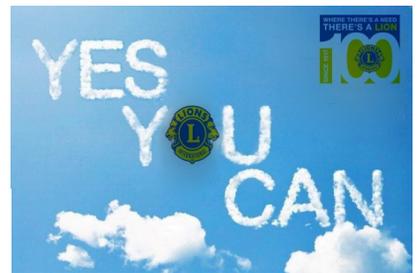


District 8L Newsletter

APRIL 2020



Louisiana Lions Multiple District 8 2020 State Convention



Friday March 13, through Sunday March 22, 2020
At the Crowne Plaza Executive Center
4728 Concession Avenue, Baton Rouge, La 70808
Tel • 225- 925-2244



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

Save the Date

- April 17-19 Regional Lion Leadership Institute—Anacoco **CANCELLED**
- April 20-24 —New Club Development Workshop, Shreveport **CANCELLED**

Important Contact Info

- Dianna Smathers—Newsletter Editor
diannasmathers@hotmail.com
- Scott Harkey-District Administrator
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318.458.4691

Message from the District Governor

Wow.. All I can say is WOW. Coronavirus has succeeded in shutting down our world, not just our country! Our state convention is cancelled. The Council is making arrangements for how to handle elections. This is the first time we've cancelled. I'm double checking, but this also may be the first time LCI Con has been cancelled and it is definitely the first time that a sitting international president has had to extend his term for 12 more months. District Governor Elects have gotten the really short end of the stick as they will not have an international event in which to be sworn in for their term, nor their last day of training in Singapore. But we all have to put this into perspective. One of our sitting District Governors (Willis Luke from 8S) tested positive for the virus, and has a ragin fever. Several Lions in South Louisiana are also infected, a couple fighting for their ... (Cont'd on page 7)



**District
e-House**



A NEW LION YEAR—A NEW DISTRICT GOVERNOR



In the early hours of February 10, 2020, Lion Tina Hickey boarded a plane for St. Charles, Illinois, to begin her training to be your 2020-2021 district Governor. Lodgings at “The Q Center” are quite minimalistic. Imagine a 1950 dorm room for one. But oh, the things one learns at this location! Lion District Governor Elect Tina is part of the 2nd round of governors to train in this manner.

Since nearly the beginning of governor training, the typical method was that class arrived at the location for the international convention 5 days early for training. There they would listen, participate, and learn many ideas and concepts that would help them be an effective governor. The class of 2019-2020 were the first class to have the luxury of taking this training in the USA a full 5 months prior to becoming governor. The experiment was quite well received. The benefits are obvious.

Multiple District 8 District Governors Elect all joined together with the other 700+ governor-elects in this town very close to Chicago. They shared meals with each other and begin to get comfortable with their upcoming role.

Part of this adventure includes a tour of LCI International office, including stepping to the big office of our International President. This is followed by lunch on the bus making its way to the cemetery which is the final resting place of our founder Melvin Jones.

All in all, Lion DGE Tina is well prepared now to begin her journey for 8L. Please be sure to call or email her to set up a visit after July 1, 2020.



Peace Poster:

FIND A SCHOOL IN YOUR AREA TO PARTICIPATE!

Probably the most fun service project a club can sponsor!! It's SO SIMPLE!! Locate a middle school art teacher who would promote this contest as part of his/her curriculum. Order the \$12 kit. Give the teacher the information for the project. Notify the district governor of your project! Make a date in October to judge the art

February 15—2020-2021 Kits go on sale. Order your kit!

We're not sure what the affect this current pandemic will have on the Peace Poster 2020 campaign, but as soon as information is available, you will be notified.

Meanwhile— (when bans are lifted) talk to your art teachers and get a school to sign up—even if it is just for local fun.



What's NOT Cancelled? The 2021 8L Conference!!

