



District 26-M7
The Heart of
Missouri Lions

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Between the Lions



MAY 2024

DISTRICT GOVERNOR UPDATE

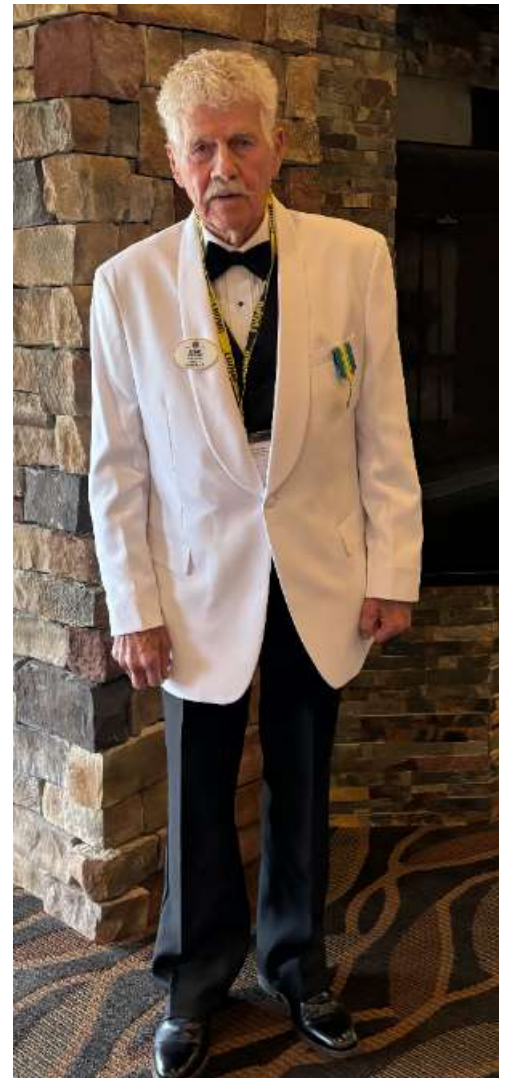
Hope this message finds all of you doing well. If your grass is growing as fast as mine, seems like about every three days it need mowed again. Let's take

the rain anytime we can get it. About July and August will probably be praying for a little moisture.

Our State Convention was a success with 200 in attendance. The keynote speaker (Past International President) Douglas Alexander was over the top. What a down to earth Lion he is. There were lots of activities not offered in past conventions. Convention chairs LouAnn Hathcock and April Underwood did a fabulous job of coordinating the event. The service projects offered were not as well attended as we had hoped, but a thank you to all the Lions who donated their time and effort.

Dan Meers (KC Chiefs Mascot) was a guest speaker. I could have listen to him all day. Such a great speaker, solid Christian and family man. He speaks hundreds of times a year at different events, If you every have the chance to attend one of these, don't hesitate as you won't be disappointed.

The dues increase starting in July was voted on and past unanimous. No one enjoys seeing their dues go up, or their power and water bill increase. Our MD26 membership today is about 7,000. Ten years ago, it was 12,000. The loss of all these members and their dues revenue has put our state budget in the red for the past couple years. We have had to draw on our reserves to balance the budget. Without a dues increase, we would be broke in short order. The increase was supported by the current seven District Governors as well as all seven of the incoming DGE.



PDG Debbie Cantrell was voted as our next MD26 International Director. Debbie is very qualified and will be a great ambassador from our state. Next year's state convention will be held in the Kansas City area.

My forth and final District cabinet meeting will be a picnic social held at McClung Park in Jeff City on June 8th from 1PM – 3PM. There will be pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and condiments. Bring a dish to share if you can.

The 2024 recipient (Lion Steve Duncan) of the M7 B.W. Robinson Service Award was not in attendance at the M7 District convention, and this award will be given at the picnic. Please try and attend and show your support for Lion Steve.

Stay Safe, District Governor, Ed

Chamois Lions Club News

The Chamois Lions Club met for their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, April 8, 2024 at the Chamois Community Center. Eleven Lions were present for the dinner and business meeting.

