



A Compendium of Notes & Comments For Arkansas Lions October 2018





High School Club sponsored by the Elkins Lions

ELKINS .. On October 1, members of the Elkins Lions Club, joined by district and state officials, welcomed 37 local students as charter members of the Elkins Leo Club.

The ceremony was opened by Lion and Leo Club Advisor Tiffani Hash. Elkins Lion Dean Rowland provided the audience and new members with some background information about the Elkins Lions Club.

Council Chair, Myrna Mcgee also provided some Lions Club history before installing Leo Bryn Shirley as the club's president. The new president then installed Leos Katie Greene, Haillee Leburs and Kanley Kestner as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

After taking their initiation oath, each member crossed the stage as their name was announced, picked up their pin and certificate and signed the new club's charter.

The Elkins club is the only District 7-I Leos and the first anybody can remember.

Lion Tiffani Hash reporting

Elkins Leo Club Charter members

Alli Guzmen **Emily Philip** Kristin Baker Mia Bowers Zac Hodihan Kingslee Kestner K risty Ortz Noah Terry Tahlia Bergeron Kaylyn Wood Delaynee Parsley Hunter Elrod Tara Lawson Victoria Skalecki Jayde Nettles Chloe Rochier Jerri Schuman Katie Greene Kanley Kestner

Carley East Ilah Rakes Logan Sliver Mia Warthy Biza Fields Kristen Starks Larissa Headley Sam Hanna Victoria Skalecki Amber Burks Kennedy Whittmore Felix Mártinez Abbagil Kloster Emy Dearing Tracy Davidson Rebekah Oneal Bryn Shirley Haillee Leubers

Club Advisors

Tiffani Hash

Amanda Coleman

MD-7 COUNCIL



Council Chair Myrna McGee mmcgee610@cox.net

Bella Vista Club



Council Secretary **Don Draper**don.c.draper@suddenlink.net

Hot Springs Breakfast Club



Council Treasurer
Tracy Price
Price.farms@yahoo.com

Clarksville Club



<u>Council Member</u> **John (Pat) Snodgrass** kb5fyn@gmail.com

Jonesborro University Heights Club



Council Vice Chair

Gloria Montgomery
rongloria@sbcglobal.net

Brinkley Club



<u>State Secretary</u> **Wanda Barnett** wandabarnett419@gmail.com

Gravel Ridge Club



From our Council Chair:

To our Great Arkansas Lions -

We are well into our Lions year!! We have held three District Conventions. Congratulations to those District Governors and their Convention Committees. Much information has been available to those attending—including ways to grow membership, diabetes information and support, more women in Lions and other topics.

Clubs have been conducting vision screenings, collecting used glasses, providing glasses for those in need, giving diabetes screenings and education, participating in childhood cancer projects and much more. Many clubs have held White Cane days and, of course, we continue to induct new members.

You have been working and living our motto — "We Serve"!!

This week I had the privilege of participating in chartering the newest LEO Club in our Multiple District and inducting 37 fantastic new LEO Club members. What an exciting event—our next generation of Lions are on their way. They have already been involved in helping their sponsoring Club in many service projects. Their LEO Club sponsor has been such a great role model for them and has them "ready to roll"! We're looking forward to great things from them.

Remember to plan your service activities around our five areas of service—diabetes, childhood cancer, vision, hunger and environment. It would be great if each of our Clubs would plan one service project in each area. If you need ideas for service projects, please let your District Service Chairperson know and I know they will have many ideas for you. Don't forget to go to lionsclubs.org and search for service projects as there are many ideas there. Another great source are the Facebook pages of our Clubs.

As Lions, we're always looking for those who would be great Lions members—every new member will enable us to help 70 more people. A quote from our founder, Melvin Jones -" You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else."

I appreciate all you are doing to make your community and our world a better place. Remember our motto "We Serve" as we go about our daily lives helping others-and always remember that "Kindness matters".

