



**District 26-M7**  
**The Heart of**  
**Missouri Lions**

**District Governor's Team**  
**2016 - 2017**

DG Don Soph

Holts Summit Lions Club  
donsoph@hotmail.com

1VDG Lou Ann Hathcock

Jefferson City  
Breakfast Lions Club  
balloonsisters@aol.com

2VDG Mark Schaeperkoetter

Owensville Lions Club  
Markschae1@yahoo.com

District 26-M7 Website

[www.e-district.org/sites/26m7/](http://www.e-district.org/sites/26m7/)



# Between the Lions



The District 26-M7 Newsletter

September 2016

## Lions are Integral to Chamois Day

**Chamois Day** is an all-day festival that is held on the third Saturday in September each year. It is a festival that brings back to Chamois former residents for school reunions and usually attracts many out-of-town visitors. Chamois Day is Saturday, **September 17, 2016**. Activities include a parade that is organized by the Osage County R-1 School PTO and includes bands and floats that are built by each class, kindergarten through high school seniors. There are street vendor booths, concession stands, craft exhibits, hay rides, musical entertainment, children activities to include a bounce house and corn box, adult games to include a hot dog eating contest and corn toss, and tours of attractions such as the Old Jail and the Townley House Museum (right).



The Chamois Lions Club has assumed the leadership role in planning and organizing Chamois Day and the club provides much of the volunteer labor to set up for Chamois Day, assists with the various activities throughout the day, provides tractors and wagons and drivers for the hay rides, and finally performs the cleanup functions at the end of the day. The commitment of financial resources and volunteer time and labor is significant and involves months of planning and coordination. The benefits to the community are significant as local businesses and restaurants realize significant economic benefits and local residents welcome back family members and friends.

Prior to Chamois Day, the Chamois Lions Club also holds a citywide cleanup on the Saturday before Chamois Day. Lions and other volunteers pick up trash, clean city streets, clear weeds from vacant lots, and in general spruce up the entire community. This cleanup day will be held on Saturday, September 10, and is a source of pride for the residents of Chamois.

## Greetings from the District Governor

District Governor Don Soph

Greetings Lions of 26-M7,

It's become that beautiful time of year where Fall is approaching, the weather is changing and days are getting shorter. Though it is wonderful to observe and experience, it's important to remember disasters can and do strike anytime of year, no matter how beautiful and peaceful. A recent earthquake in central Italy killed over 240 and left at least 2700 homeless. Here in the U.S., recent widespread flooding killed 13, rendered 11,000 homeless and destroyed 146,000 homes in Louisiana. In both situations in a short amount of time tens of thousands of people needed the basics of life: shelter, food and medical attention.

Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) stepped in to assist the victims of the earthquake and floods. LCIF sent \$100,000 in Major Catastrophe grants to Lions clubs in the affected areas in Italy and Louisiana. These grants go directly from LCIF to Lions Clubs to disaster victims in dire need of shelter, food and medical assistance. LCIF has provided disaster relief funds for decades, but the foundation does so much more. This month the country marks the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. LCIF donated over \$3 million to those devastated by the terrible attacks. Outside of disaster relief, LCIF has almost 30 programs in sight and humanitarian assistance responsible for fighting diseases and providing vision assistance for children and adults.

LCIF has helped millions of people in major need of assistance after devastating events. It has helped people all over the world, from right here in Missouri to hard-to-get-to far away places where disaster has struck. Club and individual giving to LCIF is very important and needed. Our district, 26-M7, unfortunately, has a very low rate of giving. Less than one-half of our clubs make a donation to LCIF. I ask that all clubs consider donating even a small amount to LCIF. The funds are a lifeline to people that have lost everything. This can happen to anyone in any place at any time. LCIF, through local Lions clubs, ensures people are taken care of. It's important to remember LCIF in your club budgets and giving.

Also for September, please remember to work with a local middle school on a peace poster contest. Peace poster packets must be ordered by October 1, and turned in to the district by 11/15. Please participate in this fun and easy youth outreach program.

As always, please contact me if I can be of assistance.



Some of the delegates to the 1925 Lions Clubs International Convention. It was at this convention that Helen Keller challenged Lions to be "Knights of the Blind."

## My Thoughts

1st Vice District Governor Lou Ann Hathcock

Wow! What a miracle three Lions with a dream created! Three Lions established a guide dog training school in 1938 after one of their friends could not attend a school in another state. Of course, it has taken the efforts of many great Lions and organizations to create a wonderful organization – Leader Dogs for the Blind. They have graduated over 14,500 guide dogs since opening its doors.

