



BETWEEN THE LIONS

District 26-M7 ... Newsletter



August 2013

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR



District Governor Jeff Hilke

As we begin our new Lions year, I am optimistic that we will have a successful, progressive year and have fun doing it. Who says you can't help people and enjoy it?

In a short three week time span, the new Lions year has included the international convention, Council of Governors meeting, Missouri Lions All-Star Football Game and our first district cabinet meeting of the year. Now it's time to get to work!

For those of you that attended the first cabinet meeting, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to learn about what's going on in District 26-M7 and what dreams we're following in the new Lion's year. It was great to hear what's going on in all the different clubs and I hope all those in attendance found value in joining us for the evening. A very special thank you goes out to the Westphalia Lions for hosting the meeting and preparing a delicious meal.

I'm excited at the number of Lions that are part of the District Cabinet for their first time. Many of these Lions are just as excited to serve and I'm sure they will do a great job. This year, I challenge every club to invite at least one of our district's state committee representatives to visit your club and discuss what their committee is all about and what they are doing.

As part of the preparations to serve as District Governor, Lions Clubs International asked each incoming DG to identify a set of goals for the year. A few of the goals I've come up with are:

- each club have a net gain of three new members for the year
- increased visibility and presence of the Lions within our local communities
- promote fellowship and interaction between clubs
- educate Lions, particularly new members, what Lions Clubs International is involved in and how these projects can benefit our local communities
- have more than one Lion working with our state committees at the district level
- work on identifying and developing the future leaders of our district
- charter a new club in our district for the first time in over 18 years

A quick glance at the above list might scare a lot of you, but I feel all of these items are attainable. As is the case with anything we do, it will be much easier to turn these goals into reality with the help, cooperation and support of every Lion and every club. At the end of June 2014, let's celebrate our successes and plan for even greater accomplishments in the future.

LOFTY DREAMS LEAD TO GREAT SERVICE

Just beyond the modest home I grew up in Australia was the bush, where kangaroos, wallabies and kookaburras roamed amid gum and wattle trees. My father, Jack, was an accountant who took the same train to work and sat in the same seat day after day. I trained to be a wool classer, rotely producing wool. But I dreamt of doing something more influential. So I eventually went into real estate and built up my business.



International President Barry Palmer

As a Lion I also dreamt of making a big impact. So when a young

Australian woman spoke to our club about an orphanage she worked at in India, my club dove right in. The parents of many of these children had been killed by rebels. We helped get them better housing, and from that point many thrived in school.

For years I had another dream I kept to myself. I saw the remarkable ability of Lions to change lives, and I wanted to fully devote myself to Lions. The dream came true a few years ago when I learned I was to be nominated for international president.



Lions, follow your dreams. They will not lead you astray. Nearly every great accomplishment began as a wildly ambitious dream whether it was landing a man on the moon, running a four-minute mile or webbing together the entire world through computers. Listen to your heart. Don't ever impede a great idea whose time has come. To me, dreams are not visions that arise in sleep but plans that don't let you sleep.

Identify your dream and work to achieve it. It's up to you to decide what your dream is. Plant the seed and let it grow. Find inspiration and guidance from other clubs and from Lions Clubs International. As I like to say, don't tell me to aim for the stars when there are footprints on the moon.

Anne and I look forward to you Following Your Dream in 2013-14. Good luck, godspeed and congratulations—excellence is the inevitable result of pursuing dreams.

Barry J. Palmer

Your Lions Clubs International President

IP Palmer's Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/lcibarrypalmer>

IP Palmer's Service Blog: <http://lionsclubs.org/blog/category/presidents-service-blog/palmer-blog/>

LIONS IN DEUTSCHLAND....



The 96th annual Lions Clubs International Convention was held in Hamburg, Germany, July 5-9. The residents and Lions of Hamburg were very gracious and hospitable to the over 24,000 Lions visiting their town. Representing District 26-M7 at this event were International Director Donal Knipp and Lion Betty Knipp of the Auxvasse Lions, District Governor-Elect Jeff Hilke and Past Council Chairman Jesse Hathcock of the Jefferson City Evening Lions, Lion President Lou Ann Hathcock and Lion Amy Bell of the Jefferson City Breakfast Lions and First Vice District

Governor-Elect Emery Smola and Lion Secretary Susan Colvin of the Fulton Host Lions Club. Highlights of the convention included keynote addresses by former First Lady Laura Bush and Princess Laurentien of the Netherlands, a surprise appearance by former NBA star Yao Ming and presentation of the Lions Humanitarian Award to blind Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli, who entertained the attendees with a short performance. The convention was capped off with the installation of our association's new president, Lion Barry Palmer of New South Wales, Australia, who then presided over the installation of the 2013-2014 District Governors. It was an exciting time to be a Lion, but then again, isn't every day a great day to be a Lion?

