



# Missouri Lion

**September-December 2023**

**Multiple District**



Missouri Lions State Office

2415B Hyde Park Road Jefferson City, MO 65109

573-635-1773

Office Administrator: Lion Brenda Weider

Assistant Office Administrator: Lion Jackie Twehus

# Missouri Lions Calendar

## ~Important Upcoming Events~

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
January 27, 2024	Council of Governors Meeting	Jefferson City, Missouri
February 10, 2024	M5 District Convention	Warrensburg, Missouri
February 24, 2024	M1 District Convention	Ste. Genevieve, Missouri
March 2, 2024	M3 District Convention	Warrenton, Missouri
March 5, 2024	Saving Sight Board Meeting	Via Zoom
March 9, 2024	M7 District Convention	Wardsville, Missouri
March 16, 2024	M4 District Convention	Chillicothe, Missouri
March 23, 2024	M6 District Convention	Branson, Missouri
April 5-7, 2024	M2 District Convention	St. Louis, Missouri
April 12-13, 2024	Mid-South Lions Visiting Day	Memphis, Tennessee
April 18, 2024	Council of Governors Meeting	Old Kinderhook, Camdenton, Missouri
April 19-21, 2024	State Convention	Old Kinderhook, Camdenton, Missouri
June 7, 2024	Mid-South Golf Tournament	Olive Branch, Mississippi
June 8, 2024	Mid-South Annual Meeting	Memphis, Tennessee
June 21-25, 2024	International Convention	Melbourne, Australia
June 29, 2024	Saving Sight Board Meeting	Kansas City, Missouri
July 27, 2024	Council of Governors Meeting	Wardsville, Missouri
October 26, 2024	Council of Governors Meeting	Meadowlake Acres Country Club, New Bloomfield, Missouri
May 1, 2025 Missouri	Council of Governors Meeting	Double Tree Hotel Westport, St. Louis,
May 2-4, 2025 Missouri	State Convention	Double Tree Hotel Westport, St. Louis,
July 4-8, 2025	International Convention	Mexico City, Mexico
July 3-7, 2026	International Convention	Atlanta, Georgia
July 2-6, 2027	International Convention	Washington, DC
June 23-27, 2028	International Convention	Singapore

# Meet Your Council Chair

**Council Chair Harold Spire joined Maryville Pride Lions in 1992. Was the 11 Club Safety Chairperson. 2000-2005, Membership Chairperson 2005-2010, Club Director 2017-2019. Was elected President in 2004-2005. Region 1 and Zone 1 Chairperson 2019-2020 Lion Harold was the District Governor District 26 M-4 2020-2021 and 22-23. He is currently the District LCIF Chairman for M-4 Born and raised in Parnell, MO Attended Northwest Missouri State University. Worked for Nodaway Veterinary Clinic 1979-89. Worked for Farmland Industries as a Livestock Production Specialist until 1991. He then began work at Consumers Oil Company in Maryville as Feed and Grain Dept Manager, then Savannah as the branch manager until 1998. In 1999 he was hired as the CEO/ General Manager of Consumers Oil Company in Maryville, MO and is still in this position as of today. Harold has been Maryville Chamber of Commerce Past President. He currently serves as the Lions Freedom Rock Chairman. Chairman of the Missouri COOP Managers Association, Serves on Land O Lakes Region 3 Council as the Regional Council Representative (Ag Manager Kansas/Missouri) and is a member of the Associate Board of Directors for Connections Bank. CC Harold and Wife Lion Lori reside in Maryville, MO.**



## A LITTLE ABOUT *Debbie*

Lion Debbie Cantrell is quite the active member in her community of Lebanon, Missouri.

As a Lion, Debbie has stood out numerous times with both her service to others and willingness to lead through tackling the hard jobs that become the most rewarding service opportunities.

In 2004, Lion Debbie joined her Club as the only Lady Lion. She then became the Club's first lady president reaching back as far as the original charter in 1930.

Later she went on to become the very first 2nd Vice District Governor in the state of Missouri. Debbie was elected as District Governor of M6 in 2010-2011 and received her training under the last Past International Director, Harold Ott, in Sydney, Australia.

When it comes to service projects, Lion Debbie is very passionate! Alongside her husband, Lion Kevin PDG, their service is abundant! IN FACT, they met while working together during the Joplin tornado disaster relief. Cantrell is swift to speak about how LIF was there for the Lions all through this difficult time and the multiple grants she wrote/received during this time.

She also loves spending time with her three daughters, their families, and of course, all six of her grandchildren that she adores.

Debbie is also known for her cooking, especially her special homemade sourdough bread.



### We Serve

Contact Debbie:



417.664.2885



liondeb1980@gmail.com

**We Rise  
When We  
Lift Others Up.**

— Debbie

CANDIDATE FOR LIONS  
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR



## Debbie Cantrell

"WE RISE  
WHEN WE  
LIFT  
OTHERS UP"



## A note from PDG Debbie...

I have been most humbled by the overwhelming support I have received from the Lions of Missouri since announcing my intent to run for Lions International Director! Thank you all for the support and encouragement. I am very excited for this Journey and at the same time very nervous! I am excited to cheer the Lions of the world on and do all I can to help if elected. I am nervous because I want to do the very best job I can and be a strong candidate from Missouri. My Grandma Hough used to say if you are nervous, it just means you care! That I do... I never dreamed this would be happening, but when you are a Lion dreams often come true. Sometimes they are bigger than we can even imagine. I shared my brochures at our Council of Governors Meeting with everyone that wanted them. I will have more at the next COG Meeting. I appreciate everyone spreading the word. Again, thank you Lions! PDG Kevin and I appreciate each of you very much. Many of you have helped mold me into the Lion I am today and I hope to make you all proud!



Debbie, along with her husband, Kevin, working at the Seymour Apple Festival.



Honored as **White House Champion of Change** for Leadership efforts after the Joplin, MO Tornado.



"We are strong and we are leaders serving."  
Taken at the **United Nations**.

# Celebrating 20 Years AS LION IN 2024!

Lions International is seeking more women in our leadership roles. It has been over 70 years since Southwest Missouri has had an International Director. There has never been a woman from Missouri to serve at this level... Perhaps it is time!

Please consider Lion Debbie Cantrell, PDG as your International Director Candidate from Missouri!

