



## MD 7 Arkansas Lions

March/April 2015

Volume 1 Issue 6

### A View From The Chair

#### MD7 Council

**Lion Matt Webber**  
**PDG**  
**Council Chair**

**Lion Bob DeVinney**  
**District Governor (7-L)**

**Lion Phyliss Fry**  
**District Governor (7-I)**

**Lion Angela Smith**  
**District Governor (7-O)**

**Lion Cody Snider**  
**District Governor (7-N)**

**Lion Wanda Barnett,**  
**PDG**  
**Administrative**  
**Secretary**



David Avocado Wolfe

#### Learning From The Past & Each Other

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of another LION year. New officers have been elected, your Clubs will be completing projects & your donations will have been distributed. Now is the time to reflect on how your past year was & where you want your club to be. Was it successful? The same as it always is? Or down from years past?

When you hold your planning session for next year's events take this opportunity to evaluate what worked & what did not, as well as evaluate where your club wants to go.

Most Clubs have been very successful & are able to give back through service work and donations in their communities, as well as making donations to District, State and International. But there may be a few Clubs out there who struggle year to year & wonder why they are not growing and able to give as much as they would like.

If you are happy with how things are going, that is great; keep doing what you have been doing. If not, take the time to look at the projects you are doing to raise funds & who benefits from them. There are also resources available through Lions International to help with suggestions and ideas.

As a past Zone Chair & District Governor, who has attended numerous Conventions over many years, I like to visit with Lions from Clubs all over the District & the State to find out what their Clubs do & what works for them... and what does not.

The one thing in common for "struggling" Clubs is that they have members who do not like change. The most common phrase I hear, "This is how we have always done it, why change?"

Unfortunately, or fortunately, the world we live in today is changing quickly & we need to react and adjust how we do things to make them successful. This includes finding ways to appeal to the younger members to keep our Lion Clubs alive & fun.

Some great resources for your members are Zone Meetings, visiting other Lions Clubs and attending conventions to get ideas & compare notes. This may help make change happen faster within your own Lions Club, if it is proven that another Club has considered alternatives, already made the change(s) & it has worked for them.

One other option that you should consider: "Blueprint For A Stronger Club". (<http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/DA-STPBG.pdf>).

I know, I know....that's one of those hokey "self-assessment thingies, right? WRONG! The most effective Lions Clubs regularly identify ways to expand their humanitarian service impact, develop leaders, and meet Club members' needs & expectations.

. In short, they take care to ensure they continually bring value to the community & to Club members. Plus, it gives the members an opportunity to voice their goals & opinions. They feel like they are being heard. Give it a try!!

Thanks again for all you do, as LIONS!! As I always say, "If It's Meant To Be, It's Up To Me...and YOU."

***It's A Great Day To Be A LION!!!!***

Lion Matt Webber  
MD-7 CC

*"We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort." ~ Jesse Owens*

*"All who have accomplished great things have had a great aim, have fixed their gaze on a goal which was high, one which sometimes seemed impossible." ~ Orison Swett Marden*

*"If you want something you've never had, you must be willing to do something you've never done." ~ Thomas Jefferson*

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## **COMING EVENTS**

**June 5** - Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament  
Cherokee Valley Golf Course, Olive Branch, MS

**June 26-30** - 98th Annual Lions Clubs International  
Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii

**July 1** - New Lions Year Begins - Congratulations to all  
Officers for the coming Year!!

**July 7-8** - Quest Workshop  
Cherokee Fork Baptist Church, Hot Springs, AR

## **MD 7 District Conventions**

**District 7-L** – October 30-31 - Texarkana

**District 7-I** - September 25-26 - Mt. Home

**District 7-O** - October 23-24 Heber Springs

**District 7-N** - November 6-7 - North Little Rock

# GLIMPSES OF MD 7 CONVENTION



# AWARDS AT MD 7 CONVENTION

## LCI Presidential Certificates of Appreciation



Lindsay Elliott  
Bill Bounds  
Libby Davenport  
Penny Lynch



## LCI Presidential Leadership Medal

John Payne

Don Ellis



## LCI Presidential Medals



John Collier  
Jim Mashburn



## MD 7 Awards

### PIP Ed Barry Award

Glenna Butler



### PID Jim Fowler Award

Jim Mashburn

### PCC John Barnett Award

Ken Swanson





The Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament is only a few weeks away. On Friday, June 5 we'll tee it up at the one of the best courses in the Memphis area-Cherokee Valley Golf Course in Olive Branch, MS, to help raise money to help the sight and hearing impaired. The course is only a couple of miles south of Memphis just off U.S. Hwy 78 and Goodman Road.

