



Arkansas Lions MD-7

Council of Governors

April 21, 2023

Meeting Recap

Participants: Don Young, Council Chair
Travis Burton, District Governor 7-L
Dean Rowland, District Governor 7-I
Pat Snodgrass, District Governor 7-O
Bill Johnson, District Governor 7-N

Guests: DGE Toni Shockley, DGE Russell Bryan, 1st VDG Bonda Moyer, DGE Glen Beedle, PDG Roy Patterson, PDG Mike Benefield, PDG Phyliss Fry, 1st Betsy Barnes, Don Ellis, PDG Jeff Davis, PDG Rene Roberts, PCC Matt Webber, PCC Tracy Price, PDG Carol Allen, PDG Kandy Cayce, 2nd VDG Linda Damron, and PDG Wanda Green, State Secretary. Guest: PID Bill Phillipi.

The fourth MD-7 Council Meeting for fiscal year 2022-2023 was held on April 21, 2023, at Hilton Garden Inn – Fayetteville, Arkansas. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p. m. by Council Chair Don Young. The invocation was given by PDG Roy Patterson, and pledge led by CC Don Young.

CC Don Young welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked PID Bill Phillipi for being our guest this weekend.

PID Bill Phillipi stated at the recent board meeting changes.

- (1) No requirement on members or number of clubs to be a candidate for International Director.
- (2) Discussion on Global Mental as an International project.
- (3) There are two historic brands, Lions Clubs International and Lions Clubs International Foundation, uniting under one “umbrella” brand-Lions International.
- (4) Make sure your information is updated for the upcoming transition to the Lion Portal.
- (5) Beware of Scams from “LCI” or ‘LCIF.’
- (6) Support our Global Foundation

The minutes from the Council Meeting, January 14, 2023, were reviewed and approved. A motion was made by DG Pat Snodgrass seconded by Dean Rowland approve the minutes as presented. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

DG Dean Rowland, Council Treasurer, presented the MD7 Financial Report as of March 31, 2023. A motion made by DG Pat Snodgrass and seconded by DG Travis

Burton to accept the report as presented. Motion approved. A copy will be filed for audit.

CC Don Young presented the 2023 Convention Budget. The budget has a discrepancy of \$4,525.42. A discussion was held regarding the discrepancy. The motion was made by DG Bill Johnson and seconded by DG Pat Snodgrass to accept the budget. Motion passed.

Old Business:

PDG Mike Benefield presented the final 2023 Mid-Winter Leadership Forum. The surplus from the Mid-Winter Leadership was in the amount of \$1,168.99 returned to the Mid-Winter Account. There were 68 in attendance. A motion was made by DG Dean Rowland and seconded by DG Travis to accept the report.

New Business:

DG Don Young asks PCC Matt Webber to distribute and tally the ballots for the election of Council Chair. PCC Matt Webber announce the 2023-2024 Council Chair is DG Travis Burton.

A motion was made by DG Dean Rowland and seconded by Travis Burton to endorse PID Mark S Lyon, for 3rd Vice President of Lions Club. Motion passed.

CC Don Young announced that the 2024 Mid-Winter Leadership Forum will be held in Benton, Arkansas.

PCC Tracy Price announced the 2024 State Convention will be held on April 19-20, 2024, in Clarksville.

A brief discussion was held regarding future State Events to be held in Central Arkansas. A motion was made and second to table this issue. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

PDG Wanda Green presented the parade banner and application to participate in the International Parade to VDG Betsy Barnes. Lion Wanda reported that the Arkansas delegates were number 8 in the parade line up.

Lion Don Ellis verbally resigned his position as the MD7 Lions Alert Chair due to health issues. Lion Don returned two Debit cards.

Committee Reports/District Governor's Report – attached.

DG Dean Rowland made a motion and seconded by DG Bill Johnson to accept the written reports as presented. Motion passed.

CC Don Young adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Wanda Green, State Secretary

Action Items: PDG Green will send the endorsement of PID Mark Lyon to Lions International.

Council of Governors Meeting
Written Reports
April 21, 2023

District 7-L-District Governor Travis Burton

Number of Clubs to Date: 26 Number of Lions to Date: 653

Status Quo Clubs: 0 Problem Clubs: 2

Net Gain in Membership to Date: 0 Net Losses to Date: -2

Number of Official Visits Made to Date: 7

Dates to Remember in Your District: District cabinet meeting, April 29th, 2023 in Hot Springs Village.

