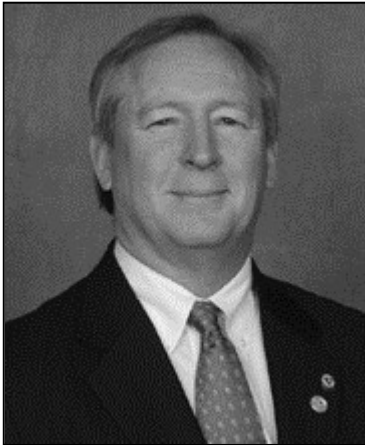




January 1, 2011



District 26-M7 ... Newsletter



Our International Guest ID Brian E. Sheehan

At our District 26-M7 Convention, March 2 and 3, 2012, we will welcome International Director Brian E. Sheehan and his wife,

Lion Lori to Missouri.

Director Sheehan was elected to serve a two-year term at the International Convention in Seattle, Washington in July 2011. He is a member of the Bird Island, MN Lions Club. Among his many Lions duties, he has served as Global Membership Team Liaison and as a presenter at numerous Lions events, including the USA/Canada Forum.

Director Sheehan is the founder and CEO of Rural Computer Consultants, a software development company.

Come meet Director Brian and Lion Lori Sheehan at our District 26-M7 Convention!



Members are, from left to right, Lions Bill Owens, Emory Smola, Clyde Ward, and Betty Nichols

Fulton Lions Host Thank You Dinner

Members of the Fulton Host Lions Club serve pizza, cookies, and soft drinks to the employees of Kingdom Projects, Inc., a sheltered workshop located in Fulton. This is the 17th year the club has held this event to show their appreciation for all the employees' hard work in recycling operations.



From the Guv:



Lions, as we start the new year, let us renew our commitment to serve.

Lions activities over the next few months will provide great opportunities to share in the fellowship and strengthen our knowledge of Lions projects.

- The Mid-Winter Forum, February 3 and 4, in Branson is sure to provide an entertaining learning environment.
- The District 26-M7 Convention, March 2 and 3, at the Truman Hotel in Jefferson City is a great time to meet with the Lions of our district and to welcome our international guest -- International Director Brian E. Sheehan and his wife, Lion Lori.
- The Multiple District 26 State Convention, April 20 - 22, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel is the time for District 26-M7 to show its hospitality and welcome Lions from across Missouri.

Make your plans to attend these exciting events, share your Lions experiences, and learn from other Lions.

I look forward to seeing many of our district's Lions at these events.

DG Jesse



JC Breakfast Induction



Front row: New Lions Dustin Roberts and Amy Bell. Back row: Sponsor Bill Baggett, DG Jesse Hathcock, and Sponsor 2VDG Jeff Hilke.

A highlight of the Jefferson City Breakfast Lions' Holiday Party was the induction of two new Lions -- Dustin Roberts and Amy Bell. A candlelight induction ceremony was conducted by DG Jesse Hathcock. The new Lions are holding candles representing the "Light of Lionism."





Lions of 26 M-7 Ring Bells for Salvation Army

Lions throughout M-7 rang bells for Salvation Army. Several of the Cole County Lions clubs joined together on December 9th to ring the bells at all of the Jefferson City kettles. The joint service project raised more than \$8,830 on Bell Ringing Day. So, it was, indeed, the largest collection we have achieved over the years to support the Salvation Army in its mission. Clubs that participated included Jefferson City's Host, Breakfast, Evening, and Capital Lions and the Wardsville Lions.



JC Host Lion Carol Jordan shares the Christmas spirit as she greets shoppers.



JC Evening Lions Larry Spencer and Rick Smith rang the bells for the Salvation Army.

Mid-South Needs Your Help

Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service relies on voluntary donations from Lions clubs and individuals to fund its operations. These donations are our lifeblood and we cannot provide patient care without substantial Lions Clubs contributions. Our Booster Club continues to grow and our Champions level provides almost \$2,000 per month now. However this is only a small percentage of the funding needed to shorten our waiting list.

At the last board meeting we discussed that there are many clubs that take advantage of Mid-South services by referring patients but have not contributed to Mid-South this year. Detailed information on contributions since July 2011 are available at our website -- www.midsouthlions.org -- under the CLUB INFO tab.

Won't you please take a look at your club's available resources to see if your club can make a donation to Mid-South this year? The clubs who referred those in need know of the valuable services your contributions make possible; your donations are especially appreciated. Your kind donations will help us reduce our waiting list, which has grown to over 200 people waiting for our valuable services.

Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service relies on Lions Clubs to support our work...without your help we cannot serve those who are in need of Lions' miracles.

