

MD7 NEWS

A Compendium of Notes & Comments
For Arkansas Lions
March 2021 -- No. 12



News for all Arkansas Lions

When you receive the newsletters,
please forward it to all members on
your distribution lists.

Thank you

Fort Smith does Ribs!

See club reports page 5

COMMENTS:

Brad Baker, Council Chair

The Melancholy Lion...



We all recall Shakespeare's Hamlet asking, "To be or not to be, that is the question: whether tis nobler to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune or take arms against a sea of troubles?"

Lions, we are looking at this question as we battle the outrageous fortune of

COVID. We, as individual Lions, as clubs, districts and as the Lions of Arkansas have the choice....to be or not to be.

One way your Lion leaders have chosen to help us BE is to hold an in-person state convention on Saturday, May 1 in Little Rock. Our feeling was, if we don't do something to revive our Lion's spirit, we were going to continue losing our focus on service...and our numbers.

I hope you feel, as we do, that now is the time that we must take that step forward to push towards a return to normalcy. Make plans to "take arms against a sea of troubles" and join us for masked, socially distanced fellowship, a meal and a meeting to re-dedicate ourselves to service through Lionism. If you absolutely cannot be there, please join us on Zoom.

The registration fee will BE reasonable, it won't BE that long a trip from anywhere in the state, the fellowship will BE rejuvenating and just getting together again will BE it's own reward! BEing there in person will remind you of why we are Lions, why we need to meet and why WE SERVE!

It's all up to you..."to be or not to be". See you in LR!

CC Brad Baker

Call for convention:



Official Call: In compliance with the MD 7 State Constitution, I hereby issue the official call for the 2021 State Convention of the Lions of Multiple District 7, Arkansas, International Association of Lions Clubs, to be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, on May 1, 2021. I cordially invite all Lions, Lionesses and Leos of the State to attend this 103 rd Annual State Convention that will be a memorable experience packed with fellowship, fun and learning. I respectfully request that all club and district officers assure representation from their district and clubs by attending with a large delegation from their area, and encourage all new members to attend this, their first State Convention.

Lion Brad Baker, Council Chairman

STATE NEWS

ALL DISTRICT N CLUBS GIVE TO LCIF

District N Governor Cleon Rogers announced at the last council meeting that all clubs in District N have contributed at least \$50 to the Lions Club International Foundation.

LCIF coordinator, PDG Mike Benefield reports that District L has made the greatest contributions to the foundation so far this year. District L Governor Ethan Dunbar added that they have yet to count their "Pennies for LCIF" program donations.

DG KIMBLE ANNOUNCES BID FOR COUNCIL CHAIR

District O Governor Jeremy Kimble has announced his bid to become Council Chair for the 2021-22 Lions year.



In his announcement to the Council of Governors and Governors Elect, he stated

"I feel with a strong and supportive Multiple District, we can provide district and club leaders with direction and support to help them effectively fulfill their role. We have overcome many things as an organization, and I am excited about overcoming this pandemic together this coming Lions year."

DG Kimble is the only council member so far to announce his candidacy. As part of the year's final council meeting, the sitting council along with the district governors elect will elect the next council chair.

RESOLUTION DROPPED

The proposed resolution to change eligibility requirements for council chair has been withdrawn.

Jonesboro University Heights Lions Club submitted the resolution for consideration at this year's state convention, but is withdrawing it because of the voting logistics of an in-person/virtual convention. It will be re-submitted at next years convention.

The resolution, if passed, would allow past district governors from the previous two years, along with the sitting governors, to run for the council chair position.

Council of Governors 2020-2021

Council Chair	Vice Chair	Secretary	Treasurer	Member
				
Brad Baker	Jeremy Kimble	Jeff Davis	Cleon Rodgers	Ethan Dunbar



March 2021 — **Number 12**


Published by the Arkansas Lions Clubs (Multi-District 7)

<http://e-Districtclubs.org/sotes/MD7>

arlions@sbcglobal.net

PDG Wanda Green, State Secretary

DG Jeff Davis, Editor jduke22@att.net



Remember:
New member
fees are
waived
through June
30!



