



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

**District Governor's Team**  
**2015 - 2016**

DG Allen Moore

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1VDG Don Soph

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2VDG Lou Ann Hathcock

Jefferson City Breakfast  
Lions Club  
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# Between the Lions



The District 26-M7 Newsletter

December 2015

## District Governor Wisdom

District Governor Allen Moore

Merry Christmas!!!

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ. It is the time of year for families to get together, a time for friends to meet and greet.

It is also a time to help others, whether it is working in a soup kitchen, ringing bells for the Salvation Army or providing a Christmas meal and gifts to a family in your town that is down on their luck. Lions and their clubs will be in the forefront of helping others.

I hope the Lions will encourage others to join with us in serving our communities. New members will bring **NEW IDEAS** and energy to your club. The more Lions we have helping, the more we can do. I encourage each of you to **ASK ONE** to help your club grow.

Merry Christmas to all.

District Governor Allen Moore



## Greetings

1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Don Soph

Greetings Lions of M7! Hope all had a happy Thanksgiving and are ready for the arrival of winter.

As you well know, the Christmas season is upon us. An important part of this time of year is giving. At Christmas we give gifts to family and friends, give our time to groups that advance worthy causes and give financially to charities that help numerous individuals in countless ways. When your club meets this month, set some time aside to review the Lions programs your club has contributed to throughout the year. If your club is lacking in giving, I strongly encourage members to consider contributing to one or some of the many helpful Lions programs.

There are of course the major Lions programs to which your club can donate. Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) provides funds to many worthwhile projects. One of these efforts is to provide assistance to victims of natural disasters – such as hurricanes, earthquakes and floods – immediately after such tragedies take place. The money goes directly to Lions Clubs in the affected areas and is used to buy much needed supplies that suddenly homeless individuals need to simply be able to function after they've lost everything. And the money goes all over the world, including to victims right here in the United States.

Another great and extremely helpful program to contribute to is LeaderDogs for the Blind. This organization breeds and trains service dogs for sight impaired people, and works with the person receiving a dog to fully prepare them for the service dog experience. Countless sight impaired individuals have had their lives completely changed by LeaderDogs for the Blind, and they need funds to continue and enhance their wonderful work. Here in Missouri, clubs can donate to Saving Sight. Saving Sight utilizes numerous programs such as children eye screenings, eye tissue donation and glasses recycling to promote improved vision and fight eye diseases. But as with all good causes, Saving Sight is always in need of contributions.

There are so many more Lions programs to which your club can donate. There's Mid South Lions Sight and Hearing, which performs free eye surgeries on needy individuals; the Missouri Lions band program which brings together high school marching band members from around the state to travel and perform music and the Missouri Lions Athletic Committee that sponsors the Lions All Star Football game, bringing together just-graduated high school football players from around the state to compete in a football game every July in Warrensburg, and many, many more programs. If your club has not done so this year, remember the season and contribute to one of the many worthy Lions programs.

Please feel free to contact me any time, and I wish all of you and your families a very merry Christmas.

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

Submit your articles and information to Jesse Hathcock at [Jess26M7@aol.com](mailto:Jess26M7@aol.com) or 608 Castle Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

Submit your contributions to the newsletter by the last day of the month preceding publication. The next date for submissions is by November 30<sup>th</sup>.



## My Thoughts

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Lou Ann Hathcock

My message this month is to wish you the merriest Christmas and happiest New Year. Celebrate with your families and friends. Those memories will last a lifetime. As do our memories of seeing the joyful faces of those we serve!

On the Lions front, we are very busy supporting our communities. However, we can do even more – we just need more Lions to help us tackle greater projects.

As we end this year, let each of us take a few moments to reflect on our Lions club's accomplishments. Let us look forward to 2016 and realize that we can do even more, serve even more people and make our communities even better.

To accomplish this, we need to ask others to join us as we link our arms and hearts together to serve others. Let us make a resolution to grow in service in 2016!