District Governor's Note: Since July, four of our district's Lions clubs have made a donation to Mid-South Sight and Hearing Service. I encourage every club to make a donation to support the worthy efforts of Mid-South. The Parade of Donations held at the District convention on March 3rd is a perfect time for your Lions club to show its support of the valuable services provided through Mid-South.



Mid-Winter Forum

Plan on attending the Mid-Winter Forum; it is always a lot of fun and educational. We will be at the Grand Plaza Hotel in Branson once again. We will be starting Friday evening February 3, 2012 with our traditional hospitality room. Saturday, February 4, 2012, will be a full day of training. Hopefully, we will be able to arrange a dinner theatre event Saturday evening; this is contingent on a theatre show being available. For the registration form go to www.missourilions.org. then click on the Training Tab and you will find the registration form and more information regarding the forum.

Athletics Committee Meeting

Athletics committee will meet to draft teams on Jan. 7, 2012 in Columbia. At this time we have over 170 applicants (the most ever). As always the game will be successful from a players standpoint. If it is to generate enough funds to make a significant donation to MLERF, Lions across the state will need to work hard in support. This is probably the single most recognized Lion activity by most people in the state of Missouri. Great activity for the players, great potential fundraiser for MLERF, great way to promote Lionism, especially to younger potential members.



Sight for Students

The Missouri Lions recently joined with VSP Vision Care network to serve as a community partner in its Sight for Students program. Participating VSP optometrists and ophthalmologists will provide free vision examinations and eyeglasses, if prescribed.

Missouri Lions clubs can request Sight for Students gift certificates from their district governor. The gift certificate can be redeemed with participating doctors (<http://www.sightforstudents.org/>).

To be eligible for a gift certificate, children must meet five criteria:

- Family income is no more than 200% of federal poverty level.
- Child is not enrolled in Medicaid or other vision insurance.
- Child is 18 years old or younger and has not graduated from high school.
- Child or parent is a U.S. citizen or legal immigrant with a social security number.
- Child has not used the Sight for Students program during the past 12 months.

Clubs interested in participating in the Sight for Students program will complete a request for each child and submit the request to the district governor. The district governor will verify the eligibility and provide the Sight for Students gift certificate. Clubs interested in participating in the Sight for Students program can contact DG Jesse Hathcock, Jess26M7@aol.com or 573-761-4438.

State Constitution & By-Laws Committee Report

Lion Bob Van Ark, Chairperson

Your State Constitution & By-Laws Committee has authority to propose amendments to the State Constitution, but rarely does so, except for making corrections or placing our state document into agreement with changes made at the International level. Rather, the committee places into proper wording the changes that are proposed by the Council of Governors. The latest that the Council can propose changes is at it's January Council meeting, due to requirements of providing notice to all clubs before the vote at the state convention in April.

To date, two issues have been placed before the committee.

One is to address a restriction presently in the constitution that no Lion may serve on the same state committee for more than four years in a six-year period. The committee will address whether (1) to eliminate the restriction completely, (2) Modify it in some way, such as restricting the service to 6 of 8 years, or (3) Make exceptions for specific committees.

The second issue is to revisit the proposal, defeated last year, to provide an alternate way to add the required second signature to checks issued by the state office. We presently spend \$50 a month in special postage, sending the checks to the council member who co-signs them, and returning them to the state office. We also have seen delays and mis-sent postal packages. The intent of the proposed change is to still require advance approval by a council officer (likely via e-mail), but then permit a local Lion to provide the actual signature.

JC Breakfast Lions Gift Baskets

A new service project adopted by the Jefferson City Breakfast Lions is preparing and delivering gift baskets to elderly citizens who are not able to leave their homes on a regular basis. Lions reached out to the seniors as they delivered the baskets.



Lions Jeanne Nelson, Kristy Schriefer, and Lou Ann Hathcock decorate gift baskets.

Owensville Lions Accepts Monies for Sports Complex



Owensville Lions received two donations towards the Sports Complex - one from the Owensville Moose Lodge and one from the Chamber of Commerce.

Club News

Hermann Lion Club: On January 10, The Club will have the opportunity to meet our 2010 Band student and the new HHS Band Director, plus the Peace Poster contest winners from the Hermann and St. George Schools will be present to display their entries and receive their prize monies. And Hermann Police Chief, Lion Frank Tennant, will provide an insight update of community law enforcement. Distributed over 400 Hot-Dogs and over 400 bags of Kettlekorn to youth attending Hermann's Christmas Party. Two (2) Melvin Jones awards were awarded at the Christmas Party.

