

LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 12-S  
P.O. Box 81  
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# District 12-S News & Views

*"In a World of Service"*

Strengthen  
the  
Pride

August 2014

District 12-S, Middle Tennessee (USA)

www.lions12s.org



Well this new lions year has begun with a LOUD ROAR. We are setting off on an adventure that I personally will remember the rest of my life. Each one of you have been and will be playing a major role. I am so thankful to the Good Lord above for this opportunity to serve along beside you.

The Lions Club International Convention in Toronto was a life changing experience filled with wonderful opportunities as we got to see PID Bob and Dianne Corlew get voted in to 2nd Vice President of our Association. Our cup ran over with pride for them and for each lion in the state of Tennessee and especially for District 12-S because they are one of ours. It was great to have the bus load of Tennesseans at the convention. My heart just jumped for joy seeing everyone at the parade. Tennessee was well represented.

Our New International President is Joe Preston and his theme is "Strengthen the Pride". He says that a "Pride" is a close-knit family of lions. Also "Pride" is a feeling of happiness that you get when you or someone you know does something good. It is not the pride of being boastful but rather the pride of accomplishment in building communities, doing good, and reaching out to assist others. He says that we can "Strengthen the Pride" by bringing the full Lion's family closer together, working in a spirit of cooperation and understanding, with each Lion member doing their share.

I think it is important for us to know what the International President expects of us this year so we can strive to accomplish those tasks. I had to make my goals for this year about 6 months ago as part of my assignment to be District Governor I was surprised to learn that some of mine were very similar to some of President Preston's goals. His goals are as follows: #1: "ASK ONE". He encourages you to get the brochure from lions International in titled "Just Ask". MY goal is for each of us to ask 1 new quality prospective member per month to join our "Pride". I pledged to ask 52 prospective lions to join our organization this year. That is one per week. President Preston says "It TAKES a lion to KNOW a lion" to know whether a person has the desire and passion to serve. #2. "SET THE EXPECTATION". When he makes a visit somewhere he will ask "How many Members do you have for me to induct?" He expects the District Governors to do the same when they make their official visits. And I will be asking. He does emphasis CLUB EXCELLENCE PROCESS (CEP). I challenge you to start this process.

It sounds much scarier than it is. It is a 4 step process including surveying of the members called "How are your ratings" and a survey of your community leaders called "Community Assessment" and these are collected by a trained facilitator (we have several in 12-S) or a member of your club could do it but that may not be the best option. I appreciate the clubs that have already agreed to the CEP. To start: contact LCI by typing in: www.lionsclubs.org in the search engine; then type in CEP; then click on REGISTER NOW. You can chose PRO or LITE. If you chose PRO LCI will contact me as District Governor to assign a facilitator to your club.

President Preston wants us to RESPOND TO CHILDREN IN NEED. Whether you expand a current project that you are already doing or start a new one, the ideas are endless. It can be to address literacy, hunger, abuse, poverty, or wherever you find children in need.

There is more but I will encourage you to go to www.lionsclubs.org and read the full version of International Presidents goals for our association for this year. It will inspire you as it has me. Especially when he says A ROAR WITHOUT CONVICTION IS JUST A LOUD NOSIE. I don't want to be just a loud noise, do you?

President Preston will be coming to our state convention this year in Clarksville on May 8,9, & 10. He is a great and inspiring speaker that will get you fired up and proud that you are a lion. So make plans to attend.

Our Summer Gathering will be August 16th in Lafayette at the Meador Building at the Macon County Fairgrounds. For GPS users put in 1200 Russell Drive which is the National Guard Armory. Turn in like you are going to the Armory then go past it into the Fairgrounds to the Meador Building. Contact 2VDG JoAnn Birdwell (jabbirdwell@nctc.com) to confirm your intentions of attending. Register at 8:30. We will start at 9AM and should be completed by 1PM.

I feel very humbled and honored to be serving along beside you in district 12-S, the largest district in the state. YOU make this district the BEST because YOU are the BEST. Thank you for all you do. Please feel free to contact me at any time. I will be happy to assist you in any way that I can. And I look forward to seeing you soon.