We have some good sponsors for the event so far, and will be featured on area Comcast cable channels, as well as WHBQ radio to get us some good publicity...for the tournament and for Mid-South.

We need your help to make this a most successful event. As you already know, finances are very difficult during the summer months as Lions Clubs mostly do not have many fund raising events. Our Freedom From Blindness event has been very successful in helping us to maintain a positive budget during the summer, but we really need the golf tournament to help us sustain surgeries during the summer.

The golf tournament brochure is attached for your use. Please distribute it to as many golf locations as possible in your area. And if you believe it's just too far to come to play in our event, how about sponsoring a hole or one of the events listed in the brochure. This should be funds that are above and beyond your normal budget for Mid-South.

Maybe some of your members would enjoy a trip to Memphis to play in the tournament (Hot Springs Village Evening Lions Club members have already entered a team, and they're over 200 miles away), or volunteer to help with the tournament, and maybe even attend the annual membership meeting on Saturday, June 6.

Please consider helping support our summer efforts to provide sight and hearing to those in need by getting involved in our golf tournament. And if your club can't do a Freedom From Blindness special fund raiser, you can help us with our special fund raiser. t the Hamilton Eye Institute. There are a lot of ways to make a great weekend while visiting the Memphis area.

Thanks for your continued support

Together in Service

Brad Baker  
CEO  
Mid-South Lions



Join us to play a great golf course with friends and/or clients while helping the Lions provide sight and hearing to those in need.

Check [www.midsouthlions.org](http://www.midsouthlions.org) to see some of our "Miracles"

Cherokee Valley Golf Course  
6635 Crumpler Blvd  
Olive Branch, MS  
901-525-4653



MID-SOUTH LIONS  
SIGHT AND HEARING SERVICE, INC.  
A 501c3 NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
FED ID#62-0632682

930 MADISON AVE SUITE 101  
MEMPHIS, TN 38103  
901-543-5466  
888-546-6042  
[www.midsouthlions.org](http://www.midsouthlions.org)  
SCAN THE QRT CODE TO ENTER ONLINE



## 2015 MID-SOUTH LIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Proceeds benefit the sight and hearing impaired  
CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED



### Ware Properties

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2015  
REGISTRATION & LUNCH 11 AM  
TEE TIME 1 PM

### FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE



Our four-person charity golf tournament will be played in scramble format.

Men's; Ladies; and Senior (over age 60) Tees will be played.

Cash Prizes will be awarded for top three (3) teams in each flight. Number of flights will be determined by number of entries.



### SPONSOR AND TEAM OPPORTUNITIES

**MAJOR SPONSOR—\$2,500**  
TWO (2) Teams entries plus company name/logo in all media advertising plus Banner signage. Featured logo on [www.midsouthlions.org](http://www.midsouthlions.org) website and all amenities listed below

**EVENT SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES—\$1,000**

**HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZES**    **HOLE PRIZES**  
**TOURNAMENT SHIRTS**    **EVENT PRIZES**  
**PUTTING CONTEST**    **LUNCH**  
Team entry plus full page ad in event program and day-of-event recognition, signage (3), goody bag opportunities, recognition plaque

**FACILITIES SPONSOR—\$500**  
**DRIVING RANGE**  
**PRACTICE PUTTING GREEN**  
**BEVERAGE CART**    **SNACKS**  
One-half page ad in event program and day-of-event recognition, signage (2), goody bag opportunities, recognition certificate,

**TEE AND/OR GREEN SPONSOR—\$150**  
Listing in event program, signage (1) on tee or green, goody bag opportunity

**TEAM SPONSOR—\$700**  
Includes team entry and tee/green sponsor

**TEAM ENTRY FEE—\$600**

TEAM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM MEMBERS                      EMAIL ADDRESSES

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### SPONSOR INFORMATION

SPONSOR LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON SIGN \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD NUMBER or CHECK ENCLOSED

\_\_\_\_\_

EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

SEND COMPLETED FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:  
MID-SOUTH LIONS

