

District 46 Cabinet Meeting Mesquite, NV Feb 12, 2011

District 46 held its Winter Cabinet Meeting in Mesquite, NV on February 12, 2011. Wangari Maathai's YouTube video, "I will be a Hummingbird" played in the background as Region III Chair Judi DePew called the meeting to order at 10:17am. Region IV Chair Carol Wollenberg asked the audience to join her in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Lion Herm Williams asked everyone to sing "America, the Beautiful" and we sang "God Bless America" instead. PDG Bob Steenbergen led everyone in the Lion's Pledge and PDG Ed Lydon delivered the opening invocation. Lion Diane Steenbergen spoke on behalf of the host club, Mesquite-Virgin Valley, "This is a small club and we have a big task here." Lion Diane thanked Eureka Hotel staff members Sheree Briedel and Pat Hurt for coordinating this event with the club.

Lion Diane recognized 4 local teachers, who were the recipients of school supplies that the District collected on behalf of the club. This service project netted Joseph Bowler Elementary and Virgin Valley Elementary some 50+ boxes (over 1,000 pounds) of much needed supplies for both students and teachers.

District Governor Introduction ---RC Judi DePew

RC Judi introduced our District Governor, Lion Jack Epperson, who conducted the rest of the meeting. DG Jack introduced the following dignitaries in attendance: PID Vince Vinella; CC Ralph Williamson, MD21; DG Carl Johannesen, 21B and his wife, Lion Tia; DG Mike Kenny, 21C and his wife Lion Gail; DG Bill Windham, 4-L5 and his wife, Lion Martha; PCC Joan Williamson, MD21; IPDG Susan Lydon; PDG Ray Pezonella; PDG Audrey Williams; PDG WJ Fields; PDG Bob Steenbergen; PDG Sharlene Lewis; PDG Ed Lydon; PDG John Holland and his wife, Lion Jeannine; 1VDG Walt Gridley, 4-L5 and 1VDG Debbie Vine 21A.

Roll Call --- Cabinet Secretary Cliff Cooper

The following Cabinet members were present: IPDG Susan Lydon, DG Jack Epperson, 1VDG Roy Madison, 2VDG Lia Versaevel, Cabinet Secretary Cliff Cooper, Cabinet Treasurer Don McMillen, Region One Chair Susan Terry, Zone 1A Chair Frank van Kempen, Region Two Don Harmon, Zone 2E1 Chair Walt O'Brien, Region Three Chair Judi DePew, Zone Chair 3B Sam Thomas, Region Four Chair Carol Wollenberg, Zone 4A Chair Rodney Smith, Zone 4B Chair Rex Velasquez, Zone 4C Chair Manny Galindo, Zone 4D Chair Josie Harrison, Budget and Finance Chair Warner Whipple, Constitution and By-Laws Chair Dick Canady, Lions Quest President Lion Dick Yanko, MERL Chair PID Vince Vinella, Student Speakers Chair Calvin Bushek and Camp Dat-So-La-Lee President Gary Konakis.

The following clubs were represented: Boulder City, Carson City Host, Dayton Valley, Elko Host, Fallon, LV Breakfasters, LV Black Mountain, LV Host, LV International, LV Los Prados, LV Philippine-American, LV Professionals, LV Summerlin, LV West Charleston, Mesquite-Virgin Valley (host club), Nevada Council of the Blind, North Las Vegas Host, Pahrump Valley, Rachel, Reno Arch, Reno Host, Reno Plumb Lane, Sparks Greenbrae, Sparks Spanish Springs, Spring Creek-Ruby Mountains. No Branch clubs were present; No LEO clubs were present.

The minutes of the Fall Cabinet Meeting held 11/6/2010 in Boulder City were approved. Moved - RC Wollenberg /Second - IPDG Lydon /Carried-unanimous

Treasurer's Report --- Cabinet Treasurer Don McMillen

Bank Balances as of Oct 30, 2010

General Fund	\$21,846.38
Special Activities Fund	\$21,094.22
Operating Reserve Fund	\$23,223.82
Disaster Relief Fund	\$ 5,005.20
Trading Pin Fund	<u>\$ 2,005.02</u>
TOTAL	\$73,174.64

Past due billings from the previous periods include the following clubs: Battle Mountain, LC Centennial Hills, LV Filipino, LV Professionals and Reno Latino.

