

## Centennial Coordinator Report — U.S.

Report By: PDG J. D. Nellor

Date: October 6, 2016

First the basics: There are two MD19 Centennial Coordinators this year— PDG Steve Somerset for Canadian clubs and J. D. Nellor (that would be me) for U.S. clubs.

Of the 9 Districts in MD 19, District A is comprised exclusively of clubs located in Canada, 4 Districts (B, C, G and F) are located entirely in the U.S., and the remaining 4 Districts (D, E, H and I) have clubs from both the U.S. and Canada.

Each District in MD 19 has a District Centennial Coordinator. They are:

District 19A..... PDG Rita Fok  
District 19B ..... PID Anne Smarsh  
District 19C ..... Bob Johnson  
District 19D..... PDG Norma Bent  
District 19E ..... PDG Kim DiRenz  
District 19F ..... David Heath  
District 19G..... PDG Doug Hall  
District 19H..... PDG Al Stobbard  
District 19I ..... PDG Brian Phillips

As a general division of labor, District Coordinators with clubs located in Canada have been reporting to PDG Steve Somerset and District Coordinators with clubs just in the U.S. have been reporting to me since the start of the year. However, in practice communications to and from the District Coordinators and PDG Steve or I are copied to all of the District Coordinators so all District Coordinators see what is happening throughout the Multiple District.

On to some details:

### **Centennial Program Grant**

The “MD19 Centennial Promotions” grant, which was submitted to LCI in May, 2016, prior to my term, was approved by LCI and has funded.

To refresh memories: This was a \$13,500.00 grant application for the promotion of the Centennial throughout the Multiple District and for the purchase of pre-printed inserts for the sandwich boards that were distributed to the Clubs in 2015. The grant was submitted on the basis that the MD would provide 20% matching funds. That worked out to U.S. \$300.00 from each District, which each of the Districts approved and authorized to be paid from their escrow accounts.

After the purchase of Centennial inserts (\$3,849.00) for the sandwich boards, each District is has \$1,372.50 from the remaining proceeds available for Centennial projects in their Districts. Those funds are on deposit with MD19 available to Districts now.

The goal is for each District to have one or more promotional events planned and budgeted by May 31, 2017— the MD Centennial Coordinators have to provide an accounting for the use of the grant funds to LCI by June 30, 2017.

How does a District get the money? Submit a project plan to the appropriate MD19 Centennial Coordinator with a proposed budget showing how the District plans to spend \$1,372.50. District B, C, F & G project plans should be sent me. District A, D, E, H & I should be sent to Steve Somerset. (And Steve and I will figure it out if you send it to both of us, or to the “wrong” place).

Project plans and supporting documents can be emailed to me at jdnellor@comcast.net, or sent by good old snail–mail to:

901 Umatilla Way  
Vancouver, WA 98661

What is a “project plan”? Look at this from the standpoint of the MD and it should make sense: The MD has to provide a detailed account to LCI of how the grant funds were used. The MD office will get the information it needs from the MD Centennial Coordinators. To get the information to the MD, Steve and I need copies of all invoices or receipts, plus a reasonably detailed description of the event or events. We can deal with necessary prepay requirements or deposits as well—submit the details to the appropriate MD Centennial Coordinator. We also love pictures: Pictures of the event (once completed) would be great!

Two Districts have submitted plans and budgets for their shares of the Centennial Promotion grant, both of which have been approved: Districts 19A and 19C.

District 19A’s event involves a parade, the details of which PDG Steve will describe.

District 19C’s planned event is a Lions street fair/“Oktoberfest” type of celebration to be held at the Marymount Event Center in Spanaway, Washington in August, 2017. District 19C Lions will host the event. The purpose is to promote what District 19C Lions Clubs do in their communities and to celebrate 100 years of Lions Clubs International. The event will include food, entertainment, a beer garden, fun and games, opportunities for vendors, a car show, and (as they say) more...

The message from me to the District B, F and G Coordinators is: You have money waiting for you! There is \$1,372.50 available for your Districts. Please get with your Zones and Clubs and put together a budget on how those funds will be spent to promote Lions Clubs in your Districts. Send your budgets to me with receipts or invoices for what has been or will be spent. Once I approve the budget— and I want to approve the your budget— you will get the money.