*You can tell she has a passion to serve and to lift others up!*

## OFFICES HELD:

MD 26 Global Membership Coordinator/  
GAT Team

Lions Clubs International District Governor  
2010-2011

Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute Board of  
Directors/ Facilitator

Served as one of Constitutional Area 1's  
**New Voices Speakers** 2018-2019

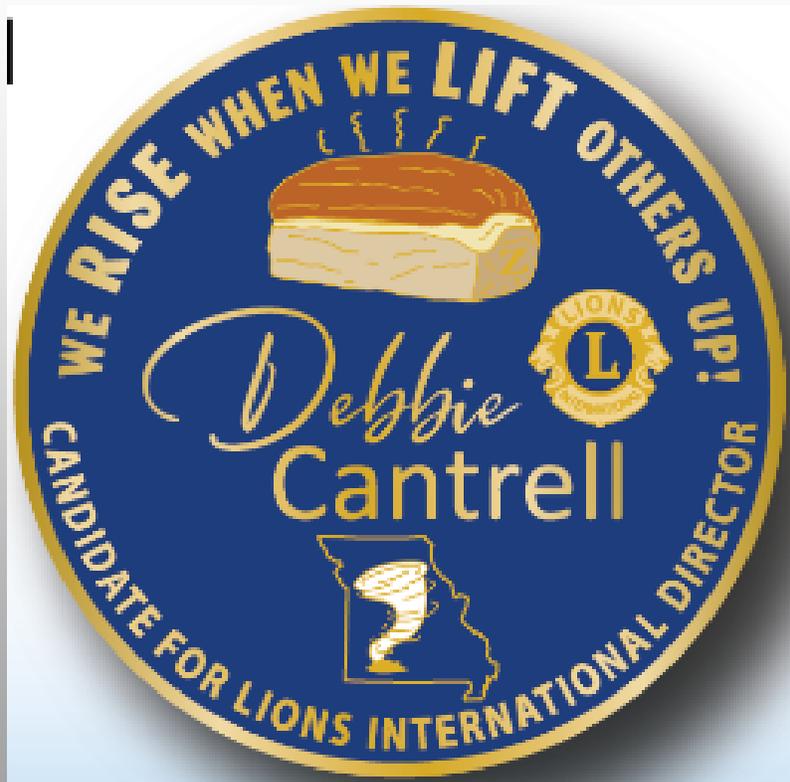
COPE Domestic Violence Shelter Board Member  
2010-present

Elevate Lebanon Board Member 2022-present

GPLLI-Board of Directors 2022-2024

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Only Lady Lion to join her club in 2004!
- **Became the First Lady President in her club's history!**
- Became the First 2nd Vice District Governor from the State of Missouri!
- Launched the First ever Women's Symposium in Missouri, which was her dream.
- Received the **Lions Helping Hands Award** in South Korea, for her leadership after the Joplin Tornado.
- Served as State Global Membership Coordinator and along with the GAT Team, resurrected the State of Missouri's Mid-Winter Forum.
- Named **White House Champion of Change** by the President and spoke at the White House about all the efforts and service of the Lions after the Joplin Tornado.
- Has spoken at **Lions Day** at the **United Nations** on empowering women through Community Service.
- She has since attended at least 5 more of the Lions Days at the United Nations.
- Melvin Jones Fellow 2013
- Board Member of Elevate Lebanon which addresses and educates the homeless population.
- Board Member of Cope Domestic Violence Center and has served as President as well as Finance Chair.



# Meet your M1 District Governor

Hello Lions,

1. I am Lion Marilyn Reaves, District Governor 26M1. Here are a few facts about me: .
2. Born and reared In Columbus, Ohio, the oldest of 4 living children, the only girl.
3. Moved to Alabama 2 months after graduation; 2 weeks later enrolled in college in Arkansas.
4. Met PDG Jerry during sophomore year; married after junior year.
5. Have a BA in Education with emphasis in English/ Language Arts/Communication Arts
6. Have a MS in secondary counseling from Arkansas State University.
7. Total of 36 years in teaching (@ schools- Mtn Home, AR and Malden, MO)
8. Have 2 sons/ daughters-in-law; 2 granddaughters, 2 grandsons and one great grandson 8. Lion by proxy for over 40 years
9. Sponsored by PDG Jerry in 2010 upon retirement.
10. Secretary/treasurer of Malden until 2012, retired from secretary, still treasurer  
Appointed zone chair by PDG Don Shelhammer as well as Guiding Lion 2015-16 12. Became PDG Jerry's partner in service in 2019-2020. He became mine in 2022-23 13.  
Received Melvin Jones Fellowship at State Convention from PDG Scott Sattler



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 Leonard Wood 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 to Council Chair Harold Spire for the state contest.

**Continued on next page**



**M 1 NEWSLETTER**  
**DG MARILYN REEVES**

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](mailto:mdreaves63@gmail.com). Thanks. 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



**M 1 NEWSLETTER**  
**DG MARILYN REEVES**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\*\*Service Project will be canned goods donation to local food pantry. Bring used glasses for recycling. Donations for our Silent Auction are needed.

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. Genevieve, MO 63670.

# YOUTH CAMPS AND EXCHANGES

- *WHAT IS YCE?*

*-IT IS COMPRISED OF 2 MAJOR PARTS: YOUTH CAMPS AND HOST FAMILIES. CAMPS USUALLY LAST FOR 1-2 WEEKS AND FAMILY STAYS 4-6 WEEKS (AROUND 30 DAYS)*

*-YOU GET TO VISIT DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD AND LEARN ABOUT NEW CULTURES AND LIONISM/LEOISM FROM OTHER COUNTRIES!*

- *WHAT COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE BY HOSTING CAMPS?*

*-BRAZIL, AUSTRALIA, USA, CANADA, FINLAND, ITALY, JAPAN, FRANCE, FINLAND, INDIA, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN! 42 OR MORE COUNTRIES ALTOGETHER!*