I just returned from Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester, MI, one of the great programs our district and state Lions support. Each year, Leader Dogs invites the 1<sup>st</sup> VDGs of the areas supporting the campus and program. This year, five of Missouri's 1<sup>st</sup> VDGs were able to make the visit.

We toured the facility, which was abuzz with activity. They had a full class of students in the midst of their 26-day session meeting and working with their new Leader Dogs. We also toured the new kennel facilities and learned how their breeding program is seeking the best traits for those needing the service dogs. A highlight of the day was taking a blindfolded walk through an obstacle course led by a Leader Dog. The walk gave me a small glimpse into how important a Leader Dog is to a person without sight.

It is amazing how many volunteers are involved in the raising of puppies and other support activities of Leader Dogs and the level of detail that goes in to preparing a dog to be a Leader Dog.

Your contributions are critical for Leader Dogs to continue providing the dedicated service dogs to those without vision. Each person receiving a Leader Dog has an extended stay at the school, where they meet, bond with and train with their Leader Dog. Leader Dogs provides the transportation, dormitory space and meals for each person going through this training (at no cost to the recipient).

I encourage each of our clubs to support Leader Dogs, It is truly amazing to see the freedom a person gains once they receive a Leader Dog.

If you would like more information on Leader Dogs, please contact me or our district Leader Dog Chairperson, PDG Emery Smola (573-642-7909 or [esmola@ktis.net](mailto:esmola@ktis.net)).



1 VDG Lou Ann with fellow Missouri 1VDGs (l to r) : Ron Campbell, Bob Nollesch, John Preston and Greg Gilliam



## **Building for the Future**

2VDG Mark Schaeperkoetter

Wow, is this the Army or what? We throw all of these acronyms at you in a meeting and your head is spinning wondering how much time in the bathroom that it took to figure out what they all mean. To set the record straight, my name is Lion Mark Schaeperkoetter, 2VDG for 26M7. Surely, if you can get my last name, 2VDG (Second Vice District Governor) for 26-M7 (Missouri is Multiple District 26 and M7 is our district in Central Missouri, the other six districts in Missouri surround us), you should pick up on the rest easily.

After Schaeperkoetter, everything is downhill! We have a 1VDG (First Vice District Governor) and a DG (District Governor) in District 26-M7. If you figured these out, WTG (Way To Go)! Lurking around at some of our meetings is Donal Knipp, our cabinet secretary. He is a PID which almost sounds like something that, if you did it in public you would get TIJ (Thrown In Jail), PID=Past International Director or Rock Star for short! Then there is a whole bunch of PDGs (Past District Governors) running around talking to ZC (Zone Chairman), while we have plenty of the former we always need Lions willing to serve to be the latter!

We also have GMT (Global Membership Team), GLT (Global Leadership Team), PCCs (Past Council Chairs) and other "three letter" Lions around. While Lions are heading toward 1,500,000 members, our state membership is shrinking. These leaders with all of the alphabet letters after their names can't reverse this trend without your help. If each club sets a realistic goal of member growth for the year, Missouri Lions can grow also. International President Bob Corlew has challenged us to increase our percentage of female and young members under 40 to blast past one and a half million members.

If you reach out to new members for your club and get in touch with these experienced Lions Leaders designated by letters of the alphabet, we can grow membership in our clubs, district and state. My telephone number is 573-619-8544. Please feel free to call and help will be on the way PDQ!



### **Looking for Volunteers** **2017 Missouri Lions State Convention** **Host Committee** *Centennial Celebration 100 Years of Service*

The Lions of District 26-M7 are the hosts for the 2017 Missouri Lions State Convention, being held May 4 - 7, 2017. The Host Committee Chairperson, IPCC Jeff Hilke is asking for the district Lions to step forward to volunteer their knowledge and skills. The convention will mark Missouri Lions' celebration of 100 years of Lions Service.

**The next planning meeting is 6:30 pm, September 20, 2016 at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Lake Ozark.** Please attend if you are interested in helping plan or work at the state convention.