DG Jack thanked CC Ralph Williamson for inviting Nevada to MD21's District Governor School, referring to District 46 as honorary "21D". DG Jack also thanked DG Bill Windham, whom he met in Sydney and worked with to enable the transfer of the Primm Valley LC from 4-L5 to D46 as the LV Black Mountain LC.

DG Jack invited Cabinet Taitwister Lion Jane Ann Getty to the podium to auction off her Fine Free items. DG Jack thanked CS Cliff Cooper for suggesting a service project in association with each Cabinet Meeting. This is the first such project this year. PID Bill Crawford was announced as the Global Leadership Team leader for the area; we'll be contacted soon regarding the transition from MERL to GLT/GMT including the assignment of coordinators. DG Jack reminded the audience of the Club Excellence Award. At least one club from the north and the south is needed to participate. Updates regarding the Occupational Database and on-line meeting registration were also noted.

Motions before the Cabinet:

The proposed merger of the LV Executives LC into the LV Black Mountain LC. M/S/C IPDG Lydon/ZC Smith/unanimous; Endorsement of appointment of CS Cliff Cooper to fill the remainder of the Region I term on the Constitution & By-Laws Committee (vacancy existed). M/S/C 1VDG Madison/IPDG Lydon/Unanimous; Endorsement of PID Barry J Palmer, from Berowra, Australia for 2nd International Vice President. M/S/C PID Vinella/2VDG Versaevel/Unanimous. Convention Management asked for Cabinet approval for \$1,000 seed money to Carson Valley LC for the 2011 Convention. M/S/C 1VDG Madison/IPDG Lydon/unanimous.

Budget & Finance --- Lion Warner Whipple

The committee reviewed the financial statements dated 2/4/11. All appear to be OK, however, net income for this fiscal year will be substantially more than prior years. Main reason being: Illness of Lions in charge of major District Projects. Together with a large number of District Officers being single persons.

2VDG Lia Versaevel presented a proposal that the District partially reimburse those Lions who serve on various governing bodies of out-of-state organizations. The proposal was tabled until our next meeting for further cost study. It was noted that International Rules of Audit amounts should be used in the study.

Constitution & By-Laws --- Lion Dick Canady

The entire committee was present with ZC4C Manny Galindo also attending. Temporary CBL member, CS Cliff Cooper, filled the Region I vacancy (previously noted above). Business conducted: Editorial changes to Article IX, Committees and Primary Programs were discussed. Constitution change current Section 2 to become new Section 6; change current Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 to new Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5. This change allows the sections to be complimentary to Committees and not to Primary programs. Delegate Convention Ballot items submitted are: Article VI, Section 16 and Article VII, Section 3 regarding the Cabinet/Convention Registration fee; Article VII, Section 5 regarding stolen paraphernalia; Article X, Section 2 regarding the Per Capita Tax; Article X, Section 4 regarding the Operating Reserve Fund (effective June 30, 2011. Ballot questions with Proposals and Rationale for the District Convention Ballot will be mailed to all clubs by March 21, 2011. We are soliciting nominations for the CBL from Region II. The Committee composition is as follows: Region II 1 yr. Dick Canady; Region IV 2 yr. Ed Lydon; Region I 3 yr. Cliff Cooper; Region III 4 yr. Sam Thomas.

Convention Management --- PDG Ray Pezonella

With Cabinet approval, Carson Valley LC was granted \$1000 disbursement toward the 2011 District 46 Convention. The Committee is accepting bids for the 2013 Convention. The Committee is seeking Cabinet approval for a "Convention" survey to be distributed throughout District 46.

Student Speakers --- Lion Calvin Bushek

There were three members present: Cal Bushek, Chairman; Linda Dovalis, Region I; Linda Williams, Region III. IPDG Susan Lydon and PDG Audrey Williams also attended. There were several questions brought before the committee: 1) Asking to revise the rule stating that "no school shall participate in more than one club contest during a contest year". The rule will stand as is. When a club approaches a school with the contest, it should be made clear to the school, at that time, as to the number of contestants you are looking for. This number should be set by the club based on the time you have set for your contest. 2) If only one contestant advances to a Zone contest, can that contestant be advanced or combined with another zone contest? The contestant must be judged at each level. They could not be combined with another contest, as that would violate the rule of judges judging more than one contest in a contest year. A clarification will be made in the printing of the contest rulebook for next year. On page 11, contest rule #5 will change from "There shall be a quiet three minute intermission between speakers" to "There shall be a quiet three minute intermission after each speaker". The committee requests that ideas for the topic for next year's contest be submitted to any Student Speaker Committee member by April 15, 2011. Any member, club, zone or region chair or contestant can make these suggestions. The committee will select three topics from those submitted and present them to the cabinet at the Gardnerville Convention for their final selection.

