



District 26-M7
The Heart of
Missouri Lions

District Governor's Team
2015 - 2016

DG Allen Moore

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Dignity.
Harmony.
Humanity.



Between the Lions



The District 26-M7 Newsletter

July 2015

District Governor Wisdom

District Governor Allen Moore

Fellow Lions:

I thank each one of you for the trust you have given me.

Greetings from the 2015-2016 Lions Clubs International President, Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada. This year's theme – dignity, Harmony, Unity – complements our Lions' motto WE SERVE very well. We, as Lions, serve through Saving Sight, Leader Dog, Hearing and numerous other projects.

Excitement is erupting after the trip to Hawaii. We learned many new and exciting things to bring back to our clubs. We learned how our projects will achieve the goal of serving 100,000,000 people internationally. All you club has to do is REPORT, REPORT and continue to REPORT your projects on MyLCI.

New individual and club awards are available this year. At the district cabinet meeting July 22, 2015, at Gravois Arm Lions Club, you will learn how to earn awards for doing the many service projects and adding new members to your club.

Too many of our district clubs suffer from declining membership. Membership growth is vital to gaining fresh ideas and energy. The larger our membership, the more we can help our communities. The more encouragement in our communities, the less pain we see in the lives of family, friends and community members.

I look forward to serving with each of you through your projects. I am behind you 100% and you can count on me 100% in enhancing DIGNITY, HARMONY and HUMANITY in a world that needs your dedication to achieving PEACE.

Greetings

1st Vice District Governor Don Soph

Greetings and happy summer! I hope all are enjoying themselves and trying to stay dry.

As you know, the 2015-16 Lions International president, Dr. Jitsuhuro Yamada of Japan, was just installed at the worldwide convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. President Yamada's theme for his year of service is Dignity, Harmony, Humanity. This theme fits perfectly with LCI's centennial challenge of serving 100 million people worldwide through club service projects by June 2018. All of these projects will fulfill one, if not all, of the three aspects of President Yamada's theme. When Lions are out in their communities completing a service project, we are promoting dignity, creating harmony and helping to advance humanity. Even something as simple as a roadside clean up goes far in making the community more livable and helping the community's residents to be happier and healthier.

Dignity, harmony and humanity are not the only objectives of community service projects. Our projects are a primary tool in getting new club members. When your club is out in the community working to improve it, residents see this and want to be a part of it. Being visible while making our communities better is one of the strongest tools for increased club membership. This generates excitement and people can see progress and results. So, plan and perform as many service projects as possible. Your club will not only be honored for completing the centennial service challenge, you will attract new members who are attracted to the enthusiasm and positive change.

Finally, I'd like to encourage attendance to an upcoming event. The annual Missouri Lions All Star Football game is July 18. Come to Warrensburg for a fun weekend of Lion fellowship and football. For so many of these football all stars, this is the last game of their high school careers. Most will not go on to play college ball and this game is an important ending to an activity they've come to treasure. We have young men from District 26-M7 district participating in this game; come out to watch and cheer them. Not only will you be helping to make the event memorable for them, but it provides an opportunity to encourage a young local adult to join your Lions club. The All Star Football game is also a promotion for our Lions state band. These youngsters work so hard to be part of a really excellent band and they will definitely appreciate the support. Once again, it may help in gaining some young, enthusiastic new members!

Thank you so much for providing me this opportunity to serve the district. I look forward to continuing to meet you and get to know all the clubs in the Heart of Missouri.

Attention Past District Governors

The time has come for the Lions of MD-26 (Missouri) to endorse a candidate for International Director of Lions Clubs International. The qualifications and requirements for potential candidates are provided in the LCI By-Laws (Article II, International Board Elections, Section 3) and the MD-26 Constitution (Article 6, Committees, Section (g) - Pages 9 and 10).

