

HEY LIONS, WHAT'S GOING ON?  
FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR TED WENCKUS  
-AUGUST 2011-

Well, I guess we all know summer 2011 is coming to an end, can't believe it. With fall's approach, I am looking forward to an exciting season of travel and meaningful experiences.

Here are a few highlights I've enjoyed this summer leading into the fall season.

Shortly upon my return from the Lions International Convention, an experience I will never forget, I was asked by my Story Lions Club to install our new officers. That being my first 'official' duty as DG, I was a bit nervous but appreciated 'giving it a go' with my immediate "Lions Family". All went well and our terrific slate of officers is now in place.

Shortly thereafter, I had the honor to visit the Torrington club and, now your "experienced" DG, performed their installation ceremony with confidence. I was accompanied by our Immediate Past District Governor Dave Orr and appreciated his support. The Torrington Lions Club is full of energy, a "rip roaring" good club that can cook up a mean steak! As an added bonus, IPDG Dave was asked to induct a new member that same evening, way to go Torrington!

The beginning of August brought my first Cabinet Meeting held at the Alan H. Stewart Lions Camp on Casper Mountain. More on the Cabinet Meeting later, but I must say the camp is beautiful and the improvements over this past season are terrific. My hat is off to Camp Director Al Parmely, his hard workin' wife Arlene and the volunteers that keep the camp up and running so well! It is truly a Herculean task and I encourage all Lions to consider helping from time to time. I promise an experience you will enjoy and remember for years to come, not to say your efforts will provide needed help for our Wyoming Lions 'Diamond in The Rough'.

My first Cabinet meeting recap:

All Cabinet meetings are open to any interested Lion to observe and participate. I was pleased to see several folks attending from around the state, showing their support and interested in the near term future of Wyoming Lions.

My first item was to introduce what I refer to as my “Core District Governor’s Team”, which include:

First Vice District Governor Jim Reynolds (a great guy and one heck of a Lion)  
Second Vice District Governor Mindy Crabb (watch out, full of energy and great ideas)  
Global Membership Team Coordinator IPDG Dave Orr (experience, invaluable to me)  
Global Leadership Team Coordinator Kevin Rice (energy, youth, knowledge, inspired)  
Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer Bob Lauman (good lookin’, smart, my right hand man)

This group and myself are the ‘first line of progress’ in setting the course for the remainder of the 2011/2012 term. I have asked them to join me because of their experience, knowledge and enthusiasm for moving our organization forward with ENERGY and the Lions’ spirit to grow our organization and set a path of harmony, enjoyment and fun for all our Wyoming Clubs!

Next, I laid out the goals for my team and myself. In brief, we have two main goals and several secondary though important tasks we hope to achieve and some to keep building upon.

First main goal: Membership Growth

This is a bit ‘tricky’. Although it is always a goal for any DG to grow the organization, there are several ways to proceed. My District Governor’s theme is ENERGIZE chosen with growth in mind. The focus will be to help “clubs in trouble” rebuild, to once again become their community’s moving force providing needed service.

Through my travels, I have visited clubs that have done fantastic things for their communities but while enthusiastic to serve, have neglected one very important element, recruitment. Now, those clubs have found themselves out of touch with the new generation, unable to communicate, encourage and instill the belief in Lionism. That’s where my team can help, if asked. We want to help “rebuild”, “re-energize” and save the already in place charter clubs, many with decades of community service.

If your club needs or wants assistance to re-energize your organization, please contact any member of my team. You can find our contact information on the Lions of Wyoming web site: [www.lionsofwyoming.org](http://www.lionsofwyoming.org) or call me directly, 683-3047, we will be proud to assist.

Second main goal: The Allen H. Stewart Lions Camp

Although the camp is up and running, beautiful and well maintained, there are serious issues down the road.

Our camp is underutilized for its intended use; a camp for sight impaired folks seeking help, education and camaraderie, creating a sense hope and pride, paving a path for each student's future. We Lions need to revisit the future of our camp.

My intention is to meet with all parties directly involved with the operation of the camp, including the owners of the camp property (Casper Club), the Camp Board of Directors and the Camp Director. We need to better establish the lines of communication, seek funding and resolve issues that have prohibited the camp's growth and intended use for many years. I have been asked to join Lion Mike Cometto and Lion Brian Ballard to participate on a 5-year Plan Committee and look forward to the challenge.

I will keep everyone informed with any progress made and encourage your comments and suggestions regarding the camp's future.

Other Issues of Interest:

We will follow IPDG Dave Orr's lead and continue the Club Excellence and the Proud Lion programs. They have been successful, fun and challenging, please participate. You can find information on these programs and others on our Lions of Wyoming web site, [www.lionsofwyoming.org](http://www.lionsofwyoming.org).

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Mindi Crabb and IPDG Dave will update the look of the Lions of Wyoming web site and add content frequently, I urge you to visit often and comment. There are some fun items that will be added, please spread the word throughout your club members.

Well, that's been July. September will be exciting with our very first Wyoming Lions Leadership Institute, thank you Lion Mick Barrus and Instructors and support staff for getting this important program off the ground and all the clubs that have participated and are sending members.

There is much more to discuss in upcoming issues, please watch your e-mail and Thank You Wyoming Lions!

District Governor Ted Wenckus