

# MD 19 Environment Team 2020-2021

## At Work Making Connections Throughout the Multiple District

A: Alvina Seid & Karen Poon. B. Enoch Rowland. C: James Reddick & Bob Johnson. D: Angus Benedict. E: Kim DiRienz. F: Judy Riggers. G: Doug Wilson. H: Jones Atterbury, I: Lia Marie Versavel



### Working Through the Pandemic



### Multiple District 19



### LIONS AT WORK



### Seahurst Environment Center



### LIONS AT WORK



### LEOS AT WORK



### LIONS PLASTIC RECYCLING PROGRAM

A Joint Project Between Olympia Host Lions, West Olympia Lions and the Thurston County Food Bank

Olympia Host Lions, West Olympia County Food Bank have teamed up with Trec Decking, Inc., maker of Trec decking, to help waste out of our landfills and Puget Sound.



### WASTE BUSTERS



MD 19. Lynda Davidson. Enoch Rowland. Eric Miura. Kim DiRienz. Bob Johnson. Nancy Messmer

## **2021 Spring Council of Governors Environment Committee Report**

**“Sustainably protect and restore our environment to improve the well-being of all communities.”**

The 2020-2021 Lions Year has been a challenging time for all of us. The Environment Chairs worked to meet the challenges of the pandemic and climate crises. This Lions Year, 2020-2021, six Lions served as the Multiple District 19 Environment Co-Chairs and worked closely with the Environment Chairs for each District. This makes an Environment Team of 14, that meets monthly on GoToMeeting/Zoom, hosted by Council Chair Al Hedstrom and Lion Nancy Messmer.

**Connections.** Connecting is a theme of our work and is the key to increased service and effectiveness. Making connections in our communities and across our whole Multiple District 19 (British Columbia, Washington, N. Idaho) requires new thinking and skills. The Environment Chairs are reaching out to Lions within our own Clubs and Districts, linking people and projects, problem-solving our way through the actions needed to serve our communities. We use telephone calls, email, websites, Facebook, YouTube, Lion channels, and all of the ways we can brainstorm to stay connected.

**Conventions Spring 2021.** We Lions are learning to conference in the virtual world. We are a group that is learning as we go, treating each other kindly as we learn new ways to communicate and solve technical difficulties together. While we missed seeing each other in person, the Virtual and Hybrid Conventions were ambitious, friendly, inspirational and informative. We saw more service projects featured, we heard from an array of speakers from around the world, we inspired each other and we had fun! Environment Chairs served as MC (Jones), gave presentations (Eric, Nancy, Karen, Bob, Kim) and helped out.

**District Newsletters.** Most District Governors included Environment Service Updates in their newsletters. Environment Chairs submitted monthly articles with information specific to the district and including information from around MD 19. The team works from a growing Dropbox of shared information so that we can share ideas around the Multiple District. Alvina Seid and Karen Poon write Environmental Tips monthly. Angus Benedict writes monthly about re-using, recycling and re-purposing items. Bob Johnson summarizes District environmental activity in his columns. We gather information from the LCI website. We hope to connect efforts in one district with efforts in others.

**MD 19 Environment Service Project Survey.** We, Environment Chairs, wondered what projects Lions are doing. We also wanted to know what Lions personally would like to work on. In April, we sent a survey to all of the Lions in MD 19 with an email address (about 7000 delivered). We had two main goals, to have Lions consider many kinds of environmental service projects underway in our MD, and tell us if they are interested. We hoped to inspire Lions by presenting them with lots of good projects. We even sent a 5-minute video along with the survey showing Lions doing many of the projects. Second, this was a communications experiment to see if we can actually reach all of the Lions by email and invite them to open and take a survey.

Eric Miura and Tania Newman of the Lynn Valley Lions (and the Covid Campaign) entered the questions into a survey program, and mailed it out. They produced reports of the data as did Council Chair Al Hedstrom as he analyzed the Excel spreadsheet produced by the survey program, JotForm. Mail Chimp, the mailing program tells us that almost 7,000 of the survey emails were delivered to email boxes. 365 Lions submitted surveys.

Some initial takeaways are that the top 5 projects that Lions report being interested in are 1. Collect/Re-distribute/Re-use Eyeglasses and/or Hearing Aids, 2. Assist Food Redistribution Efforts (From Farm to Town, Schools/Restaurants, Food Banks, etc.), 3. Host Civic Clean-ups (Roadways, City-wide, Library, Post Office, Train Station, etc.), 4. Clean-up Natural Areas (Beaches, Waterways, Parks, Trails, and 5. Collect/Recycle Glass, Aluminum, Metal, Paper etc.

The work team (Bob, James, Al, Nancy) will prepare a report of results. The Environment Team for the 2020-2021 Lions Year will produce information for Lions Clubs, featuring examples and contact for projects in these categories and others.

Submitted By Dr. Nancy Messmer representing the MD 19 Environment Team. [able@olyphen.com](mailto:able@olyphen.com). 360.963.2442