



**District 26-M7**  
**The Heart of**  
**Missouri Lions**

# Between the Lions



**APRIL 2025**

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Message from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Bruce Berger (with editing and formatting provided by ChatGPT)



## Why Attend a District Convention?

A fellow Lion recently asked, “*Why should I attend a district convention?*” If it’s been a while since your last one—or if you’ve never attended—there are plenty of great reasons to join us!

### A More Relaxed and Engaging Experience

Gone are the days of long, formal banquets and endless committee reports. Today’s **District M7 Conventions** are designed to be **informative, interactive, and fun**—all while wrapping up by 4:00 PM!

We kick things off with Friday Hospitality Night, where Lions from across the district (and beyond) come together for food, drinks, games, and great conversation. It’s the perfect way to connect and strengthen the bonds of service.

Inspiring Speakers & Meaningful Projects

At the convention itself, you'll hear from **dynamic speakers** sharing the latest updates from our district, state, and international Lions community.

- **International Director Robert “Ski” Marcinkowski** spoke about **Mission 1.5**, a global initiative to grow Lions membership to 1.5 million by July 1, 2027. He shared how specialty clubs—like his own, which supports youth baseball in Alaska—can help engage new members.
- **Stephanie Rademan, Executive Director of SERVE (Callaway County)**, spoke about her organization. SERVE was also the beneficiary of the district service project with the donation of seeds and supplies for their community garden.
- **District Governor Missy Anderson** shared insights on **Lions Business Opportunities for the Missouri Blind (LBOMB)** and its impact.
- **Lion Charlie Lindquist, President of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club**, reflected on his club's **upcoming 100th anniversary** and the keys to a century of service.
- **Past District Governor Devin Struttman (M2)** spoke about the **Missouri Lions Eye Mission Foundation**, which provides vital vision services both locally and abroad.

### **A New Perspective: Lunch in the Dark**

One of the most memorable moments? Our "**Lunch in the Dark**" experience, where attendees wore blindfolds while eating spaghetti—giving us a small but powerful insight into the daily challenges faced by those without vision. It was both **fun and humbling**.

### **Recognition & Celebration**

The district's **Peace Poster Contest** winner, Lorelai Vignola from St. Joseph Cathedral Catholic School, was recognized and presented a check. Several district Lions were honored for their outstanding service. International Director Marcinkowski even presented his "**Winnie the Pooh Tigger Award**" to **Lion Dakota Jones**, our district administrator, for her energy and enthusiasm!

### **Connecting, Sharing & Planning for the Future**

One of the best parts of the convention is the chance for clubs to **brag about their projects**, share ideas, and support each other in overcoming challenges. A common theme is how much more difficult it is to put on large events due to dwindling membership and aging Lions. This reinforces the idea of clubs helping each other, so we all prosper.

Of course, the convention also serves a key purpose: **electing district officers and choosing next year's convention site**.

**Don't Miss Out!**

Attending a district convention isn't just about business—it's about **learning, connecting, and celebrating** what it means to be a Lion. Whether you're a longtime member or brand new to Lions, there's something for everyone.

So, if you've been wondering *why* you should attend, the real question is: **Why not?** See you at the next convention! 🐘 ✨



For more than 30 years, Lions Clubs  
around the world have sponsored a

## "Peace Poster contest"

in school institutions and youth associations.  
This contest gives young people from around  
the world an opportunity to express  
their vision of peace and inspire the  
world with their artistic talent and creativity.

The theme for the year 2025-2026  
is

## "Together and Unite"





**23rd ANNUAL GREAT PLAINS LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**  
**Sponsored by the Lions of Multiple Districts 3, 9, 17, 26 and 38**  
**Baker University,**  
**615 Dearborn Street, Baldwin City, Kansas 66006**  
**June 27-29, 2025**

**UPDATED REGISTRATION FORM (Please type or print legibly)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Initial  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/PO Box City State/Province Zip/PC  
PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Bus/Cell Email  
Home Club \_\_\_\_\_ Sub District Number \_\_\_\_\_ LCI Mbr # \_\_\_\_\_  
Years in Lions \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Office Held \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee is **US\$220** if received by **April 30, 2025**, and must accompany the registration form. **Beginning May 1, 2025, the base fee increases to US\$240.** Make checks payable in US funds to GPLLI and, along with the registration form, mail to ID Hans Neidhardt, 7400 NW Ayr Road, Potwin, Kansas 67123.

