

Count Down 100
7 Months



ROAR
Newsletter

8.16.2023
Edition

Chartered February 18, 1924

**2023-2024
OFFICERS
& BOARD**

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GERALD 'JERRY' GARDNER

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TAIL TWISTER

GLENN QUAVE

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MARGOT SWETMAN

JERRY DODGE

2 YR DIRECTORS

MIRIAM MITCHELL

3 YR DIRECTORS

CINDY BAMBURG

BRANDY GUNTER

PAST PRESIDENT

MELINDA FREEMAN

Biloxi Lions Club Presents

Special Guest Speaker

August 23, 2023

The Honorable Michael Watson

Mississippi Secretary of State

Biloxi Lions please attend and bring a guest to meet our special guest Mississippi Secretary of State Michael Watson
Arrive early to ensure the club meeting can start promptly at 12:05

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

AUG 23	Michael Watson, Mississippi Secretary of State
AUG 25	20 Guns/20 Days Raffle Ticket Tent Sale, Biloxi Pawn, 10-2
AUG 26	20 Guns/20 Days Raffle Ticket Tent Sale, JB Pawn, GPT 10-2
AUG 30	FVDG Elijah Mitchel, International Convention
SEPT 9	Vision Screening, Train Museum, 9:30-5
SEPT 13	Doug Bradford, Area Team Coordinator, Operation Christmas Child
SEPT 14	BLC Board Meeting, Cadence Bank, noon, BYOL
SEPT 16	Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Annual Drawdown
SEP 21-23	USA/CANADA Forum, Reno, Nevada

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

8.16.2023 Meeting Recap

Opening: Lion 1st Vice President Tadd Gabrielson called meeting to order at 12:05pm; The BLC Choir led us in God Bless America; Lion Larry led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Lion Joe offered the prayer

Guest(s): Lion Tom Quave introduced his guest Natasha Murray; **Zoom:** Lions Susan and Pres. Jerry G.

50/50 drawing: \$19 was won by Lion Cindy; **King of Clubs Progressive:** Lion Miriam drew the 9 of Hearts, \$1591 to the winner if the King of Clubs was drawn. There are 27 cards left to draw...Will the winner of the King of Clubs Progressive be you?

Auction Item: none

Club Business and Announcements:

1. 1st VP Tadd Announcements:

A) Sept 20 dessert pledge has been filled. October-December dessert sign up list will be available soon

B) Don't forget to go to the WXXV Website and vote for Lion Carl as the Best Volunteer

2. Lion Penny gave an update on the Lions of MS Sight Foundation fundraiser '20 Guns in 20 Days' Raffle Tickets. 2 tent raffle sale events have been planned. Flyers on pages 4 & 5 for location information. Please print out and share. A volunteer sign up sheet was passed around and will be available again at 8/23 meeting. Book has 6 tickets, tickets are \$20 each or the whole book for \$100. The drawing will start on Nov. 1st. See ARLO on page 3

3. Lion Carl reminded members about USA/Canada Leadership Forum for Sept 20-23. Also, he asked for members to donate at least \$1 to LCIF so the club can be 100%

4. Lion Margot announced a vision screening has been scheduled for the Train Museum for Saturday September 9, from 9:30-5. A volunteer sign up sheet is being passed around. She also asked for more club members to consider serving on the sight committee, a sign up sheet for the committee is also being passed around

5. Thank you Lion Kathryn for your ham, butter beans, corn bread meal; and thank you to Lions Leslie for providing brownies for dessert

7. **Program:** Lion Jerry D. introduced our speaker former Biloxi Mayor Gerald Blessey, Mississippi Sound Coalition Advocate. Joining Mr. Blessey was his wife, Coastal Artist Paige Gutierrez

Mississippi Sound Coalition

Whether if you are a native from the Mississippi Gulf Coast, a military transplant, a tourist, business owner, or just passing through today's speaker was speaking to us all. Former Biloxi Mayor Gerald Blessey is passionate about the town he was born and raised in...Biloxi, and that includes Biloxi's best known resource...the Mississippi Sound waters.