- *HAVE MORE QUESTIONS? CONTACT LION TONI MAHONEY ((314-805-7391) OR LION BETHNEY PEDERSEN (660-254-8199)*



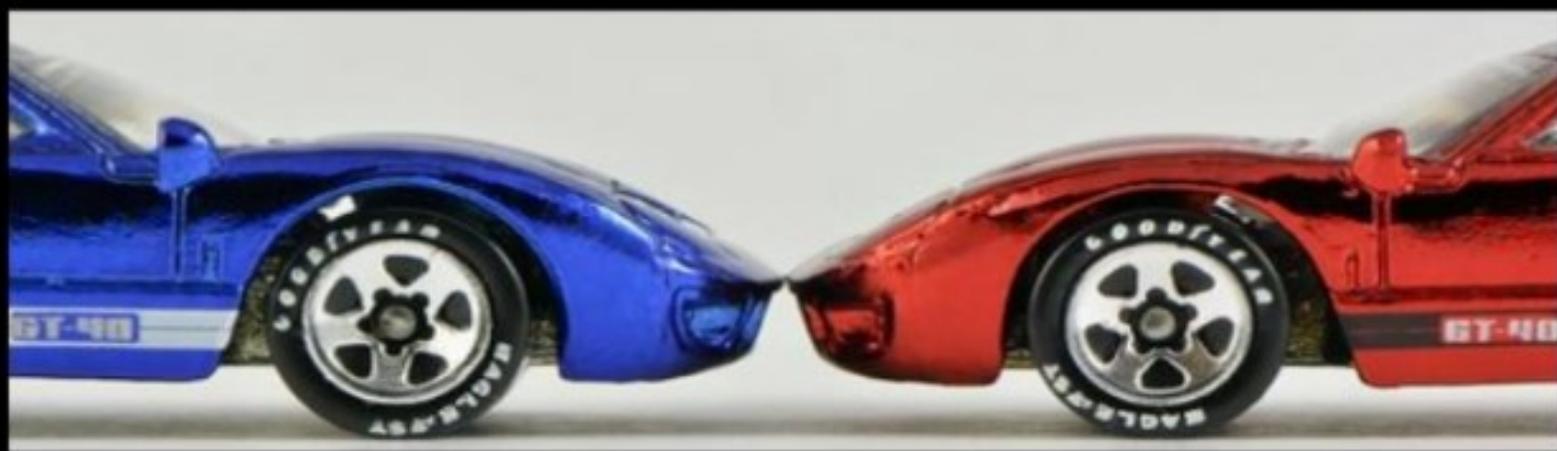
# Meet your M2 District Governor

Paul Carr from House Springs, Missouri, USA, was elected to serve a term of one year as a district governor of Lions Clubs International at the Multiple District 26-M2 Convention, February 17-19, 2023. District Governor Elect Carr was elected to serve a term of one year as a Vice Council Chairperson of Lions Clubs International at the Multiple District 26 State Convention, April 21-23, 2023. District Governor Carr has 25+ years of experience as a systems engineer at The Boeing Company working on both the F-15 Eagle fighter aircraft and F/A-18 Super Hornet fighter aircraft. Carr is currently leading projects as SAFe Agile Release Train Engineer, project management, system design and development along with customer engagement and supplier management. In June 2016 Carr joined the House Springs Lions club as an active member, reaching the level of Club Vice President, Club President, Zone Chairperson, and racks of district governor leadership in Lions Clubs International Multiple District 26-M2. In recognition of his service to the association, he has received the District Governor Winkeler Award and is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, District Governor Carr has been active in numerous leadership roles in Boeing SCUBA club, Boeing St. Louis Leadership Association, and board of directors of non-profit organizations. District Governor Carr and his wife, Cyndi, also a Lion, have been married for 4 years and have four children, and now four grandchildren. The Carr's like to travel on their motorcycle, travel to other city destinations, travel to Mexico, Canada and soon around the world. Their activities include gardening in their backyard. Paul Carr likes to watch Viking shows and enjoys building projects from small woodworking items to building sheds or updating house projects.





**District Service Project**  
**Hot Wheels Challenge**  
**26-M5 vs 26-M4**



**District 26-M5 remains dedicated to gathering Hot Wheels cars  
for the benefit patients of Children's Mercy Hospital.**

**We've invited District 26-M4 to join us in our mission by  
matching our contributions.**

## **The Race Is On**

**26-M5 goal is 8000 Hot Wheels by June 30, 2024**

**Challenge your friends, clubs, and communities on the road to  
Mercy and start collecting those Hot wheels.**

# **See you at the finish line!**

**Contact Alena Hoeffling for details or to arrange pick up of Hot Wheels or monetary  
donations. LionAlenaH@gmail.com 660-553-1379**



*Rose Parade*

*Lions*

*International*

*Float 2024*

Fellow Lions in District 26-M2, We are getting close to the end of the calendar year; therefore, I am sure that you are preparing for the holiday season, Merry Christmas! It is also a time of the give thanks and blessing for the gifts that you provide not only to your club but for our community. Thank you for volunteering for the Salvation Army ringing the bell to provide cheer! Thank you for the Christmas parades and Holiday parties to celebrate the Lions this year! You are doing a fantastic job being a Lion in one of the greatest service organizations in the world! Give thanks to your fellow Lions and Thank you again for being a Lion! My hope is that you have a Merry Christmas with your family and friends! I have Club Excellence awards to give out this year therefore, I will be coming around again to get those to your clubs. You say “What is a Club Excellence Award?” It is an ideal way to set your club on the path to continued success while gaining prestige for excelling in the areas of membership, service, leadership and organizational excellence, and marketing. When your club receives this award, the club will be provided a banner patch and pin to your club president. However, more importantly, your club’s excitement will be revitalized, your service impact will grow, and your members will see greater opportunities in our community. Find out more information on how you can apply for Club Excellence here: <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-excellence-awards> Our next State of the District Address is coming up soon, it will be on Sunday January 7, 2024, via Zoom and our International Director Lee Vrieze from Jim Falls, Wisconsin will be in attendance. Make sure you ask your club President or Secretary for the invite. We will have a discussion on our District goals, where we are heading in the 3rd quarter of Lions year and hear from ID Lee Vrieze. You are doing a great job at our district goals, keep up the great work! It is an exciting time to be a Lion! I continue to look forward to serving with you in this great district MD26-M2 and seeing what we can do to “Be More, Do More and Serve More!” You know that I

am “Excited to Serve!” this year!!! Let’s keep the momentum going!

Lion Paul Carr

District Governor



**M2 NEWSLETTER**

**DG PAUL CARR**

A CALL FOR THE  
**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT 26-M2 CONVENTION**  
 To Be Held April 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
 DoubleTree Hotel St. Louis at Westport, 1973 Craigshire, St. Louis, MO 63146



**Our international guest for the weekend will be International Director Lion Lee Vrieze.**

Lee Vrieze from Jim Falls, Wisconsin, 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 - June 28, 2022.

He works professionally as an information technology infrastructure manager. He has been an active member of the Jim Falls Lions Club since 2001 and continues to serve with them to this day. He and his wife, Mary, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have been married for over 43 years and have two children, two grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

**Tentative Schedule of Events - \*\*\*Subject to Change\*\*\***

FRIDAY, April 5th	SATURDAY, April 6th	SUNDAY, April 7th
Club Officer Training ..... 3 PM – 5 PM	Registration ..... 8 AM – 10 AM	Breakfast.....8:15 AM
Registration..... 3 PM – 5 PM	Q/A with ID Vrieze ..... 8:30 AM	Closing Business Session & Memorial Service .....9:00 AM
Hospitality ..... 5:30 PM – 11 PM	Morning Business Session.....9:00 AM	Club Officer Training ..... Noon – 2 PM
Parade of Banners ..... 6:30 PM	All Lions Lunch ..... 12 Noon – 1:00 PM	
Live Music, Dancing & Party Time..... 7 PM – 11 PM	District Service Project..... 1:15 PM – 1:45 PM	
	Afternoon Business Session ..... 1:45 PM	
	Voting ..... <i>Immediately following session</i>	
	Dinner Banquet..... 7 PM	

The DoubleTree Hotel St. Louis at Westport, 1973 Craigshire, St. Louis, MO 63146 is holding a block of rooms and is taking reservations at a discounted price of \$94 + tax for a standard room. Please contact them directly at (314) 434-0100 to make your room reservations at the **DoubleTree Hotel** and mention that you are with the District 26-M2 Lions Convention.

After **March 14, 2024** the room block will be released, and the discounted price will no longer be available.

**2024 District 26-M2 Convention Registration Form**  
**April 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Name of Lion: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Convention Package:**

(Hospitality, Luncheon, Dinner Banquet, Breakfast & Wrist Band)

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$100 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* OR \*\*\***

Luncheon Only:

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Banquet Only:

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$55 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast Only:

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

After March 22, 2024 - ADD \$10

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how many of each meal choice for DINNER so we can make sure to give an accurate count to the hotel.

Dinner Banquet - *Beef* \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Banquet - *Chicken* \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Banquet - *Salmon* \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**  
 26-M2 Convention Fund

No refunds after March 22, 2024.

No reservations guaranteed (may not be able to accept) after March 22, 2024.  
 Reservations must include the names of those attending each event (tickets will be pre-assigned).

**Mail to:** PDG Devin Struttmann  
 770 Oakmont Lane  
 Union, MO 63084

**\*\*\* Please use spaces provided on the back or attach a list of all persons and their meals. \*\*\***



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**



Hello Lions, Leos and fellow humanitarians,

As we close 2023, I encourage you to reflect on everything you and your fellow Lions accomplished this year through your acts of service and generosity. Together with funding from our global foundation, Lions worldwide continued to create amazing impact in communities whenever and wherever we were needed.

