



District 26-M7 ... Newsletter



June 12, 2012

From the Guv:



Fellow Lions:

As this annual chapter of Lions service comes to a close, let's pause to reflect on why we are Lions. We serve because there is much to do and we have desire to help. Our service is focused on making a difference, a difference that may not be possible if Lions were not there. We join together with others who also do not seek personal rewards for our good deeds. It is in this fellowship that we find encouragement and energy to serve.

I was given a rare opportunity to serve again as your district governor. As before, the opportunity to visit each of our 42 Lions clubs and meet with Lions, either at meetings or during projects, were the highlights of the year. While our communities have different needs that Lions are banding together to meet, we also band together to assist on larger projects. These projects, such as the Missouri Lions Eye Research, Missouri Lions All-Star Football Game, Missouri Lions All State Band and the Missouri Lions Youth Exchange and Camp, are only possible through the strong support of all Missouri Lions.

Throughout the year, we encourage Lions clubs to take a look at their membership and activities to see how they can become stronger. Through our service together, I believe our Lions are making great strides towards improving the health of our Lions clubs and increasing the bonds of fellowship among all Lions.

You have great leaders waiting in the wings to lead you to greater service. However, we need to encourage more Lions to take on the responsibilities of leading. It is up to each of us to recruit, train and encourage Lions to lead our projects, clubs, zones, and district.

And now, as the final words of this chapter are written, I encourage all Lions to renew their commitment to growing their club and working with each other to achieve greater success in the future. Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

DG Jesse

Club Officer Training

As this edition is "put to bed," club officer training for 2012-2013 is being conducted. Training was offered in six different locations in an attempt to reach the maximum number of club officers and interested Lions.

Thanks are extended to DG-D Darlene Jost, 1VDG-E Jeff Hilke and GLT Coordinator PDG Pat Horner for pulling together the training package. Many favorable comments about the training were received. Special thanks go to Lions who dedicated their time and expertise to serve as instructors: Lion John Bartel, Hermann; Lion Debra Bennet, Owensville; Lion Glen Stratman, Jefferson City Evening Lions; PDG Donal Knipp, Auxvasse Lions; and Lion Mark Mehmert, Chamois.

Thanks also go out to the Westphalia Lions, Hurricane Deck Lions, Owensville Lions, Fulton Host and Breakfast Lions, Wardsville Lions, and Lake Ozark Lions for providing their facilities for the trainings.

Lions Sight Week



The first Missouri Lions Sight Week was a great success. Sight Week honors Lions contributions to the many sight programs around the state.

Fittingly, a ceremony held by the Owensville Lions preceded Lions Sight Week. On behalf of the Owensville Lions, Lion Annie Kuhl presented a surprised Lion Larry Duncan with the Haywood Snipes Award in recognition of his work with Lions sight programs.

A major goal was to vision screen 2,000 children during the week. Thanks to the dedicated Lion volunteers and the MLERF staff, 2,555 children were screened. Screening activities were conducted in Owensville, Jefferson City, and Hermann as part of this effort. To illustrate how great this accomplishment is, during the same second week in May of 2011, 781 children were screened.

Among the other activities held during the week were the city councils of Owensville and Jefferson City issuing proclamations recognizing the Lions clubs' efforts in their quest to eliminate preventable blindness. Special thanks to Lions Larry Duncan and Janice Bonnot for coordinating with these governments for the proclamations!

All Lions clubs should plan now to participate in the 2013 Lions Sight Week.

Help District 26-M7 Reach Its 2011-2012 Sight Goal to Save Sight in Your Community

"If the Eye Care Assistance program wasn't available, I would be at risk of losing my eyesight forever. The Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation really came through, and I appreciate that. I was able to recover most of my eyesight, and I'm now able to drive. The Foundation's support was awesome!"

Edwin of Springfield is just one of the thousands of Missourians whose sight has been saved through the Foundation's six programs. Through the Eye Care Assistance (ECA) program, Edwin, who became unemployed due to his deteriorating eyesight, received the cataracts surgery he desperately needed to regain his sight and start his job search. In fact, thanks to your continued support of our programs, Edwin returned to work with a new job in May! To read stories of other Foundation recipients, please visit www.mlerrf.org.

