



DISTRICT 7- L
District Governor
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FEBRUARY 2012

DG Ritter Message

We recently had the opportunity to attend the 2012 Mid-Winter Forum, in Clarksville. I hope many of you were there to take advantage of the educational opportunity and exchange of ideas. The weather was perfect. You may remember last year – the first week-end of February snow storm.

This was a state-wide, Multiple District 7 event. MD-7 has 150 clubs. The event drew less than 150 Lions; actually 98, officially attended. Another dozen or so pre-registered, but did not attend, mostly for health reasons. If all MD -7 Lions had attended there would have been 3,633. So, not only did every club not send a Lion, but less than 3% took advantage of this educational opportunity. Most of the topics can be accessed at the LCI web-site, for those interested, who could not handle the distance, or had other pressing priorities at that time.

PID Dave Stoufer was the Guest Speaker at the luncheon, and also taught two of the training sessions. The luncheon presentation was a timely eulogy of John Barnett; comparing him and his leadership to that of Helen Keller and Melvin Jones. His wife, Rachel, taught two of the other dozen sessions. Actually 15 sessions were scheduled, but the popular internet session was presented twice.

A suggestion presented – empty the projects fund at the end of the year – 1/3 to local; 1/3 to state project, and last 1/3 to global = LCIF. The needs are great, and the empty account is **an** incentive to get active with the new years fund raising.

In conjunction with the forum, your Council of Governors met to discuss the pressing priorities of MD-7. This was the ninth meeting of the 2011-2012 Arkansas Lions Council of Governors, chaired by CC Darleen Wheelington. Most of the

other meetings were conducted by use of the Arkansas Lions Teleconference System.

Lion Cheri Yecke, of Searcy, was appointed Chairman of the Constitution & By-Laws committee, and PCC Earl Sears was appointed Chair of the Global Membership Team. These both replace PCC John Barnett, who died recently. The Council endorsed **the** creation of the PCC John Barnett Leadership Award: and designated Wanda Barnett as the first of the annual recipients.

CC Darleen has a new Leader Dog puppy to raise. She has been named “Soo-ee Bee Arkansas” and also accompanied Darleen at all meetings this week-end.

Also, each District Governor held individual cabinet meetings. These are mandated by Lions by-laws. The purpose being to have information interchanges of the Lions of the district. I am attaching a club report – Hot Springs-as a shining example of the type of report requested from each club. Similarly, I am including Zone 2’s report, as a reminder of what is expected of all six of our zones. Also, note that the report from the Environmental Services Committee exemplifies what can be expected in the line of a report from our twenty-six working committees.

It would be great to use the newsletter as a vehicle to disseminate the reports of the good works of the clubs, zones and committees of District 7-L, not only on a regular basis. Nobody knows of all the good works that Lions do in their local communities and globally. Reports like these are a way to let others know, besides being, a way to exchange ideas that work, which can be applied in your community for even more good. It was announced that our convention revenue exceeded costs by \$ 403.53. So I apologize for allowing the

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committee to set the registration too high. But, also publically thank Lion Dale Gathright, Saratoga president and soft-drink provider for his supplying the beverages, and the Bryant Lions for their sponsorship of the hospitality room.

Regular up-dates or notices of deceased members as well as new members would be appreciated. I was recently made aware of Hot Springs Village Breakfast Lion Richard (Dick) Olson's passing.

One intent of these newsletters is to keep the Lions of the district informed, in a timely fashion. All secretaries receiving this are requested to please forward to their club members. Please let me know of others that should be on our distribution list.

It was suggested, in our cabinet meeting, to form a 'telephone tree' for an improved notification. I would call the vice governors, they would call the zone chairs, who would call the club presidents. Leaving the individual clubs to set up their own phone trees. Reportedly, some clubs were not aware of the details of our district convention or this forum and cabinet meeting. I await your response.

Remember that our state convention will be held May 18-19, 2012 at Central Baptist College, of Conway, A.R. This will also include a Council of Governor's meeting and a cabinet meeting. Multiple resolutions changing the by-laws will be presented, including the proposal to add Leader Dog as a state project.

In closing, I found this quotable in another newsletter - -

ONE NEW MEMBER

Why not make your New Year's Resolution - to bring in one (1) new Lion during the year? But, do it before July 1, 2012. If you make the resolution, the chances are that you will work to make it happen.

You don't have to stop after bringing in that one new member. But at least bring in one new member. Get the other members of your club to do the same thing.

CHALLENGE THEM TO MATCH YOU!

How are you going to do this? First get out a pencil and write down everyone you know in the community. Then go over the list and determine

who might be the best candidate to want to join our great organization.