930 MADISON AVE                      Phone: 901-543-5466  
SUITE 101                                      Fax: 901-543-5464  
MEMPHIS, TN 38103                      E-mail: [midsouthlions@msnl](mailto:midsouthlions@msnl)

Engage Students with Social and Emotional Skills



# Lions Quest

Professional Development Workshop K-12

July 7 - 8, 2015 | 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Center Fork Baptist Church • 1101 South Moore Road, Hot Springs, Arkansas

Lions Quest is a K-12 comprehensive social and emotional learning (SEL) youth development program that promotes character education, bullying prevention, drug awareness, and service-learning. Lions Quest is research and evidence based with proven results featuring flexible implementation models, educational strategies, a strong parent component, and links the home, school, and community in promoting the development of healthy and responsible young people.

## Skills for Growing (SFG) K-5

SFG capitalizes on the enormous potential of children and directs their creative energies into becoming capable and healthy young people with a sense of direction, solid skills, and a strong commitment to their families, schools and communities.

## Skills for Adolescence (SFA) 6-8

SFA helps middle school youth, parents and teachers cope with the physical, emotional and social challenges of the early adolescent years. The program builds important competencies by promoting positive social attitudes, respect and responsibility, while using service as a strong prevention tool.

### 4 AVAILABLE WORKSHOP TRACKS

## Skills for Adolescence for Out-of-School-Time (SFA for OST) 6-8

Adapted from Lions Quest's highly-rated middle school curriculum, SFA for OST provides staff with a positive youth development program that meets the unique demands of out-of-school time settings.

## Skills for Action (SFC) 9-12

The SFC development of personal, social, and thinking skills, combined with service learning, helps young people gain school-to-work competencies, improve self-confidence, build resilience, maintain commitment to school, and promote social and cultural understanding.

## Workshop Goals:

Become  
Lions Quest  
Certified!

- To examine ways a classroom and school-wide learning community can support the development of capable, healthy, young people of strong character.
- To learn how Lions Quest programs address the key elements of positive youth development and prevention, including the integration of social and emotional learning, character development, and service-learning.
- To understand and experience program components and materials.
- To explore the implementation possibilities for the classroom and school-wide learning community.



Registration fee: \$40

Includes workshop sessions, curriculum kit, workshop materials and lunch.

Sponsored in part by the generosity of Arkansas Lions

Register online at

[www.lions-quest.org](http://www.lions-quest.org)

or call 1-800-446-2700

Questions?

Email [lions-quest@lionsclubs.org](mailto:lions-quest@lionsclubs.org)



# GRAVEL RIDGE LIONS CLUB

Indoor Activity Room for the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

## THE LIONS DEN

A sixth grade student from Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Brandon Sims, told his Aunt (Lion Wanda) and Uncle (Lion John Barnett) that they needed a inside playroom on days with inclement weather and after school. Brandon asked the Gravel Ridge Lions Club, on March 14, 2010 to help with the Activity Room. He asked for two Wii's, Wii games, two TV's, a talking globe, and other inside games. The Gravel Ridge Lions Club accepted the challenge to sponsor this service project.

This will enable the children to have activities when the weather is bad, and also something to help fill their time with meaningful activities during the evenings when they are not studying. Many of the children who attend are from throughout the state of Arkansas, and reside in a dormitory type atmosphere. This will allow them to have activities related to what they would do at home, with an atmosphere similar to their own home.

Arkansas Lions Clubs donated/pledged funds and labor for this project. In October of 1939, Helen Keller appeared as keynote speaker at the dedication of the new State School for the Blind on Markham Street. This parallels the history of the Lions, and the general feeling was that we should support this project.

A matching grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation was obtained. Among the sponsors are Sims Waterproofing, Todd Underwood Construction, Best Buy and other corporations. Arkansas Lions have committed labor to help in the installation of this Activity Room.

This Indoor Activity Room will serve children throughout Arkansas who attend the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The School offers statewide quality educational programs and resources to students who are blind or visually impaired, birth through twenty-one years. This enables them to become productive, self-sufficient citizens through the involvement of all students, staff, parents and the community.

Throughout the entire process we had two paramount themes. "*We can do this*" and "*Make dreams come true for the children.*" Thanks to all of the people who helped, we were able to make it happen. This project was completed December 2011.

### Vandalized ~ Lions' Den ~ March 2015

The Lions Den was broken into around 2:30 am March, 2015. The intruder destroyed the two 60" TV and wall mounts, X box Bundle with controls, Nintendo Wii Bundle with/controls, video games and power cords.

**The Arkansas Past District Governor's Association made a generous gifts of \$400.00 to replace the Nintendo – Wii Bundle at the meeting held April 18, 2015 in conjunction with the Arkansas Lions State Convention.**

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to present our proposal for refurbishing the indoor Activity room for the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Our proposal is that we would like to have sponsors to help defray costs of replacing the equipment for the Game Room.

With your help we will continue to assist those who are less fortunate.

I hope you will give our request consideration.

On behalf of the children, we would like to thank you for your donation. ABSVI is grateful for your support. You are a part of their lives, too.

Sincerely,  
Wanda Barnett  
Project Coordinator





## CANINE VILLAGES

Now ↑

*Coming Soon!* ↓

Previously known as “kennels”, the new “Canine Villages” will be spacious, open enrichment areas to ensure our dogs get ample stimulation and human interaction with less kennel stress.



**Greetings from Leader Dogs for the Blind in frosty Rochester Hills, Michigan:**

**We are delighted to announce that the Magnolia Lions Club has become the first Lead Club in MD7, for our Canine Development Center. With their generous pledge, they will have the opportunity of naming one of our new Canine Suites pictured in the attached village rendering. The 5x8x6 suites will accommodate up to three dogs, a vast improvement over the current 4x4x4 cages. In addition to the naming opportunity, they will be recognized on the Partner in Empowerment Donor Wall in the Canine Development Center.**

**Mike Dengate**



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**

On behalf of those who do not have a voice, I am asking for your help.  
Every hour of every day.

Lion members are meeting local community needs. Lions are providing students with glasses, distributing food or basic necessities following a disaster or ensuring measles vaccinations are available for children where no healthcare system currently exists. Every hour of every day, this is happening across the world through service of Lions—and I'm asking you and your club to make a difference.

-  
With three months remaining in the fiscal year, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) may not reach the established annual financial target. The target is based on projected grant requests from Lions for the coming year, leaving community needs unmet and service opportunities unfulfilled.

Lions, we cannot let this happen.

I am asking you and your club to consider making a donation to LCIF in the next three months. Consider making a gift to the Lions Measles Initiative during the month of April in recognition of World Immunization week. Bridge the gap between the US\$3.8 million raised in 2014-2015 toward our annual commitment of US\$7.5 million. Or consider making an unrestricted gift, allowing LCIF to support worthy Lions community service projects without needing to scale back due to funding limitations.

Each year, Lions are called upon to do more. LCIF has always been there to support the work of Lions. Your support and that of 46,000 other clubs around the world make that possible. Consider a donation in the next three months and help put LCIF in a position to support the service of Lions.  
Will you help a child live? Help us to help the children.

Sincerely,

Barry J. Palmer

Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

# Lions Respond to Nepal Earthquake



**Mena Lioness Club Presents Check for the Backpack Program they support. Lioness President Holly Henry is presenting the check.**



## **ARKANSAS INFORMATION READING SERVICES FOR THE BLIND AND NFB NEWSLINE--A Well Kept Secret**

### **THE BEGINNING AND EARLY DAYS OF READING SERVICES FOR THE BLIND**

On March 16, 1981, the first broadcast of the Arkansas Radio Reading Services for the Blind hit the airwaves. Looking back, I don't remember the actual date, but certainly do remember the event. It was the first time that many of us who are blind or visually impaired in Arkansas, actually had an opportunity to read the daily newspaper from cover to cover. Before that, we had to rely on friends or family and that usually meant that they read to you, pretty much, what they were interested in.

