

**DISTRICT 41-L  
FIRST CABINET MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 27, 2006**

The First Cabinet Meeting of District 41-L was held at Camp Susan Curtis in Stoneham, Maine on August 27, 2006, hosted by the Waterford Stoneham Lions Club.

In the morning, prior to the Cabinet Meeting, the following sessions were held; Region Speakout Chairpersons Meeting with District Speakout Chair Aaron Tufts, Presidents' Meeting with DG Carolyn Gile, and Secretaries' Training with PDG Al Glover and Lion David Bruneau.

VDG PDG Ron Johnson called the Cabinet Meeting to order at approximately 11:09 AM. The Flag Salute was led by Lion Harvey Buzzell from Naples, the song "God Bless America led by PDG Gene Cross from Harrison, the Lions Toast by Lion Bob Hatch from Massabesic, and the Lions Song by PDG Tom Bakker from South Portland.

VDG Ron Johnson introduced DG Carolyn Gile by using her biography as printed on the District 41-L website, [www.lions41-l.org](http://www.lions41-l.org).

DG Carolyn recognized all Past District Governors and Melvin Jones Fellows.

Roll Call of the Clubs was taken by CST Cathy Cross, with 28 Clubs represented and 104 Lions present at the time of Roll Call.

**DG GREETINGS:**

DG Carolyn thanked everyone for taking time out from their busy schedules to attend the First Cabinet Meeting with her as our District Governor. She reinforced her motto "MAKE IT FUN... AND THEY WILL COME" and her reasons for believing so. She spoke on International President Jimmy Ross' program for this year "WE SERVE" and how he believes that this motto is rooted in everything we do and stand for as Lions. She stated that President Ross wants to see International turn Lions Clubs all around, upside down, and start dealing from the clubs up. "As your District Governor, my job is to serve you, not in the reverse," says DG Carolyn. "Involving new members and clubs in our work to help others is an integral part of why we serve. But we can not neglect strengthening the service of existing clubs. Every club is important and deserves the attention and support of its district and International".

**CAMP SUSAN CURTIS PRESENTATION:**

Lion Pat Carson of the Waterford Stoneham Lions Club is the director of Camp Susan Curtis. He thanked the Lions for their continuous support of the camp. Camp Susan Curtis is named after past Governor of Maine Ken Curtis' daughter, Susan. The camp gives children in Maine the opportunity to attend a camp that develops self-esteem and leadership skills that otherwise, for financial or family reasons, may never had the chance. Lion Pat gave a short history of the camp and shown a brief movie. He then introduced Kyrstin Murphy. Kyrstin spoke on her experiences as a camper attending the first time at the age of 11 and coming up through councilor training. She also stressed how these experiments

and her respect for her councilor helped her make decisions concerning her life. She is now 21, a senior in college, works full time, and helps to raise her brother. She is also a camp councilor. The quote she using to describe her experiences at Camp Susan Curtis is "Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, never the same.

Lion Pat spoke of the opportunity to purchase a new facility about five miles from Camp Susan Curtis that will enable them to host another 100 campers per year. They already host 550. PDG Gene Cross challenged clubs by stating that the Harrison Lions have budgeted \$1000 toward this purchased and challenged all PDGs and Lions by presenting Lion Pat with \$100 from himself.

The Cabinet Meeting broke at 12:00 PM for Lunch.  
Invocation was led by Lion Carl Talbot from Naples.

The Cabinet Meeting reconvened at approximately 1:05 PM.

PDG Marty Gavin installed PDG Ron Johnson as Vice District Governor and Lion Cathy Cross as Cabinet Secretary/ Treasurer of District 41-L for the year 2006-07.

DG Carolyn recognized and thanked the Waterford Stoneham Lions Club for the delicious meal and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation for hosting the first Cabinet Meeting of 2006-07.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

On a motion made by Lion Cliff Roderick and seconded by Lion Paul Chabot, all voted to approve the Secretary's Report of the Fourth Cabinet Meeting held on April 29-30, 2006, as printed in the May 2006 Newsletter, mailed to all District Cabinet Members and Clubs 30 days prior to this meeting and distributed at this meeting.

On motion made by PDG Tom Bakker and seconded by Lion Carl Talbot, all voted in favor of placing on file the final 2005-06 Treasurer's Report, which was also mailed and distributed in the same manner as the Secretary's Report.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

PDG Tom Bakker, Chairman of the Budget and Audit Committee, read a letter which stated that on July 23, 2006, the books had been audited for the year of 2005-06 in which CST Charlie Shuckhart served. The findings were that all deposits and expenses were accounted for and the Dedicated Funds were corrected. The CST records were turned over to CST Cathy Cross on July 23, 2006. A copy of the letter has been placed on file with the Secretary.

