

District 11-E1, District Governor Lion John Monahan "Together We Serve" September 2011 Newsletter



District Governor John & Carolyn Monahan

Fellow Lions,

Imagine that you were suddenly struck blind. If you were like people I know who have been in that situation, you would be very anxious about how you could cope with life. You might even ask yourself what you have to live for. After all, what can you do if you cannot drive, cannot read, and cannot even see what your surroundings are? How are you going to take care of yourself? How are you even going to find the bathroom, let alone eat? How will you get dressed, and what awful combination of clothes will you wear? Will you even know what you look like? How will you ever earn a living again?

Maybe you have family and friends who will help you, but how will you keep your self-esteem if you become dependent on the help of others? Of course you probably know that Lions are famous for helping the blind and visually impaired, but that help is not usually in the form of helping you learn to cope with not being able to see. But Lions do help fund projects that can help, and what kind of help will you need. Maybe you will need help in learning how to move around in your own home, in learning how to take care of personal hygiene, or in being able to work. Most of us Lions have no idea how to help you in these endeavors. So, what can you do?

Your first instinct, to think of the Lions Club in your town, is the beginning of getting the help you need. Your local club can, in turn, contact Welcome Homes Residential Services, who can help you get the services you need to be as independent as possible. Welcome Homes has had for some time certified vision rehab specialists who help the client learn home management and personal self-care, certified orientation and mobility specialists who help the client learn safe travel skills and how to use public transportation, and certified low vision therapists who help clients assess the need to modify their home and discover assistive technology that might help. Now that Welcome Homes has dropped their affiliation with Gerontology Inc., they have reached an agreement with Mary Free Bed Hospital in Grand Rapids, the premier rehabilitation hospital in Michigan, to have access to certified occupational therapists.

Funding home modifications and assistive technology are beyond the scope of Welcome Homes, but they give clients a \$50 credit to help pay for assistive technology. Many, but not all, of them can be paid for by insurance, including Medicare etc. For further help, maybe your local Lions club can contribute or there may be other sources available. So Welcome Homes can make things a little less bleak, and with the support of Lions clubs, can make things even better.

Welcome Homes also has a teaching program for assisted living homes. They train staff to work with blind and vision impaired residents. In these cases, the assisted living home pays a small fee for the training.

I hope your club will be able to support Welcome Homes and all the state projects. After all, the incidence of age-related macular degeneration is increasing at a rapid rate, so any one of us may end up being blind or visually impaired.

Your Lions service means a great deal to your community. Let the community know what you are doing so that like minded citizens can join you in community service. One goal of the Global Membership Team is to have each Lion bring a non-Lion to help with a service project. That way, people can see how important and how much fun working with Lions is.

Hope to see you at the Fall Conference,

John Monahan DG 11-E1

Information on future articles for the Lions Pride State Magazine

The district editors met at the Lions of Michigan State office and Michelle Fields who is in charge of the Lions Pride and wanted a new format for some of the first pages of the magazine. She would like to see human interest stories regarding what the clubs are doing with their money in regards to their communities. Are they giving to local charities or state and district projects or is the money ear marked for something else? Other articles will appear as they always have further back in the magazine. So please just think about this and if you have any questions you can call me at 616-754-8409 or e-mail me at: debkreitner@charter.net

Thanks for your help with this. Editor, Lion Debbie Kreitner

Lakeview Lions Club TIME CHANGE

Lions: As of October (second & fourth Wed) The Lakeview club will be meeting at 5:30 instead of 6:30 as in the past. We hope this is acceptable and not a major inconvenience. Lion Richard Goedge, Sec. Lakeview Lions Club

Cabinet Meetings

Please note the change of address for future cabinet meetings is now changed to: The Newaygo Commission of Aging Building at 93 S. Gibbs St., White Cloud, MI 49349.



1st Vice District Governor Lion Bill & Vickie Simpson

Fellow Lions;

I believe in the Lions of 11-E1, I believe we can do and work wonders, that we are resilient and can adapt to change. That we must change a little, to survive in this era that lacks a high level of volunteerism. We must change our inhibitions about imposing on our friends and neighbors. We must be willing to ask them to join our clubs and activities.