Live & in-person
Or on Zoom

103rd Annual ARKANSAS STATE CONVENTION

May 1, 2021 -- Little Rock, Arkansas

REJUVENATING
Arkansas Lions

Guest Speakers

Past International President William L. Biggs— PIP Bill Biggs of Omaha, Nebraska served as President in 1990-91 and is an attorney in Omaha. Past President Biggs has served as an international director, chairperson of the USA/Canada Forum and twice as the chairperson for the district governors-elect seminar.



Awards **WHO WILL WIN?**
The James M. Fowler Humanitarian Award, The John H. Barnette Leadership Award and The Edward G. Barry Sr. Memorial Award.

Breakout Sessions & State Project Reports

Stories about those who are being served by WSB, Mid-South, Lions Eye Bank and more.....Watch for announcements about planned breakout topics.

& Good Lions Fellowship
It's been over a year since our last state-wide meeting! Here is a chance to visit and catch up with old friends from around the state. And a chance to make new friends. We take lots of breaks. Lions are a social bunch.

Register now The registration form is on the following page. Take advantage of our early registration or 'first timer's pricing and enjoy the savings. Like they say on TV, "So you don't forget, register before midnight tonight!"

& Watch your email for more exciting announcements Programs, topics, speakers, presenters and fun convention events are being added daily. Watch for announcements, or be surprised when you get to Little Rock!

REJUVENATING
Arkansas Lions

WATER DAMAGE FORCES WSB STUDENTS TO RELOCATE

On Thursday, February 18, Lion Sharon Giovinazzo, President / CEO of World Services for the Blind (WSB) reached out to Council Chair Brad Baker about a dire emergency at their facility. The pipes had frozen and burst in some of their residential areas and the water had to be shut off completely.

Obviously all operations including housing and food service had to be suspended. Students were relocated to area hotels until repairs could be made. Insurance will cover the cost of repairs, but they needed emergency funding for housing and food.

The council chair reached out by email to the district governors who approved the use of the \$8000 in ALERT energy funds.

Plumbers were able to repair the problems and according to a TV 11 report, many volunteers showed up to help in the clean-up.

Residents have returned to WSB where their normal activities and programs have resumed.

TELE-RETINA FINAL GRANT REPORT APPROVED

PCC Myrna McGee, Administrator for the Tele-Retina grant from LCIF, reported that we have received a letter form LCIF accepting our final grant report which completes and closes the grant.

The grant, combined with other matching funds was used to buy eight Tele-retina screening devices to be placed in local UAMS clinics around the state.

LCI CONVENTION GOING VIRTUAL

Due to the continuing concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the 2021 Montreal Lions Clubs International Convention to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. This decision was made with the health and safety of our Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.

Everyone's invited – Our 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.

Registration fees – The registration fee will be US\$50 until March 31, then US\$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US\$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon. Current registrants – Lions who are currently registered for convention will receive an email soon with more information about their registration options.

Elections – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically, and voting procedures will be forthcoming.

4th QUARTER COUNCIL MEETING

CC Brad Baker has called for the fourth quarter Council of Governors meeting to be held at 5:00 PM Friday April 30 at the West Little Rock Hilton Garden Inn.

The council meeting will be followed the next day, May 1, by the 103 annual Arkansas Lions State Convention, also at the Hilton Garden Inn.

