

JANUARY, 2015

THE



OK



LION

Oklahoma Lion online: www.oklahomalions.org

Transitions at the OK Lions Eye Bank

Started in 1957 by a young Lion in the Perry Lions Club, the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank (OLEB) has undergone a number of changes and transitions over the years, but few or none more meaningful than two recent ones. Like other Lions Eye Banks around the world, our Eye Bank is dedicated to restoring sight through collecting, testing and providing eye tissue for corneal transplants as well as the education to increase donations of human eye tissue after death.

The old OLEB building on Lincoln Blvd. just north of the Capitol was demolished to make way for a new building that would have a state-of-the-art lab and classroom space for the education of medical students/professionals. The new building, funded by a capital improvements campaign led by PDG Bob Lee (now deceased), PDG Leamon Freeman, and most fervently by Lion Russal Brawley as well as the OLEB Board of Directors

and OLEB Executive Director Jeanette King culminated in the furnishing and moving in of the staff and records within the past few weeks.

Lion Jeanette King, who accepted the position of Executive Director in 2000-2001, recently announced her retirement effective December 31, 2014. She took the Eye Bank to new heights of productivity, efficiency and accreditation during her term. She also gave untiringly of her time and talents to further the cause of organ donation and education in Oklahoma. Under her leadership and the efforts of both her staff and the OK Lions Eye Bank Board of Directors, the Eye Bank has consistently received high marks in accreditation visits.

On Dec. 16, the Eye Bank staff and board of directors plus other key Lions during Lion Jeanette's time as Exec. Director, held a retirement dinner in King's honor. Amid a beautiful

Country Club setting and with expertly prepared food, the event helped the Lions, former Lions, and Eye Bank staff wish Lion Jeanette a happy and stress-free retirement, while encouraging her to maintain contacts and service through Lions with the Eye Bank. It was also a goodbye to retiring OLEB Administrative Secretary Ann King.

OLEB Board President Scott Corson presented Lion Jeanette with a beautiful plaque commemorating her service; Lion Russal Brawley gave her a dozen long-stemmed red roses; and the Eye Bank staff presented her with a beautifully framed photo of the staff that she has so expertly trained and managed.

Editor's Note: Next month the old and new Eye Bank buildings will be pictured.



Exec. Director Jeanette King and OLEB President Scott Corson



Lion Russal Brawley and former Lion Sharon Johnson, both have worked so hard for OLEB

State Treasurer Needed

The Lions of Oklahoma council request applications from interested Lions to complete this year (2014-2015) as State Treasurer. This is a volunteer position that requires expertise with QuickBooks and general accrual accounting methods. The Council of Governors will consider applications and interview on or before January 10, 2015 (date of next Council meeting). Please call 405-947-6540 for more information.



Cowboy Cadillac Fundraising Success! Oklahoma Lions hit a total of \$82,785!

By Marie Burns, OLSF Executive Director



I'm proud to say Oklahoma Lions worked tirelessly on the Cowboy Cadillac fundraiser this year! Ticket sales and donations were up this year thanks to the work of the District Governor teams, OLSF Board members, office staff, and especially all the Oklahoma Lions Clubs! **Thank you all** for being the driving force behind the fundraiser. Your efforts made it possible to be able to present a check to the **Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch for \$40,000 and one to the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank for \$20,000.** Your hard work is truly a vehicle for helping and transforming many lives in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Lions bless so many lives individually, through clubs, and also through the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation (OLSF). The passionate work and willingness to work tirelessly is truly an inspiration. The holidays are a time to celebrate, give thanks, and share with those in need. Oklahoma Lions are a blessing to so many including the Cowboy Cadillac winners!



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Hoggard who won the Grand Prize on a ticket sold by his father Lion George Hoggard. The young couple chose the cash option of \$15,000 that will certainly bless their family this year for Christmas. Aaron and his wife are from Cherokee. They have a beautiful new 8-month-old baby boy, Houston, who will surely be blessed as well. Aaron could hardly believe it when he was told they had won. He wanted to make sure Oklahoma Lions knew what a blessing this is for their family. Houston was born early, so his mother expressed her thanks to Oklahoma Lions as they are still paying off medical bills.

Second Place winner was Randy Orman from Wagoner on a ticket sold by Monica Medley. Third Place winner was Dale Mullins from Ada on a ticket sold by Lion Ron Batey.

A Special Thanks to James Hodge Ford, Randy Howard, and all

those at the dealership who worked with us this year to BLESS these families. Randy and his team helped to host the Cowboy Cadillac drawing in Muskogee and wanted to express how much they enjoyed being able to participate in the event.



Thanks also to **Muskogee Lions for hosting the Cowboy Cadillac Drawing and the Mobile Health Screening Unit (MHSU)** on Dec. 6! (See pictures below) The MHSU tested over 23 people and many bought tickets on site thanks to the media and radio attention. Nancy Calhoun and the Muskogee Lions were incredible! The day was a joyous event with the best cookies EVER! I know everyone worked overtime to make this a blessed day for the winners and for the OK Lions state projects which the OLSF helps support. I can't thank you all enough!