District 7-I - District Governor Dean Rowland

District 7-1 has 30 Clubs. There are 603 members as of April 16, 2023. Status Quo Clubs are 0. Problem Clubs are 0. The Net Gain in Membership to Date is +20. We are up in membership to 603 as of April 16.

Comments: Recently our club has made a lot of progress on helping clubs report service. Thanks to PCC/Dist. GST Coordinator, Tracy Price and Sec/ZC-6 Rita Price, it has been their mission to make sure 100% of District 7-1 clubs are reporting service. As of last Friday, they have accomplished their goal of 100% reporting!

By the time Friday rolls around for the State Convention, I will have visited 26 clubs to date with the remaining 4 scheduled after. Currently we have worked on contacts to start the Springdale Lions Club going again, but so far, we have not made much progress. Also, PDG/Dist. GMT

Coordinator, Jeff Davis, and 2nd VDGE/ZC-I, Linda Damron have been meeting with the Gentry Lions Club to help build up the membership there. Thanks also to Lions Joe and Robin Jara from the Bentonville Breakfast Lions Club for helping guide the Gentry Lions Club through the process. Lion Jeff Davis is using the GAT process to help develop a plan the Club will take through the process. More to report later... Also, we recently started meeting with the Siloam Spring Lions Club doing the same thing.

If you have not noticed, District 7-1 is up to +20 members. A report from GAT Area IJ, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Arkansas, tells me that District 7-1 is in 2nd place out of 21 Districts for membership growth. I am proud of the comeback we have made so far this year, and we have a little over 2 months left! Keep adding members!

A couple of weeks ago, a Tornado created a lot of damage to the Little Rock and Wynne areas. Arkansas Alert Trailers from 7-L, 7-1, 7-0, and 7-N were dispatched to the areas and immediately made an impact in those communities. Each are in the process of being restocked and hopefully ready for the next time they are called into service. My wife and I went the Sunday after the storms hit and delivered tarps, gloves, 27 gal. storage totes, water, and trash bags to the Immanuel Baptist Church on Shackleford. The organization was awesome. I was so happy to see the community pull together in this time of need.

At the time of this written report, we are less than 1 week from MD7 State Convention time. We have a good schedule of events and speakers with PID Bill Phillip & Vickie of Marysville, KS being the main speaker(s). I hope you are planning on being there! District 7-1 will not be having a business meeting at the close of the Convention. We will meet later.

District 7-O - District Governor Pat Snodgrass

Number of Clubs to Date: 23 Number of Lions to Date: 507 Status Quo Clubs:

Problem Clubs:

Net Gain in Membership to Date: 507 Net Losses to Date: 0

Number of Official Visits Made to Date: I have been incapacitated since 2 Feb, so no clubs with formal visit. Zone chairs are highly active in making visits and communicating with clubs.

Dates to Remember in Your District:

Comments: General Health & Welfare of District: New DG Lions year 2023-2024 has been appointed.

District 7-N - District Governor Bill Johnson

District 7N has 24 Active Lions Clubs and 2 Leo Clubs and all Clubs meet on a regular basis. As of March 2023, District 7N has 430 members with 43 new members since 7/1/2022.

LCI shows 41 members dropped during this period. The district shows a net gain of 2. members since the start of the fiscal year. This is very encouraging information since the The district lost a net of 100 members last fiscal year. Discussion has taken place concerning the chartering of Leo Clubs in Carlisle and White Hall as well as a Branch Club at UAMS.

Since 7/1/2022 I have Officially visited 21 District 7N Lions Clubs and attended several Club's special events including Club Anniversaries and fundraising events. I have three remaining Clubs to visit during April and May. All Club visits went well with good attendance and active discussion concerning the local Lions Club membership recruitment and service projects in their community.

The district 7N Convention was held in Little Rock on November 12 and was well attended. The Keynote Speaker was International Director Ernesto "TJ" Tijerina and his wife Lion Juanita from San Antonio, Texas.

Constitution And By-Laws: PCC Jeremy Kimble

The Constitution and By-laws committee received one resolution to be presented at the business meeting tomorrow.

Global Leadership Team Coordinator: PCC Myrna McGee

DGEs have been working with LI to get ready for their year as DG.

VDGs will start training with me and LI to get ready for next year.

All other positions within the district will begin training in May--starting with Zone Chairs.

June will begin training for Club Officers before they begin their new year.

I will be sending a note out to those concerned as soon as these positions have been posted on LI. If the schedule that is devised is not convenient for those who need to be trained, I will collaborate with them to do individual or small group training.

