



The Oklahoma Lion

Monthly publication of the
Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation and the Lions of Oklahoma



www.oklahomalions.org
www.oklionsfoundation.org

March 2012

PID Marshall Cooper from Texas will visit Oklahoma April 27-28

PID Marshall Cooper will be our International guest during the Oklahoma Lions State Convention, April 27-28, 2012, in Oklahoma City. Cooper is from Lubbock, Texas. He was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 76th International Convention, held in Minneapolis, MN, July 6-9, 1993.



At that time he was a member of the Beaumont (Texas) Founders Lions Club. He has been a Lion since 1964. He is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow and a member of the Texas Lions Hall of Fame.

Director Cooper and his wife, Wanda, have three children and four grandchildren.

Why Come to the State Convention?

PDG Larry Bailey, State Conv. Planning Committee Chairperson

As a minister, I have often contemplated and addressed in lessons why people are motivated to serve God. I have come to the conclusion that there are four basic reasons; fear, duty, reward, and love. How does that relate to the question as to why Lions should come to the state convention?

It certainly should not be out of fear. No one is going to come beat you up, throw you in jail, or take away your possessions because you don't attend. They may say ugly things about you (just kidding). So we can rule out that possible motivation.

It should not be out of a sense of duty. No club, district, state, or international constitution, that I am aware of, mandates attendance at the state convention. So your conscience gets a free pass there.

It could be because of reward. Some who come will go away with door prizes, medals, bronzes, plaques or other forms of recognition because of their service at different levels of Lionism. But there are also the intangible rewards to be received. The association with fellow Lions, many who have served longer than some of us have been around, encourages us. There are the warm fuzzies received when you hear the success stories of the Boys Ranch or Eye Bank. There is the satisfaction you get when you experience Lionism beyond the club or district level. Who can not go away with a sense

of hope and gratification after being around the enthusiasm of our young lions and Leos. If reward motivates you, come on. I assure you there is plenty to be found, if you will open your heart and mind to the experience.

We've talked about what *shouldn't* and what *could* motivate us to attend state convention, now how about what *should motivate* us. Love is such a motivator. It moves us to do so many things in our relationships with God, family, friends, and even those we don't know. Come to convention because you love being a Lion, being around Lions, and being motivated to touch the lives of others in a positive way. Lionism isn't a replacement for religion, but we can serve God through Lionism.

Please join us in OKC on April 27-28. For more information contact me at 405-257-2431 or ghia3940@sbcglobal.net or the state office at 405-947-6540.

Oklahoma Lions Children's Park Update

by PDG Bob Lee, Oklahoma City Downtown Lions Club

Great News! The parking lot at Oklahoma Lions Children's Park and the road leading to it are being improved . . . right now!

The Oklahoma City Water Trust has let a contract (approximately \$170,000) for the work, which is to be completed by early spring.

The present parking area is being enlarged, with two slots for large buses and a bus turn-around loop added. The road to the playground is being widened and thickened with curb and gutter added.

The park is the most-used playground in Oklahoma City, and continues to grow in popularity.

Two of us Lions visited the park one warm Saturday in January. We counted 54 - yes, 54 - vehicles in the 28-slot parking areas and along the road leading to it. Both picnic shelters were occupied and the kids on the playground equipment were as thick as ants swarming over a watermelon rind.

Makes our efforts all worthwhile, doesn't it?

Note: The Oklahoma Lions Children's Park playground was recently renovated through efforts of Oklahoma Lions led by the OKC Downtown Lions Club and their fundraising efforts for the new equipment and other improvements.

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Attitudes and Meanings

by Lion Troy Jenkins, Executive Director, Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation

The meaning of things lies not in the things themselves, but in our attitudes towards them. Antoine de Saint-Exupery

As I sat on my patio last weekend, relaxing and enjoying the sunshine, I felt a drop on my hand. Fearing rain was moving in and ending my outdoor laziness, I looked down. To my surprise and delight, I realized it was not rain, but a gift from a bird perched in the tree above me. It was a beautiful day, I was surrounded by nature, and rain was not going to interrupt me. It occurred to me that this was not usually an action greeted with happiness, but rather an action greeted with cursing and disgust. What is the point of the story? Sometimes things have a deeper meaning than is initially apparent.

In February, I had the opportunity to work in two Lions service projects that focused on feeding the hungry. We filled food-sacks at the Oklahoma Food Bank during the 3-H district convention, and we filled food-sacks in the basement of a Stillwater church in an annual Stillwater Noon Lions project. Both events were a great deal of fun. The participation, as with any project I've done for this purpose, was outstanding. Everybody had a great time. We laughed and chatted as we enjoyed the fellowship of our fellow Lions, working together for a great cause.

As the work progressed, and the boxes filled, and the conversations at the individual stations created a cacophony of sound, another thought occurred to me; it is appalling that this type of service project is necessary. In both projects, Lions labored to ensure that kids would have some sort of nutrition on the weekends when food from the school programs is unavailable. In Stillwater, 217 food-sacks are necessary every weekend to stave off the hunger of needy children.