2VDG Lou Ann with her “elf,” granddaughter Makenzie Riggs, ringing the bell.

## Jefferson City Evening Lions Host the “Senior Prom”



The JC Evening Lions and their band, The Lion Eyes, held a “senior prom” at the Senior Nutrition Center, hosting seniors from three residential facilities. The seniors were greeted and received corsages and boutonnieres as they arrived (center). Lions also provided dance partners to further the fun; Lion Matt Muessig (right) dances with one of the attendees.

## District 26-M7 Annual Convention – March 11 & 12, 2016

Lions, mark your calendars to reserve the dates of the 2016 District 26-M7 Annual Convention – March 11 & 12, 2016. The event will be held at the Eldon Community Center, 309 E 2nd Street.

Festivities will begin on Friday evening with a hospitality night and continue on Saturday.

As District Governor Allen Moore announced in the November *Between the Lions*, the district's Lions clubs are encouraged to participate in the Lions Parade on Saturday morning. Clubs are encouraged to walk, drive or ride in the parade to help inform community of the great work that Lions do to support their communities.



In addition to other activities, the Lions of District 26-M7 will cast their votes for our future district leaders. Every club is entitled to one voting delegate for every 10 club members or major portion of 10 (who have been a member for at least one year and one day). A Lions club with fewer than 10 members is entitled to one delegate. Examples: a Lions club with seven members will have one delegate; a Lions club with 61 members will have six delegates; a Lions club with 45 members will have five delegates. Past district governors are also entitled to register as a voting delegate, without using a club's allotted delegate position.

Additional details will be announced.

## Hearing Committee Update



The Hearing Sweepstake Tickets have been sent to all the clubs. If you need more tickets, please call District Hearing Chair Lion Linda Martin at 573-346-5872 or email her at [werlions@msn.com](mailto:werlions@msn.com). Please do not limit the sales of the sweepstakes tickets to your Lions club; make them available to the public to help increase the sales. This is the only fundraising event for the Hearing Committee and the funds raised help provide the affordable hearing aids from Lions Clubs International Foundation and operate the two state hearing vans.

Our district has two hearing aid applications being processed. Contact Lion Linda for more information on the Affordable Hearing Aid program. Lions have screened 384 students at various health fairs and several students were referred for testing. We have three audiometers that should be used by all the clubs for local hearing screening. Lion Linda would like to train at least one member of each club so more students and adults could be screened.

Please talk to your local funeral home or director requesting old hearing aids. They or the families they serve may not know how to recycle used hearing aids. Lions give these to the Missouri School for the Deaf where they are retrofitted for their students as needed.

It is alarming how many of our teenagers are losing their hearing because of the music they have blasting in their ears. The Lions State Hearing Committee is working on supplying ear plugs with our logo on the ear plugs. We think preventing hearing loss should be our priority. Your purchase and selling of the sweepstakes tickets will help us implement this new initiative.

## Tips to Increase Membership

Every club should have a good mix of membership strategies for retention and to increase growth. As we approach the mid-point of our year, it is a good time to review our progress in keeping our Lions involved and recruiting new members. Following are some useful tips; more will be provided in the next newsletter.

### 1. Exude a warm and welcoming attitude

Warm and welcoming meetings translate into a warm and welcoming club. Lions need to take a pro-active approach in meeting and greeting potential new members. A Lion may stand at the entrance, shaking the hand of members and guests as they come in for your meeting. It can be hard for people to walk into a roomful of people they don't know. Introduce yourself, take an interest in them, and introduce them to other members.

### 2. Make everything you do a "media event"

Now that cell phones with cameras are abundant and digital cameras are easy to use, take a picture at all your events – your speaker at the meeting, your new member inductions, when you present awards – send it to your local newspapers. Newspapers, especially weeklies, are always looking for items of local interest.