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO HELP YOU BETTER...

Communication is important and necessary to the continued success of our organization. Communication can be made in a variety of ways. With today's technology, there have been advancements in effective and efficient mass communication. When email was first introduced, everyone kept their addresses protected to avoid unwanted solicitations, now known as "Spam," and only had access to email while at work.

Today, email is a way of life. Virtually everyone uses email to conduct business, pay bills, and stay in touch with family members. Many of us have email available to us in our homes and even on our cellular phones.



We are in the process of trying to update the email distribution list used by district 26-M7 to notify Lions of upcoming meetings and to distribute our district and state newsletter. While reviewing the membership rosters of our district's clubs, I have noticed that a majority of Lions don't have an email address listed, or that the addresses are entered incorrectly. Club secretaries, we know most clubs use email to communicate with club members. Please enter these email addresses into your club rosters when submitting your monthly reports to LCI. Additionally, and more importantly, we ask you to share those addresses with the district. You can be assured that any email addresses shared with us will only be used for newsletter distributions, meeting notifications, or other important communications. We won't sell the list to anyone or use it to share jokes or any non-Lions information. Any email information can be sent to District Governor Jeff Hilke at lionjeffhilke@gmail.com. Your help is greatly appreciated!

WHO WILL LEAD US?

Leadership is critical to the overall success of any organization – including our Lions clubs, from the club level through District 26-M7 and up to Lions Clubs International. Effective leadership teams provide the vision, guidance and motivation necessary for our clubs to meet our mission of providing quality service to our communities and persons in need.



Before us stands a great challenge -- identifying Lions with the potential and desire to be our future leaders. Certainly, this is a challenge we should eagerly accept and meet.

As you know, our Lions logo features two Lions -- one Lion is looking proudly to the past while the other Lions looks eagerly to the future. It is not enough to rest on our laurels. Our Lions future has the potential to outshine all of our past accomplishments -- if we develop great leaders who create the vision of even greater service.

Where will our future Lions leaders come from? The answer to that is staring right at you. Look around your club meeting or project. Look around your community. Look in the mirror. Our future leaders are everywhere. Each of us shares in the responsibility of growing our membership and encouraging our Lions to evolve as leaders.

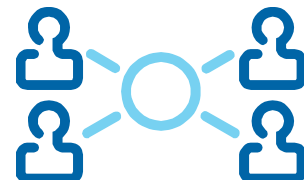
A primary goal of the Global Leadership Team is to work with the District Governor Team, the Global Membership Team, zone chairpersons and club officers to identify Lions with an interest in serving as our leaders and encourage their development. Planning for district, state and regional training activities is underway. You will hear more about these activities in the coming months. Our leadership development activities are to help our Lions clubs grow stronger and enhance the quality of our leadership at all levels.

For more information or a club presentation, contact your Global Leadership Team Coordinator, Jesse Hathcock at Jess26M7@aol.com or 573-761-4438.

STAY CONNECTED WITH 26M7

District Website: <http://www.e-district.org/sites/26m7>

District Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MoLions26m7>



MLERF APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation's Board of Directors has officially appointed Lion Tony Bavuso as the foundation's new executive director, effective July 1, 2013. Bavuso brings 15 years of experience in organizational leadership and eye tissue banking and currently serves as the Foundation's chief operating officer. Bavuso will serve as only the third executive director in the organization's 53-year history. Current Executive Director, Lion Dr. Ron Walkenbach, will retire in March 2014 after 32 years in the job role.

"Lion Tony's knowledge and presence in the eye banking industry made him a logical choice to succeed Dr. Walkenbach in this executive role," said Board Chair, PCC Al Blumenberg. During his time at the Foundation, Bavuso has served in a senior role leading the Heartland Lions Eye Banks division in pursuing new eye banking technologies and forging relationships with organizational partners.

