

## 2019 MD 19 Annual Convention recap

### From Co-chairwomen Patti Sparks and Lori Reed

“Simply the Best” was spot on for the convention theme! The Wenatchee Convention Center gave us everything we needed including a very responsive staff and plenty of breakout rooms, all on one level. The meals met and exceeded our hopes, being delicious and substantial.

We had **19** vendor/pin trader tables and the hallways leading to the breakout rooms were the perfect locations for them. The raffle/silent auction room was in the same area, making it easy to usher everyone in to purchase tickets and to bid on the awesome items.

The Lions of MD 19 are extremely generous and the income from the raffle/silent auction was \$6,392.

Friday Fun Night “Hattitude, Bring it on!” was raucous and wild with “Rainbow Girl Meaghan” in charge of Bingo and Heads or Tails. And then DJ Greg played the perfect mix of music.

Miss Veedol at Pangborn Memorial Airport was the convention off-site tour and it was interesting to learn about the first non-stop flight across the Pacific Ocean from Misawa, Japan to East Wenatchee, Washington in 1931.

Northwest Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center was the recipient of our service project and Lions from all around the multiple district donated over 8,000 pairs of used eyeglasses. The Lions Health Screening van was present for tours during the convention.

The Saturday banquet showcased wild and crazy glitter shoes and the “dignitaries” danced in to the more than appropriate Tina Turner song “Simply the Best”. We even spotted a luggage cart full of glittering revelers!

The convention committee had a celebration lunch a few weeks after the convention to discuss the events. Each person agreed it had been a **whole lot of work**, but totally worth it. We had proudly hosted 323 Lions and guests in Wenatchee and were able to send a check to Multiple District 19 Lions in the amount of \$4,940.87. The committee members had a lot of laughs at our lunch meeting and finished up with a general feeling of a job well done!