### 3. Get the media more interested in what you're doing

Invite a local journalist to speak at your meeting. While the journalist will speak about the publication or station, ask for tips on ways to get better media coverage of your events.

### 4. Get to know your members

Make sure the Lions make a special effort to get to know each member by name. This can be a challenge, as your group grows, but it is essential. A member needs to feel that he or she is a valued part of the club, regardless of how much service or volunteer hours are contributed.



## Welcome Our New Lions

### Linn Lions Club

Curtis E. Bittle  
Sponsor: Carolyn Koenigsfeld

Cynthia M. Brenneke  
Sponsor: Matt Thomeczek

### Jefferson City Host Lions Club

Walter R. Illston  
Sponsor: Jeanne Schwaller

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

## Interested in Serving the Lions of District 26-M7?

Lions have the opportunity to accept duties and responsibilities that will enhance their contribution to service. Elections for the following officers are scheduled for the District 26-M7 Annual Convention on March 13, 2016.

### Qualifications for District Offices

Any Lion interested in being nominated as a candidate for district governor, first vice district governor or second vice district governor shall submit his/her intention to run in writing to the District Nominating Chairperson no later than February 11, 2016 (30 days prior to the Nominating Committee’s report to the district convention). The intention to run must include his/her compliance with the qualifications for the office as established by the Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws. The qualifications are:

District Governor	Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in District 26-M7.	Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in District 26-M7	Currently be serving as the first vice district governor within District 26-M7.
First Vice District Governor	Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in District 26-M7.	Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in District 26-M7	Currently be serving as the second vice district governor within District 26-M7.
Second Vice District Governor	Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in District 26-M7.	Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in District 26-M7	Have served or will have served at the time he/she takes office as second vice district governor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As president of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of a Lions club board of directors for no less than two (2) additional years; and</li> <li>As zone chairperson, region chairperson or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.</li> <li>With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.</li> </ul>

### District 26-M7 Needs a Representative to the Saving Sight Board of Directors

At the 2016 District 26-M7 Annual Convention, club delegates will also elect the district’s representative to Saving Sight (formerly known as Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation). This is a three-year position that may be filled by any interested Lion of good standing. The term will begin July 1, 2016.

Lions interested in fulfilling these obligations should make their intention known to District Governor Allen Moore by February 11, 2016.

Lions may wish to consult with PCC Dan Bernskoetter (danbernskoetter@gmail.com), the incumbent representative, on specific duties and responsibilities of this position. Lion Dan is completing his term.

## Lions Club Activities

**Owensville Lions** held their weekly bingo game as a major fund-raising project; the club provides full kitchen service from 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday. The kitchen service is open to the public as well as the bingo players.

**Jefferson City Host Lions** collected hearing aids and eyeglasses from their collection points around town; made a donation to Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing in memory of a long-time member; worked in various positions for the Samaritan Center; cleaned a local park flower bed; made a donation to the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign and made donations to the Helias High School and the local Boys and Girls Club. They also planned the dedication of the Blue-Star Highway marker.

**Eldon Lions** Donated funds to sponsor Eldon Upper Elementary Robotics team to attend Missouri State Competition; read books to children at Head Start and did leaf drawing craft with all children and constructed a Lions Float for the Annual Christmas Parade.

**Jefferson City Breakfast Lions** picked up and delivered food to Senior Nutrition Center, filled buddy packs and held their monthly bingo game at a senior residential center.

**Lake Ozark Lions** held a Rummage Sale and clothes Redistribution project to benefit the community. New clothing was made available to the lower income population using a "fill the bag" option at a very low price.

**Hermann Lions** cleared trash from its two mile section along Highway 100; purchased eyeglasses for a child and donate to the area food pantry.

**Lohman Lions** helped with the food pantry at the church at Russellville.

**Rocky Mount Lions** cleared the community park entrance area and installed a temporary sign for the new park. The club held two community dances in November. They also hosted a community ham and bean dinner on November 13. On Thanksgiving, the club provided a free turkey dinner for the community; over 185 persons attended the feast.

