

Count Down 100  
9 Months



**ROAR**  
Newsletter

**7.5.2023**  
Edition

**Chartered February 18, 1924**

**2023-2024  
OFFICERS  
& BOARD**

**PRESIDENT**

GERALD 'JERRY' GARDNER

**1ST VP**

TADD GABRIELSON

**2ND VP**

AUSTIN KNUE

**SECRETARY**

JOE MCCORMICK

**TREASURER**

GREG CRAPO

**COMMUNICATION/  
IT/MARKETING**

WAYNE ROSS

**LION TAMER**

CARL NEHLIG

**ROAR EDITOR**

PENNY EDWARDS

**MEMBERSHIP**

DOROTHY NEHLIG

**TAIL TWISTER**

GLENN QUAVE

**1 YR DIRECTORS**

MARGOT SWETMAN

JERRY DODGE

**2 YR DIRECTORS**

MIRIAM MITCHELL

**3 YR DIRECTORS**

CINDY BAMBURG

BRANDY GUNTER

**PAST PRESIDENT**

MELINDA FREEMAN

**Where There Is a Need  
There Is a Lion**

Lions of MS District 30S step in to fill a need of Disaster Relief following the 6/19/2023 tornado that devastated 6 square miles of Moss Point, MS.

Starting the last week of June District 30S LCIF District Coordinator Carl Nehlig contacted the Moss Point Tornado Disaster Center and learned that volunteers are in short supply to distribute water and ice. So Lion Carl and Dorothy started driving the streets of the hardest hit area distributing ice and water for those either trying to repair their homes, or business, and to those that are trying to live in their homes, and all are without power during the sweltering heat. A LCIF Disaster Relief Grant has been approved and the funding will go to purchase ice chests, cooling neck cloths, and water.

On July 5th 2nd VDG Penny Edwards and Biloxi Club President Jerry Gardner joined to help in the distribution of the much needed ice and water. Lion Penny was told by a county spokesperson approximately 60 homes/buildings were total destroyed and approximately 360 structures (mostly homes) received major damage. Assessments are still ongoing to determine if repairs can be made or if the structure is beyond repair.

As soon as Lions Carl and Dorothy return from the LCIF in Boston they will resume working with the Woolmarket Club with their assistance of providing Cleaning Kits and Personal Care Items, which will be distributed along with the ice chests, water and cooling clothes.

Continued on page 2



**UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS**

<b>JUL 7-11</b>	<b>Lions Clubs International Convention, Boston, MA</b>
<b>JUL 12</b>	<b>Sara Guice &amp; Nick Goyette, Land Trust for Mississippi Coastal Plain</b>
<b>Jul 13</b>	<b>Board of Directors Mtg, Cadence Bank, Howard Ave. 2nd floor, BYOL</b>
<b>JUL 15</b>	<b>Ohr-O'Keefe Museum Eye Screening</b>
<b>AUG 9</b>	<b>Susan Hunt, Biloxi Excel By 5</b>
<b>AUG 23</b>	<b>Michael Watson, Mississippi Secretary of State</b>
<b>SEP 21-23</b>	<b>USA/CANADA Forum, Reno, Nevada</b>

The Biloxi Lions Club meet every Wednesday at noon  
Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum, first floor, 115 1st Street, Biloxi, MS 39530

## 7.5.2023 Meeting Recap

**Opening:** Lion President Jerry Gardner called his first meeting to order at 12:05pm; The BLC Choir led us in God Bless America; Lion George led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Lion Darrell offered the prayer

**Guest(s):** none **Zoom:** none

**50/50 drawing:** \$22 was won by Lion Melinda; **King of Clubs Progressive:** Lion Penny drew the 2 of Diamonds, \$1365 won today if the King of Clubs drawn

**Auction Item:** none

### **Club Business and Announcements:**

1. President Jerry G:

a) all dates in July and Aug have dessert pledges, and thanked Patty for the delicious chicken alfredo meal served today

b) July Board Mtg will be on the 13th at Cadence Bank on Howard Ave., 2nd floor, noon, bring your own lunch

2. Lion Margot announced the signup sheet for scheduled vision screening at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum on Saturday 7/15 is being past around. This is the Museum Birthday Bash so a large attendance is anticipated

3. Lion Carl announced that District 30S \$10,000 LCIF Disaster Relief Grant for the Moss Point tornado was approved and the funds should be deposited this week. The grant funding will be used to distribute ice chests, ice, water and cooling neck clothes to those needing them and we will need your help. He said the Woolmarket Club is also being asked to participate in helping in this disaster distribution and will be using their surplus cleanup kits. Please see Lion Carl to volunteer with the distribution

4. Lion Elijah thanked the Club again for the Dalstrom Award he received. "I was totally not expecting this and was trying to guess the recipient as the information was being read...Lion Miriam said that's you!" He also reminded members that USA/Canada in September is a great way to learn more about Lionism and leadership with the many workshops that are offered

4. **Program:** Lion Jerry Dodge introduced today's guest speaker, James Pennington, ED of the Back Bay Mission and Samanta Bell, the coordinator of the Mission's Housing Recovery Program, Photo below

Continued from front page... Moss Point Tornado Disaster Relief

Volunteers are needed to help with future distribution, particularly now that the grant funding has been made available. "We've only been able to go to Moss Point several days a week over the last 2 weeks, but the Lions' presence is noticed and much appreciated" states 2ndVDG Penny. "The residents in the areas with the most damage are mostly elderly living on fixed incomes in older homes. They are trying to stay in their very hot humid damaged homes with little or no means to stay cool or hydrated. Getting to the nearest cooling station or to a church providing meals is not an option for many. However, getting ice and clean drinking water means so much."