ARKANSAS LIONS STATE CONVENTION



Rejuvenating Arkansas Lions



May 1, 2021

Hilton Garden Inn West Little Rock
10914 Kanis Rd, Little Rock AR 72211

(Please PRINT the following information)

(A) Your Data	Name:	Badge Name (If Different):
	Club:	District:
	I am a (circle one): Lion Lioness Leo Non-member	
	Current office held in Lions:	
	Street, Apt #	
	City, State ZIP	
	E-Mail:	Telephone:
(B) Guest Data	Name:	Badge Name (If Different):
	I am a (circle one): Lion Lioness Leo Non-member	
	Current office held in Lions:	

Registration Fee: In-Person Only

Postmarked by:	April 15, 2021	April 16, 2021 or later	First-Timer
(A) Your Fees:	\$25	\$30	\$20.00
(B) Guest's Fees:	\$25	\$30	\$20.00
Amount Due:			
Amount Submitted:		Check #:	Date:

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THESE EVENTS:

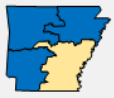
- Friday Evening:** Council Meeting 4:00 p.m. Hilton Garden Inn
- Friday Evening:** Council Meeting 4:00 p.m. by Zoom
- Friday Evening:** Dutch Treat Dinner (first-come-first-served – Limited Seating)
- Saturday Activities:** 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (In-Person)
- Saturday Activities:** 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (Virtual Only)

We will follow the current Arkansas Guidelines regarding COVID-19.

Lodging: Hilton Garden Inn (501-227-4800) 10914 Kanis Rd Little Rock, AR 72211 Rooms \$91 + tax includes buffet breakfast. Rooms are available for Friday and Saturday nights. Tell them you are with Lions.

Make checks payable to **Arkansas Lions State Convention** and mail to: **Lion George Foster, P.O. Box 15, Little Rock, AR 72203-0015**

CLUB NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE



North Little Rock

Lion Deborah Bolding reporting

Once again, it time for the North Little Rock Lions Club to hold their Annual "Bob Moore Memorial" Fish Fry. This event has long been a successful means of funding the many projects and services provided our community by the NLR Lions.

North Little Rock Lions Club

Annual
Bob Moore Memorial
Fish Fry
April 16, 2021



Three Catfish Filets, Cole Slaw, Hush Puppies and French Fries

CARRY OUT ONLY

Serving 4:30PM Until 6:30PM

Burns Park Hospitality House In North Little Rock

Price \$14.00

Contact: Lion John Hawkins 501-773-9398
Lion Bob Willson 501-231-9990

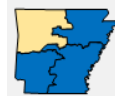
Tickets Available At The Door

More from Fort Smith:

Grant requests have been submitted to Wal Mart and Sams Club in Fort Smith. The club received grants from both locations last year and feel good about the possibility for the approval again this year. The club recognizes Lion Carolyn's hard work that she has put into the process. March 20, 2021 we get to distribute Hot Dogs and drinks to their customers.



It looks like Lion Will's indoctrination into the club is coming along nicely as he sported his new "club bandana"



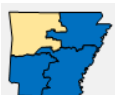
Gravette

Lion Jeff Davis reporting

Lion Sue Rice was named recently as a Melvin Jones Fellow by the Gravette Lions Club. Lion Sue participates in all club activities and seldom misses meetings or events. She, along with her sister, also a Lion, have been providing monthly health checks at the Billy V. Hall Senior Center, and are anxious to continue when the center is once again open. She is active in decisions and planning at club meetings and is a great asset to our club and our community.

It has taken the club four years of collecting through our fine-jar to reach our goal of naming a MJF. We have already started collections for another MJF award.

Our club welcomes two new members, Bill Mattler Jr. and Roger Efran. Formal induction ceremonies will be held soon. We look forward to serving as Lions with them.



Fort Smith

Lion Marty Houston reporting

The Fort Smith Rib Society will cook the ribs on March 28th for the Fort Smith Noon Lions annual Rib Sale, in time for *Final 4 weekend*. Smokers will once again be set up at 79 south third street across from the Trolley Museum and ribs will be available for pick up between 12noon and 2pm. Social distancing will be required. Ribs will be \$25 per rack and there will be drive by pick up for those purchasing.



Information on ordering
fsnoonlions@gmail.com

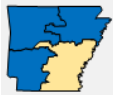
This may be our ONLY fund raising event for this fiscal year, so we want to make the most of it.