And one final note: The Centennial Project grant funds are held in trust for the Districts and are not part of the MD general funds. *If the funds are not used by a District, they must be returned to LCI.*

### **Legacy Projects**

Centennial Community Legacy Projects are one of the three components of LCI’s Centennial Celebration. Legacy Projects are visible gifts to our communities that commemorate the Association’s Centennial and create a lasting legacy of Lions service contributions.

Legacy projects have been reported to me from 3 of my 4 reporting Districts. Examples include:

- Three Clubs in the Longview area have joined forces to work on a park restoration project: Structure repairs, new L.E.D. lighting updates plus adding A.D.A. concrete walkways and iron BBQ pits.
- The Centralia Lions Club is building a ramp to a local lake it has traditionally used for events such as a local fishing derby. The new ramp will provide wheelchair access for more than 200 wheelchair bound local residents for the first time.
- The Vancouver (Washington) Lions are working with the City to install a lending library pavilion together with either a Lions park bench in a city-center park.
- The three Everett Lions clubs gifted the Everett Lions Centennial bench to the Everett Parks Department, which is to be installed at the children's play area at the Everett Lions Par. The bench is solid steel, weighs a ton or so and is approximately 7 foot high by 7 foot long. It was built by a welding class at Sno-Isle Tech.
- The Kent Lions have several projects, including an interactive, climbable, lunar module replica.

The above is just a sampling of ongoing Legacy Projects in the Districts. There are many more.

I also note that we are entering Zone Meeting season and I anticipate significant legacy projects to be coming out of those meetings.

### **Centennial Service Challenge**

A second component of the Centennial Celebration is LCI's Centennial Service Challenge.

Another refresher: LCI has challenged clubs worldwide to serve 100,000,000 people during the 4 year Centennial Celebration— 25,000,000 people served in each of four, traditional, Lions service areas, Sight, Hunger, Youth and Environment.

As of the date of this report, clubs have reported 112,393,776 people served, and we are a little over half way through the challenge. The details: 36,730,993 people benefited from Engaging Our Youth, 33,586,523 from Protecting The Environment, 17,634,197 from Sharing The Vision and 24,442,063 from Relieving The Hunger.

Worldwide, 62% of Lions Clubs have been engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge.

In the Districts reporting to me:

- 58% of District B clubs are engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge
- 83% of District C clubs are engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge
- 52% of District F clubs are engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge
- 75% of District G clubs are engaged in the Centennial Service Challenge

## **Membership Drive**

The third component of the Centennial Service Challenge are the Centennial Membership Awards. I expect to report more on a coordinated MD membership drive at the Winter Council meeting. For now, just remember that there are special, limited addition awards that LCI is giving to Lions, clubs, and District Governors who contribute to membership growth during the Centennial Celebration.

## **District Coordinator Grants**

There has been some confusion over District Coordinator grants and the distinction between the Coordinator grants and the MD 19 Centennial Promotion grant (outlined above). These are two different grants that serve different purposes.

Every District Centennial Coordinator is entitled to a stipend of U.S. \$250.00 for Centennial awareness building *each year* of the Centennial Celebration. A Budget Plan is required to receive the funds— each District Coordinator submits his or her Budget Plan to their respective MD Coordinator for approval, who then send the Budget Plans on to Regional Coordinators for approval, and ultimately to LCI. The funds are then sent to the MD19 office, which distributes the grant proceeds to the various District Coordinators.

A new Budget Plan needs to be submitted each year.

The Budget Plan form was (and will be) emailed to District Coordinators early in the fiscal year and needs to be received by the MD Centennial Coordinators by August 15.

All Districts submitted their Budget Plans for the current fiscal year, all of which have been approved.

The message here, though, is to not confuse the District Coordinator grants with the MD19 Centennial Promotion grant. Both grants need budgets and plans, and the budgets are not interchangeable.

My term as Centennial Coordinator commenced July 1, 2016, essentially two years into the LCI Centennial Celebration. Many thanks to PDG Steve, the District Coordinators and to ESD Patty Allen for their patience and support as I got caught on all that has been happening in the Multiple District for the Centennial Celebration.

Oh: One last thing. This is a CELEBRATION. 100 years of Lions! So, let's Celebrate!

Respectfully submitted,

