

MD7 NEWS

A Compendium of Notes & Comments
For Arkansas Lions
August 2021 -- No. 14



Past District Governors Help MD7 With Budget Shortfall

Membership in Multi-district 7 is down this year by 255 members resulting in a \$3100 shortfall in the state's 2021-22 budget. Council Chair Jeremy Kimble and State Secretary Wanda Green have been working diligently to make necessary cuts in order to present a proposed balanced annual budget to the Council of Governors for their approval at their July 10 council meeting. Not easily done according to CC Kimble.

In a pre-council emergency meeting on July 7, The Past District Governors Association agreed to make up the shortfall with a \$3100 donation to the multi-district. The motion was made by PCC and PDGA Treasurer Tracy Price. The proposal passed, but not without the reminder that this is a one-time donation and that the multi-district must make plans for increasing membership this year.

PCC Price, who is also the states GAT leader for membership and CC Kimble agreed that they would present the basics for a membership plan at the July 10 Council of Governors meeting.

IRS 990s DUE NOV. 15

With few exceptions, most Arkansas clubs and districts follow the same July to June fiscal year that LCI follows. That means it's time for clubs to file their IRS 990 reports. November 15, 2021 is the deadline.

Even if a club did not meet because of Covid, or had little or no income, filing with the IRS is required. There can be consequences when clubs do not file properly.

GOVERNORS MEET IN LITTLE ROCK



On Saturday, July 10, Council Chair Jeremy Kimble called the first meeting of the new council of governors to order. All four district governors were present along with many of the MD committee chairs. Others participated using Zoom.

CC Kimble introduced business owner and Hot Springs Village Evening Lion Jack Wells who made a presentation to the governors allowing his company to maintain the inventory of the MD's Arkansas Lions branded items and fulfill orders as needed. The council approved the proposal.

Past District Governors Association Treasurer Tracy Price presented Council Treasurer Don Young a check for \$3100. (See related article)

Treasurer Young then presented next year's budget which was approved after some discussion. According to CC Kimble, the donation from the PDGA, allowed a budget almost identical to last years.

There was lengthy discussion on the need for and roll of the Special Events Planning Committee. Their roll in recent years had expanded beyond that described in our constitution and by-laws. The council decided to retain the SEPC and revert back to the constitution for their job description.

There for awhile, it looked as if we would have no host-club for the Mid-Winter Leadership Forum, but the Conway Noon Lions stepped up. No date has been set, but Mid-Winter is usually scheduled in January. The council chair said he felt like in recent years, Mid-Winter has become much like the state convention. This year he is going to

count on his GAT leaders and others to provide some actual training, which was the original intent of Mid-Winter.

Global Action Team Leader for Membership Tracy Price introduced "Gain 1 in 21" (See additional story)

The meeting concluded with District Governors Rene' Roberts, Carol Allen, Roy Patterson and Don Young introducing themselves.

DOUGLAS ALEXANDER LCI PRESIDENT



Douglas Alexander from Brooklyn New York has been elected President of Lions Club International.

IP Alexander's Theme: **"Service from the heart"**

Lions are a family like no other. And with our hearts united in service, we will lift up our communities all over the world. Because in times of great need, only a greater passion for service can make the world a better place for all people.



Ads for the Convention Programs

Suggested layout of Convention Program:
 Each page will have border to allow for stapling and will have page number. The center fold pages are for the convention program.

FULL page will be \$100
Half page ads \$60
Quarter page ads \$35

Submission of ads will be with sponsor logo and all artwork in "jpg" format. Text and additional copy should be in Word Perfect 365 or on fire stick or text file emailed to the address below. If submitted in PDF format it will be inserted to fit page.

Please submit checks for payment with article. Payable to "AR Lions Conv."

Mailed to: AR Lions Conv.
c/o PDG P. Snodgrass
1600 Kyle Cove
Jonesboro, AR 72401
 or email:
kb5fyn@gmail.com

Deadline for ads is **March 15, 2022.**

MD7 NEWS

August 2021
 Number 14

The **MD7 News** is published by the Arkansas Lions Multi-District 7.

