

The New Voices report of 2020-2021
Submitted by MD5 New Voices coordinator Crystal Dueker / March 2021

District 5SKS – DG Don Morris

My New Voices Nomination for Marketing is Lion Debbi Ross. She became a member of the Regina 35 Lions Club on June 15, 2017, sponsored by District 5SKS, DGE Lion Doug Ross. Lion Debbi volunteered to become the Club Secretary in her first year as a Lion. She accepted the nomination to become the Club's First Vice President in July of 2020 and took on the important role as District 5SKS Cabinet Communications Secretary the same year. Lion Debbi will become the first female President of the Regina 35 Lions Clubs in July 2021.

In 2019 Lion Debbi was instrumental in the creation and establishment of the provincial Lions policy for the Lions Pride Monthly newsletter. This important document sets the standards for all submissions to the newsletter by all Lions and third parties from Saskatchewan and across the Multiple District and Canada. She works tirelessly as the de facto "editor" of the Lions Pride and ensures all submissions meet the standards set forth within the policy. As well, Lion Debbi works very closely with Lion Carol Ewles, Cabinet Secretary District 5SKN and Terri Degenstien, publisher of the newsletter to ensure the quality of the newsletter is maintained and that the publication is distributed to all Lions in the province.

Lion Debbi works hand in hand with all Lions and non-Lions alike who require information about Lions events, awards, club news and Cabinet communications for use in social media, websites, electronic communications, and publishing to ensure the marketing of the Lions brand is done with integrity and professionalism.

Lion Debbi's consistent messaging and communications with all Lions Clubs in District 5SKS, required through her involvement with the District Cabinet is distributed on a timely and consistent manner. She communicates directly with those clubs requiring a more traditional form of information transferral such as phone calls and mail. Her work in updating the information required in the annual Saskatchewan District Directories (both District 5SKS and District 5SKN) is made possible by the accumulation and organization of District Lions records found within the LCI membership database.

My New Voices Nomination for Service is Lion Kristin Hawkins/ Swift Current Lions Club

The original Lions Club in Saskatchewan developed in Swift Current and though it is our first Club; it is not technically our oldest Club. Through its trials and tribulations, it has maintained a strong presence through the years and done very well for the community of Swift Current and surrounding area. Membership decline over the years was very hard on the membership and they were in discussion on closing the Club. 2 Years ago, Lion Kristin attended an open meeting and was excited at the prospect of becoming a member and help save the Club. When nominations for Club Secretary came up the Club asked her to take on the positions and she happily accepted. Since then, she has involved herself in all the projects the Club had going over the years and established her our Market project that has helped raised much needed funds and has been deemed a success by her fellow Lions. Throughout the last year she has done everything she can to keep communication between the members as many of them are aged and are unwilling to risk their health with in person visits. Through phone calls and emails and virtual meetings she has kept the Club from losing interest and disbanding altogether. This New Voice in Lionism was exactly what the Swift Current Lions Club needed to stay viable and it is what Lions Clubs International needed to hold on to its first Club in Saskatchewan and she needs to be recognized for her unwavering support of her Club.

My New Voices nomination for Membership is Lion Larry McCrea/ Regina Lakeside Lions Club

“When there is a need, there is a Lion” is a statement echoed throughout our organization. With the current pandemic the need to connect within our district was of utmost importance. As the District Information Technology Chairperson, Lion Larry has made it his mission to adapt to current circumstances and give the Lions of the District technological platforms in order to keep meeting and serving. Larry has spent hours of his time teaching and hosting virtual meetings for members who have not had the opportunity to physically meet at this time. Larry’s devotion to the District Facebook page and Website has allowed the Lions of District 5SKS to maintain a finger on the pulse of the organization and the efforts that are carried out internationally.

Larry’s Motivation and efforts to provide a voice to those who would otherwise be voiceless in this time of global uncertainty is why he should be nominated. His dedication to helping those within the District learn and innovate and adapt to serve in different ways has made the District stronger.

My New Voices Nomination for Leadership is Lion Ann Barnsley/ Katepwa & District Lions Club.