MERL --- PID Vince Vinella

Reporting on Retention was PDG Ed Lydon.

278 members joined Lions because they liked what they believed we did for our communities. Did they all quit because they could no longer afford the average of \$.27/day for dues? Maybe a few did. They left because we did not fulfill their needs and expectations. A few may have had needs and expectations that we really had no way of satisfying. It is our fault: Each and every one of us in this room. We didn't make them feel welcome and part of the club. We didn't give them a job to do that filled their needs or didn't give them any job at all. We didn't listen to what they had to say or told them "Oh, we tried that before and it didn't work" or we let them know that they had not been in

the club long enough to be allowed to make suggestions or to be allowed to work on that committee or project. We must stop running off our members or we will not be able to recruit new members as the word gets around town that we are a club that only lets the “good ol’ boys” be in charge.

Let’s all look at our selves and make sure we are doing all we can not only to bring in new members, but making sure we are doing all we can to keep them in our clubs. Let’s spend the remainder of the year making up that loss of members and finish the year with a big gain. Our motto is “We Serve” and each extra set of two hands means our clubs are able to do more for those in need in our communities.

Reporting on Leadership was Dick Canady.

There will be a Leadership Development Seminar event in Las Vegas for Regions III and IV. This event will be held on March 19th from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the International School of Hospitality. Lunch will be provided. This event is designed for all Lions, especially Club Committee members, Zone and Region Chairs and those aspiring to fill those positions. Casual dress is encouraged; fun is required!

Long Range Planning --- 1VDG Roy Madison

The Long Range Committee met and discussed the following:

1. A letter with suggestions to change the way that Conventions, and cabinet Meetings are held, suggesting that a survey be taken of the members of the district. The committee voted not to take any action until the results from the survey are in and then have the Convention Management Committee come back to the committee with suggestions.
2. The committee voted to revise the quarterly reports to a simpler form to be ready for use starting July 1.
3. With the addition of new clubs in region 3 & 4, the suggestion of rezoning was discussed and suggestions made and will be revised for vote of the cabinet at the next meeting

District Communications --- 2VDG Lia Versaevel

Members of the committee met and resolved that it is IMPERATIVE that everyone who wants to receive their Mountain Lion electronically must (through their Club secretary) ensure that LCI has an updated and correct email address for them.

Communication starts with wearing a Lions Pin everywhere we go, and carrying a business card with a logo or some indication that each person is a LION. Everyone in the Club needs a business card, really, but all members of the Board in each Club need to have a business card and a member application form with them at all times.

Please continue to use the Google search engine www.lionssearch.org for every search you do on the computer, whether looking for a recipe, or for a Club to visit while you are on vacation. Use the District website, Facebook page, and consider having conference call style meetings using Skype.

Camp Dat-So-La-Lee --- Lion Gary Konakis

Good day to my Lions family of District 46. This year, the calendar sales went well and I want to thank everyone for the support of your camp; we sold all but 13 of the 1200 calendars this year. If you would like to purchase one of these, I am discounting them to twenty dollars each. As you know the

calendars pay for a large amount of our camp expenses each year, again, thanks to those that purchased them and also those that distributed and sold the calendars. Next year's calendar will be changed somewhat with the addition of color photos of the kids in action and some enhanced advertisements.

We are now in the midst of finding campers for this summer's camp as well as volunteers to assist at camp. Clubs, Please help change a life: Send a child to camp. Change your own life and volunteer to help.

Dat-So-La-Lee is financially solvent and I am striving to give the best with the least cost and will strive to improve the children's experience at camp. I am also asking that each club get their camper chosen and appropriate paperwork submitted to us as soon as possible, as it gives us the time needed to process them. Also we ask that payment for each camper be sent with the paperwork. Don't forget our benefactor program: It is a great way to honor someone, whether they are a Lion or not. This money is crucial to keeping down the fees for each camper that the clubs pay, which will stay at \$300.00 per child. At the convention coming up please stop by the Dat-SO-La-Lee exhibit and check out all the new names added to the benefactor plaques. In closing thanks for all your support of Your Camp and I am so honored that I have been allowed to be President of Lions Camp Dat -So-La-Lee.

