



## JC Host Lions 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Blowout

Reported by Lions Bruce Berger

The Jefferson City Host Lions celebrated a century of service from June 12-14, 2025. Our guests were Past International President Brian, and Lion Lori Sheehan. As a bonus, Lion Lori's parents were able to join us.

When our guests arrived, Lion Lyle Rosburg arranged for a nice comfy ride in a vehicle provided by Millard Family Chapels. Don't worry, it wasn't a hearse. We went to

Deborah Cooper Park on Adrian's Island to visit our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gift of a flower garden to the community. We also saw other wonders of this great park. After that, we toured several locations around town which were influenced by our club.

Following the tour of the city, we went to Runge Conservation Nature Center. Fun fact: Of the 70 volunteers at Runge, seven are members of Lions clubs. Anyway, we introduced the group to archery, led by some of our Lions/Runge volunteers, and soon learned that there was a rivalry between the Past International President and his wife. They both learned quickly, and the competition ended in a draw.

On Friday, we started off with a tour of the old Missouri Penitentiary. This was led by our own Lion Mark Schreiber, who had spent over 30 years there. No, he wasn't an inmate. Having the chance to sit in the gas chamber was one of the many highlights of this tour. While it rained most of the time, we were mostly indoors. Our guests, who have visited 92 countries, and have been given many tours of historic sites, said this was the best one of all. Quite a compliment!



We enjoyed a nice lunch hosted by one of our Lions at Central Bank. Keeping with the "Central" theme, we then had ice cream at Central Dairy.

That evening, there was a reception with our guests at Canterbury Hill Winery in Holts Summit. We were presented with a proclamation by State Senator Mike Bernskoetter. This was one of many proclamations received over the weekend. Lions from throughout the state



attended the reception. Past District Governor Jessi Troester provided background music on bagpipes.



Saturday was the big day. It started with a tour of the State Capitol, led by our own Lion Jeanne Schwaller. We learned a lot of history and were fortunate enough to see the famous Thomas Hart Benton murals.

After lunch at Prison Brews, we put our guests to work at the Show Me Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. After all, we are a service organization. So, we sorted, cleaned, and read the lenses of glasses.



Finally, it was time for the grand celebration.

Over a hundred people were in attendance, which is fitting for a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Lion Charlie Lindquist, our 100<sup>th</sup> president gave some brief remarks, and Lion Lyle Rosburg was our emcee.



After a great dinner, Past International President Brian gave a rousing presentation, talking about what Lions mean to the world, and how we need to get more Lions in order to provide more service. One of our club members remarked the presentation reminded him of revival meetings he went to as a child. Well, we all did feel revived afterwards, so it must have worked!

And then, it was all over. After more than two years of planning, the weekend went by way too fast. Now, it's time to start planning for the 200<sup>th</sup>!

*Submit your event or article to Lyle at [lrosburg@hotmail.com](mailto:lrosburg@hotmail.com) for inclusion in the next District Newsletter.*



In 1917, Melvin Jones, a 38-year-old Chicago business leader, told members of his local business club they should reach beyond business issues and address the betterment of their communities and the world. Jones' group, the Business Circle of Chicago, agreed.

After contacting similar groups around the United States, an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, in Chicago, Illinois, USA. The only point of

contention was the selection of a name for the new organization. Melvin Jones researched the idea of calling the new organization Lions. He was convinced that the lion stood for strength, courage, fidelity and vital action. On a secret ballot the name Lions was chosen over several others.

The new group took the name of one of the invited groups, the "Association of Lions Clubs," and thus began the rich tradition of service that Lions Clubs are known for around the world.