**Application Deadline: May 31, 2025**  
***"Applications will not be accepted without full payment."***

Your registration fee includes seven meals, all Institute costs and dormitory rooms (Friday and Saturday) at Baker University. Please note that the dormitories are smoke free. You are permitted to request a specific roommate. Check in will take place at the **Harter Student Union** from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. on Friday, June 27th and check out must be completed by 8:00 A.M. on Sunday, June 29th. We offer a souvenir shirt for an additional US\$25. Shirt size \_\_\_\_\_ (they run a little large).

The following information must be completed before registration will be accepted.

\_\_\_\_\_ Diabetic Diet requested \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Diet requested  
\_\_\_\_\_ Wheelchair Access required \_\_\_\_\_ Vision Impaired (List what accommodation(s) are needed)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hearing Impaired (List what accommodation(s) are needed)

Please list any other special requests \_\_\_\_\_

Questions about the Great Plains Lions Leadership Institute may be directed to: ID Hans Neidhardt, Registrar, 7400 NW Ayr Road, Potwin, Kansas 67123, (316) 435-2800, or [hnnwizardofoz@gmail.com](mailto:hnnwizardofoz@gmail.com). Additional information will be sent to attendees prior to the start of the training session, to include directions, campus map, daily schedule, etc.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

We are asking for the following information in case of an emergency arising during the 2025 Institute. This information will be maintained until the close of the Institute and then shredded.

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone: HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

Medical information that needs to be shared with emergency responders: Please feel free to use the back.

**\*\* LCIF Donations Collection:** Historically, we have accepted individual and/or club donations during the training course. Donations are entirely up to each individual and/or clubs, and are in no way mandatory.



## LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – Orlando, Florida. July 13-17, 2025.

[https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/?utm\\_source=Eloqua&utm\\_campaign=CON\\_EN\\_LionsConOrlandoPromo2\\_1564608773&utm\\_medium=email](https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/?utm_source=Eloqua&utm_campaign=CON_EN_LionsConOrlandoPromo2_1564608773&utm_medium=email)

## HERMANN LIONS



Hermann Lions Club  
46m · 🌐



WE DID IT AGAIN!

The Hermann Lions Club gained another new member at the clubs April 1st meeting. Pictured is Lion Dale Maune, sponsor, New member Mark Hellebusch, and 2nd vice -president Lion Jim Meier. Welcome to the club, Lion Mark.





**JC HOST LIONS** [www.jchostlions.org](http://www.jchostlions.org)

**<https://jchostlions.org/%22a-century-of-service%22>**



*SAVE THE DATES:* Jefferson City Host Lions will celebrate a CENTURY OF SERVICE with events on June 13 & 14, 2025.

June 13, 2025 - Evening reception with our International guest at Canterbury Hill Winery & Restaurant in Holts Summit  
June 14, 2025 - Evening buffet dinner to celebrate our 100th Anniversary at Canterbury Hill Winery & Restaurant in Holts Summit.

**JC HOST LIONS 63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL DUSTY DESKINS PEANUT DAY on Friday, May 16 selling peanuts for \$1 a bag or 6 for \$5 at multiple locations around Jefferson City.**



# ROCKY MOUNT LIONS



# CHAMOIS LIONS

## Chamois Lions Club News

The Chamois Lions Club met for their regular monthly meeting on Monday evening, March 10, 2025 at the Chamois Community Center. Thirteen Lions and one visitor, Sean Hackmann, were present for the dinner and business meeting.

Prior to the dinner, Lion Michael Edwards led the Chamois Lions in the Pledge of Allegiance and Lion Steve Duncan offered the table prayer. The Ladies of St. Mary's Catholic Church served a delicious dinner of Irish Dublin coddle, glazed carrots, Watergate salad, homemade beer bread, and two different kinds of cake for dessert.

Lion President Robin Lieneke presided at the business meeting.