I believe that Leo's hold a brilliant hope for the future of Lions. That the leadership skills they learn as Leo's will help them grow professionally and make their transition to being a Lion something they aspire to.

I believe we should seriously consider the "Cub" program as a method of development for future membership. Young families want to participate in their communities. They want the opportunity to provide community service but they need a format that doesn't separate the family unit. I've witnessed the "Cub" atmosphere in the Cadillac Lions Club and it works. It takes some organizing, but everyone gains new respect for young parents and appreciation for their contribution to the Club.

I believe we can all live greener lives. We can recycle and make recycling something that people will associate with our Lions Clubs. We can advertise our recycling efforts and be associated with planting trees and cleaning parks, rivers and roadways. This environmentally proactive approach ties in with what our schools are teaching their students and also what Lion's President Tam is urging of all Clubs.

Lion Bill 1st VDG

I'm scheduling Club visits and would like to visit your club as a speaker or join your club in a fund raising activity. Please contact me to set up a visit to your club.

My phone # is 231-796-5133 or e-mail me at: dgbill2012@charter.net

Thanks

1st VDG Bill Simpson



2nd Vice District Governor Lion Tim & Chris Anderson Fellow Lions;

Lions are and always have been for me a family, when I attended my first meeting here in Cadillac many years ago I knew this was home. As I looked around the room I saw my elementary school principal, the father of a boy I grew up with, a teacher from high school, my mom's old boss, ex-coworkers and the list goes on and on.

These were people I looked up to growing up, leaders of the community, educators, roll models...if I only knew then what I know about these guys now! They're my friends my family and because of what these people showed me, taught me I brought my own family into Lions. I wanted to share with my wife and pass onto my kids that feeling you get inside when you're able to help someone and make a difference in the community around you.

Adding new members to your club means adding new ideas, new energy, new life but the question is HOW? Lions International has some new ideas, some new programs they think will help and we'll be sharing those with you over the weeks to come but I would like to hear from you as well! Any Lion at any level that has an idea or suggestion, if your club or even another service club in your area has been successful in recruiting, if you have an idea that you think might attract new members please feel free to pass your thoughts on.

The best tool we have to help our numbers to grow is YOU! Your actions and activities within the community get you and your club noticed. Making a difference even one person at a time, stepping away from your norm your comfort zone and trying something new or in a slightly different way may be all it takes to cast your club in a new light and attract new members.

There's a tradition in a lot of clubs after a new member is sworn in, the rest of the club lines up and they walk up to and shake the new Lions hand and welcome them not only into their club but into Lions. I've always enjoyed this and I think it's a GREAT way for a new member to start out. Well unfortunately I can't shake hands with or greet every new member personally at the time they are sworn in but I would like to do this.

The following individuals recently raised their hands and pledged to serve

CEDAR MAPLE CITY: Rick R Findley 07/2011, Jacqueline L Glazier 06/2011

VESTABURG: Evan Palmer 06/2011 **WEIDMAN:** John K. Wright 08/2011

MIDLAND: Rick L Fraser 08/2011, Ann D Fraser 08/2011, Tina Hoy 08/2011

EMPIRE: Daniel L Krause 08/2011

MESICK: Richard Gerald Ferrel 08/2011

GREENVILLE: Mary Kozler 06/2011

LAKE ANN: Jeffrey A Drews 08/2011

Greetings Fellow Lions and WELCOME to our Family!

Please feel free to contact me with any thoughts, issues or ideas over the next few years, my door is always open!

Thanks yours in Lionism, Tim Anderson 2nd VDG, 231-920-9905, vdgtim11e1@charter.net

Traverse City

Raffle Notes: Raffle sales are going fairly well. We are approaching the 1,450 number for tickets sold at Sam's and Wal-Mart. We need more sellers. If you can take 20 or 30 tickets or more from Lion John and sell them individually it would help guarantee the success of our project. Pick up the phone and call Lion John today. He will appreciate the assistance.

We have an additional sales date of September 1, this week at Sam's.

Time to volunteer. Call Lion John.