Congratulations on all that you have accomplished.

This month, we highlight a story about how LCIF grant funds helped Nepal rebuild after a devastating earthquake struck in 2015, just as new funding is helping the country recover after another quake struck last month.

As we enter a new year, please continue to be an ambassador for our global foundation and share with fellow Lions, Leos and others around the world how LCIF empowers our humanitarian service. Through LCIF, we can think bigger and implement projects that our individual clubs or districts couldn't do alone. Your [donations to LCIF](#) make this life-changing service possible.

Make a great day,

Brian E. Sheehan



## Mid-South Lions Spring 2024 NEWS

Fellow Lions and Friends:

As we head into another year of service to those in need, there's lots of important news I need to share with you. Some of it involves addressing our matching LCIF grant request, some of it involves more fundraising activities, and some of it involves events that are coming up. My apologies for the lengthy email but I wanted to get all this important information to you today. Please read all the way through for an inspirational quote at the end. Thanks.

1) We are in the midst of trying to raise \$80,000 to match a potential LCIF grant. We are getting closer as we have already raised over \$60,000. If we are successful in this effort, we'll be able to purchase a new Autoclave (about \$50,000). But the most exciting and important news is that we'll be the first center in the world to receive the newest technology for retina and cataract surgeries. The new Alcon Unity will help our surgeons provide the most up-to-date technique in addressing retinal detachments and cataracts with ONE piece of equipment. Our partner Dr. Steve Charles is the pioneer in this field and will be the first recipient of this new device...IF we can raise the funds to purchase it. Once it's in house, the surgery center will provide our patients with \$160,000 in surgeries—OVER 150 patients can be treated with this agreement! Help us if you can with any additional funds you or your club have so that we can expand our service in a dramatic and miraculous way. Just click this link to help us provide 150 surgeries.

### **DONATE TO OUR GRANT FUND NOW**

2) Our March quarterly meeting will be held in Hot Springs, AR on March 8-9. On Friday we have reserved the Arkansas Room at Oaklawn Casino and Racing from 11 AM – 4 PM. Our event will feature a full lunch buffet, grandstand tickets, a private cash bar, a private betting window, and the third race of the day will once again be The Mid-South Lions Dash! Our officers will be presenting the owner of the winning horse with a crystal trophy. **Reservations are required and the cost per person is \$65. Space is limited so make your reservations today.**

Our HQ Hotel is the Hotel Hot Springs at [305 Malvern Ave](#). Room rates for our Lions group begin at \$129 plus tax per night. This includes a full, hot, breakfast buffet. You can make reservations by calling 877-623-6697 and ask for the MID-SOUTH LIONS CLUB GROUP rate. With racing season and the state high school basketball

championships in town, rooms will be at a premium so get your reservations made as soon as possible....PLEASE.

On Friday evening we'll have a wonderful hospitality room with our annual mixed drink contest. Last year's event was very well attended and received. Donations in each "bartender's" bowl will determine the winning drink. We'll have some pick-up foods as well, and the fellowship will be overflowing!

On Saturday, for those staying in the Hotel Hot Springs you'll enjoy a buffet breakfast in the hotel restaurant, then we'll begin our quarterly committee and board meetings. We should be finished before noon so you can go out on the town and enjoy all the great activities in and around Hot Springs. Click this link to register.

### **MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR EVENTS AT THE MARCH MEETING**

3) One of the most important times of our year comes during Visiting Lions Weekend. This year that comes on April 12-13 at the Hamilton Eye Institute at [930 Madison Ave](#) in Memphis.

This year a new and improved VLW is headed your way. On Friday evening we will host the group in HEI's lobby for food, fellowship, fun, and a little fundraising. Each state will man a food/drink booth with a fun game and more meet and greet than you can stand. Sometime during the evening we'll hold a small silent auction and then have a few live auction items for everyone to bid on.

On Saturday we'll show you the one-of-a-kind Hamilton Eye Institute. Some of the world's most prominent ophthalmologists will update us on what's happening in the world of vision care. Then the physicians and our Mid-South Lions will lead tours of the surgery center, the pediatric floor (it's absolutely amazing), our research floor, and you'll be treated to hospitality and information in the HEI Lobby. During lunch we'll hear from Mid-South Lions patients, and you'll get an update on our vision for future MIRACLES at Mid-South.

The cost for the entire weekend is only \$25 per person. This includes Friday's and Saturday's food as well as Mid-South souvenirs and documents. Our HQ hotel is the Holiday Inn Express at 1180 Union Ave where we have a Lions room rate of \$109 plus tax per night (about \$130 total) with free parking and a full, hot, breakfast buffet. Call the hotel at 901-726-1175 (if you have a problem mention Elisa Smith set the rate). Tell them you're with Mid-South Lions (don't let them transfer you to the national reservations line...they don't know about our Lions rate). This room block is only open until April 1 so don't wait too long.

Reservations for this meeting are required. Space for this informative and inspirational weekend is limited to the first 100 paid Lions & guests. Click below to get all the details and save your spot.

## REGISTER FOR VISITING LIONS WEEKEND

4) And here's a new one for you...for the first time Mid-South is adding an event to our golf tournament. On Friday, June 7 at Cherokee Valley Golf Course in Olive Branch, MS we'll be adding a GOLF BALL DROP raffle! We'll number 1,000 golf balls and dump them onto the putting green. The ball that goes in the designated hole (or is closest) will win up to \$1,000 (or 10% of the total proceeds)! A WINNER IS GUARANTEED!

To purchase balls, click on the link below. Here are the costs:

1 Ball = \$10

3 Balls = \$25

7 Balls = \$50

To conclude this "War and Peace" length email, here's a quote from one of the most successful coaches in NCAA and NFL history, Jimmy Johnson. He knew players didn't determine their amount of talent, but they could determine their attitude and control their effort. He applied a formula for success that produced an NCAA National Championship and two Super Bowl Championships:

$$PA + E = P$$

That means POSITIVE ATTITUDE PLUS EFFORT EQUALS PERFORMANCE.

This can be adapted to our Mid-South Lions work as well. Our positive attitude toward service, plus our effort to raise funds equals a performance which produces MIRACLES and impacts the lives of hundreds of needy people who have no one else to help them. Please help us help them today. Thanks.



**#WeServe**

# Meet your M3 District Governor

## **LION SHERL HORTON**

**Lion Sherl is currently a member of the Moscow Mills Lion, she had been a member of the Old Monroe Lions until the club merged with Moscow Mills. Lion Sherl has been a lion for twelve years and has served in multiple positions. Lion Sherl has been married for 26 years to Lion Greg Horton, and they have one son, Billy. Lion Sherl has worked for the last seven years for Frontline Managed Services in Accounting. Previous employment in Accounting was for Butler America (9 years) and TALX Corporation (9 years) Lion Sherl grew up in St. Louis County by the airport in Woodson Terrace. Please find below a listing of offices Lion Sherl has held:**

### **Club Level:**

**07/01/12 – 06/30/14 – Old Monroe Lions club Treasurer**

**07/01/14 – 06/30/18 – Old Monroe Lions club Secretary**

**07/01/18 – 05/30/20 – Old Monroe Lions club President**

### **District Level:**

**07/01/16-06/30/18 – Cabinet Treasurer**

**07/01/19-06/30/21 –  
World Service for the  
blind**

**07/01/20-06/30/21 –  
Zone Chair**

**07/01/21-06/30/22 –  
2nd Vice**

**District Governor**

**07/01/22- 06/30/23 –  
1st Vice**

**District Governor**



# 26M-3 District Lions Convention Registration

March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Warrention Lions Building 601 Fairground Rd. Warrenton



Friday night come hoppng over as an Aussie.