## Welcome Our New Lions

### Jefferson City Host Lions Club

*Todd Miller*

Sponsor: Ron Jordan

### Millersburg Lions Club

*John McCray*

### Owensville Lions Club

*Ricky C. Hacker*

Sponsor: Melvina Tindell

*Melvin Taylor*

Sponsor: Robert Depperman

*Paul Schmanke*

Sponsor: Mark Schaeperkoetter

### Russellville Lions Club

*Amy Edwards*

### Tipton Lions Club

*Mike Crane*

Sponsor: Janis Wassman

*George Eisenbath*

Sponsor: Robert Rowles

*James T. Huff*

Sponsor: Robert Rowles



## Global Membership Team Coordinator Comments

My name is Steve Duncan and I am the Global Membership Team (GMT) Coordinator for Lions District 26-M7. Each of the seven districts in Multiple District 26 has a GMT Coordinator and we work closely with PDG Lion Debbie Cantrell, who is the State GMT Coordinator.

The recruitment of new Lions members and the retention of existing Lions members is critical to the success of our individual local Lions Clubs. In order to fulfill our Lions motto, "We Serve," we need a strong and active membership in each of our clubs to carry out the various service projects we conduct for our local communities.

I want to share some sobering membership numbers with you. In Lions District 26-M7, we finished the 2015-2016 Lions year with 39 clubs with a total membership of 1,413 Lions. During the past year, we lost 3 clubs and had a net loss of 41 members—we added 136 new members throughout the district but we lost 177 Lions through death or membership drops. Not only did we lose members, but we, as Lions, are an aging service organization. Per our Lions International President, Chancellor Bob Corlew, only 9% of Lions worldwide are under the age of 40. Lions International has set a goal of 50% of all new Lions members be women. In Missouri, only approximately 30% of all new Lions members are women and our current Lions District 26-M7 membership is comprised of 82.7% men and only 17.3% women.

From these numbers you can see that we need to recruit new members and we need to work harder to retain our existing members. We obviously want to recruit all demographic groups to find new members and potential new Lions leaders, but it appears that recruiting young persons and women needs to be a major focus of our recruiting efforts. We need these new members to bring our individual Lions Clubs new ideas and new energy. We also need to retain our existing Lions because we need their leadership and experience.

New member recruitment is the responsibility of each of us as Lions. Please reach out to family members, co-workers, and friends. Invite them to become a Lion.

*When was the last  
time you asked  
someone to join in  
serving his or her  
community?*

## Lions Screen Vision at Cole County Back to School Fair

On Saturday, August 6, 2016, six members of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club and 2 members of the Lohman Lions club conducted a KidSight Vision Screening at the Cole County Back to School Fair held at South Elementary School in Jefferson City. It was facilitated by Cole County Head Start a part of Central Missouri Community Action. The event started at 10 am and ended at 2 pm.

The JC Host Lions were asked to conduct this screening because all the Saving Sight technicians were conducting vision screenings at four other back to school fairs. The Lions worked with Larry Merry from Concord Baptist Church in testing the students' vision. The Lions tested children from 6 months to 6 years with the PlusOptix camera, while Larry Merry used an eye chart to test older students. When the eye chart testing got behind, the Lions screened older students. At the end of the day the Lions screened 82 children ages 6 and under and 51 students 7 and up. They had nine referrals, which brought the total screened to 142.



Pictured are (l to r) bottom row: Gary Zumwalt, Jeanne Schwaller, Kathie Berger, Alberta Zumwalt, Roger Schwartze, top row: Sam Orr, Billy Bonnot. Not pictured is Janice Bonnot.



**CENTENNIAL SERVICE CHALLENGE**  
BY THE NUMBERS

WHERE THERE'S A NEED THERE'S A LION

SINCE 1917

People Served:

**100,000,000**



## Lions, Learning is a Lifelong Process

Yes, all Lions can benefit from training. This is especially true for our Lions leaders. None of us has all of the answers in this changing world. As the world around us is changing, our Lions clubs need to keep up. There are many opportunities to learn of the changes. Attending zone, district and state Lions meetings is one way of learning what is new and what has disappeared. Lions Clubs International (LCI) also offers several in-depth training opportunities to help our leaders grow.

