

Anthony's Tidbits Nov 2014

My Fellow N5 Lions, Lioness' and Leos

At the time of writing this article, the long awaited N5 Convention 2014 has come and gone.

The proceedings of the three-day Convention have brought about a pleasant experience and fond memories to many. Congratulations to Lion Joanne Sim on her election as District Governor for the 2015-16 Lions Year, to Lion Dennis Halpin as First Vice District Governor and Lion Ron Gattone as Second Vice District Governor. I'm confident that our District will have an even brighter future in their capable hands in years to come.

I hope that the program that the Hosting Committee has put together served the purpose of bringing about an effective and smooth running convention.

While I am happy with the way that most of the segments went, there is one issue that I wish to address - the matter of allocated presentation time for Speakers/ Presenters.

As many of us will agree, it is probably the single most difficult issue in the organisation of most Conventions. As organisers, while we strive to run a well balanced program accommodating as many Presenters as we could and providing them with as much time as they need, it is often not possible. If a time limit is not imposed, the program will either overrun and/or the Presenters at the end of the queue will miss out altogether.

For Convention 2014, like many other Conventions, a decision has been made for ALL Presenters to keep to their time limits. I, as District Governor, had to bear the unpleasant duty of stopping a Presenter when his/her allocated time was up.



I stress two points regarding what occurred at the Convention: (1) all the presenters were given the full length of their presentation times, ONLY those who exceeded their time limits were requested to discontinue (2) at this Convention, we were able to accommodate ALL of the requests by District Chairpersons and Multiple District Chairpersons to address the Conventioneers, no less than twelve of them.

I thank the majority of the Presenters for keeping to their time limits which made my job easier. To all those that I had to ask to have their presentations discontinued, I offer my sincere apologies.

After the Convention, I received much positive feedback and many generous remarks. I cite some of them below.

"I totally support your views and explanation (not that one was necessary but you graciously offer one) on this matter of time. The time is not there for indulgence, it is there to be shared and utilised for the benefit of all." - VDG2 Elect Ron Gattone

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"Re your comments about presenters going over time. I apologise for being one of the culprits. However it was a first time experience for me and I learned a few points. I hope that you haven't received criticism for doing the right thing and keeping to time. In fact the positive side to the issue is that everyone remembers the Nurses' Scholarship Foundation presentation. What more could I wish for?"
Lion Helen Rae, Chairperson, Lions Nurses' Scholarship Foundation

"... From our time at the Convention we would rate it as one of the best District Conventions we have attended. It was great 'COMING HOME'". PDG Patrick McAppion

"I reckon I might have enjoyed myself as much as you, however I didn't put anywhere the effort you put into such a GREAT CONVENTION, it's a pleasure to SERVE in DEDICATION !!!" President Ken Button of Lugarno Lions

All in all, it has been a great Convention and I thoroughly enjoyed it. We always hear of bringing about FUN to Lions functions, Convention 2014 will certainly go down in history as one the FUN Conventions with a rather high enjoyment index.

Well, now that the Convention is over, what's next? What is the next major District event? I'm happy to announce that on Sunday, 12 April 2015, we are organising yet another Lions Skills Sharing Expo. This is following the footsteps of the very successful inaugural Forum of its kind held on 6 September 2014. For those who have

a message or skill to share with our fellow Lions, there is now another opportunity for them to do so at either a 25 minute or a 55 minute session. Please contact me if interested.

This is now December and the Festive Season is just around the corner. On behalf of the 2014-15 District Cabinet, Emma and I would like to wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year ahead!

By Lion Anthony Cheung



Serving in Dedication