Gravois Arms Lion Club: Saturday, January 14th—Chili and Vegetable soup dinner plus a Bake Sale. Time: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at \$5.00 for a pre-paid ticket or \$6.00 at the door.

Jefferson City Host Lions will be hosting a Ham & Bean and Chili Dinner for the first time on Feb. 1, 2012, and a Pot-O-Gold Dinner on April 14, 2012.

Camdenton Lions Club hosting a lunch January 14 for students preparing for state robotics contest. Planning a Monopoly Night Fundraiser for February details in February newsletter.

Chamois Lions Club Bingo is held on the second and fourth Saturday evenings of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Chamois Community Center. The club have constructed a "Welcome to Chamois" signs on Highway 100.

Owensville Lions has bingo every Tuesday night. Early birds start at 6:30 with bingo at 7:00. We have a wonderful bingo kitchen that serves a special every week for \$5 for example last week it was oven fried chicken with potato casserole and green beans. We always serve hamburgers, hot dogs, French fries, onion rings and home made pie every week. It is open to the public and we serve from 4-6:30 (eat-in or carry-out)

Jefferson City Evening Lions – They are planning a dance on March 9th at the Wardsville Lions Den.

Rocky Mount Lions Furthering their plans to provide temporary emergency shelter in their community, the Rocky Mount Lions have enclosed a patio at their building so that space can serve as a storage area for emergency relief supplies.

Wardsville Lions Fantasy Night is February 11, 2012. Annual barbeque dinner fundraiser is February 25, 2012; proceeds benefit the MO Lions Eye Research Foundation and local projects.

Freeburg Lions Club is having "Get Lucky For Valentine's Jackpot Night", Saturday, Feb. 11th \$100.00 per couple. Must have ticket to enter. 175 Tickets sold. Held at Holy School in Freeburg. Ticket includes Prime Rib and Shrimp dinner + beer + set-ups And a automatic chance to win \$3,000.00 grand prize. Lots of other smaller prizes given away. Plus other games and fun. Contact Todd Cummins, Lions Club Treasurer for tickets. 573-291-2107 or grasofi@att.net.

Warsaw Lions Our 2012 fund raiser youth basketball tournament is set for February 6 to 11 in the Warsaw Community Center. We hope to have 8 teams in each of two divisions. Teams normally come from Benton, Henry, Pettis and Hickory counties. Our revenue comes from business donations, ticket and food/beverage sales. This tournament was canceled due to snow last year, which was the first year since the 40s that it was not held.

LCIF Providing Typhoon Relief for the Philippines

Lions Clubs International Foundation has awarded US \$35,000 to support Lions in District 301-E, Philippines, in their relief efforts following Typhoon Washi. As reported by Reuters, the national disaster agency said 957 were killed and 49 were missing, with most of the casualties in the cities of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan in the Mindanao region. The disaster agency said more than 338,000 people in 13 provinces were affected by the disaster, with nearly 43,000 still in evacuation centers.

Lions in the affected area are already distributing relief supplies and organizing assistance programs.

Haywood Snipes Award



Left to right: Helene Richardson, Lori Richardson, and Dr. Ronald Walkenbach.

Dr. Ronald Walkenbach, Director of the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation (MLERF) presents a Haywood Snipes Award to Helene Richardson and Lori Richardson-Branch, widow and daughter of Lion Jack Richardson, deceased member of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club. Lion Jack was a strong supporter of many Lions activities, especially those related to sight programs. He was one of the main-stays when the All State Football Game was instituted, with proceeds going to MLERF.

The Award is named after a Past District Governor who headed the state sight program for 20 years, and was a major factor in establishment of our eye bank. It is awarded to a Club member whenever a club donations to the Foundation reach \$10,000. Recipients are chosen by previous recipients of the award.

Haywood Snipes recipients in JC Host Club are: Lions Dan Bernskoetter, Fred Bodenhamer, Janice Bonnot, Billy Bonnot, Ed Borst, Sam Bushman, Ron Jordan, Dave Roberts, and the late Rev. Arthur Hughes and Jerry Woods.

JC Evening Lions Tailgate

Neither rain nor snow



Lions Greg Kliethermes, Ed Zagorac, Garrett Van Vranken, Rick Smith, Doug Hagenhof, and Charlie Verhoff provided umbrellas and warm cheer.

Despite the rain, Jefferson City Evening Lions held their annual tailgate party at the city's Holiday Parade assembly area. In addition to sponsoring a float in the parade, the JC Evening Lions provide free snacks and beverages to all who stop by the parade assembly area. This year, the Lions arrived early to cook and distribute over 300 hot dogs to parade participants.