Registration for 8-L Workshop on October 24, 2020

In lieu of the fall conference this year, we are offering a 1 day workshop to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Bossier City on October 24, 2020. The following is an itinerary of information that will be offered:

| Time | Presentation | Presenter |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 9:00 | Zoom conference calling | Lion Scott Harkey, PDG |
| 9:45 | Entering your Service hour | Lion Debbie Schillings, 1 st VG |
| 10:15 | Campaign 100 | Lion Michelle Waskom, PDG |
| 11:00 | Campaign 1250 | Lion Phyllis Breaux 8-S |
| Lunch on your own | | |
| 1:00 | Leader Dog | Lion Scott Dudley, |
| 1:45 | Leadership | Lion Terry Harkey, PDG |
| 2:30 | Using Cub Sight Camera | Walter Peet |
| 3:30 | How to measure for glasses | Walter Peet |

This is a ONE DAY workshop. However, if you will be traveling, accommodations can be booked at the Bossier Hilton Garden Inn by dialing 318-759-1950. It is located on 2015 Old Minder Rd. in Bossier City.

Please Register at 318-393-7870



Louisiana Lions Children's Camp

Camp Director Ray Cecil



We are well at camp so far and the weather is getting better as we go.

The Camp Pelican leaders contacted me yesterday to let us know that Camp Pelican is cancelled for the upcoming summer. The bulk of the campers and staff come from the heavy impact areas of the state, and though it came a little sooner than I expected, I did expect them to cancel.

We are in a decision holding pattern for the rest of the weeks, like I mentioned earlier, but we will have to make one in early May.

I sent out a communication with our Nursing staff this morning, and will communicate with our campers parents this afternoon. We are still registering campers at this time.

We will continue to let the ladies come into the office on Tues,wed,and Thurs to process financial materials and campers/ staff paperwork - as long as they are comfortable with the arrangement we have. I am working out of my MPB office and taking care of the grounds with the help of my boys, Monday through Friday. If you need me, call my cell phone though.

Be well and stay well.



Scott Harkey, LLEF 2019-2020 President

Our February 8th and 9th meeting of the LLEF took place right here in District 8L. We started the weekend off with a "slapshot" at the Shreveport Bossier Mudbugs hockey game, which was preceded by a home cooked fare of gumbo, jambalaya, étouffée, and bread pudding cooked by yours truly! I would like to thank the members of 8L who helped prepare for the arrival of our guests from around the state, and a big thank you to all who attended the celebration.

Now on to the news of the day. How things can change in just a few weeks. Our May 2-3rd meeting in Gonzales has been canceled due to the social distancing and stay at home orders placed on us by our governmental leaders to help "flatten the curve" of this pandemic the world is experiencing. We held our first ever video conference of the Executive Committee via Zoom to discuss this and although not everyone was able to "attend" I felt like it was a success. This may be the way of the future, in that our committees could utilize this format to better express ideas and quickly exchange thoughts on a project. While a written thread of emails is always great to refer back to, it does tend to make of a very lengthy process of getting everyone to express their thoughts in writing, whereas the Zoom or Go To Meeting format puts us all on the same chat with video and file sharing capabilities in real time.

Needless to say, our plans to move forward with a GDR (Glaucoma Diabetic Retinopathy) Unit have been placed on hold while this chapter in our lives plays out. I pray that each of you will remain healthy and come back together with us in August as we begin our new year of the LLEF with Lion Belinda Arceneaux as our president.

Our staff is still hard at work while being sheltered at home. Great things are being planned for your foundation as we move forward in this recovery.



LOUISIANA LIONS EYE FOUNDATION
2020 Gravier Street, Suite B New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: 504-525-7235 Email: lalioneyes@bellsouth.net
www.LionEyes.org



The Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation is
hoping you are staying **SAFE AND SANE**
during these trying times.
WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

This is an unprecedented time in our history. The President of the United States has declared WAR on the COVID 19 virus. This worldwide epidemic has created conditions in our country unlike anything we have seen before, other than going to war.

In times of crisis, neighbors need each other more and more every day. In 1917 while the United States was entering into WWI, people joined together to develop Lions Clubs International in an effort to help others in their time of need. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, our Nation's people worked together to build battle equipment and supported our troops to save this country from foreign aggression.

