



# Biloxi Lions Club

## Lions Roar



Founded February 18, 1924

<http://biloxilionsclub.org>  
[www.facebook.com/BiloxiLions](http://www.facebook.com/BiloxiLions)

September 15, 2021

### USA Canada Forum

Dorothy Nehlig told us that all who attended had a great time. It started off with a seminar, then the Strides Walk, and finally a Strides Walk Seminar. They had an app you could install on your phone that would catalog any points you might earn and prizes were awarded later in the weekend. Dorothy won a prize – the registration to the next forum at Calgary Canada next year!

### Maritime and Seafood Museum Fund Raiser

This Saturday, the museum will be having their annual fund raiser and have asked us to help serve/deliver food to vehicles. Volunteers should be here at 5:00 PM.

### Change for Change

We have 1 jar being turned in today! Last week we had 2 jars submitted. Keep them coming in!

### MS Gulf Coast Pageants

Jaye Brice told us that we now have a venue for the ceremony – the Slovenian Lodge Croatian Cultural Center. The event will be December 4<sup>th</sup>. More to come on this.

At the end of our meetings, we need able bodied people to help take out the big trash bags as it's a bit more than our chef can handle. Any help will be appreciated!

### Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was Jim Rigby from the Order of Alhambra. The International Order of Alhambra is a Catholic fraternal order founded on February 29, 1904, in Brooklyn, New York, by William Harper Bennett. Since then, it has spread throughout the United States and Canada, with plans to expand throughout the rest of the world. The order, open to men and women alike, currently has "caravans" active in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, New Jersey, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Texas, California, Washington D.C., as well as a handful of caravans in Canada.

I did some research and found that there are some similarities between Lions and Alhambras. One is that we are both service organizations. Another is that Alhambra was formed in 1904 as a men's club just as Lions started out. And, as Lions did, we eventually opened our organization to allow women to join.

One of the goals for our organization is to support special needs people. For our local caravan (club), we built a four-bedroom house to house five functioning people that were institutionalized to teach them how to be more independent.

Another similarity is that we have scholarships. These scholarships are for people who want to learn how to help people with special needs. Money for them to learn should not be a barrier.

One more way that we are alike is that both of us are referral agencies. People with special needs can come to us and we will try to help them.

*Meetings are noon every Wednesday at the Maritime and Seafood History Museum*

At the grass roots level, our local caravan does picnics and parties with our special needs people. COVID kind of changed that for us. It forced us to think differently. We decided to go ahead and have some group parties with the homes we work with. Even though they were not allowed out and we could not go in, we found out that we can have a “virtual” pizza party. We had it delivered to their houses and we joined them on the phone!

We are beginning a new program for us. We are going to work with high functioning special needs people and Harrison County Community College to start funding these people to go to college. Part of our challenge is to make people aware that there are funds available to make this happen.