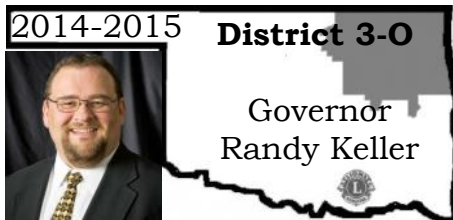


Individual sales are being calculated and we will be sending out Cowboy Cadillac 2014 Pins as soon as possible. If your club would like for an OLSF representative to come and present the pins to your members please call the state office. It would be an honor to celebrate their hard work! The Club \$1000 patches will be sent out as well. The Individual Club Totals for highest sales and highest individual sales will be forthcoming as soon as we tally all the campaign sheets.

I hope you all are blessed this year as much as I feel blessed to be a part of the JOY that Oklahoma Lions bring! Have a wonderful New Year!



OLSF Executive Director Marie Burns presented Jeanette Kling of the OLSB a check for \$20,000 from funds raised by the Cowboy Cadillac campaign



Happy Winter, fellow Lions! I hope this newsletter finds you having survived Christmas well, and starting off your New Year right!

On December 5, we celebrated International Leo Day, honoring our students that join us in our work as Leo Clubs. Leos do incredible work, while learning powerful leadership and citizenship skills and developing into Lion leaders of tomorrow. Our South Grand Lake Club shared with me about their Leo Club: "Our 42 Ketchum Leo members did some amazing things in 2014. They raised \$450 for two teachers that are undergoing medical treatment, raised \$125 cash and 26 cans for the Can 4 Cans Food Drive that will be donated to The Blue House in Langley. Collected 121 toys for the local Toys 4 Tots Program. Encouraged the Elementary School to participate in the Lions Peace Poster Contest, which one talented student won District; and last but certainly not least, they raised \$1,000 for the Ketchum Choir Program so they can purchase a much needed PA System!" If you are keeping tally, that's \$1,575 and 147 items that they raised as they participated in six big projects! Many people talk poorly about the youth of today—just like they did when you and I were young people—and I'd like to introduce all of those folks to our Leos! If they won't restore your hope for tomorrow, nothing will!

The month of December is always a busy one, but Lions somehow find the

way to balance work, family, and service! Many of our Clubs did as the Lions from Muskogee County, ringing the bell for The Salvation Army. Muskogee County Lions also collected over \$1,100 for the City of Muskogee's "Garden Lights at Honor Heights Park." Dewey Lions also rang the bell for The Salvation Army, and participated in their town's Christmas Lighting activities, as did the Jay Lions Club. Grove Grand Lions members put together a float for the Grove Christmas parade, including a giant pair of eyeglasses on the front of the towing truck! Muskogee Noon Lions continued their 38-year tradition of helping with The Salvation Army's Red Kettle drive, and are looking at new local programs to support with benevolent giving.

What do all of these things have in common? These projects haven't been geared toward building OUR coffers, but to SERVE our communities and benefit other groups. As we celebrated, the Greatest Gift this Christmas season, we also stretched out our hands to be a blessing to our communities.

Speaking of service! I hope you're planning to join Lions worldwide as we celebrate a special

"Week of Service" January 10-16, 2015. Our founder, Melvin Jones, would celebrate his 135th birthday on January 13, so let's honor his life of service by serving our communities! It's easy to get involved: just host a service project that benefits youth, vision, hunger or the environment during the week of January 10–16. Be sure to report your project via MyLCI (myLCI.lionsclubs.org), you can earn a Centennial Banner Patch for your club. It's so very important to report your service projects and all of your activities—including your Monthly Membership Reports—via MyLCI. It's quick, efficient, and gives your Club the credit for the great work you are doing!

I'd encourage you to take some special time with your members and do a reality check this month. Use the "Club Excellence Process" or the "How Are Your Ratings?" guide—both available at www.lionsclubs.org under the "Member Center" tab—to help guide your discussion of where your Club is at today, and where you want it to be a year from now. It's healthy to take a time to reflect on your personal life, and it's just as healthy for a Club to take time to reflect on your "Lions life," too!

Finally, I wanted to make sure to congratulate two special Lions who were honored at our District Convention. Lion Doug King from the Tulsa Brookside Club was named the recipient of our "Lion Legend Award" for dedicated service to our association! Lion Sandy Patterson of the Okmulgee Club was given our "Outstanding Rookie Award!" We're so very thankful to have both of these magnificent Lions in our District!



Ketchum Leos with South Grand Lake Lions President Virginia Gibson



Muskogee County Lions Earl Garrison, Ron Walker, Robert Warren ringing the bell for The Salvation Army.



They're coming in two at a time in Dewey! DG Randy and sponsoring Lion Gwen Nichols with new members Rhonda & Richard Dillon, and Nathan & Jessica Bulleigh with sponsoring Lion Louis Davis.

2014-2015

District 3-K Governor Don Shaw



I attended 3-O convention Nov. 14-15, in Claremore. Sat morning training sessions, from 8am to noon, were well attended and gave all attendees good suggestions about programs, projects, fundraisers, membership growth, activities, and having fun at meetings. Great job, Lion Gov. Randy and 1st VDG Mike.

I hope every club participated in food basket programs, or Adopt an Angel with DHS so the needy had food and presents for Christmas.

Mail in your District 3-K convention registration for Jan 23-24, 2015, at Days Inn Motel, Poteau. Contact Lion Sherry Keisman (Pocola) or Lion Marshal Brence (Poteau) if you have any questions.

We are saddened that 3-K Lion Sharon DiGennaro had to resign as state treasurer due to health reasons. A big thank you goes to all 3K Lions who serve on state boards and committees.

Lions, please keep me updated on your new members and activities and projects so they can be reported in this newsletter.

3-K Club Activities

Ardmore: Sold \$1,700 in OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets.