Meetings: (spouses are welcome)

September 12, 2011 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

September 26, 2011 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

October 10, 2011 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

October 24, 2011- Pavilions - 6:00PM

November 14, 2011 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

November 28, 2011 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

December 12, 2011 – Christmas Party – Location to be Announced – 6:00PM

January 9, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

January 23, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

February 13, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

February 27, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

March 12, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

March 26, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

April 9, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

April 23, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

May 14, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

May 28, 2012 - Pavilions - 6:00PM

June 11, 2012 – Pavilions – 6:00PM

Coleman Lions





Coleman Lions inducted new members, Bob Bradfield and Leah Bruce. Bob helped with our yard sale last month by delivering large items, and Leah is already hard at work selling raffle tickets to customers at Coleman Restaurant where she is the manager. On September 2nd and 3rd, we braved stormy weather to sell Koegel hot dogs and polish dogs from our concession wagon at Yoder's Amish Auction and Flea Market in Clare. New this year, we also sold green reflective address signs. Our new mailbox display caught people's attention, helping to sell these important emergency 911 signs.

Nomination Procedures

Lions who wish to run for a district office (Governor, 1st VDG, 2nd VDG or Lions of Michigan Foundation Trustee) are reminded to send in their intent letters by **Monday, January 30**, **2012.** The letter should come from the club's secretary, signed by the club president indicating the club's support and sent to the persons indicated below. If you have any questions, please contact the Nominations Chair who is listed below.

Nomination Procedures:

Any qualified member of a club in the district seeking the office of District Governor, 1st Vice-District or 2nd Vice-District Governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the (1) Nominating Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening session (March 30, 2012) of the District Convention, with copies to the (2) Cabinet Secretary and (3) Multiple District Executive Secretary and furnish evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the district convention the name(s) of all candidate(s) so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. A candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Nominations for the office of Trustee of the Foundation shall be written and shall be certified by the President or Secretary of the Nominee's Lions Club as being the act of a majority of the members of the Club, and shall be filed with the District Nominations Committee Chairperson not less than (60) days prior to the convening date of the District Convention (March 30, 2012). The procedure and rules for nominating and electing a trustee of the foundation shall be the same as for District officers, which are indicated in Article 1 of these By-Laws.

Lion Dick Perrin, PDG Nominations Chair 13948 Jet Drive Big Rapids, MI 49307

Phone: 231-796-5675

email: perrinr@hotmail.com

Welcomes Homes Vision Services

September 6, 2011

Hi Everyone!

Wow! What a busy time of year this is! August was a very busy month. Welcome Homes Vision Services held our Annual Committee Day in Lansing at the Lions of Michigan State Office. We are very proud to have Lion Dick Maxwell from District 11A-2 as our State Chair! Lion Dick is from the Lathrup Village Lions Club. He is full of enthusiasm and has many wonderful ideas and plans for the upcoming year. Should anyone ever have the need to speak with him or run an idea or thought by him, please don't hesitate to give him a call. I know he would love to hear from you. We had a great turnout, exchanged a lot of great ideas for the year and welcomed several new members to the committee! It's going to be a super year! There were 5 District Governors, 1 First Lady, 1 2nd Vice-District Governor and 7 Committee Members in attendance.

In this little packet are articles for you to include in your newsletters. Please take advantage of these. They are designed for you to cut and paste as you need. You may also wish to get them into the hands of your District Editors. It is our hope to see a little more information being put out to the Lions in your Districts. Please be sure to get us any information that comes your way in regards to Fall Conferences, Appreciation Dinners, etc... We want to be sure to have plenty of time to make plans to be represented at your district functions.

We want to thank you for your continued support and dedication to Welcome Homes Vision Services. As you probably know, Welcome Homes has been going through some difficult times and faced many challenges. We continue to see increased support from the Lions, Lioness and Leos throughout the state and therefore are encouraged. Please keep it up! Exciting things are happening at Welcome Homes.

I hope that you all have a fun and safe Labor Day weekend and are able to spend it doing all those things you love to do so much.

Thank you again for all that you do for Welcome Homes and I pray you treasure all the joys in your life and enjoy each moment! If there is anything I can do for you, please give me a call! Take care, and God bless.