In Oklahoma City, the Lions were one of many teams working, and filled about two-and-a-half pallets with weekend food-sacks before the project ended. During a tour of the Oklahoma Food Bank a few years ago, the director told the story of a young girl in Oklahoma City who was found in the closet of her classroom eating balloons because she was so desperate to have something in her stomach. The amount of rampant hunger in such prosperous cities is alarming. Even in the midst of the fun and fellowship, especially when the human factor was consid-

ered, there was a deeper meaning.

This may seem to be depressing, and it is. But, as Lions, there is yet another different and deeper meaning: we are part of the greatest service organization on the planet, in the country, and in the state. As Lions, we can rise to meet any challenge to help our communities and our neighbors. We do this every day on the local level, but sometimes seem to overlook the impact of our actions. When we see reports of the number of eyeglasses donated every month, it is just another number. When we put faces with those numbers, and think of somebody in our community who was able to earn a living to feed their family or continue an education to better themselves, all because of the efforts of the Lions, it has a deeper meaning.

The same can be said of the work that the Lions of Oklahoma do on the state level. Last year, through the Mobile Health Screening Unit, the Lions of Oklahoma screened over 7,000 people, with about 3,000 failing at least one of the tests. At first glance, these numbers are definitely impressive; over 3,000 Oklahomans were guided toward follow-up medical care due to the efforts of the Lions. Recently, one of our own, Sherrell Taylor from the Sapulpa Lions Club, participated in a screening by one of our sponsoring partners, Advanced Body Scan. Some abnormalities were caught, and thanks to early detection, Sherrell's husband, District O Governor Gary Taylor says her life was saved. How many neighbors in your community were screened? How many lives were saved by the volunteers who caught a potential health-risk early? When we put a face to them, the numbers have a deeper meaning.

The Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank provides a very important function in the state. It is the only source providing corneas to surgeons in Oklahoma, who use the donated corneas to restore sight. Through the work of the Eye Bank, corneas that are not in good enough shape for that purpose are used for research, further advancing the practice of corneal transplants, and in turn, sight restoration. This is fantastic information, but when we drill down and put a face to this, as in the recent story of a young Oklahoma mother whose sight was restored after she lost her vision in her early twenties, our work has a deeper meaning.

The Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch is

another source of great pride for the Lions of Oklahoma, and continues to do a great job molding young lives. As Lions, we know that over 800 boys have been served by this facility over 60 years. While this is certainly an impressive statistic, it is more impressive when you focus on what the Boys Ranch truly does. When OLBR director Lion Bryan Larison recently shared a story about a former resident of the Boys Ranch serving his country, earning a Purple Heart, marrying his high school sweetheart, and becoming a solid citizen, the work we do has a deeper meaning.

The point of all of this is that we, as Lions, need to get excited about what

we do! Our state has one of the longest histories of service in the history of Lions. We have projects at the individual and community levels, and certainly at the state level, that should make you swell with pride. And while there is absolutely nothing wrong with focusing on numbers, think about the difference in your level of excitement and pride when you think about the stories behind the numbers. How much more effective could you be in your fundraising efforts; how many more members might you recruit, if you put a face to our story? Remember, as Lions, *We Serve!* But let everybody know that behind our motto lies a deeper meaning!

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

All Oklahoma Lions serve the Lions Boys Ranch and Lions Eye Bank when you pledge through the Building the Foundation Bank Draft Program. Your pledge provides the Lions Foundation a way to meet the needs of our Lions State Projects. Say YES to supporting our Projects with a

___ Monthly Contribution _____ Quarterly Contribution _____

___ Semi-Annual Contribution _____ Annual Contribution _____

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Business Phone _____ Lions Club _____

OLSF Fellowships are awarded to individuals who make donation at two levels. ___ Louis B. Lackey Fellowship (\$250.00) ___ Dr. Robert D. McCullough Fellowship (\$500.00) Recipients receive Pins and certificates recognizing their contribution. Please make your check payable to and mail to: Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation, 4123 NW 10th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73107-5801.

The Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation is a non-profit corporation that serves individuals through the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank and Boys Ranch. Contribution are tax deductible under 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

I hereby authorize the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation, hereinafter called the FOUNDATION, to initiate debit entries to my checking account indicated below at the depository named below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY Name Your Bank _____

Branch _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Routing# _____ Account# _____

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until the FOUNDATION has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford the FOUNDATION and DEPOSITORY reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

B. Mitchell Livestock EX



In District 3-K, the **Wilburton** Lions recently purchased an electronic sign for the Goddard Building on the Eastern Oklahoma State College campus. The sign was installed in the stock arena and will be a great tool for use in local events.

WORK DAY AT STATE OFFICE

We would like to plan on dedicating our plaza in front of the office on Friday afternoon of April 27 around 2:30 p.m. This is in conjunction with the Oklahoma Lions State convention in Oklahoma City that weekend.

With this in mind and weather permitting we are planning work days at the state office on Saturday, March 3 and March 10, starting by 9:30 a.m. each day.

The flag poles need to be set and some grass cleaned out. We also need to replace some of the plants. Your help would be greatly appreciated on one or both days!



At the Districts 3-K/3-L Combined Mid-Winter Convention, Ardmore Lions Lew and Janet Logan were honored with an International President Tam Certificate of Appreciation for their work and commitment to Lionism. They are pictured with 3-K Governor Cloye Thompson (far left) and ID Robert Smith (far right).

Shawnee Lions Club membership chairperson Ginny Fowble (left) and long-time member Paul Milburn (second from left) welcome three new members sponsored by Paul, Alfonso Nieves of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma, Pam Richardson of Edward Jones Financial Services, and Tom Terry, OBU retiree and community volunteer. They join Dustin Smith, (not pictured) sponsored by Nancy Cook-Senn, as Shawnee's newest Lions of 2012.



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Talihina Lion PDG Sally Ventris and her daughter Leona Duncan are enjoying the 3K-3L Midwinter Convention at Lake Murray. PDG Sally accepted OLSF Cowboy Cadillac Awards on behalf of the Talihina Club. Photo courtesy of PCC Kent Clovis



Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch

Be an Abigail

by Colleen Fowler

Have you ever met someone so mean and negative that you couldn't wait to get away from them? Sometimes when we listen to our boys at the Ranch we are overwhelmed by their critical, demeaning attitudes. For some, it seems like a protective shield they put around themselves; if they are full of anger and darkness, no one will try to get close and hurt them. We ourselves find that if we continue to live in a negative atmosphere full of criticism and blame that we find negativity creeping into our lives. Here's a condensed version of a little story I read this week. King David (the one who killed Goliath) was a mighty warrior. His wife Michal was King Saul's daughter, a marriage of convenience to keep peace. She grew up in a household of bitterness and jealousy. Her spirit was mean and her outlook was critical of everyone especially David. He began to think and act negatively and his loving heart grew cold and demanding. He ordered a man named Nabal to give him food and provisions for his army. Nabal was also a mean hate-filled person and refused. David threatened to kill him and all of his family. Nabal was ready to fight! But here comes Abigail, Nabal's wife. She was a kind, gentle-hearted woman who tried to see the good in people and make peace. She brought the food to David's army and treated the King with respect and kindness. David was changed by her influence and when Nabal later died, David asked her to be his wife. She brought peace back to his heart, and was encouraging and loving. Don't think she was soft, she risked her life to protect the rest of the family and she fearlessly faced a wrathful warrior king.

So how does that relate to us at the Ranch or to any of us? *Maybe we can't change all the people around us but we can change ourselves!* We can influence those in our homes and community. By living in a more positive way maybe we can be the example. Life is and has been tough for our guys. We can't be fake with them, but we can try to treat them with kindness, show love and understanding and to

model a more positive outlook. I have to remind myself not to discipline in anger. Speak softly and with love. Model encouragement and help them dream and maybe have a better attitude about themselves. Abigail encouraged David and made him feel appreciated and worthy of her respect. We all need an Abigail in our lives to help us see through the negativity in this life. Be an Abigail to someone today!

Making Plans

by Colleen Fowler

Spring is not nearly sprung, but we are already looking ahead to the coming year and all that is before us! Preparing for spring break activities, some boys are going to be taking ACT college entrance exams. We will be working on graduations, traveling and waiting for some warm days. Bob is getting the garden spot and Jack is getting the drivers ed car ready for another batch of "learners". We have been working on the old shop building at the Cedars and The Meadows folks have been building new beds. Roberta and I are looking at summer vacation plans and, of course, Bryan is keeping tabs on fundraising. Kaye and Rocky keep up with required paperwork and day to day operations of the houses! We have boys doing conditioning after school in preparation for sports seasons, some preparing for jobs. Whew!

This Ranch is a living, breathing thing and its heartbeat is you! We are blessed to work with young men who need to dream. They need to look to the future and make plans, one step at a time, a glimpse of what could be. Be a part of our future, get involved with the boys, let us come help you with a project or come work with us here! Those of you who have come to visit the houses know that we welcome folks. We try to teach social graces and manners, so let us practice on you! Meet our pets and share some laughter. Sit on the porch and drink a glass of tea! It's all about relationships.

The future would be lonely if our boys had to travel that path alone. So grab some friends and fellow Lions and come to Perkins! Your heart will be happy!

You may think that one visit doesn't matter, but to one young man, your

interest in him may change his future. We are changing the world, one life at a time.

The Smudging

by Colleen Fowler

This week we had our house smudged!

Many of you may be like me and don't have a clue about what *smudging* is. A member of our staff is Native American Indian and is very knowledgeable about native practices, ideas and lifestyles. We were talking about how our house had over the years seen so much trauma and fear and pain. He asked if I knew about smudging. He explained that it is a kind of "cleaning of the energy" of the house. Just as our bodies have meridians and nerve pathways that hold and direct energy, where we live has good and bad energy and the idea is to keep it balanced.

It seemed like a good idea, couldn't hurt. He asked permission of everyone in the house and all said yes. Two of our guys are part Native American and they were kind of interested. So the next day he came and with the left wing tip from a red-tailed hawk in one hand and a smudge pot with burning sage in the other, we went through every room. Before he started, he scattered cornmeal along the whole outside foundation of the house except for one door. As I watched him I suddenly felt very humble and exposed. The feather moved as if still in flight, sometimes flapping slowly and sometimes beating the air in a frantic rhythm. The smoke from the sage at times would swirl in slow circles, and at other times it streaked in one direction and made a jagged trail like lightning. The smell of the sage was very calming, earthy and not heavy enough to choke you, but strong enough to leave the imprint of peace and serenity.

It was interesting to watch. Sometimes a room needed just a little swirl of the smoke and at other times a room had to be smudged in every inch from ceiling to floor and over again. Sometimes a corner would be the focus of the hawk wing. When each room was done, he went out the door and laid a trail of cornmeal sealing the house. We watched as he sent up

prayer smoke on our behalf, sending that smoke in the direction of the North, South, East and West.

No matter what Great Spirit you believe in, the whole process can change you; it changed me! I became more aware of my attitude. Sometimes we don't think our environment affects our attitudes. If life is all about keeping things balanced, the place where we spend most of our time should be as positive and peaceful as possible. So maybe next time my attitude starts to stink, I will "smudge it." A regular cleaning and balancing of ourselves must be a good thing! So maybe take a walk through the rooms of your life and see if a little "smudging" is needed. We want to do the best we can for the boys in our care because they deserve a chance for a peaceful positive life!

Cool Stuff! & UPCOMING EVENTS

One of our guys is participating in the Carney Lions Club Chili Cook-off! Another youth fabricated a metal coffee table in welding shop at the Vo-Tech! Mabelline will be taking her AKC Good Citizen Test. Jack at the Meadows is building new beds! The Cedars family is working on the shop building and grounds. And then there will be Spring Break!

OLBR QUILT-2012

Remember to ask your club about doing a quilt block for a quilt that Colleen Fowler will finish for the December 2012 OLBR Christmas Party. The quilt will be auctioned off!

Each District can submit 10 blocks, 12-1/2 by 12-1/2 inches in size, cotton or cotton blend fabric. The District needs to be designated along with the Club's name.

The deadline for entry is June 1, 2012. There is room for 50 blocks so first come first serve!

Each District Governor should also submit a block.

For more informaton call Colleen Fowler @ 405-606-5621.

Let's have fun with this and make a memory!

Don't Forget

by Governor Cloye Thompson


Honor your members: As you begin to select your slate of officers for next year, and as you begin to plan your officer induction parties, don't forget to honor your shining star members. Lions Clubs International and Lions of Oklahoma offer many ways to donate and in the process honor your stand-out Club members.

The highest honor you can bestow on a Lions Club member is a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Your \$1,000 donation is a two-fold gift. You recognize a fellow Lion for their dedicated service and 100% of your donation to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) goes toward humanitarian service. Through the Lions of Oklahoma you may honor someone with a Dr. Robert (Bob) McCullough Fellowship or a Louis Lackey Fellowship by making a \$500 or \$250 donation to the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation (OLSF).

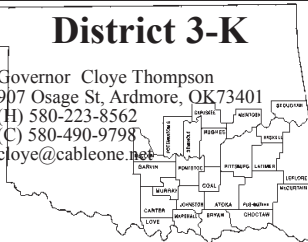
PU101 Reports

Please start planning your 2012/2013 club officer elections. Your new officer information should be updated on the LCI website or a PU101 form can be submitted to District Secretary PDG Les Walker or DG Cloye. It may seem premature to be requesting this information but without it your new officers will not be issued a password to the LCI website and the Lions of Oklahoma State Directory will be published with incorrect club information. Incoming officers-especially club secretaries-become very frustrated when they do not receive their necessary login infor-

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mation. Don't be the cause of this frustration. If you need assistance, contact DG Cloye.

Officer Elections should be held in April.

Officer information must be submitted prior to May 15th.

Welcome New Members!

Wendy DeWitt (Hugo), Sponsored by Randy Springfield; **Dawn Hibben**, (Hugo) Sponsored by Randy Springfield; **Gary Norton** (Purcell) Sponsored by Ryan Smith; **Pamela Richardson** (Shawnee) Sponsored by Paul Milburn; **Dustin Smith** (Shawnee) Sponsored by Nancy Cook-Senn; **Tom Terry** (Shawnee) Sponsored by Paul Milburn; **Alfonso Nieves** (Shawnee) Sponsored by Paul Milburn

In Loving Memory

Lion Ralph J. Perdue, Heavener; **Lion Clifford Meece**, Sallisaw; **Lion Charles T. Sainer**, Sallisaw

Happy Anniversary

Ardmore (Founder Club) 3/12/1917 - 95 years

Broken Bow 3/07/1929 - 83 years

Tishomingo 3/04/1955 - 57 years

Club Reports

Clayton voted to help support the Cartwright Memorial Library with a bingo game and bean supper on Sat., Mar. 3 at 6pm at the Clayton Rodeo Grounds. The library is at risk of closing without this fundraiser. Anyone could bring a pot of beans,

cake, or corn bread. They also accept donations for gifts and gift certificates for bingo prizes.

Coalgate club secretary PDG Russell Wright attended the 3K-3L District Convention at Lake Murray Lodge and helped document our convention with great photos. You can see more of PDG Russell's photos on our FaceBook page at Three-k Lions-ok.

Hugo club president, Harolynn Wofford recently visited the Idabel Lions Club. Their scholarship committee will soon be working on scholar-

ships for high school seniors. They are working on their spring and summer events. Last year in conjunction with the PRCA rodeo, they held a successful "Prisoner/Jail" for the Lions Club. People could swear out warrants (accompanied with a \$50 check) and the "Lions Club Sheriff" would go arrest that person. In order to get out of "jail" they had to bail out with another \$50 or they had to "slip into" an orange jumpsuit and ride on the Lions float in the parade. Lots of fun!

Poteau Evening welcomed a visit from Zone Chair Pam, Lion Sherry Keisman, and PDG Jim Keisman who also conducted their new member installation.

Wanette provided 2 eye exams and eyeglasses.

Wilburton purchased 2 pairs of eyeglasses and club members finished the Oklahoma Southeastern Livestock Show Jan. 26-28.

More 3-K news, pictures on page 3

Pocola Lions were treated with prizes and surprises at a Valentine Party in the home of PDG Jim and Lion Sherry Keisman (pictured below). Guests were treated to a tour of PDG Jim's big shop building and a few party goers got to admire Sherry's newly purchased and restored 1954 Volvo sedan.



Sallisaw Lions mourn the loss of 2 long term members Chuck Sainer and Cliff Meese. The Club held a Christmas Party for DHS foster children, donated \$500 for their gifts, provided a magician for \$300, purchased pizza and drinks



for 109 children and their parents. Sallisaw Lions (pictured above) purchased a \$5,500 South Bend Double Oven for the Sac Nutrition Center. Photo courtesy of the local Sallisaw newspaper, as submitted by the Sallisaw Lions.



Ardmore honored four Students-of-the-Month Thomas Childs, Cheyenne Cornelius, Andrew Rogers, and Colton DeWitt.

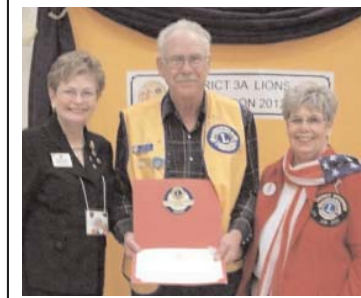
PDG Doug Garren and Lion Darliene Garren were both



honored at the 3-K/3-L Convention. They are members of the Weatherford Lions Club. Lion Doug received an award for his lifetime of service to the Lions of Oklahoma.



Second VDG Sue Thompson (Altus) opens 3-K/3-L Convention with a song.



N. Enid Pres. Lion Harold Cooper, President receiving Club Presidents Excellence Award from ID Carolyn Messier and 3-A DG Arlene Shore.



Dedication of tree at Woodring Wall of Honor



Lion Ron Streck of the Marshall Lions Club receiving the President's Appreciation Award from District 3-A Governor Arlene Shore



OKC Metro Lions Pat Patillo, Kathy Hill and Sandy Cox offer up their chili at the "Best Decorated Table" at the 3-H Convention and Chili Cook-Off on Feb. 4.

PDG Jim Barnett receives Presidential Certificate of Appreciation from PID Shurley and DG Ainsworth.



Lion Frank Gomes (OKC West Side and Zone D Chair for 3-H) received the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation.



OLSF Cowboy Cadillac earned awards for 3-H go to DG Marvin Ainsworth and Lions Tina Laxton (The Village) and Raymond Valdex (MWC); also pictured- Ex. Dir. Troy Jenkins and PDG Franny Rodriguez.



Lions Joshua Busby, Tina Laxton, Mike Graham, Hank Sookne and Robert McMasters work at the Food Bank during the 3-H convention on Feb. 4.

March Madness

by Governor Ealmer Klippel

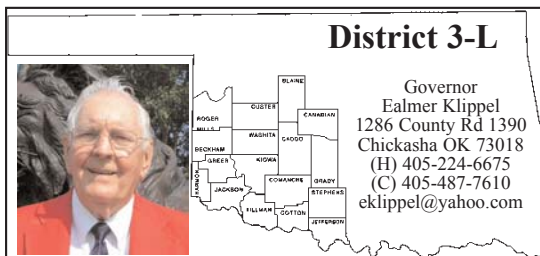
The district convention was a fun time as well as a productive time. The International Director from California, Robert Smith and wife Vickie, great people, were our guests. They educated us on Lions Clubs International plans and programs presently underway. They were folk that were easy to visit with. I wish him well in his future with the Lions leadership program. I also thank Past International Directors Hal Long, George Hazelbaker and Pat Shurley for their help and attendance at the convention.

The Clubs in District 3-K were great. They collected many a gift item for the silent auction. The set of tires was won by PDG Bill Middleton (North Enid Lions Club). The food was excellent. The Lake Murray Lodge was just a great place to relax and enjoy a convention.

The District 3-L Cabinet and business meeting was a good meeting with some new Lions elected to the state boards. Kimberly Furrh from the Lawton Noon Club was elected as Second Vice District Governor for 2012-2013. She will take office in July.

The Lawton Noon Club sent 3 Youth Speech contestants to the convention. The first place winner was Daniel Pae, second place winner was Rachel Lowe and third place went to Molly Dodson. Daniel Pae will be invited to the State Convention, which will be held on April 27 through 28 in Oklahoma City. The state level Youth Speech Contest is usually held on Saturday of the convention.

