



MD 7 Arkansas Lions

May/June 2014

Volume 2 Issue 11

Notes from the Council Chair's Desk

My year as your Council Chairperson has been a busy year and there have been many accomplishment in the state this year.

Due to the hard work of District Governors and their teams and State Chairpersons.

The Districts will have established (5) new clubs by the end of June.

The Alert Fund was establish for the assistance of people where less than one hundred people are effected by a disaster this was due to the vision and perseverance of our State Alert Chairperson Lion Don Ellis.

Our State Alert Chairperson, Lion Don Ellis and the Conway Lions Club did an outstanding job helping in the relief effort for the Mayflower and Vilonia tornado disaster. What wonderful Lions we have in Arkansas.

I want to thank our District Governors for their hard work and the support they gave me during this Lions year. I know they have left a legacy for their District Governors-Elects to carry forward.

I want to thank our State Secretary Lion Wanda Barnett for her keeping me informed, educating me, and for all of the work she does for the Lions of Arkansas.

I want to thank our newsletter editor Lion Myrna McGee. She is talented, computer savvy, and has put in a lot of time to producing a newsletter is informative and enjoyable to read.

Last but definitely not least, I want to thank the Lion of Arkansas for the support they give to their communities, districts and state.

I wish for Lion Matt Webber, CC-E a successful year with many new members.

I'm not known for quoting verses from the Bible, but my minister introduced the congregation to this verse and I felt that it really explained the Lion Code of Ethics. I quote:

“Summing up: Be agreeable, be sympathetic, be loving, be compassionate, be humble. That goes for all of you, no exceptions. No retaliation. No sharp tongued sarcasm. Instead, bless ~ that’s your job, to bless. You’ll be a blessing and also get a blessing”

1 Peter 3:8-9

Lion Ken Swanson
Council Chair

MD7 Council

Lion Ken Swanson
PDG
Council Chair

Lion James Griffith
District Governor (7-L)

Lion Becky Callaway
District Governor (7-I)

Lion Norm Moyer
District Governor (7-O)

Lion Matt Webber
District Governor (7-N)

Lion Wanda Barnett,
PDG
Administrative
Secretary



NOTICE TO CLUB SECRETARIES

**As of July 2014 the State dues will increase by
\$1.00 per member semi-annually. (\$2.00 per year)**

**This was approved at the State Convention in Harrison
on April 26, 2014.**



Hunger Hero Spotlight

"LET'S STOP HUNGER BEFORE IT STOPS LAUGHTER AND LEARNING" IS THE MOTTO BEHIND THE MENA LIONESS LIONS CLUB AND THE COMMUNITY OF POLK COUNTY'S QUEST TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FOOD FOR KIDS PROGRAMS. WE ARE

ALL PASSIONATE ABOUT FEEDING OUR CHILDREN IN NEED. OUR QUEST BEGAN YEARS AGO THROUGH CASH OR FOOD DONATIONS TO FEED THESE CHILDREN. DURING THE MENA LIONESS LIONS CLUB'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER WE TOOK A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO RAISE MONEY FOR THIS PROGRAM.

WE SHARED THE STORY BEHIND THE NEEDS OF OUR CHILDREN AND PASSED AROUND A BACKPACK FOR DONATIONS. IN LESS THAN TEN MINUTES WE WERE BLESSED WITH \$800 IN DONATIONS? AND SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT MOST IN ATTENDANCE WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE FOOD FOR KIDS PROGRAM.

OUR NEXT CALLING WAS TO FIND A MORE EFFICIENT, COST EFFECTIVE APPROACH TO FEEDING OUR CHILDREN AND WE BEGAN OUR SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVES TO PURCHASING RETAIL PRICED FOOD ITEMS. WE DID NOT HAVE TO LOOK FAR. WE QUICKLY FOUND THE ADOPT A SCHOOL PROGRAM ON ARKANSAS RICE DEPOT'S WEBSITE AND INVITED BRANDI JOHNSTON TO SPEAK AT THE MENA LIONESS LIONS CLUB'S NEXT MEETING. WE ALSO INVITED KEY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. EVERYONE WAS MOVED TO TEARS BY BRANDI'S PRESENTATION AND WE QUICKLY ASSEMBLED A MEETING OF COMMUNITY BUSINESS OWNERS, CHURCHES AND CITIZENS. AT THE MEETING,

THE MENA LIONESS LIONS CLUB OBTAINED COMPLETE SUPPORT TO ORGANIZE A COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY EFFORT TO ADOPT ALL POLK COUNTY SCHOOLS. THE FUNDS ARE COLLECTIVELY RAISED AND THEN SENT TO ARKANSAS RICE DEPOT TO THE ADOPT A SCHOOL PROGRAM.