Nancee DeVogel Administrative Assistant Welcome Homes Vision Services

Welcome Homes VISION SERVICES

September 2011

PROGRESS REPORT



Key Points

- Better Services for the Visually Impaired
- Training to Enable Vision Friendly Communities
- Ability to Reach Hundreds
- Daily Living Skills
 Orientation & Mobility
- Aids and Appliances

UPDATE

On Friday, July 29, 201 1, the affiliation agreement with the Gerontology Network/Porter Hills Retirement Communities was dissolved.

As a result of the dissolved affiliation agreement, WHVS has relocated their office effective as of Monday, August 1, 2011.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Please send WHVS information regarding upcoming convention and/or fundraisers
Aids and appliance can be found on the WHVS website...simply click on the Maxi Aids link.

NEW ADDRESS INFORMATION

Welcome Homes Vision Services 6115 28th Street SE; Ste. 107 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Phone: 616-272-4695 Toll Free: 888-939-9292

Brian Shepard-Director bshepard@welcomehomesmichigan.org

Nancee DeVogel-Administrative Assistant ndevogel@welcomehomesmichigan.org
Website – www.welcomehomesmichigan.org

On the Calendar!

September 17th - District 11-E1 Fall Conference October 1st - District 11-B1 Fall Conference



Cedar/Maple City





On Monday, August 22, 2011, at the Cedar/Maple City Lions Club Family Dinner. Post cards were sent announcing the Lions International Peace Poster Contest theme ("Children Know Peace"). Saint Mary's & Glen Lake Schools are regular participants in this contest. They were sent by Balloon Mail and floated off in the wind; first they went up and then they just floated away. Who knows where they will end up? The message on the post cards read: Please return this post card to the Lions Club, with your name, date & location.

Zone Meeting





Lion Connie McMorris with Lion Pete Conarty put on a great meeting, August 17, 2011. Membership was the program by Lion Pete Conarty.

Big Rapids Lions

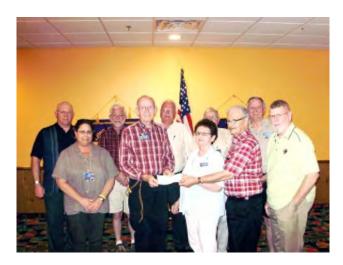


City of Big Rapids officials and members of the Big Rapids Lions Club worked together to have a Braille relief map installed at the River walk phase three trailhead at Riverside Park. Pictured (from left to right) are Jim Nostrant, Dave Hamelund, Lions President Jerry Nickles, Big Rapids Mayor Mark Warba, Jim Chipman, Dick Perrin, Jackie Perrin, Bill Simpson, Dennis Gaymer and Grant Blakely.

The Big Rapids Lions Club recently commissioned a Braille relief map to be installed at the River walk phase three trailhead at Riverside Park. The map identifies River walk features between Maple Street and the Big Rapids Wastewater Treatment Plant at Riverside Park, including paved and unpaved trails, fishing platforms and seating areas. The map is the second of three the Lions Club has planned for the River walk. The first map was installed at Hemlock Park, and a future map is planned to display the River walk trail between Hemlock Park and North end Riverside Park.

The Lions raised money for the map through concession stand sales at Ferris State University and Big Rapids High School football games, spaghetti dinners and other fundraisers.

"This is our part in giving back to the community," said club president Jerry Nickles. "We encourage people to enjoy this beautiful trail."



The Big Rapids Lions Club recently donated \$200 to Manna Pantry to be used to help cover transportation costs to bring food to the area from Feeding America West Michigan. That food is distributed to Manna Pantry, WISE, Project Starburst and the Lord's Table at Faith Community Church.

IPDG Laura's Appreciation Dinner



IPDG Laura Johnson presents "The Club of the Year" award to Lion Matt Gibson from the Cadillac Lions Club.



IPDG Laura receiving her District Governor plaque from DG John Monahan



Leader Dog north chair Kim Wattles received the District "Lion of the Year Award" from IPDG Laura at the appreciation dinner.

Project KidSight 11E1 Training Report

Cadillac Lions hosted the District's 1st Official Training Session for Project KidSight September 11th at the Fire Station on First Street in Cadillac.