A letter from the World Services for the Blind in Little Rock asking if the club could assist financially for a Fort Smith mother, who's daughter is blind and has just undergone a kidney transplant as she commutes between Fort Smith and Little Rock. Club members in attendance passed the hat and took up a collection that we are sending to WSB to pass along to the mother.

(More from Ft. Smith in the next column)



Lion Sue Rice (center) is presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship by the Gravette Lions Club. Pictured with Lion Sue, are (L to R) Lion Snooky Garrett, PCC Myrna McGee, DG Jeff Davis and President Linda Damron.



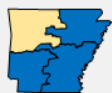
Little Rock founders

Lion Clean Rogers reporting



Members of the Little Rock Founders Club are helping the environment as they cleanup along Fair Park Boulevard, in front of the World Services for the Blind building. The founders Club has agreed to take care of this part of Fair Park Boulevard as part of the city's Adopt A Street program.

Members participating were DG Clean, King Lion Robert and PCC Bill.



Clarksville

Lion Rita Price reporting

PDG Kevin Baskin, who recently transferred from the Fort Smith Club to Clarksville, had the privilege of installing Kenena Pelfrey. Pictured (below left) are Lion Kenena, PDG Kevin and her sponsor, PCC Tracy Price.



PCC Tracy Price had the honors of installing Tina Sharps as a new member of the Clarksville Lions Club. Pictured (upper right) is her sponsor Lion Philip Sharps and PCC Tracy.

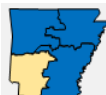


Russellville

Lion Mike Benefield reporting

Milkel and Barbara Fuller donated ten crape myrtle plants from their yard to be replanted on the "island" back behind the VMP pavilion that the Russellville Parks & Rec folks recently cleared. The crape myrtles are pink, purple, red and white, so there'll be a nice splash of color back there soon.

Jim Bob Jackson is still intending to purchase three dogwood trees – pink, white and red – and plant them close together so that their blooms will provide another splash of color to enjoy.



Saline County Professional Women

Lion "Mel" Rickard reporting

Even during this COVID-19 Pandemic Saline County Professional Women's Lions Club under President Amy Seagraves and Vice President Michelle Haislip are making sure their roar is still heard in our beautiful county and throughout the state!

In our ongoing mission to support the homeless and underserved in Saline county at each meeting we have collected socks, hot hand warmers and flashlights to help fill a need in our community. Plans are to collect Bug Spray, Blankets and Ponchos to help as well.

We are proud to announce our eyeglass collection is also going well, our watchful lion Samme Keenan Wallace had been diligently checking our donation boxes and sending them in to help in our mission aiding the visually impaired.

Also, Saline County Professional Women's Lions Club is planning to get outside when the weather changes to spring and assist some of the members of our community with yard work and helping clean local parks and possibly adopt a street as well, look for more details of these events to come!

We are adding new members to our roster and cannot wait to grow our pride, our membership director Valerie MacEntee and our Board of Directors and members are getting the word out to join our club and make a difference!

We are excited to see what awesome speakers our Program Director Anna Vick has lined up for us as well! We invite you all to come see too!

At our December meeting, in the spirit of creating our own club climate we have adopted two "Lions Cubs" who are the young daughters of our Lion Tamer Amanda Clift. Emersyn and Tristyn have had an active presence at our meetings and playing an active role in learning how our club works, how to help our community and learning from our members, all while learning about lionism and what it takes to be a lion.

We are pleased to announce that we have an official home (a den.. if you will) at Lost Pizza Company on HWY 5 in Benton and are looking forward to our long-lasting partnership with Chuck and his crew. We are currently meeting the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30pm.



Club Officers Election

This is the time to start your election process for new officers. You should have by now appointed a nominating committee to develop a slate of officers for the election to guide the club during the 2021-22 Lions year.

It is critical that you have your election and the PU101's be submitted by April 15. If this dateline is not met your new officers will not be reported to Lions Club International and will not be in the Arkansas Lions State Lions directory.