We will have KidSight Trivia for \$20. Bring your favorite food and drinks starting at 6 pm.

We will be having a silent auction starting Friday night so bring your items or contact PDG Mike Sliger.

Raffle tickets will be available for \$1 each or 6 for \$5 where you could win \$200. Tickets will be hands our and mailed to clubs.

Need hotel arrangements just call the Holiday Inn Express and ask for Lions rate of \$139. 1008 N. Hwy 47.636-456-2220.

Our International Guest is International Director Ben Apleland from Montana.

Saturday will start at 9 am and dress is Lions business casual. We will be having a service project and details will come later. Evening seating for dinner will be at 6pm and dress will be formal/business.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Lions club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary needs \_\_\_\_\_

Registration only (must be registered to vote) **\$10** \_\_\_\_\_

Trivia **\$20** \_\_\_\_\_

Registration and lunch **\$30** \_\_\_\_\_

Registration, lunch and dinner \$55 \_\_\_\_\_

First timers **\$20** does not include trivia \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to 26M-3 2024 Convention and mail to Lion Dexter Enders 815 Monroe St. St. Charles, Mo 63301.

Any questions contact PCC Bob Noellsch 573-470-0005 or [lionbobnoellsch@hotmail.com](mailto:lionbobnoellsch@hotmail.com), PDG Mike Sliger [msliger80@gmail.com](mailto:msliger80@gmail.com) 217-242-7510 or IPDG Sandy McCann [Mccannsandy1@gmail.com](mailto:Mccannsandy1@gmail.com) 573-823-7345



# LIONS QUEST

☀️ LIONS QUEST, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION'S (LCIF) SIGNATURE YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM, IS A SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING CURRICULUM THAT GIVES STUDENTS THE SKILLS TO NAVIGATE LIFE AND PREVENT BULLYING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

☀️ LIONS QUEST HAS BEEN USED BY SCHOOLS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS FOR OVER 30 YEARS. THROUGH A SERIES OF SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) CURRICULUM LESSONS, THE PROGRAM PROMOTES POSITIVE STUDENT BEHAVIORS THAT LEAD TO GREATER ACADEMIC SUCCESS, A GREATER CONNECTION TO SCHOOL, AND IMPROVED SCHOOL CLIMATE.

☀️ SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS BUILT BY LIONS QUEST:

- PROBLEM-SOLVING AND DECISION-MAKING
- CRITICAL THINKING AND CREATIVITY
- ABILITY TO WORK IN A TEAM ENVIRONMENT
- COMMUNICATION SKILLS WITH PEOPLE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE AN ORGANIZATION
- LEADERSHIP AND THE ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY MOTIVATE OTHERS
- STRONG WORK ETHIC AND PERSEVERANCE



A Program of Lions  
Clubs International  
Foundation



# Meet your M4 District Governor

Lion James Pedersen was elected to serve as District Governor for District 26-M4 for the 2022-2023 Lion's year. Lion James joined the Maryville Pride Lions Club in 2014. He has held various offices and became club president in 2016-17. He is also the recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellowship award. He completed his second term of club president in 2018-19. He is continually active in the Club's various projects and fundraisers. He has served as Zone Chairperson for Zone 1 – Region I for two different terms. He has also served on the District 26-M4 Basketball Committee for three years and is currently the chair. He is currently state liaison for the athletic. He is the original Co-Chairperson of the Lions Freedom Rock Committee and now is serving on the Board of Directors of the Lions Freedom Rock Plaza. Lion James has attended many Multiple District 26 (State of Missouri) Conventions and numerous District 26-M4 Cabinet Meetings. He is also a 2018 graduate of the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute. He was born in Maryville, Missouri and grew up in rural Nodaway County. He graduated from the South Nodaway School District. He was employed in the Construction and Electrical Departments at Northwest Missouri State University for two years. He then became employed with American Electric Company of St. Joseph, Missouri where he began his Sales and Management career. He then was transferred to Maryville where he is currently operations manager of the CED/American Electric store. He is active in the Open Door Christian Center Church of Bolckow, Missouri where he serves on the board and in the sound booth. Together, he and his wife, Lion Christine, have four children together. Ashley and Bethney have attended Northwest Missouri State University and majored in education. Ashley teaches at Lindburgh in St. Joseph and Bethney teaches at North Nodaway in Hopkins. Son, Brenden, is currently working for City of Maryville Parks and Recreation Department while Bryan resides in Nebraska working in a feed lot. Lion Chris and daughter Lion Bethney are also members of the Maryville Pride Lions Club.



## Lions 26-M4 District Convention Registration

March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the Veterans Building, downtown Chillicothe

Friday's Hospitality Night and the Convention will be held at the Veterans Building at 909 Washington Street in Chillicothe. Due to the limited parking, there will be a free shuttle to transport Lions and guests back and forth from the hotel!

Friday night will consist of food, fun, fellowship, and a silent auction. Those clubs requesting a table for their signature or specialty treat, please call/text Lion Wendy Edwards at 816-826-6075. The night's theme is in line with the Great Barrier Reef, and the beautiful beaches of Australia, so bust out your luau gear!

The Convention will be held Saturday morning. Our guest is Past International Director Howard Hudson from Santa Barbara, California. Registration will begin at 9 am. The Convention will begin at 10 am with the parade of banners. So, bring your club's banner and participate! Later that evening there will be a casual dinner open to all.

**Accommodations:** We will be staying at the Fairfield Inn in Chillicothe. Room rates are \$139 per night. Call 660-646-3100 to make your reservation. The physical address is 220 W Business 36 Hwy. They are located right next to the Comfort Inn, where we've hosted our conventions for the past several years. The Comfort Inn will be under construction, so we moved to Fairfield Inn. We encourage you to make your reservations early. The block of room will be released at the end of the day on February 14, 2024.

**Service Project:** We will be collecting electric razors for the Veterans at the Cameron Veterans Home. If you or your club prefer to make a monetary donation, we will purchase electric razors with funds collected.

Lion(s):			
Club Name:		Office:	
Guest:			
Address:			
Phone:		Email:	
Dietary needs:			
Will you be using the free shuttle service Friday night? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Will you be using the free shuttle service Saturday for the Convention? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Registration and Lunch:	Number attending:	@ \$35 each =	\$
Registration, Lunch and Dinner:	Number attending:	@ \$40 each =	\$
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$</b>

Make checks payable to Lions District 26M4 and mail to Lion Wendy Edwards, 511 N Frame St, Hamilton, MO 64644. Lion Wendy also accepts Venmo: @Wendy-Edwards-80. If paying by Venmo, please include your name and "26M4 District Convention" or similar description.