As the 2011-2012 fiscal year winds down, we ask if your club will join others in your district in helping Edwin and others facing vision loss receive the screenings, surgeries and treatment they need. District 26-M7's Sight Goal is \$30,000 for this year, and we're just \$5,600 away from hitting that target. Any donation you can make will help MLERFs deliver free vision screenings in your community or even provide a cornea recipient in District 26-M7 with the gift of sight.

If you have given already, we thank you on behalf of our recipients. If you haven't yet given, or wish to increase your donation, please consider sending your contribution to: Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation, 404 Portland St., Columbia, MO 65201.



Lion Larry Duncan (center) receives the Haywood Snipes Award. Also pictured are (from right) DG Jesse Hathcock, 1VDG-E Jeff Hilke, Lion Annie Kuhl, MLERF; and Lion Diane Lairmore, President.



New Members

Let's give a mighty Lions ROAR to welcome our newest members, reported through May 31st. Our new Lions help our clubs grow and allow us to do so much more in our service to our communities.

Eldon Lions Club

Judy K. Spriggs Sponsor: Edward Bierbower

Gravois Arm Lions Club

John Fred Loman Sponsor: Sherry Christiansen
James W. Newkirk Sponsor: Esta Mae Stricklin
Carolyn Shewmaker Sponsor: Thomas L. Peoples

Hurricane Deck Lions Club

Shawn Page Sponsor: Deborah L. Raper

Owensville Lions Club

Larry Geisler Sponsor: John Schaefferkoetter
Billy Hubbard Sponsor: Eugene Goldman
Shirley G. Hubbard Sponsor: Delvina Tindell
Shirley Riley Sponsor: Mark Schaeperkoetter

Vienna Lions Club

David Martin Sponsor: Henry A. Wansing

Warsaw Lions Club

Warren D. Love Sponsor: Robert Follmer
Rodger L. Reedy

Through May, 19 of our 42 Lions clubs show a positive growth. Kudos to the following Lions clubs for their growth: California, Chamois, Eldon, Freeburg, Fulton Breakfast, Gravois Arm, Hermann, Holts Summit, Hurricane Deck, Iberia, Jefferson City Breakfast, Jefferson City Evening, Linn Creek-Osage Beach, Mokane, Owensville, Tipton, Versailles, Wardsville, and Warsaw. Way to go Lions!

When was the last time *you* asked someone to be a Lion?

Club News

Auxvasse – It takes a lot more than bad weather to stop the Auxvasse Lions. They held their Demolition derby on June 2nd (rescheduled from the rainy days in May). More than 20 cars and drivers lined up for the chance to crash into and outlast one another. A great time was had by the Lions and community!

Brazito-Honey Creek – With their local baseball program in full swing, the Brazito-Honey Creek Lions found time on May 6th to hold a barbeque fundraiser to support their local projects

Brumley – The Brumley Lions host a ham and bean dinner on the third Saturday of every month (except December) at 4 pm. They also recently replaced the roof on their community building.

Chamois – Lion Lana Hackmann reported that the May 10th Health Fair at Chamois High School was a huge success. Over forty vendors had booths at the fair and over 140 children participated in the health screenings. One vendor commented on how well behaved and courteous the students were. Lion Hackmann and Lion Dee Luker were very involved in planning the Health Fair; the Chamois Lions Club had a booth at the fair to publicize the works of the Lions Club and to solicit new members. Several Lions worked in the cafeteria to serve food and the Lions Eye Research Foundation had a booth. Lion Connie Smith, who worked in the Chamois Lions Club booth, reported that several persons expressed interest in membership in the Lions Club.



Auxvasse Lions Phil Guibor and Bob Simpson worked the grills at their Demolition Derby.

Eldon – To support two Eldon High School athletes selected to play in the Missouri Lions All Star Football Game on July 21 in Warrensburg, the Eldon Lions Club sponsored a barbeque fundraiser on May 5th. With local athletes supporting the effort, the club raised enough to fully fund the two local players.

Jefferson City Breakfast – The Breakfast Lions hosted a successful golf tournament at Railwood Golf Course on June 1.