Don't overlook people you don't know. Scan through the local newspapers. You are likely to read about business, political and community leaders who would value Lions membership and could make a significant contribution to your Lions Club.

Once you have the candidates rated, start working on one at a time. Don't take **NO** for an answer. Turn it around and sell them on why they should be a Lion.

What Lions can do for them! Get them to attend a meeting with you.

If you do this, you will have a new Lion in your club!

PCC Jim McGown

The Hot Springs Lion Club

Our Club has spent the last six months doing what we usually do and is as follows:

1. We purchased nine pairs of eyeglasses at a cost of \$585.00
2. We have donated \$600.00 to the Charitable Christian Medical Clinic, here in Hot Springs.
3. We have donated \$600.00 to the Jackson House Soup Kitchen.
4. We joined with the South Hot Springs Lions Club in "Ringing the Bells" for the Salvation Army.
5. The President and/or the Secretary have attended all of the State and District Meetings to date.
6. We sold Tee Shirts during the "Caring Day" for the United Way.
7. We made our Annual Donations to the World Services for the Blind, the Lions Eye Bank and the Mid-South Lions Eye Institute.
8. We paid our International, State and District dues on time.
9. Our monthly report to L.C.I. were sent on time.
10. We have held our Regular Club Meetings every Thursday Evening with an average attendance of 10 members.
11. We cleaned and mowed our two different "Adopt-a-Spots" four different times.

Alas, we have no new members to report.

Submitted by:
Morris D. Cash



My Fellow Lions,
Honorary Chairperson, 1st Vice President Wayne Madden invites you to Tampa, Florida the weekend of September 13th - 15th for the 36th annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum. Under the leadership of General Chairperson PCC Polly Voon, the Planning Committee is working hard to put together a forum you are sure to remember for many years to come. Even Host Committee Chairperson PCC Jackie Cameron and the Lions of Multiple District 35 are ready to show you what southern hospitality is all about!

If you haven't registered for the forum it's never too early. You can register online by going to:
<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/onlineregistration.html>.

The first issue of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Newsletter "**Destination Tampa**" is online and ready for you download. The web address is:

<https://usacanadalionsforum.org/PR/Destination%20Tampa.pdf>.

Share the link with everyone in your club. Future issues of the newsletter will be available online February 17th, April 27th, June 29th and August 17th. The August 17th issue will also be mailed to all registered attendees.

We'll be looking for you,
Lion Dave Skillin
Website/Newsletter Chairperson
USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
Tampa Bay 2012 Planning Committee

Hot Springs Village Breakfast Lions Chili Day

Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the Coronado Center in Hot Springs Village. Home made Chili, apple pie and coffee/tea/milk. Ice Cream is available for the apple pie. Just \$8:00 for adults; \$4.00 for children. Serving times are 11:00am to 2:00pm and 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Take out is available as well. For advanced tickets call 501-226-9406. Tickets will also available at the door. Please join us and help support our Lion's projects.

Dear Fellow Lion:

Second quarter reports for the 2010–2011 Lions year are available on our website at leaderdog.org/lions/reports. The club giving reports cover the period July 1–December 31, 2011. Download [Kibbles & Tidbits](#) (Word document).

While you are there, be sure to [read the most recent issue of The Mane Event](#), our quarterly newsletter for Lions Clubs.

If you have information such as a change in contact information that will help us make sure that this notification reaches the correct individuals, please direct any corrections or questions to Lions team member Kathy Gilchrist at kgilchrist@leaderdog.org.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support for Leader Dogs for the Blind clients!

Yours in Lionism,
Lion Kathleen Breen
Manager of Lions Engagement

Environmental Services Projects Hot Springs Village Evening Lions

The Hot Springs Village Evening Lions Club conducted a January roadside clean up along DeSoto Blvd. from the West Gate to Ponce De Leon, a distance of about 14 miles. We have about 35 volunteers who help with this project five times each year. In 2012, our Lions Club will be responsible for the 2 Village Pride Day clean up efforts, one in April and one in October. At these events, all the clubs and organizations in the Village are asked to clean up sections of all the major roads in the Village.

It will be our responsibility to contact all the clubs and organizations, determine what areas they will clean up, obtain bags and safety vests for the volunteers, publicize the event, and solicit donations of coffee and donuts for the volunteers from Village restaurants and businesses. Our Lions Club will conduct additional clean ups along DeSoto Blvd. in June and August. The HSV Evening Lions Club is sponsoring a tree planting project on March 17th, to replace some of the trees lost during the April, 2011, tornadoes. We have invited the HSV Morning Lions Club, the Fountain Lake High School Green Team, and the Jessieville High School Science Club to join us in this effort

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ARKANSAS LIONS DISTRICT 7-L CABINET MEETING JANUARY 28, 2012 ZONE 2 REPORT

All six (6) clubs in zone 2 have been visited and have been given at least two copies of the Arkansas Lions 2011-2012 Directory. Two zone District Governor's Advisory Committee Meetings have been conducted, with the third (final one) planned in April.