*Carolyn Blankenship*  
District Governor, District 12-S  
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

August 8-9, 2014	MD12 Organizational meeting, Nashville
August 16,2014	District 12S Summer gathering, Macon Co. Fairgrounds, Lafayette, TN
September 11-13, 2014	USA/Canada Lions Forum, San Juan, Puerto Rico
October 18, 2014	District 12S Fall gathering, Tullahoma Lions Clubhouse, Tullahoma, TN
December 12, 2014	Lions Day at TN School for the Blind, Nashville, TN
December 12, 2014	ELIB Christmas Luncheon, Nashville, TN

## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Feed the hungry and help those in trouble.  
Then your light will shine out from the darkness  
and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.

Isaiah 58:10

For any information about this newsletter, contact PDG Tom Irwin (615) 683-7363, tomwin327@dtccom.net  
For information about District 12-S website, contact Lion Colby McKinney (615) 489-0572, colbymckinney00@yahoo.com

## AS THE YEAR CLOSES...

Hello Fellow Lions of District 12-S. It is so hard for me to believe that my year as 2nd Vice-District Governor is over and we are already into another Lions year. As fast as time seems to be flying I feel like I should start unpacking the Christmas decorations.

Seriously though, it was my honor and privilege to serve you last year, and I look forward to serving you as 1st Vice-District Governor during the coming year. As the Lions of District 12-S we enjoyed many successes and accomplishments during the past year, including chartering two new Lions Clubs and three new Leo Clubs, and achieving positive membership growth for the year. That's not to mention all the service projects you did, which number way too many to list. All I can say is thank you for what you do every day. Of course we definitely can't forget that we saw one (two) of our own elected as Second Vice-President of Lions International, so congratulations again to Second International Vice-President Bob and Lion Dianne. We know you will do great things for Lionism.

I look forward to a great year for District 12-S and all of the Lions who make up this large family. Please remember that I am here as your Vice-District Governor to serve, and to help you as Lions achieve your goals and dreams of service to others. I have provided all of my contact information below, and I ask that you use it anytime you feel the need or wish to do so. May God Richly Bless each of you during the coming year.

### **Bob Davenport, 1VDG**

122 Mt. View Avenue  
McMinnville, TN 37110-1739  
Ph: 931-473-3234  
Cell: 931-607-0258  
Fax: 931-474-3200  
email: bobdavenport@blomand.net

## **GMT**

GMT: Global Membership Team. Sounds impressive HUH!! Actually it's a huge responsibility and a fair amount of work if the job is done right. It is something I take very seriously. Membership is extremely important to every Club, District and Multiple District. I am honored to have served the past three years and to have been approved by LCI for another three years.

Anything and everything that has to do with

membership is part of the GMT area of responsibility. This includes but is not limited to: Membership Growth, Extension, Retention, New Member Indoctrination, New Member Induction and more. I am as close as your phone or computer. Reach me at 615-273-5084, or cell # 615-631-5854, or e-mail reval@dtccom.net. I will come to you Club, Zone, Region or other meeting, if asked, to help in any way I can.

I must point out though, this is not a one person job. Membership is everyone's responsibility in seeking quality new members. In addition the Zone and Region Chairs are an integral part of the District Membership Team. And we must all work as a Team.

This year we need at least two new clubs. We need every club to end the year with at least plus one. We also need to work harder to stop the large number of drops.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all your hard work this past year. Because of your efforts and hard work the District ended the year on a positive note with a plus in membership. And your efforts enabled the Multiple District (MD-12) to end with a plus.

I extend a hearty Welcome to the new members of our team. And to those who are returning, Welcome Back. I look forward to working with all of you.

Let's make this another Banner year for 12-S.