Blanchard: Lions were parade marshals for Christmas parade.



Coalgate Lions Club train at the Coalgate Christmas Parade. The Coalgate Girl Scouts decorated it and rode in it in the parade

Durant: Lions did their annual *Toys for Tots*.

Holdenville: Partnered with Masonic Lodge to buy school supplies for teachers and students. Also, they just inducted a new member, the fourth one since September—Way to Go!

Hugo: Sponsored Christmas bazaar/auction as their big fundraiser for the year. They are working hard to recruit new members. Their weekly program is always in the newspaper to help with community awareness of Lions presence, projects, and activities.



Hugo Lions ring the bell for Salvation Army

Idabel: Donated \$301 to Christmas council for food baskets (the Lions just had to beat other civic clubs by \$1); honored 2 students of the month; and donated \$100 to Hand to Hand food pantry.

Lindsey: Recruiting new members.

McAlester: Is the #2 Club in 3-K—52 members and growing. They are working hard to get new members. They provided toys and food baskets for the needy.

Poteau: Donated \$1,000 from cotton candy and funnel cake sales at football games to the Band Boosters; the Lions have raised and donated more than \$10,000 total during past 10 years. This is a great project for Lions, for the school and for the band. Club also supported LeFlore County Youth Services Angel Tree Program with a \$1,000.00 donation; this assists families in need as well as underprivileged children. Each year the Poteau Lions place money in a special fund to purchase a LCIF Melvin Jones Fellowship to honor a club member (taking approx. 3 years to get enough for the MJF). Their MJF honor will be announced at the 3-K District Convention in Poteau at the Days Inn Motel, January 23-24, 2015. The 2015 Melvin Jones recipient will be the sixth from this club; there are now 2 Melvin Jones Fellows active and 3 deceased; the 2015 winner will become the 6th Melvin Jones Fellowship of the Poteau Club.

Purcell: Donated \$500 to the OK Lions Boys Ranch and \$200 for a new baseball field; for the past 50 years, they have maintained the Purcell Lions baseball park. They also are collecting used eyeglasses for recycling, buying new eyeglasses for people in need, and recruiting new Lions.

Sallisaw: Lions did their traditional Christmas activities including supporting food baskets and toys.

Shawnee: Welcomed 2 new members; with 64 members, this is the largest club in 3-K.

Stigler: This small club is very active in the community. They are planning a spring fundraiser. They provided Christmas toys and food baskets for needy.

Talihina: Collected and delivered to state office -OKC 10 used printer cartridges and 5 pairs of used eyeglasses. Club sold OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets (\$510).

Wanette: This is also a very active club that has 4 new members. They presented several appreciation awards at the annual Lions Christmas dinner. They donated to the public schools and the local 4-H club as well as to the senior citizens' center. They partner with other local organizations for projects. Hold their annual fall "Turkey Shoot" each Oct.-Nov., with skeet shooting for prizes; this is their biggest fundraiser. Club presented its Glue award to Lion Jerry Bourasse, who holds the club together as the best worker, and Appreciation awards to Frankie and Stephanie Byers who maintain 2 miles of Highway 102 by picking up trash.

Wilburton: Donated \$250 to Salvation Army for Christmas baskets for Latimer County, \$200 to Eastern College for boys' basketball Thanksgiving dinner, and \$200 to high school speech department for trip to Florida. This club meets every week for a program and to plan fundraisers and project activities.



Poteau Evening Lions Club President, Lance Glenn, is shown presenting a check for \$1,000 to Shantel Moore, President of the Poteau Band Boosters.

2014-2015

District 3-L



Governor
Kristi Fields

Happy New Year, fellow Lions!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season filled with good food, great times, and fellowship with family and friends. I can't believe it is already 2015. Is it me, or do these months just fly by as you get older? It seems like just yesterday I was writing the November newsletter. I guess it's true that time does fly when you are having fun.

As I look back over the past 6 months, I am so proud of what the Lions in District 3-L have accomplished. Each month when I review the service activities report, I am astonished at all you are doing for your communities. All you do affirms why I am a Lion. From recycling hundreds of pairs of eyeglasses, to selling thousands of OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets, to donating to those in need at Christmas time, Lions are always ready to serve. Not only are we helping out those in need, but we are bringing new Lions in to help us. I am happy to report that you, the Lions of District 3-L, have grown the district by 40 members. That is awesome! At least 20 of the 36 clubs have added new members. We've had 7 clubs with at least 3 new members since July: Clinton, Cordell, Duncan Noon, Granite, Rush Springs, Watonga, and Waurika; and 3 Lions who have brought in at least 2 new members: Russ Meacham (Clinton), Merlene Rust (Rush Springs), and Leroy Lage (Watonga). I'm confident that we will continue this growth in 2015. Just remember, you never know when an invitation to a meeting can turn into the gain of a new member.

For those of you who are interested, and I hope it is all of you, the District 3-L convention will be held February 28, 2015, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Lawton. This is sure to be an exciting time! Guest speaker will be Oklahoma's very own Past International Director Pat Shurley. If you have never met PID Pat, I encourage you to attend. Her speech alone will be worth the cost of admission. She is an inspiring Lion, and I am so glad to be having her as our guest. Also on the agenda will be the district speech contest, a presentation by Council Chair Tom Cummings on

the Spot Vision machine that is now available, and a sock hop on Saturday night. So get out your poodle skirts and penny loafers because we will be dancing the night away! At press time, the convention registration form was not complete. However, it will be available when the newsletter is sent out electronically. The form will also be posted on the district website www.e-district.org/sites/3l/ and emailed to club officers. If you have any questions, feel free to call me or email me at kristi.fields@sbcglobal.net. I hope to see you all at the convention!

