to donate recyclable items. Fundraising: The Club is to organize and run the food/drink stands at the CMCN Show (28-30 July) and continues with its' Fast Foods stalls and a Book and Junk sale was to be held at the end of February. Work continues apace to modify the Club's Hall.



Zone 4 News

Durban The Ridge

The Club held its' Business Meeting on 15th February. DG Paul Brauteseth was a special guest. Other guests included Zone Chair Lion Pieter, Lion Otto (Port Shepstone) and two prospects: Denzil and Dennis who were inducted into the Lions on that evening. Welcome. The Club undertook the following activities: Assisted an O.A.P with the supply of a hearing aid; distributed clothing to those in need; handed out 4 blankets; supplying coordination learning aids and pool toys to the Little Lamb crèche; providing 2 food parcels; providing 2 food parcels to an orphanage in Pine Town; cleaning materials and toilet paper were provided to the Deaf Association; a script was sent to Bright Sight; magazines have been supplied to old age homes; 7 jerseys have been provided to Cerebral Palsy sufferers and teas are provided to pensioners. It was in light of the Club's continuing assistance to the community, that DG Paul presented the Club with the "Outstanding Club Award" patch he received in Hong Kong (3rd for the Club) together with his personal banner.



Zone 5 News

Eshowe

Member, Lion Nick Olivier has left for to work in Ghana whilst Lou-Ann Van Rooyen is being inducted into the Club shortly. Welcome. The Club has had to postpone its Alien Awareness Evening (no, there aren't any Martians living in Eshowe, this refers to foreign flora and fauna) as part of its' environmental programme. A major upcoming project is the painting of the roof of the Zululand Home for the Aged. The Club continues to be involved in drug awareness issues.



Zone 6 News

Kokstad



The Club held it's annual Raft Race at Crystal Springs Dam on Sunday 26th February, The proceeds from this year's event, more than R15 000, were given to the Ivan Cole Cancer Fund. Regretfully, Ivan passed away from his illness.

Port Shepstone

The Club held it's 36th Annual Charter Dinner on 4th March. The Club is hard at work planning their forthcoming Lions South Coast Show which will be held on 23, 24 & 25 June 2006. 2006 marks the 20th anniversary of this event which has grown into a massive project which generates hundreds of thousands of rand for charity. Once again, various clubs within the Zone and area will be invited to come along and assist with the event. More information can be obtained from the Show web site at www.southcoastshow.org.za.