My Thoughts

2nd Vice District Governor Lou Ann Hathcock

Aloha Lions! I just returned from the Lions Clubs International Convention in Honolulu. What an experience – meeting Lions from all states and many countries. At the convention, one really experiences the wide range of activities through which Lions help their communities. Lions everywhere are hard at work in making living conditions better and saving lives.

I look forward to working with our Lions clubs over the next years to help us better serve our communities and expand our positive impact. I look forward to seeing old friends and making new friends as I visit your clubs and projects.

As we approach our Lions' centennial year in 2017, we are challenged to help serve 100 million people around the world. In the first year of the Centennial Challenge, Lions served over 37 million people (and that's just the numbers reported through MyLCI). For more on the Centennial Challenge, see the article on page 4 in this issue of *Between the Lions*.

Sometimes we get so comfortable in doing the same thing year after year that we forget to look for other opportunities to serve. We should embrace our Centennial Challenge to serve and think "outside the box" when identifying our communities' needs. Remember, many Lions in our clubs working together can accomplish more than we can as individuals; Lions clubs working together can provide greater service and reach beyond our local areas to serve even more people.

As we accomplish our service goals, we need to remember to celebrate our successes by involving the community members and touting our accomplishments!

Committee Chairpersons

ALERT – Rick Bartel
Athletic – Tim Wilbers
Band – DG Allen Moore
Constitution – Glen Stratman
Global Leadership – Jesse Hathcock
Global Membership – Steve Duncan
Hearing – Linda Martin
Information Technology – Amy Bell

LBOMB – Jeff Hilke
LCIF – Jesse Hathcock
Leader Dog – Emery Smola
Long Range Planning – Jeff Hilke
Mid South Sight & Hearing – Janice Wassman
Public Relations – Dan Bernskoetter
World Services for the Blind – Marvin Stuenkel
Youth – Larry LaDuke



2VDG Lou Ann finds a friend while waiting to vote at the LCI International Convention.

JC Host Lions Honor a Dedicated Lion

The Jefferson City Host Lions Club recently honored Lion Carl Vogel with a Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest honor that our Lions Clubs International Foundation can bestow.

Lion Carl is a member of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club with over 30 years of service. He served as a Club Board member in 1985-1987 and again in 2011-2013. He served as District Band Chair in 1986-1987 and chaired the Lions All Star Football Concession in 1986-1987. Since 2013, he serves as chairperson of the club's Special Events Committee.



Jefferson City Host Lions present a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Lion Carl Vogel. Presenting the recognition are Lions Bill Deeken, Janice Bonnot, Lyle Rosburg, Billy Bonnot and Dennis Licklider.

Lion Carl is one of those Lions who truly lives the "We Serve" motto. He gives generously of his time and talents in serving both his Lions club and the community. He is always helping others behind the scene and never expects any recognition.

This past year the Jefferson City Host Lions Club initiated several new service projects and Lion Carl always volunteers to help work at these. Lion Carl picks up the trash along the club's assigned highway, packs buddy packs and works at the Samaritan Center food pantry. At the club's 2015 Ham & Bean & Chili fundraiser he worked in several areas throughout the entire day. He is an integral participant and his personal example encourages others to give a little bit more.

Our Lions Clubs International founder, Melvin Jones, once stated "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else." Lion Carl truly lives this philosophy. His efforts and dedication to Lionism have not gone unnoticed.

Club Secretaries – We Need Your Help!

Please ensure the information for your Lions club members in MyLCI is current.

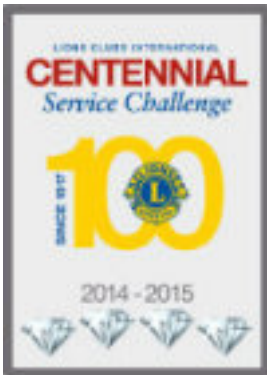
In the not too distant future, Lions Clubs International (LCI) will distribute its Lions magazine via solely by e-mail. It is already available in electronic format on the LCI web site (www.lionsclubs.org).

