

# Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc.

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## Annual Report

### 2017-2018



•Eric Holthaus, President •Jay Nesseth, Vice President •Terry Peters, Secretary

•Tal Janowitz, Treasurer •John Dickson, Director

•Jo Marson, Director •Don Hartvig, Director

# *Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Fellowship*

The Birch-Sturm Fellowship was created to honor those individuals who exemplify undying dedication and commitment to Lionism. The Fellowship is named after Wisconsin's only two International Presidents - Frank V. Birch and Clarence L. Sturm



*Frank V.  
Birch*

1924	Joined the Milwaukee Central Lions Club
1929-30	District Governor
1931	Elected to International Board of Directors
1934	Elected Third Vice President
1937-38	President of Lions International



*Clarence L.  
Sturm*

1929	Joined the Manawa Lions Club
1941-42	District Governor
1948	Elected to International Board of Directors
1956	Elected Third Vice President
1959-60	President of Lions International

The Birch-Sturm Fellowship is a way for districts, clubs or individuals to honor a person who displays dedication and commitment to Lionism.

In order to become a Birch-Sturm Fellow, a district, club or individual must donate \$1,000 to the Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc.

### *The Birch-Sturm Fellow will receive:*

- Lapel pin •Plaque •Patch
- Name inscribed on the Master Plaque, honoring all recipients- located at the Wisconsin Lions Foundation Office.

### *Multi-Level Fellowships*

Once a recipient has received the initial award, Multi-Level Fellowships are available in \$1,000 increments. For each additional \$1,000, a recipient will receive a diamond added to their lapel pin and a star added to their name on the Birch-Sturm Master Plaque.

### *Monies Are Used For*

All revenue received from the Birch-Sturm Fellowship Program is placed into the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund. Currently, only interest from the Fund is used to support the operating budget of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation.

### *A Special Note*

This donation should be over and above a club's Annual Donation to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc.

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# Presidential Message

**Eric Holthaus, President**



The Birch-Sturm Fellowship was created by the Wisconsin Lions Foundation (WLF) in 1990 to honor those individuals who exemplify undying dedication and commitment to Lionism. The Fellowship is named after Wisconsin's only two past International Presidents, Frank V. Birch and Clarence L. Sturm.

After years of recommendations by the WLF auditors, the Birch-Sturm Fellowship Program was split from the Wisconsin Lions Foundation on January 1, 2012, to form the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc. (BSMF).

Since its inception, there have been 2,104 Birch-Sturm Fellowships named. The names of the recipients are displayed in the Wisconsin Lions Foundation's Office. In 2017, there were 85 Birch-Sturm Fellows named.

In December 2017, the BSMF, per a request from the WLF Board of Directors, paid out \$100,000 of the interest and dividends earned to the Wisconsin Lions Foundation to help with budgetary needs. A shortfall occurred as donations from the Lions' Districts in the State did not cover the entire cost of Camp.

The leadership of this Board since its inception has been outstanding. Lions can feel confident that the Board members have always been good stewards of this fund and I know that next year's President, PDG Jay Nesseth, will continue on with this great tradition.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve on the Birch-Sturm Board of Directors the last three years, including this last year as President of the Board. I want to thank my fellow Directors for their dedication and support for the BSMF. I also want to thank all of the clubs and individuals who have supported and have named Birch-Sturm Fellows to help grow the endowment to help with the continued operation of your Wisconsin Lions Camp, as well as the other statewide projects WLF administers.

Thanks for all that you do!

# Financials

# Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors  
Wisconsin Lions Birch Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc.  
Rosholt, Wisconsin

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc. (Organization), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

## *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting principles used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc. as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**KerberRose SC**  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
February 22, 2018

# WISCONSIN LIONS BIRCH-STURM MEMORIAL FUND, INC.

## Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31,

	2017	2016
<b>REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>		
Memorials	1,170	3,063
Birch-Sturm Fellowships	103,717	107,280
Interest and Investment Income	155,683	99,426
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	444,707	116,224
<b>Total Revenues and Other Support</b>	<u>705,277</u>	<u>325,993</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program:		
Office Supplies	32	555
Printing	289	286
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<u>321</u>	<u>841</u>
Management and General:		
Professional Fees	5,961	5,983
Administrative Fees	3,204	3,000
Plaques and Engraving	6,503	7,025
Investment Fees	33,942	31,504
<b>Total Management and General</b>	<u>49,610</u>	<u>47,512</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>49,931</u>	<u>48,353</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	655,346	277,640
<b>INTEREST TRANSFERRED TO WISCONSIN LIONS FOUNDATION, INC.</b>	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING</b>	<u>5,026,045</u>	<u>4,748,405</u>
<b>NET ASSETS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 5,581,391</u>	<u>\$ 5,026,045</u>

