

This email will again serve as the newsletter for the month. We'll get back to the regular newsletter format next month when our membership meeting is two weeks after the board meeting.

**Board Meeting:** Our next board meeting will take place on Thursday, January 11, starting at 6:30 in the Ralph Whitten Shelter House. Members are welcome to attend.

**Membership Meeting:** Our December membership meeting takes place **next Thursday, December 21, at the Ralph Whitten Shelter House.** The meeting will start as usual at 6:30pm.

**Menu:** chili and all the toppings! We'll also have crackers, a veggie tray and dessert. Please bring your own table service. A muffin pan (instead of a soup bowl) is excellent for sampling the various chili recipes.

Our competitors for the best chili recipe are Mary Polson, Larry Jablonski, Tim Carver, Jim Epstein and Larry Grund. Chili judges will be Lions DG Judy Stone and Urbandale fire chief Jerry Holt. Last year's winner was Jim Epstein.

**Program:** Lions DG Judy Stone is our speaker. She has service awards to present.

**Upcoming Events:**

...January 18 (Thursday): Community Volunteer Night at the Urbandale Library. Time is 4:00-7:00 pm.

...February 10 (Saturday): Pancake breakfast at Rolling Green Elementary

...May 6 (Sunday): Mayor's bike ride (we serve pancakes)

**UHS Basketball:** Jerry Tank needs our help. He has a number of basketball dates where Lions are needed to sell tickets. Look at your calendar and see if you can make it:

Jan. 2 (3 people needed), Jan. 9 (4 needed), Jan. 12 (3 needed), Jan. 16 (3 needed), Jan. 20 (3 needed).

Feb. 2 (3 needed), Feb. 6 (4 needed), Feb. 15 (3 needed).

**Flag pole installed:** The flag pole has been installed outside the clubhouse. The board tonight approved an expenditure of \$164.85 to cover added installation costs.

**Request for assistance:** A former Urbandale resident, and graduate of Dowling Catholic, recently graduated from Iowa State and is studying optometry in Memphis, Tn. While attending ISU he was a member of the Iowa State Lions chapter. This past summer he joined other Lions in providing vision screening at the Iowa State fair.

He is scheduled to travel this summer, as part of the optometry program, to Central America to provide free eye care services to those in need. Most of the glasses they will dispense came from Lions Club donations. He asks for financial assistance to help defray the cost of the

trip. We have agreed to help. We are hoping to meet with him either in person or by Skype and learn more about this trip.

That's it for this month. Hope to see you next Thursday. If not, have a wonderful Christmas holiday, and Happy New Year!

Ron M.