



ROAR Newsletter

2.28.2024
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
LESLIE JOHNSON

3 YR DIRECTORS

CINDY BAMBURG
BRANDY GUNTER

PAST PRESIDENT

MELINDA FREEMAN

Biloxi Lions Volunteer at the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi Walk At Jones Park



Photos courtesy of the Diabetes Foundation of MS, Lion Margot Swetman and SVDG Penny Edwards



On Saturday, 3/2/2024, 30 volunteer service hours were performed by Biloxi Lions Glenn Quave, Margot Swetman, Teresa Wieck-Martin, Penny Edwards, and Pres. Gerald Gardner, joined by PDG Charles Cruthirds with the Woolmarket Club, by cooking and serving hot dogs and sausage dogs for the walkers at the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi's Annual Walk for Diabetes at Jones Park in Gulfport.

While the weather was a bit dreary it did not dampen the spirit of the walkers nor of the Lions doing what we do best ... We Serve...

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

MAR 6	Outstanding Citizen Nomination Deadline, 5:00 pm See's Candy Order Deadline to Lion Dorothy
MAR 6	Rodger Hormel, 'Disabled Veterans'
MAR 8-10	Girls Leadership Conference, Louisville, MS
MAR 13	Biloxi Outstanding Citizen Presentation, Seafood Museum, noon
MAR 14	Board Meeting, location TBA
MAR 20	Board Meeting Minutes Review
MAR 22-24	Boys Leadership Conference, Louisville, MS
MAR 27	Dr. Roger Subedi
APR 13	Mid-South Lions Visiting Lions Day at Hamilton Eye Institute Memphis
APR 29-30	Lions of MS State Convention, Biloxi, DoubleTree Hotel & Biloxi Visitors Center
MAY 8	Mother of the Year Presentation
JUN 12	Father of the Year Presentation

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

2.28.2024 Meeting Recap

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

Guests: Penny Parker Graham—guest of Lion Greg

Zoom: Lion Susan

50/50 drawing: Lion Wayne—\$25; **King of Clubs Progressive Drawing:** Lion Glenn B. drew the Jack of Hearts. If the King of Clubs is drawn, then \$229 to the winner

Auction Item: a computer bag backpack won by Lion Jerry Dodge

Club Business and Announcements:

1. Lion President Jerry's Announcements:

A) Lion Leslie is having health issues, please keep her in your thoughts and prayers

B) Reminder: Deadline for Outstanding Citizen is March 6th, 5:00 pm with the Award Presentation on March 13 at the Seafood Museum at noon

C) Thank you note from Lion Melinda for the thoughts, prayers and the donation to Lions Sight Foundation in memory of Alan

D) Melvin Jones Fellows and the BLC Board to stay for a few minutes following today's meeting

2. Lion Dorothy reminded members the See's Candy deadline is at the next mtg on March 6th

3. Lion Carl reminded members that Girls Leadership is 3/8-10; Boys Leadership is 3/22-24, both are in Louisville, MS with both boy and girl attendees are needed

4. Lion Kathryn's birthday trip took her to see the Stevie Nix concert in New Orleans so the meal was Newt's. Thank you to Lion Margot for the delicious selection of cupcakes and cookies for dessert

5. **Program:** Lion Jerry D. introduced the Executive Director of the Coast Transit Authority, Kevin Coggin

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GERALD: ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO STAY FOR A FEW MINUTES FOLLOWING THE 3/6/2024 MEETING.

Coastal Transit Authority (CTA) *We Keep the Gulf Coast Rolling for You!*

Kevin Coggin, ED for the CTA, who has visited the Biloxi Lions for many years, shared recent happenings along the Coast that the CTA has had a pleasure of being a part of in *Keeping the Gulf Coast Rolling for You*. As the ED since 2003 Coggin described his job as a Lobbyist in 3 categories: Plan, Finance, and Political. CTA is a Government Agency, Public Utility Nonprofit with 105 employees.

CTA strives to achieve Alternative Fuels with their buses being directed to carbon reducing footprint vehicles of propane, hybrids, and 1 total electric bus.