Lion President Lieneke requested that the meeting agenda be approved and with no objections voiced, Lion President Lieneke declared the agenda approved. Copies of the minutes of the February 10, 2025 meeting had previously been distributed electronically by Lion Secretary Beth Sieg and paper copies were available for those Lions who prefer paper. With no objection voiced, Lion President Lieneke declared the minutes approved. Lion Treasurer Nelson Sieg presented a detailed written financial report for the Chamois Lions general account and Lion Building Co-Chairperson Randy Thoenen presented a financial report for the Community Center.

Lion President Lieneke called on Chamois Lions Club liaisons to other Chamois and Morrison civic groups for reports on the activities of those groups. Lion Melissa Arlen, who is the Mayor of the City of Morrison, was absent and there is no Lion who is a member of the City of Chamois government so there were no reports for those organizations. Lion Jeff Kormann, who is a member of both the Chamois Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC) and the Chamois Industrial Development Corporation (CIDC), reported for both organizations. The CHPC is planning a Spring Fling on May 1, 2025 with a plant sale, pottery sale, and demonstrations by artisans to include spinning, weaving, and rag rugs. The event will begin at 10:00 a.m. with lunch available at 12:00 noon. The Chamois Lions Club voted to allow the CHPC free use of the Chamois Community Center for this fundraiser to benefit the Townley House preservation and other activities. The CIDC board of directors has been meeting but has nothing to report at this time. Chamois Lions were encouraged to attend meetings of the CIDC. Lion Scott Mertz and guest Sean Hackmann, who are members of the Chamois Fire Department presented a detailed report on recent Fire Department activities. During the past month, the Fire Department responded to six calls. There have been lots of improvements in the Fire Department with new members and now a total of 24-25 volunteer fire fighters, much training to include a recent CPR class where 15 members were trained, and additional training planned. The Chamois Lions Club voted to allow free use of the Chamois Community Center for an upcoming CPR class. Lion Steve Cramer, who is a member of the Osage County R-1 School Board, provided an update on the school bond issue that will appear on the April 8, 2025 ballot and reported that two seats are open on the school board. There will be a Town Hall meeting on March 25, 2025 to provide information on the bond issue and "Proposition Kids" brochures will be made available at that meeting. Lions Steve Duncan and Jeff Kormann, who are members of the Osage County Agritourism Council (OCAC), reported on a planned bus tour of Hope, MO on May 7, 2025 that will visit the General Store, the old Grist Mill, the one-room school, the Salem Hope Presbyterian Church where lunch will be served, the Hope Creek Longhorn Cattle Ranch, and Bob Campbell's collection of Allis Chambers tractors. Cost of the tour is \$75 per person and includes a wonderful lunch. The Chamois Lions Club is a non-profit organization member of OCAC. To conclude the reports on activities of other civic groups, Lion Kormann, who is a member of the Missouri Community Betterment (MCB) Board of Directors, reported that MCB is renewing memberships for 2025. The Chamois Lions Club sponsors a membership in MCB for the Chamois/Morrison Community Betterment organization.



Two items of old business, special project updates, and ad hoc committee reports were listed on the meeting agenda.

Due to Winter weather issues, all of the City Park improvement projects are on hold. These projects include the installation of a new door on the Chamois City Park ballpark storage shed, to make some minor repairs to ballpark fences, to hopefully rebuild the second story of the Old Bandstand and to remodel the lower level, and the cooperative project with American Legion Post 506 and Chamois Masonic Lodge #185 to erect a 40-foot flagpole that is visible both from inside the park and from the Missouri River. Some discussion did focus on the flagpole project as there is much interest in getting this project completed as the flagpole site has been identified and staked out and the flagpole has been purchased. Some discussion also focused on the need to complete the rebuild of a second section of the ballpark grandstand. Two different wind storms damaged the grandstand. One section damaged has been rebuilt but there is a need to rebuild the eastern part of the grandstand.

Much discussion next focused on Chamois Day. Lion President Lieneke and Lion Scott Mertz reported on the recent meeting of the Chamois Day Advisory Committee. The committee is comprised of representatives from the City of Chamois, the Chamois Lions Club, the Osage County R-1 PTO, the Chamois Fire Department, Chamois Masonic Lodge #185, and hopefully other civic groups and churches. The City of Chamois will take the lead on Chamois Day. As always, an issue is the need for more volunteers to help with planning, the raffle, staffing all the various activities, and set-up and clean-up on the actual day of Chamois Day. To date, new ideas have been proposed to possibly hold the Osage County R-1 School Carnival in the afternoon and to have live music and a beer garden in the evening at the Chamois City Park. The next meeting of the Chamois Day Advisory Committee will be on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. John's UCC Church Educational Building.

