

District 8L Newsletter

August 1, 2019

Message from the District Governor



July 1, 2019, brought us into a brand new Lion Year with a fresh start and new excitement. I was quite proud to have my “ribbon” pulled by Past District Governor (and husband) Scott Harkey at the 102nd International Convention in Milan, Italy. While I had (continued on page...4)

Meet the 2019-20 Team

1st Vice District Governor—Tina



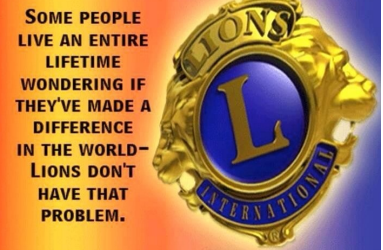
Tina was born August 29, 1955 as the second born of 6 children. She is a graduate of Northwestern State University where she earned a degree in nursing. She presently resides in Benton, Louisiana.

In her career as a nurse, she has worked in dialysis, psychiatric, urology, transplant surgery, and supervised at the Eye Clinic of LSU in Shreveport for 10 years. She has recently retired and is enjoying spending time with her husband of 34 years, Michael, (continued on page 6)

2nd Vice District Governor—Jerry



Born in the old Tri-State Hospital (now Willis Knighton) in Shreveport on November 24, 1950. Spent the first two years living on the Beene Plantation on Benton Road in Bossier where my father worked for Mr. Harlon Beene. At 19 years old, Dad did everything from digging drainage ditches connected to the Red River to driving to Brownsville, Texas in an old school bus to pick up migrant workers to work (continued on page 6)



District Officers 2019-2010

District Governor.....Terry Harkey
1st Vice District Governor.....Tina Hickey
2nd Vice District Governor...Jerry Madden
District Secretary.....Sherrie McMurray
District Treasurer.....Krissy Shelton
Region 1 Zone Chair.....Debbie Schilling
Region 2 Zone Chair.....Alan Brown
Region 3 Zone Chair.....Ray Cecil
Immediate PDG.....Tony Simpson

Save the Date

- August 1 — Submit District Dues
- August 10-11 Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation Board Meeting , New Orleans, Louisiana
- August 10—Big Time Raffle Drawing
- August 17—Cabinet meeting
- August 30—Bossier Jamboree
- September 19-22 USA/Canada Leadership Forum, Spokane, WA
- October 4—Leesville Rodeo
- October 14—Ray Cecil speaks about Lions Camp at Bossier Central
- October 18-20 — 8L Conference, Bossier City, LA
- November 6— Peace Poster 2020 Deadline for clubs

Important Contact Info

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**District
e-House**



Louisiana Lions Children's Camp

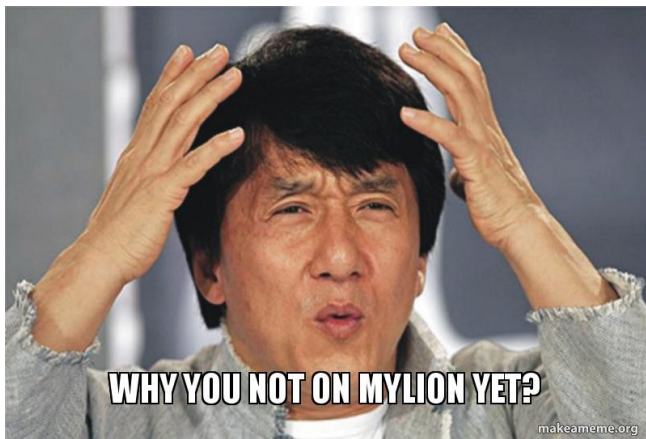
Pictures = 1000 Words

When Camp is going on full swing, it's really not a good time to ask the man running the show to stop doing that and write something for this publication. But he was able to convey more than words by sending these incredibly moving photos from this year's camp. If you'd like to know more, invite him to speak at your club! Thanks, Ray!



Lion Ray simply titled this picture as "My View" For more beautiful shots please look on the back page. They were so good we had to add another page!!

MyLion and Service Reporting



LCI discontinued the service activity portion of MyLCI in June of this year. All service activities are now reported via the MyLion which is available on the web or as a mobile app. MyLion allows entering activities by not only clubs, but individual Lions which can then be submitted (with one button) by club presidents, secretaries, service chairs, or administrators. If you were unsuccessful in the past, please try again, as many improvements have been made in the last 60 days. Your district team is available to assist in training for MyLion, just ask. In our district, 11 clubs report during a 12 month period with 10 of those reporting no less than every 6 months. Please make an effort to report your service every month.

PLEASE KEEP DG TERRY INFORMED OF ANY NEWS FROM YOUR CLUB!!

Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation

by LLEF President PDG Scott Harkey

Now is the time to move our projects forward. We are 45 years young, and still growing! With the CubSight program firmly established and under the leadership of Walter Peat, we now need to focus on other areas of service, through a new program that would involve you, and your Lion service partners, in the vision care of those with diabetes, glaucoma, or seniors in need of vision care. I hope to roll out a mobile system of eye screening equipment that can be deployed around the state to accomplish the task of bringing better quality of life through vision care.