Yours in Lions Service -

Líon Myrna McGee

MD Council Chair

Donation for Diabetes Awareness

The Lions Diabetes Awareness program, located in northwest Arkansas has received a \$1699 donation from the Bentonville Noon Lions Club. That club chose to disband at the end of the fiscal year and has been very generous in donating their assets to other clubs and causes.

The Lions Diabetes Awareness program offers counseling and information throughout the district. They also offer short-time financial help when folks are in need of medical supplies

Bella Visita President Patty O'Bannon is a past president of the Bentonville Noon Club and has been part of the district's Diabetes program for many years.

Lion Patty O'Bannon reporting



David Henry, President of the Bentonville Noon Lions presents a check to Patty O'Bannon of the Lions Diabetes Awareness program.



Dr. Mike Scribner and Lions Rita Price and Patty O'Bannon visit at the Diabetes Screening station at the District 7-I convention.



OCTOBER	Vision Awareness	Month /	Lions & Leo
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Membership Month

White Cane Safety Day— WSB, Little Rock 15th

Information: Kandy Cayce kandy.cayce@dhs.arkansas.gov>

20th Human Foosball Exhibition games —

Gravette

Information—Jeff Davis, jduke22@att.net

<u>Haunted Hospital</u> — WSB Little Rock 27th

Sponsored by the Gravel Ridge Lions Club

NOVEMBER World Diabetes Day 11/14

Council of Governors @ 3;30pm—First Bap 3nd

tist Church, Brinkley

Information: CC Myrna McGee

mcgee610@cox.net

District 7-N Convention—First Baptist 2 & 3

Church, Brinkley

Information: DG Gloria Montgomery, rongloria@sbcglobal.net

10th District 7-I Cabinet meeting —Clarksville

Information: DG Tracy Price,

pricefarms@yahoo.com

Guiding Lion Training—Clarksville

information: PDG Phyliss Fry

15th IRS 990 Due

DECEMBER

10th

JANUARY

11 & 12 <u>Mid-Winter Leadership Forum</u> — U of A

> Com. College, Hot Springs Information: PCC John Collier, jwcollier065@cableynx.com

FFBURARY

16th District 7-L Cabinet meeting— Arkadelphia

Western Sizzlin

Information: DG Don Draper, don.c.draper@suddenlink.net

MARCH

APRIL.

12 & 13 Mid-South Leadership Weekend — Mem-

phis, TN

26 & 27 Arkansas Lions State Convention —

Fayetteville

Information: CC Myrna McGee mcgee610@cox.net



DISTRICT 7-L NOTES

ARKADELPHIA / BENTON / BISMARCK / BRUANR / CAMDEN NOON / DEQUEEN / HATFIELD / HOPE / HOT SPRINGS / HS DIAMONHEAD / HS JESSE D. HAWKINS . HS OAKLAWN / HS SOUTH / HS VILLAGE BREAKFAST / HS VILLAGE EVENING / LEWISVILLE / LITTLE RIVER / LOCKENSBURG / MAGNET COVE ./ MAGNOLIA / MALVERN / MENA / MENA LIONESS / MINERAL SPRINGS / NASHVILLE / PRESCOTT / SARATOGA TRI COUNTY / TEXARKANA / TEXARKANA EVENING.



DISTRICT 7-I NOTES

ATKINS / BELLA VISTA / BENTONVILLE BREAKFAST / BERRYVILLE / BOONVILLE / CENTERTON / CLARKSVILLE / CONWAY EVENING / CONWAY NOON / DANVILLE / DARDANELLE / DOVER / ELKINS / FAYETTEVILLE / FORT SMITH NOON / GENTRY / GRAVETTE / GREEN FOREST / HARRISON / HUNTSVILLE / LAVACA / MORRILTON / MOUNTAIN HOME / MULBERRY / OZARK / PARIS / TEA RIDGE / PRAIRIE GROVE / ROGERS / RUSSELLVILLE / SILOAM SPRINGS / VAN BUREN / VILONIA ./ WHITE RIVER / YELLVILLE.

Annual Convention Held in Clarksville The district governor promised us a different convention this year, and that's what we got. It started Friday evening with hamburgers and bluegrass music and included guest appearances Saturday by Forrest Gump, Dolly Parton, Jane Fonda and Lilly Tomlin in skits about the Lions and Lion service organizations.

Our key-note presentation by International Director Ardie Klemish was about New Horizons in service. The director also spoke about women in the Lions, both key aspects of International President Gudrun Yngvadottir 's program.

Highway Signs in recognition of their legacy projects were given to the White River, Huntsville, Rogers, Elkins, Fayetteville, Mountain Home and Gravette Clubs.

The only business of the convention was election of officers for 2019-20. The District Governor Elect is Kevin Baskin, First Vice Dis-

trict Governor Elect is Jeff Davis and Second Vice District Governor Elect is Terry Carson. Lion Bill Mattler was

elected to serve a 3-year term on the LOAF Board.





Lion Brandon Sims as Forrest Gump.









at this years convention.

ID Ardie Klemish and husband PCC Ken were quests



Lion Jeff Davis reporting

Harrison: Club supports Hope Cottages Harrison Lions donated \$10,500 (\$10K Foundation &



\$500 club) to Hope Cottages which is being built with donations and plans to open in October. They will provide transitional housing for homeless mothers and their children. Pictured is Lion Lou Ann Sutton presenting the check to Roy Thomas and Shirley Smothers. This is the largest donation our club has ever made and going to help such a worthy cause.

The board members of Hope Cottages plan to provide eight cottages allowing families to live in a safe environment where there will be a strong support system to provide mentoring and life skills information.

MORE FROM DISTRICT 7-I

Fayetteville Serves Breakfast Lion Sydney Bailey, President Tammy Smith and Lion Andrew Aldridge are serving breakfast to contestants at the Bar-B-Q contest at the Fayetteville Bikes, Blues and Bar-B-Que event on Saturday, September 29.



Lion Rick Bailey reporting

Human Foosball Comes to Gravette It was over a year ago

that the Gravette Lions were challenged by a local business to Build a human foosball court for our communities' youth. The cost was shared by the business, the Lions Club and the Lions of Arkansas Foundation, LOAF. Six members, two volunteers (one with a tractor that drills post-holes) took 78 hours this spring to complete actual construction. The court was dedicated as part of the city's Independence Day celebration held in the same park.

Later this October will be the match-up of the year, the Gravette Lions v. the Gravette Kiwanis.



Lion Jeff Davis reporting

Rogers: War Eagle Run Raising Funds For The Friends of Hobbs State Park The Rogers



(Bottom Photo) Club member Fred Lookadoo is a regular volunteer. He helped cut timing chips off runners shoes as they crossed the finish line.

Lions Club has been around for over seventy years, and for twelve of those, they have benefited from the initiative and passion of its current President, Greg Lindley who, in 2006, helped organize the only trail run allowed at Hobbs State Park. Originally called the Hobbs Tail Twister, the first race including only one distance (ten miles), and welcomed just under 90 runners.

With the help of local businessman, Mike Rush, the race grew into the War Eagle Trail Running Festival it is today. As the years went on, they've increased runner numbers and the events available. Runners can now choose from 10k, 25k and 50k courses.

In early June of this year, 662 runners from 23 states convened on a warm summer day to test their mettle in what has been named by one running website as Best Trail Race in the Southern Region for the last four years. Not only does it attract runners from all over the country to get an up-close look at the beautiful views around Beaver Lake, but it also provides a nice bit of income for the club. For the last few years, the total donation split between Rogers Lions Club and Friends of

Hobbs State Park has hovered around \$13,000.

Organizers say the trails at Hobbs are perfect for both first-time trail racers and vets racing for time, because they are not too technical or steep. Ages of registrants this year ranged from nine to 74 years old.

For more information, check their website at http://www.wareagletrailraces.com/ or follow them on Facebook.



DISTRICT 7-0 NOTES

BALD KNOB / BEEBE / BLACK ROCK / BLYTHEVILLE / CALICO ROCK / CHEROKEE VILLAGE / CHERRY VALLEY / CORNING / FAIRFIELD BAY / HEBER SPRINGS / JONESBORD / JONESBORD NETTLETON / JONESBORD UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS / MANILA ./ MCCORY / MELBOURNE / NEWPORT / PARAGOULD / PIGGOTT / POCAHONTAS / RECTOR / SEARCY / SPRING RIVER TOWNSHIP / TRUMANN / WEINER / WEST MEMPHIS / WYNNE / GREEN COUNTY TECH (LEO) / MANILA (LEO) / PARAGON (LEO)

District Convention

Brad Barker, DG Elect

JONESBORO: On September 29, District Governor Pat Snodgrass opened the District 7-0 annual convention. After presentation of the colors and welcoming comments, many reports, presentations and workshops filled the day.

Dr. Shane Hunt, Professor of Marketing at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro was the guest speaker.

Lion Brad Baker has been elected District Governor for 2019-20. A district cabinet followed the convention.

A silent auction and 50-50 drawing were held with the proceeds going to the district' ALEART Trailer.

Lion Charles Hardwig reporting

Special thanks to Lion Norman Dickson of Dickson Photography for the use of these photos.













Clubs & Districts: Deadline to file your IRS 990 is November 15th!



DISTRICT 7-N NOTES

BRINKLEY / CABOT / CARLISLE / CLARENDON / CROSSETT / DES ARC / DEWITT / DUMAS / EL DORADO / ENGLAND / FORREST CITY / GRADY / GRAVEL RIDGE / HAMPTON / HELENA WEST HELENA / JACKSONVILLE / LITTLE ROCK FOUNDERS / LITTLE ROCK PULAKSI HEIGHTS / LITTLE ROCK SOUTH / LONOKE / MARIANNA / MAUMELLE / MCGEHEE / MONTICELLO / NORTH LITTLE ROCK / PERRYVILLE / PINE BLUFF DOWNTOWN / RISON / SHERIDAN / STUTTGART / SMACKOVER / WARREN / WHITE HALL NOON / DEWITT (LEO) / JACKSONVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL (LEO) / STUTTGART (LEO)

El Dorado: Bowling For Sight The Bowl-a-thon is a long-time tradition in El Dora-

do. Ms. Pat Qualls, founder of the S.I.G.H.T Team and Annual Bowl-a-thon Fundraiser, passed the event to the El Dorado Lions Club and this was our 3rd year hosting. It is now called The El Dorado Lions Bowling for Sight Fundraiser.

We are overwhelmed every year by the amount of support from local companies, clubs and individuals. This year we had over 95 bowlers and collected just over \$4,000 in donations. The monies raised will go back into the community helping the needs of the visually impaired.

Lions Carey Tucker and Emily McElroy reporting





Little Rock Founders Club: Guest Speeks on Challenges Facing The Blind

Adren Duncan is shown speaking to the Little Rock Founders Lions Club on September 12, 2018, about life management skills and the challenges people who are blind face in the workplace. Adren has been at the Department of Workforce Services for nine years and has been a Social Worker since 1972. He has been blind since birth.

Adren is active in Toastmasters and is a member of the Benton Lions Club. He and his wife Barbara have been married 40 years. Barbara Duncan worked in the Governor's Office at the State Capitol for 37 years for seven different governors.

Lion Kandy Cayce reporting





Top. Lion Adren Duncan speaking to the Founders Club on September 12. Bottom. Lion Arden and First Vice President Betsy Barnes.

MORE FROM DISTRICT 7-N

2018 Arkansas Lions District 7-N

Convention



Friday and Saturday,
November 2 & 3, 2018
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH,
BRINKLY



6:00 - 8:00 pm

Music By: Lion Cliff Preston

Casual attire



Saturday ActivitiesPresenting the State Projects

Brandon Sims as "Forrest Grump"



Saturday Special Keynote Speaker Past International Director, Kembra Smith

Director Smith is active in numerous professional and community organizations including the American Immigration Lawyers' Association, the American Bar Association's Appellate Judges Conference ("AJC"), Council of Appellate Lawyers and the Federal Bar Association.

All attendees to the District 7N Lions Club meeting in Brinkley on November 2nd and 3rd are asked to bring donations for pediatric cancer patients at Arkansas Children's hospital. The hospital has provided some suggestions of items they need. For teens- T-shirts or pjs (anything Razorback is especially liked!), colored pencils and adult coloring books, journals, earbuds/headphones • gift cards - Visa or MasterCard to spend as needed or cards for nearby restaurants, gas stations, Walmart or Target • activity books • popular character toys • Family Packs- a quart size bag filled with small toiletries and personal items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, body wash, shampoo/conditioner, lotion, deodorant, comb, small writing tablet, pens • All donations must be new and in original packaging. There will be a drop off box at the meeting. For more information contact District Pediatric Cancer Chairperson Marty Harper at martharper@bellsouth.net

MAKE PLANS *NOW* TO ATTEND THE

ARKANSAS LIONS'

2019 MID-WINTER FORUM



UA HOPE/TEXARKANA'S HEMPSTEAD HALL, HOPE, AR JANUARY 11 AND 12, 2019



PID GENE SPIESS

SATURDAY LUNCH SPEAKER, CONSTITUTION AREA 1 (USA, CANADA, AND BURMUDA),

GST LEADER GENE SPIESS

SESSIONS TO INCLUDE INFORMATION ABOUT DIABIETES AWARENESS, CHILDHOOD CANCER, HEAR PRESENTATIONS FROM YOUR AREA GAT LEADERS, LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MyLion APP, AND MUCH MORE

THIS PROMISES TO BE A MOST ENJOYABLE LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

NOTES AND NEWS FROM OUR SERVICE PARTNERS

World Services for the Blind request capital contributions The mission of World Services for the Blind is to



empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve sustainable independence. By offering life skills and career training programs in one location, WSB is the most comprehensive rehabilitation center for people who are blind or visually impaired. This approach allows students to receive services tailored specifically to their needs. From essential life skills that ensure an individual's ability to live independently, to technology based career-path programs designed to provide students with the knowledge and hands-on experience that will allow them to compete in today's high-tech jobs market, our programs put our students on the path to sustainable independence.

ABSTRACT

WSB has an immediate need for \$1.5 million to replace aging mechanical systems at its campus located at 2811 Fair Park Boulevard in Little Rock, Arkansas. A mechanical equipment engineering and energy savings assessment was conducted by Empirical Energy Solutions, LLC (EES) in spring 2018. EES performed a complete on-campus inspection of all systems, offered alternate system-replacement options, and obtained current cost bid estimates from Little Rock area contractors.

CHANGING LIVES

WSB was founded in Little Rock in 1947 through the initiative of several civic leaders and the statewide network of Lions Clubs. WSB's first major capital campaign in 1960 raised more than \$200,000 and assisted with the expansion and construction of the new building on the Fair Park campus. Most of the mechanical equipment that now needs replacement was installed at that time and WSB has maintained it for 50-plus years. Replacing the mechanical systems is the first essential step toward updating the facilities, equipment and campus.

Today, WSB has 42 residential students, eight online students and 60 youth program participants statewide. We also serve more than 200 older blind individuals to ensure they have the tools and techniques needed to age in place while dealing with a vision loss.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Independence means different things to different people. WSB's programs are designed to give clients the tools they need to lead the independent life they envision for themselves.

Life Skills: The Life Skills programs at WSB impact the lives of so many people who are blind or visually impaired, providing the tools necessary to reach each student's goal of independence. For a newly blinded person or someone who is slowly losing their sight, it is a way to learn "how to be blind." WSB supports all skill levels and will develop a program tailored to each student's needs.