He expounded on how our Lion Jerry Dodge has been valuable member of the CTA Board for many years and that he was on hand at the Tram-Pedestrian Bridge Ribbon cutting in Gulfport on Feb, 23, 2024. "The Tram-Pedestrian Bridge was a \$2.6M grant received in 2018 on which 80% Federal Grant with 20% from local funding. Awarded in 2018 the tram bridge project was designed to provide a safe transit pathway for bike and pedestrian traffic (estimated over 200,00 people during the many Jones Park events throughout the year) from the north side of Hwy 90, near the MS Aquarium and the CTA Bus Hub station, going south over Hwy 90 to Jones Park. "The Old Gulfport Library was renovated for the CTA Hub with 100% Federal funded \$10M grant further explained Coggin.

CTA provides service to 7 cities in the 3 coastal countries of Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson. A short list of their services available is fixed routes, demand response, senior citizen rates, special services for disabled persons, mental health service, as well as, assist with employment transportation to and from south Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

A new CTA grant for \$24M is the 80% RAISE grant to build a internodal transportation center at Memorial Hospital. From this new Hub CTA plans to extend bus service to Long Beach, Pass Christian, and Bay St. Louis. Because of the high vehicle traffic on 15th Street and the estimated 8900 pedestrian traffic the new Hub will also have a 4 story parking garage that will provide a 3rd floor pedestrian walkway into the Hospital.

Coggin opened the floor for Q and A. Members provided numerous questions and Coggin provided very informative responses to each. 2 questions were:

- 1) Q: with DL or IDs needed for job interviews why aren't the CTA stops closer to MDPS offices? A: they were on routes when the agency offices were in downtown, but economics when the agencies grow they move out of towns to get cheaper land for more room
- 2) Q: the Coast East-West Corridor project update, is CTA involved? A: CTA is involved with the design and engineering of the 5 segments. The 1st segment is the Irish Hill to Veterans and Veterans to Popp's Ferry. 30% of the design/engineering is completed with the environment study in the next 12 months.

Visit CTA's website is www.coasttransit.com for more information on services available.



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

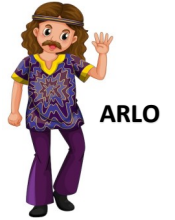
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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.**

Remember you can reach me c/o Lion Penny's email: lionpennyedwards@gmail.com to help spread any LIONS news you feel need sharing! Please send in a separate email. Your email may be lost in the shuffle if sent as a reply in the ROAR email you receive.



There's a lot going on in the last 4 months of Lion Jerry's 2023-2024 term as President of the BLC...

There is Citizen of the Year, Mother of the Year, and Father of Year Presentation planning; the election for 2024-2025 officers; planning of the new Officers Installation; LCI Convention; But, the most exciting immediate event will be...

The Biloxi Lions Club as the host Club for the 2024 Lions of MS State Convention April 29th & 30th (Monday -Tuesday) convention. You should have received the Lions Magnolia Publication with a registration form to the State Convention. It's in our backyard BLC members, so please attend both days if possible. Mail in your registration TODAY!

Attending the State Convention gives the opportunity to learn more about Lionism; it gives the opportunity to learn what other clubs in the state are doing and to meet their members; it gives the opportunity to see how our leaders are taking us into the future and how you may be part of the journey through either locally, state or LCI programs; and it gives you the opportunity to proudly wear the badge of: **IN BILOXI WE SERVE.**

And, speaking of WE SERVE, there are many aspects in hosting a state convention and with many opportunities to volunteer and assist our host club committee as they move forward in the next few weeks of finalizing the plans. Please volunteer!

More on the State Convention as it reaches me...ARLO

ROAR



Dates to Save

April 12-13, 2024

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

April 19-21, 2024

Lions Deaf Camp, Biloxi, Camp Wilkes

April 29-30, 2024

Lions of MS State Convention Biloxi, MS, Additional Information in upcoming Magnolia Publication

May 17-19, 2024

Lions Sea and Sun Camp, Biloxi, Camp Wilkes

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



MARCH LIONS

Bob Talley Jane Meynardie
Austin Krue

Dessert Pledges



Your dessert does not need to be home made, we will enjoy store bought just as much, and bring dessert plates if needed. If you are not able to attend the meeting in which you have pledged a Dessert, please ask another member to cover your date.

MARCH

6th Cindy Bamberg
13th Glenn Quave
20th Jaye Brice
27th Carl & Dorothy Nehlig

April—June Dessert Sign Up Sheet will be available at the 3/6/2024 meeting. Please sign up and share your favorite dessert.

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.