The main focus at the zone meetings has been on developing a zone project whereby all six clubs in Hot Springs (zone 2) could participate. We have now narrowed the list down to three opportunities: 1) Parking Lot Car Trunk Sale 2) Lion Signage at all Highway Entrances Coming Into Hot Springs 3) Lions Tree Planting Project – In hopes of creating a “Park Like” environment for one of the areas in the city.

The idea for a zone project is to create an opportunity for all the clubs to jointly work on a community project which will raise the awareness of Lions in the Hot Springs community. This hopefully will give a boost to recruitment of new Lions in the area. Also, this

will provide an avenue for the members of the various clubs to get better acquainted and share ideas on ways to strengthen their club.

All the clubs are active with fund raising projects for Lions charities and working on local community projects – except one. This club does not seem interested in doing ‘anything’ but having lunch together. In discussing this situation with past zone chairpersons and past DG's, it seems that it has been this way for a long time.

I will continue to encourage and share ideas with this club, but feel my time and energy can best be spent with the other clubs desiring to grow and get stronger. I would certainly welcome assistance from those willing to come in to help with this club.

Respectfully submitted, Lion Bob DeVinney, Zone 2 Chairperson, District 7-L

Half-Century Honor Awaits Lion Lee Cordes

Before Pancake Day arrives this October, Lion Lee Cordes will notch 50 years as a Lion. Later, he plans to put on his Lions apron and his purple and gold Lions cap and cook some delicious pancakes.

Cordes is looking forward to September when he can attach Lions' 50-year membership pin to his vest. It will represent his half-century of service to humanitarian goals, something Cordes treasures even more than his business success. “It's all about service, making possible all the good things Lions do, especially for our blind and sight-impaired citizens,” he said.



Lion Lee has been a member of the Hot Springs Village Evening Club since 2009 and goes beyond his Lions activity to serve others. At least three days a week, he is the smiling security guard at HSV's west entrance -- greeting all who live and visit the village.

During his half-century as a Lion, Cordes has held membership in three clubs. He first became a Lion in 1962 in Buckley, IL., a club with 20 members in a community of 500 people. He had been a member there for 17 years when he transferred to the Gibson City, IL Lions, a 90-member club in a community of 3,600 citizens. “Gibson City's Lions met every Tuesday at noon, and attendance was very good,” Cordes said. “I was a member for 30

years. During those 47 years in Illinois, Cordes held every job a Lions' Club offers, including president of both clubs.

His switch from Buckley to Gibson City marked a major transition in his business career as a banker. After 20 years at the Buckley bank, Cordes helped start his own bank in Gibson City, serving as president for 15 years and chairman of the board for 7 years.

His office was near the Lobby door and he spent more time greeting customers at the door than working in his office. “Just like Lions, banking is a service. We didn't have any product to sell. Our customers owned the money,” Cordes said.

“We had to earn their trust every day by talking to them and answering their questions.”

Environmental

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to plant 1,000 pine seedlings in common areas that are now very bare of trees.

A local ranger from the Arkansas Forestry Commission has been most helpful in getting this project going. He has volunteered to come on the day of our planting project, deliver the trees, and help us with the planting. If you have questions about setting up either of these environmental projects, please contact me via email at sterzik@att.net.

Karen Sterzik

Environmental Services Committee

Nomination for the

EDWARD G. BARRY MEMORIAL AWARD

For Sight Conservation And Work With The Blind

Past International President Edward G. Barry, Sr. served Arkansas Lions in all capacities. The Lions of Arkansas will annually recognize a Lion who epitomizes much of the same characteristics as Ed Barry. Although the award is given for sight conservation, work in that particular area is not the sole consideration.

Nominees for the award should be "all-around Lions," active in all aspects of Lionism. Length of service is a consideration for the award, but active newer members are given equal evaluation. Attending all types of meetings is important, but again, Lions who work diligently in their club will not be penalized for not attending district, state or international meetings.

Perhaps the above explanation of the judging will help you understand better the type person who has the best chance of winning the award. Don't hesitate to submit any Lion you believe deserving of the award. Let the judges select the winner.

SPECIFICATIONS: an Arkansas Lion or Lioness in good standing in his/her club.