- **Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute.** Missouri Lions joins with other multiple districts to host a weekend of leadership training. The focus is to train leaders and potential leaders at the club and district levels. The location of the institute rotates every two years among the multiple districts. The past two years, it was held in the Dakotas. The location for July 2017 has not been announced. Tuition and room and board for the training is typically \$175 per person. Scholarships are available through District 26-M7.
- **Emerging Lions Leadership Institute.** This institute, sponsored by LCI, focuses on building the skills for Lions leaders at the club level. The next institute is January 21-24, 2017 in Chicago, IL. A participation fee of \$125 is required. Additional information is available at <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/emerging-leadership-institutes/index.php>. Applications must be submitted by November 7, 2016. The application is available at <http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/elli-chicago.pdf>.
- **Advanced Lions Leadership Institute.** The focus of this, sponsored by LCI, is to prepare Lions for leadership responsibilities at the zone and district levels. Candidates for this institute have completed a successful term as club president but have not served as first vice district governor. The next institute is scheduled for 2017. A participation fee of \$125 is required. Additional information is available at <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/advanced-leadership-institutes/index.php>.
- **Faculty Development Institute.** Training dedicated to the development and expansion of skilled Lions faculty is the focus of this institute. The techniques and concepts that enhance quality and effectiveness of Lions training are emphasized during this four-day course. A participation fee of \$150 is required. The next course is scheduled for 2017. Additional information is available at <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/faculty-development-institutes/index.php>.
- **Faculty Development Excellence Series.** This program supports the continued development of skilled Lions faculty at all levels of the association. Candidates for this institute are graduates of the Faculty Development Institute. This institute is conducted via two three-hour webinars. The next series of webinars is February/March 2017. Additional information is available at <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/fdes.php>.

Should you have any questions or wish additional information on these learning opportunities, please contact Jesse Hathcock, District Global Leadership Team Coordinator at 573-338-5530 or [Jess26M7@aol.com](mailto:Jess26M7@aol.com).

## Club Officer Information

### It's Tax Time Again; Time to File with IRS

It is now that time of year. Your fiscal year ended June 30<sup>th</sup> and you wrapped up your 2015-2016 finances and completed an audit/review of your financial records. The Lions in your club are satisfied with your accounting practices and know how much money they raised and used in their service projects and donations. Following is a message from Lions Clubs International Legal Division on this topic:

“Please remember that all Lions Clubs, Districts and Multiple Districts that have annual gross receipts less than \$50,000 and do not have to file Form 990 or 990-EZ, must file the e-Postcard (also known as 990-N) (<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard>). Please note that this is an IRS requirement.

“Please note that this is an IRS requirement and that the 990-N electronic filing system moved from Urban Institute's website to IRS.gov in February 2016. **All filers** must register at [www.IRS.gov](http://www.irs.gov) prior to filing their next Form 990-N. This is a one-time registration if the designated Lion files annually. If the designee changes from a prior year, the new designee must register with the IRS.

“Please refer to the below regarding annual filing requirements:

- Gross receipts normally less than \$50,000, file a 990-N
- Gross receipts greater than \$50,000 and less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000, file a 990-EZ or 990
- Gross receipts greater than \$200,000 or total assets greater than \$500,000, file a 990

“The e-Postcard is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. Lions Clubs operate on a fiscal year, July 1 – June 30, and the e-Postcard are due by November 15th each year. Please note that ***an organization cannot request an extension for filing the Form 990-N.***

“If you do not file, you risk losing your tax-exempt status. Any Lions Club that fails to meet its annual reporting requirement for three consecutive years automatically loses its tax exempt status under the new law. A club may get reinstated if they complete an application (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1024.pdf>) for recognition of exemption even if they originally fell under a group exemption.

“Every Club and/or District must have an employer identification number (EIN), even if it will not have employees. The EIN is a unique number that identifies the organization to the Internal Revenue Service. To apply for an EIN, you should obtain a Form SS-4 and its Instructions from the IRS. You may also apply for an EIN online, by telephone (1-800-829-4933), or by fax (fax number at the location accepting applications from your state). It is important that the Clubs and Districts are using the correct EIN for their annual filing.

“For frequently asked questions about tax issues and regulations affecting Lions clubs and leadership, go to the Lions Tax FAQ ([http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/tax\\_reg\\_lions.pdf](http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/tax_reg_lions.pdf)). Go to [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo) (<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits>) for complete details and while you're there sign up for Exempt Organization's free email newsletter, EO Update, to receive up-to-date information posted on the charity pages of [irs.gov](http://irs.gov).”



## Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

### Volunteer Opportunity – Missouri Special Olympics

The Missouri Special Olympics Outdoor Games are coming to Cole County October 14-16. In addition to the sporting events of bocce, softball, tennis, golf and flag football, Special Olympics is hosting its Healthy Athletes initiative.