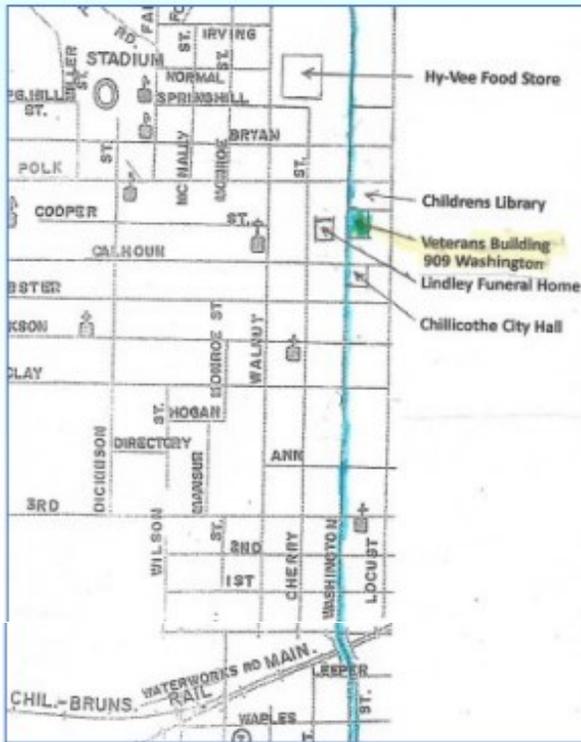
Any questions contact 1VDG Tina Anderson at [ctanderson5@gmail.com](mailto:ctanderson5@gmail.com) or Lion Susan Cunningham at [cunningham1947@icloud.com](mailto:cunningham1947@icloud.com)



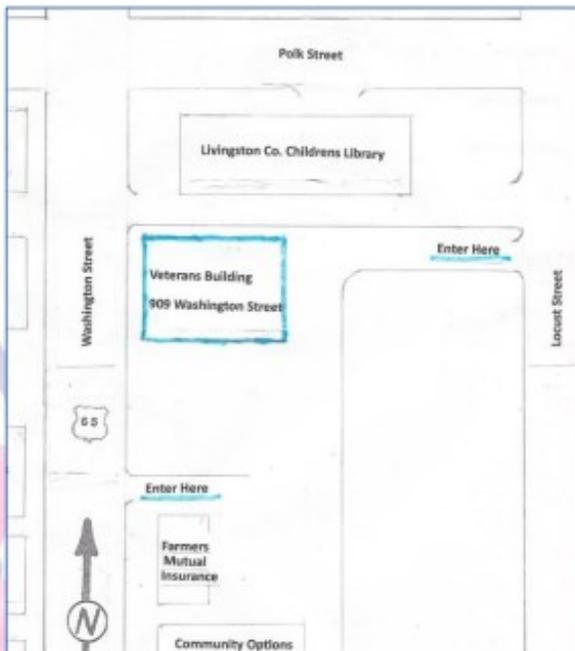
This is the front of the building.

The physical address is  
909 N Washington  
Chillicothe, MO 64601

Its on the East side of Washington  
Street.



This is a high-level map. The Veteran  
Building is located between Calhoun  
and Polk Streets



Limited parking is located at the back of  
the Veterans Building. The shuttle will  
take you back and forth from the hotel  
to the Veterans Building free of charge.

While at the Convention, please contact  
PDG Wayne Cunningham if you need a  
ride. His number is 660-752-6555.

Please let us know if you plan to use the  
shuttle.



## **District 26-M4 Service Challenge**

Missouri Lion District 26-M5 has challenged our District to collect **4,000** Hot Wheels or Matchbox cars to be donated to Children's Mercy Hospital.

Hot Wheels/Matchboxes can be individually wrapped, 3-packs, 5-packs, 20-packs, just as long as they are new and in packaging when received by Children's Mercy.

As a non-profit hospital, Children's Mercy relies generously on the support of caring community members to help them provide the highest level of care to all kids who come through the doors.

Help make a child or parent's day by donating to the Missouri Lions District 26-M4 Service Project.

Donations will be collected and tallied at district cabinet meetings November 4, March 16 and May 18.

*Questions? Contact Global Service Team Chair Peggy Campbell at [lionpeggyc@gmail.com](mailto:lionpeggyc@gmail.com).*



# Meet your M5 District Governor

## District Governor Ron Ballard

**Hello Lions of District 26 M5, my name is Ronald Dean Ballard (call me Ron) I have been a member of Pleasant Hill Lions Club for only 10 years. I will keep learning about 'Lionism' you know it's that state of caring, sharing, and SERVING others. Born and raised in Pleasant Hill, Elder of the First Christian Church, Educated at Southwest Missouri State and Longview Community College, but most importantly the 'school of harknocks' which is generally called LIFE. I currently reside on a 5 acre farm outside Pleasant Hill and am caregiver for my 86-year-old mother. I worked for the U.S. Government for 19 years, was a member of the employees union for 21 years (that's including 2 years after closure). I attended Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute (GPLLI) in July 2017. I am available to you or your club if you need me, my cell PH# 816-204-0324 or via e-mail at [ronald.ballard@ymail.com](mailto:ronald.ballard@ymail.com)**





# USA/Canada Forum

Lions from across Missouri converged on Reno, NV, September 20-25 for the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Thursday started off with the Strides Kickoff. Several Missouri Lions participated in walking for Diabetes Awareness. Diabetes is one of the Lions causes that is an important disease that is worldwide. Thursday afternoon had breakout sessions from First Timers, LCIF Grants, Tail Twisting, Lions University Graduation, to Servant Leadership. The Opening Banquet was a great experience; Floyd Smith was the Guest Speaker and told his Lions story along with how his voice took him to where he is today. Lion Lori and I set at a different table each time to meet Lions from USA and Canada. Conversations at these tables were about Lions, clubs, membership and their community. There were great friends made at each table. International Directors and PID's were sitting at these tables and was a great way to get to know them. I spoke with many that will be coming to Missouri for each District Convention. Lion Lori and I set at a different table each time to meet Lions from USA and Canada. Conversations at these tables were about Lions, clubs, membership and their community. There were great friends made at each table. Friday started off with the Midwest Lions Breakfast at 6:00 AM. Yes it was early to rise after a night in Reno but was well worth it. PID Deb Weaverling and Lions from Kansas sponsored this event. IP Lion Patti Hill and several ID's spoke and gave an inspirational outlook on Lions. Seminars like Communication, Zone Chairperson Skills, DG Team, Motivation, and Lions Portal were also held throughout the day. Friday's lunch speaker was Donna Hartley. Donna has been suicidal, broke, and a single mother, and she's cheated death three times; she overcame these challenges with her relentless energy and unbreakable spirit, From a former Miss Hawaii to a survivor of a fiery DC-10 plane crash that transformed her life in seconds and inspired her to testify to change airline safety regulations. Saturday was full of breakout sessions from everything Lions from Club Presidents Skills, LCIF, Social Media, and meeting ID's. The International President's Luncheon with IP Dr. Patti Hill was an inspiring event. Dr Hill Shared her vision for the world change through service. Saturday afternoon more Leadership training. Saturday evening closing banquet was Striker Corbin. Mr. Striker Is a motivational speaker, certified hypnotist\*, and success coach, Striker Corbin focuses on personal development USA/Canada is a great place to learn so much about what Lions do. If you have never been to one please try on attending the next one being held in Louisville, KY September 5-7,2024. This is within driving distance for many in Missouri. And if you want to volunteer for USA/Canada Forum being held September 3-5 in Memphis, TN please let someone know. Missouri Lions will be helping to make sure this Forum is a success.