With the automated reporting through MyLCI, it is more important now that the members' telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and mailing addresses are up-to-date.

The Centennial Challenge

Lions are celebrating the approach of the 100th Anniversary of Lions Clubs International in 2017. The centennial celebration focuses on three main points: Honoring Our Past, Highlighting Our Present and Planning For Our Future.

In keeping with our history of service, Lions are participating in a global initiative to serve at least 100 million people by 2017. The initiative began in July 2014 at the Toronto Lions Clubs International Convention and runs through June 2018.



During the initiative, Lions will work to achieve the goal by participating in the Global Service Actions Campaigns, which support youth activities, vision programs, hunger initiatives and environmental projects. Clubs completing projects in these areas, and reporting the activities under their club section of MyLCI, will receive special recognition from Lions Clubs International, including a special Centennial Service Challenge banner patch reflecting their accomplishments. The banner patches are available for each year of the celebration.

To ensure our clubs are strong for the future, special membership and new club sponsorship recognition are available during the celebration. New members will receive a special membership pin and the sponsors will also receive a special centennial pin to recognize their contribution to the future of Lions clubs.

For additional information, please see [www.http://lions100.lionsclubs.org](http://lions100.lionsclubs.org).

Club secretaries are encouraged to order the special centennial member induction packets (Item CNM10) from The LCI Store. The packets are available at no charge.

<p>Engaging our YOUTH</p> <p><i>Serving 25 Million People</i></p>
<p>Sharing the VISION</p> <p><i>Serving 25 Million People</i></p>
<p>Relieving the HUNGER</p> <p><i>Serving 25 Million People</i></p>
<p>Protecting our ENVIRONMENT</p> <p><i>Serving 25 Million People</i></p>



Lions Dignity Week August 30 – September 5, 2015

Join Lions around the world for a special Lions Worldwide Week of Service dedicated to making the future brighter for our children. This international event is designed to benefit the most vulnerable members of our community and to help us reach our Centennial Service Challenge goal of serving 100 million people.



Host a project that benefits children in your community. From health, education, and development projects, to helping friends and neighbors meet their children's basic needs, there are countless ways to impact youth in your community and around the globe. No matter how you choose to serve, be sure to join us for this Centennial service event!

Here's how your club can take part in this special event:

- Plan your project. Host a service project that benefits children and youth during the week of August 30 - September 5. Download the **Lions Children First Planning Guide** (<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/iad252.pdf>) for project ideas and planning tips.
- Promote your project. Invite your community to serve with you to showcase your club and the power of service.
- Report your project. Report your service on the MyLCI Service Activity Report to earn a Centennial Banner Patch and to get your club's name on the Centennial Ticker.

To learn more about this important service project, visit:

<http://lions100.lionsclubs.org/EN/programs/centennial-service-challenge/worldwide-week-of-service.php>.

Remember to **Celebrate Your Service** by recording your service in MyLCI Club Activity Reports and sharing your great deeds in your local media, *Between the Lions*, on your club's Facebook page, our district website (<http://www.e-district.org/sites/26m7/page-7.php>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MoLions26m7>), your personal Facebook pages and other social media.



Saving Sight Holds L.E.A.D Weekend in District 26-M7

Saving Sight (formerly widely known as Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation) held its second Leadership Engagement and Developmental Weekend (L.E.A.D) at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City on May 15th. The Saving Sight staff presented informative sessions that were both educational and inspiring to the sixty Lions that attended.

Lions learned that Saving Sight provides Lions several opportunities to fulfill Helen Keller's request "to be knights of the blind and crusaders against darkness."

KIDSIGHT VISION SCREENINGS

The Lions work closely with Saving Sight technicians to screen children (ages 6 months to 6 years old) for the most common causes of childhood vision loss, free of charge. Amblyopia, commonly known as "lazy eye," and other frequent causes of vision loss in children can usually be treated successfully if they are identified and treated at an early age. Lions are needed to assist the Saving Sight technicians at these screenings by completing paper work, getting the children lined up and handing out stickers.