Four items of new business were presented and discussed.

Lions Nelson Sieg, Beth Sieg, and Steve Duncan reported on the Lions District 26-M7 Convention that was held at Red Rock Acres in Holts Summit, MO on Saturday, March 8, 2025. The convention was a huge success with much information shared and a new slate of district officers elected for the 2025-2026 Lions year. The keynote speaker for the convention was International Director Lion Robert "Ski" Marcinkowski of Fairbanks, Alaska. Lion Marcinkowski is a 42-year U. S. Army veteran where he flew helicopters. He is a member of the Interior Baseball Lions Club, a specialty Lions Club. Specialty Lions Clubs are organized by a group of Lions who hold a common interest or focus on a particular activity that benefits the local community. Lion Marcinkowski reported that there are 49,000 Lions Clubs worldwide with a total membership of approximately 1.3 million Lions. Mission 1.5 is a Lions Clubs International (LCI) goal to have 1.5 million members by June 2027. Following Lion Marcinkowski's presentation, reports were given on various Lions District, State, and International projects to include KidSight, Saving Sight, Show-Me Lions Eyeglasses Recycling, the MO Lions Eye Mission Foundation, and Missouri Business Opportunities for the Missouri Blind (LBOMB). For the 2025-2026 Lions year, Lion Bruce Berger of the Jefferson City Host Lions Club was elected First Vice District Governor and Lion April Underwood of the Holts Summit Lions Club was elected Second Vice District Governor. A special election will be held in the near future to elect Lion Bill Foglesong as District Governor.

Lion President Lieneke and Lion Secretary Beth Sieg suggested that the Chamois Lions Club revisit the idea of a community dinner for Chamois and Morrison residents. This dinner would be an opportunity for the Chamois Lions Club to give back to the community and to share information about Lions Club and Lions community projects. A tentative date of July 2025 was proposed with the menu to perhaps be a fish fry or chili supper.

Discussion focused on the good works of the Osage County Agritourism Council. The Chamois Lions Club voted to renew their membership in OCAC for 2025 as a non-profit organization.

Tentative plans were made for the annual Chamois Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Chamois City Park. Lion Connie Smith will again procure candy and Lions Beth and

Nelson Sieg reported that they have an additional 100 plastic eggs to be used for the egg hunt. Several Lions volunteered to help hide eggs and oversee the event.

One announcement was made. Lion Steve Duncan reported that Chamois Masonic Lodge #185 is having a gun raffle and spaghetti supper on Saturday, March 29, 2025. This fundraiser is a "Create A Partnership" fundraiser whereby the Lodge partners with the Osage County R-1 School to assist with a school project. Funds raised will be used for technology needs at the school and for every dollar raised from the gun raffle, supper, and donations the Masonic Home of Missouri will match an additional two dollars. Because of the opportunity to assist the school and to secure additional funds through the Masonic Home of Missouri match, the Chamois Lions voted to make a cash donation to this very special fundraiser.

There were no March birthdays. Prayer concerns were expressed for those community members who have health issues to include Lions Becca Mehmert, Mark Lieneke, and Michael Edwards.

To conclude the meeting on a humorous note, Lion Steve Duncan shared several "Some deep thoughts.....". Two such thoughts included "Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers" and "If you are sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say 'Did you bring the money?'"

The next meeting of the Chamois Lions Club will be on Monday, April 14, 2025 at the Chamois Community Center. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

## LIONS YOUTH CAMPS AND EXCHANGE

We have received applicants and still have some yet to receive but I have accepted the following so far.

Female	Ekin Kabakci	Turkey
Male	Lutfu Ata Uysal	Turkey
Male	Remo Wibler	Germany
Female	Henriette Wundisch	Germany
Female	Inkeri Leskela	Finland
Male	Myagmarsuren Munkhbat	Mongolia
Female	Shuuderkhen Khurts	Mongolia
Male	Franciszek Kowalski	Poland
Female	Roberta Albanese	Italy

I'm hoping you have some Host Families waiting to choose an International youth for 10 days.

