



March 13, 2012



District 26-M7 ... Newsletter



District 26-M7 Lions Elect 2012-2013 District Officers

At their March annual convention, the Lions of District 26-M7 elected the district officers who will lead them over the next year.

District Governor-Elect Darlene Jost is a member of the Hurricane Deck Lions district governor (District 26-B). She also served on various committees, including the 1990 International Convention, Youth Outreach, Youth Exchange, and Extension Committees. Lion Darlene received the International President's Award and is a Melvin Jones Fellow.



DG-E Darlene Jost



1VDG-E Jeff Hilke

1st Vice District Governor-Elect Jeff Hilke is a member of the Jefferson City Evening Lions Club. He joined Lions in 1993, currently serving as the district's second vice district governor and elected representative to the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation. Lion Jeff received an International President's Certificate of Appreciation.

Both Lions are dedicated to representing the District 26-M7 Lions on the Multiple District 26 Council of Governors, managing the various district committees, and providing support to the district's 42 Lions clubs and more than 1,500 Lions.

We wish these Lions the greatest success in the upcoming year!

Looking for a Great Lion

As we move into a new year, the Lions of District 26-M7 find ourselves in an unfortunate position. We are lacking a quality Lion to embark on the journey to serve our Lions as the 2nd vice district governor and, eventually, as the district governor.

If you have served as a Lions club president and zone chairperson, cabinet secretary, or cabinet treasurer and are interested in continuing to serve the district Lions, please contact Jesse Hathcock, District Governor, at 573-761-4438 or Jess26M7@aol.com.



From the Guv:



WOW! What a great district convention! Over 140 Lions from 25 Lions clubs participated in the two days of fellowship and learning! Starting with the Friday night hospitality, the stage was set for an exciting event when Lions from around the district met to renew friendships and make new friends. Lions attending the Saturday sessions had an “ice breaker” exercise before participating in a new format using breakout sessions and smaller groups. The breakout sessions were designed to encourage Lions to start thinking about ways you and your Lions club can better serve your local communities and others in need.

We were especially delighted that our Lions Clubs Association International Director, Lion Brian Sheehan, worked overtime to provide us with great information and inspiration in the breakout sessions and his keynote address during the Governor’s Luncheon. International Director Sheehan effectively intertwined the serious message of growing our Lions clubs and increasing our service with humor to drive his messages home.

My heartfelt thanks to the Convention Chairperson, Lion Nan Blakemore, PDG, and the other members of the District Governor Team, DG-E Darlene Jost and 1VDG-E Jeff Hilke, for “thinking outside the box” to create an exciting event for our District 26-M7 Lions!

Special thanks to the presenters: ALERT: Lions Rick Bartel and Frank Tennant, Hermann Lions Club; Joplin...Lions Respond: IPDG Debbie Whittlesey, District 26-M6; MO Lions Eye Research Foundation: Nichole Plegge; MO Lions All-State Band: PDG Ron Jordan, Jefferson City Host Lions Club; and Lions Opportunity for Youth: Lion Pat Mills, Jefferson City Host Lions Club. Your presentations provided our Lions with great information and a greater passion to serve.

As the convention drew to a close, Lions clubs participated in the election of new officers and participated in the Parade of Checks. Many thanks for the kind donations to the various Lions projects; the Lions clubs participating in the Parade. The display of generosity in support of others is truly heartwarming.

Lions, now armed with new information and a fresh dose of enthusiasm, are encouraged to return to their clubs with fresh ideas and enthusiasm for service. Remember: Have courage. Make a commitment. Take Action.

I look forward to seeing a great many District 26 M-7 Lions at the Missouri Lions State Convention in April.

DG Jesse

Club Officer Reports

Presidents and Secretaries:

It is time to look at your clubs' officers for the next year. As you complete your elections, please ensure that you update your club officers (president, secretary, treasurer, membership chairperson) on the Lions Clubs International Web Monthly Membership Report (WMMR) web site or submit a hard copy of the PU-101, Club Officer Report to Lions Clubs International **prior to May 15, 2012.**

This very important report allows us to prepare the district directory and will allow the new club officers to gain access to the WMMR web site to submit and update the club's information.