Three of the projects pertain to work at the Chamois City Park. Lion Third Vice President Randy Thoenen was absent but does still plan to schedule a Spring workday to install a new door on the Chamois City Park ballpark storage shed and to address some needed ballpark fence repairs. There is also a need to rebuild a portion of the roof over the ballpark grandstand and the Chamois Lions Club is awaiting an update from the City of Chamois.

The rebuild of the second story of the Old Bandstand remains a very high priority. The Chamois Lions Club is waiting on responses from two contractors and still has tentative plans to undertake construction later in 2024.

At an earlier Chamois Lions Club meeting, the Chamois Lions voted to install wifi at the Community Center. Wifi capability would enhance the camera security system already in place. Lion President Lieneke has left calls for RadioWire in an effort to schedule installation and to then meet RadioWire technicians at the Community Center to grant entrance into the building in order to complete the installation.

There was no new information in regards to a project to install a flagpole at the Chamois City Park. American Legion Post 506, Chamois Masonic Lodge #185, and the Chamois Lions Club have undertaken a cooperative project to install a 40-foot flagpole somewhere on City property at the City Park so that the flagpole is visible both from inside the park and from the Missouri River. The flagpole has been purchased and received. Volunteer assistance to pour concrete for the base of the flagpole, to set the flagpole, and to eventually light the flagpole has been arranged for. The City of Chamois has approved the project and efforts are still underway to determine the exact location to place the flagpole.

Lions Beth and Nelson Sieg and Lion Michael Edwards reported on the annual Easter Egg Hunt that was held at the Chamois City Park on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Seven Lions to include Lions Beth Sieg, Nelson Sieg, Michael Edwards, Jeff Kormann, Steve Duncan, Brandy Ruegge, and Elise Brochu assisted with this event and estimates are that approximately 100 children, parents, and grandparents were in attendance. The weather was perfect, Lions also policed the Chamois City Park grounds prior to the egg hunt, and the actual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. Thanks were extended to those Lions who assisted with this event with special thanks to Lion Connie Smith, who purchased the eggs and candy.

JC HOST LIONS SAFETY PATROL

In 1949, with the assistance of the Jefferson City Police Department, the JC Host Lions Club organized the Safety Patrol (originally called the School Boy Patrol) to act as crossing guards at schools around Jefferson City. Since then, JC Host Lions have supported the program with funding, equipment, and time. On Friday, May 3, JC Host Lions Members assisted with the year-end Safety Patrol Picnic in support of the students that kept other students safe during this past school year.



First food produce distribution event held in Chamois

Our first attempt to partner with Central Missouri Community Action and distribute food produce boxes in Chamois was a huge success. The Root Cellar, a Columbia based business, dropped off 100 boxes of produce (dozen eggs, head of lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, bag of rice, and a medley of root vegetables along with recipes to use the food items) rather than the 60 boxes we were expecting. Thanks to Lions Jeff and Pamela Kormann, Elise Brochu (and Connor), Steve Duncan, and Dale Hackmann and also to Lions Mark and Debbie Mehmert who volunteered and showed up to work if needed (but we already had plenty of help). Thanks also to Jenn Millard of Central Missouri Community Action who coordinated the event and stayed the entire day to help distribute the boxes of food. We distributed food as patrons drove to the Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church parking lot or Lion Dale Hackmann delivered boxes of food to local shut-ins using his four-

wheeler. Brad Strobel, a local volunteer, also distributed some boxes of food to shut-ins or those who lack transportation. Our last customer was an Osage County Community Living bus with 7-8 special needs adults and we provided each rider with a produce box. We were supposed to distribute food from 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., but we were finished around 5:00 p.m.

This service project was well received and those families who received food were most thankful and appreciative. We had an opportunity to meet new people in the community, to provide a much-needed service, and to be visible as Lions (we had on Chamois Lions logo shirts or Lions T-shirts). We hope to make this a regular monthly event. Jenn Millard has proposed doing a diaper and wipes distribution for parents with babies as another future project.

