

MD 19 Leo Report

Winter Council Meeting, Feb 18, 2017, Langley B.C.

1. Coming Leo Events:

a. First USA / Canada Leo Leadership Forum. Aug. 2 to 6, 2017.

To be held in New York City. Contact Information: 646-481-3238 or info@usalf.org We would like to send a Leo or two to participate in this forum. This the first forum of its kind in North America. In other countries of the world these forums, similar to Lions annual conventions, have been going on for 30 or more years. This our catch up.

Contact info: Our regional coordinator is Cheryl Kerns 913-221-3040 or ckerns@bluevalleyk12.org or LEO Kyle E. Boutilier, 604-652-8883

kyle.e.boutilier@gmail.com.

b. USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Portland, Oregon

September 21- 23. The Forum organizers want four Leos to participate on two panels on Saturday (morning and afternoon) with a wide variety of Leo topics and education. This can be seen as a step forward for the Leo program as they are included in more and more important information sessions. The Forum will help Lions and Lions clubs see the value of Leo Clubs, "Leos are the Future of Lions"

Our main difficulty is funding the Leo's trip, gas, meals, hotel etc.

My question is how can this be done - Northwest Lions Foundation Grant, Lions individuals, or Leo or Lions clubs or other sources?

Contact info: registrar@lionsforum.org or 604-723-4007.

c. Leo of the Year Nominations: We have two with the promise of at least two more. We would like to see one from each district, totaling nine entries. This would give us at least one "Leo of the Year" to award in each district, with an overall MD 19 "Leo of the Year" winner. Funding of the MD19 Leo Awards such as plaques and certificates is provided by MD19.

d. District 'A': Is holding a Leo orientation panel in the coming month and held a very successful panel in Feb. with 20 Leos going to Leo orientation school. Leo Orientation panels can be held like this at a separate meeting or at the club meeting. It is recommended that Leos, Leo Officers, Prospective Leo Officers all be given some form of Leo education.

e. Districts "B", "C", "D", "E", "F", "G", "H" Leo Clubs are doing many community services of their own and helping their Lions sponsor clubs with many projects, including, Food Bank donations, Christmas Bureau donations, 1800 pairs of socks and gloves for the homeless, seniors projects, battered women's shelter goody bags, mental health hygiene Christmas boxes. Basketball tournament with proceeds, toys and funds to Christmas Bureau. There are many more community service activities, too many to list in fact.

2. Leo Information and Publicity: Work is being done on getting more reports of Leo activities so they can be reported to the MD. We have heard from Districts 19-H and 19-C. Articles were in the last two Border Crossings.

To facilitate this acquiring and sending out of information, we have prepared an email list of all the District "Public Relations Chairs" and all District Bulletin Editors along with the MD19 Bulletin Editor and all Leo Club Advisors - (29) email addresses that were available.

The Lions Districts Bulletin Editors did an excellent job of putting me on their email mailing lists, I have now received all "A" through "I" bulletins and will get them every month, which will help with Leo Info getting out to the MD and Districts.

Leo advisors, PLEASE send reports of Leo Activities and Service Projects to me or your own District Bulletin Editors.

3. Locating Leo Clubs and Leo Advisors: while compiling the email lists, it was determined that there is a lot to fix in our Leo, Leo Advisor, Leo club, LCI information. Right now we have two LCI lists that are different, Leo Advisors' emails need to be coordinated with Leo Club Location info at LCI, There are many reasons for this, Lions Secretaries not reporting, or not reporting correctly, Lions clubs not reporting at all, Is your Leo club still active? Does your Leo club have any members? In one case a District has six Leo clubs on the LCI club locator list but only one Advisor on the email list. Where are the other five Leo Advisors?
4. Leo Club Excellence Awards: Call for Nominations will be coming soon, MD had two winners last year, Kwantlen Park Leos out of Surrey B.C. and N.K. Vikings out of Poulsbo WA. KP was the only winner in all of Canada and the 2 winners in the MD. We hope to have more entries and more winners this year. These nominations should be in before May 1, 2017. The nomination form is on LCI's website.
5. Leos are a huge asset for Lions Clubs: Leos provide more community service by simply having more available bodies working beside their Lions members. Enthusiastic, young strong Leo help never goes wrong. Some of the Leo Clubs are actually doing more fund raising and service activities than their sponsoring Lions club.
6. Start a Leo Club: I have Leo Club Organization kits available for your Lions club, for your schools, your community groups, your Leo Advisors (it tells the Leo story, and is an excellent resource from LCI). The Kit has the how, what, why, when, and where of Leos. A lot of Lions and Clubs fear the Leo program. You can be assured the rewards to the Lions Club of having a Leo club are more than the work you put into the activity. Leos are well worth the effort.

Submitted respectfully,
Barry Shiles, MD 19 Leo Chair