# Meet your M6 District Governor

Hello LIONS of M6. I am humbled and honored to have your trust as District Governor for the Lions year 2023-2024. My start in Lions started with a invitation by a friend to lunch, I walked in the door and it's a Lions meeting! That was 30 years ago and we are still friends. The people we have met, the changes in our lives and the part we have played in changing other people's lives. what a ride! I am a graduate from Drury University, a US Army Vietnam-Era veteran and have been married to PCC Lion Phyllis for 28 years. We have no human children, but have raised 16 pups for Leader Dogs for the Blind. We have three dogs working now (Columbia, South America, Mexico City, Mexico and Ethan, SD (LD Wink, LD Gudrun and LD Bryla respectively), with others that have worked as guides and are now retired. My current Lions club is Springfield Host with prior service with the Springfield Queen City Our theme for 2023-2024 is a "Universe of Service", because our clubs serve their communities in so many ways. Who are your communities? Your club, your local community, your district, your members and so many others! So expand your Universe of Service, invite others to experience the Lions world you know so we can change more lives.

Lions International President Dr Patti Hill's theme is "Changing the World", a daunting task but as Helen Keller said "I am but one person and I can do little, but I won't let that stop me from doing what I can."

"Kindness Matters"

"With Service from the Heart"

"Together, we Can"

"Changing the World"

We Serve





# Lions Clubs International of Missouri District 26-M6 Convention

March 22-23, 2024 – Branson Towers Hotel  
Special Guest ID Anthony Paradiso



## Convention Registration Form

~ **Convention Registration Deadline: Postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2024.**

~ **Hotel Reservation by February 21, 2024 (More info at the bottom)**

~ Complete form, print and mail with payment. ~ More information on [www.molionsm6.org](http://www.molionsm6.org) (under the "Convention" tab).

### Name of 1<sup>st</sup> Lion/Guest Registration

\_\_\_ Lion \_\_\_ Leo \_\_\_ Guest Name (as wanted on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_ Home Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Lion Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your 1<sup>st</sup> District Convention as a Lion? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Please note any special food allergies, needs, notes or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Name of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lion/Guest Registration

\_\_\_ Lion \_\_\_ Leo \_\_\_ Guest Name (as wanted on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_ Home Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Lion Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your 1<sup>st</sup> District Convention as a Lion? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Please note any special food allergies, needs, notes or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration & Meal Plans

Plan	Description	# of Persons	Cost	Total
A	Full Registration/Lunch		@ \$55.00 ea.	\$
	Registration after 3/1/2024 add		@ \$10.00 ea.	\$
<b>No refunds after March 1, 2024</b>			<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>	<b>= \$</b>

**Make Checks Payable to:** District 26-M6 Convention      **Your Check Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print & Mail too:** PDG Toni Morris – 23443 Highway H, Lebanon MO 65536

We are excited to announce there will be a Magic Show by Mike Bliss Saturday evening (after the convention) starting at 7:30 pm in the Hotel Convention Room. This will be a SPONSORED show, a chance to have fun and relax! To assist our planning, please indicate if you plan to attend.

**Yes, we are coming (how many) \_\_\_\_\_      No, sorry, we have other commitments \_\_\_\_\_**

Although the show is sponsored, we will be accepting donations to benefit Elevate Branson.



### Make hotel reservations with Branson Towers Hotel

236 Shepherd of the Hills Expy, Branson, MO 65616

**Convention rate of \$96.00 (+Tax), Register before February 21, 2024**

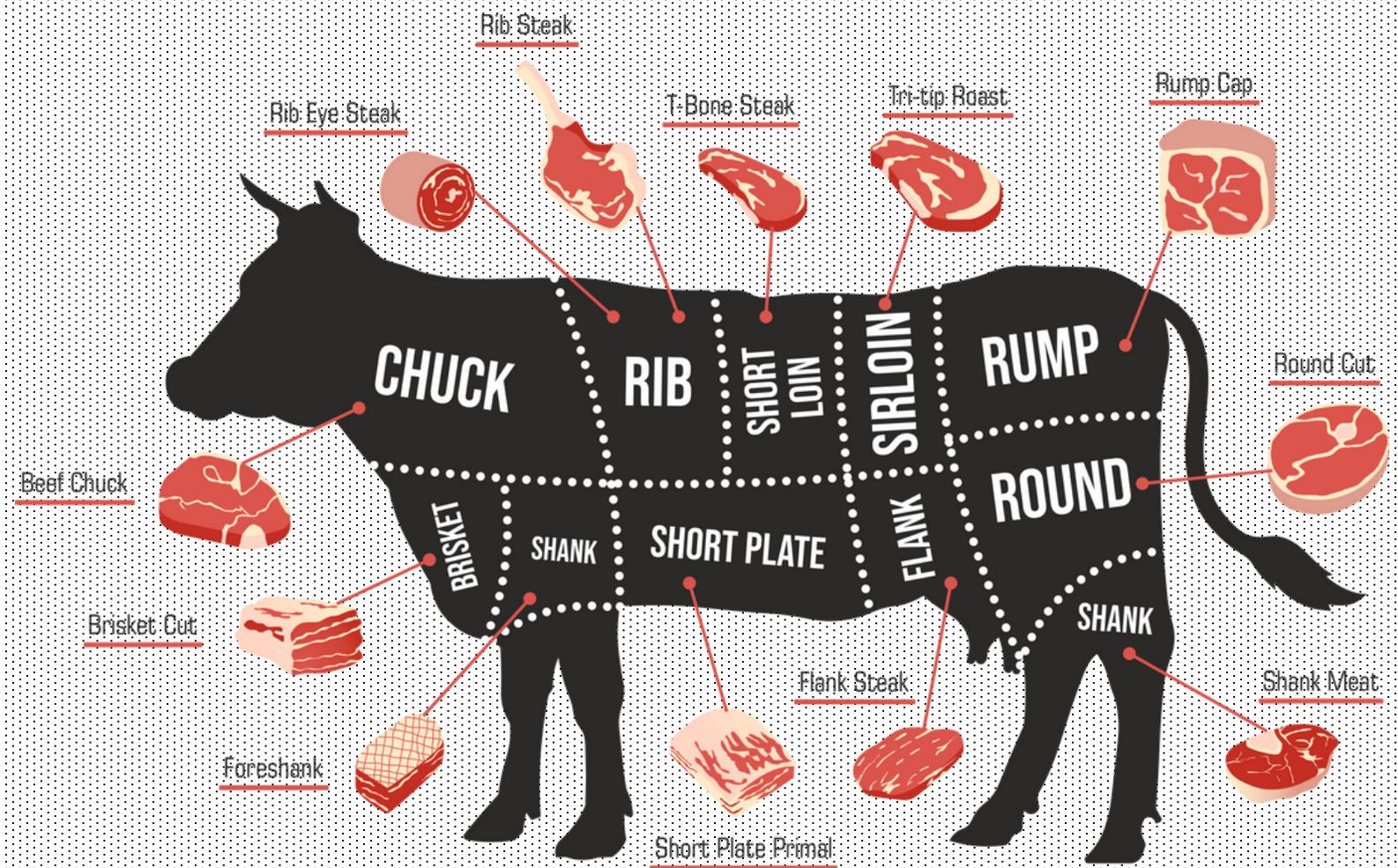
Scan the link to the hotel on the side or the link to hotel is on our website at

[www.molionsm6.org](http://www.molionsm6.org) under the Convention tab.