Jeremy Kimble—Council Chair
 Rene' Roberts—Governor, District L
 Carol Allen — Governor, District I
 Roy Patterson — Governor, District O
 Don Young — Governor, District N

Wanda Green— State Secretary
 Jeff Davis— Editor

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COUNCIL of GOVERNORS



Rene' Roberts **Roy Patterson** **Jeremy Kimble**
Carol Allen **Don Young**



PCC Bill Heaston along with DG Don Young, District 7-N present a check to Geoff Brown, CEO of the Arkansas Eye Bank and Lab.

Past District Governors Give 50/50 Drawing Funds to Eye Bank

The Arkansas Past District Governors Association conducts the 50/50 raffle each year at the state's annual convention and Mid-Winter Leadership Forum. The funds raised are split equally between the drawing winner and one of our state supported service projects.

The proceeds from this year's state convention in Little Rock were donated to the Arkansas Eye Bank and Labrotory.

The eye bank serves the entire state of Arkansas and is supported by the Lions Clubs of Arkansas. Those clubs provide financial support to the eye bank for such things as health fairs, civic displays, school lectures and training classes, according to Geoff Brown, Executive Director.

The PDGA's mission is to perpetuate and foster the cause of International Lionism within the State of Arkansas.

Presidents, Secretaries,

Please be sure and forward this newsletter to all members of your club.

Thanks.....

PRESTIGE PIN CHANGED, 2022 CONVENTION WILL BE IN MONTREAL

The 2022 International convention has been moved to Montreal. The convention was originally scheduled to take place in New Delhi, but Covid complications forced cancelation there. The international directors voted to move the 2022 event back to Montreal, where the 2021 event would have been held, had it not been scheduled as a virtual convention.

Fortunately, it was not too late to cancel production for Arkansas' prestige pin depicting New Delhi (as shown in the last MD7 News) and replace it with a newly designed pin reflecting the convention's new location.



Le Monstre is Canada's largest roller-coaster and is in Montreal.

The other state pin, celebrating the Crystal Bridges Museum as part of our state landmark series, remains the same.

INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS



First Vice President

Bryan Sheehan
 Bird Island, Minnesota, USA



Second Vice President

Dr. Patti Hill
 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Third Vice President

Fabr'icio Oliveira
 Catole' do Rocha, Brazil

COMMENTS

& Reports

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (LEADERSHIP)

LEANNA RICH, PDG

LCI has not given us our curriculum for this year's VDG training. We usually get this information around the end of September. In the meantime, we will be reaching out and making sure that we have updated contact information on all our current VDGs.

We are looking forward to another year of opportunity to train our incoming leadership. We have reached out to last year's leaders, but did not receive a response concerning any Club Officer Training. We are aware that District 7N will be hosting a training in August.

We will also be reaching out to our current District GLTs offering our assistance if needed

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (SERVICE)

JEFF DAVIS, PDG

Prior to the years affected by Covid, LCI had already exceeded their 2021 goal of serving two million per year. In 2019, 2.75 million people were served by Lions around the world.

To say "We Serve" is an understatement, literally, because we know many clubs do not file service reports. It's more than bragging-rights! Service reports offer benefits including LCI and its Foundation's ability to seek and encourage corporate and philanthropic support.

Each Arkansas club needs to have a Service Chair who, among other things, would take the responsibility for reporting club service on MyLion. It's not difficult and takes just a few minutes after each event to complete the report.

Lets make this the year we accurately capture all of our Arkansas service.

GLOBAL ACTION TEAM (MEMBERSHIP)

TRACY PRICE, PCC

My theme for the first six months of this Lions year is "GAIN 1 IN 21". That doesn't mean that one new member per club is going to be sufficient. We need to replace any member we lose and GAIN 1 additional member per club. We have 108 clubs in the Multi District. I realize that some of our clubs will struggle to meet this goal, SO I am asking clubs that are successful to help the struggling clubs.

GOALS need to be both Challenging and achievable. I feel that the GOAL of 108 additional members is achievable and challenging. When you first look at this you think this should be easy, but remember if your club loses members you have to replace them then Gain 1

I challenge the Council Chair, each District Governor, each club President, each District GMT, each Zone Chair, each club Membership Chair, and each Lion in MD 7 to embrace this challenge and make it happen.

Let's not dwell on the past. We MUST look forward and STOP THE DECLINE in membership. Remember our motto is WE SERVE. The more members we have, the more people we can serve.

