

January 15, 2024



Lions Club – District 26 M-1

Quote

“Changing the world is a journey. There's no middle and no end.”

Dr. Patti Hill
International President

District 26 M-1 Newsletter

Welcome to a new year and the second half of the Lion year. I hope your year is getting off to a great start.

For starters, I would like to recap the last 6 months and then share the goals for the next six months. My plan is to keep you apprised of the progress we are making on a monthly basis. Of course, the Lion year started off with the International Convention in Boston, but I've already talked about that in my last writing.

In August, Poplar Bluff was the first club visit to induct 5 new members. Great start thanks to PDG Lion Larry Kimbrow. The first District Cabinet meeting was in Waynesville/ St. Roberts thanks to the efforts of 1st Vice District Governor Wendy Williams and her helpers. They did an outstanding job.

September's events include installing officers in the Charleston Club, a delightful group of Lions, and attending Cape Evening's 3rd annual Corn hole competition. Trying to get three bags in the hole while wearing "cokebottle" glasses is extremely challenging.

October: Malden had their 25th annual golf tournament with Lion Brad Baker and the Mid-South Lions team taking first place with a score of 56. It was a fun tournament. We had to miss Charleston's annual ham and bean dinner. The month closed with going back to Poplar Bluff to award #9 Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards (out of 10 given) to PDG Lion Larry Kimbrow.

November: The month started with the district-wide challenge from Lion Allen Taylor for Steps for Life Diabetes Awareness project. Seven clubs from our district participated and one club from M-4. Cape Evening Club won the trophy for the most steps. This challenge encouraged Lion Lisa Clinton to set a goal to walk 3000 steps which she accomplished. Poplar Bluff had their annual chili day on election day. 1st Vice District Governor Wendy worked with them for the day. 1st WDG Wendy made arrangements for PDG Jerry and I to meet with the Fort LeonardWood Club and 4 others. She also gave us a tour of the post and the Military Museum. WOW! What an experience! And the 2nd District Cabinet was hosted by the West Plains Lions Club at the Holiday Inn Express. The Club and the hotel staff did an excellent job. I believe PDG Lion Reta Reed had a hand in the planning and execution of the event.

December: The month started with the Houston Lions Club hosting an appreciation luncheon for PDG Lion Don Shelhammer who was having a great day. PDG Lion Rodney McConnel and I had the privilege of attending. Then later in the month Senath and Kennett hosted the vintage movie night as a joint funder. This year the movie was Meet Me In St.. Louis.

Peace Poster: Several clubs participated, and the posters were excellent. Unfortunately, there can be only one winner who was Kaylyn Redecker from Farmington. Her poster was forwarded on the Council Chair Harold Spire for the state contest.

Kudos to the following clubs for working for the 1.5 Challenge of new members:

Cape Noon: 7 East Perry County: 1 East Prairie: 4 Essex-Gray Ridge: 2 Farmington: 5

Fort Leonard Wood: 1 Malden: 1 Park Hills: 2 Patton: 2 NW T C : 2 Poplar Bluff: 6

Rolla: 7 Ste. Genevieve: 2 Senath: 1 Williamsville: 2 Willow Springs: 1 Total: 46

Again, good job.

Good news from LCI: We have 70% of our clubs reporting service. You're doing great!!

Goals for the rest of the Lion Year:

- Keep adding new members and orienting them to service projects, give them tasks to do to keep them excited.
- Maintain clubs and current members.
- Keep reporting service.
- Report training of club officers and zone chairs on Insights.
- LCI wants us to establish one new club. I'm soliciting your help to find an area for a new club and help get it established.

The district is investigating the idea of having our own Alert trailer. Please, give us your feedback or ask any questions. (All Lion emergency response team).

I am so proud to be part of District 26 M-1. I hope you are, also. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or whatever, please, contact me by phone 573-276-8091, or by email: mdreaves63@gmail.com. Thanks.

In Memory:

On another note, we want to offer our sympathy to the following clubs in the passing of valued members (these are the ones I know about):

Charleston in the passing of PDG Lion Dennis Quetermous

Farmington in the passing of Lion Linda James

Park Hills in the passing of Lion David Hughes

Rolla in the passing of Lions Kennard Knox and Gordon Pol

Senath in the passing of Lion Phyllis Jackson

Williamsville in the passing of Lions Helen Curtis, James Faries, and Ruby Smith,

Lion Marilyn Reaves, District Governor 26 M-1, in Lion hearted service.

Speaker of the District 26-M1 Convention

RON KELLER INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR



Ron Keller from Millersport, Ohio, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 104th International Convention, June 24 through June 28, 2022.

Director Keller has more than 35 experience as a government administrator and event coordinator. He is currently retired. He last served as Cultural Arts and Events Manager for the City of Columbus where he managed city staff, drafted city legislation, oversaw purchasing of equipment and supplies for events, and served as a liaison to civic and community leaders in Columbus' urban neighborhoods. One of his most notable projects was redesigning a public subsidy mechanism to make it easier for minority nonprofits to apply and receive city services within their neighborhoods.

He joined the Millersport Lions Club in 1979 with a desire to help better this small, rural community. Since then he has held a number of offices within the association including GST coordinator, multiple district council chairperson, US/Canada Lions Leadership Forum host chairperson and Lions centennial celebration coordinator. He was a member of the Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank Operating Board and since 1990, he has served as general chairman for the Millersport Lions' Sweet Corn Festival.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including multiple International President's Awards, International President's Certificates of Appreciation and an International President's Leadership Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Director Keller is active in numerous professional and community organizations. He is a past president of the Walnut Township Board of Education and Millersport Board of Public Affairs. Additionally, He has been a board member of the Ohio Festivals & Events Association and the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Amusement Ride Safety Board.

Director Keller and his spouse, Kitty Lea Keller, who is also a Lion and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have three children and seven grandchildren.

West Plains December Meeting



2024 District 26-M1 Convention Registration Form
February 23-24, 2024
Host: Ste. Genevieve Lions Club

Name of Lion: _____ Club _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Food Allergies/Restrictions: _____

Additional Lion/Guest: _____ Club: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Food Allergies/Restrictions: _____

Number Attending Friday Mixer: _____

Number Attending Saturday February 24, 2024: _____

Registration for District Convention (required for voting): Number _____ x \$10 = \$ _____

Full Registration (includes Lunch) Number _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____

Total Fees: \$ _____

Make Checks out to: 26-M1 District Convention Ste. Genevieve Lions Club

Mail Registration: Lion Jan Grein Chairperson, 10426 Neudeck Dr., Ste. Genevieve MO 63670
Bring glasses; donations for silent auction; canned goods for service projects

Friday Evening Mixer: Cafe Genevieve-920 Ste. Genevieve Drive- Ste. Genevieve MO 63670
Mixer: 5-10 pm ***Restaurant will Serve Dinner until 8 pm.

Convention held at Ste. Genevieve Community Center, 21390 Hwy 32 Ste. Genevieve MO

Registration: 8 am- 9 am Morning Session: 9am to 12 pm Lunch 12-1:30 pm

Afternoon Session: 1:30- 3 pm Election: 3-3:15 pm LCIF Silent Auction 3 -3:30 pm

Adjournment: 4:00 pm

Microtel by Wyndham has a block of rooms for District 26-M1 at a special rate of \$89.10 + Tax for a double Queen Room and Handicap Accessible Rooms. Please make reservations directly with the Microtel Inn at 573-883-8884 and ask for Emily/Sabrina and "Lions Convention". Room Reservations must be made by February 9, 2024. Address: 21958 Hwy 32- Ste. Gen.