They arrive in St. Louis July 1st, picked up by first host family until Thursday July 10th, transfer day to second host, second host will have their youth until camp Sunday July 20 after 6pm with dinner provided delivered to "Camp Brim Shire" St. James, Mo. First Host Family will pick up after camp until the youth returns home, around July 28-29.

Please provide me with emails and I will get the youth's information to them for choosing.

I could use ideas for more activities at camp and a male and female around 20-25 to help at camp as peers. Maybe Leos in your area might want to help. There would be no cost for their stay at camp.

We will NOT have a meet & greet at the end. We will try to have a get together with the youths' food dishes during camp. The meet & greet were only attended by Host families and Lions that helped prepare the location for the event. The meet & greet were done to encourage our youths and other Lions to attend and to learn about this wonderful program.

I have attached the Host Family application and information.

Look forward to hearing from each of you.

Thanks  
Lion Toni Mahoney  
314-805-7391



## Become a Host Family

### Is Hosting Right for Me?

Hosting an exchange youth is guaranteed to be a rewarding experience because:

- You experience the joy of sharing your culture and customs.
- You learn about the exchange youth's customs and culture.
- You open a new world of thinking to the exchange youth.
- You make a new friend - maybe a friend for life.

If this sounds rewarding, you may enjoy being a host family for the

Lions YCE Program! Please check out the following video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4M9d31AAJ0&ab\\_channel=LionsClubsInternational](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4M9d31AAJ0&ab_channel=LionsClubsInternational)

### Expectations of a Host Family

**Room and Board** - You are expected to provide room and board for the youth. It is recommended that youth be roomed with youth of similar ages and similar genders. Meals should be balanced and healthy.

**Transportation** - Typically, you are responsible for all the youth's transportation during the exchange. Travel may include but is not limited to, transfers to and from the airport or train station, transfers to other Host Families or International Camp, transportation to and from any planned activities by you and/or the Host Club.

**Financial responsibilities** - Payment for cultural activities is dependent on the agreement made between you, the youth, and the Host Club. Some programs offer stipends or scholarships for participating Host Families.

**Selecting an Exchange Youth** - Hosting a youth is dependent upon desired age, gender, interests, and nationality and upon the availability of the youth meeting those requirements. Your local YCE Chairperson will advise you of available youth. You can learn more about the roles and expectations of a YCE Host Family by checking out the [YCE Host Family Handbook](#)! Potential Host Families must be screened by the Host Lions Club and YCE Chairperson. Availability: It is important that you make sure your family's schedule allows accommodation to spend enough quality time with the youth.

For more information contact: Lion Toni Mahoney [tkmahoney54@gmail.com](mailto:tkmahoney54@gmail.com) 314-805-7391