Volunteers are needed to set up the five Healthy Athlete clinic sites, escorting the athletes and tearing down. The hours volunteers are needed are:

**Friday, Oct 14:** setup 7:30 am; tear down 1:00 pm at Blair Oaks High School – Fit Feet Clinic

**Saturday, Oct 15:** set up 7:00 am; tear down 2:00 pm at Binder Park – Fun Fitness, Health Promotion and Special Smiles Clinics

**Saturday, Oct 15:** setup 3:30 pm; teardown 6:30 pm at Thomas Jefferson Middle School – Healthy Hearing Clinic

If your club is interested in assisting with the Healthy Athlete clinics, please contact Carol Griffin, Partnership Manager at 573.635.1660 extension 28 or [griffin@somo.org](mailto:griffin@somo.org).

Since 2001, the Lions Clubs International Foundation and Special Olympics have partnered to provide the Opening Eyes Program to the athletes. The program provides vision and eye health screening and offers prescription eyewear or sports goggles. Opening Eyes was offered in Missouri in 2014 and will be offered in the future. More than 20,000 Lions in 80 countries have volunteered through the Opening Eyes Program.

Of course, volunteers are also needed to work with athletes in their Outdoor Games competitive events and provide support services over the weekend. The schedules of these events and the times volunteers are needed for each event are available at <https://somo.org/outdoor#schedule>. You can register to assist the athletes directly with Missouri Special Olympics at its web site – <http://outdoor.somo.volunteerhub.com/events/index>.



**Lions Clubs International  
FOUNDATION**



District LCIF Coordinator Jesse Hathcock gives Special Olympians an overview of Lions and their support of Special Olympics.





# HOLIDAY CASH RAFFLE

Jefferson City Host Lions Club



**\$7,600**

**Cash Prizes!**

*\$10.00 per Ticket*

*Drawing: November 16, 2016*

*(Need not be present to win)*

**\*\*\*\*\* 46 Winners \*\*\*\*\***

**GRAND PRIZE: \$2000.00**

**2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: \$800.00**

**3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: \$400.00**

**4<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$200.00**

**5<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE THRU 46<sup>TH</sup> PRIZE: \$100.00**

**(Prizes Based on 1500 Tickets Sold)**



To purchase a ticket or for more information call (573) 619-0580 or (573) 680-5758.

### Publication Schedule for *Between the Lions*

October	October 8
November/December	December 8
January/February	February 8
March/April	April 8
May/June	May 8

Please submit your articles prior to the last day of September, November, January, March and May.

Please submit articles and calendar events to: [Jess26M7@aol.com](mailto:Jess26M7@aol.com) or mail to Jesse Hathcock, 608 Castle Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109.

## Calendar of Events

Sept 11	Woofstock Family Fun Day, Gravois Arm Lions Club, 11 am – 3 pm	Oct 29	Council of Governors Meeting, Camden on the Lake, Lake Ozark
Sept 15-17	USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Omaha, NE	Nov 6	Pancake and Sausage breakfast, Hermann Community Center, 7 am – 1 pm
Sept 17	Chamois Day		
Oct 1-2	Oktoberfest, Hermann; Hermann Lions selling kettlekorn, brats/hot dogs and soda	<b><u>2017</u></b>	
October 3	Hermann Lions Golf Tournament, Loutre Shores Country Club, 3 person teams \$250, Tee time is noon.	Mar 10	District 26-M7 Convention Hospitality Night, Cedar City Lions Den
Oct 8-9	Oktoberfest, Hermann; Hermann Lions selling kettlekorn, brats/hot dogs and soda	Mar 11	District 26-M7 Convention, St. Andrew’s Church, Holts Summit
Oct 14-15	Special Olympics Outdoor Games, Jefferson City, Wardsville	May 4-7	Missouri Lions State Convention, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach
Oct 15	Brazito-Honey Creek Lions BBQ, Schulte’s parking lot, Jefferson City	Jun 9	Jefferson City Evening Lions 24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Golf Tournament, Oak Hills, Jefferson City
Oct 15-16	Oktoberfest, Hermann; Hermann Lions selling kettlekorn, brats/hot dogs and soda	Jun 30- Jul 4	Lions Clubs International Convention Chicago, IL
Oct 22-23	Oktoberfest, Hermann; Hermann Lions selling kettlekorn, brats/hot dogs and soda		



### Correction to the 2016-2017 District Directory

Page 8. Change the Hermann Lions president’s to read: [stevemueller08@centurtytel.net](mailto:stevemueller08@centurtytel.net)