Lion Ann is the Zone 8 chair in District 5SKS and has made her presence within her zone as well as the District quite well known. Ann finds a way to overcome obstacles, for example she utilized the District’s zoom licences to meet with her zone as well as maintained contact with the clubs in her zone when they haven’t been able to meet. Ann’s demeanor and professionalism within her role highlight her natural ability as a leader. She strives to learn as much as possible and is regularly seen at District training and information sessions. She pushes to get the best out of the club officers within her zone and makes sure they know about any resources that are offered to them. Ann understands the demographics of the district and makes an effort for everyone to be heard.

In a recent District goal setting session, Lion Ann brought up and thoroughly discussed the issue that clubs face in regards to younger members having a voice. She passionately described how younger members often feel like they are not being heard or have something to prove. Her ability to convey the advantages of hearing new ideas and letting people of different demographic backgrounds enhance the clubs of our District shows her motivation towards equality and organizational excellence.

Lion Don Morris, District Governor 5SKS

DG Kevin Bean 5NW-New Voices Nominations for 2020-2021

5NW New Voices Nomination for Service



Lion Karen Da Silva has been a member of the Bismarck Lions for the past 5 years, she has been an active and supportive member from day one. Their club is always looking for opportunities for helping the Bismarck community, so they started planning to put together food baskets that will feed a family of 4 for a week. Lion Karen got the list from her church (Corpus Christi) on what they use to determine the contents for their baskets given from their food pantry. They hope to distribute these in March through the group, Ministry on the Margins.

A year ago, her grandson Theo made a presentation to the Sunrise Elementary School's student council asking them to collect glasses for the Lions Club. Due to COVID; this whole thing got put on hold. Lion Karen got a call from Linda Anderson asking if we could still "use" glasses. She dropped off 4 collection boxes. The council members will go from classroom to classroom making a plea for glasses. She will also include the information in the school newsletter that goes home to the parents. Linda was also given the online brochure about glasses collection.

Lion Karen is our current District 5NW Family & Women's specialist, which I am sure will be extremely helpful during our district's first ever women symposium in Bismarck which will be happening in the next few months. Lion Karen and her club have a yearly service project serving of selling grilled corn on the cob; plus she is continually active with many other projects as well. Lion Karen is supportive of her district and she personally helped support families impacted by our local apartment fire in Mandan and it is where she gave a very generous donation to help the families.

5NW New Voices Nomination For Marketing



Lion Evan Romuld has been a member of Mandan Lions Club for 8 months and has stepped up to the plate with his enthusiasm and willingness to help where there is a need. Lion Evan has done a fantastic job with the Marketing and IT for 5NW. He has built a 5NW website, which helps us to be more visible to the world. Although the state convention was virtual, Lion Evan helped take some of the IT stress away by constructing a nice North Dakota website so that all the photos, webinars, and videos could be viewed in one place instead of trying to view them during the state convention itself. In the beginning, the convention was face to face but with the pandemic, it had to be switched to virtual in a matter of a week and Lion Evan was right there to give us suggestions and ideas to make it a success by helping the 5NE convention committee. Lion Evan has shown his interest in helping with the IT of 5NW and we are looking forward to seeing what great things he will be doing for us.

5NW New Voices Nomination for Leadership



Lion Brock Seibel has been a member of Beulah Lions Club for the past 7 years and has held officer positions on the club level- Membership chair, Vice President, and President. Lion Brock is currently the 2020-2021 Zone 4, Zone Chair for District 5NW and is doing a fantastic job.

Despite the current virus situation, Lion Brock has continued to think outside of the box to make sure his zone 4 clubs are engaged and informed of what is going on the district and state. He has held one virtual zone meeting and is currently planning a second face to face zone meeting coming this February.

Lion Brock and his club have come up with great training ideas to use during our upcoming Spring Rally. Lion Brock is responsible for 6 lions club in zone 4, which includes Beulah Lions, Halliday Lions, Hazen Lions, Killdeer Lions, Richardton Lions, and Taylor Lions.

