



February 2015

FROM THE DESK OF THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Greetings fellow Lions, from the Kingdom of Callaway. I hope everyone had a happy and joyous holiday season. This is the time of the year we reflect back, assess what we have done, what we can do, and how we can make changes so that 2015 will be an even better year.

So many people are hurting in our communities and around the world. They are relying on you and I, not only to make their daily life better, in some cases to save lives, and to give them hope for a brighter future. The Lions are one of the few organizations that give 100% of their time and monies to people in need, to people of different faiths, nationalities, and races. We do not serve a select group, we serve the world. This is what makes me proud to be a Lion.

By now, all of you have heard about our Centennial Service Challenge. It has been divided into four units; protecting our environment, relieving the hunger, engaging our youth, and sharing the vision. As I visit the clubs, I will expound on these areas. Make sure that you are reporting on your club activities whenever you complete one of these service challenges. This is the only way that we can make sure our 100,000,000 goal is met by Dec. 2017. Of course, do not forget what you are doing in your community for the elderly and others in need.

Do not forget the District Convention, March 6th-7th, 2015. Flyers are going out now and it will be held in the heart of the Kingdom.

Yours in Lionism,

DG Emery Smola

GREETINGS FROM YOUR 2ND DISTRICT VICE GOVERNOR

Happy New Year! Hope all are having an enjoyable 2015!

The most common complaint I've heard attending meetings and visiting clubs is "we need more members." How to attract new Lions and RETAIN them is often a large obstacle a club must grapple with. A club needs to always be discussing different and innovative ways to bring in new members. An excellent way to promote your club is through technology. The numerous benefits a club gains by having a web site or facebook page is immeasurable. Not only are you advertising your club on a rapidly expanding and widely used medium for virtually free, you are also simplifying and targeting new member recruiting. Did you know LCI creates free web sites for clubs? Go to www.lionsclubs.org or Google free lions club web site to learn more information on your club setting one up. Additionally, Facebook is an inexpensive way to reach great numbers of people. And don't forget to consider a club Twitter account. The number of Twitter users is growing by leaps. If you need assistance, please contact the Information Technology Chair Lion Amy Bell at lionamybell@gmail.com.

ELDON LIONS CONTINUE TO GROW

Congratulations to the Eldon Lions who continue to enjoy success with the ASK 1 program. Their club is welcoming another new member, Mrs. Daphney Partridge.

DISTRICT'S NEWEST MELVIN JONES FELLOW

Congratulations to State Council Chair Lion Jeff Hilke who was recently honored by the Jefferson City Evening Lions as a Melvin Jones Fellow. Pictured is Past District Governor Marvin Stuenkel who presented the award.



JEFFERSON CITY HOST LIONS MEETING THE CHALLENGE



In response to our International President Lion Joe Preston's request to perform more service projects, the Jefferson City Host Lions Club is now working with The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri in assembling food packets for their Buddy Backpack Program. Approximately, 56,000 students in the Food Bank's service area qualify for free and reduced-price school meals. For many of them, breakfast and lunch at school offer the only source of reliable nutrition and they are at risk of hunger over the weekend. To alleviate this risk, the Food Bank partners with elementary schools in 28 of the 32 counties it serves to provide Buddy Packs to school children. Buddy Packs are backpacks filled with kid-friendly, nutritious food that students take home over the weekend or holiday periods to supplement their meals when there is not enough for them to eat at home. The program continues week after week throughout the school year to keep the growing youngsters happy and healthy. Members of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club began packing these Buddy Packs on November 5th. We help pack these every other week on Wednesday evenings. To date we have assembled over 1550 Buddy Packs. It's a fun service project and rewarding in knowing that children will be provided nutritious supplements for growing healthy, strong, minds and bodies.





STOVER CHRISTMAS PARADE

Congratulations to the Stover Lions who enjoyed being honored as the Grand Marshalls in the Stover Christmas Parade!

JEFFERSON CITY HOST LIONS PARTICIPATE IN THE LIONS WORLD-WIDE WEEK OF SERVICE

Members of the JC Host Lions Club participated in the Lions World-Wide Week of Service this by volunteering 40 hours at the local Samaritan Center's food pantry. We packed grocery orders for 250 clients. Club President Pat Mills is actively encouraging club members to perform more service projects in addition to our regular fundraisers. Also in celebration of the birthday of our founder, Melvin Jones, the club held an induction of new members ceremony on Wednesday, January 14. PDG Lion Ron Jordan inducted four new members, Lions Ed Gray, Doug Shoemaker, Kurt Propst and Shalon Schonhardt.



Calling all Lions and Guests!!!



It's time to celebrate *Lionism*

District Governor Emery Smola has issued a call for the **2015 District 26-M7 Convention**

March 6th – District 26-M7 Social
Wardsville Lions Club, 3505 Route M, Wardsville

March 7th – District 26-M7 Convention
Callaway Christian Church, 2051 Silver Drive, Fulton, MO

Be on hand to extend a warm welcome to our distinguished guests –
International Director Don Shove and his wife, Lion Sunny of Everett, Washington

Come for fellowship and fun!!!