"We must be authentically mission-driven and demonstrate responsible stewardship of the precious gift of donated tissue as well as financial gifts," said Bavuso. "I believe these ideals resonate with people and represent the true intent of those who selflessly give to our cause so that others may enjoy a better life."

The Foundation is also excited to welcome two new members to its board starting July 1, 2013. PDG Stuart Payne (M6) and Lion Allen Lohsandt (M5) will represent their districts for three-year terms. This will be PDG Stuart's second time serving on the MLERF board. You can find a full listing of FY 2013-2014 board members below, including your district's representative.

- Lion Dr. Dan Obermark (M1)
- PCC Al Blumenberg (M2), President
- PDG Gary Clarkson (M3)
- PDG John Reese (M4)
- Lion Allen Lohsandt (M5), Secretary
- PDG Stuart Payne (M6), Treasurer
- CC Gina Boettcher
- VCC Jeff Hilke, Vice President (M7)
- Dr. Roger Bonham
- Tom Rocco
- Dr. Dan Schoenleber
- John Bailey

ANYONE UP FOR A ROARING GOOD TIME?

District 26-M7 will be welcoming the Lions of Missouri to Jefferson City for the second Council of Governor's meeting of the Lions year on October 25-26. Traditionally, the Friday evening before the Council of Governor's meeting, a hospitality room is available for Lions to share in fellowship and refreshments. But for this meeting, we're trying something different. On Friday, October 25, an event will be held at Apple Creek Farm (620 Murphy's Ford Road, near Centertown) to welcome Lions from around the state to the Heart of Missouri. There will be food, live music, hayrides, and fellowship with Lions from all over the state. Just bring yourself and your favorite beverage. I strongly encourage the Lions of District 26-M7 to show up in force to welcome the Missouri Lions to our district and have a lot of fun. If you can attend, please contact DG Jeff at 573-690-8272 or lionjeffhilke@gmail.com. Hope to see everyone there!

The second Council of Governor's meeting of the year will follow on Saturday, October 26, 2013, at the Solid Rock Family Church on Hunter's Run Road, just west of Jefferson City near Apache Flats. Everyone is welcome to attend to see what's going on and learn more about our state organization.

SPREADING THE NEWS



District 26-M7 Information Technology Committee is working to keep all of our district "in the know." There are a variety of ways that we will be using the web to distribute information to those in the district and beyond.

We have created a Calendar of Events on the website (<http://www.e-district.org/sites/26m7>) that can promote all the clubs events. All a club has to do to add their event is send an email to DG Jeff Hilke (lionjeffhilke@gmail.com) or Lion Amy Bell (lionamybell@gmail.com). Please include the club name, event name, date, time, location, cost and contact information.

We also have the District Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MoLions26m7>. This can be used to share photos, upcoming events and club involvement in the community. We ask that you like our page and share it with all your friends, regardless of whether they are Lions or not.

Our next step is to create a photo gallery of all of our clubs. We want to brag on the Lions from our district and we all know a picture is worth 1000 words. If you have pictures you would like to share, please send those to lionjeffhilke@gmail.com or lionamybell@gmail.com along with details about the event they were taken so we can publish them on the website and Facebook.

Be proud of all you accomplish through your clubs and help spread the word about what Lions do for you and your communities!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- August 9
Camdenton Lions Mini Golf Tournament
4pm – 8pm
Pirate’s Cove Miniature Golf Course
5850 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach
- September 14
Jefferson City Capital Lion Trivia Night
6pm – 9pm
Coca-Cola Community Room
605 Washington Street, Jefferson City
\$100 per table – Up to 8 players to a table
Contact: Carol Harrison at 573-635-3961
- September 19 – 21
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
Overland Park, KS Convention Center
\$265/person
Find out more at <https://usacanadalionsforum.org>
- September 28
Belle Lions Club Harvest Fest
8am – 4pm
Downtown Belle, MO
For more information call 573-690-2315
- October 25
26M7: Let’s Have A Roaring Good Time
6pm – 11pm
Apple Creek Farm
621 Murphy Ford Road, Centertown
RSVP by October 11 with DG Jeff Hilke
573-690-8272; lionjeffhilke@gmail.com
- October 26
Council of Governors Meeting
10am – 2pm
Solid Rock Family Church
508 Hunters Run Rd, Jefferson City
- November 13
26M7 Cabinet Meeting
6pm Social; 6:30pm Meeting
Lake Ozark Lion’s Club
131 Fish Haven Road, Lake Ozark