Please volunteer if you can by contacting Lion Carl or Lion Jerry. They are putting together a schedule and it soon be available soon.

## BACK BAY MISSION

The Biloxi Club speaker for this week was Rev. James Pennington, Executive Director of Back Bay Mission and Ms. Samantha "Sam" Bell, Associate for the Mission's Housing Recovery Program.

Soon after joining Back Bay Mission in 2021 Rev. James spoke to the Club about the programs the Mission offered. At this visit he went into a bit more of his personal background, education, and training. Very interesting was the year and a half spent he in the capitol city of Siberia, Novosibirsk. He told of his work with the HIV patients, and particularly in orphanages where many of the children were HIV positive having had 1 or both parents dying from HIV.

Rev. James updated us on the Mission's programs of helping the needy with food; prescription Medications; getting clean clothing and showers; with mail, telephone, internet access; or with home repairs.

And with home repairs, he introduced Samantha Bell, the Mission's Housing Recovery Program Associate. Sam shared the personal connection she had with this program when she started trying to find help for her Mother's home thinking it needed just some minor repair. Sam's mom contacted Back Bay Mission and was put on a long waiting list. The long story short was that when her Mom's name came up for the repair, the home was found to need much more repair than Sam thought. There were unseen mold issues. Once the repair was completed and her Mother moved back home, Sam realized the years of the home's disrepair had a huge effect in her Mom's mental and physical wellbeing. It wasn't long after she return to her home that her Mom was happier and healthier than she had been in a long time. She is still living in her repaired home.

A few years later Sam learned someone else was on the "long list" and she called the Mission to advocate for the person. Sam was told that they were short staffed in the Housing Recovery Program. Sam, who was working for a law firm, said she had first hand experience when she helped her Mom get her home repaired. Sam started working for the Mission and the Housing Recovery Program and loves helping people. She said the "long list" is at 85 homes waiting for repairs. The Mission can only do so many homes at a time and list of those seeking assistance is increasing.

For more information on the programs offered, or to volunteer, you can go to [www.TheBackBayMission.org](http://www.TheBackBayMission.org).



Lion Jerry Dodge with Samantha Bell and Rev. James Pennington

Don't forget you can ZOOM a meeting if unable to attend in person. Please contact Lion Greg in advance if you plan to attend via ZOOM.

Direct Access to the Biloxi Lions Club weekly meeting is available on our website [www.biloxilions.org](http://www.biloxilions.org) just by clicking the ZOOM HERE button.

Or, by the following information below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89166624322?pwd=V25tWXJMRkRXdGRWTTIHSJJsMEZWUT09>

Or, Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID 891 6662 4322 Passcode: 996230

Log on a few minutes prior to our 12 noon meeting to assure your connection

\*Issues Logging on...Please call or text Lion Greg at 228.760.0239 for help



## Dessert Pledges

### July– August

#### JULY

5th Penny Edwards

12th Brandy Chaplin

19th Teresa Martin

26th Jerry Gardner

#### AUGUST

2nd Cindy Bamburg

9th Carl & Dorothy Nehlig

16th Leslie Johnson

23rd Cindy Bamburg

30th Glenn Bremenkamp

All of July-August have dessert pledges and only 2 left in Sept. Thank You! Your dessert does not need to be home made, we will enjoy store bought just as much.

If you are not able to attend the meeting in which you have pledged a dessert, please info Lion Penny prior to your date. Hopefully, your date can be picked-up by another member.



## JULY LIONS

Rianna Brahadur

Henry Knue

What's happening man...

I hear I just got a new dig for the next 12 months ...my friends call me ARLO, like the Alice's Restaurant dude. Anyway, I hear the ROAR Editor, Lion Penny, recruited me to 'work' with her this year. And, I didn't have to put my hair under my hat to get the job.

So, if any of you dudes have any news you feel the Lions folk need just send it to me c/o Lion Penny's email:

[lionpennyedwards@gmail.com](mailto:lionpennyedwards@gmail.com)

and I will personally see that she lays eyes on it.

FAR OUT! ...my first assignment:

Lion Penny will be hanging out at the beach in Florida and will not be at the meetings on 7/12 or 7/19, so no newsletter those two weeks.

(Arlo! Really dude-

Actually, I will be in Florida, but I won't be at the beach...my daughter is having surgery and this mama is going to help out. See Everyone on 7/26. Don't forget to bug Arlo if you need to...

~Lion Penny)



ARLO



### Dates to Save

Sept. 21-23, 2023

USA/CANADA Forum, Reno Nevada

Lions Club of Biloxi  
P.O. Box 196 Biloxi, MS 39533  
228.424.7840

<http://www.biloxilions.org>  
<http://m.facebook.com/BiloxiLions>

To enjoy back editions of the Biloxi Lions ROAR newsletter please visit our website.