Peace Poster

Peace Poster 3-L committee, chaired by Lion Kenny Watts, announced that Heather Bryant, sponsored by Cache Lions, was the winner of the contest. Others placed as follows: 2nd - Emily Kate Pickett (sponsored by Altus Lions); 3rd - Elijah Rivera and 4th - Toni Pecorale-Clark, both sponsored by Cache Lions). Congratulations to all participants!

District 3-L Activities

Altus: Lions have been very busy this holiday season. On Dec. 13, they hosted "Breakfast with Santa" and participated in Christmas parade later that day. They helped ring bells for Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign, paid for Life Line of an elderly woman, and sponsored a book signing by Esther Hunter for her book "Beauty Inside and Out." Esther is a former member of the Lawton Noon Lions club. The Lions received a \$2,000 grant from Davita Dialysis Center of Altus, to be used in their charitable projects.



Members of the Altus Lions Club were out volunteering by ringing bells for Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. Shown here, from left, are Danny King, Gayle Culberson and Vicki King.

Hinton: Lions put out American flags in the community on Veteran's Day.

Hobart: Lions became an Angel Sponsor of the Shortgrass Playhouse Theatre in Hobart. Included in this sponsorship are 10 tickets to each of

the Theatre's productions for 2014-2015. The Hobart Lions are giving these tickets away to students and seniors who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Lawton N E Branch: Lions hosted a Christmas show at the Lawton/Ft. Sill Veterans Center on Dec. 2; event host-Lion Starr Cannon.



From left to right: Lions Starr Cannon (event host), Doug Rice, Felicia Johnson and Dr. Laura England. Lawton/Ft. Sill VA Center Christmas Show held on Tuesday, Dec. 2

Lawton Noon: Lions participated in the *Holiday in the Park* Christmas parade. On Dec. 15, they hosted their annual Christmas dinner for Lions and their families. This is always a fun event! The Lions are also working on forming a Leo club in Lawton.

Lawton Patriots: Lions helped visually impaired individuals with gathering supplies and baking cookies.

Marlow: On Dec. 6, Lions hosted the annual Lions Pancake Breakfast in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade.



Marlow Lions hosted the annual Lions Pancake Breakfast in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade.

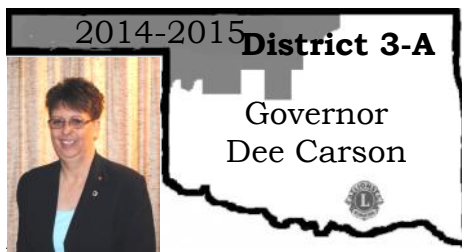
Mustang: Performed monthly maintenance to Lions building.

Velma Alma: Lions donated \$200 to the local food bank.

Welcome New Lions!

Rush Springs: Robert R. Lujan sponsored by Merlene Rust

Watonga: Janet Taylor sponsored by Leroy Lage



Happy New Year, Lions!

Hope everyone had a great Christmas. Thanks to all the Clubs that sold OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets. Congratulations to Cherokee for selling the winning ticket. The Clubs I visited in December were Guymon and Guymon Panhandle.

Hope you have the dates February 20-21 for 3-A's Convention on your calendar; it will be in Enid at Central Christian Church. There will be a Guiding Lion Class on Friday afternoon from 2-4. ID Linda Tinchler will be our speaker on Saturday night. A more complete agenda will be in February's article.

The District Rookie of the Year nomination is due by Jan. 15, 2015. I appreciate the hard work that PVCC Arlene Shore is doing as convention chair. Elections will be held for the boards of the OK Lions Boys Ranch, Eye Bank, Service Foundation and Briggs Memorial Scholarship; each board member serves a 3-yr. term. The State Convention Planning Committee members are elected for 2-yr. terms. First Vice District Governor Joe Chandler will be seeking the office of Governor. The office of First and Second Vice District Governor will need to be elected.

District 3-A Constitution and By-Laws changes to be voted on at convention: Change 1) adds the following: Constitution Article VI, Corrections Section 1. Corrections of typographical errors, omissions, or incorrect additions may be made to the Constitution and By-Laws, without voting in the Convention, as long as it doesn't not change the meaning and intent of the provision as originally voted for District 3-A Lions in Convention. Change 2) Delete the words District Extension (International no longer has District Extension. Add Article II Qualifications and responsibilities Section 1 First Vice District Governor B Responsibilities H) Work with the District Membership Committee and the District Extension Committee. Change 3) Delete the words District MERL Team. Insert the words: Global Leadership Team Work with the District Leadership Development Committee and assist the Committee to develop and implement a district-wide leadership development plan to enhance the enthusiasm and capability of the District. Officers and members to serve effectively through utilization of the District MERL Team and integration of the Team's work with the District's leadership development team. Change 4) Delete the words District Retention Chairperson. Insert Global Leadership and Global Membership Team. Section 3 SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR B. RESPONSIBILITIES c) Perform such duties as assigned by the District Governor, including assisting the District Retention Chair-

person. Change 5) Delete the words: The Fall Conference and Mid Year Conventions. Insert the words: The Mid Year Convention is to be in ARTICLE IV RULES FOR CONVENTION PROCEDURE Section 2. The Fall Conference and Mid Year Conventions are to be in compliance.

District 3-A Club Activity Reports

Fairview: Had a Back Pack Program. Participated in the FRMC annual 5-K "fun run." and in the annual Holiday Parade. Sold \$1500 in OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets. Honored Student of the Week. Had their Christmas Party with 75 Lions, spouses and guest. Lion Lee Eitzen was selected as Fairview Lion of the Year. Congratulations, Lion Lee.

Garber: Checked Christmas lights and hung the lights on Main St. Visited Ringwood, Buffalo, Balko, Woodward, Viel, Kingfisher and Goodwell; also attended Ponca City Noon Auction, Nash fundraiser and Kremlin pancake supper. Donated \$200 to a local family to help with gas for their travel with ill child for treatments.

Guymon: Lion Joyce Hallagin puts in a lot of service hours on our sheet project and has a booth at all of Guymon's activities, craft bazaars, and pioneer days, to name a few.

Hennessey: Lions gathered donations from area businesses to fund Mistletoe Magic gift certificates to be used at Hennessey Merchants. Lions sacked up candy to be given to children when they visit Santa.



Kremlin Lions Club pancake supper with busy Lions.

Laverne: Distributed food boxes and donated to the Laverne Senior Citizens and the Panhandle Nutrition Programs. Club had 30 children submit entries for the LCI Peace Poster contest.

Lomega: Donated to the Lomega Education Foundation.

Nash: Had their Turkey Dinner fundraiser.



North Enid: Worked on Commons Pond. Assisted at nursing home and helped the elderly. Visited the Ardmore Lions Club. Worked ballgame.

Pioneer-Pleasant Vale: Sponsored 2 Christmas baskets for needy families. Donated to the Community Christmas Cards and to the OK Lions Boys Ranch with individual gifts for the boys. They sponsored candy and apples for Santa to give to Pleasant Vale Elementary students. The club is now meeting at Blaze's BBQ, 1002 W. Willow in Enid.

Ponca City Noon: Had their 16th annual Auction fundraiser with a crowd of more than 120 as well as 40 Sponsors, and the 85 merchants and individuals who contributed auction items. Income from the Auction will exceed \$20,000. Purchased 11 pairs of eyeglasses. Cubbies program (ages 4-12) participated in the Veterans Parade in Ponca City along with the Noon Club.



Ringwood's bench that sits on Main St

Wakita: Sold Cowboy Cadillac Tickets. Santa Claus made his appearance, Distributing sack treats and drawings for 10 hams and 10 turkeys.

New Members:

Hennessey-John T. Lippoldt sponsored by Kay Meek; Ponca City Noon-Lindsey A Deroover and Case G. Eva, sponsored by Rick Shields
In Remembrance of these Lions and to thank them for their years of Service:

Buffalo-Glen Beck 51 years of service, and Loren Cleveland

Dates to remember:

Jan. 10: State Board and Council Meetings

Jan. 17: Pioneer Pleasant Vale chili and soup supper at Grace Place in Enid

Ending Note from DG Dee

Just a reminder to JUST ASK ONE. I am proud the way the clubs are asking just one to join and are getting new members. Clubs, please do your activity reports and I can put what you are doing in the paper. The 3-A Clubs are very active and I would like to report on your club.

2014-2015

District 3-H

Governor
Dawn Miller



Happy New Year!

Chandler: Sponsored the OK Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit, serving more than 100 people.

Edmond: Lion Sec. Burchie reports: *Christmas party time for the Edmond Lions Club on Tues., Dec. 9 at Ted and Jo's beautiful home. Their house was decorated so beautifully for Christmas; the oohs and ahs took forever. The tables were set with a Christmas décor for each and every one of us, with the special treat of homemade peanut brittle on each table. We even had napkins in napkin rings! The brisket and all of the side dishes were so good that if anyone left hungry it was their own fault. Our own Mary C. entertained us with her flute and keyboard music and singing of some Christmas carols. After the wonderful meal a meeting was called to order by Pres. Craig, (ha, ha) so he could pass out the delicious homemade, (by Craig's wife, Patsy) chocolate covered cherries! Thanks for the sweet ending to a lovely Christmas Party!*

Crescent: Welcomed new Lion Dustin Damery sponsored by Lion Sandra Voskuhl.

Cushing: Hosted an OK Lions Pediatric Vision Screening Program training session, led by CC Tom Cummings.

Davenport: Welcomed new Lion Joy Walker sponsored by Lion L. A. Guest (who, by the way, is a Charter member of the club).

Edmond: Purchased eye exams and eyeglasses for 3 people and collected 200 pairs of used eyeglasses for recycling.

Langston City: Langston City Lions, with some financial help from Westside Lions Club and Tom/Lynda Cummings, purchased 8 Christmas holiday baskets to give to needy families in Langston township. Club also donated \$200 to OK Lions Boys Ranch as well as \$200 to buy gifts for teenage children in Langston through Zeta Phi Beta's Christmas. Lion Darnell Williams is making sure a teenager is getting the help she needs for eye surgery. Thank you, Lion Darnell, for your heart of service!

Midwest City: Welcomed new Lions Robert Ard sponsored by Lion Mervin Clements and Beth Patterson sponsored by Lion Pat Felock. Lion Jacque Mooney donated a tree and decorated it at the state office-a "used eyeglasses" tree. [picture] Several Lions attended OK Lions Boys Ranch Christmas Party.

Mulhall-Orlando: Completed their OLSF Cowboy Cadillac ticket sales, and donated \$100 to OK Lions Boys Ranch.

Newcastle Community: Ordered eye glass donation boxes to be placed in businesses to collect used eyeglasses for recycling. Working with Boy Scouts looking to do Eagle projects at local Lions Park. Putting together sponsored hunger walk; funds raised will help families with food baskets. Will work with city on promoting and gathering recycled items for their biannual recycle drive.

Norman: Proud to be a part of OLSF Cowboy Cadillac fundraiser; members sold 81 books, raising \$810. Dec. HS Student of the Month was Gracie Koonce, a 4.0 gpa student at Norman High. She is a talented writer, and is active in community service. She has already committed to Oklahoma University women's soccer program.

Norman Sooner: Lion Bill Clouston reports that 28 requests for eyecare were funded (\$2,899) for Lions year to date.

OKC Downtown: Donates \$500 per month to Skyline Urban Ministry for eyecare for people in need in OKC and \$500 to New View Oklahoma for vision assistive devices. Provided meals for 65 people (\$700 donated) for YWCA Thanksgiving event.

OKC Northwest: Lions visited Hilldale Elem. School and gave new gloves, socks and scarves to students; also donated \$2,000 to the school Reading is Fundamental program. In honor of program speakers, donated to the OK Lions Service Foundation and to Catholic Charities. Collected 378 pairs of used eyeglasses for recycling (plus 52 pairs of lenses).

OKC West Side: Welcomed former Lion Lee Holland, sponsored by PDG Perry Neel. Donated \$550 to the OK Lions Boys Ranch Christmas; 16 Lions attended the party on Dec. 13. Rang the bell for Salvation Army a day recently. Lions sold \$1,031 in OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets; top seller-PCC Marvin Ainsworth with 710 books sold.

Perry: Welcomed Lion Cindy Boone sponsored by Lion (and Zone Chair) Kirk Ward. Continued Soup Kitchen, Meals on Wheels and Student Lions programs. Four Lions picked up trash along one-mile of Highway 77.

Prague: Ten Lions worked 15 hours to decorate Prague Park for the annual Christmas in the Park event. Club Sec. Juana Aylor reports: *The whole town turns out and one of our members, Lion Bob Pickett and his wife Sharon play Mr. and Mrs. Claus.*

Stillwater: Welcomed new Lion Scott Oakes sponsored by Lion Richard Hawkins. Two pairs of eyeglasses were purchased (\$85). Selected 2 high school students of the month to attend meet-

ings and report on high school activities. Helped serve, wash dishes and clean up at Community meal to feed the hungry at Methodist Church. Club program speakers: medical missionary to Romania and report on retirement housing facility. Ten Lions took elem. school age children in need shopping at WalMart (\$750). Eleven Lions rang bells for Salvation Army for 2 days. Club sold \$1,080 in OLSF Cowboy Cadillac tickets, and completed the club fruit sale.

Stroud: Welcomed new Lion James Bond. Held their annual pancake breakfast prior to the city's Christmas Parade on Dec. 6. [picture of Santa with Lion]

The Village: Donated \$250 to BritVill Food Pantry, and 6 Lions worked 27 hours there on Nov. 22 directing traffic and giving out turkeys. Sold Cowboy Cadillac tickets, raising \$320 for OLSF's commitment to OLBR and OLEB. Seven Lions and friends rang bells for Salvation Army. Village Lions purchased 26 winter coats for children in need at Ridgeview Elementary. [Picture of coats] Club donated \$500 to OK Lions Boys' Ranch during the Parade of Checks on Dec. 13. Village Lions held annual Christmas Party on Dec.18 at Twin Hills Golf and Country Club; secret Santa gifts were exchanged with some stealing of gifts.



Christmas in a Group Home

By Colleen Fowler, OLBR House Parent

Jolly Santa, piles of presents and family sitting together laughing and loving - NOT! How would you feel if every tradition, memory and hope you had as a child at Christmas were gone, taken from you by the slash of a pen in a child welfare hearing? Not only is Christmas not **Merry**, it may not even happen! Even if they were bad memories it was still your memories!

We have many stories from our guys about not getting gifts or giving what they got to a younger sibling. But it's more than the presents. It's the warm fuzzy feelings of family Christmas traditions, the relatives gathering to share memories and make new ones, the excitement and anticipation of the season, all to be replaced by strangers, cold beds, styrofoam food and bleak thoughts of enduring this day after day, after day. Child welfare does the best it can for the 11,000+ children in Oklahoma who are in custody, but too few workers, resources and too little support turn the holidays into a series of traumatic events that rob the minds, hearts and dreams from these children. It is difficult to find foster homes for teens and especially boys with a not so rosy past. Shelters are full (i.e., no room at the INN).

So where is this sad story going? To the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch (OLBR)! Knowing that these times are hard and painful, it is our goal to not replace the memories our guys have of their

Christmas pasts but to help them gather new memories and perhaps heal some wounds in the process. We cannot **fix** them; we can only provide the loving environment and support to give them the chance to heal from within themselves.

So we decorate trees, make ornaments, hang stockings, share food and love, make wish lists and wrap presents. A few years ago we had a young man in our home who worked and worked on his list! When he gave it to me I was overcome by what I read. He asked for canned food, bottles of water, a blanket and 2 dolls. He explained later that he was preparing so he would not be hungry or cold again when they moved him from here and wanted to send the dolls to his sisters in care in another place. It wrenches our hearts to see the old wounded souls in our young boys' eyes. It's not Christmas but survival, not presents but protection, and not a desire for things but the need to be loved.