PDG Tom Bakker presented the Proposed Budget for 2006-07, copies which was sent to all Clubs and Cabinet Members 30 days prior to this meeting and copies were available at this Cabinet Meeting. A motion was made by Lion Carl Talbot and seconded by Lion Mark Sinclair, all voted in favor to accept the Proposed Budget of 2006-07.

**TAIL TWISTER FAYE RODERICK** presented awards for the HAT CONTEST:

- **FLATTEST** - Pat Jones from Massabesic won a box of pancake mix (which of course is flat)
- **MOST COLORFUL** - Kay Hansen from Scarborough won a box of crayons
- **MOST BEAUTIFUL** - Patty Adams from Sanford won a mirror
- **MOST ORIGINAL** - Camille Swander from Windham won a playdough kit
- **STRANGEST** - Mark Danico from Norway Paris won a lion mouse pad
- **MOST SPARKLELY** - PDG Dick Plaisted from Westbrook won a purple wig

PDG Tom Bakker had to guess what Lion Faye's hat was (which she has kept hidden). If he guesses right, there will be no fines. He was not able to guess that her hat was a teapot hat, so fines from all had to be collected.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BLIND BOWLERS** - Lion Phil Roberts spoke on how Blind Bowlers was started in 1972 with Canada and Maine. Later New Hampshire got involved. He spoke on how this event impacts the lives of visually impaired and blind people that participate in it. He thanked the Lions for their continuous support and asked the clubs to remember to send in their donations and the clubs that do not yet donate to this to consider doing so. If there is any Lions who would like to volunteer to help with this program or some one who might be interested in taking it over, they are asked to please contact him.

Lion George Welch, who has helped Lion Phil for many years, commended him on his devotion to this event.

**DISTRICT CONVENTION** - PDG Cliff Randall informed Lions that our District Convention this year will be a joint one with District 41-I. It will take place at the Samoset Resort in Rockport on April 27-29, 2007. He has asked for everyone help in planning the program. The Convention Committee is asking all Lions for suggestions on what they would like to do and have at the convention. He has been in touch with District 41-L Convention Chair, PDG John Youney, and has a meeting scheduled. Your ideas are needed now. If you have any suggestions you can contact any of the Committee Members: Patty Adams or PSD Cliff Randall from Sanford and Lion Fred Wandland from York. Their addresses and other information are in the directory.

**DIABETES AWARENESS** - PDG Cliff Randall presented a New Horizon Award for Diabetes Education to the Windham Lions Club. In the year 2005-06, the most money ever was turned in with the Diabetes Penny Cans.- \$916.86 in total. Two clubs raised 91.3% of this total. South Portland raised 39.5% and Windham 51.8%. PDG Cliff encouraged Lions to placed cans at different locations throughout their areas and to remember to turn them in at the next Cabinet Meeting. This year he wants to continue with the Penny Can program, make more in-roads in our local libraries' supply of diabetes material, work with community groups to distribute informational material and to participate in the Lions International STRIDES program. Clubs will be receiving more information on this program.

**FIDELCO** - Fidelco Chair PDG Gene Cross stated that the State of Maine now has 12 Fidelco dogs. He asked the clubs that have budgeted funds for the Fidelco Foundation to please send it to CST Cathy instead of the Foundation. He would like to present it to the Foundation with one check from the District at their Open House in April. He encouraged clubs that do not give to Fidelco to consider doing so.

DG Carolyn presented Certificates of Recognition to 5 Lions for being a First Time Cabinet Participant.

**DISTRICT HISTORIAN** - District Historian Chair Harvey Buzzell is looking for old documents or photos that may be of interest to the history of the District. If you have any, please contact him to make arrangements for him to get it. His information is in the directory.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING** - PDG Maynard Smith stated that a letter has been sent to the International Board of Directors expressing District 41-L's views in re-districting . A motion was made by PDG Tom Bakker and seconded by Lion Bob Burbank that the letter be printed in the minutes of this Cabinet Meeting in its entirety

Dear Lions Clubs International Board of Directors,

June 30, 2006

The Lions of District 41-L in Maine are asking you to please consider this letter as an "Official objection to the proposal Multiple District 41's Re-Districting Plan" presented your Board.

The State of Maine has historically been organized into 2 Sub-Districts, dividing the State into north & south as presently designated as 41-L, 41-I, plus 8 more Clubs in Maine, close to the Canadian border, that are part of 41-O, which is primarily in New Brunswick, Canada. As of the April 2006 tally, the State of Maine has 88 Clubs and 2828 Members.