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Lions' Extra Efforts Are Recognized

At the District 26-M7 Convention, Lions were recognized for their contributions to their Lions Clubs and the Lions of District 26-M7. Four well-deserving Lions received a Lions Clubs International President's Certificate of Appreciation. International Director Brian E. Sheehan presented the certificate and a President's "I Believe" pin to the honored Lions.

Lion Ann Gehlert, Belle Lions Club. Lion Ann's enthusiasm in serving her community has led to a significant membership growth and an increase in service activities for the Belle Lions Club. Due to her efforts, the Belle Lions Club shows a growth of 10 Lions since 2008 and they have adopted new activities, including organizing a Health Fair.



Lion Ann Gehlert (center) receives an International Lions Clubs President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Brian Sheehan (left). Also pictured is District Governor Jesse Hathcock.



Lion Larry Duncan (right) receives an International Lions Clubs President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Brian Sheehan (left).

Lion Larry Duncan, Owensville Lions Club. As the District 26-M7 Sight Conservation Committee Chairperson from 2008 - 2012, he actively represents the interests of the district's Lions clubs and fully supports Missouri Lions vision programs. In addressing the state vision objectives, he is a vocal cheerleader, encouraging Lions clubs

to renew their commitments to eliminating blindness, assisting those with vision difficulties, and supporting the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation.

Lion Jeff Hilke, Jefferson City Evening Lions Club. As the district's 2nd Vice District Governor, Lion Jeff embraces the challenges of motivating Lions and encouraging active involvement in club and district activities. Offering fresh ideas and bold challenges, he expresses a positive vision for Lions clubs and their active roles as leaders in their communities.



Lion Jeff Hilke (right) receives an International Lions Clubs President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Brian Sheehan (left).



Lion Ron Jordan, PDG, (right) receives an International Lions Clubs President's Certificate of Appreciation from International Director Brian Sheehan (left).

Lion Ron Jordan, PDG, Jefferson City Host Lions Club. PDG Ron Jordan is the Missouri Lions All State Band's logistics maven. His energetic contacts with Lions clubs and band directors have led to District 26-M7 consistently providing one-third of the members of the All State Band.

District Honors Our Past International Director ... Establishes the "B. W. Robinson District Service Award"

The District Governor Team determined that District 26-M7 should ensure that Lions recognize and remember the legacy of a great Lion who made a career of serving Lions. Lion B.W. Robinson's loyal service included serving as a district governor and as International Director from 1980 to 1982. You could count on seeing Lion B.W. at the Jefferson City Host Lions Club's annual Ham and Bean Dinner or ringing a bell for the Salvation Army. Always an active Lion, we lost Lion B.W. in April 2010, just a few weeks after he attended our district convention.

We honor Lion B. W.'s service and devotion to Lions Clubs by establishing a legacy award in his name to honor Lions who have given unselfishly of themselves to serve other Lions and Lions programs through their active involvement at the district and state levels.

PDG Donal Knipp, the first recipient of the District 26-M7 B.W. Robinson District Service Award, is a great Lion with a strong record of service to the district Lions – having served twice as district governor, served as a Director of the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation, and represented the district on several state committees. As Missouri's endorsed candidate for international director, he is following in the service footsteps of Lion B.W. by seeking the responsibilities of International Director.



Lion Donal Knipp, PDG (left) receives the first B. W. Robinson District 26-M7 District Service Award from DG Jesse Hathcock (right). Lion Betty Knipp (center) continues to support PDG Donal.



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New Lions

A great Lions welcome to our newest Lions. Remember to welcome them to our great organization!

California Lions Club

Sarah Jones Sponsor: Darrel L King
Dave Ratcliff Sponsor: Paul Bloch

Hermann Lions Club

Justin T. Alferman Sponsor: Donald Kruse

Chamois Lions Club

Michael J Bumgarner Sponsor: Thomas Kuhlmann

Iberia Lions Club

Riley G Hammack Sponsor: Kelly Hammack
Eric W Skouby

Fulton Breakfast Lions Club

Denise Hubbard Sponsor: Dale Lixey
Mitchell Hubbard Sponsor: Dale Lixey

Jefferson City Host Lions Club

Barbara Barnard Sponsor: Cynthia A Sullivan

Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

Will Rogers

Next Up ... Missouri Lions State Convention

The Missouri Lions State Convention is rapidly approaching. Lions, mark your calendars for April 20 - 21, 2012. Those days are sure to be packed with hours of fellowship and learning as the Lions from around the state travel to Jefferson City for their annual State Convention.

