

# A Lion's Commitment

by Lion Mike Lisle

**Com•mit•ment** - noun: 1. a pledge or promise; obligation 2. engagement; involvement.

Everybody has commitments in their lives: God, spouse, family, work, and the community. I can't imagine a life without commitments; they are a driving force to live a full life.

As a past Wisconsin Lions Foundation Director, I have special appreciation and concern for WLF's financial well being ... today and tomorrow. I've just completed my personal pledge/commitment to the WLF Lions Pride Endowment Fund. A true, donor-directed endowment fund is committed, actually required, to manage funds in perpetuity. This means it supports an organization that will also be there and need funding for perpetuity, not just when your pledge matures. I have and will renew my commitment over and over, even after the goal has been reached, because I want to continue my support of Lions Camp for the kids.

As Chair of the Investment Board for the WLF Lions Pride Endowment Fund, I am, along with the other members of the Board, responsible to our donors and the Lions of Wisconsin to ensure the monies are managed by our money managers in accordance with the Investment Policy Statement and to review investment performance to determine when a portion of interest earnings is possible to



be paid to support current WLF operations, while still growing the Fund for the future. I am very proud to be associated with the professionals assembled as your Investment Board.

We are on the way to achieving our \$25 million fund, and we WILL achieve that goal. The goal was established to create a \$1 million (4% distribution on \$25 million) reliable, supplemental income for Lions Camp and all WLF statewide projects. I choose to support the Lions Camp that gives over 1400 kids per year a wonderful experience they can't experience anywhere else. As Lions I would hope that the Lions Camp is your non-profit of choice to support.

There are considerable personal advantages to charitable giving, as well. I recently completed certification for my Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP) through the American College. The education for the CAP provides the knowledge and

tools needed to help people reach their charitable giving objectives, while also helping them to meet their estate planning and wealth management goals. The curriculum included advanced design, implementation and management of charitable giving techniques and strategies, as well as philanthropic tools including charitable trusts. Please consider formally incorporating Pride as part of your personal estate plan as others are doing. The Safari Legacy Brochure available on line or from the Pride Office details other Legacy Gifting Options.

Sincere appreciation and thanks are due all who have pledged and are continuing their commitments. As your pledges come to their maturity, I encourage you to do as I have and renew your pledge as well.

If you have not made a commitment to the Lions Pride Endowment Fund, I would ask whether you can spare 55¢ a day, the equivalent of \$200 a year. If every Lion and Lioness in Wisconsin gave that amount (buying a 12 oz can of pop instead of a 20 oz bottle at the gas station will save about 70¢), the endowment fund goal would be reached. Please help Pride realize our goal of ensuring that 1,400+ children each summer will have the wonderful experience of Lions Camp as well as supporting the other statewide projects administered by the WLF.