Lions Quest --- Lion Dick Yanko

Lions Quest has continued its search, unsuccessfully, for an increase in its own personnel. The thinking has been to have two teams of two in Southern Nevada and the same numbers in Northern Nevada, for the purpose of making meaningful contacts with school systems and educational professionals. We have contacted clubs, made presentations at their meetings, and solicited individual Lions; all without gain. The result has been discouraging, but we will continue the effort.

We have identified a school in Southern Nevada that may present some promise. Desert Rose High School in North Las Vegas is unique in that its enrollment consists of students ages 17 to 80 who have previously been dropouts, for one reason or another. Lions from the LV Summerlin Lions Club have had contacts with the school's principal to explore ways Lions might interact with the school population and provide assistance. We intend to approach Dr. Ransel, the principal, to determine if there would be any interest in, and sensibility to, implementing Quest in its curriculum. Lion Sam Thomas acts in an advisory capacity with the school and will assist in the contact experience.

At our cabinet meetings, we will, once again, make an appeal to clubs across the District to identify individuals who might be interested in joining the Quest team.

Student Speaker Foundation --- PDG Audrey Williams

All members (except President Bob Dyer---illness) met this morning.

Financial statements were reviewed and approved. Treasurer Doug Mickelson reported that club/Lion support was far behind the prior year's amount. All Board members were encouraged to solicit contributions. The Board approved the purchase of recognition awards for those clubs who have supported the Foundation monetarily. The awards will be distributed at our Convention. CS Cliff will be requested to distribute copies of our brochure and fellowship award order forms to each of our clubs. PID Vince reported that the USA/CANADA Lions leadership Forum 2015 bid has been

submitted. Site selection committee will visit Reno in March (3 days). Selection of the host site will occur in September. Club secretary Bernice Sheppard, LV Los Prados accepted an award on behalf of her club.

Lions In Sight --- PDG Ed Lydon

We just held our February Board Meeting last weekend at the MD-4 Convention in Primm, NV. Our every-second-year audit has been completed and we received a clean bill of health. We will be doing a clinic trip to Serbia in November with two teams of doctors and technicians. We will, afterwards, be setting up a couple of permanent clinics in that country. We have been asked to take teams to the Philippines to set up 3 permanent clinics there. To have enough glasses to fill those needs, we must collect at least 500,000 pair of eyeglasses a year. We are making kids eyeglasses in our own lab in Vallejo, CA. We have been making about 80 pair a month.

Please continue your eyeglass collection efforts. Please see if you can increase your collections. We have some clubs that have the Boy Scouts hand out our flyers along with their food collection flyers at Halloween. Some are getting an old mailbox from the Post Office and painting it Lions colors and putting an eyeglass collection poster on it. Then they place it in the Post Office lobby or at a shopping mall. If you are interested in going on a trip, please contact PDG Ed Lydon, Director-at-Large.

International Hospitality --- PDG Ed Lydon

The International Convention will be in Seattle WA. July 4-8, 2011. We will have an entry in the parade. The uniform will be the same Nevada Blue shirt we have been using. The shirts need to be ordered from me and will be delivered at the Convention in Minden. Cost about \$30.00. They come in both men's and women's styles and sizes. Light tan Dockers (Stone or Cement), brown belt, white tennis shoes and socks.

A hat will be furnished at the convention.

LPCCI---2VDG Lia Versaevel

Regrets from PCC Mike Shaughnessy and thanks to those Trustees present with us today. **It is great** that so many Clubs are member Clubs of this organization. Still looking for Puppy Raisers within Lions to take on an 8-week-old puppy to raise until it is ready for Advanced Training at 18 months. December 28th marked the arrival of another 12 puppies to Breeder Darlan. All 12 yellow lab pups to be distributed to Puppy Raisers all over the USA on February 22nd. If you have not yet had the opportunity to attend a graduation, please consider participating in May or November. PDG Ray Pezonella often provides his bus for a group to travel to the Graduations.