The 2 Sub-Districts in Maine voted twice to separate from the Canadian Sub-Districts, in order to create a Multiple District in the State of Maine. In fact, 6 of the 7 Sub-Districts in Multiple District 41 approved of Maine Lions' plan in 2005 by vote at their individual conventions. The ballot question stated "ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF ALLOWING THE LIONS OF THE STATE OF MAINE TO FORM THEIR OWN MULTIPLE DISTRICT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL".

The Long Range Planning Committee and the Council of Governors of Multiple District 41 have recommended that Maine separate from the existing Multiple District, but become "1-SINGLE DISTRICT COVERING THE ENTIRE STATE OF MAINE" in their proposed re-districting plan, which the Lions of Maine object to. We have sufficient Clubs and Members to form a Maine Multiple District with 2 Sub-Districts.

District 41-L presently a Transitional District, but is working very hard on the membership numbers. Our M.E.R.L. Team has formed 4 new Lions Clubs in the last 4 years and is working on other new clubs presently. We are rebuilding several existing clubs and developing retention programs throughout our District. District 41-L is committed to bringing our membership to the minimum (1250) required.

The Lions of District 41-L are asking you, the Board of Directors, to allow the Maine Lions to form a Maine Multiple District with 2 Sub-Districts (designated as MD 41, M & E). We, the Lions of Maine agree to conform to the standard requirement of 35 clubs and 1250 members per Sub-District by a date set by the International Association's Board of Directors.

Please consider this objection, we truly believe this would strengthen Lionism in Maine providing continuity to all the Clubs and further coordination of Lions activities in our State.

Yours in Lionism,

DG Louise Doughty, District 41-L

DGE Carolyn Gile, District 41-L

PDG John Kustron, District LRPC Chair

**MERLO** - VDG Ron Johnson introduced the MERLO core group  
Membership - PDG Bob Swett from Harrison  
Extension - VDG Ron Johnson from Sebago

Retention - PDG Gene Cross from Harrison  
Leadership - PDG Al Glover from Bridgton  
Orientation - PDG Marty Gavin from Windham

He then introduced the Region Chairs and their Zone Chairs. MERLO started in July organizing regional training. They have had three - in Harrison, Scarborough, and Windham, with the fourth being on August 29 in Kittery at 6:30 PM. MERLO will be meeting the last Wednesday of every month with the September meeting being at Thatcher's Restaurant in Windham. VDG Ron wants to remind Lions that membership is the foundation of our clubs and everyone needs to talk about it.

**PEACE POSTER** - Chairperson Kay Parent thanked the clubs for their support, followed by a brief history of the Peace Poster Contest. You need to order your kits from International by October 1st. Follow the specific instructions that are included. Lion Kay asked that the posters are mailed directly to her by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**SPEAKOUT** - Chairperson Aaron Tufts gave a brief description of the Speakout program. He thanked all participating clubs and invited others to get involved this year. He encouraged all clubs to get started now - renewing your school contacts or trying to get a contact if you don't have one.

**WHITE CANE** - Chairperson Maggie Crisafi has already sent a letter to all Club Secretaries by e-mail or snail mail about White Cane. October 14<sup>th</sup> is White Cane day but Lion Maggie reminded us that it can be done any time. She asked clubs to let her know if they are doing White Cane so she can order materials. Even if you have materials, let her know so she is aware of how many clubs are involved.

Lion Maggie stated that tickets for the Portland Pirates are going to be available again this year. The game is scheduled for January 7, 2007, Portland vs. Manchester. Tickets are \$12.00 and proceeds will go to Maine Sight and Hearing.

### **AUCTIONS:**

PDG Cliff Randall auctioned off two gifts from the Sanford Lions. A toll house cookie pie was auctioned off to Lion Paul Chabot for \$7.50. A mystery surprise was had by Lion Mike Frechette for \$12.50, who re-auctioned it to Lion Bruce Gile for \$5.00.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

September 14-16, 2006 USA/Canada Forum in Columbus, Ohio

November 3-5, 2006 Fall Multi District Conference in Miramichi, New Brunswick

December 3, 2006 Second District Cabinet Meeting hosted by Massabesic Lions Club

April 27-29, 2007 Joint Lions Convention at Samoset Resort on Rockport, Maine

Clubs may sell their raffle tickets and other items at Cabinet Meetings. Please let CST Cathy or DG Carolyn know so table space can be provided.

DG Carolyn has District Governor's Raffle. Prizes consist of a clock, a ladies watch which has a bracelet made of lions, a wooden bowl and a set of spoons. All are made by Lion Bruce Gile.

50/50 of \$156.00 was won by Lion Carol Bruneau from Thornton Heights.

At 2:41 PM, a motion to adjourn was made by Lion Paul Chabot and seconded by Lion Cliff Roderick.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Cross  
District 41-L Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer