

MD7 NEWS

A Compendium of Notes & Comments
For Arkansas Lions

June 2022 -- No. 18



Gravette sisters, both nurses, both Lions, provide monthly health checks at the Senior Activity Center.

See Gravette in Club Reports

NEWS

State & International

104th Annual Arkansas State Convention

Early last month, the Arkansas State Lions held their annual convention in Jonesboro, Arkansas. The attendees were made up of members and club officers from all over the state. Special convention guests were International Director John Youney and his wife Lion Karol.

Preceding Saturday's actual convention the Council of Governors held their fourth quarter meeting Friday afternoon. Director Youney spoke to the council about several upcoming items to be discussed at the next directors meeting in Montreal, including the possible dues increase and name change. (see LCIcon 2022 for details) He also encouraged all Lions to concentrate on increasing membership.



The Council also accepted bids from different clubs to hold state events for the next several years and Don Young was elected Council Chair for next year (

The actual convention business meeting on Saturday consisted mainly of recognitions and awards as there were no actional items on the agenda.

CC Jeremy Kimble ID John Youney presented the following awards:



In just a few weeks the Lions Club International convention, the first live convention is several years, will be taking place in Montreal, Canada. This years event will include all the fanfare of past conventions including the parade, business and training, elections, vendors, banquets and more.

Newly elected district governors from around the world will complete their last couple of days of training in Montreal prior to the convention's opening and in a unique ceremony, one of the last sessions of the convention, will be inaugurated to their office by the international president.

The international board of directors will hold a meeting in Montreal also. One proposal, almost sure to pass, is an increase in the international membership dues by \$7 over a three year period starting July 1, 2023. If approved, the increase that year will be \$3 followed by a \$2 increase each of the next two years. Another proposal is to change the name from Lions Club International to simply Lions International.

Election of international officers will be part of the business conducted as part of the convention. If you are planning to attend the convention, you must be appointed by your club as a delegate and register ahead of time with LCI as an appointed delegate. Delegates must be present in Montreal to vote. Incoming and outgoing district governors are considered special delegates and do not count as a club's delegate. If someone in your club will be attending the convention, you may want to go to the LCI website for delegate information.

This year's convention takes place June 24 through June 28.

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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



Carol Allen Don Young
Rene' Roberts Roy Patterson Jeremy Kimble



Mike Benefield—The James Fowler Award



Larry Hinck—The Ed Barry Award



Bill Heaston—Leadership Award



Tracy Price—Leadership Award



Wanda Green—President's Award



Pat Snodgrass—President's Award

Not pictured : Libby Davenport—The John Barnett Award

DG Don Young Elected Council Chair



In a secret ballot election at the recent Council of Governors meeting, District N Governor Don Young was elected Council Chair for 2022-23. Only the current council chair, the current district governors and the district governors elect are permitted to vote in this election.

The council chair presides at the council of governors meeting and serves as CEO and Global Action Team leader for the multi-district.

For more about CCE Young and the DGEs who will make up next years council see the next page .

COUNCIL of GOVERNORS

2022—23

DON YOUNG
COUNCIL CHAIR



CCE Don Young was born and raised in Carlisle. He traveled to Colorado to attend the US Air Force Academy, becoming a Second Lieutenant with a degree in Civil Engineering. He has continued his education earning a Masters in Systems Management from the University of Arkansas and an Associates in Culinary Arts from Pulaski Tech. He is a chef.

During his twenty year career in the Air Force, He piloted rescue helicopters and T-37 jet trainers as an instructor pilot. Other assignments included Rescue Coordinator at Sondrestrom AB, Greenland and Civil Engineer Officer at Little Rock AFB in Arkansas. After Air Force retirement, he worked at the Arkansas Department of Transportation as a Field Engineer and Section Head, retiring after twenty-five years.

His family now includes his wife Becky of over 45 years, his sons, their wives and seven granddaughters.

He began his service to the Lions as a young lad helping his dad get ready for Carlisle Lions Club fish fries. His dad was a charter member of the Carlisle club and he often attended meetings with his dad. After his father passed away, he joined the club in 1994, serving as president, secretary and a host of other jobs. Presently, he cooks for their meetings.

