

Elvio's Epistle

Edition 1
July 2008

District 201N5
The Lions Clubs of Sydney and Norfolk Island



Hi everyone, and welcome to a new Lions year. I trust that you are all as excited as I am about the next 12 months as we serve with pride and passion.

The new Lions year is about renewing our commitment to our communities and rededicating ourselves to our neighborhoods; it's about putting ourselves forward and keeping the famous 'we serve' spirit at the heart of our time and efforts as Lions.

Club Officers Forum

The incoming Club Officers Forum held in June was well attended and I believe that all participants left with new ideas and plenty of enthusiasm. Congratulations and thank you to all of our Forum presenters especially Martin Orchard and PDG Brian Daniels.

Cabinet Officers Training

The Cabinet Officers training weekend at Shelly Beach was both informative and inspirational. Thank you to my Cabinet colleagues for giving up their weekend to attend this memorable weekend.

Of course training weekends aren't all work – PDG David Tuckerman's tail twisting had us in stitches and the new 201N5 front row was introduced. With these two sturdy props, my job as hooker will be much easier.



Meeting Attendance

Cabinet Officers and District Chairman will be attending your Club meetings to present their portfolios. Please remember that they are there to give support and their assistance so please contact them if you need assistance or guidance with any aspect of your club.

The Big Boss

Our International President Al Brandel has announced that his theme is, *Miracles Through Service*. The IP says our miracles through service fill the gaps in our communities, and we play the role of everyday heroes.

District Changeover

Our District Changeover is being held on Friday 18th July at North Ryde RSL Club hosted by the Lions Club of Cambridge Park. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones in a fun filled atmosphere. To book your table please contact Lion Alan Bideleux at awbideleux@yahoo.com.au or call him on 0409 220 544 to book a table.

District Convention

Our District Food ,Wine and Lovers Conference is being held from Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October at Cessnock in the Hunter Valley. This promises to be a great weekend with first class keynote speakers, great seminars and workshops, fun-filled entertainment, a few surprises and YES ...'Notices of Motion'. A free bottle of DG Special Hunter Valley wine will be presented for all who register prior to 31 August. To register or for information please contact Conference Chairman Ted Henebery - ted@acornaustralia.com.au or call him on 9487 3376

DG's Advisory Committee

The District Governors Advisory Committee meetings will be scheduled by your Zone Chairman, probably from 4 – 29 August. All Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers, together with any other club members, are invited to attend these meetings. Please ensure that your club is well represented at these meetings to share your ideas and information.

Membership

As at 30 June 2008 our District had 1750 members. At the same time in 1995 our district had 2056 members. Statistics don't lie, so it's up to us to turn this decline around. Our Goal is to reach 2010 by 2010, and to achieve this goal **we all need to make it our personal obligation to increase membership.** We need to share our passion to serve with other service minded people. We are blessed to have an organization where members at all levels carry out their roles with respect, honesty and integrity. **We also have an excellent MERLOT team who are ready to assist.** Contact details are in the directory.

Dues are (almost) due

A reminder that your club's 1st semi annual dues are payable by 15 August. Board approval is not necessary prior to payment so please ensure these invoices are promptly actioned. You can continue to protect your club's active status by paying all bills in a timely manner. Remember, clubs with past due balances beyond 150 days could be placed on automatic suspension.

DG's Calendar

I will be commencing my official visits on 4 August by attending a Zone 3 meeting hosted by Sydney Waratah. Visitations will be combined with a Zone meeting organized by the zone chairman wherever possible.

It is impossible to please everyone with meeting dates, so I'm asking for your understanding and request that you encourage all your club members to attend these visits. Dates are included in my Diary which has been posted to the district website. Further details will be forwarded to Host Clubs by Cabinet Secretary Reg Walker in due course.

I look forward to meeting you all personally. I'm convinced that we Lions, Lioness and Leos of 201N5 will continue to accomplish great things if we work together for our communities, for we serve with pride and passion.

Elvio went to School

You probably don't know that to become a district governor you must also go back to school. I did just that and here's the proof that I passed – I received my Certificate in Pattaya.



Keep up the great work Lions. Until next time,

Elvio