



Karen Shelby, Director  
906 Royal Blvd.  
Sedalia, Missouri 65301  
(660) 287-0665  
e-mail : [litllady@iland.net](mailto:litllady@iland.net)

Holiday wishes and greetings to all,

Some of us have already had their first snow fall of the season. While some of us are waiting in anticipation for the first snow fall. Hopefully every one is well in your family and chapter.

I like to introduce myself I am Karen Shelby the newly elected Director. At our Fall District meeting in Joplin elections were held. The following individuals were elected Karen Shelby as Director, Vice-Director is Jack Dohr and Cindy Dohr was re-elected as Treasurer. We had in attendance 17 families and 49 participants at the Fall District meeting. On the agenda at the meeting each chapter spoke of their past activities and upcoming activities. The St. Louis Chapter had elections prior to the district regional. Their newly elected officers are Jennifer Uhle as President, Becky Hagen as Vice-president, Bonnie Burke as Treasurer and Laurie Klusmeyer as Secretary. I look forward to working with all district and chapter officers in making District 7 a strong representation to both the community of LPA and outreaching to the public. What makes our district strong is everyone working together. If you have any questions or concerns the resources you have are your chapter officers and fellow members if together can't find a resolution to your question you have the district officers and if we don't have the resolution we can turn to national officers and other members of chapters of LPA.

As for our regional meeting in Joplin we had media coverage of both television and newspaper. The Joplin Globe and Fox 14 did coverage. Both are posted on District 7's facebook page. Then Jack Dohr whom is responsible for our website: [www.lpadistrict7.org](http://www.lpadistrict7.org) has posted pictures of the district meeting. Appreciate Jack for keeping up to date on the website. If you need to update your district happenings please get in touch with Jack. His e-mail is [JackDohr@yahoo.com](mailto:JackDohr@yahoo.com) Our website is very helpful to new and interested members in the area. Especially if they have missed out on receiving a newsletter from the chapter or district. This keeps them informed.

**Membership Dues:**

By now everyone has heard that effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 there will be an increase to membership dues. Just a reminder from what they are and what the increase is going to be.

Annual dues from \$50 to \$55, 3-year membership from \$100 to \$120, Lifetime membership from \$500 to \$750, Senior annual membership to \$20, Student annual membership to \$35, and international membership to \$35. Also reduce number of waived memberships for hardships to one(1) allowed per District. Also back in July at the board meeting the board will consider at each annual meeting to evaluate an increase to annual and 3-year memberships according to the Consumer Price Index. A note that I would like to put with that. At our district meeting it was mentioned about pro-rate of membership fee to expanding on too current membership. It was mentioned at November 15<sup>th</sup> teleconference board meeting. They can not do that be too time consuming to figure out each individual pro-rate membership fee. They mentioned if not due for membership though want to add to current membership pay amount for interested membership fee.

### **Upcoming District meetings:**

Spring 2010 Oklahoma chapter hosting, Date: TBA, Location: Tulsa

Fall 2010 St. Louis Chapter hosting, Date and Location: TBA

Spring 2011 Wichita Chapter hosting, Date and Location: TBA

### **Donation to National Funds**

It was voted for at district meeting that as a district we would donate 10% toward the national funds. The Kansas City Star Chapter had received a donation in which they graciously opted towards putting toward the 10% to help with the district funds. We greatly appreciate your donation and many thanks.

### **Ideas presented at District meeting**

A) Possibility of doing a Midwest conference of Districts 5,6,7,8, and 9 which would involve 18 states that are Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia(District 5), Illinois and Wisconsin (District 6), Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma (District 7), Louisiana and Texas(District 8) and Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota(District 9)

B) St. Louis chapter doing another partner meeting with District 6

C) KATY Trail possible dates Late May 2010 or early June 2010 those who want to ride or walk parts of the trail or accompany me for the whole trail on bikes are welcomed. This could be a possible fund raiser. Would like more information about it contact District Director, Karen Shelby

### **Results of National Dwarfism Awareness Month**

I realize that this was short notice to all chapters this year. Effective this year October has been declared National Dwarfism Awareness Month. We did get some coverage. We had an article appear in The Columbia Tribune circulated in Columbia, Missouri and surrounding area. Then we also had coverage of our district meeting by the Joplin Globe and Fox 14. Which their coverage got picked up by media associates. This is just a start in coverage of what LPA is about and why. It isn't too early to work towards next October. This will be a yearly focus for the month of October.

### **Development of a New Chapter**

Joy Wyler had started which I am pursuing on the course it will become a chapter. That is a chapter in Missouri named Ozark chapter. Its boundaries is the area south of Jefferson City and Nevada and over to the bootheel area. Amy Ivie and Karla Murray are co-coordinators for this work in process. Along with help from Tracy Adams and other families in that area interested in getting a chapter developed. Please established chapter officers if you have any advice or suggestions they would greatly welcome it. We are here for each other. To get in contact with Amy or Karla contact me for their e-mail contact information.

Please contact me by e-mail if any questions or concerns. I will do my best as your director. I can't do it without the chapter officers and you the member. I appreciate all you do.

Karen Shelby

Director