Lion Steve Duncan



Thank you Steve and Lions Club for helping to get this set up!

CMCA and other community members & organizations have been working towards providing health and well-being in Osage County making some action steps and we are launching that tomorrow (all are welcome, come on by if you are around! ~ invite attached). I would love to see how we can get this going on a regular basis for our community when the funding runs out. If you are not able to make it tomorrow, I would love to form a committee to work towards this and if you are interested, please reach out!

Jenn Millard, Community Organizer

STATE CONVENTION

PDG Bill Foglesong accepting International Leadership Metal. Also pictured Past International President Douglas Alexander, and Past International Director Don Nolan



District Governor and Partner in Service Lion Linda pictured with PIP Douglas Alexander at State Convention



ELDON LIONS

Pictured are several middle school Leap students who helped serve at our annual Jim Taylor dinner. Also Lion Twyla Limbauch (back row) Lions Lisa and PDG Bill Foglesong, DG Ed and Lion Linda Bierbower.



Chamois Lions Club Vision Screening at Osage County R-1 School

On Tuesday, April 23, 2024, Lions Mark and Judy Schaeperkoetter of the Owensville Lions Club along with volunteers from the Chamois Lions Club vision screened all students in grades 1 through 12 at Osage County R-1 School. Lions Schaeperkoetter and Schaeperkoetter are certified vision screeners under the KidSight program. KidSight is a nonprofit organization associated with Lions Clubs that provides free vision screenings for children. Using a photoscreening device or camera, trained technicians take a picture of a child's eyes and instantly analyze the results to determine if the child is at risk for a vision problem. At-risk children are referred to visit an eye doctor and KidSight staff connect parents with resources to get the care their children.



First photo shows Lions Mark and Judy Schaeperkoetter of the Owensville Lions Club and Lion Lana Hackmann of the Chamois Lions Club using the vision screening camera. The second photo shows all volunteers (left to right—Judy Schaeperkoetter, Lana Hackmann, Pam Kormann, Steve Duncan, Mark Schaeperkoetter, Nelson Sieg, and Jeff Kormann)



Jefferson City Host Lions Club

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These dedicated Lions (and a few more that had to leave before the photo and to take the photo) picked up 21 bags of trash along Country Club Drive in Jefferson City (west of the Mall). In 2023, MoDOT suspended the program and will phase out Adopt-A-Highway by 2026. Trash is an eyesore along Missouri's roadways... be responsible with your waste, secure your loads, and pickup trash when you can. Lions... WE SERVE!



All-terrain vehicle rodeo returns to Russellville

By Garrett Fuller
gfuller@news Tribune.com

RUSSELLVILLE — The scent of exhaust fumes and the sound of engines racing as dirt flew into the air at the Russellville Lions Club marked the return of a familiar event.

All-terrain vehicle riders from around the region returned Saturday afternoon for the Russellville Lions Club's first of six ATV rodeos planned for 2024. John Crum, a Lions Club member organizing the rodeos, said proceeds from the rodeos benefit betterment projects throughout Russellville and its annual fireworks display.

The ATV rodeos this year are bigger and better than last year's three events. After receiving input from riders following the final Oct. 7 race, Crum said the club added different patterns to challenge the riders.

Kyle Fischer, whose 8-year-old son Jase Fischer participated in the Lions Club's ATV rodeos last year, was pleased with the changes. The Fischers are from Tebbetts.

"They put on a great show here, and this year they changed it up," he said. "It's not the same patterns, so it's a lot more challenging for the kids and they really enjoy it. This is a good group of people and a good show."

Kyle Fischer added his son began practicing the new patterns every night he could since they were released.

Brenden Jones, of California, said he liked how there are six events planned for this season. He intends to attend all five of the other races, scheduled for June 1, July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7 and Oct. 5. The ATV rodeo will precede the Lions Club's annual fireworks display July 6.