**Auxvasse Lions** provided rides for those needing transportation for medical appointments and donated food to the buddy pack program.

**Brumley Lions** sponsored the monthly community ham and bean dinner before taking the month of December off.

**Cedar City Lions** donated funds to support the Salvation Army.

### Centennial Challenge Update:

Since July 1, 2015, District 26-M7 Lions reported they conducted:

**128** activities in the Global Service Action Campaigns with **24,139** people served.





## Raffle to support LeaderDogs for the Blind



**Henry Golden Boy 22LR**

The Lions of District 26-M7 are raffling a “Made in the USA” Henry Golden Boy 22LR rifle with two receiver covers: a specially engraved receiver cover and a brass receiver cover for rugged use.

Each ticket is \$5.00. Only 500 tickets are available.

To be eligible, you must be 21 years of age and have no criminal history or mental health issues.

Drawing is at the District 26-M7 Convention, March 12, 2016, Eldon Community Center. You do not need to be present to win.

For tickets, see your District Governor Team:

DG Allen Moore: e-mail: armoore\_25@hotmail.com; 573-216-8628

1VDG Don Soph: e-mail: donsoph@hotmail.com; 314-304-5054

2VDG Lou Ann Hathcock: e-mail: balloonsisters@aol.com; 573-338-4687



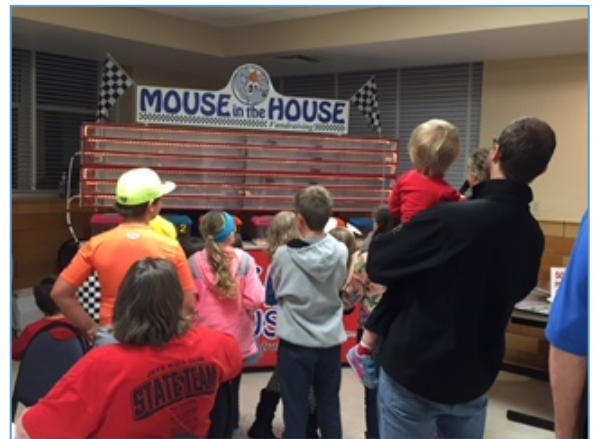
A Lions  
fundraising  
project

## Jefferson City Breakfast Lions Host “A Night at the Mouse Races”

The mice ran wild as the JC Breakfast Lions hosted their annual mouse race. The evening was fun for all ages. The children were able to check out the racers before the event got underway. The club provided hot dog, chips, cookies, pretzels and peanuts in addition to beverages of all kinds. The unpredictable mice made their way over obstacles set up in their lanes and the crowd cheered on their favorites.



Checking out the “athletes” before the races.



Staking out their positions “along the rail” to watch the race.





Stover Lions prepare their float for the annual Stover Christmas Parade.



The Holts Summit Lions provide holiday décor in their clubhouse.

## Calendar of Events

Dec 12      Holts Summit Lions Christmas Festival  
11:30 am – 1:30 pm (before the parade)

### 2016

Jan 30      Council of Governors,  
Ramada Oasis, Springfield

Jan 31      Cedar City Lions Chili Dinner,  
11 am – 2 pm

Mar 11-12   **District 26-M7 Convention, Eldon**

Apr 15-16   Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing  
Leadership Weekend, Memphis, TN

Apr 28 –    State Convention,  
May 1      Ramada Oasis, Springfield

Jun 24-28   Lions Clubs International Convention,  
Fukuoka, Japan

Jul 23      Council of Governors Meeting,  
Warrensburg

Jul 23      MO Lions All Star Football Game  
Warrensburg

Sept 15-17   USA/Canada Lions Leadership  
Forum, Omaha, NE

Oct 29      Council of Governors Meeting.  
Country Club Hotel, Lake Ozark