TRAVIS BURTON
GOVERNOR 7-L



DGE Travis Burton joined the Arkadelphia Lions Club in 2014. As a member he was active in many service projects and fundraisers sponsored by the club.

The district governor elect has also served his club as secretary, LCIF coordinator, tail twister, first and second vice president and was Arkadelphia's president in 2017-18.

At the district level, DGE Burton has served as public relations chair as well as sitting on the nominations and credentials committees. Of course, he has served and trained for his governorship as second and first vice district governor.

The district governor elect completed his Lions University Bachelor's Degree and has also been honored by his club with a membership key and a Lion of the Year award. International President Dr. Naresh Aggrawal awarded him a Presidential Certificate of Appreciation in 2018-19.

DGE Burton is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

DEAN ROWLAND
GOVERNOR 7-I



He has been a Lion member since November 2012. A charter member of the Elkins Lions Club, he was elected to be the 1st Elkins Lions Club President. I have served as Club President, Vice-President, Sight Committee Chair, Arkansas District 7-I Zone Chair, District 7-I Treasurer, 2nd VDG, 1st VDG, and now DGE.

I have been married to my wife, Regina, for 41 years. We have 2 Grown Children and 3 grandchildren ages 5, 6, 9.

I like to Travel, Love to Saltwater fish, hunt, work around the house, and play with my grands whenever possible! I also love being retired from Public Education after 31 years. I coached multiple H.S. sports, taught Math, Health, Science, and P.E., and I was a Primary School Principal for nine years! I am a Former Adjunct Faculty member of Rich Mountain Community College too.

My favorite shirt is:

Retired 2019
Not my problem anymore!

PAT SNODGRASS
GOVERNOR 7-O



DGE John (Pat) Snodgrass, born in Warren, Arkansas and graduated from Little Rock Central High School in 1955. After serving in the United States Navy, the district governor elect attended University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University, receiving bachelors, in marketing and management and master's in public administration.

He worked in retail management for forty years at Katz Drug, Skaggs Drug and Skaggs-Alpha Beta. He also managed jewelry stores in Wichita and Topeka KS.

DGE Pat joined Lions in 1969, and has served in all positions in his club, except tail twister. Lion Pat is a past district governor.

He has been a HAM radio operator since 1986 and has been to six international conventions from Atlanta, GA to Hong Kong.

He has been married to Anita Davis Snodgrass since 1960 and has two grown sons, both single "I ship for free" he adds.

BILL JOHNSON
GOVERNOR 7-N



DGE Bill Johnson was born in Fayetteville, but raised in Oklahoma where he received his undergraduate degree from OSU. He also has an MBA from Webster University. While a student at OSU, the DGE was "Pistol Pete", the OSU mascot.

He and his wife, Debbie, have two children and five grandchildren. They have lived in Little Rock since 1979 and attend the Fellowship Bible Church there.

It's difficult to separate the DGEs Career path from his professional involvements. He has worked for the Arkansas Prostate Cancer Foundation, The Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind, The Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Centers for Youth and Families in positions that include Director of Development, CFO and CEO. He also served on the board of directors of five different organizations whose goal is to serve the visually impaired and blind.

DGE Bill joined the Little Rock Founders Club in 1980 and has served as the clubs president, as well as other club and district offices. He also belongs to a host of community and professional organizations.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

PDG Pat Snodgrass

State Convention Chair

Thank You! I just wanted to say thank you to all the Lions that help support the Arkansas Lions MD-7 State Convention held May 13,14, 2022. I know that some Lions say that all we do is meet or have conventions, but I want you to realize how important the district, state and International Conventions are to help keep the Lions the most well informed and helpful organization it is.

It is through these conventions that we can renew old friendships, learn new ways to raise monies to help the people that we serve. Help our clubs in problems that they might be seeking answers. Learn the ways that we have been a service to those we serve, through our Lions Clubs Foundation in all parts of the world.