# WISCONSIN LIONS BIRCH-STURM MEMORIAL FUND, INC.

## Statements of Financial Position

As of December 31,

	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	37,333	88,318
Investments	5,545,063	4,938,615
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	5,582,396	5,026,933
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	1,005	888
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	5,581,391	5,026,045
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	5,582,396	5,026,933

## Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31,

	2017	2016
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Change in Net Assets	\$ 555,346	\$ 277,640
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Interest and Dividends Reinvested	(55,683)	(99,426)
Net Realized and Unrealized Loss (Gain) on Investments	(444,707)	(116,224)
Fees Paid From Investments	33,942	31,504
Change in Operating Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	117	888
Total Adjustments	(466,331)	(183,258)
<b>Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>	89,015	94,382
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of Investments	(140,000)	(50,000)
<b>Net Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>	(140,000)	(50,000)
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH</b>	(50,985)	44,382
<b>CASH - BEGINNING</b>	88,318	43,936
<b>CASH - ENDING</b>	\$ 37,333	\$ 88,318



# Birch-Sturm Fellowships 2017

**District 27-A1**

Jeff Adler  
 Richard Blaha  
 Dan Dickinson  
 Ronald Drew  
 Mike Massman  
 Robert Poff  
 Gale Puerner  
 Don Raye  
 Linda Ryan  
 Scott Sweno  
 Scott Tamer  
 Jane Zarnke

**District 27-A2**

Ron Buschke  
 Jennie Greisch  
 Robert Guse  
 Dick Hedrick  
 Richard Kastenmeier  
 Diane Kohl  
 Kelly Naumann  
 Charles Prendergast  
 John Wanke  
 Mitch Worth

**District 27-B1**

Rose Berendes  
 Beverly Gantner  
 Jim Konitzer  
 Ken Loehrke  
 Robert K. McGrath  
 Ray Petersohn  
 Don Price  
 Kelly Rickert  
 Richard Schlichting  
 Dick Schumacher

**District 27-B2**

Henry Gilson  
 Larry Guyette  
 Dave & Danielle Joerres  
 Jeffery Johnson  
 Dave Neelis  
 Jim Sanden  
 Floyd Swan

**District 27-C1**

George Alafouzos  
 Brad Behrens  
 Philip Bickley  
 Bob Haupt  
 Yvonne "Vonnie" Henning (IMO)  
 Leslie Himes  
 Peggy "Peg" Lecy  
 Walter Leppen, Sr. (IMO)  
 Betty Martino  
 Milt Pachal  
 Tracy Reierson  
 Sally Storck

**District 27-C2**

Bryan Boone  
 Matt Hammes  
 Thomas Handrick  
 John Hogan  
 Kirby Redman  
 Rhae Ellen Schnoor  
 Bruce Weber

**District 27-D1**

Merwyn Bauer  
 Marian Bemis  
 Thomas Klahn  
 Barry Pufahl  
 Jeff Skoug  
 Jerry Whitford  
 George H. Woodbridge

**District 27-D2**

Carole Jerome  
 Dave Pawlisch  
 Bob Roloff  
 Don Slama

**District 27-E1**

James Ahrens  
 Thomas Clark  
 Bill Cunningham  
 Brian L. Dulmes  
 Mike Grosskreutz  
 Gary Kutchera  
 Marvin Nevala  
 Norske Nook

**District 27-E2**

Ron O'Connell  
 Dave Smith  
 Don Tyson  
 Steven Young  
 Tim Cashman  
 Tim Frank  
 Sally Gaeu  
 Sue Lecheler

**(IMO) = In Memory Of**

**WISCONSIN LIONS BIRCH-STURM MEMORIAL FUND, INC.**

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[BIRCHSTURM.ORG](http://BIRCHSTURM.ORG)