One of my favorite statements is IF YOU ALWAYS DO WHAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS DONE, YOU WILL ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS GOT.

PLEASE accept my challenge to GAIN 1 In 21. I'll have a new challenge for you in 22. Lions of MD 7, it is time for us to get busy,



CHARLIE RICE MEMORIAL CLASSIC
Two-Person Scramble Invitational
Cherokee Village LIONS Club Golf Tournament
Cherokee Village South Course

Men & Women Welcome



We Serve

PROCEEDS TO:

- *Provide Glasses to Those in Need Locally
- *World Services for the Blind
- *Mid-South LIONS Sight & Hearing Service
- *Arkansas LIONS Eye Bank & Laboratory
- *Plus Other Local Charities

Come join us for 2 fun filled days
August 28 & 29, 2021

BREAKFAST & LUNCH
PROVIDED

Sponsored by

CHEROKEE VILLAGE LIONS CLUB
LION Ron Rhodes, Tournament Director
LION Marc Herring, Assistant Tournament Director

ENTRY FEE, PER TEAM.....\$350
ENTRY FEE, PER PERSON.....\$175

Open To ALL Golfers – Need Not Be A LION
60 Years Old And Up, May Play The GOLD Tees

Contact: **LION Nancy French**, Entry Chair for registration information or any other questions @ 870-710-2934 or email: cherokeevillagelionsgolf@gmail.com

CLUB REPORTS

& Etc.



WARREN

Lion Timothy Kessler Reporting

DEMONSTRATING SCREENING DEVICE TO PUBLIC—

Warren Lions Club members Delbert Zimmerly, left, and Randy Rawls, right, along with Rawls' son, David, demonstrate the club's Spot camera during their Gospel Jamboree that was held June 9 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Warren. The camera has been used for several years to do eye screenings of preschool youths in Warren, Crossett and Monticello, with cooperation from clubs in those cities as well.



FAYETTEVILLE

Lion Rick Bailey Reporting

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS — Recognition awards for 2020-21 were presented to several Fayetteville Lions at a recent meeting at Mermaids restaurant.

Receiving awards (from left to right) are Rick Bailey who received the Edwin Dahlstrom Distinguished Service Award in recognition of service through his \$1000 gift to Mid-South Lions sight and Hearing.



David Parrish received his 45-year member chevron.

Mary Tomlinson and Bill Shackleford received Silver Cane Awards for each contributing \$500 to the World Services for the Blind in Little Rock.

Immediate Past President Danny Walters receive the "Lion of the Year" for serving as club president for two years and leading them through the Covid Pandemic.

The Fayetteville Lions Club currently meets on the first and third Wednesday each month at Mermaids restaurant in Fayetteville.

HOPE

Lion Claudia Griffin Reporting

DINNER PROCEEDS DONATED — The Hope Lions Club recently held two fish/chicken fry dinners, with proceeds going to local organizations – one for the local charitable medical clinic and one for the local homeless shelter. Both events were very successful. The event for the charitable medical clinic fed about 500 people. The event for the local homeless shelter fed about 800, and it had to stop early because we ran out of food.

In both events the club partnered with churches, the City of Hope, the entity that was the recipient for the funds, and several local businesses to put on the event. The next chicken/fish fry will be held during the Hope Watermelon Festival (August 6). Most of the proceeds from that event will go to Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing.

The Hope Lions Club did the cooking – BUT



The new concrete floor was a Scout Eagle project. Concrete, sand, and gravel was donated by local businesses.

A local funeral home supplied, set up, and took down the tents.

A local restaurant secured the fish for us from Texarkana (Good fish is hard to find, and we have to get it in small orders.) They also stored the fish until the dinner.

A local grocery store helped each entity determine how much food and other supplies they needed to get and stored the food until the dinner.

The City of Hope provided the coliseum free of charge, set up tables and chairs, and cleaned up afterwards. They also allowed use of their dumpsters free of charge.

Local churches provided desserts to sell.



A local church youth group served the food.

A local auctioneer volunteered his time to auction off the desserts

Several years ago, our trailer that the local college class had made us to haul the fish-cooking supplies got too old. These merchants bought ads to provide a new trailer.