Career Training: The unemployment rate among working-age blind adults is around 70 percent. WSB is committed to changing that through a tech-driven suite of Career Training programs. Students in Career Training programs may be new to the workforce, while others are seeking to completely change careers. Because WSB's programs are stackable—meaning they can easily be combined—students can customize their learning experience to fit their needs, whether the goal is a hands-on tech career, owning their own business or learning to teach others.

Youth Programs: WSB's recently expanded youth programs take a holistic approach to equipping a new generation with the tools they need to succeed both personally and professionally. Designed for students ages 14 to 22, the curriculum includes the College Prep Program, ACT Test Prep, Essential Work Place Skills Series and the Student Transition Youth Learning Experience Program.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The 2008 financial crisis dealt a devastating blow to WSB. As state governments cut their budgets—including support for vocational rehabilitation services and other related expenses for potential WSB students—so did businesses across the country, and charitable donations decreased significantly across the board. According to a joint study by The Russell Sage Foundation and The Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality (Reich, Rob & Wimer, Christopher. 2012. Charitable Giving and the Great Recession. Stanford, CA: Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality), the financial crisis and subsequent recession "reduced total giving by 7.0% in 2008 and by another 6.2% in 2009. Although giving increased slightly in 2010 (1.3%) and 2011 (0.9%), it still remains well below the 2007 level."

The financial crisis reduced WSB's client census and funding to a quarter of historic levels. WSB struggled for survival for the

WSB from previous page

next five years. However, since 2014 WSB's student census and finances have stabilized and are improving year by year. Over the past three years WSB has transformed its programs and services through the adoption of new technologies and renewed relationships with state rehabilitation agencies and Lions Clubs throughout the United States, as well as other business partners.

WSB: THE NEXT 3 TO 5 YEARS

WSB has proven adept at adjusting to a continuously changing environment. We have embraced improvements in technology, new methods for educating and training people who are blind, new models of partnering with organizations in hometown communities to provide comprehensive blindness skills and to deliver on-line career and vocational training.

WSB will strengthen and continue to grow capacities for the residential program at the Fair Park campus because many people suffering from the consequences of vision loss do not have access to quality programs and services in their hometowns. WSB will expand exponentially our online offerings and partnering with other programs nationwide to expand our revenue base. WSB will continue to focus on adult blind persons who can rejoin the workforce, while expanding direct services to school districts throughout Arkansas. Moreover, WSB will also continue to expand programs and services for youth with vision loss and older individuals who are blind.

CONCLUSION

WSB has a dynamic executive team in place for delivery of quality programs and services. WSB's operating profile continues to strengthen and improve, but operating revenues are not enough to finance major capital improvements, such as the facility mechanical systems at the Fair Park campus. Capital contributions mean the difference between long-term success and the possibility of eventually discontinuing services.

We know you have many opportunities to fund worthy charitable institutions, and we greatly appreciate your considering WSB. We invite you to take a guided tour of our campus, where you will meet our dedicated staff, our committed and connected teachers—many of whom are blind or visually impaired—and our students, who are so excited with the training they are receiving. When you visit WSB, you'll share in the thrill in knowing that your contribution will dramatically change lives in a wonderful way!

Lion Bob Williams reporting

WORLD SERVICES FOR THE BLIND
2811 Fair Park Blvd. • Little Rock, AR 72204 • 501-664-7100 • wsblind.org







The following Arkansas Lions Clubs are in which of one of the four districts in MD7 (Arkansas)?

- 1. Little River _____
- 2. Gravel Ridge _____
- 3. Des Arc _____
- 4. Wynne _____
- 5. Gentry _____
- 6. Perryville _____
- 7. White River
- 8. Magnet Cove _____
- 9. White Hall
- 10. Lewisville
- 11. Dover
- 12. Black Rock





