

# Wisconsin Lions Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc.

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## Annual Report

### 2018-2019



•Jay Nesseth, President •Terry Peters, Vice President •B.J. Blahnik, Secretary

•Mary Vrieze, Treasurer •Jo Marson, Director

•Tal Janowitz, Director, •DG Diane Fansler, Council Representative

# *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

**Jay Nesselth, President**



Welcome to our annual Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, Inc. meeting here at the MD27 State Convention. This year seemed to fly by, but was an exciting year for me as President. Having this opportunity has given me a better understanding and more of the history and operation of the Fund.

One of the changes this year was our investment advisor. We welcomed David M. Miller from Cetera Advisor Networks LLC as our new advisor. After reviewing our portfolio, David was able to make some changes that have benefited us with growth in our investments. I would like to thank David, along with PDG Jordan Chadwick, with helping us understand our portfolio better and guiding us in the decision making needed to keep our investments strong.

In October 2018, the Wisconsin Lions Foundation (WLF) requested a withdrawal from the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund of \$125,000.00 in interest earnings as part of their budget.

I would like to thank the clubs of MD27 for your continued support of the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund, through your donations and memorials given. The interest helps support those who attend Lions Camp. Without your support, they would not have the opportunity to be a camper for a week and enjoy the fellowship and life long friendships that are developed at Camp. Thank you.

I would also like to thank Wisconsin Lions Foundation Executive Director, PCC Evett Hartvig, for her assistance and guidance this year, along with all the Board members for their dedication and support of the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund in making this a successful year. And, I know next year's Board of Directors, under the direction of incoming President PCC Terry Peters will be just as successful.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as this year's President of the Birch-Sturm Memorial Fund and I will continue to support this great organization.

Thank you for your service to those in need.

# 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, 2018 and 2017, 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, 2018 and 2017, 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**  
April 2, 2019

**WISCONSIN LIONS BIRCH-STURM MEMORIAL FUND, INC.****Statement of Activities****For the Year Ended December 31,**

	2018	2017
<b>REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT</b>		
Memorials	2,045	1,170
Birch-Sturm Fellowships	106,785	103,717
Interest and Investment Income	178,791	121,741
<b>Total Revenues and Other Support</b>	<u>287,621</u>	<u>226,628</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Program:		
Interest Transferred to Wisconsin Lions Foundation, Inc.	125,000	100,000
Office Supplies	203	32
Printing	204	289
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>	<u>125,407</u>	<u>100,321</u>
Management and General:		
Professional Fees	5,916	5,961
Administrative Fees	3,307	3,204
Plaques and Engraving	7,346	6,503
<b>Total Management and General</b>	<u>16,569</u>	<u>15,668</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>141,976</u>	<u>115,989</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS</b>	145,645	110,639
<b>NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	<u>(321,575)</u>	<u>444,707</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	(175,930)	555,346
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING</b>	<u>5,581,391</u>	<u>5,026,045</u>
<b>NET ASSETS - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 5,405,461</u>	<u>\$ 5,581,391</u>

# WISCONSIN LIONS BIRCH-STURM MEMORIAL FUND, INC.

## Statements of Financial Position

As of December 31,

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	29,074	37,333
Investments	5,377,279	5,545,063
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>5,406,353</u>	<u>5,582,396</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	892	1,005
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	5,405,461	5,581,391
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u>5,406,353</u>	<u>5,582,396</u>

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

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Change in Net Assets	\$ (175,930)	\$ 555,346
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Interest and Dividends Reinvested	(80,488)	(55,683)
Net Realized and Unrealized Loss (Gain) on Investments	321,575	(444,707)
Fees Paid From Investments	26,697	33,942
Change in Operating Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	(113)	117
Total Adjustments	<u>267,671</u>	<u>(466,331)</u>
<b>Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>	<u>91,741</u>	<u>89,015</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of Investments	(100,000)	(140,000)
<b>NET CHANGE IN CASH</b>	(8,259)	(50,985)
<b>CASH - BEGINNING</b>	<u>37,333</u>	<u>88,318</u>
<b>CASH - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 29,074</u>	<u>\$ 37,333</u>



# Birch-Sturm Fellowships 2018

**District 27-A1**

Bill Burke  
 Sebastian Caravella  
 Marilyn Carlson  
 Rob Chase (IMO)  
 Sam Dial  
 Karen Heine  
 Peter Hillringhouse  
 Jerry Johnson  
 Dave Leppin  
 Kevin R. Mikes  
 James J.P. Penn  
 Mark R. Rhode  
 Lindsay Sayles  
 Ryan Schroeder  
 Deb Schwaan  
 Clark Smith  
 Tim Sommers  
 Tim Szeklinski

**District 27-A2**

Stephan Fitzgerald  
 Louis Hady  
 Dan McKelvey  
 Mark "Red" Mueller  
 Basil Orechwa  
 Joe Ringle  
 Deb Strand

**District 27-B1**

James Klundt  
 Randy Petrack  
 Gerald F. Schmidt  
 Theresa Schultz  
 Tom Vande Hey  
 Thomas Wendt

**District 27-B2**

Peter Fannin  
 Robert Gracyalny  
 Dale Matheson

**District 27-C1**

Keith Adee  
 Paul Ashbeck  
 Richard Bradley  
 Judith Cody  
 Deb Delie  
 Fred Fenhaus  
 Jamie Jannusch  
 Joyce Rogney  
 Tracy Saeger  
 Robert Scheuer

**District 27-C2**

Donald W. Barnabo  
 Stan Rakowski  
 Mary K. Strosin

**District 27-D1**

Melissa K. Dickson  
 Dick Leverentz  
 Verne Shea  
 Larry Sobyak

**District 27-D2**

Linda Benjamin  
 Randy Kissack  
 Jan Koranda  
 Jo Ann Marson

**District 27-E1**

Glen Anderson  
 Joe Meinen  
 Gordie Meinen  
 Gary Peterson  
 Michael Plisky  
 Michele Shrader

**District 27-E2**

Emily Barth  
 Janet Ida  
 Walter Jacobson  
 Thomas Pratt  
 Jeff Schneider  
 Luther Strasburg  
 James C. Wickboldt

**(IMO) = In Memory Of**

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

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