Results:

Medical Clinic – Served about 550 meals and earned about 1/3 of their year's budget.

Homeless Shelter – Served about 800 meals until they ran out of food. Raised about \$15,000.

RUSSELLVILLE

Lion Mike Benefield Reporting

OFFICERS ELECTED — Russellville inducted their 2021-22 officers at a recent meeting. Inducted were President: Mindy Brigance, 1st VP: Michael Allinson, 2nd VP: Ruth Weatherford, 3rd VP: Larry Brown, IPP: Jeff Nufer, Secretary: Connie Zimmer, Treasurer: Steve Zimmer, Asst. Treasurer: Ruth Weatherford, Tail Twisters: Vikki Johnson & David Eddy, Lion Tamers: Jim Dunn & Everett Smith, Membership: Toni Bachman (Chair), Bryan Fisher (VC), and Ruth Weatherford (Member). Club directors are Everett Smith, Randall Seyler, Bill Eaton, Bob Honeycutt PDG, Mike Benefield PDG and DG Carol Allen.

STATE CONVENTION PREP.— Russellville is the home club for District Governor Carol Allen and will as the host club will be working with the district governor and district convention chair PDG Mike Benefield on the annual district 7-1 convention to be held on October 29-30.



MT. HOME

Lion Larry Luman Reporting

105 FAMILIES FED; 18 INDIVIDUALS VACCINATED — "Food Bank of North Central Arkansas and 9 Mountain Home Lions on 6/15/21 from 3 pm-6 pm distributed food boxes and the Health Dept offered one dose of J&J vaccines to those in need. We served 105 families with food. (12 pounds of produce, 1 dozen eggs, and a grocery bag of shelf-stable food) We vaccinated 18 people, each given a \$20.00 lottery ticket. (Two winners in the lottery - one \$50 winner and one \$40 winner)." (SEE LION TALES COVER PHOTO)

BENCHES PLACED AROUND COURT HOUSE— The club recently placed six new benches around the court house square. The area around the court house is growing with several new restaurants and a gift shop.



CLARKSVILLE

Lion Rita Price Reporting



DGE INDUCTS OFFICERS — District Governor Elect Carol Allen inducts the 2021-22 officers. As DG Allen explained on Facebook, it was her last official act and District Governor Elect. DGE Allen also inducts a new member, Dr. Rickey J Casey .

New club officers include Justin Sparro, President; Vice Presidents Jerman Houston and Phillip Sharps; Secretary Rita Price and Treasurer Lita Willis.

TWO RECEIVE LION OF THE YEAR— Lions Eddie Lindsey and Mike Minniea were each named a Lion of the Year for 2020-21.



ELKINS

Lion Dean Rowland Reporting

CLUB PROVIDES FOOD FOR CELEBRATION — Our club participated in a fundraiser on Friday as part of the Elkins Independence Day celebration, the first in over two years. There was a great turnout for the fireworks display by the city of Elkins with many hungry folks coming by our concession stand. It was great seeing everyone outside having fun. I hope all clubs are beginning to see a change like this. Keep up the good works.....Together, we Serve!

FORT SMITH

Lion Marty Houston Reporting

CLUB HOSTS SPEAKERS — The club's June 1st meeting had guest speakers Susan Wharton and Denise Easley from the Fort Smith Master Gardeners. Denise and Susan both told us that anyone interested in joining the Fort Smith Master Gardeners can do so even if you have little gardening knowledge. The Fort Smith Master Gardeners is a program through the University Of Arkansas Department Of Agriculture and the Sebastian County Extension Office. They say that applications are available at the extension office at Chaffee Crossing. Susan tells us that the club has 3,100 volunteers who performed 172,578 hours last year.



Lion Benny give us an update at the Osteopathic College at Chaffee Crossing. He first told us that the school had their first graduation on May 15th with 40 degrees of master of sciences in Bio Medicine conferred. Dr. Gooden said that the most exciting news is that the college on the recent "match day" matched residency with 98% matching with 30% of those inside the state of Arkansas.

GOLF TOURNAMENT — Lion Joe represented the Fort Smith Noon Lions as a volunteer at the golf tournament at Hardscrabble Country Club for the Children's Home at Chaffee Crossing. Lion Joe said he met a lot of nice people and enjoyed the volunteer assignment.



