



To the Lions of 21C and the rest of Multiple District 21: This will start a new page in my life's journey, both in and out of Lions. You have selected me to serve you as 21C District Governor. This is something I don't take lightly, but maybe not for the reasons you might think.

Yes, I would like to be remembered as a Lion who accomplished the tasks assigned to him and the goals I set for myself. It would be nice for people to know that I did all the required paperwork and was a District Governor who did his job. Many Lions before me have done this.

More importantly, I want to be known as a Lion who made a difference. One who was there when needed and went the extra mile. I want to be known as the District Governor who served his district well and gave 125%. I want my father to know he taught me well to be part of a team, that I gave to help and not for the praise.

At the same time, that is how I want my District to be remembered: as Lions who cared and gave to others. It doesn't matter who started something or got credit; what is important is that others in the community, the district and the world are better because of it. Yes, this is a tall order but we have 12 months to do it.

You will see some ideas being bounced around the district on new ways to do things. They may come in this column, in an email or even a phone call. If I contact you, please respond. I may just be looking for a reaction, advice or even help! We are in this together and don't be surprised if I call on you. Above all, this is a group I hope will exceed 1,250 Lions by the end of my term and each of your opinions has the same value, so I do want to know yours.

As you read this, my wife Lion Gail and I will have just returned from the Lions Clubs International Convention in Sydney, Australia. I hope to bring many ideas and answers (and maybe a question or two) back to Arizona. I expect there will be ideas to try in the district. I think it is always good to talk about new concepts and implement those that will benefit our clubs. It will be an exciting time for me.

One responsibility of the District Governor is to attend at least one meeting of each district club, to hear your ideas and your concerns. I am setting up my schedule of visitations this month. When I contact you I will try to have at least two choices of dates.

The biggest challenge with this is to try to travel the least distance while visiting each club. That is good stewardship of the district's travel budget. So please respond to me right away so I can get my schedule set and begin visitations. I want to start meeting with clubs early so we can accomplish much as a district this year.

Our first District Cabinet Meeting will be Saturday, August 7th at the Mesa Hilton. It will consist of meetings and workshops in the morning and early afternoon. I hope you will be motivated after you hear our keynote speaker at lunch. The registration form is in this issue of the Canyon State Lion.

Past Council Chair Alan Lundgren, our convention chair has done his best to keep the event's cost reasonable. Of course I would like all members in the district to attend, but I feel it is especially important that all Zone Chairs and Committee Chairs attend so we can distribute information for the coming year.

A few weeks ago I had the honor of helping at a long-standing traditional pancake breakfast outdoors near downtown Prescott. The Prescott Noon Lions oversee much of this event. But the great thing about this breakfast is that just about all the local Lions and Lioness Clubs from Prescott, Chino Valley, Dewey and Prescott Valley participate. If club members are not able to help on-site, many of them pre-sell tickets for the event.

This has truly been a regional fundraiser. This is the type of event I would like to see more often this year, not just one club working on a fundraiser or service project but two or three clubs, or even a couple of zones. Clean a park, build a house -- there are many things to do. Just think about it, the more hands you enlist, the larger the project can be. Remember our motto is "WE SERVE."

I am so excited to be 21C's District Governor for 2010-2011. Thank you for giving me this chance and I hope I get the chance to talk to all Lions in the district sometime this year.

Yours in Lionism,
21C District Governor
Mike Kenny
Prescott Valley Early-Bird Lions