This year, we have a double opportunity to enjoy our time as Lions. Not only are we able to take part in the great times, we are also serving as the hosts for all the Lions. This means that we will display our "Heart of Missouri Lions" hospitality to make everyone feel welcome.

If you haven't already done so, please register now. Any registration postmarked on or before April 2 qualifies for the early bird rates. The registration application is available on the www.missourilions.org web site. The special rate for the hotel block of rooms is extended until March 23. To reserve a room, call the Capitol Plaza Hotel at 800-338-8088.

Also, let PDG Bob Van Ark know if you can help out with hosting the convention. We will need lots of Lions' help, from serving as greeters to staffing the registration desk to helping with the convention equipment. If you are interested in helping with the convention, please contact PDG Bob Van Ark at 573-635-5984 or bvanark@socket.net.

It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.

Harry S Truman

Lions Attend Training at Mid-Winter Forum in Branson

On February 3 & 4, 2012, Lions from District 26-M7 joined with Lions from across Missouri to attend the Missouri Lions Mid-Winter forum in Branson, Missouri. They attended workshops and presentations offering ideas that help them to be better Lions for their community.

The annual event for the Lions of Missouri is a chance to come together for fellowship and leadership development. Lion Donal Knipp said, "I look forward to coming to the Forum every year because I always learn something new and catch up with Lions from all over Missouri that I don't get to see often enough. The best part is meeting new Lions and making more friends to share ideas."

These Lions club members returned from the Forum enthused and with new ideas they will share with members of their club who couldn't attend this year.

They are already looking forward to the Forum on February 8 & 9 in 2013. You, too, should plan to attend this great event.



Attending the Forum were (left to right: Betty Knipp, Donal Knipp, Amy Bell, Jeff Hilke, Marcy Wicks, Dan Bernskoetter, Janis Wassman, Nan Blakemore, Ron Jordan, Lou Ann Hathcock, and Jesse Hathcock. Not pictured is Sally Bernskoetter.

Club News

Camdenton Lions Club -- The Camdenton Lions supported the school's Robotics Team on January 16 by taking a turn with other organizations to provide a meal to more than 60 students and mentors. Two Camdenton Lions, Myron and Cindy Fesler, were so impressed with the program and the students that they have taken cupcakes and other baked items to the students on other evenings the team met.

Chamois Lions Club -- The Chamois Lions are supporting a request from local junior high school students, representing DC Kids, in raising funds for an educational trip to Washington, D.C. The joint project will involve cleaning up the Chamois City Park prior to the American Legion Auxiliary and Chamois Lions Easter Egg Hunt on April 7. In return for the work, the Chamois Lions Club will donate funds to offset the costs of the Washington, D.C. trip.

The Chamois Lions Club is challenging its members to identify local projects that need volunteer labor and that will benefit the community. One possible project immediately identified is to assist the City of Chamois in the demolition of some derelict properties.

Holts Summit Lions Club -- On February 24th, the Lions Club hosted a Trivia Night. Categories chosen were designed to challenge the young and old alike. Among the categories were: Texting acronyms, Mardi Gras,

Star Marriages, Where in the World, Scrabble, TV Cities, and History. Soft drinks and popcorn were provided by the Lions.

Owensville Lions Club -- The Owensville Lions held their annual Valentine's Social on February 9th, featuring wine tasting with Adam Puchta wines and music entertainment from Lion Ron Copeland as well as guest Sandy Mitchell. Lions celebrated Lion Jerry Kohler's birthday as well as the 39th wedding anniversary of Lion President Diane Lairmore and Lion Jim Lairmore.

Rocky Mount Lions Club -- On February 18th, the Lions Club offered a "free" breakfast to its community. Instead of a set price, the club advertised the purpose of the fundraising event: to procure supplies to stock their emergency shelter provisions. Those who attended and enjoyed the breakfast were encouraged to make a donation; the guests determined how much to donate. The preliminary report is that this approach was more successful than posting a set price. The club will continue to offer this on a monthly basis.

Wardsville Lions Club -- Work is underway to ensure the ball fields are ready for the spring and summer. The club is building batting cages at their facility.