The OLBR is about good healthy food served aplenty with hugs and words of encouragement; about making Christmas cookies and eating them while still warm, with cold, fresh milk. OLBR is about knowing that each night the boys will be safe and tucked in a clean bed with quilts made by hand; about standing beside Ranch parents who defend, protect and serve them to ensure a safe, loving environment. The holidays are tough at

OLBR; lots of bad stuff has happened to the boys in the past (i.e., too much drinking, fighting, neglect or abuse). It is important for us to teach them that because now they have been given so much, it's also time to give back by delivering Christmas baskets, serving food at community dinners, using their allowance to help buy gifts for other needy kids, caroling and making cards and finding room for JOY in their lives! Acts of service done with love is really what Christmas is all about.

At OLBR, the boys make traditions they can carry on to their own children and grandchildren. They learn by all of us leading by example, sacrificing, giving of our time and affection and yes, our pocketbooks, too. I am selfishly looking forward to Christmas morning to see the wide-eyed amazement on each boy's face as he looks at piles of gifts under the tree, feeling the excitement of wishes granted and knowing how much we all care for them. Ranch parent families will come and all generations together will feast and play and relish the essence of a real family Christmas.

None of this would be possible without the love and support the Oklahoma Lions and Lions all over the world lovingly share with us! If you were able to attend the OLBR Christmas Party and/or donate to the Christmas campaign, thank you! Please continue to care and to serve and together we can make a difference!

Highlights from the Boys Ranch 2014 Christmas Party





**DISTRICT 3-A LIONS MIDWINTER CONVENTION
REGISTRATION FORM**

February 20-21, 2015 – Enid

All activities are at Central Christian Church

1111 West Broadway, Enid, OK.

Host Hotel: Comfort Inn

210 N. Van Buren

Make your reservations: 580-233-1214

Room rate: \$111.00 plus tax - Hotel Cut-off Date: February 6, 2015

Lions of Oklahoma District 3-A welcomes from Riley, Indiana

Our International Director Linda Fincher and her husband Lion Vern

Lion Name _____

Spouse/Guest (Check here if Lion _____

Home Lions Club: _____ Leo _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail address _____

NOTE: Please register and remit payment by February 11 to guarantee meals.

Registration in foyer of Central Christian Church

Friday 2:00-5:00 p.m. – Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00

Registration Lion/Spouse/Guest Number _____ X \$ 10.00 = _____

Registration at the door Number _____ X \$ 12.00 = _____

Registration LEO Number _____ X \$ 2.00 = _____

First Timer: Yes _____ Name _____ Club _____

Friday Night Buffet Number _____ X \$ 12.00 = _____

Dress: (casual) western Meal: 6:00 p.m.

Lasagna - garlic bread - mixed salad - dessert - coffee, tea, water

Saturday Noon Buffet Number _____ X \$ 12.00 = _____

Meal: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, dessert, hot rolls - coffee, tea, water

Saturday Evening Meal Number _____ X \$ 17.00 = _____

Dress: Business attire Reception: 5:00 pm Meal: 5:30 p.m.

Chicken Kiev, wild rice, mixed vegetables, green salad, hot rolls, coffee, tea, water

(served by the Garber 4-H)

GRAND TOTAL REMITTED _____

PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL DIET NEEDS _____

Everyone must pay registration if they attend and/or eat meal. Clubs are responsible for registration and meals of their speech contestants and guests.

Mail to: DG Dee Carson

P. O. Box 582

Garber, OK 73738

Phone: 580-541-2641

E-mail: liondee@pldi.net

Fellowship, food, seminars, awards, speech contests, cabinet meeting, elections, international guests,

Pin traders, silent auction, door prizes, f-u-n — f-u-n — f-u-n

Guiding lions training – Friday – 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Chapel



DISTRICT 3-K MIDWINTER CONVENTION
Friday, January 23, 2015 – Saturday, January 24, 2015
Early Registration Deadline: Friday, January 09, 2015



Days Inn & Suites
1702 N. Broadway, Poteau, OK 74953
Lions will receive special room rates of \$83 per night plus tax; Suite \$119 per night plus tax
For reservations call 918-647-3510 and request Lions Convention discount.

Schedule: All of these events will be held at Days Inn & Suites (all under one roof.)

Friday	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Karaoke (Dinner on your own)
Saturday	8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast (Complimentary Continental included with room rental.)
	9:00 am – 12:00 am	Meetings, Training, Speech Contest
	12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Luncheon, PID Pat Shurley, International guest speaker, Awards
	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Cabinet Meeting, Nominations, Officer Elections
	3:00 pm – til	Q&A with PID Pat Shurley

Silent auction will end following adjournment of lunch and before cabinet meeting.

CONVENTION

Early Registration Deadline: Friday, January 09, 2015
Please Print

Lion: _____ Club: _____ First Timer: ____ Yes ____ No

Spouse/Guest: _____ First Timer: ____ Yes ____ No

Email: _____ Phone (____) _____

EVERY ATTENDEE MUST REGISTER

Credit cards are accepted but please add \$2.50 processing fee to your total.