Again, I say thank you, for being the worlds best, most knowledgeable, most concern, most caring and the organization that we all can be proud to wear a small pin that says, "We Serve." A motto that we strive to live up to.

PDG Jeff Davis

GST Leader

As the year winds down, thanks to all Arkansas Lions and clubs for their service to their communities. With my other hat on (newsletter editor), I receive many club reports and pictures of Lions all over the state doing great things in their community.

Vision service hours may top the six service categories of LCI, but "Other" service far out reaches that of vision or any of the other areas. This is great! It means that as Lions, we are finding unique, individual and community needs and finding ways to help.

Thank you, Lions, for another great year of "Service from the heart." Unfortunately, only a quarter of our state's clubs have reported their service. Please, let's see if we can do better at reporting to LCI our great Arkansas service.

PCC Tracy Price

GMT Leader

The MD is down 108 for the year and has lost 4 clubs. One district is on the positive side while the other 3 are in the negative column. Sadly to say, the majority of our losses were from deaths in the MD.

On a positive note, we are in better shape with membership this year than we have been in several years.

We just need to replace those losses that have occurred during the current year.

PDG Leanna Rich – PCC Matt Webber

GLT Leaders

The 1st and 2nd VDGs have completed ALL their mandatory and elective sessions. They even requested an additional session on Protocol and Constitution and Bylaws. We had PID Donal Knipp as our guest who was able to provide additional information and insight from the perspective of being an International guest at numerous events to our VDGs. MD 7 is in good hands. We have great leadership coming forward. Their dedication, perseverance, and amazing attitudes will enhance their years as District Governors.

It has been our pleasure to serve MD7 as GLT Co-chairs for the last couple of years.

PDG Mike Benefield

LCIF

We are almost to the end of Campaign 100. We have raised and donated many THOUSANDS of dollars! There is about a month and a half left. Let's finish Strong! I ask for every Lion and Lions Club to dig DEEP so we can complete our task. Consider another Melvin Jones Fellowship, or becoming a Model Club. Those around the world who are less fortunate than us will appreciate it!

DISTRICT GOVERNORS HONERED



Among the several awards and citations the district governors received at this year's convention for their leadership and service, they are shown here receiving the Presidential Appreciation Award.

Presenting the award is International Director John Youney. The district governors, from left to right, are Carol Allen (7-I), Roy Patterson (7-O) Don Young (7-N) and Rene' Roberts (7-L).

CLUB REPORTS

All Arkansas Lions clubs are invited to send in reports and photos of your activities, service, fundraising and member achievements along with anything else you would like to share with your fellow Lions. Send your reports to: jduke22@att.net



Brinkley

Lion Marty Harper reporting



The Brinkley Lions Club recently welcomed Chuck Bradford (center) as a new club member. Bradford is the local manager for Food Giant. Conducting the ceremony was District Governor Don Young (left). Lion Ron Montgomery was the sponsor member.

New Brinkley Lions Club member Glenda Arnett (left) is pictured pinning a sponsor pin on her twin sister Lion Linda Bline, a long time member of the club. Glenda is the Associate Editor for the Monroe County Herald. Conducting the ceremony was Past District Governor Gloria Montgomery.



Gravette

Lion Jeff Davis reporting



COVER STORY

Gravette sisters, Snooky Garrett and Sue Rice have been fixtures at the Billy V. Hall Senior Activity Center in Gravette for the last twenty years, providing monthly oxy-pulse and blood pressure checks and quarterly blood sugar testing.

Lion Sue spent her thirty-year nursing career in Tulsa while Lion Snooky remained in Gravette working at the local hospital. The hospital, next door to the senior center, would allow Garrett and several others to come over and do health screenings. The hospital closed in 2003, shortly after Rice had retired, returned to Gravette and joined the group. After the hospital closed the sisters continued their monthly screening with the support of a local physician. Four years ago, they joined the Lions and continue the program with Lions Club support.