RECRUITING AWARD — Past president Gregg Teece received a Centennial Award for membership recruiting and retention.

ANOTHER RIB SALE — The club's first ever second Rib Sale is still planned for November 20th in partnership with the Fort Smith Rib Society. Our first Rib Sale this year went smoothly in March with hopes of having November and March rib sales for this fiscal year.



CHEROKEE VILLAGE

Lion Emmett Griffith Reporting

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED / RIFLE RAFFLE — We have awarded three \$1000 scholarships this year and are raffling a rifle to be awarded at our golf tournament on August 28-29. We had an information booth at the Sharp County Fair and will be holding our White Cane Day in October. When school starts, we will again sponsor a Peace Poster contest.

If anyone is interested in our golf tournament at the South Golf Course in Cherokee or the raffle, please contact club president, Lion Marc Herring at 870-847-5521 for information.

GENTRY

Lion Roberta Defraga Reporting



GENTRY SUPPORTS DECATUR'S K9 OFFICER

— The Gentry Lions Club recently contributed to the fund to help Decatur (six miles from Gentry) acquire a new K9 officer. Dax and his handler, Officer Christopher, stopped by Gentry's booth at the annual Decatur Bar-B-Q to receive the donation.

Decatur, a flourishing small town, does not have a Lions Club and Gentry President Roberta Defraga is recruiting new members either join their club or form a new Branch Club.

Gentry is working to co-sponsor with the Gravette club, vision screening in the Decatur schools.





GRAVETTE

Lion Jeff Davis Reporting

CLUB CELEBRATES 8-YEARS — On June 30, 2021 our club celebrated our eight anniversary with cake and ice cream, as we always have. It's a big deal with us! Joining us for the celebration were PCC Ken Swanson and PCC Myrna McGee, both from Bella Vista, our sponsoring club. PCC Swanson served as our Guiding Lion. We are proud to be Lions and proud of everything we have done for our small town. And we have another big year planned.



REPAIRING FOOSBALL COURT — One of our centennial projects was building a human foosball court in one of Gravette's city parks. Unfortunately, unsupervised youngsters have been using the crossbar-slides like monkey-bars, necessitating repairs and a stronger design. The repairs have been started and should be completed by Gravette Day in early August. Now that things have opened up after Covid, we are looking forward to working with several Gravette organizations and businesses to host a Human Foosball tournament.

LION OF THE YEAR — Bill Mattler was named this year's Lion of the Year by President Linda Damron. 7-year Lion Mattler, has participated in nearly all club service projects and fundraisers as well as serving in all club offices. He is active in district and state Lions, having served as a zone chair and cabinet secretary. He currently serves on the Lions of Arkansas Foundation (LOAF) board. He also recruited two new members for the Gravette Lions last year.



JONESBORO UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Lion Charles Hartwig Reporting

CLARKE IS LION OF THE YEAR — Lion Louis Clarke, a Lion since 2018 is shown getting the 2020-2021 *Lion of the Year* award from the Jonesboro University Heights Lions Club President Norman Dickson. Lion Clarke has been a club director for several years and currently serves as second vice president.



LIONESS CHARTER FOUND — Lion Mary and Charles Hartwig recently found in their garage an old tube mailer addressed to Lion Jim Elbert which contained, to our astonishment, the *original* 1982 charter of the **Northeast Arkansas Lioness Club**. It had apparently been sent back to the sponsoring club after the Lioness club either was dissolved or all Lioness clubs were cancelled in 1991, after women were finally admitted as Lions members in 1987. They had no idea that it had been sitting their garage for years, apparently after long-time Jonesboro University Heights Lions member Jim Mashburn died and his widow [now Lion Helen Mashburn] brought a whole bunch of old JUH Lions records to Lion Charles, to get them out of her house. (He was then club Secretary.)

Our club decided to save and frame this historic charter and hang it next to our club charter in our Lions Den at the restaurant (the *Eggsellent Café*) where we meet. Arkansas Lions are urged to take a look at it if they are in Jonesboro, and especially view the signatures of the original members. (Linda Benefield was an original member, and her husband Mike Benefield was the President of the sponsoring club, the Jonesboro University Heights Lions. Both have their signatures on the Charter.)