1. Nominations may be made by Club President or Secretary, Council Chairperson, District Governor, District Governor Elect, 1st & 2nd Vice District Governor.
2. **Time of consideration will be calendar year 2011.**
3. Posthumous award will be considered in deaths occurring during the calendar year.
4. **Nominations accepted until March 1, 2012.**
5. Judging will be done by an independent group. (*The judges are three International Directors or Past International Directors who were visitors to the state at District Conventions, to be determined by the Council of Governors*).
6. The award will be given at the Lions State Convention on 5-19-12, with the winner receiving a plaque.

Any questions concerning the award should be directed to:

Darleen Wheelington, Council Chairperson
15 Fairview Road or
Camden, AR 71701
Phone: 870-836-7297, Cell: 818-758
Email: wheelarkk@aol.com

Arkansas Lions State Office
7430 North Hills Blvd
No Little Rock, AR 72116
Phone/Fax: 501-834-5111
Email: arlions@sbcglobal.net

(Complete nomination and mail to the State Office by March 1, 2012)



2011 Ed Barry Award Nomination Form

Name and/or Title: _____

Phone: Home () _____ Business () _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/Zip _____

E-Mail: _____

Lions Club: _____ Club Number _____

Nominated by:

Club or Title _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____

Nomination Justification

Number of Years in Lionism: _____

Lions Club Officer or Leadership Position Held: _____

Number of Extension Awards: _____ New Members Sponsored: _____

Describe any outstanding accomplishments not listed on this form: _____

---- Please complete both pages ----

Lions Activities:

Attendance: Indicate the nominee's attendance by marking the letter that most closely corresponds with the nominee: A - Attends regularly R – Attends Rarely O - Attends Occasionally N – Never Attends

District Convention _____ State Convention _____
International Convention _____ USA/Canada Forum _____

Sight Conservation Participation: _____

District Office (S) Held: _____

MD7-Arkansas Involvement: _____

State Projects or Unique Involvement: _____

Fund Raising Activities: _____

Response to community needs: _____

How has nominee enhanced Lionism and his/her community? _____

An extra sheet may be attached if needed.
NOTE: NOMINATING CLUBS MUST BE IN GOOD FINANCIAL STANDING.

Hot Springs Village Evening Lions Honor Two Members' Stellar Service With Highest Award

Long-time HSV residents Tom Hotman and Emile Lauber and their respective spouses, Georgia and Nola, have been good friends and fellow members of HSV's Evening Lions Club for more than a decade.

The two men's stellar service to club, area and state leadership in support of Lions humanitarian



Evening Lions Bruce Davis, left, and Surry Shaffer, presented Lions Melvin Jones Awards to fellow Lions Emile Lauber and Tom Hotman

purposes were recently honored with the distinguished Melvin Jones Award.

The Melvin Jones Award, named for Lions' founder Melvin Jones, is the highest award a club may bestow to individual members.

Twenty-nine HSV Evening Lions have now received this honor during the club's 39-year history.

Presenting the awards were past district governors, as well as award recipients, Bruce Davis and Surry Shaffer.

Hotman, before he was elected president in 2004, worked in many club service and fundraising projects and chaired leadership teams.

He later served as district team treasurer, and convention chair, as well as one term as district chair, and two years as region chair.

For the past three years, Hotman has served as club orientation chairman for new members, inviting new members to his home to learn more about Lions work in Arkansas and internationally.

As the club's liaison for a Twinning Club relationship, Hotman established a long-term association with North Knots Lions in Doncaster, England, in 2004.

Together, both clubs have supported funding for Lions' Annual Blind Camp in the USA, plus two water development projects and a boy's camp in Africa.

This partnership also decided to assist a Lions club in the Netherlands with a five-year project to build a Children's Village in Tanzania, Africa. This past year, Hotman recently turned over the reins of this international relationship to another HSV Lion. He and his wife, Georgia, have sold their HSV home and soon will be relocating to Texas.

Lauber succeeded Hotman as club president in 2005.

Locally, Lauber led HSV Lions support of Salvation Army fundraising for many years.

His leadership was critical in 2003 when the club re-established its support of the Village Braille-Bible Workshop, an effort that has remained strong.

He recruited more than a dozen Lions to volunteer weekly for printing and assembly of Braille Bibles for shipment worldwide.

Lauber's exemplary service was recognized by Lions International at the 2005 Arkansas Lions Convention with the International President's Leadership Award.

Beyond HSV, Lauber served both district and state Lions in leadership roles, including state and local treasurer and state convention chair.

His background in retail advertising and financial management was invaluable to these responsibilities.

Lauber's wife, Nola, also has a distinguished service records with HSV Evening Lions. In 2007, Nola was honored with the Melvin Jones Award.

For more information about HSV Evening Lions, please visit the club's website at www.hsvelions.org