**The Athletic Committee is doing a beef raffle once again this year! To purchase one, please see a committee member.**

**Tickets are \$20 each.**

**Drawing will be at the State Convention.**



# Meet your M7 District Governor

Lion Ed Bierbower from Eldon Missouri was Inducted as M7 District Governor at the International convention in Boston. After graduating HS in NE Colorado in 1958, Ed followed the Oil & Gas drilling rigs through several states. While working at the atomic test site at Mercury Nev. He met and married his wife Rosie. They have one son and one daughter. Ed first joined the Lions in 1967 in Las Vegas where for 10 years he was active serving as club treasurer and President. His work took him to Alaska for several years then overseas for several more as project manager. This work schedule did not allow him to stay active in Lions. He did rejoin the Eldon club in 1985. Lion Ed lost his wife Rosie in 2001, continuing to work a schedule of 28/28 overseas until he retired in 2011, That same year he married his Partner in Service Lion Linda. Lion Ed has served as club membership chairman, President three time, Zone chairman, and is the club historian of the Eldon club. He is a board member of Lake Area Community Foundation, Elder at the First Christian Church, and was honored by the Eldon Chamber as Citizen of the Year.



Happy New Year to each of you, Hoping you all enjoyed a blessed and safe  
Holiday

with family and friends. What a wonderful time of year to count our blessings. My  
year as your Governor is half over, where has the time gone. Lion Linda and I have  
visited 16 clubs to date, attended and helped with several club fundraiser and social  
events. We have met many M7 lion members for the first time and made lasting  
friendships. Thank you all for your kindness and support. I fell very positive about  
our future this new year. FVDG Todd and his committee have made encouraging  
efforts to get a new club chartered in Fulton. Please contact Todd if you want to  
join

his team or have anything to contribute. The Eldon club continues to grow its  
membership which we are thankful for, I would like for each of you to ask one new  
individual each week to join or come visit your club. We have the COG meeting  
Jan 27th at the Eagles club in Jeff City, My third cabinet meeting will be hosted by  
Holts Summit Feb 3rd , and the District convention March 9th at Wardsville.

Followed by the State convention April 19-21 at Old Kinderhook.

Please keep your monthly LCI reporting up to date. If you have any problems or  
need assistance please contact me and I will make sure you get the help needed.

Again, thank you all for your support. Stay safe.

M7 District Governor, Ed Bierbower



**M7 NEWSLETTER**  
**DG ED BIERBOWER**

# 16<sup>th</sup> Annual District 26-M7 Convention

March 8 – 9, 2024

Wardsville Lions Club (lower level), Route M, Wardsville, MO



Our international guest is International Director Maria T. Cunning from Phoenix, Arizona. ID Cunning was elected to serve a two-year term as international director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 105th International Convention in July 2023.

ID Cunning is a business owner and entrepreneur with more than 35 years of experience in real estate development. She currently manages and operates three companies. Among her notable projects are the construction of over 100 custom homes and a 120-unit apartment complex in the Phoenix and Scottsdale areas. She speaks three languages—English, Filipino and Spanish.

She is a third generation Lion with a passion for service and going on medical missions. She joined the Phoenix Barangay Lions Club as a charter member in 1996. Additionally, she served as guiding Lion for two clubs.

ID Cunning held a number of offices within the association including district Youth Exchange chairperson and multiple district youth coordinator. She served several years as multiple district membership chair and is currently the district 21-N membership chair. She was a speaker at the USA-Canada Leadership Forum and for LCIF Foundation Fridays. She was also a task force member for the North American Membership Initiative.

In recognition of her service, she received numerous awards including an International President's Award and an International President's Leadership Award. She is also a LCIF Progressive Lead Donor and a LCIF Legacy Society member.

In addition to her Lions activities, ID Cunning is active in numerous professional and community organizations and received a number of civic awards for her kindness and service including Outstanding Asian American Citizen.

## Schedule of Events (subject to change) – Wardsville Lions Club (lower level)

Friday, March 8		Saturday, March 9	
Registration	5 pm - 6 pm	Registration	8 am - 9 am
Hospitality	6 pm - 9:30 pm	Q & A with ID Cunning	8:30 am - 9 am
Please bring a dish to share.		Morning Session	9:am - 12:00 noon
Chili is provided.		Governor's Luncheon	12 noon - 1:30 pm
Tea, soft drinks and water provided.		Afternoon Session	1:30 pm- 3 pm
		Election	3:00 pm - 3:15 pm
		Drawing	3:15 pm
		Adjournment	

Best Western Plus Capital Inn, 1937 Cristy Drive, Jefferson City, has a block of rooms for District 26-M7 at a special discounted rate of \$107 (plus tax) and is taking reservations for rooms (queen doubles and king). Please make your reservations directly with the hotel at 573-635-4175 (mention group code **Missouri Lions Club** for the special rate) or [http://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.26164.html?groupId=D98IQ210](http://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.26164.html?groupId=D98IQ210).

**Room reservations must be made by February 14, 2023.**

## 2024 District 26-M7 Convention Reservation Form

Name of Lion: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Lion/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending Friday Hospitality (free): \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **District 26-M7**. Mail to PDG Lou Ann Hathcock, 608 Castle Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

Reservations must be received by February 26, 2024.

# Recognizing Your Club's Generosity

At LCIF, we value the incredible generosity of our members. As a token of our appreciation, we are thrilled to introduce the Presidential Club Giving Award for LCIF program. This initiative aims to recognize clubs that have demonstrated outstanding commitment and support by contributing to our cause on a per-member average basis throughout the fiscal year.

By participating in this recognition program, your club has the opportunity to join a prestigious circle of dedicated supporters. Your contributions make a significant impact on our mission, enabling us to serve our community and beyond. The Presidential Club Giving Award for LCIF is awarded to clubs based on their donation per-member average during the fiscal year. The more you contribute per member, the higher the level of recognition your club will achieve. Your clubs

active member count is determined as of January 1.

Once your club's contribution is documented and verified, shortly after the close of the fiscal year, the prestigious award will be processed and automatically dispatched to you.

The recognition awards are given annually, shortly after the close of the fiscal year. This ensures that your club's dedication and support throughout the year are acknowledged and celebrated appropriately.

There are multiple levels of recognition to honor clubs based on their per-member

average contributions. The levels are as follows.

**All Donors:**

**Bronze Level** - US\$50 per member (within a fiscal year)

**Silver Level** - US\$100 per member (within a fiscal year)

**Gold Level** - US\$250 per member (within a fiscal year)

**Platinum Level** - US\$500 per member (within a fiscal year)

**Diamond Level** - US\$1,000 per member (within a fiscal year)

Recognizing individual generosity

There are multiple levels of recognition to honor donors based on their one-time donation amount that meets the eligibility criteria as noted in the levels of recognition. The levels are as follows.

**All Donors:**

**Bronze Pin** - US\$50 to US\$99.99

**Silver Pin** - US\$100 to US\$199.99

**Gold Pin** - US\$200 and above

**Leo Members Only:**

Leo-Presidential LCIF Supporter - Minimum donation of US\$20

If you ever have questions about LCIF please let me know.

CC Harold Spire  
26 M-4 LCIF Chair