Linda Bosma, Executive Director of Project KidSight and Official Trainer Lion Patrick McFarland, IPP of the Project KidSight Board, presented approval photo's & lapel pins to the 10 attendees that are currently certified:

Baldwin Lions Club – Harry Johnson

Big Rapids Lions Club – Bill Simpson

Evart Lions Club – Deb Struble, Rita Sue Thompson & Gayle Morlock

Fremont Lions Club – Fran Lemsky

White Cloud Lions Club - Shirley Millis, Bill Koch, Jackie Koch & Janalee

Other Clubs in Attendance:

Cadillac – Tim Anderson

Sheridan - Stan Preshaw

Lions Tim & Christina Anderson of Cadillac Club hosted a very active photo screening at the fire station immediately following the training session. Three of the newly certified screeners assisted the Cadillac Club with the screening session. When I left for home they had already had three referrals! Lions we are making big differences in many lives of the children we serve with this outstanding KidSight screening project.

Thank-you for your sincere dedication to the children in your communities!

Respectfully submitted, Janalee McClure, Co-Chair Project KidSight







On Thursday, August 25, Lion Mark Pallerin's 100th Birthday was celebrated with 11 fellow Lions from the Midland Club. They brought the party to Lion Mark and surprised him with a Birthday cake and cards. He was presented a certificate of appreciation and a label pin from the Lions Club International President. Lion Mark was also honored by more than \$1,200.00 donated to the Midland Lions Club Endowment Fund in his name.

Lion Lynnwood Mast Receives Michigan Eye-Bank Shared Vision Award



ANN ARBOR – The Michigan Eye-Bank is pleased to announce that White Cloud resident Lynnwood Mast received a Shared Vision Award at the Eye-Bank's Summer Celebration, held August 20 at Dow Diamond in Midland.

The Shared Vision Award recognizes individuals and organizations that have shown extraordinary support for Eye-Bank initiatives, such as **I Joined!** A grassroots campaign designed to get the word out about the importance of signing up on the Michigan Organ Donor Registry.

Mast, a member of the Fremont Lions Club, has been actively involved with the Eye-Bank since the 1980s, when he helped coordinate the Eye-Bank substations in his area, ensuring that donated eye tissue made it back to the Eye-Bank in time for transplantation. While advancements in tissue preservation have since eliminated the need for substations, Mast has remained a committed volunteer, most recently working on the *I Joined!* Campaign.

"To date, Lynn's efforts have helped convince more than 700 people to add their names to the Donor Registry," says Alison Wright, the Eye-Bank's Community Engagement Manager. "As a volunteer, he has put in hundreds of hours and driven thousands of miles to ensure the Eye-Bank is represented in northwest Michigan." Wright adds that, given Mast's level of involvement, it seems fitting that he receive his award during the Eye-Bank's Summer Celebration, an event created to honor those who have played a role in the Eye-Bank's success over the past year.

The Michigan Eye-Bank is a charitable, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration of sight. It recovers, evaluates and distributes human eye tissue for transplantation. It also supports research into the causes and cures of blinding eye conditions, promotes donation awareness through public and professional education, and provides humanitarian aid to people in need of corneal transplantation throughout the world. For more information, visit the Michigan Eye-Bank online at www.michiganeyebank.org or call (800) 247-7250.

Fremont Leo's

Leo Kendra Alt receives the first DANDILION AWARD from District 11-E1

This new District Level Award was awarded to Kendra Alt, from our very own Fremont Packers Leo Club at the club's end of the year Awards Picnic held here in Fremont where she was presented with this certificate and plague.

This award was created through the efforts of Lion Tim Anderson, currently serving as 2nd VDG, to give Leos more recognition within our District. The D.A.N.D.I. Lion Award recognizes the Leo with the follow qualities...

Dedication

Ambition

Nobility

Determination

Intellect

This award factors in both past and present accomplishments of a Leo and also it takes into account their passion and heart for service and their community. By doing it this way a 1st year Leo has just as much a chance at winning this award as a 4th year Leo.

Each Leo Advisor was asked to nominate 1 Leo from their club and a total of 3 clubs submitted a nominee. Each nominee's identity was kept secret and their accomplishments were sent to 3 Lions from our district to choose the winner.