From the UNKNOWN TAIL TWISTER



Lions Want to Have Fun

Can you find ten differences between the top and the bottom drawing?
(Answers on next page)



Tail Twisters have added elements of fun and surprise to Lions club meetings since the 1920s.

Having fun while doing good has been a Lions specialty from the beginning.

In the early 1920s, many U.S. clubs had pep committees charged with enlivening routine club meetings. Lions soon entrusted the merrymaking function to a single energetic and enthusiastic officer, known as the Tail Twister.

Students of Tail-Twisting lore will find rich veins of anecdote and remembrance among longtime Lions and also in Lions publications.

How did the name Tail Twister come about? *The World's Biggest Doers*, a 1949 history of the Lions, described this origin story, as recounted by Lions founder Melvin Jones:

"One Sunday afternoon three or four of us were discussing this matter of putting pep into the meetings. One fellow who had been born on a farm said we needed to do what used to be done on the farm. When a cow refused to go through the gate, someone would grab her by the tail and twist. We all laughed, but one of the boys said, 'Why isn't that a good name—tail twister?'"

The fact that lions—*real* lions—also have tails gave the name another amusing twist.

Now optional for all Lions clubs, the role of Tail Twister had been an established office under charter bylaws for decades. But as a 1941 article in *LION Magazine* made clear: "Of all the officers in the club, he [the Tail Twister] has no rigid code, no well-defined plan of action. He must be a Lion of originality."

Indeed, Tail Twisters have been remarkably creative in promoting fun and fellowship and boosting club treasuries by "twisting" small fines from members for minor breaches of club rules, such as not wearing a nametag or talking during a guest speaker's presentation.

The fines system is both autocratic and democratic. No member can appeal a Tail Twister's levy, and no member is above paying it.

"President Westfall Fined on Southern Trip," ran a banner headline over a full-page story in the April 1927 issue of *LION Magazine*. While visiting the Columbia Lions Club in South Carolina, USA, International President William Westfall forgot his Lions pin when changing "from his train clothes to his speaking clothes." An alert Tail Twister named Goldschmidt spotted Westfall's bare lapels and fined him 10 cents, the going rate for such infractions in the 1920s.

Contests, quizzes, brainteasers, jokes, lighthearted songs and poems are time-tested tools of the tail-twisting trade. Today's practitioners can find and share fresh material on several club websites and on a Tail Twister page on Facebook.



LIBERTY DAY

Lions Clubs across America have participated in this US Constitution educational program in the past and many Lions Clubs are still doing the program. Colorado Lion and program founder Andy McKean would like to revive this program in Arkansas. According to Council Chair Brad Baker, about 20 Lions Clubs in Arkansas have participated in the past.

Lion McKean spoke to the Council of Governors at their January 22 Zoom meeting encouraging Arkansas clubs to host Liberty Day programs in their communities.

More information and booklets are available from Lion McKean at libertyday@aol.com or from their website LibertyDay.org.

Here are Lion McKean's suggestions for organizing a Liberty Day program.

1. Contact their local school district Superintendent and/or school board to get their support for this program
2. Work with teachers in the school district to find out which teachers would like to participate
3. Usually the US Constitution is taught in 5th grade, again in 8th grade, and then again in high school
4. Whatever grade level works for the school district is how you should implement the program
5. Obtain copies of the Liberty Lives Forever pocket Constitution from our national headquarters in Colorado - \$1 each plus shipping
6. I would be pleased to send free sample copies of this book to any Lions Club to show to the educators
7. Arrange a day and time, hopefully around Liberty Day, March 16th, the birthday of James Madison, the 'father of the US Constitution', to distribute the books to the students
8. If possible, arrange for a speaker to speak with the students about the US Constitution and answer their questions – this usually takes about 1 hour- Attorneys, judges, and elected officials are great speakers
9. Inside our pocket Constitution books are 24 Flash Cards for students to study and learn that are all facts taken directly out of the text of the US Constitution
10. After the students have studied and learned what is in the US Constitution we ask them to write a short essay indicating what they learned
11. You might want to give awards, possibly money, for the top 3 essays, as an incentive for students to do a good job – suggested amounts 1st - \$100, 2nd - \$50, 3rd - \$25
12. Contact your local newspaper to cover the event. You would probably need the permission of the school district to do this

You do not have to do everything listed above. Whatever works for the schools and the local Lions Club.