OUR GOAL WAS TO RAISE \$12,000 AND SPONSOR ALL POLK COUNTY SCHOOLS. THE OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT WAS IMMEDIATE; WITHIN THREE DAYS WE HAD ONE SCHOOL ADOPTED AND IN LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS WE ACHIEVED OUR GOAL. WE ARE PROUD TO BE INSTRUMENTAL IN SEEKING SENSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO FEEDING OUR CHILDREN. OUR SUCCESS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN REALIZED WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY! WE WERE SIMPLY THE FACILITATORS.

WE BELIEVE THAT IT TRULY TAKES A VILLAGE!

Written By: Patty Young, Past President Mena Lioness

Dates for District Conventions and MD meetings

September 26-27 – District 7-O Convention in Heber Springs

October 17-18 - District 7-I Convention in Conway

October 31-Nov 1 - District 7-L Convention in Hot Springs

November 21-22 - District 7-N Convention in Carlisle

February 16-17 - MD 7 Midwinter Forum in Hope



A Program of Lions
Clubs International
Foundation

PLEASE SHARE WITH EDUCATORS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

On August 5-6, 2014 Arkansas Lions will be hosting a two-day Lions Quest Professional Development Workshop for Arkansas educators.

What is Lions Quest? It 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.

Upon the completion of the two-day professional workshop, attendees will receive the highly rated Lions Quest curriculum materials and be prepared to effectively implement the program in their schools. Due to the Lions enthusiastic support for these programs, the cost of attending this training is only \$40 dollars per person (a \$250 value).

This is a tremendous opportunity for your district/school to receive high-quality training for the staff, address critical issues with your students, involve the community, and have a positive, long-lasting impact on all three. The Lions of Arkansas and the Lions in your area are eager to support these programs and assist you in bringing them to your school. Please see the workshop flyer attached for more details about the 4 different workshop tracker offered.

The Arkansas Lions look forward to the prospect of partnering with you to bring social emotional learning, character education, and drug abuse /violence prevention to your students through the implementation of Lions Quest programs. If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me. We are also open to meeting with your colleagues in person to discuss Lions Quest further. If you are interested in registering, please visit our website at www.lions-quest.org or call 1-800-446-2700.

Lion Presidents and Secretaries

You should have received from your District Governors and or Zone Chairs, sample letters to send to educators—if you did not receive them, please contact me—mmcgee610@cox.net, 7-I GLT-D, or your District Governor.



How Bad Do We Want It?

(From Alabama Lions)

Over 46,000 Lions Clubs meet around the world. Each club has its own personality; vision for improving its community; and level of participation within our association. Some clubs meet and eat, visit and adjourn. Yes they wear the LION pin and represent each of us in their

community. Some clubs meet and present checks to numerous charitable causes. Yes, those checks cry the LIONS Logo. Some Clubs meet and have active hands-on projects which improve the community. Yes, they too proudly display the LIONS spirit.

If you have seen your grandmother struggle trying to read food labels because cataracts are slowly stealing her sight, you more than ever want to find a way to provide low-cost surgical options to remove cataracts and restore sight to our aging population.

If you have sat in front of a doctor, wearing a white lab coat, and heard the diagnosis that your child has Diabetes, you more than ever want to find a cure for this dreaded disease.

If you have witnessed a child, suffering from hunger pains, running to receive a free breakfast before school, you more than ever want to find a way to help feed the needy children in your community.

If you have had that emotional moment, when you realize that you are a truly blessed person and God has placed you here for a purpose, you more than ever want to share your gifts with those who are less fortunate.

How bad do you want to see low-cost cataract surgeries performed in your community; find the cure of Diabetes; feed the hungry; share your gifts?

Unless we look deep within our very being and realize that we have a unique gift, a unique talent, we may never reach our potential.

Today, this very day, will you commit to one hour per day to work with the LIONS in your community?

Let our passions be seen by others.

Passion is contagious.