BOONVILLE

Lion Russell Bryan Reporting

SCHOLARSHIP — The Boonville Lions recently provided a \$500 scholarship to a student studying to be a registered nurse. He currently works full time caring for COVID patients while attending nursing school. When he graduates, he will be the youngest RN in Arkansas.



LOGIC+LAB — We partnered with the Boys and Girls Club to provide a program which uses games and activities to promote logical thinking, strategy, concentration and interaction in its programming focus. This program will complement other club programming to aid the members in their pursuit of workplace readiness.



The program uses card games for fast-paced activity of concentration and interaction, “Marble Genius” construction sets that require logic and cooperation, mazes and puzzles, Charades for kids and “SMATH” a scrabble type game. The program also includes physical activities and electric circuit projects.

The Lions Club Store

No. A-20 Children's T-Shirts
 High quality, washable white T-shirts with purple processed Lions Emblem and lettering as shown in illustration.
 Order JUVENILE sizes for 1 to 8-year-olds by age size.
 Order INTERMEDIATE sizes by:
 SMALL—9 to 10-year-olds.
 MEDIUM—11 to 12-year-olds.
 LARGE—13 to 14 years old.

Price, each	\$1.00
One dozen or more, each.....	.90



No. A-6

No. A-6 Felt Skull Cap Beanie
 Purple and gold wool felt with Lions Emblem stenciled in gold. Very attractive and will make a big hit with youngsters in connection with your Club's Youth Activities.

Price, each.....	\$0.35	One dozen or more, per dozen..	\$3.60
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The Lions Store has been in business in various forms since Lions Clubs International was founded in 1917. Early issues of *LION Magazine* carried ads for club stationery and engraved printing plates to promote consistent use of the Lions emblem. Other ads featured products that showcased Lions' pride, like desktop lion figurines and pen-and-ink sets.

According to Club Supplies sales department records, the first stand-alone catalogue appeared in print in the early 1930s . The online Lions Store opened in 1999 .

Looking through old catalogues opens windows into Lions history. Some items are gone forever, like the Goat Medal, which members were enjoined to wear until they recruited a new club member.



Easier to order than ever before!

ARKANSAS LIONS SHIRTS AND HATS

ARKANSAS LIONS MD-7

Polo, Button Down, Hats

Sales and Information Sheet

(prices reflect sizes S-XL. Please add \$2 per size for 2XL and up)



Men's Avenger Polo - \$37
 - 100% Polyester
 - BLU-X-DRI Protection
 - Stain Release
 - Sizes Small through 6XL



Ladies Avenger Polo - \$37
 - 100% Polyester
 - BLU-X-DRI Protection
 - Stain Release
 - Sizes Small through 4XL



Short Sleeve Poplin - \$37
 - 65/35 Cotton Poly Blend
 - Lightweight 5.5 oz
 - Wrinkle and Stain Resistant
 - Sizes Small through 10XL



Ladies S/S Poplin - \$37
 - 65/35 Cotton Poly Blend
 - Lightweight 5.5 oz
 - Wrinkle and Stain Resistant
 - Sizes Small through 4XL



Long Sleeve Poplin - \$40
 - 65/35 Cotton Poly Blend
 - Lightweight 5.5 oz
 - Wrinkle and Stain Resistant
 - Sizes Small through 10XL



Ladies L/S Poplin - \$40
 - 65/35 Cotton Poly Blend
 - Lightweight 5.5 oz
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 - Sizes Small through 4XL



Unstructured "Dad" Cap \$18
 - Buckle Adjuster
 - Low Crown



Structured 5 Panel Cap - \$15
 - Snap Adjuster
 - Pro Crown

You may place orders by:
 email - sewperfect.emb@gmail.com
 phone - 501-984-6412

NEW SERVICE MAKES ITEMS AVAILABLE

Hot Springs Lion and business owner Jack Wells will be taking over distribution of many of the Arkansas (MD7) branded items. Lion Wells' proposal was approved by the Council of Governors at their July meeting in Little Rock.

As part of his Hot Springs business, *Sew Perfect Embroidery*, Lion Wells has experience as well as having the systems in place to manage, take orders and distribute inventory. His arrangement with the multi-district saves our state secretary time and eliminates storage issues created when our physical office in Little Rock was closed several years ago.