They screen anywhere between 15 and 25 individuals a month and have suggested several times that an individual should go immediately to the emergency room because of unusually high blood pressure combined with other symptoms. Because of the blood sugar screening, two individuals discovered after following up with their health provider that they had diabetes.

Each month, the sisters have little gifts for participants. This month it was baggies of fresh fruit, other times it may be a ball-point pen with an American flag or maybe a handcrafted marshmallow turkey.

Both Sue and Snooky have been Gravette Lion of the Year and both will be holding their first elected club office next year. Sue is a Melvin Jones Fellow.

. . .

Six years ago, the Gravette Lions took over maintenance of a sitting area in our local cemetery that had been an Eagle Scout's project years ago. In addition to tending the gardens, last year the club re-laid the bricks. Last month, the wooden on the bench-seats were replaced by club members.



Texarkana

Lion Ed Foster reporting

Now that the schools and day care centers are allowing us back from the Corona virus, we are beginning to start the screening of the eyes of the children. We recently visited Liberty-Eylau Day Care Center and screened 168 kids with 4 referrals. Lions that worked that day are, (L-R) Kathy Shackelford, George Shackelford, Ed Foster, President Janice Richardson, Doug Barrette, Danny Stinson and John Norton.



Who reports for your club?

Conway Noon

Lion Phyliss Fry reporting

The Conway Noon Lions Club honored our community's First Responders at a recent meeting. Pictured (L to R) are Firefighter of the Year Brandon Hurst, Police Officer of the Year Mathew Hugen, and Faulkner County Deputy of the Year Timothy Johnson.



Congratulations to these three, and many thanks to all our first responders who often put their lives on the line for the well-being of our community!

The Conway Noon Club has been busy during the months of April and May. In April we honored 24 teachers in Conway which included the public schools and three private schools. These teachers are selected by their peers. Each teacher receives a personalized plaque and a plaque for their school. This is the 37th year Conway Noon has honored teachers in Conway.



Two different groups participated in litter pick up in our county. Twice a year, teams pick up litter in Greenbrier and Conway. Conway Noon participates in Adopt a Street.

Hot Springs Jesse Hawkins

Lion David Shockey reporting



Here are pictures from our 34th Annual Diamond Head Fishing Derby held recently. The annual event is for special needs / special education kids. This year six schools participated.



Jonesboro University Heights

Lion Charles Hartwig reporting

May Program coordinator Norm Dickson introduced speaker Mikel Wewers, Executive Director of the Foundation of Arts (FOA) in Jonesboro, who shared his interesting path to his current position, and then reviewed the many events taking place every week at the FOA. Music, art, and theater productions and classes abound – Swan Lake just finished, CATS is coming, along with summer camps and dinner theaters, and the FOA has agreed to coordinate the annual Christmas Parade, taking over from the now-defunct Jonesboro Jaycees.



Mikel Wewers



Lion Tom Woods reported that he and Lion Ron McCormick, plus DG Roy Patterson, went up to Corning the previous Saturday to screen youths at the Corning Spring Festival. Rain cut short the screening event, which ended up being indoors at the Three Little Monkeys clothing store, but they screened eight kids, one of whom was found to have serious eye problems. DG Roy dressed up in a hot Lions costume and joined some Corning Lions in trying to spread the news about the SPOT screening event.

Lion Brad Baker presented the club with a cash donation of \$324.81, which represented the profits generated by two groups of students at the University Heights School of Medical Arts elementary school which competed to see which one could sell more lemonade. The winning group got to pick which charity got all the proceeds, and a granddaughter of Brad and Lion Mona Baker knew just which group should get the cash – the JUH Lions! Many thanks, kids!!

Little Rock South

Lion Frances Walker reporting

Little Rock South held their annual "COWBOY UP" on April 30, 22. This is a BBQ with live music, and a Live & Silent Auction. We had a great turn out and several members from other clubs came and showed their support, including incoming DG Bill Johnson. We raised close to \$6300.00 which will go to help support the community and other projects that we support.



Our next event will be on Sept 17, 2022. and will be our East End Sizzler 10K 5K and Kids Dash " A Stride to End Childhood Cancer"



Berryville

Lion David Baker reporting



The Berryville Lions Club recently worked with two other local organizations for the benefit of the community.