Tail Twister Answers: 1. Paw is missing 2. Tail is different 3. Ear is bigger 4. Whiskers are added 5. Lion is bigger 6. Cave is smaller 7. Man's foot is missing 8. Rock is added 9. Man's shirt collar is different 10. Man's hair is different.

Eyeglass collection: Walmart Partners with Lions

Most Walmart stores that have Vision Centers have partnered with the Lions Club to collect used glasses for those in need (outside of the USA). Through participating Walmart and Sam's Clubs you can donate prescription eyeglasses and prescription sun glasses.



In the Vision Center of most Walmarts, there is a blue Lions Club donation box. The Vision Centers will usually accept used glasses even if they do not have a donation box.

One Vision Center associate I visited with told me that when they have time, they clean, read the prescription and mark the glasses for future distribution through the Lions Club.

While there are still a number of Lions Club (usually sponsored by an individual club) Recycling Centers, many clubs have started taking their collected glasses to Walmart for processing.

Walmart does not accept reading glasses. Donated prescription glasses must be unbroken with no missing lenses.

It may be advisable for clubs to call the local Walmart Vision Center before dropping off large amounts of glasses.



PDG Mike Benefield
LCIF Chairperson

I was raised Southern Baptist, and I remember at a very young age being told that one of the strengths of the SBC (Southern Baptist Convention) was our Mission program... That we sent missionaries all over the world. Sending money to someone else to use, takes a lot of trust, and loyalty!

We can SEE the results of helping others in our community. But helping those who are far away is different! We normally do not see the results... The eye clinic we built, the children that can see, the changes in peoples' LIVES! That is what LCIF does. On our (Lions) behalf, LCIF helps those less fortunate to live a better life! And, YES, it takes faith and loyalty to send money to LCIF to use, when we will never personally see the results... But it is WORTH it!

Even though we are all suffering due to the COVID-19 pandemic, try to imagine how much more they are suffering in other countries, where some were truly suffering before the pandemic. Please consider a donation to LCIF, from your Club, or individually, or both!

LCIF is the part of Lions Clubs International which finances Humanitarian projects around the world. If you have not explored the LCI (Lions Clubs International) website, I encourage you to do so! There are a wealth of resources and information there! LCIF has an introduction to their services: [LCIF Mission | Lions Clubs International](#) You can discover the main areas of emphasis for LCIF at this time.

You can also find the current Campaign100 fund raising campaign: [Resource Center | Lions Clubs International](#)



Give the Gifts XXVIII ONLINE AUCTION

Sign Up and BID at
www.biddingowl.com/midsouthlions

April 10 - 16, 2021

Provide MIRACLES for Those in Need

The Miracles of
Sight and
Hearing



FOR MORE INFO
888-546-6042 OR
www.midsouthlions.org

Looking for Auction Items

- New Items - Collectible Antiques
- Gift Cards - Electronics - Tools - Toys
- Kitchenware - Decorations - Furniture
- Sporting Goods - Food & Beverage
- Sports Packages - Vacation Packages
- Gift Baskets - Homemade Items

Contact State Leader for Pickup

Requested Delivery Date 3/26/2021

AR - Leanna Rich 501-231-6006 MS - James Wilkerson 601-519-8222
 TN - Ann Butler 731-487-1906 MO - Lisa Alexander 314-258-1069
 Office 888-546-6042

MD7 NEWS

Who
reports
For
Your club?



PHOTOS