Lion Wells is already planning additions to the clothing line including some cooler weather outerwear.

The ordering links are not operational yet, but soon should be. Watch your email, the MD-7 e-district website and this newsletter for additional information and items.

The Little Rock Founders Lions Club



A 105 year history

Compiled by Lion Bill Heaston with contributions from Lions Cassandra Williams and Betsy Barnes

PROLOGUE — As you read the history of the Little Rock Founders Lions Club you feel inspired by the member achievements and accomplishments in the years since it was chartered on February 17, 1916. Over the next twelve months we will be providing a history of the Little Rock Founders Lions Club from records passed down over the years from previous Club Secretaries.

Secretary Cassandra Williams and Past President Betsy Barnes have provided these historical records. This history will be by decades: 1916-19; 1920-29; 1930-39; 1940-49; 1950-59; 1960-69; 1970-79; 1980-89; 1990-99; 2000-09; 2010-19 and 2020-2022.

In addition to information provided, we have obtained information from various Arkansas newspapers; The Arkansas Gazette; Arkansas Democrat; Arkansas Democrat-Gazette; Hot Springs Sentinel Record and from Lions Clubs International.

We hope you enjoy reading the history of the Little Rock Founders Lions Club during this year. Volume 1, Issue 1, The Beginning 1916-1919 is enclosed.

1916 - 1919

There is nothing like a Lion or a Lions Club. The Thirty-Nine men who first met on February 17, 1916 at the Hotel Marion in Downtown Little Rock became Charter members of the Downtown Little Rock Lions Club. The members elected Grover T. Owens as the first President and Ector Johnson as their first Secretary. One of the clubs early community service projects occurred in late 1916 when the club members raised \$10,000 to combat a plague of rats which threatened the health and welfare of the restaurants, business establishments and most of the commercial area in the downtown area of Little Rock. Eventually, a revolving fund of over \$100,000 was established to eradicate the rat population.

The following year in 1917 a Chicago insurance man Melvin Jones, who was an active member of a local business club, wondered why local business clubs could not expand their horizons from purely business concerns to the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Jones' efforts resulted in an organizational meeting in June of that year. They issued a call for a convention to be held on October 8-10, 1917 in Dallas, Texas, to form an Association of Service Clubs. Thirty-Six delegates representing 22 clubs from nine states answered the call. One of those clubs was the Little Rock Lions Club and was represented at the Dallas Convention by H. T. Esterle.

The delegates present voted to take the name "Associations

of Lions Clubs", a Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, and the Lions Objects and Code of Ethics drafted. Altered only a little over the years, they embody the moral strength and spirit of the association. The colors of purple and gold accepted and the Lions' emblem approved.

Dr. W. P. Woods from Evansville, Indiana was elected first President of the Association. Also elected included: First Vice-President; Second Vice President; Melvin Jones as Secretary Treasurer; three Directors for three years; two for two years and two for one year. St. Louis, Missouri was selected for the organization's second annual convention to be held October 19-21, 1918.

In addition to Dr. Woods, 36 delegates from Twenty-two Lions Clubs were represented at the 1917 Dallas Convention. In the Convention of 1951 twenty-five were officially designated "Founders Clubs of Lions". The Little Rock Founders Lions Club is the oldest Lions Club in point of continuous service in the International Association; some of the other founding clubs having becoming inactive for a period of time before being reactivated.

During the rest of 1917 and into 1918 the LRFCLC and other Clubs in America concentrated on projects to support the nation's War efforts. This ranged from bond drives, collections of books and magazines, entertaining servicemen, help for war orphans and widows and fund raising for the Red Cross. The members of the

LRFCLC were active in the community and very busy during this period for the Nations' war efforts.

A total of 79 delegates from 24 cities attended the second Convention in St. Louis, Missouri in 1918. Six Lions from the two clubs in Arkansas, Little Rock and Texarkana, attended for their clubs. There are no records of the names of the Lions who represented the Little Rock Lions Club. However, Lion Thomas S. Parker was appointed by the Board of Directors to District Governor for Arkansas for the period 1918-19; we would assume he was in attendance along with others member of the club. The Board also approved a Lions magazine to keep the growing membership informed. Volume 1, Issue 1 of "The Lion" appeared in November 1918. Charged with energy, Lions Clubs International was vigorous and growing as the Board selected Chicago for the 1919 Third Lions International Convention.