The decision was unanimous: Leo Kendra Alt from Fremont was our districts 1st D.A.N.D.I. Award Winner. The other 2 nominees were also honored for their work within Leos by being presented the "Governors Award of Excellence" certificate in recognition of what they have achieved.



Fremont Leo's



Lion Laurene Homsher receives Leo Club Advisor Outstanding Service Award

This award from Lions International was presented to Lion Laurene Homsher at our end of the year disbursement meeting by Lion Carl Homsher. This well-deserved award comes as a result of many, many hours of dedication and hard work with not only our Fremont Packers Leo Club but also Leos Clubs at the District level.

Honor Lions



Pictured are King Lion Jim Mallison with Lion Norm Nelson and Leader Dog Puppy in Training Journey lined up for the 45 Annual Coho Salmon Parade in Honor on Sat. Aug. 27,2011. Honor Lions Club entry celebrated Lionism & the Coho theme acknowledging their club's upcoming 50th anniversary.

Cedar/Maple City Lions





Cedar/Maple City lions had their Yard Sale on July 30, 2011. Treasurer Jim Lyskawa (white) and Lee Winfrey are checking the goods, looks like they forgot their vests! Lions Gerry White, Dean Lillie & daughter Jade are checking the sales.

Michigan Artist to Promote Eyeglass Recycling at ArtPrize

Working in collaboration with the Grand Rapids Lions Club, Michigan artist, Fred Arndt has created five eye catching sculptures to increase public awareness about the need for better eyesight for millions around the world. Fred's artwork can be seen downtown Grand Rapids Courtyard by Marriott Hotel at 11 Monroe Ave NW during ArtPrize, September 21st – October 9th.

District Editor at a Loss??????



Can someone tell me what club this Peace Poster Picture is from?????





HONOR LIONS CLUB CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2011

AT THE GREYSTONE MANOR
13996 HONOR HIGHWAY
(APPROX. 3 MILES EAST OF HONOR ON US 31)

HONOR, MI 49640

SOCIAL HOUR 4:00 PM

BUFFETT DINNER BEGINS AT 5:00 PM

ENJOY THE COMPANY OF FELLOW LIONS AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE.

COST WILL BE \$25 PER PERSON

PLEASE SEND YOUR RSVP, WITH MONEY TO

LION CONNIE MCMORRIS

13477 JEAN LANE

BEULAH, MI 49617

PLEASE RESPOND BY OCTOBER 1, 2011

WE SERVE



L-R: 2011 HOF inductee Loyst Trombley (Council Chair - 1983-84), Mary Cutler (daughter of Granville Cutler), Eleanor Lutze (wife of Bob Lutze), and 2011 inductee Al Kassin (District Governor 1989-90).

The Hall of Fame is a project of the Lions of Michigan Foundation, and its purpose is to both recognize and preserve a record of the services performed



LCI - Director Dr. Gary Anderson addresses the crowd at the 2011 induction ceremony.

by extraordinary Michigan Lions on behalf of our association of Lions Clubs.

One living and one deceased Lion member per year may be nominated by Lions of Michigan Districts for induction into the Hall of Fame.

Nominations must be endorsed by the District Cabinet of the submitting District, and all nominations must be received at the Lions of Michigan State Office no later than March 1.

Nominations can be sent to: 5730 Executive Drive - Lansing, Michigan - 517.887.6642 (Fax) - info@Imsf.net.



Robert G. Lutze Dist. Governor, 1997-98



Dr. Wallace O'Brien Dist. Governor, 1959-60



Granville B. Cutler
Dist. Governor, 1984-85

HALL OF FAME GROWS BY FIVE

Five outstanding Michigan Lions were inducted into the Lions of Michigan Hall of Fame on July 23. The 2011 Inductees were: PCC Loyst Trombley of Rapid River, PDG Robert "Bob" Lutze of Hillman, PDG Dr. Wallace "Doc" O'Brien of Rochester, PDG Granville Cutler of Plainwell and PDG Al "Big Al" Kassin of Lake Orion. The class of 2011 joins 22 other Michigan Lions who have been bestowed with this distinct and unmatched honor since the Hall of Fame opened in July 2009.