The District Social is open to all Lions, and the cost is just right – **FREE**. The Social is Friday night (March 6th) from 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm.

- Fellowship** Lions from around the district will be there. Meet old friends, make new friends!
- Entertainment** The JC Evening Lions' renowned "Lion Eyes" band will perform!
- Great Food** Plenty of good food and beverages will be on hand!
- Silent Auction** Sharpen your pencils for the silent auction featuring an eclectic array of interesting items, including those that are sometimes odd and sometimes exotic.
- Live Auction** Gift baskets go to the highest bidders! Is your club the most creative in designing a gift basket? Use your imagination and the International President's theme, "Strengthen The Pride" to build a basket or use whatever ideas come to mind.

Stay to learn and share Lions experiences!!!

Every club president, secretary, and delegate should attend the District 26-M7 Convention. Remember, all club members, even if not serving as delegates, are encouraged to attend.

Registration on Saturday, March 7th, begins at 8:00 am. The first session will begin at 8:30am.

**Lions District 26-M7 Convention
Fulton, Missouri
March 6 - 7, 2015**

Club Presidents and All Lions:

Lions of District 26-M7 and all Lions throughout the State are cordially invited to attend and participate in our annual convention on March 7, 2015 at the Callaway Christian Church, Fulton, Missouri. A great time of learning and fellowship is planned and we want you all to join us!

March 6th – District Hospitality Social

To help make this a special event, we ask that District 26-M7 Lions and clubs help by contributing one or all three of the following:

- A "pot luck" dish to accompany our feature item. Remember it is Lent and some non-meat items should be available plus an assortment of beverages.
- An item or items for the silent auction
- A "Strengthen The Pride" theme gift basket or any theme gift basket you may desire for our live auction

The funds from the auctions help offset the administrative expenses of the district.

If you still have District 50/50 raffle tickets and money, please bring these to either event. We will have the drawing at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

March 7th - District Convention

Registration	Begins at 8:00 am
Convention	Convenes 8:30 am
Luncheon	12:30 – 2:00 pm

Cost:

Registration and Lunch \$30.00

Send registration and money by February 23, 2015 to:

First VDG Lion Allen Moore
28572 Hwy Y
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2100



**Lions District 26-M7
Seventh Annual
District Convention
March 6-7, 2015**

Club Name:

Member/Guest Name		Title		Hospitality		Registration	
				Friday March 6, 2015 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Please indicate who will attend and if they will bring a pot luck dish.		Saturday March 7, 2015 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Registration and Lunch: \$30.00	
				Attend? (Y/N)	Pot Luck Dish?	Attend? (Y/N)	Amount Paid
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							
7.							
8.							
9.							
10.							
Total							

Please submit the names of all members who will attend each event with the amount due.

Please submit with payment by February 23, 2015 to:

Lion 1st VDG Allen Moore
28572 Hwy Y
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2100

Please make all registration and payment in advance so preparations can be made for all attendees.

No Refunds for cancellations made after March 1, 2015

Total Paid in Advance

Together, we change
lives by saving sight.



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 @WeSaveSight
 /WeAreSavingSight

Lions Mission Clinics – Informational Meeting on Jan. 15, 2015

Are you interested in traveling abroad with your fellow Lions to distribute recycled eyeglasses to people in need? In 2015, Saving Sight will provide leadership and organization to two clinics that will recycle used eyeglasses. If you are interested in volunteering at one of these clinics, you should attend an informational teleconference on January 15th. To RSVP, contact Lion Sheila Fields, Volunteer Coordinator, at 800-753-2265 ext. 8504 or sfields@saving-sight.org to receive contact information for the WebEx webinar and toll-free conference call.

New Lions Volunteer Opportunity: Healthy Vision Screenings

Starting in January 2015, Saving Sight will offer a new volunteer opportunity to Lions. Interested clubs will be able to check out one of Saving Sight's tonometers and host free healthy vision screenings in their communities. As a result, Lions will screen people for glaucoma, the second-leading cause of blindness in the U.S., and provide a valuable preventive health service in their communities.

If you would like to learn more about how your club can check out a tonometer and host a screening, please contact Lion Sheila Fields, Volunteer Coordinator, at 800-753-2265 ext. 8504 or sfields@saving-sight.org.

Thank you to the following clubs for making a financial gift to Saving Sight in November. Together, we are changing lives by saving sight:

Owensville Lions - \$2,000
 Auxvasse Lions - \$308.40
 Stover Lions - \$50

AmazonSmile: Help Us Grow Our Programs in 2015

Saving Sight now participates in AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is Amazon.com's fundraising program that enables you to direct a portion of your online purchases to Saving Sight, at no added cost. When you shop at AmazonSmile, 0.5% of your total will be donated to KidSight and other vision programs. Signing up is easy:

- 1.) Go to Saving Sight's AmazonSmile website at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1036995>.
- 2.) Login with your Amazon credentials, or create a new account.
- 3.) Select Saving Sight as your charity of choice.