A severe influenza epidemic hit the world and the United States in 1918-1919 which claimed so many lives. Few clubs were meeting and many were delinquent in their dues. However, things started getting better and the Lions headed to Chicago in July 1919 for the Third Lions Convention. The main order of business was re-organization. The delegates and Board approved the changes. The Board appointed Lion Thro Threadway. District Governor for Arkansas. Denver was selected for the 1920 Convention.

From the
**UNKNOWN
TAIL TWISTER**



No questions this time,
just remembering a few
Arkansas pins from the
past.



October
EVENTS

JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

October 8 - Council of Governors meeting, Carlisle, Arkansas
October 9 - District N Convention, Carlisle, Arkansas
October 16 - District O Convention, Jonesboro, Arkansas
October 29-30 - District I Convention, Russellville, Arkansas

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH

TBA January - Mid-Winter Forum, Conway, Arkansas
March 12 - District L Convention, Mina Arkansas

APRIL MAY JUNE

May 13-14 - State Convention, Jonesboro, Arkansas

**Arkansas Lions
Convention**

Where? Jonesboro, AR
When? Friday - Saturday
May 13 - 14, 2022

Location?
Embassy Suites
223 Red Wolf Blvd

**Early registration
starts March 15, 2022**

- Special two room suite available for only \$134 . (plus tax)
- All rooms equipped with TWO large TV's.

**Special Key-note
Speaker.**



MEMBERSHIP

Tips & Ideas

Opportunities:

1. Spouse and or adult children
2. Co workers.
3. Friends and neighbors
4. Church acquaintance
5. Previous Lions members
6. Financial employees
7. Retirees
8. Professional employees (Doctors, Lawyers, Accountants)
9. Educators
10. Those with a desire to impact their community

How do we reach out to potential members?

1. Ask each member to bring 3 names to the club membership Chair.
2. The club membership chair prepares a letter of invitation to the potential Lion asking them to attend a special event to learn more about Lionism. This letter is to be signed by the club President. (Sample letters are included)
3. A follow up call to the potential member needs to be made to insure that the potential member will be at the meeting.
4. Schedule the District Governor or one of the Vice District Governors to attend the meeting and share information about Lions and their impact on the community and around the world.
5. Plan a very professional meeting to be held at the same time as the normal meeting. Lions vests loaded with trading pins are discouraged at this meeting. Shirts with Lions emblem is preferred. Lions songs are not recommended. Prayer and pledge is important. Have someone prepared to handle these.
6. Finger foods or a light meal is sufficient for this meeting.
7. Insure that membership applications are at each seat.
8. After the meal the speaker will share Lions information and challenge the prospective members to complete the application with the help of the sponsor.
9. The sponsoring Lion needs to sit with their potential member.
10. The speaker needs to explain the Dues structure and how they are used and ways to be collected.
11. Club president will have closing remarks, thanking all who are in attendance, and passing on information about the next scheduled meeting and upcoming events.
12. After the meeting prepare for the new member induction ceremony which needs to be done in the next few meetings.
13. Assign the new members to committees where they will feel comfortable and will be able to use their knowledge.

Other ways to solicit new members:

1. Share with potential members that we need their help at our service projects and want them to enjoy our fellowship.
2. When contacting business and professional possibilities, ask them which employee they would like to represent their company in the Lions Club. Don't give them the opportunity to give you a No answer.
3. Invite potential members to join you at a service project. A good project would be at a Vision screen.

These are only recommendations and can be altered to fit your club.

PHOTOS



The Lion's Roar

July 21, 2021
Keith Sharp

Mountain Home Lions Club Lion Tamer
"We Serve"

Getting to Know the Pride
Mountain Home Lions Club President - Cindy Costa

My family moved to Mountain Home from Kansas City when I was 12 and purchased a resort on Bull Shoals Lake. I graduated from Mountain Home High School and then attended



Business in Louisville and then moved back "home" to Mountain Home. I am currently 40 years old (yes 2 of so), and I am a manager for HBO. I have 2 children - a son and a daughter - we actually have