### **PDG Rev. Al Lyon**

District 12-S GMT

## **NOTE FROM 2ND VICE PRESIDENT, LCI**

Dianne and I are so excited! It was so humbling to see so many Tennessee Lions work so hard to help me be elected to serve as Second Vice-President of Lions Clubs International. Somehow, it seems so inadequate to express our appreciation just with the use of the words "Thank you." Nonetheless, we want to express our sincerest thanks. So many Lions from District 12-S worked so many long hours, and so many contributed hard-earned dollars to help our campaign to be successful. Because of our hard work, Lions from all over the United States and around the world jumped in to give us a hand. It is so great to have the opportunity to serve. Thank you, District 12-S Lions for giving us the opportunity to serve Lions Clubs International.

## **WHITE CANE- THE JOY OF GIVING**

The concept of the White Cane started in Bristol, England in 1921. When photographer James Biggs became blind after an accident, he became very uncomfortable walking because of the amount of traffic around his home, so he painted his walking stick white for more visibility. In 1930, President George A. Bonham of the Peoria (Illinois) Lions Club introduced the idea of using a white cane with a red band to assist the blind, and to help those with sight identify persons who might have need of special consideration in their travels. The rest, as they say, is history.

Lions Clubs continue to have projects in observance of October 15th, National White Cane Safety Day, and many still use small white canes as symbols when collecting money at roadblocks or other activities. White Cane has grown so much from its beginning, and is now an umbrella that encompasses many District 12-S projects related to sight conservation and assistance for the vision impaired--assistance for the hearing impaired; programs to aid young people with special needs in getting their education, obtaining employment, participating in camps and other activities; programs to assist adults with special needs; and programs to encourage youth in their growth and development. Here is a list of our District 12-S White Cane projects:

- Middle TN Lions Sight Service
- Lions Communication Services (Van)
- TN School for the Blind
- TN School for the Deaf
- Leader Dog
- Ed Lindsey Industries for the Blind

- KidSight Outreach
- District Hearing Aid Program
- Learning Ally
- District Drug Essay Contest
- District Peace Poster Contest
- World Services for the Blind

You can see your contributions to White Cane serve a wide variety of needs. Donations are divided among these projects based on a determined percentage. Donations may also be directed to a specific project(s) by designating that intent when making the donation.

I would like to personally thank each of you for making District 12-S White Cane such a success last year, and I ask for your continued support in the coming year. District Governor Carolyn set a White Cane goal last year of \$70,000 and exceeded that goal. I know that your Clubs worked very hard and stretched things when you could to make last year's goal a reality. For this year, I have two goals: I set the District White Cane goal at \$75,000--not a large increase, but I recognize how hard Clubs worked to surpass the goal last year, and I want to let them know I understand the effort they put forth. My other goal is to have 100% participation in White Cane this year. Please let me know what I can do to help your Clubs achieve their White Cane Goals. I know Lions all share what a joy it is to help others in so many ways in our communities.

Thank you.

**1VDG Bob Davenport**

## **ELIB**

ELIB or Ed Lindsey Industries for the Blind is owned and operated by the Lions of Districts 12-S and 12-I. Many of you are unaware of the fact that we have a place some call the broom factory. When we first took it over from the State we made all our own brooms and mops. Our operation has changed over the past 32 years. We no longer wind all our own brooms but do assemble many of them. We have available for your personal use or for club fund raisers any kind of broom, mop, or brush there is, all products made by blind workers.

We also operate a first class Thrift Store. We need your support of the store both by shopping and donating quality, gently used or new items (not junk) which we can re-sell. We are a distributor for mattresses which are made in Johnson City Tennessee. These are the finest first class mattresses on the market. The price is right and we also have a plan whereby you can use them as a fundraiser.

We obtain contracts from the Government to manufacture different items. For example we make Chin straps for helmets, pillows, and other items. Unfortunately these contracts are hard to come by. We are in completion with workshops all over the country.

Our only reason for existence is to provide employment for the Blind. But even with our few contracts and broom sales we struggle to have enough income to cover the operation. We need your help and support by selling our products, supporting our Thrift Store, financial contributions, Etc..

We are located at: 4110 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209. Phone # 615-627-4012.

**PDG Rev. Al Lyon**  
Board Member