



Reflections & Ruminations From Ralph-DG



April, 2010

Fellow Lions:

As I write this brief missive, I am reflecting (ruminating even) on the just concluded New Club Extension Workshop in the Old Hickory and Madison areas. As a result of four-days of hard work and effort by several dedicated Lions, we have the genesis of two new clubs in District 12-I. While we still have a lot of work to do to bring the clubs to charter, we are well on our way. I would be remiss if I failed to express my deep and abiding gratitude to the following Lions for devoting their time and money in this endeavor: Lions John Barnett and Dick Smith, Lions Clubs International Coordinators; District 12-I Lions: Patsy Milom, 12-I Coordinator, and Jim Milom; Frank and Ann Young; Lynn and Emily Wright; Thom Wilson; Jim and Joy Chapman; Jo Rossitter; Miles Erb; Ron Fitzgerald; Bobby Bass; John Sharpe; Charles Hood; and, your truly.

Additionally, the following individuals have graciously agreed to serve as Guiding Lions for the new clubs for the next two years, or until the clubs are able to operate independently, whichever comes first: Lions Ron Fitzgerald and Jo Rossitter will work with the Madison Club; Lions Charles Hood, Becky Williamson, and Broadus Weatherall will work with the Old Hickory Club. PDG Patsy and I will serve the new clubs as Organizing Lions until they are brought to charter at which time they will be turned over to the Guiding Lions.

I also want to express appreciation to the Donelson and Hermitage Clubs for agreeing to serve as sponsoring clubs for the newly formed clubs. Without their willingness to provide financial and leadership assistance, this effort would not be possible.

92nd ANNUAL TENNESSEE LIONS STATE CONVENTION: Once again, I want to take the opportunity to remind you of the 92nd Annual Tennessee Lions State Convention and encourage you to attend. The convention will be held at the *Riverview Inn in Clarksville, TN* on May 21-22, 2010. A copy of the registration form can be obtained by clicking this hotlink: [State Convention Registration Form](#). Make the checks/money order payable to Lions State Convention 2010 and mail along with the completed registration form to: PCC Dan Artis, 113 N. Church St., Waverly, TN 37185. Room reservations should be made directly with the Riverview Inn, 50 College St., Clarksville, at 877-487-4837. Mention "Lions State Convention" for the group rate of \$79.00 per night plus tax. Cutoff for the hotel group rate and registration for the Hospitality Book is May 1st, so you need to act quickly! Since our district is hosting the State Convention this year, I would like for us to be well represented. I hope to see a gaggle of you there (for non-Hickman Countians that means a big bunch)!!!

TENNESSEE MD DIRECTORY (AGAIN): I know I have been a persistent pest in my efforts to get the correct club officer information for the 2010-11

MD-12 Directory, an endeavor for which I will not apologize. It is important, especially for those individuals who have agreed to take on the responsibility of representing their club as an officer, that their information be accurately displayed in the state-wide directory. Also, on occasion it is essential that the district officers be able to make contact with the club – setting up club visits come to mind! Most of the clubs have been very cooperative in this effort, and I greatly appreciate it. For those few clubs who have not as yet provided their information, you still have a day or two to get it in; however, if I do not receive the information for the 2010-11 Lionistic year by May 1, I will be forced to use the information that is listed for the current year.

Also, I want to remind you again that the information you send to me for inclusion in the Multi-District Directory *will not* take the place of filing the information with Lions Clubs International!!! Secretaries will still need to file the new officer information, either electronically or on the printed PU-101 Form, with LCI. You have to file this information every year, even if you have the same officers for the next Lionistic year!! If you do not file the information with LCI, passwords that are needed to access the LCI website that allow monthly membership reports (MMR) to be filed on line will not be issued!! Also, Secretaries, please update the address information on club members with LCI so that members will receive their *LION* Magazine. The district also uses the LCI addresses to print labels to mail out the *Lions Tale* Newsletter four times a year. You would not believe the number of newsletters that are returned each mailing because of wrong addresses. So, please, Please, PLEASE file the information with LCI.

Just one more point about the print newsletter: I am frequently asked why we still send out a printed newsletter by USPS given the modern age of electronic mail. Although I have made a concerted effort to acquire E-mail addresses, I still have a small percentage of the district membership in my database. Some of that is because I simply have not been able to personally contact the members to get their E-mail address, and, believe it or not, a lot of people still don't use a computer. So, until we can get a lot more of our members using the electronic media, we will continue to periodically send out newsletters in the printed format via "snail mail."

CLUB ACTIVITIES: This is the time of year that many of the clubs are conducting fund-raising activities. Many of those clubs have asked that announcements and flyers advertising their activities be posted on the website. Please periodically visit our website at www.12ilions.com and click on the "Club Activities" button to view those advertisements. Remember, assist and support the other clubs in our district with their fund-raising efforts and service projects whenever possible. Until next time, please know that you are making a positive difference in the lives of those in need!!!

Thank you for SERVING!!!

DC Ralph