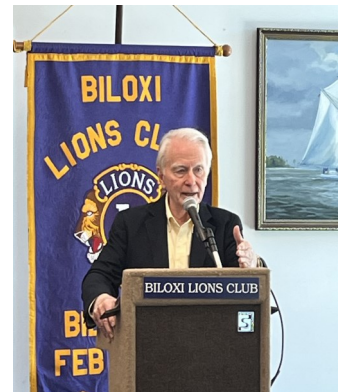
He started his talk about how as a child he remembers fishing to harvest the abundance of the different varieties of seafood found along in the coastal waters. As the years have passed the abundance and varieties have dwindled for numerous reasons. His talk today was on the *Death and Life of the Mississippi Sound* and what in very recent years has cause the decline of the Sound's best know resource, the seafood industry and its important to the local economy.

This is where the Mississippi Sound Coalition, formed in 2019, comes into important focus. A bit of geography and history comes into play...as any 5th grader learned the 2nd longest river in the United States is the mighty Mississippi River. It flows through or borders 10 states starting in Minnesota and empties into the Gulf of Mexico in South Louisiana. Over the thousands of miles the river's watershed empties over 1.6M gallons every second under normal, not flood stage, conditions. With this water movement south, including the tributaries comprising approximately 41% of the watershed drainage in the US, everything from natural debris, animal waste, fertilizer runoff from fields, down to city pollution flows into the Gulf of Mexico. However, all bets would be off when it comes to trying to control the volume of water during flood stage events to prevent flooding in major cities except for the numerous dams and levee control systems which placed all along the Mississippi River.

The Mississippi Sound Coalition was formed due to a historic wet season event that happened in 2019. The Mississippi was in an usually high flood stage mode with dams all along the river being opened to allow more water to flow south to prevent major flood in the upper 10 states. As the water levels started to rise in the lower part of the 10 states, Louisiana in particular, the spillways as they are called were opened to allow more water to flow faster south to the Gulf. This is a normal process to divert flood waters, however, in February 2019 the process became a huge problem for the Mississippi Sound when a decision was made by the Army Corps of Engineers to open the Bonnet Carre Spillway and leave it open for an unprecedented 118 days. The Bonnet Carre Spillway is 12 west of the City of New Orleans and is designed to control flood waters from overwhelming New Orleans. Being opened is not usually but opened for 118 days allowed too much fresh water too fast into the Mississippi Sound. A harmful algae bloom (HAB) from the fertilizer contained in run off water exploded to uncontrollable levels from Louisiana east to Alabama. Waters of south Mississippi took the brunt of the damage caused by the extremely high HAB. Marine life was put into danger and seafood resources were critical, especially in oyster industry with almost all of the oyster beds totally destroyed by the HAB.

The Coalition's was formed by Gulf Coast Mayors and County Supervisors, along with concerned civic leaders and businesses, and its goal is "to work with state and federal leaders to cause national solutions, provide public education on the subject, and if necessary, engage in litigation to restore the Mississippi Sound, to recover damages for affected parties, and mandate national solutions."

More on this 'important to us' issue to be continued in the next ROAR ...ROAR Editor



Don't forget you can ZOOM a meeting if unable to attend in person. Please contact Lion Wayne in advance at the number below if you plan to attend via ZOOM.

Direct Access to the Biloxi Lions Club weekly meeting is available on our website 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 Wayne at 228.348.1334 (or Lion Greg 228.760.0239) for help.**



AUGUST LIONS

Melinda Freeman Miriam Mitchell

Brandy Champlin Jerry Gardner

David Stanovich Pete Wilson

Alan Serotta

Remember you can reach me c/o Lion Penny's email: lionpennyedwards@gmail.com to help spread any LIONS news you feel need sharing!



20 GUNS in 20 DAYS RAFFLE starts Nov. 1st

Penny still has far too many books of tickets left...Have you picked up your 20 Guns In 20 Days Raffle Tickets from Lion Penny yet?

By selling the raffle tickets you will be supporting the Lions of MS Sight Foundation's efforts to strengthen funding for an endowment.

2 days have been scheduled to sell Raffle Tickets for the Biloxi Club

- 1) Friday, August 25, Biloxi Pawn, Pass Road, Biloxi from 10a-2p.
- 2) Saturday, August 26, JB Pawn, Pass Road, Gpt, from 10a-2p.