Summer Convention Food Fair --- IPDG Susan Lydon

Our 2011 ODG Food Fair is Friday, May 6, 2011 in Minden, NV at our convention. The theme is 1950's comfort food. We have 13 clubs signed up to provide such delectable items as mac 'n' cheese, sloppy joes and corn dogs. We could use a few more clubs participation. Please see PDG Ed or IPDG Susan for sign-up forms.

LCIF --- IPDG Susan Lydon

Our own Lions Clubs international Foundation continues to perform wonderful humanitarian work all over the world. One of the latest efforts is a joint venture with the Bill and Melissa gates Foundation to vaccinate millions of children for measles all over 3rd world countries. I still have some bronze

Contributing Member pins for only a \$20 contribution. Please help our Foundation reach even more people in need.

Prior to lunch, the Club President "Pitch 'n' Brag" had the following clubs represented:

Reno Plumb Lane – Christmas baskets, Student Speaker Contest, Air Races and County Fair.

LV Summerlin – Giving out a prize for their Chinese New Year dinner/dance

Sparks Greenbrae – Italian Dinner, \$4,000 to Washoe County Sight Conservation Committee, vision screened 34 patients in coordination with Northern Nevada Medical Center

Rachel – Lion Duane Urrutia is participating in a bike ride

Elko – Has a new president, Lion Don Newman; sponsoring the play, "The Miracle Worker" in may as part of White Cane Days

LV Black Mountain – Thanks the District for the transfer of their club; sponsoring walkers and runners to raise money for the Student Speaker Foundation

LV Las Americas – Holding a Mardi Gras Dance

LV Philippine-American – Thanked the District for their "21" award from last year; Bowling fundraiser; Casino/Ballroom Dance fundraiser

Pahrump – Easter Pancake Breakfast

LV Filipino – Dinner Dance and they've added 10 members

NV Council of the Blind – Selling a tri-fold pamphlet with the commemorative Helen Keller quarter inside as a fundraiser for the NV SightFirst Foundation

Reno Host – Golf Tournament in July; recent 90th Anniversary bash; Adopt-a-Park and Partner in Education with Roger Corbett Elementary; Buckaroo Breakfast in June

LV Los Prados – Chartered LV Centennial Hills LC; Participated in Opportunity Village; Held a White Cane Day event

LV Breakfasters – Added 3 new members; Stole 2 bells; Held Ronald McDonald Food Drive

Mesquite-Virgin Valley – Easter Egg Hunt; Hosting Cabinet Meeting; Collected \$486 for Lion Rex Doty's "Toys for Smiles" organization

Fallon – Held 7th Annual Crab Feed; Colored 6,000 eggs in 4 hours for their Easter Egg Hunt

LV International – Offered free ultra-sound screenings; in 3 years of medical imaging, they have screened over 1,000 patients

Reno Arch – Raised \$9-10,000 selling See's Candy at Christmas.

DG Bill Windham Address

4-L5 DG Bill Windham started by recognizing Nevada Lions as District 46 and not 4-N, as we were known in MD-4. He spoke of the coordination and cooperation to complete the transfer of his Primm Valley Lions Club to District 46 as the new Las Vegas Black Mountain Lions Club. DG Bill spoke about District 46's independence and wished us much success on the road to becoming a Multiple District.

Region III --- RC Judi DePew

We had 47 members at the beginning of the period and ended the period with 68 for a gain of 21! There was 1 service project and too many donations to count. Special recognition goes to Mesquite for hosting the Cabinet Meeting and Zone 3B is selected as "Best Zone Performance".

Region IV --- RC Carol Wollenberg

There were 14 service projects totaling 784 hours and spending \$2450.00. This region collected 8,715 pairs of eyeglasses. Special recognition goes to Las Vegas Breakfasters and Las Vegas International for this period. We will be hosting a Leadership Training Seminar in March.

Region I Report --- RC Susan Terry

RC Susan Terry reported on the activities of the clubs in her region:

Carson City Host will be holding a Crab Feed on March 11; sponsored a basketball tournament over the holidays and have adopted a park that they maintain on a regular basis.

Carson Valley collected food for the Food Closet.

Reno Cigar Lions continues its "Computers for Kids" program and encourages everyone to use lionssearch.org as their search engine, as the club earns royalties from each "hit".

Reno Arch donated 20 turkeys at Christmas to needy families; collected coats and gloves for the students at Robert Mitchell School and also hosted a breakfast at the school for the students.