They worked with Equity Bank in a Shred-it project and with Leaves & Fishes on a food collection drive.

Fort Smith

Lion Marty Houston reporting

Recent speakers include Danelle Simmons of the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and the Janet Huckabee River Valley Nature Center was our guest speaker this week. Janet mainly focused on AG&F conservation management measures that the state agency is concentrating on.

Another speaker was Gary Udouj of the Peak innovation center. Dr. Udouj said that the center is part of the Fort Smith public school system, but serves 21 other school districts in the area. According to Dr. Udouj the center and its motives is a rethinking of technical education.

Sebastian county prosecuting attorney Dan Schue wanted to update the club on the work of the prosecutor's office. He told us that his office is an administrator of justice, not necessarily to convict, but to seek the truth in

cases that come through. He said that Arkansas and Hawaii are now the only states where the prosecuting attorneys are neither republican or democrat, but rather non partisan as enacted by the Arkansas legislature in 1931.

Finally, and this was a slip up on my behalf, but I wanted to recognize that Lion Ed Wheeler was able to be with us for the first time in a couple of years this last week.



Conway (Evening)

Lion Basil Julian reporting

Members of the Conway Evening Lions Club recently conducted a road cleanup of a one mile stretch of Tyler Street in Conway. The cleanup was conducted as part of the Conway Adopt a Street program managed by the Conway Department of Sanitation.



Little Rock (Founders)

Lion Bill Heaston reporting



Our speaker on Wednesday, March 27 was Heather Zbinden, Outreach Coordinator for the Central Arkansas Library System's Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History and Arts. She discussed genealogy research and the library's digitizing of family photos.

Ms. Zbinden, whose parents are blind, will be the newest Little Rock Founders Lions member. She will be sponsored by PDG Kandy Cayce, who arranged the speaking engagement.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A 501 C3 & 501 C4?

Both are non profit organizations, but

501 C3

YES deductible donations

NO Lobbying

501 C4

NO deductible donations

YES Lobbying



EVENTS

JUNE

- 22 USA/Canada site-selection meeting, Memphis *Info*
- 24-28 International Convention, Montreal, Canada *Info*

JULY

AUGUST

- 16 Van Buren 100th Anniversary *Info*
- 27-28 Charley Rice Golf Tournament, Cherokee City Lions

SEPTEMBER

- 17 East end Sizzler 5 & 10K Run (LR South) *Info*
- 17 Kids Fund Day (FOR OTHER MID-SOUTH LIONS EVENTS AND INFORMATION GO TO WWW.MIDSOUTHLIONS.ORG)
- 22 World Service for the Blind 75th Anniversary *Info*

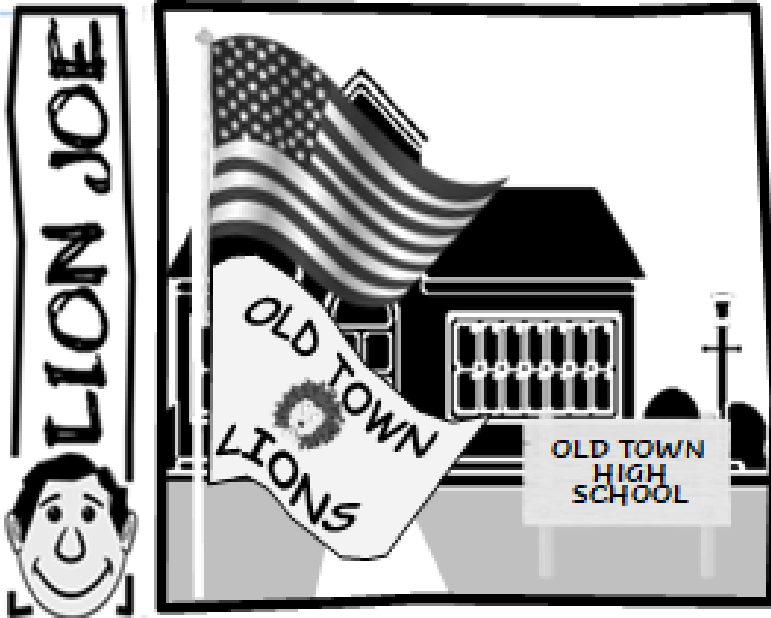
From the UNKNOWN TAIL TWISTER



Everyone loves a good riddle!
Can you answer these?