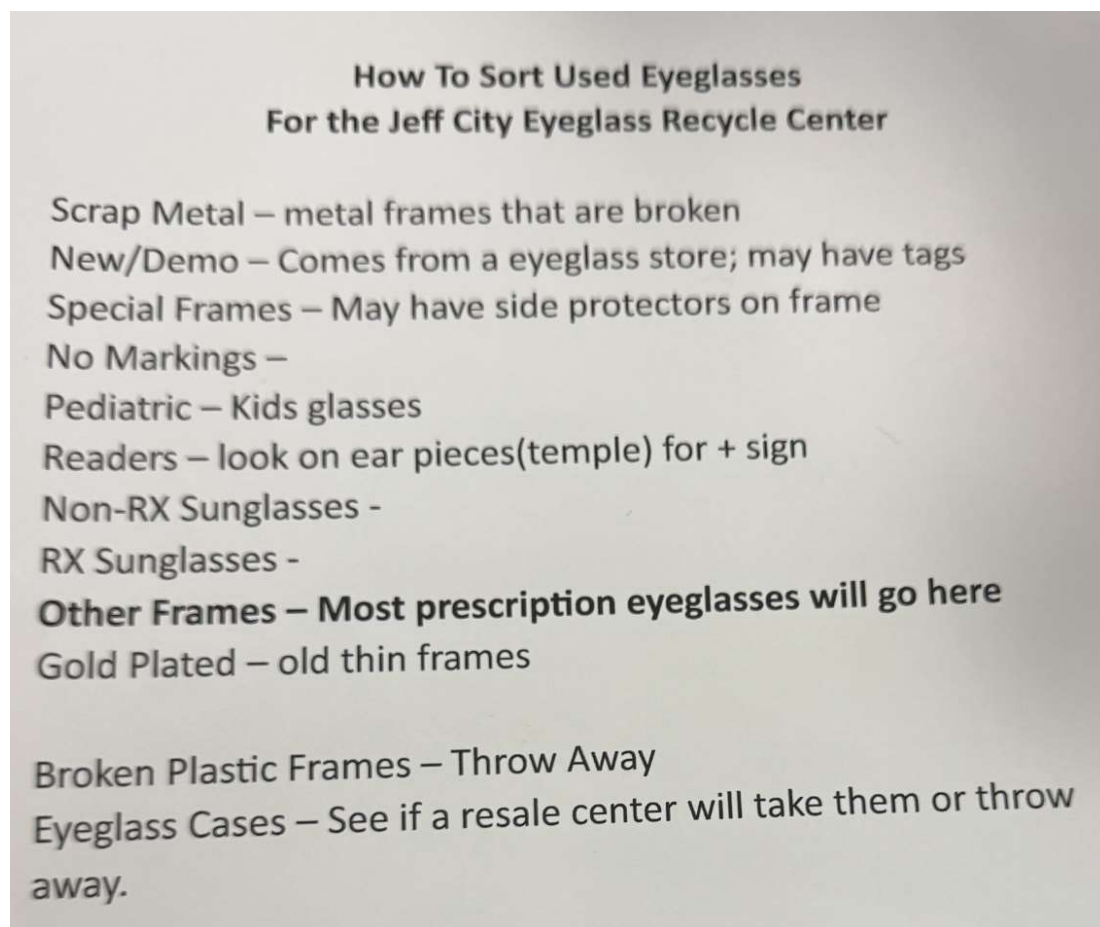
## SHOW ME LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING

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. To volunteer at the building, contact: Lion Don Soph, PDG, 314-304-5054 or email [donsoph@hotmail.com](mailto:donsoph@hotmail.com) or Lou Ann Hathcock, PDG, 573-338-4687 or email [balloonsisters@aol.com](mailto:balloonsisters@aol.com).