Lion Ron Lang (right), a leader for the Owensville Cub Scouts, challenged his pack to sell popcorn. If a Cub sold \$1,000 worth of popcorn, he could throw a pie in the face of any of their leaders. His son, Connor, won the honor and chose his dad. Owensville Lions sponsors the Cub Scout pack.

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.

Albert Schweitzer

Stand-In Editor

You may have noticed some changes in the format of the "Between the Lions"" newsletter. Our great editor, Lion Linda Martin, is currently under the weather and not able to prepare the newsletter. So, we are temporarily making do the best way possible. We wish Lion Linda a speedy recovery.

In the meantime, we will continue to share information with you. However, we need your help. You need to tell us what your Lions club and Lions are doing to serve. Please send your pictures, stories, and scheduled events to Jesse Hathcock, Jess26M7@aol.com or 608 Castle Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65019.

Calendar of Events

- March 17 Pancake Flip, Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions Building, 7 am 'til 12 noon.
Adults \$7.00, children 6-12 years old \$2.00 and children under 6 years eat free with a parent
"Free" Breakfast, Rocky Mount Lions, Lions Building, 8 am - 11 am
Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, Gravois Arm Lions, Lions Building, 11 am - 4 pm
- April 7 Easter Egg Hunt, Chamois Lions/American Legion Auxiliary
- April 8 Easter Egg Hunt (ages 0 - 13, free), Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions building, 1 pm, refreshments follow the egg hunt
- April 14 Pot o' Gold, Jefferson City Host Lions
- April 19 Council of Governors Meeting, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, 4 pm - 6 pm
- April 20 All You Can Eat Catfish Fry, Camdenton Lions Club, Camdenton Junior High School, 4 pm to 7 pm.
Valet Parking provided. Cost: \$9.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 5. Come eat and enjoy our Dogwood Festival.
- April 20 Missouri Lions State Convention, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, 12 Noon - 6 pm
- April 20 Hospitality Night, Missouri Lions State Convention, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City 6:30 pm
- April 21 Missouri Lions State Convention, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, 8 am - 3 pm
Owensville Lions Foundation is sponsoring a dinner and dance fundraiser for their new sports fields. The cost of each ticket is \$50.00 (per person) and entitles you to a great dinner, dance, drinks and an entry in the \$4,000 grand prize drawing; other prizes will also be awarded. You need not be present to win.
- April 22 Missouri Lions State Convention, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, 9 am - 11:30 am
- April 30 Health Fair, Belle Lions Club, Bell Community Center.
- May 16 District 26-M7 Cabinet Meeting, Holts Summit Lions Club, 6:30 pm
- June 1 Golf Tournament, Jefferson City Breakfast Lions, Railwood Golf Course, 11:30 am
- June 1 Golf Tournament, Jefferson City Evening Lions, Oak Hills Golf Course, 12 Noon - 6 pm
- June 15 Gun and Knife Show, Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions Building, 5 pm - 8 pm
- June 16 Gun and Knife Show, Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions Building, 8 am - 5 pm
- June 17 Gun and Knife Show, Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions Building, 9 am - 3 pm
- June 22-26 Lions Clubs International Convention, Busan, Korea
- July 13-15 Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, Doane College, Crete, NE
- July 21 Council of Governors, Warrensburg
- July 21 Missouri Lions All Star Football Game, Warrensburg, 7 pm
- Sept 13-15 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Tampa, FL

Convention Highlights



Guest presenter, Immediate Past District Governor Debbie Whittlesey, District 26-M6, explained how Lions responded and the Lions' role in recovery following the Joplin tornado.



The District Peace Poster winner, Kendra Trandum, Osage Middle School, received a certificate of achievement, an artist kit, and \$50 for winning the contest. The Linn-Creek-Osage Beach Lions Club sponsored her local contest.



International Director Sheehan (above) provided valuable information and inspiration to the Lions.



Lion Gary Kempker (left) served as the luncheon emcee.



"KarNac the Magnificent" made a surprise appearance and successfully identified Lions who had great luck or misfortune. Those Lions were subsequently fined by the Tail Twister. Lion Stan Horn was assisted by Lion Jack Curtit.



Scouts from Venturing Crew 3428 performed for the Lions. The Crew is chartered by the Jefferson City Breakfast Lions Club.