1. Dave's parents have three sons: Ralph, Bill and can you name the third son?
2. If you've got me, you want to share me; if you share me, you haven't kept me. What am I?
3. What has a bottom at the top?
4. A girl has as many brothers as sisters, but each brother has only half as many brothers as sisters. How many brothers and sisters are there in the family?
5. What 4-letter word can be written forward, backward or upside down, and can still be read from left to right?
6. A man describes his daughters, saying, "They are all blonde, but two; all brunette but two; and all redheaded but two." How many daughters does he have?

(Answers posted on the Photo Board)



FOUND A DOMAIN NAME FOR THE CLUB WEBSITE YET, JOE?

IN SMALL TOWNS WITH LIONS AS THE HIGH SCHOOL MASCOT, THERE JUST AREN'T MANY NAMES LEFT WITH "LION" IN THEM!



The Little Rock Founders Lions Club

Lion Bill Heaston's history series will return in the next issue.

Help needed: The USA / Canada Forum, Memphis, 2026?

Fellow Lions and Friends:

Memphis is set to host the USA/Canada Forum site committee on June 21-24. The site committee has asked that some of our host committee be present for their visit. Since we will not really set the host committee until the selection process is completed, and it seems there is a good chance Memphis will host the 2026 USA/Canada Forum, anyone who wants to lead this great learning experience is welcome.

The Forum is an all-hands-on deck situation as most of you know. The 2009 Forum was one of the biggest ever and we expect that 2026 will be no different. Although the Lions of Tennessee will be the official host, Lions who are involved in Mid-South are the heart of our volunteer pool. At some point, the host committee will be calling on the Lions of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee to provide funding, guidance, leadership and volunteers to make the Forum successful.

Many of you have attended multiple Forums and you know the great value it has for training Lions on every level. Here is another opportunity to have the Forum right here in the mid-south, an easy drive for many of us...at least easier than Calgary, Spokane, Portland, San Juan, and Reno. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

If you are interested in serving on the host committee, please contact me as soon as possible.

Here is an important meet-and-greet opportunity for all Lions interested in hosting the Forum in Memphis in 2026. Members of the site committee will be available at Central Barbecue 147 East Butler Ave (near the Lorraine Motel/Civil Rights Museum) early evening on Wednesday, June 22. We truly need a good group of Lions to show our willingness to host the Forum and to impress on the site committee that we are ready, willing and able to repeat the success of the 2009 Forum.

If you can come to Memphis for the day to help us greet the site committee members, please let me know ASAP so we can be prepared.

PLEASE make an effort to visit with us on June 22 in Memphis as we make one final push to host the 2026 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

Did I already say??? **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Hope to see you in Memphis on June 22 AND in 2026 at the Forum.

Call me if you have any questions.

Together in service,

PCC Brad Baker, CEO
Mid-South Lions

STATE PROJECTS



\$80,000 DURING OUR 80TH YEAR

One of the ways Mid-South can stretch our dollars to do more patient care is to purchase equipment for our clinics. The BEST way to purchase equipment is through an LCIF matching grant. This year (through June 30, 2023) we are gathering an additional \$80,000 (on top of regular contributions) to match an



**DOUBLE YOUR DONATION
WITHOUT THE CASINO.
HELP MID-SOUTH MATCH
AN L.C.I.F. EQUIPMENT GRANT
JUST SCAN THE MATCH QRC**



WSB



PHOTOS



Unknown Tail Twister Answers:

1. Dave
2. Secrete
3. Your legs
4. Three sisters / four brothers
5. NOON
6. 1 brunette, 1 blond & 1 red head