In 1981, there were just a few reading services operating in the country and no service like this in Arkansas. The first studio was housed in the Guy Smith Vocational Building on the Arkansas School for the Blind campus and remained there until 2001. The broadcast originated on a sub carrier signal from Little Rock radio station KLRE. Patrons were provided with a special analog receiver and the coverage area was primarily central Arkansas. The daily broadcasts consisted of a reading of the Arkansas Gazette, selections from the Arkansas Times and other magazines and the weekly grocery ads. The paper was read first thing in the morning and replayed in the afternoon and evenings to accommodate as many listeners as possible. Over time, a telephone reader was added which made it possible for blind Arkansans to dial in and make selections listening to specific portions of the paper, and other informational announcements, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and statewide. For twenty-seven years the voice of the Arkansas Radio Reading Service was Mr. Randy Johnson. There was Randy, a part-time assistant and lots of volunteers. However, what you may not know is that there were a lot of people and cooperating agencies and organizations that helped way back then to make Arkansas's Reading Service a reality. Those included members of the Arkansas Council of the Blind and National Federation of the Blind, Jim Hudson of the Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Jim Avance from the Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind, Cleotta Mullens long time director of the Library for the Blind, Max Woolley Superintendent of the Arkansas School for the Blind and Roy Kumpe and Jim Cordell from the Arkansas Enterprises for the Blind. Roy Kumpe, Jim Cordell, Max Woolley, Dick Seifert and Bill Tomlin were all members of Little Rock Lions clubs who played major roles in promoting the Reading Service and along with Mary Ann Tomlin and Searcy Ewell, were responsible for raising match funds to secure the initial and ongoing grant funds and even writing the original grant proposal. These Lions club members were instrumental in beginning a valuable service here in Arkansas that has now been in existence for over thirty-four years and which has grown from volunteers reading daily newspapers and articles of interest over the radio to a multi faceted informational service which blends broadcasts and audio streaming with telephone, internet, IOS and downloadable options.

### **AETN EXPANDED THE REACH OF READING SERVICES FOR THE BLIND**

In 2001, the Arkansas Radio Reading Service for the Blind was approached by AETN, the Arkansas Educational Television Network and invited to use their SAP channel to carry their broadcasts. This significantly expanded the coverage area and made it possible for people in many areas of the state to pick up the broadcasts which by then, had expanded their content to include programming from several other Radio Reading Services throughout the U.S. Things rocked along pretty well then until the conversion of television programming from an analog to a digital signal. The broadcasts are still carried by AETN on one of their broadcast bands and can be picked up using a digital antenna. However, the reticence of satellite and cable providers to add the service has been a significant problem. Shawn Smith, AIRS Program Director since 2008, and the advisory board, have been working on that hurdle and continue to develop new options, services and strategies to move forward with the advances in technology.

### **CURRENT ACCESS METHODS FOR READING SERVICES FOR THE BLIND**

(AIRS Broadcasts) "Arkansas Information Reading Services for the blind provides audio access to current print media for people who cannot read because of a disability. AIRS Radio broadcasts

statewide on a digital subcarrier of AETN 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. AIRS can also be heard around the globe on an internet web stream. To listen go to: [www.airs.aetn.org](http://www.airs.aetn.org).

We provide readings of articles from popular publications of wide interest. Our schedule includes programs about career development, health, money, cooking, sports, politics, and pets. From comic strips to obituaries, TV listings to weather, fiction and non-fiction, fully-narrated dramatic presentations, programs for kids, teens, men, women, families and seniors.

There's something for everyone.

**AIRS Radio** can be picked up on any Arkansas TV with an antenna by tuning to AETN's DT4. The channels are 2-4 in Little Rock, 6-4 in Mountain View, 9-4 in Arkadelphia, 12-4 in El Dorado, 13-4 in Fayetteville and 19-4 in Jonesboro. These are over-the-air channels. If you have cable TV service, check with your cable company to see on what channel AIRS is carried. We distribute our signal to cable companies for free, but each local cable company chooses if and how to use it **(AIRS Plus)**"AIRS Plus is our new telephone service that allows you to hear many of the programs, readings and publications on demand over your telephone. Put your telephone on speaker or hook up the earbuds to your smart phone, and call toll free (844) 888-0981 (this number is for callers only in Arkansas."

#### THE ADVENT OF NFB NEWSLINE.

(NFB Newsline) "Would you like a newspaper with your morning cup of coffee? NFB-NEWSLINE® is well over 300 publications AND it's still growing. Four Spanish-language newspapers are available to all subscribers. The service handles thousands of phone calls each day for individuals across the country who now access daily newspapers and magazines as never before. The toll-free centralized call-in center provides service on demand to any subscriber. This also enables those who cannot read conventional print to have access to all content offered on NFB-NEWSLINE® when traveling throughout the United States twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week."