Jefferson City Evening – The Evening Lions sponsored a successful golf tournament at Oak Hills Golf Course on June 1.

Jefferson City Host – The JC Host Lions held their 51st Dusty Deskins Memorial Peanut Day on June 1.

New Bloomfield -- Tractor Day was held on June 2nd. The day started with an Old Tractor Show followed by an Old Fashioned Step-on Pull. An Antique tractor Pull rounded out the day. The club served great food, including their famous barbeque mutton.

Stover – On May 19, the Stover Lion held a community reception to recognize the long service of Lions Melvin Dale, PDG (50 years); Gene Cox, PDG (40 years), and Jim Brown (34 years). The reception was a time to review the club’s activities over the past 70-plus years and to recruit new members.



Lawson Elementary School student Morgan Riggs proudly displays her Safety Patrol Excellence Award. The Jefferson City Host Lions co-sponsor the Safety Patrol. Morgan is the granddaughter of DG Jesse.



PDG Gene Cox receives thanks and a certificate from DG Jesse.



PDG Melvin Dale reminisces about his Lions service.

District 26-M7 Fourth Quarter Cabinet Meeting

The Fourth Quarter Cabinet Meeting was held at the Holts Summit Lions Club on May 16. Thanks to the Holts Summit Lions for hosting the meeting; a great barbeque pork steak dinner was provided.

The attendees reviewed several of the District Goals for 2011-2012. While some of the objectives were not fully met, the district and clubs are moving in the right direction. Goals reviewed included:

- Recruit a minimum of 125 Lions. Through May 31st, we have recruited 98 new Lions. There is still time to reach our goal!
- Increase the district’s participation at the Great Plains Lions Leadership Seminar. We are sending three Lions to the Great Plains Lions Leadership Seminar. It is great to see Lions interested in learning leadership and management skills!
- All clubs submit the 2012-13 Club Officer Report to LCI by May 15. We are doing much better than last year, but we still have several outstanding reports.



Lion Dr. Ron Walkenbach, on behalf of the JC Evening Lions, presented DG Jesse with the Haywood Snipes Award. PDG Donal Knipp was on hand to share in the celebration.

Calendar

District 26-M7 Cabinet Meeting

July 19 (Thursday) at 6:30 pm
Gravois Arm Lions Club
Highway 5, Gravois Mills

- June 15-17 Gun and Knife Show, Linn Creek-Osage Beach Lions, Lions Building,
Fri: 5 pm - 8 pm; Sat: 8 am - 5 pm; Sun: 9 am - 3 pm
- June 16 Ham and Bean Dinner, Brumley Lions, 4 pm
- June 16 Owensville Lions Golf Tournament, Owensville Golf Course, 1 p.m. tee time, 3-person scramble, \$45 per
person. Contact: John Kamler (573-437-4432), Sam Bennett (573-259-0701) and Jerry Lairmore
(573-437-3972)
- June 16 Auxvasse Tractor Pull
- June 20 - July 10 Gravois Arm Fireworks Sale
- June 22-26 Lions Clubs International Convention, Busan, Korea
- June 27 Holts Summit Fireworks Sale begins
- July 1 Barbeque, Lohman Lions, 11 am. A full community day begins at 9 am with the Outdoor Patriotic Church
Services and ends with fireworks at 9 pm
Fireworks, Lohman Lions, 9 pm
- July 4 Food Booth at 4th of July Celebration, Eldon Lions
- July 4 Eldon, Fourth of July Celebration, Eldon Air Park
- July 13-15 Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute, Doane College, Crete, NE
- July 19 **District 26-M7 Cabinet Meeting**, Gravois Arm Lions Club, Gravois Mills, 6:30 pm
- July 21 Ham and Bean Dinner, Brumley Lions, 4 pm
- July 21 Council of Governors, Warrensburg
- July 21 Missouri Lions All Star Football Game, Warrensburg, 7 pm
- Aug 18 Ham and Bean Dinner, Brumley Lions, 4 pm
- Sept 1-3 Jamestown Festival
- Sept 1-3 Mokane World's Fair
- Sept 13-15 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Tampa, FL