"Seeing all the bikes, meeting all the people I think is pretty cool," Jones said.

Although regular racers — such as Jase Fischer, Jones and Rehmeier Racing, of New Bloomfield — returned, there were also new



Garrett Fuller/News Tribune

Kyle Fischer, left, walks as his 8-year-old son Jase Fischer slowly rides his all-terrain vehicle to line up for a race Saturday during the Russellville Lions Club's first ATV rodeo of its second season. The Fischers, of Tebbetts, were regular participants in last year's ATV rodeos hosted by the Lions Club.

Rodeo:

Continued from p. 1

competitors. Kendra Infranca traveled nearly 140 miles from Alton to race her multiple ATVs — winning first in the open class and third in the open modified class. She has been racing since she was 8.

"It's definitely a thrill being able to get back on the track and actually get out there," Infranca said. "It's a big huge adrenaline rush."

Crum attributed the fundraiser's success to its local sponsors. Vance Wilt, owner of sponsor Treehugger's Offroad Repair, said his three daughters — Natilie, 13, Cora, 9, and Marion, 6 — competed for the first time Saturday after practicing the past two months.

"We've kinda got around it a little bit and watched our nephews race and ... our kids wanted

to get into it and spend a little more time with family," he said. "Now it's one big racing family. We're going to go around and hit all the rodeos we can this year."

Crum added a major giveaway is planned for one of the events this year. A 50-50 raffle was also held during the rodeo Saturday, with Kyle Fischer winning \$113 after his ticket was randomly selected by attendee Roger Gilpatrick.

"Without (the sponsors), what we're going to do later in the year would not be possible," he said.

Crum was pleased without the turnout, despite the dark clouds that loomed over the track when racing began at 3 p.m.

"The turnout for our very first one, with them predicting rain throughout today, I was very well pleased," he said.

For more information about the ATV rodeos, visit the Russellville Lions Club Facebook page.



Recently, the Jefferson City Host Lions Club had as a guest speaker, Khesha Duncan, Regional Director for Better Business Bureau. She presented some great information regarding scams, and has offered to share this with other clubs which may be interested.

Khesha Duncan / Regional Director / Better Business Bureau® / Office: 573-721-9965

SHOW ME LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING

The Show Me Lions Eyeglass Recycling Facility is located at 710 Sandstone in Cedar City / North Jefferson City, Missouri. Your group can help sort eyeglasses. Contact Jesse Hathcock at 573-338-5530 or jess26m7@aol.com.

Lohman Lions Alberta and Gary Zumwalt are in charge of filling orders for recycled eyeglasses for mission trips. If anyone wants to contact them to help with this task, their phone number is 573-782-3560. Also, if anyone knows of a mission group that wants recycled eyeglasses, they can submit an email request to: showmelionseyeglassrecycling@gmail.com.

EVENTS AROUND THE DISTRICT:

- JC HOST LIONS “2024 62nd DUSTY DESKINS PEANUT DAY” on Friday, May 17, 2024 selling all around Jefferson City for \$1 a bag or 6 for \$5.
- LOHMAN FESTIVAL:
 - June 30th, 2024 - Lohman Lions annual BBQ at the Community Bldg at 3007 Main Street with pork steak, chicken & brat dinners, beginning at 10:30 a.m.
 - Historical display upstairs at the Community Bldg frpm 10:30-3.
 - Patriotic service at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church on the hill - 9 am.
 - Corner Collectables open 9-3.
 - Old Lohman Mill tours 11-3.
 - Bring your old cars and show them off from 10:30-2:30 on Front Street “under the big tree”.
 - St. Paul’s Lutheran Church will serve sandwiches, desserts, etc., beginning at 6 pm with the fireworks at 9 pm at the church.

Submit your event or article to Lyle at lrosburg@hotmail.com for inclusion in the next District Newsletter.

NEW MISSOURI STATE LIONS WEBSITE:
<https://lionsofmissouri.org/>