If other needs arise, please let me know as I can arrange training for those needing to be trained.

Information Technology Chair; PCC Jennifer Carey

The Arkansas Lions Website and Facebook are up to date. I would like to thank the Council of Governors for giving me the opportunity to Serve MD-7 this Lions Year, 2022- 2023, as your Information Technology Chairperson. Lion Jen stated that she will not be able to assist with the IT since she is having internet issues.

International Relations: PCC Bob Williams

The International Board of Directors approved an International Dues adjustment at the International Convention. Just a reminder that the first dues adjustment, which was approved by the International Board of Directors at the International Convention last year and will gradually adjust the current International Dues from \$43 by \$7 over the next three years, will occur on July 1 this year.

The increases are as follows:

- * \$3.00 increase on July 1, 2023
- * \$2.00 increase on July 1, 2024
- *\$2.00 increase on July 1, 2025

I would like to encourage everyone to visit the LCI website (i.e., www.lionsclubs.org) and see what Lions around the world are doing. There is a special message, posted to Lions District Leaders, from International President Brian Sheehan! Review the Annual Report online to read the full letter from 2021-2022 LCIF Chairperson Dr. Jung-Yul Choi celebrating our impact last year.

Also, just a reminder; April is Leo Club Awareness Month! Spread the word about your Leo club and the great work you do by posting to Instagram using #LoudandProudLeo.

I would like to thank the Council of Governors for giving me the opportunity to Serve MD-7 this Lions Year, 2022-2023, as your International Relations Chairperson.

Lions Alert: PDG Don Ellis –

Tornadoes Slam Arkansas on March 31, 2023 - Little Rock, North Little Rock, Jacksonville, Sherwood, Cabot, and Wynne

A tornado emergency was declared by the National Weather Service office in Little Rock, Arkansas, for a confirmed large and destructive tornado. Confirmed damage from an EF3 tornado in Little Rock. The tornado was on the ground for 34.44 mi and reached a peak width of 600 yd. A total of 2,648 structures were damaged or destroyed throughout the city. As the storm system moved through the state and the weather service's Storm Prediction Center said there were five tornado reports in Arkansas.

After a catastrophic set of storms moved through Arkansas where at least five people have died, many are asking how they can help.

Drone video shows dozens of homes and businesses destroyed by a tornado in Wynne, Arkansas on Friday. Stunned residents of Wynne, a community of about 8,000 people 50 miles west of Memphis, woke Saturday to find the high school's roof

shredded and its windows blown out. Huge trees lay on the ground, their stumps reduced to nubs.

Thank you, Arkansas Lions, for your service. District 7-L, 7-I and 7-N Lions Alert Trailers were in Little Rock and District 7-O serviced Wynne. Lions' clubs International Foundation assisted Arkansas with two emergency grants in the amount of \$20,000.00.

MD7 Newsletter Editor: Jeff Davis, PDG

At Council Chair Don Youngs request, a news release has been sent to the NWA regional Democrat / Gazette announcing this weekend 105th Annual Arkansas Lions Club Convention in Fayetteville. The release is written to not only call attention to the event, but to hopefully generate a reporter's coverage and interviews with state Lions and Lion leaders. The release went out on Monday, April 17, 2023.

With our gratitude and thanks for the support and contributions of club reporters and Lion leaders throughout the state, the newsletter continues to grow. The next issue should be out in the first week of June.

State Events:

Final report from 2023 Mid-Winter Leadership Forum: PDG Mike Benefield

State Convention: Sydney Bailey

Welcomed everyone to Fayetteville. The convention committee invites you to have fun and if you need anything please let us know. We have 82 registrations.

State Office: Wanda Green, PDG

- 2024 State Pins are ready to be ordered. Prestige for 250 pins is \$3.95 and 300 State Pin cost is \$1.65.
- PDG Wanda Barnett reminded everyone that we would be working on the directories and asked for everyone to help securing the PU101's from the clubs. PDG Mike Benefield will be taking pictures tomorrow of the DGE's for the directory and website.
- The Parade banner was given to 1st VDG Betsy Barnes for the Lions Clubs International parade to be held on July 7-11, 2023.

Youth Exchange: Vice District Governor Bonda Moyer

We need to look at our multiple districts' interest in Youth Exchange. It has been several years since we have had any clubs to participate in by hosting students or sending our students to another country.

While we can still encourage clubs to host, in the coming year I would like to focus on encouraging our Leo Clubs to think about sending members on an exchange to another country. This would be a way to get into greater participation in Youth Exchange.