Our eyeglass recycling program, while still bringing in record number of used glasses, needed some committed group to help with the sorting, grading, and packaging of these much needed pieces of life changing eye wear. Our Executive Director, Lion Chris Carlone, took it upon himself to partner with a local sheriff's department and get inmate trustees to do the task. Now we are back on track and reducing the back log of collected glasses so that those in other countries might receive the gift of vision. But we can still be involved in the sorting and cleaning of these glasses at service projects across the state.

I urge you, no I challenge you, to become greater involved with your foundation and with your fellow Lions. I invite you to come to a meeting of the LLEF in your district or one close by. This year we are hosting celebrations of our 45th year in four of the five districts in the state. We will kick things off in New Orleans at our home coming annual meeting a super party featuring, great food, prizes and the drawing of the Big Time Raffle Winners! Next, in November, we will be in Opelousas for the Cracklin' Festival and be hosted by the Port Barre Lions Club. February will find us in "The Capital of East Texas," Shreveport, and a Friday Night Mudbugs Hockey Extravaganza, Sponsored by the North Shreveport Lions Club! Our final celebration will be Gonzales and I am sure the Lions of the Baton Rouge will not disappoint! We will do our best to keep you all informed of what will happen at these events and how you can join in the fun and service.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Meet Suelle Robinson, from Shreveport. Suelle is 3 years old, and as you can see she is a happy girl. She LOVES her new glasses.

Tara Jefferson-Robinson, mom to Suelle, is very thankful to the North Shreveport Lions who screened her daughter and referred her to a professional for further tests. Tara had no idea her daughter was experiencing difficulty with her vision. Now she is seeing the world in a completely different way!



A WIN/WIN/WIN for YOUR Community

If your club is not taking advantage of the best \$12 you ever spent, you are missing out!! This art contest established for middle school ages is a huge win for Lions, the schools, art, and peace. Find an art teacher and get this information to her. This year's theme is "Journey of Peace" and the deadline for final art which will be judged at club, district, multidistrict and international levels is Nov 6. All instructions come with

Health Assessment

By now, presidents and vice presidents should be receiving the health assessment that is released each month by LCI to the district governors and zone chairs. This report is a very good tool for measuring your club's progress. Please take a moment each month to look at your club's stats and see your strengths. If you feel like you need help in a particular area, please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Global Action Team. Connect with District or Multi-District Leadership, Membership, Service, or LCIF Chairpersons for any training your club might like



**Don't forget
to recycle
eyeglasses.**

By the Numbers

Membership is growing in our district. More members mean more hands to accomplish more service to our communities. Bossier Central, North Shreveport and Minden ended the year with impressive positive growth. Many clubs maintained or grew this year. 85% of our district is reporting the MMR at least every 3 months. (If your club is behind with filing MMRs, please contact PDG Scott Harkey—jscottharkey@gmail.com for help.)

Global Membership Chair contact for 8L and MD8 is Don Brown. Email at donbrownsfbcic.com

Get involved and.....REVERSE THE CURSE

.....Continued from page 1

had been preparing for this for quite some time, the moment was quite overwhelming as 730+ Lions accepted responsibility for their areas for the year 2019-2020.

I am depending heavily upon the hard-working, generous, and energetic Lions of our district to help me take our district to the next level. I have visited clubs with the express purpose of preparing for the coming 5 year plan to "Reverse the Curse" of declining membership. We cannot serve if we do not have members. My #1 goal is to start 3 clubs and the next two district governors have signed on to that idea. If we accomplish this for the next 5 years, we will be very close to being out of transition and on firm foundation marching toward the next 100 years of service.

I will ask all of the Lions of the district to stretch the limits. Bring in members, yes, but investigate NEW ways of starting clubs, perhaps in towns that have had clubs before but closed. This new generation, while sometimes exasperating, understands the idea of the need of service. Establish clubs based on existing groups who just need direction and purpose.

I am requesting your club make an all out attempt to support the Fall Conference in Bossier City, October 18-20. Connecting to other Lions in the district is critical to reestablishing our district. There will be lots of fun, fellowship and some serious training at this conference. PLEASE attend.



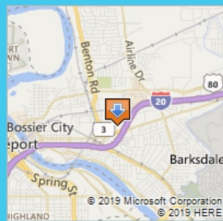
Everything is Awesome! Everything is Cool when you are part of the 8L Team!

When

Friday, October 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM CDT
 –to–
 Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 12:00 PM CDT
[Add to Calendar](#)

Where

Hilton Garden Inn of Shreveport Bossier
 2015 Old Minden Rd
 Bossier City, LA 71111



[Driving Directions](#)

Contact

DG Terry Harkey
 District 8L Lions Clubs
 318-458-3779
lionsdistrict8l@gmail.com

District 8L Lions Clubs Fall Conference

You are invited to come join the TEAM as we Build the Future of Lionism at the [Hilton Garden Inn of Shreveport Bossier!](#)

Friday – 6:30pm Lions Night at [George's Pond](#) watch the [Shreveport Mudbugs Hockey!](#)

Saturday's Events...