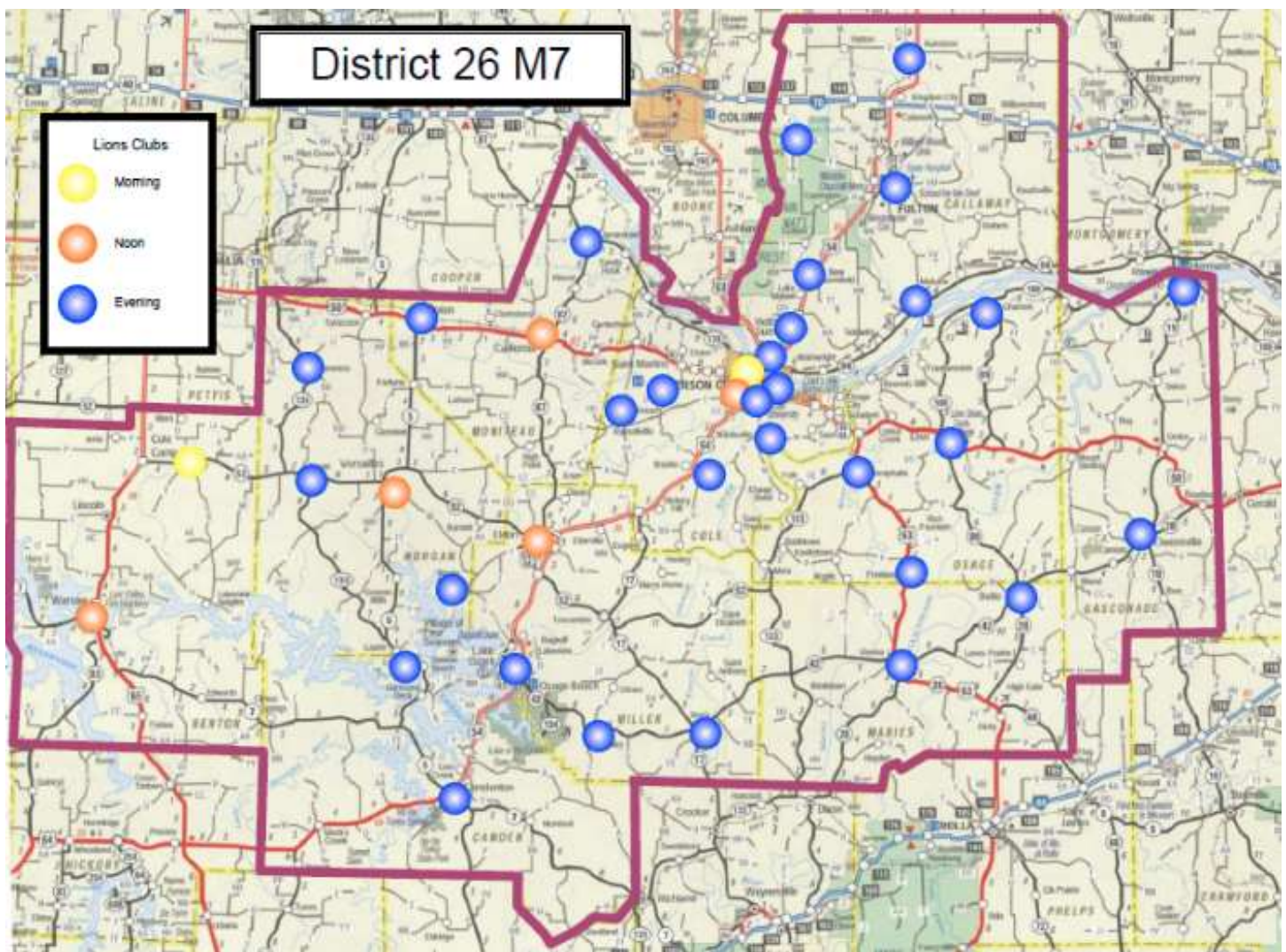
Lohman Lions Alberta and Gary Zumwalt are in charge of filling orders for recycled eyeglasses for mission trips. If anyone wants to contact them to help with this task, their phone number is 573-782-3560. Also, if anyone knows of a mission group that wants recycled eyeglasses, they can submit an email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



**SPECIAL REQUEST:** We are in need of more volunteers to come to the building to work on eyeglasses - sorting, washing and reading, in order to be able to provide glasses to those that need them. Mission trips have increased and we need volunteers to be able to have glasses ready for distribution. If you cannot volunteer to work at the building but do collect glasses, you can still help. Glasses can be sorted by: readers, adult prescription, kids prescription, adult sunglasses and kids sunglasses. It would also help if the glasses were taken out of the cases, since we have no source for cases. All broken, scratched and parts-missing glasses can be separated and labeled as scrap which can be used to get money to use for shipping out the glasses for mission trips. All of this would help immensely. Thank you! – Alberta  
*To volunteer at the building, contact: Lion Don Soph, PDG, 314-304-5054 or email [donsoph@hotmail.com](mailto:donsoph@hotmail.com) or Lou Ann Hathcock, PDG, 573-338-4687 or email [balloonsisters@aol.com](mailto:balloonsisters@aol.com).*



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



ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3
California	Brumley	Belle
	Camdenton	<a href="#">Chamois</a>
Florence	<a href="#">Eldon</a>	Freeburg
Jamestown		<a href="#">Hermann</a>
	Iberia	Linn
	Lake Ozark	<a href="#">Owensville</a>
Versailles	Rocky Mount	Vienna
Warsaw		<a href="#">Westphalia</a>

ZONE 4	ZONE 5
<a href="#">Brazito-Honey Creek</a>	<a href="#">Auxvasse</a>
<a href="#">Jefferson City Breakfast</a>	
Jefferson City Capital	
Jefferson City Evening	Holts Summit
<a href="#">Jefferson City Host</a>	Millersburg
Lohman	<a href="#">Mokane</a>
Russellville	New Bloomfield
<a href="#">Wardville</a>	