NFB Newsline has been available in Arkansas for just over five years. The service has been developed by the National Federation of the Blind and is sponsored in each state: in Arkansas, that is through the support of the Division of Services for the Blind and its director, Katy Morris. Like the earlier versions of the Telephone Reader, Newsline began as a way to read newspapers over the telephone. It has, however, grown over the years to include over three-hundred publications including: U.S. and international newspapers and magazines, four Spanish language publications, updates from the AP, CNN and the BBC, television listings and comprehensive weather information and alerts. New publications and services are added all of the time. Newsline can be accessed via telephone, on-line, as a daily download to a Victor Stream Reader or other similar device, as a daily email or by using an app on an iPhone or iPad. Users can set up favorites and quickly browse through content and even have items or articles emailed to them to refer to later. Applicants can contact AIRS to apply for Newsline service or go on-line to [www.nfbnewsline.org](http://www.nfbnewsline.org) to apply or to find additional information and tutorials.

#### LIONS CLUBS ARE CRITICAL IN SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT READING SERVICES FOR THE BLIND

The members of the Friends of the Arkansas Information Reading Service for the Blind, (FAIRS), advisory board and the Program Director, Shawn Smith, wanted you to know more about the wide range of services that the program offers today. The services are provided at no cost to blind and visually impaired Arkansans. However, they are being under-used. We need your help to spread the word about this very valuable service. We need all of you to share this information widely in your local communities, in your local Lions Clubs, cable TV companies, other civic organizations and churches, etc. We need you to help us reach out to the people who can benefit from any or all of these services.

By: Donna Walker

(Friends of Arkansas Information Reading Services for the Blind)

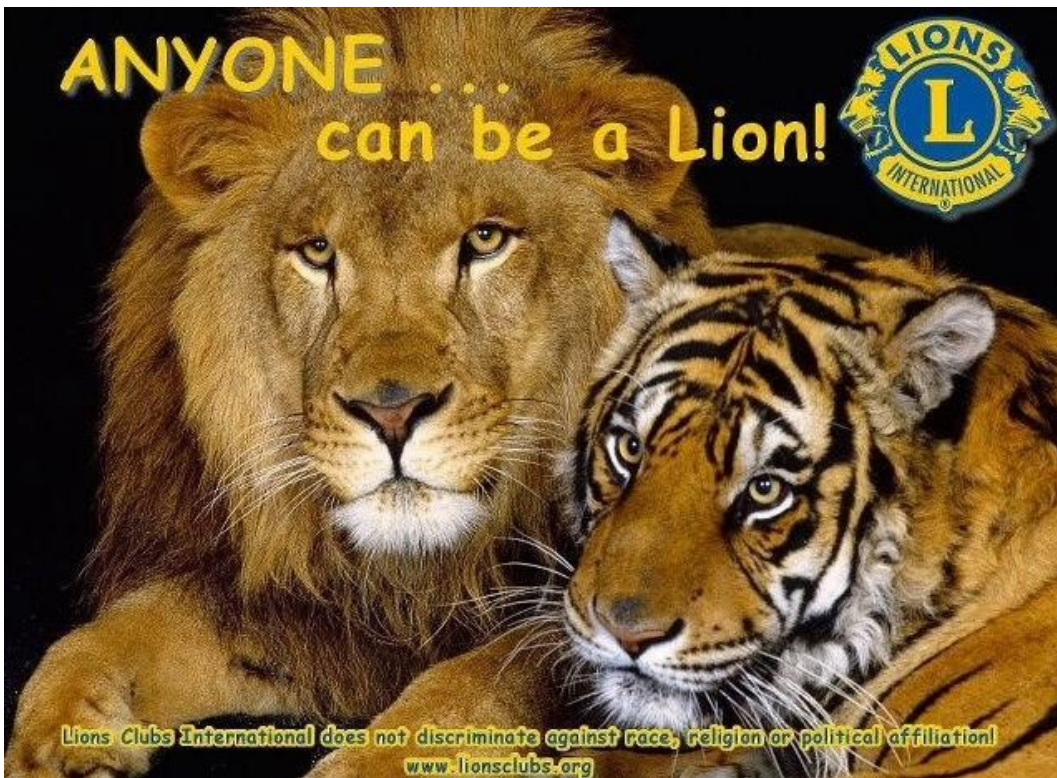
For more information about all of our services, Arkansans can call (501) 852-5125 or (800) 645-8125

**Congratulations and  
thank you Lions,  
for busting the  
1.4 million  
membership  
milestone!**

**Three simple concepts that work.**



**ANYONE ...  
can be a Lion!**



Lions Clubs International does not discriminate against race, religion or political affiliation!  
[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)