- **8am** The 0.5k Run/Walk for Diabetes in the [Bossier's East Bank District!](#)
- **10am** District 8L Cabinet Meeting
- **Noon** Lunch Provided
- **1pm** Mass Guiding Lion Training and Certification – Trainer PCC Winster Ceballos
- **6:30pm** Banquet, featuring a [Tuscan Feast](#) & keynote by, ID Dr. Jose Marrero
- **Until they Run Us Out** *Karaoke Extravaganza!* *participate or just watch and dance!*

Sunday – 9am Breakfast Provided, closing notes by ID Dr. Marrero
11am MD 8 Council Meeting

Contact the host hotel, [Hilton Garden Inn of Shreveport Bossier](#) at [318.759.1950](tel:318.759.1950) for rooms, mention 8-L Lions Conference for the convention room rate of \$115.

[Register Now!](#)

(continued from Page 1—Tina Hickey)

her 4 children and 5 grandchildren.

Tina is active in the Shreveport Red River Lions Club. Tina was co-founder of the club that was chartered in June of 2012. She served as the first president of the club and has just finished her second presidency. Presently, she serves on the board of LLEF. Previously, she served on the Louisiana Eye Bank Board of Directors.

Tina's passion is volunteering for various service projects and traveling. She enjoys meeting people and helping in whatever capacity she can. She is truly vested in the Lions and wants to be instrumental in the growth of membership and projects

(continued from Page 1—Jerry Madden)

to work the fields. After living on the plantation, in two moves we ended up on 12 ¼ acres south of Sibley, where my real world began. My mother worked at what was known as the "shell plant" until my father went into the road construction business. From running an asphalt roller on road jobs at 8 years old to driving a gravel truck hauling sand/gravel at 14, my father did not see age as a barrier to when my work career was to begin. He told me how to do something, one (1) time, he never had to repeat his instructions. He was not a mean person, just figured one time was enough, so listen well I did.

The Sibley Lions Club was formed in 1959 with my father as a charter member. So, from that date forward our world was all around work and service projects for the Lions Club. From fish fries to benefit projects for children to rebuilding the baseball park for our local high school, service for all but yourself was the motto in our home.

At 18 years old and going into my 2nd year at Louisiana Tech, the yearning to finally become a Lion was satisfied in 1969. Having joined the Circle K Club at Tech, an on-campus service organization to help projects in need helped fill a gap, but it just wasn't the same. Being a Lion was it.

Fast forward a few years, money ran out at Tech. Ended up going to work for Uncle Sam in June 1970. Trained in communications, eventually became a Communications Training NCO, stint at Barksdale and at Zweibrücken Air Base in Germany. Separated in 1977 with the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Have been a certified water/boating safety instructor for 17 years. Taught classes at LSUS, Cross Lake, Kinsey Boy Scout Ranch, Lake O' The Pines and the Shreveport Police

Department Marine Division. Developed a safety program that was chosen by the Houston Safe Boating Council to teach as their basic program. For the work on that program, was commissioned an Admiral in the Texas Navy by then Governor Rick Perry in 2011. Dallas is currently looking at adopting the program as well. Having passed all tests and requirements, am a certified instructor for Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Have been a member of the United States Power Squadron for 19 years. Am currently National Past Vice Commander having been over all squadron activities in 453 squadrons, 34,000 members which included Japan, Hawaii, Continental United States, Puerto Rico and surrounding islands.

The time spent with the Sibley Lions Club lasted 20 years, until 1989. Having been President twice, Zone Chairman twice and back then, Deputy District Governor once. Stayed out of Lions for years due to out of town work and rejoined after retirement in 2012. Since then have spent tenure on the Minden Lions Club Board of Directors, Past President, 2017-2018, in which we were blessed with the Club Excellence Award, Chair of our Eyeglasses/Cubsight program, Membership Chair, 2018-2019, in which we received the net club membership growth award, member of the LLEF Advisory Board, member of the MD8 Club Development Project, Zone Chairman 2018-2019 and elected 2nd Vice Governor for 2019-2020.

My work career had been centered around purchasing and inventory control for local manufacturing plants, car/truck dealerships, an oil field service company and ownership of a farm and tractor equipment dealership.

My wife, of soon to be 48 years, has her master's degree in music education and is now retired with 27 years of service with the Webster Parish School System. But what few people don't know is that she taught piano to private students not only at our home but in a converted flight line van for 17 years. She would go to the schools and teach in the van. This venture was featured in a documentary published in The Shreveport Journal years ago.

Cindy and I had 4 children, one daughter and three sons. Daughter had 5 children; sons had 3. Our youngest son, Joshua, a Sgt. in the U.S. Army, was killed in Iraq in 2006 at the age of 21. He had one of the children, a son. Our lives changed the day he died.







LIONS SUPPORT MAKES THIS HAPPEN!
Thank you and....See you next summer!