Reno Plumb Lane distributed food baskets to the needy at Christmas time.

Reno Host celebrated its 90th anniversary; participated in Christmas tree recycling, Salvation Army Bell ringing and hosted a Ronald McDonald House Thanksgiving.

Sparks Greenbrae performed vision screening twice in December and continues to host "Movie Day" at the Sparks Senior Center on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Sparks Spanish Springs collected and distributed warm clothing (socks, gloves, hats) to the Reno Rescue Mission; held their 3rd annual Santa Home Visits in the Sparks area; working on a LEO club at Spanish Springs High School and donated turkeys to deserving families at Anderson Elementary School. For these activities, Sparks Spanish Springs was named "Club of the Region" for this quarter.

Region II --- RC Don Harmon

Region II has 368 Lions, down from 418 one year ago. We have inducted 74 new members, but we dropped 76, the large number drops are reflected by the new Carlin club, which after chartering with 43 members, last year lost 24. All clubs are now in active status, the Hawthorne Club was removed from Status Quo and has gained 4 new members, but under reorganization, dropped 9; they now have 11 members. The Battle Mountain club is struggling: It is down to 11 members. Due to the economy, they lost both their president and secretary. Also, their meeting place burned down. All clubs are current with their MMR's, but only Spring Creek-Ruby Mountain is current with their activity reports, some clubs have not reported for 5 years, the average is 22 months. 8 of 13 clubs have held Student Speaker Contests and are looking forward to the Zone Contests.

City of Hope --- PDG Bob Cole

City of Hope began seeking a cure for tuberculosis. Now, it is conducting research on nearly seventy-five different cancers in addition to other heart, blood and lung diseases, diabetes, AIDS, Alzheimer's and other metabolic and hereditary disorders. Research and patient treatment is made possible through contributions. Lions Clubs have partnered with COH for over fifty years. Lions Clubs are presently campaigning to raise funds to renew and upgrade the Family Center. A goal of \$1M over the next five years has been set. Many Lions clubs collect donations at meetings and on other occasions. No contributions from District 46 have been received by COH since last August. Please encourage your clubs to contribute.

Leader Dogs Of the Blind --- PCST Doug Mickelson

I bring you greetings from the largest & best "Guide Dog School" in the world. I thank the Lions of District 46 for their continual support.

Dear Leader Dog,

We are having such a happy life together and have become a team. Danae and I do so well together. Jessica (my Leader Dog instructor) did a great job teaching us and giving us a life of joy and independence. All of you who work there have certainly touched my life, even if you were in the background doing what you are supposed to be doing. Be proud of who you are and what you are doing.

Bobbie Poling and Leader Dog Danae

Lions SightFirst Foundation --- Lion Ken Richardson

Governor Jack, Cabinet Members, and Fellow Lions. Thank you for this opportunity to report on the Lions SightFirst Foundation of Southern Nevada.

We continue to coordinate over 100 examinations from various agency referrals each month and authorize a similar number of eyeglasses through LensCrafters. About 80% of those patients are school children referred through the Clark County School System.

We continue to process and approve about 20 public referrals each month. These referrals come from Lions Clubs and through the screening programs conducted by the Summerlin and/or LV Host Clubs. Some come through word-of-mouth and others through the Volunteers in Medicine of Southern Nevada.

We are sending fewer patients to San Francisco, but we have major problems dealing with retinal detachments and associated retinal problems in need of surgical repair. Our colleagues at the Lions Eye Foundation are also swamped and are less able to accommodate our patients in a timely manner.

We are developing a large backlog of surgical patients. Most are awaiting cataract surgery. Although Dr. DeBry has committed to performing one procedure per week, we have around 60 patients on the waiting list. Moreover, we still do not have sufficient participation from local surgery centers. The facility cost for cataract surgery is typically around \$3,000. We pay \$450. At a meeting of the LV Vision Partners Lions Club this past Thursday, the plea went out to members for help in getting more surgical centers involved in the program. We will continue to push for more participation.

Many of the patients we see come with tragic stories. For example, we treated a 63-year-old woman with glaucoma who was denied for surgery by a state agency, even though surgery would save her sight. She was told they couldn't help her until she became completely blind. At that point, she would be eligible for assistance from the state. Clearly our state agencies have a very warped sense of priorities.