March madness is on us. I hope to restart my club visits this next week.



District 3-L

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The doctor cleared me on my eye sight this last week.

Lion Dennis Freie has talked with me about several tree planting programs. The Forestry Division is working with him as well as Apache Oil company in Oklahoma City. 3-A Governor Shore informed me that the Fort Supply facility will also work with Lions Clubs on tree projects. I will have a letter to all the 3-L Clubs on the tree planting program this week.

If you would like to visit with Dennis on the tree planting call him at

DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 21: 3-L Cabinet meeting at the Hobart airport

Apr. 27-28: Oklahoma Lions State Convention

Club Reports

Altus: Bought eyeglasses for the needy. Hosted cubs from school for lunch. Provided Life Line for the hospital. Collected used eyeglasses, printer cartridges and cell phones to recycle. Donated to the Great Plains Literature spelling bee.

Binger: Met with Caddo Electric on their Round Up program, and with the Caddo County Commissioner on the progress of the new County Courthouse. Discussed future scholarship program.

Canute: Planned Presidential Flag Display. Pancake Breakfast fundraiser is March 4.

Chickasha: Purchased eyeglasses for the needy. Donated to the local youth fund. Planning the club's 95th anniversary celebration.

Elk City: Planned for the Flag display on Presidents' Day.

El Reno Noon: Purchased an eye exam and eyeglasses for a person in need in Jan.

Lawton Noon: Planning for the Lawton Special Olympic program.

Lawton NE and Online Branch: Did White Cane program. Planning Earth Day observance; will plant trees. Did canned food drive and pizza party for special needs students for Valentine's Day. Held fundraiser for the new OK Lions Eye Bank building campaign.

Mangum: Scholarship for senior high school student - bought eyeglasses for the needy - donated to local FFA Chapter - delivered Meals on Wheels - provided flag service to Mangum merchants - inducted 2 new members: Jim Tipton and Pam Schomer - CONGRATULATIONS!

Marlow: Honored Student of the Week. Bought eyeglasses for the needy. Began planning for the July Celebration. Inducted 2 new members: Danny Glover and Betty MacKey - CONGRATULATIONS!

Mustang: Building rental and supervision

Velma-Alma: Honored 2 Students of the Month. Donated to the local food bank.



ID Smith presents Past President Wayne Leu from the Chickasha Lions Club with an International Certificate of Appreciation for Leadership and Services.



3-L Gov. Ealmer Klippel and Lawton NE-Online Branch President John Williams present Lion Jennifer Whitehead (Lawton NE-Online Branch) with the DeRoy Skinner Rookie of the Year Award for District 3-L.



Chickasha Lions Club was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from President Tam for 95 years of service to the community.



District Convention Head Table: PID Hal Long, 3K 1st VDG Billy Thompson, 3K Gov. Cloye Thompson, Wanada wife of 3L Gov. Ealmer Klippel (standing), International Director Robert Smith and wife Vickie, PID Pat Shurley, and PID George Hazelbaker and wife Ann

A Way of Life - WE SERVE

By Governor Arlene Shore

As I have visited all the clubs in my district, with but one to go of 40, I am so moved by the motto, "we serve" being lived out in so many different and exciting ways. As you read the following reports of clubs activities and projects I am sure you will be astounded as I am of the multitudes of ways that these Lions have found to serve their community and world. Each community and club has its own personality, needs, and interests and it seems that Lions just have a knack of knowing their community and how to be where they are needed. You will also note that our Lions not only reach out in their communities, but throughout our district, state, and around the world, Lions Clubs International Association working together, a world-wide family.

Some times when I visit a club they will ask, "what are other clubs doing?" If you get me a monthly update on your activities, it is my pleasure to pass it on through this newsletter. I have to have it before the 20th of the month. I am so proud of the clubs in my district. Starting new clubs, cub programs, school programs, diabetes testing, Leo Clubs, measles initiative, Boys Ranch, Eye Bank, Briggs Scholarship, Lions Quest, eyeglasses, parks, cemeteries, planting trees, children in Africa....there is no end to the vision of what we are able to do.

I Believe and We Serve!

And speaking of serving, congratulations to District 3-A Governor Elect R. Deane Wymer; First Vice District 3-A Governor Elect Terry Woodruff and Second Vice District 3-A Governor Elect Deanne Carson on their election to serve our district in the coming year.

3-A Club Activities

Balko: Donated \$25 to each person that showed an animal at 4-H Livestock Show. Planted a tree. Donated \$250 to Hospice in Perryton, TX, and \$400 to Brenda Marshall's cancer fund. Joined the Historical Society of Beaver County.

Beaver: Received one club scholarship application.

Burlington: Donated money to Fire and Rescue units. Selling tickets for a gun raffle.

Covington: Club has been busy planting trees. Plan to finish the old jail this spring.

Enid Noon Briggs: Hosted Student of the Month. Rang bells for Salvation

District 3-A

Governor Arlene Shore
4701 Addington
Enid, OK 73701
(H) 580-402-4247
lionarlene3a@suddenlink.net

Army. Purchased bricks at State Office, honoring all past district governors. Club honored Lanora Donahoo with the Melvin Jones Fellowship at district convention and new Club President Leland Streck won the District 3-A Adult Speech Contest and will be competing at the OK Lions State Convention in April.