Today, as we watch the news, we see that people are not only suffering through this health crisis, but they are suffering financially as well. This is when Lions are needed most of all. Once this virus is no longer a threat and people are safe to resume their daily activities, many will need our help getting back on their feet and back to their normal lives.

At this time, our LLEF office is temporarily closed due to the restrictions in the New Orleans area. However, **we are still here for you** as your foundation staff members are working from home.

Please be assured, when this is behind us, we will be there to serve you and the residents of your communities.

Just like after war as our country grew back stronger than ever before, we will grow stronger because the need will be greater.

“WHERE THERE IS A NEED, THERE IS A LION”

Yours in service;

Chris Carlone
Executive Director / CEO
Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation



Club Anniversaries

These club celebrate their charter this quarter.

APRIL 17, 2008—Anacoco

APRIL 19, 1940—Mansfield

MAY 22, 1992—Bossier City Central

MAY 28, 1968—Arcadia

MAY 29, 1926—Homer

JUNE 13, 2012—Shreveport Red River

JUNE 17, 1942—Leesville

JUNE 28, 1960—Florien

SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE - CLUB NEWS



Every Saturday in January and February, the Lions of Florien are hard at work all day with the children of their area—refereeing, coaching, scorekeeping, and selling tickets and snacks. This is not only a major fundraising effort, it's also a wonderful community service.



SERVICE SERVICE SERVICE



Left: Some happy Lions from North Shreveport at Bass Pro selling raffle tickets. It was really luck that they had several really good sale days because after the stay at home orders, the annual Clay Shoot was cancelled. Raffle drawing is scheduled for May 1.

Below: Lions enjoy the Shreveport Mudbug Hockey game at 8L location for Louisiana Lions Eye Foundation Board meeting



Officers of Louisiana Childrens' Camp at March Board Meeting in Lafayette.

(Cont'd from page 1)

lives. Several of our multi-district Lions have succumbed to the ravages of this virus. Many have contracted the virus and survived. In that we are very thankful.

If you have someone in your club who has contracted COVID—please let me know as I am keeping a prayer list of those who have been infected.

As Lions we must look to what we can do with where we are and how we can move forward. Some clubs are donating time and money to food banks, some Lions are sewing masks for family and neighbors as well as medical staff.

I thought I was finished with my message, but I have just been notified that our district has received an LCIF Emergency Grant for \$10,000 which can be used to purchase medical supplies in our area. I specified Caddo/Bossier parishes, because at the time, that was where the biggest need was. However as time has passed, many agencies have beat the bushes to procure medical supplies, The need here has dropped just a bit, so if you know of any emergency services or even nursing homes who need the N95 masks, send me an email outlining the need.

I also prepared some masks with the LCIF logo on them, however I failed to gain written permission to do so, and therefore, I must wait until I get permission (or not) before I give them out. KaSondra from LCIF is working that for me to see if we can get that pushed through, even though the LCI offices are shut down. Many of the LCI staff are working from home, so it is possible to get something done via email, but don't bother calling LCI office.

Meanwhile—ALL OF YOU... keep yourselves safe, and think of creative ways to serve from a distance. Let me know if there is something I can do for you or your club.

If your club completed service during this past quarter and your service did not appear in this newsletter it is completely YOUR FAULT. If you would like to see your events added to this quarterly publication, send the information and include photos if possible to your district governor

PLEASE HELP MAKE THIS PUBLICATION ABOUT ALL THE 8L

**DELEGATES:
VOTING WILL CONTINUE THROUGH
4/30...
PLEASE MAKE SURE**

PLEASE REPORT YOUR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS ASAP

Deadline for reporting PU101s to LCI is May 15! Since LCI is the source of our club information for the directory, if your club has not reported officers for 2020-2021, your club's information may not be accurate. It takes a good deal of time to put the directory together. Your 8L Directory depends your club reporting new officers to the district secretary no later than June 30. It is hoped every year to have all the information in by July 1 and therefore available at the first cabinet meeting, however that almost never happens. Please, please, please work with your club mates to get the elections executed and reported early!