The events are to help Biloxi sell their tickets that have not be claimed by members to purchase or sell. Plans are to have plate lunches to also sell to help the club's fundraising. The plates are to be \$10 each, consisting of either pulled pork sandwiches or ham and cheese po-boys, chips and a can soda.

Dessert Pledges

August-September



Remember, 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 ask another member to cover your date.

AUGUST

23rd Cindy Bamburg
30th Glenn Bremenkamp

September

6th Cindy Bamburg
13th Jerry Dodge
20th Penny Edwards
27th Carl & Dorothy Nehlig



ROAR



Dates to Save

Sept. 21-23, 2023

USA/CANADA Forum, Reno NV

Jan. 2024

Mid-South Lions MECA Cataract-A-Thon, Details Coming Soon

Jan. 19-20, 2024

District 30S Mid-Winter Convention Hattiesburg, Location TBA

Feb. 17, 2024

Biloxi Lions Club 100th Celebration Biloxi Visitor's Center, 6-10p,

April 12-13, 2024

Mid-South Lions Visiting Lions Week-end, Memphis, TN

April 28-29, 2024

Lions of MS State Convention Biloxi, MS, Additional Information TBA

June 7, 2024

Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament Olive Branch, MS

June 8, 2024

Mid-South Lions Cataract-A-Thon

June 21-25, 2024

Lions International Convention Melbourne, Australia

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.

Friday AUGUST 25, 2023

10 AM – 2 PM

**JOIN THE BILOXI LIONS AND BILOXI PAWN
IN SUPPORTING THE LIONS OF MS SIGHT
FOUNDATION'S 20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS RAFFLE
LUNCH PLATES FOR \$10 (Ham & Cheese or Pull Pork Poboy)**

**JOIN IN ON THE
LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION
20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS
RAFFLE**

Benefiting the Blind and Visually impaired, the Deaf and
Hearing impaired and the youth of Mississippi

Drawing begins November 1, 2023

**BUY A
TICKET
WIN A GUN
A DAY FOR
20 DAYS**



Prizes: Savage Axis 6.5 CM, Bergara 300 Winchester, Tikka T3x 30-06,
Remington 700 ADL 6.5 CM, Ruger 10/22 Carbine, Savage MKII FVSR .22 LR,
Henry Lever Action .22 Magnum, Bergara BMR 22 Long Rifle, Browning A-Bolt3
7 mm, Browning X-Bolt 6.5 CM, FN 509 Compact 9 mm Pistol, Glock 43X9 mm
Pistol, Browning Buckmark 22 Pistol, Taurus G3C 9 mm Pistol, Maverick 12 GA,
Beretta A300 20 GA, Stoeger M3020 20 GA, Benelli Nova Compact 20 GA,
Winchester SXP 12 GA, Winchester SXP 20 GA

Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Purchase from any Lions Club Member

Saturday AUGUST 26, 2023

10 AM – 2 PM

**JOIN THE BILOXI LIONS AND JB's PAWN, Gulfport
IN SUPPORTING THE LIONS OF MS SIGHT
FOUNDATION'S 20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS RAFFLE**

LUNCH PLATES FOR \$10 (Ham & Cheese or Pull Pork Poboyos)

Entertainment by Thomas Edwards

**JOIN IN ON THE
LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION
20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS
RAFFLE**

Benefiting the Blind and Visually impaired, the Deaf and
Hearing impaired and the youth of Mississippi

Drawing begins November 1, 2023

**BUY A
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**LIONS
L
INTERNATIONAL**

Prizes: Savage Axis 6.5 CM, Bergara 300 Winchester, Tikka T3x 30-06,
Remington 700 ADL 6.5 CM, Ruger 10/22 Carbine, Savage MKII FVSR .22 LR,
Henry Lever Action .22 Magnum, Bergara BMR 22 Long Rifle, Browning A-Bolt3
7 mm, Browning X-Bolt 6.5 CM, FN 509 Compact 9 mm Pistol, Glock 43X9 mm
Pistol, Browning Buckmark 22 Pistol, Taurus G3C 9 mm Pistol, Maverick 12 GA,
Beretta A300 20 GA, Stoeger M3020 20 GA, Benelli Nova Compact 20 GA,
Winchester SXP 12 GA, Winchester SXP 20 GA

Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Purchase from any Lions Club Member