You can visit the Saving Sight website (www.saving-sight.org) to view the calendar to find KidSight Vision Screenings scheduled in your community. To request a screening in the District 26-M7 area, complete the request located at <https://saving-sight.org/request-screening> or call 800-753-2265, extension 8507.

Beginning July 1, 2015, Saving Sight will now require volunteers who assist their technicians at the free KidSight Vision Screenings to complete a volunteer application. These applications will be submitted for a background check. The background checks provide Saving Sight programs the transparency and credibility to external partners at day care and head start centers and within the public and private schools. The volunteer applications are available at https://saving-sight.org/sites/default/files/file/pdf/mo%20lion/volunteer_application_final_may_2015_v2.pdf or by contacting our district Saving Sight Director, Lion Dan Bernskoetter, PCC, danbernskoetter@gmail.com or 573-634-4922.

HEALTHY VISION SCREENINGS

Saving Sight offers free Healthy Vision Screenings at senior centers, health fairs and community events to screen for glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Glaucoma testing is done by using a tonometer which emits a puff of air at a person's eyes to test their eye pressure. If a high eye pressure reading is found, the person is urged to visit an eye doctor. The AMD screening involves the standard Amsler Grid test. During a screening, the person covers up one eye to look at a small dot in the center of the grid. If the lines of the grid appear wavy or missing,

See Saving Sight on page 8

Saving Sight (continued from page 7)

the person is encouraged to visit an eye doctor. As Lions, we can easily learn how to use the tonometer to conduct or assist a Saving Sight technician at Healthy Vision Screenings in our communities

You can visit the Saving Sight website at www.saving-sight.org to view the calendar to find Healthy Vision Screenings scheduled in your community.

EYEGLOSS RECYCLING

Many Lions clubs collect eyeglasses for recycling. Saving Sight supports the Lions in this cause by serving as a collection and distribution center for recycled eyeglasses. Lions can volunteer to help collect, clean, read and sort donated eyeglasses. Contact Sheila Fields at 800-331-2636 ext. 8504 or email her at sfields@saving-sight.org to schedule a time for your club to help sort, clean and read donated glasses. Saving Sight has over 40,000 eyeglasses that need to be processed.

EYEGLOSS MISSION CLINICS

These clinics provide a direct opportunity to deliver eyeglasses to those in need in developing countries across the world. Lions can volunteer to assist eye care professionals with locating and fitting eyeglass prescriptions that will improve the sight of those in need. Contact Sheila Fields if your club is interested in volunteering on working at a mission clinic.

DONOR REGISTRATION FORMS

Many Americans are in need of a life-saving organ transplant. As Lions, we can volunteer to organize an eye, organ, and tissue donor registration drive in our communities or assist at a Saving Sight donor drive. Contact Michala Stoker at mstoker@saving-sight.org or 816-454-5454, extension 142 if you would like to have a program on this at your club meeting.

Calendar of Events

		Sept 17-19	USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Great Plains, MI
Jul 18	Pancakes in the Park, 6:30-9:30 am Tipton	Oct 2-3	Past District Governors Weekend Fort Leonard Wood
Jul 18	Council of Governors, Warrensburg	Oct 24	Council of Governors, Tan Tar A, Lake Ozark
Jul 18	Lions All-Star Football, Warrensburg		
Jul 22	District 26-M7 Cabinet meeting	2016	
Jul 24-27	Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute Jamestown, ND	Jan 30	Council of Governors, Ramada Oasis, Springfield
		Mar 11-12	District 26-M7 Convention, Eldon

Lions University

Can't wait until September to attend the annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in September or don't have the time to travel to the Forum?

The USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum now offers a year-round opportunity for Lions leaders who yearn to make their communities stronger through volunteer service. The Lions University program helps you build the skills needed to better serve our clubs and communities.