Fairview: Collected \$4,000 towards new OK Lions Eye Bank building. Student of Month sponsored. Kept gate at Fairview High School basketball games.

Garber: Visited Clubs in Goodwell, Hooker Charter, Marshall, Burlington, Fairview, Pioneer Pleasant Vale, Balko, Kremlin, Nash, Guymon, Guymon Panhandle, Woodward, Okarche, Lomega, Vici, Cherokee, Tonkawa, Pond Creek, Blackwell Charter, District 3-O Convention in Muskogee, and attended the District 3-A Convention. At the convention gave a Melvin Jones Fellowship to Frank Meade and Club President Excellence Award to President Deanna Carson. Elmo Castle was recognized as top salesman in state on Cowboy Cadillac and Garber was top club. Five members received Certified Guiding Lions certificates and Club was involved in District Convention. Club did diabetes testing at Agrifest. Donated \$500 to the OK Lions Boys Ranch. Collected and donated items to Veterans Home. Did a pumpkin decorating contest at grade school. Repaired and put up Christmas lights on Main Street and donated \$100 to Community Improvement Association at Christmas

for Christmas parade and had a float.

Goodwell: Held Mexican Pile-on Supper for community Jan. 17; 20 Lions helped; all food was donated.

Guymon: Had annual community Chili and Stew Supper Jan. 17 feeding about 475 people; 46 Lions and 6 Leos helped.

Guymon Panhandle: Finished up peanut sales in Jan.. Making preparations for Feb. Total Living Show.

Hennessey: Gave out 35 trees in the community. Gathered donations from businesses to fund Mistletoe Magic certificates; prizes were given out to customers who were entered in a drawing held when Santa came to town when a person bought something from a local merchant. Club gave prize money for window decorating contest on Main Street. Lion Tim Riddle represented Club in the Friends of the Library chili cook off. Club co-sponsored OKC Thunder mascot Rumble to come to Hennessey/Garber basketball game. Club bought paving brick to be placed in the OK Lions Boneyard brick plaza. Donated \$100 toward After Prom Event. Annual chili-stew fund raiser was held Feb. 7. Annual golf tourney is scheduled May 11.

Hooker: Giving donations of towels and personal care items to the local Girl Scouts for a project to give to a center. Making preparations for a carnival to take place this summer.

Laverne: Club helped serve meal at Harper County Stock Show Feb. 21. Awarded \$25 to Peace Poster winner and \$25 to her teacher to purchase needed items. Raised \$508 from nut sales for scholarship fund. Recycled 41 pairs of used eyeglasses. Donated \$100 to OK Boys Ranch, \$300 to school for underprivileged children in Rwanda, Africa, and \$125 for LED Christmas Display in Park.

Lomega: Sponsored 2 contestants for district youth speech contest; Piper Ray won and will represent District 3-A at the State Convention. Donated \$100 to Kingfisher Junior Miss competition and \$100 to match Cherokee Lions Club measles fundraiser. Had

visit from DG Arlene Shore. Started cash raffle fundraiser.

Marshall: At the Club's 76th Anniversary Feb. 15 DG Arlene Shore presented Club with the Presidential Award for the 14 new members they signed this last year and gave them new banner patches for their new banner.

Nash: Making plans for annual Memorial Day Dinner. Placing flags on Veterans' graves..



Nash Lions Club receiving their 75-Year Banner patch.

North Enid: Worked registration at District 3-A convention plus set up silent auction. Worked diabetes testing for Agrifest. Collected 149 pairs of used eyeglasses; delivered 482 pairs of eyeglasses to state office. Made blanket for Chisholm Booster Club. Worked Chisholm basketball gate for scholarships. Worked Wheat Capital basketball Tournament gate for scholarships. Honored Lion Gary Phipps as Lion of the Year and Tom Pullin as Rookie of the Year. Honored Student of the Month. Worked with Toys for Tots project. Donated \$250 to OK Lions Boys Ranch, \$225 to Briggs Memorial Scholarship, \$125 to World Services for Blind, \$100 to Leader Dog for Blind and \$100 to International Hearing Dog.

Ponca City Noon: Held main fundraiser, annual auction, with a net of \$16,330. Worked on Diabetes Walk.

Wakita: Donated \$100 in support of the Medford FFA-4-H stock show premiums. Planning for annual pancake supper.



Covington Lions Club Pres. Sherry Sterling received Hal Long Rookie of the Year from PID Hal Long and 3-A DG Arlene Shore on Feb. 11.



District 3-A Certified Guiding Lions, January 2012

Wow, Did We Have Fun at the District 3-H Convention on Sat., Feb. 4!



The Oklahoma State Fiddlers entertained, and you can see/hear them every first Sunday afternoon of each month at the OKC West Side Lions Town Hall-you can even dance a little if you like. That's what Lions Tina Laxton (The Village) and Mary Ainsworth (OKC West Side) did!



Lion Jacque Mooney (MWC) helped select the Best Dressed Cowgirl and Cowboy: Lion Mathilda Hall (Langston City) and Craig Miller (Prague).