Lion Brock has been an outstanding example of a New Voice Leadership recipient and I can not wait to see him go on to the next levels in the 5NW District.

5NW New Voices Nomination for Membership



Past District Governor Judy Beaudry has not only done great things for her own community, but she continues to work and help wherever else she is needed with the 5NW district. PDG Judy has been a member of the Washburn Lions Club for 22 years and still going strong with a big smile to boot! Lion Judy said "YES" when I asked her a simple question about canvassing communities for potential new clubs, that is why I knew she was my choice for the New voice Membership Recognition, no excuses just tell me where I need to go and check. PDG Judy and 2nd Vice District Governor Elect Lynn Grabow accepted the challenge to go into several areas which included Underwood, North Dakota; Powers Lake, North Dakota; Surrey, North Dakota and back to Surrey again. PDG Judy's confidence and attitude is contagious, she brings a whole different vibe to the table when she is in the room. I am proud to have PDG Judy Beaudry recognized as the 2020-2021 New voice for Membership.

From Lion Marvis Wilm/ District Governor 5SKN:**SERVICE:**

I would like to nominate Lion Yvonne Pearson of the Prince Albert Lions Club for the Service category. This is for all of her hours of work collecting eye glasses, planning and holding "sorting bees" and then all the used eye glasses are sent to Calgary to be released to third world countries so hundreds of people can see once again. Lion Yvonne has been in charge of this project for years and we are currently getting ready to send another large order.

LEADERSHIP:

I would like to nominate Lion Wayne Choponis of the Saskatoon Downtown Lions Club for the Leadership category. He is currently serving as our District Cabinet Treasurer and is keeping us all on track. He is keeping the club in great order even during the Covid.

MARKETING:

I would like to nominate Lion George Pretli from the Spiritwood Lions Club for the Marketing category. He is currently serving as our District Cabinet Secretary and is doing a wonderful job. He has already held the position as District Governor in two different districts and has continued doing his role as a perfect Lion.

Lion George takes care of the Spiritwood and District's Facebook page. It is full of great information about their club's activities:

1. the Lions sold 400 drive-by burgers in September 2020
2. the club was almost sold out of chocolate Easter bunnies March 2021
3. they are planning a Take-Out pasta dinner in April
4. the club also donated \$800 to their local library

MEMBERSHIP:

I would like to nominate Lion Marianne Kramchynsky of the Rosthern Lions for the Membership Category for New Voices this year. Lion Marianne is my 1st Vice District Governor, has a full-time job and she is just amazing at how much she does for Lions.

As the North America Membership Initiative chair, she wrote in the January 2021 issue of Lions Pride: "As with hundreds of other Lions, I am taking in the Monday evening sessions titled The Road to Success webinar and attending PDG Sherry Fetch's monthly Global Membership Team Zoom meetings. When this pandemic is over, the need will still be out there to help organize Lions service clubs as well as attract new members to existing clubs."

One of the communities she has contacted requires a recycling program, activities for youth, and services to elders in the community. DGE Marianne shared one key reason for the recent membership of a local minister to the Rosthern Lions: it was because of the humanitarian purposes. That is the purest reason to serve; for the purpose of helping others.

5SE New Voices nominations from District Governor Krisha Stroschine

Service – Lion Brian Wasmoen of the Redfield Lions Club - During COVID-19, he and his club have been able to serve 20,507 people in our district as of this date. Amazing service for a very difficult year.

Membership – Lion Rita Pond - She helped with the push to get the Aberdeen Lioness Club to convert to the Aberdeen Lioness Lions Club. Not only creating the first new Lions Club since 2007, but continuing the service of Lions who have already been serving their community.

Leadership – Lion Paul Fixen of the Brookings Lions club/ He took on the task of being Zone 4 Chair and ran with it. He reached out to the clubs in his zone and had conversations about safely continuing to serve those in their community.

Marketing – Lion Meridith Clark of the Viborg Lions Club has help me out immensely this year with getting the work out virtually on our District Website and by creating a District Facebook where Lions can share service and activities with one another to help spread the word.