Three educational programs are offered. To complete each program, Lions must complete 10 required courses, at least five elective classes and complete specific leadership experiences. Each course is an hour-long training session that are offered online, through periodic webinars and at live sessions led in district and multiple districts. At the end of each training session, the Lion takes a simple online test to confirm their learning.

- **Bachelor's Program:** Allows Lions to develop the skills necessary to lead a vital Lions Club. Courses are directed to the skills needed to be great club leader.
- **Master's Program:** Focuses on giving support to clubs through district leaders. This program is aimed at District Level leaders: District Governors, Vice District Governors, Zone Chairs, District Committee Chairs, Certified Guiding Lions, and other leaders that are ready to foster quality clubs in their District.
- **Doctorate Program:** Focuses on skills needed to be a training facilitator for adult volunteers. In affect, Lions who have completed the Doctorate Program are prepared to be great trainers of other Lions.

You do not need to register specifically with Lions University. All you need to do to participate in Lions University is to register for live webinars and/or watch video recordings after they are conducted and take the quiz for each course. Once you pass the quiz, your results are emailed and your profile is updated on <http://members.lionsforum.org/> to show which courses have been completed.

If you have not previously attended either the 2013 or 2014 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, go to <http://members.lionsforum.org/> and select "Activate Membership." You can then select Lions University. Your profile will be created and updated with course completions.

If you attended the 2013 or 2014 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum or registered for the 2015 Forum, you already have a profile on <http://members.lionsforum.org/>. You can go to this site and enter your email to retrieve/re-set your password, if necessary.



Lions Clubs International Foundation

Let's make this the year we become a 100% district, with every club making a donation to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). As you prepare your club budgets for 2015-2016, please include a donation to our LCIF. The Foundation's funding is derived from donations and gifts; no dues are collected from Lions to fund its charitable efforts.

Our district has benefited from multiple disaster emergency grants and there are plans to apply for an new grant to assist in funding a large scale project. Saving Sight has also been the recipient of sizeable grants through LCIF.

LCIF was there for Lions in Missouri and around the world. But it can only continue its efforts with our help.

Did you know that in 2014-2015, only 11 of our 42 Lions clubs (26%) made a donation to LCIF? In the United States, 40% of the Lions clubs made a donation to LCIF.

For additional information, please contact Jesse Hathcock, District LCIF Coordinator, at Jess26M7@aol.com or call 573-338-5530.



See your Lions or Lions Club Activities Featured in *Between the Lions*, The District 26-M7 Newsletter

Use the newsletter to promote your upcoming activities, accomplishments and special recognition of your Lions. To serve as a viable communications tool, we need you to share information.

A newsletter is planned for each month of the Lions Year 2015 - 2016. The newsletter is scheduled for distribution by the 8th of each month. Submit your contributions to the newsletter by the last day of the month preceding publication.

Submit your articles and information to Jesse Hathcock at Jess26M7@aol.com or 608 Castle Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109.



Lions' Fun and Learning in Hawaii

Thirty-five Missouri Lions, including five from District 26-M7, attended the 98 Lions Clubs International Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii from June 26-30.

The Lions delegates participated in the international parade and were entertained in an international show headlined by Kenny Loggins before getting down to business.

Many education seminars were presented during the convention. In the plenary sessions, Lions learned about a new partnership with Special Olympics, accomplishments of Lions Clubs International Foundation and voted on new officers and constitution and by-laws changes. A highlight of the convention was the Flag ceremony, where flags representing each country and geographic area with a Lions club were paraded around the auditorium.

All Lions should attend at least one international convention to grasp the enormity of our efforts, not only in our local communities, but the impact we have around the world.



Missouri Lions and guests prepare for the international parade



A Polynesian show preceded the second plenary session at the Lions International Convention.



DG-E Allen Moore, Lion Polly Scott, Lion Mark Schaeperkoetter and Lion Lou Ann Hathcock (second row) stake out their seats for a plenary session.