Langston City Lions were out in full force: pictured here with their Chili Cook-Off entry table. They received the Lions' Choice award for their chili. Lion **President Joshua Busby** received the **Pat Shurley Rookie of the Year Award**.



Chili judges hard at work: from left to right-PID Pat Shurley (Edmond), CC Paul Anderson (Stillwater Noon) and 3-O DG Gary Taylor (Sapulpa)



District 3-H Peace Poster Winner Elizabeth Criner (8th grade-Cushing) accepts her certificate and district award check from DG Marvin. Also pictured: Lion Linda Webb, VDG Tom Cummings, and Jennifer & Brian Criner.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

by State Secretary Virginia Rodriguez, PCC

GOOD NEWS! We have been able to arrange an evening with the OKC Red Hawks on the Thursday (April 26) prior to the State Convention. The RedHawks are a farm club of the Houston Astros. We will have field seating as a group and a "Lions Club State Convention" message on the video board during the game. All of those who attend will receive a Limited Edition Red Hawks baseball cap. **Cost of ticket: \$11.00** **Date: April 26 at 7:00 p.m.**

I reserved 60 seats for us. There is a refundable/transferable deposit in case we need to change the date or cancel. Final payment is due 30 days (Mar. 27) prior to the event; we can add or subtract at that time. Once we hit that 30 day time, we can still add tickets, just not subtract them. Please fill out the form and mail along with check made out to Lions of Oklahoma to: OK Lions State Office c/o Virginia Rodriguez, 4123 NW 10th Street, Oklahoma City OK 73107-5801. I will pick up your tickets and get them to you as we did 2 years ago.

So let's all go out to the Ball Game and have some fun! Should you have questions please do not hesitate to call me at the state office.



Multiple District 3-Lions of Oklahoma

STATE CONVENTION

April 27-28, 2012

MARRIOTT OKLAHOMA CITY

3233 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City, OK 73112
(405) 842-6633



Convention Room Rate: Standard King or Double –\$93.00 plus tax (currently 13.875%): -All reservations need to be made individually. The Cut off date for Lions group is April 12, 2012-after cut off date reservations will be accepted only if rooms available. Must report that you are with Lions of Oklahoma State Convention when you call for room reservations.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

The sponsoring clubs are responsible for registration and meals of their "speech" & "peace poster" contestants and their guests.

Registration-Lion/non-Lion (Postmarked before April 20, 2012) _____ @ \$15 _____

Late Registration (Postmarked after April 20, 2012) _____ @ \$20 _____

Leo Members/Youth _____ @ \$00. _____

Registration Hours Friday 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.-Saturday 7:30am -Noon

MEALS

FRIDAY NOON: PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS (BONE YARD) ANNUAL MEETING ALL LIONS WELCOME (Lions/Business Attire)

Lion/Spouse/Guest _____ @ \$20 \$ _____

Classic Mixed Green Salad, Country Fried Steak/Gravy, Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Water

FRIDAY EVENING: (Casual) Lion/Spouse/Guest _____ @ \$25 \$ _____

Chicken Mediterranean: Marinated Boneless Breast of Chicken, Sun-dried tomato presto, roasted red and yellow peppers, melted mozzarella cheese, fresh vegetables and Yukon gold mashed potatoes, Dessert, Coffee Tea, & Water

SATURDAY NOON: (Casual/Lions/Business) Lion/Spouse/Guest _____ @ \$25 \$ _____

Rosemary and black pepper crushed pork loin with wild mushroom marsala sauce, mixed field green salad, rosemary roasted potatoes and fresh vegetables, dessert, coffee, tea & water

SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET:

(Business/Semiformal) Lion/Spouse/Guest _____ @ \$26 \$ _____

Chicken Piccata-chicken breast seasoned and seared, lemon beurre blanc, salad, Yukon gold Potatoes and Julienne vegetables, dessert coffee, tea, & water

Meals guaranteed only if registration is received by April 25, 2012

TABLES

Pin Trader Tables: _____ @ \$20 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____ Home Lions Club _____

First Timer: ___Y ___N

Name of spouse/guest/Leo: _____

Is spouse/guest/Leo First Timer: ___Y ___N

Email: _____ Phone: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS AND/OR SPECIAL DIET REQUESTS: _____

Mail registration form (with check payable to Lions of Oklahoma) to:

**Virginia Rodriguez
4123 NW 10th St.
Oklahoma City OK 73107-55801**

"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME"

OKLAHOMA CITY REDHAWKS BASEBALL GAME

THURSDAY, APRIL 26 – 7:00 p.m.
(evening prior to our OK Lions State Convention)

OKC REDHAWKS vs ROUND ROCK TEXAS

COST PER TICKET \$11.00

Field seating as a group of Lions
Free limited edition Redhawks baseball cap
"LIONS CLUB STATE CONVENTION" ON THE
VIDEO BOARD DURING GAME

PEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING AND MAIL
WITH CHECK (SEPARATE FROM STATE CONVEN-
TION REGISTRATION) MADE OUT TO OKLAHOMA
LIONS (BALL GAME)

4123 NW 10th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73107-3259

Name: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Amount of check enclosed: _____