DG Richard Waits 5SW Nominations for New Voices 2020-2021

1. **Leadership:** Lion Joyce Gibson / Rapid City Downtown Lions Club. She joined in 1988, and for the past 33 years, she has been involved with Sight and Service for Rapid City; a 501c3 which includes all 4 clubs of Rapid City. She sends letters to applicants, handles the money, and takes care of the 4 clubs. She has helped the Rapid City Downtown club with eye exams and glasses as well as their Pancake breakfasts. Lion Joyce has been club treasurer, club secretary, and club president.
2. **Membership:** Lion Linda Vollmer/ Newell Lions Club. She has been a Lion for 21 years, served as club president and was Dist. Gov. 2019-2020. She continuously invites women to her club and pays for their meals. So far for 2020-2021, she has sponsored 4 new members to her club. She also has successfully helped to reestablish endangered clubs as well as start new clubs.
3. **Marketing:** Lion Colleen Forkell/ Ipswich Lions. She has been a member for 16 years; is past treas. and is secretary. She writes the 5SW newsletter, writes emails to communicate with the District Governor, and gathers information for articles.
4. **Service:** Lion Arlene Moll/ Rapid City Metro Lions. She has been a member for 9 years. She volunteers at the Northern Plains Eye Foundation. She also does vision screening for children at the Kids Fair as well as the Home Show events; with over 2,000 vision screenings accomplished in the past 5 years. She was club secretary for 6 years, has been a zone chair and attended 2 state conventions. She has also helped with numerous projects at other Lions clubs; such as the soup and sandwich fundraiser held by the Rapid City Downtown Club.

New Voices for 5NE 2020-2021 by DG Grant Kahlbaugh/ The Grand Forks Red River Lions club

For Leadership, I nominate Lion Jodi Meisch from the Mapleton Lions Club. From the time Lion Jodi attended the New Voices seminar in Grand Forks, in October 2019, to the time she became a charter member in February 2020; she has been full of ideas to help her community. As the new club's secretary, she has been a leader in planning successful service projects and promoting Lionism throughout the town. Examples; she helped the club to sponsor a hole at the Mapleton Country Club's golf tournament, sponsor corn-hole tournaments as well as club sponsored mud-runs. Her idea to post informational signs at their events has attracted new members to their club.

The **Service** nomination, I have chosen is for Lion Leon Comeau from the South Forks Lions Club, Lion Leon has given many years of great service to Lions Christmas in the Park in Grand Forks, ND. He has been a big part of making the lights turn on and the heat for the booth. Lion Leon and has always been a "We Serve," since becoming a Lion April 4th 1976. Lion Leon has also been a Zone Chairperson three times in his service to Lions.

For **Marketing**, I have chosen Lion Noel Balderas of the Davenport Lions. Since she joined the Davenport Lions Club in June 2020, she has helped create a "Lionism buzz" throughout her small town. During the crisis, she kept the community spirit with "Yard of the Week" from July through October. Her Face book, posters, and emails kept residents connected as well as promoting Lions service projects: Halloween bags were delivered by a dinosaur to every household with a child, collected households names in a box for 10 drawings of "Decked out for Christmas" prizes and also she promoted that Santa Claus would be pulled along every street in town so children could get gift bags plus deposit a letter to Santa into the mailbox attached to the trailer.

For **Membership**, I have chosen Lion Paula Swanson-Western of the Fargo Lions Club. Because of her efforts to help charter the Mapleton Lions in February 2020, and charter the Fargo 4X4 Roamers Lions Club in October 2020, her successful actions brought in over 50 new Lions into 5NE this past year.

She says:

"Growing up watching my parents in their Lions journey absolutely is the reason that I decided to become a Lion. I joined at the January 2011 convention; the year that my father was the District Governor in Minnesota.

Later, when I moved, I transferred in 2013 to Fargo Lions. For the past two years, I have been the Global Membership Team chair for the district. Currently, I am the Guiding Lion for both Mapleton and the Fargo Roamers.