Registration Fee (Postmarked on or before 1/09/15) _____ @ \$10.00 Amount Due \$ _____

Late Registration Fee (Postmarked after 1/09/2015) _____ @ \$15.00 Amount Due \$ _____

Saturday Luncheon _____ @ \$15.00 Amount Due \$ _____

Credit Card # _____ **Exp. Date:** _____ **Credit Card Fee \$** **\$2.50**

Card Security Code (3 digits on back of card): _____ **Total Due \$** _____

Deadline to guarantee meals Friday, January 16, 2015

Please make checks payable to District 3-K Lions Convention and mail to:
Lion Sherry Keisman, PO Box 85, Pocola, OK 74902
Email: sherry55K@yahoo.com Cell: 479-719-4804



BECAUSE ALL LIONS ARE SUPERHEROES!

So why not come dressed as one?

Or come as your favorite fantasy or sci-fi character. The important thing is to come...

Come and enjoys some fellowship with your fellow Lions. Come and learn at our breakout sessions. Enjoy food from expert Lion cooks and Lions Club chefs. Lunch will be followed by the speech contest (if we have contestants), Peace Poster recognition, and the 3-H Cabinet Meeting and General Meeting for 2014-2015 positions: District Governor Jacque Mooney, First Vice District Governor Troy Jenkins, Second Vice District Governor candidate(s) and three-year terms on the boards for the OK Lions Boys Ranch, Eye Bank, Service Foundation and Dr. Eugene Briggs Memorial Scholarship, plus two-year term on the OK Lions State Convention Planning Committee.



District 3-H Mid-Winter Convention
February 7, 2015
OKC West Side Lions Town Hall
4137 NW 10th; Oklahoma City, OK 73107
Registration starts at 8:30 am
Convention starts at 9 am



Please complete this form and send with check made out to District 3-H Lions to:
District Governor Dawn Miller; 3-H Lions; P.O. Box 76328; Oklahoma City, OK 73147-2328

Lion Name: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____ Lion? _____

MD-3 District: _____ Lions Club: _____

E-mail address: _____ Telephone: _____

Registration is \$10 per person.

We ask that all District 3-H Lions/Lions Clubs contribute with dishes for our LionCon meal! This keeps us from charging for the noon meal and makes it more fun for all with a variety of foods to share from other Lions and Lions Clubs.
3-H Club presidents will be receiving additional information.

REGISTRATION

OK Lions SRVC FNDR
4123 NW 10th ST
Oklahoma City, OK 73107-5801

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PERMIT NO 389

January 2015

Membership Focus: Target Markets and Relieving the Hunger Global Service Action Campaign

- Jan. 1** New Year's Day Holiday-OK Lions State Office Closed
- Jan. 1** Beginning of Period 2 for Lions Pride Awards
- Jan. 3-4** 1st VDG/DGE training by LCI GLT Area Coordinator Aubrey Cherry, Ft. Worth, TX
- Jan. 9** VDG Training, 4pm, OK Lions State Office
OK Lions Council Agenda meeting, 7pm, State Office, OKC
- Jan 10** OK Lions Board/Council Meetings, West Side Lions Town Hall, OKC
7:45am OK Lions St. Conv. Planning Comm. Meeting
8:15am OLEB Executive Board Meeting, OK Lions State Office
9:00am OK Lions Eye Bank Board Meeting
9:45am Briggs Scholarship Board Meeting
10:30am OK Lions Boys Ranch Board Meeting
11:15am OK Lions Service Foundation Board Meeting
12noon Lunch by 3-O Lions; Boneyard Meeting
1:00pm OK Lions Council Meeting, followed by clean-up
- Jan 10 Choctaw-Nicoma Park Lions Club Charter event**, 6:00 pm
FNCB Choctaw
- Jan 11-17** LCIF week
- Jan 13** Melvin Jones Birthday
- Jan 15 Peace Poster Contest 2015-2016** kits go on sales from LCI Club Supplies Sales.
Deadline for district governors to submit a single Lions Environmental Photo Contest entry to multiple district council chairperson

- Jan 16-17** Oklahoma/Texas Lions Pin Trader Swap Meet, Lake Murray Lodge, Ardmore Ok
- Jan 19 OKC Northwest LC Jewel Box Theatre fundraiser**
- Jan 23-24** District 3-K Mid-Winter Convention and 2015-2016 Elections, Days Inn and Sites, 1702 N. Broadway, Poteau 74902, 918-647-3510 (1K or 2Q room \$83 +tax); hosted by the Pocola and Poteau Evening Lions Clubs

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

Thurs, June 25th: Fly OKC 6:15am ~
San Fran 7:15am; San Fran 9:00am ~
HONOLULU 11:12am

Friday, June 26th: Tour the Circle Island

Sat, June 27th: International Parade & International Show

Sunday, June 28th: Opening Plenary Session & Pearl Harbor

Mon, June 29th: Nominations for 2nd Vice President & International Directors; Polynesian Culture Center

Tuesday, June 30th: Voting & Sunset Cruise

Wed, July 1st: Fly Honolulu 7:25pm ~
Houston 8:01am; OVERNIGHT (July 2nd)
Houston 9:05am ~OKC 10:25am

It's the 98th Lions Clubs International Convention held in Honolulu, Hawaii from Friday, June 26 through Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

First come first serve total cost is \$1,632 per person

Deposit of \$300 per person due by Jan 15th, 2015. Flights, transfers, & tours

Hotel needs to be purchased through Lions Club.

Insurance is additional

FRIENDLY TRAVEL
804 S. 3rd St., Suite B, Chickasha, OK 73018
405-222-3222 www.friendlytravel.com
"We know because we've been there!"