

PRESS RELEASE

April 2, 2013

Geri Schlender Lions Pride Endowment Fund

715-677-7000 or gschlender@lionspride.org

Support Lions Camp With Ray Hempel Fellowship

A Wisconsin Lion visiting a hospital in 1952, was inspired when he heard, "Blind kids can't go to outdoor camps and stuff like that." That Lion, the late Ray Hempel, envisioned a solution: a permanent Wisconsin Lions Camp for blind children at no cost to their families.

Now the Lions Pride Endowment Fund of Wisconsin, Inc, has announced the Ray Hempel Fellowship to recognize an individual's extraordinary dedication and outstanding service to others.

A Hempel Fellowship is awarded with a contribution of \$1,000, supporting the Lions Pride Endowment Fund's mission to preserve, protect and provide for Lions Camp for future generations of Wisconsin children and adults with special needs.

Ray served as the first Camp Director and eagerly took on its development. In 1959, he was recognized as the originator of the Wisconsin Lions Camp by Lions Clubs International President Clarence L. Sturm.

Today Lions Camp continues to provide a quality camping experience, free-of-charge to Wisconsin children and young adults who are blind or visually impaired; and now also serves those who are deaf or hard of hearing, have mild cognitive disabilities and youngsters with diabetes. The Lions Pride Endowment Fund is dedicated to ensuring the future of Lions Camp so future generations can benefit from this unique camp experience. Lions Pride, "Today's Help, Tomorrow's Hope."

For more information visit the Lions Pride Endowment Fund website at www.lionspride.org or call Geri at 715-677-7000.