Then there's the case of 13-year-old Maria. Maria is struggling in school because she can't see. She has no medical insurance and her family has no funds to pay for the surgery needed to correct bilateral familial cataracts. Fortunately, Maria found us. She will get the care she needs thanks to all of you- the Lions Clubs of Nevada who have answered the challenge issued by Helen Keller in 1925. We depend on the generosity of Lions Clubs to support the care we provide in our community. There are a number of upcoming events I want to make you aware of.

1. On Sunday, 2/13/11, the LV Filipino Club is sponsoring a dance at the club on Sarah & Jones (formerly Bugsy's). The cost is \$20 per person.
2. The Chinese New Year, sponsored by the Summerlin Club will be held on February 19. Some of the proceeds from that event will be donated to SightFirst.
3. The LV Hispano Club is holding a Mardi Gras night at the Orleans Hotel on March 5. The cost is \$65 per person or \$120 per couple.
4. The LV Host Club is working on a Poker Tournament at the Rampart Casino. The event will be held in September.

We are working on a couple of "Signature" events for SightFirst. First we have a Halloween party, tentatively scheduled for October 22, 2011. We are also working on a Celebrity Gala/Dinner and Silent Auction and evaluating several other ideas and grant possibilities. In short, we have a lot going on and I encourage all of you to get out and support your fellow Lions.

For the period beginning 7/1/10 and ending 1/31/11, we had total revenues of \$6,712.54 and expenses totaling \$10,892.55 for a net loss of \$4,180.51. We have \$6,110.75 cash on hand.

1. We have completed the necessary paperwork and have been approved as a Lions project by LCI.
2. Sharlene Lewis from the LV Host has agreed to serve as our Treasurer.

I'd like to close with a special thanks to a few of the volunteers that make the SightFirst Foundation work. Lion Dick Yanko, Lion Noni Rybka, Lion Bugsy Siggall, Lions Al and Evelyn Van Gordon, Lion Charlotte Jenkins, Lion Ed Lydon, Lion Roy Madison, and Lion Peter DeBry. Thank you for your commitment.

Mt Lion ---RC Susan Terry

Please update the LCI information regarding e-mail addresses for members. This can be done by the club secretary on-line. Please tell me if you prefer snail-mail or e-mail for the delivery of the Mt Lion. Send me your pictures and a write-up of your projects so they can be shared in the Mt Lion. Please use my e-mail address, susan@skooshink.com for all correspondence. Next deadline for the Mt Lion is March 25th.

Nominating Committee --- PCST Dennis Hugh

The following nominations have been received:

District Governor – Roy Madison, LV Breakfasters

1st Vice District Governor – Lia Versaevel, Reno Host

2nd Vice District Governor – Noni Rybka, LV International

The following positions are open with no nominations received for the year 2011-2012:

Revolving Committees

Budget & Finance – Region II

Constitution and By-Laws – Region II

Convention Management – Region IV

Student Speaker Contest –Region IV

Written nominations for the positions must be received by the Nominating Committee on or before April 5, 2011, in accordance with the Constitution & By-Laws, Article VIII, Section 7.

Youth Exchange ---Lion Pat Pimentel

Right now we have accepted 9 students for the program – 2 from Germany, 2 from Sweden, 2 from Finland, 1 from Switzerland and 2 from France. We are limiting our students to max 15 due to limited allocation given to us for Camp at Teresita Pines – MD 4 will have 60 students.

We need all 4 region chairmen to participate in the program and since club elections are coming up, we suggest that you include in your roster a club chairman for YE for easy coordination between your club and our committee.

We have 5 months before the students' arrival and we should be able to finalize their activities depending on whether our District can afford to spend for group activities or the sponsoring clubs. As for my home club, the Las Vegas Phil-Am Lions club with our President Lion Kris Velasquez, will hold a fundraising event on April 2nd to benefit this program. If your club, for whatever reason, is not able to host any students, you can send a donation to our District for the YEP, and this will help our District build a Youth Exchange Foundation.

I thank our District Governor, Jack for the opportunity to be of service.

Dinner Awards --- PID Vince Vinella and IPDG Susan Lydon

PID Vince and IPDG Susan presented Lion Suzanne Thomas, Nevada Council of the Blind Lions Club, with the International President's Leadership Award. Lion Ken Richardson, Las Vegas Host Lions Club, received the International Presidential Medal.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cabinet Secretary Cliff Cooper
District 46 Nevada Lions