You only have to choose Saving Sight once. Afterward, purchases made on smile.amazon.com with your account will help us grow our programs. If you have any questions about setting up Saving Sight as your AmazonSmile recipient, please contact us at 800-283-1982 x115. Thank you for your support!



Together, we change lives by saving sight.



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t @WeSaveSight
v /WeAreSavingSight

Save the Date: Lions L.E.A.D., May 15-16

Lions L.E.A.D. 2015 will take place on May 15-16 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel & Convention Center in Jefferson City. The incoming Missouri Lions District Governors, 1st and 2nd Vice District Governors, and Sight Committee members for fiscal year 2015-16 are strongly encouraged to attend, in addition to the board of directors and honorary board of directors of Saving Sight. All Missouri Lions are invited to participate as well. Clubs will receive invitation letters and information about the event in the coming weeks.



Lions L.E.A.D. is an annual weekend event focused on leadership, education, and development. Participants learn about Saving Sight in a conference-style format. After the weekend, Lions know more about Saving Sight's mission and programs (e.g., the eye bank and KidSight), the people we serve, and how they can change lives by saving sight in their communities and districts.

Thank You to Our Lion Volunteers

Thank you to the following Lions who volunteered at KidSight vision screenings in December. These Lions volunteers worked with children to help make sure the KidSight screening events ran effectively and efficiently. To find out how you can get involved as a KidSight volunteer, please contact Lion Sheila Fields, Volunteer Coordinator, at 800-753-2265 ext. 8504 or volunteer@saving-sight.org.

Jefferson City Host Lions Club

- Lion Pat Mills
- Lion Bill Case
- Lion Janice Bonnot
- Lion Billy Bonnot

Thank you to the following clubs for making a financial gift to Saving Sight in December. Together, we are changing lives by saving sight:

- Hermann Lions - \$2,400.00
- Jefferson City Capital Lions - \$25.00

Like Us on Facebook

Are you on Facebook? If so, you can keep up with Saving Sight's news, recipient success stories, eye health information, and volunteer opportunities by liking us at www.Facebook.com/WeAreSavingSight.

26M7 ON THE WEB

Here are some of our Lions clubs on the web with an Internet site:

Auxvasse Lions -- <http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/auxvasse/>

Brazito-Honey Creek Lions -- <http://www.brazitolions.com/>

Eldon Lions -- www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/eldon

Hermann Lions -- <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/hermann/>

Jefferson City Host Lions -- <http://www.jeffcitylions.com/>

Mokane Lions -- <http://mokanelions.com/>

Wardsville Lions -- <http://www.wardsvillelions.com>

Westphalia Lions -- <http://www.westphalialions.com/>

Here are some of our Lions clubs with a Facebook page:

Heart of Missouri Lions 26M7 -- <https://www.facebook.com/MoLions26m7>

Chamois Lions - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Chamois-Lions/205081276180705>

Eldon Lions - www.facebook.com/eldonlionsclub

Holts Summit Lions - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Holts-Summit-Lions-Club/171581639545805>

Iberia Lions - <https://www.facebook.com/iberialionsclub>

JC Breakfast Lions - <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonCityBreakfastLions>

If your club has a website or Facebook page, please submit that information to Lion Jeff Hilke at lionjeffhilke@gmail.com for inclusion on the website and future District Newsletters.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: [HTTP://WWW.E-DISTRICT.ORG/SITES/26M7](http://www.e-district.org/sites/26m7)

<i>February 18</i>	<i>26M7 Zone 4 Meeting 6pm at the Hyde Park Conference Room, Jefferson City</i>
<i>March 6</i>	<i>26M7 Hospitality Night Wardsville Lions Club 5pm – 10pm</i>
<i>March 7</i>	<i>27M7 District Convention Callaway Christian Church 2051 Silver Drive, Fulton, MO 8am Registration 8:30 Convention Begins</i>
<i>April 30</i>	<i>MD26 Council of Governors Meeting</i>
<i>May 1 & 2</i>	<i>MD26 State Convention Cape Girardeau, MO</i>
<i>May 15 & 16</i>	<i>Saving Sight's Lions L.E.A.D Weekend Capital Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City</i>
<i>June 26-30</i>	<i>Lions Clubs International 98th Annual Convention Honolulu, Hawaii</i>
<i>July 17</i>	<i>Missouri Lions All Star Football Banquet Warrensburg, Missouri</i>
<i>July 18</i>	<i>Missouri Lions Council of Governors Meeting Warrensburg, Missouri</i>
<i>July 18</i>	<i>Missouri Lions All Star Football Game Warrensburg, Missouri</i>
<i>July 24-26</i>	<i>Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute Jamestown, North Dakota</i>