

**Count Down 100**  
11 Months



**ROAR**  
**Newsletter**

**3.1.2023**  
**Edition**

**Chartered February 18, 1924**

**2022-2023**  
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**& BOARD**

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**Do You Know About The Special Teams Within the Biloxi Police Department?**

For a police department has the authority for 144 officers, the Biloxi Police Dept. currently has only 120. However, those 120 officers wear many hats daily, depending on the situation, all while performing their regular assigned duties.

Community Affairs Officer, Sgt. Bryan Wallace, outlined the BPD's Special Teams Programs.

- 1) Boat/Dive Team: a team of 6 officers who are certified divers and handle situations involving water operations. The boat team assist with the retrieval of evidence, asst. DMR, asst. in boating accidents, and in body recovery.
- 2) Bomb Squad: 6 Officers serve in the team as the name implies...explosive devices of any type. This special team has a territory from Jackson south and from New Orleans to Mobile.
- 3) Swat Team: the 16 officer team are trained to handle active shooters and hostage situations.
- 4) Traffic Unit: which includes motorcycle patrol. The traffic team helps with events where large and heavy motor vehicle traffic is expected and the traffic cones are utilized.
- 5) Sniper Team: again where there is an active shooter and/or hostage event.

Continued on page 2



**Lion Jerry Dodge presenting Biloxi Police Chief John Miller and Community Affairs Officer Sgt. Bryan Wallace each with a Lions Ink Pen**

**UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS**

<b>MAR 8</b>	Dr. Marie Danforth, USM, Local discovery "Mexican-American War" remains
<b>MAR 9</b>	Biloxi Lions Board Meeting, Cadence Bank, 2nd Floor, noon, BYOL
<b>MAR 15</b>	See's Easter Candy Annual Sales Campaign Order Deadline
<b>MAR 10-12</b>	Girls Leadership Conference, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville, MS
<b>MAR 17-19</b>	Boys Leadership Conference, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville, MS
<b>APR 13</b>	Biloxi Lions Board Mtg, Cadence Bank, 2nd floor, noon, BYOL
<b>APR 15</b>	Mid-South Lions Visiting Day, Hamilton Eye Institute, Memphis
<b>APR 21-23</b>	MS Lions/De L'Epee Deaf Center Deaf Camp, Camp Wilkes
<b>MAY 3</b>	Mary Tomsik

## 2.22.2023 Meeting Recap

**Opening:** Pres. Melinda Freeman called the meeting to order at 12:05pm; Lions Jaye, Miriam, Jerry D., Pete, Leslie & Darrell led us in God Bless America; Lion George led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Lion Elijah offered the prayer

**Guest(s):** none in attendance

**Zoom:** Lion Greg Brown, Lion Teresa (her 2024 Lions of MS State Convention to be held in Biloxi report to the club below)

**50/50 drawing: \$15.50** was won by Penny; **King of Clubs Progressive:** Lion Jerry D. drew the 2 of Clubs

**Auction Item:** A treasure surprise box valued at \$200 from Dr. Fred Westfall, son of Past Biloxi Lion member Dr. R. William "Doc" Westfall, 1916-2009. The bidding for surprise box was lively with Lion Jaye Brice winning it for \$150. Upon opening the box Lion Jaye found it was a priceless treasure, it was Lion Doc's vest and all his pins. Photo of Lion Jaye modeling the vest and a photo of Lion Doc Westfall will be featured in the next edition of the ROAR.

### **Club Business and Announcements:**

1. Lion Pres. Melinda:

a) reminded board members of the March 9th Board mtg at Cadence Bank, 2nd floor, noon, BYOL

b) announced that at the last board meeting the board approved to the following: members are welcomed to take a to-go box of the day's meal for \$10 a box;

c) the Lions of MS State convention is May 5-6 in Columbus. The Mississippi Lions Magnolia newsletter, which should have already arrived to each state member, has the registration form;

d) the Dessert sign-up sheet is on the back table for the months of APRIL-JUNE

e) she thanked Lion Kathryn for preparing the wonderful meal of pulled pork sandwiches and thanked Lions Dorothy and Carl the delicious variety of items for dessert

2. Lion Carl reported that 21 boys are registered for Boys Leadership weekend. However, several of the speakers have canceled and he needs volunteers to fill those positions. Girls Leadership is March 10-12 and are still taking applications for young ladies to attend.

3. Lion Jerry Dodge introduced our speakers from the Biloxi Police Dept., Chief John Miller and Community Affairs Officer Sgt. Bryan Williams, photos front page

Lion Teresa's Report on the 2024 State Convention...Many coast hotels that are equipped to host conventions will not quote pricing on an event until a year from the date. She did have a lead on the Gulf Hills Resort in Ocean Springs. It is under new owner/management and currently under going total renovations. It has 60 rooms available along with large meeting facility. Her current quote for April 2024 is weekend \$189 per night; weekday rate \$129 per night. This location has been used several times for District 30S Mid-Winter Conventions. She is still looking at facilities she has contacted and will reconnect with them once the 1 year limitation has past. If you have any 'ins' with a facility please get in touch with her.

### **Biloxi Police Dept. Continued from front page...**

6) Neighborhood Watch Team: Officers who help active and advice local neighborhood watch groups.

7) R U OK : The BPD program to do a telephone wellness check on who have requested a daily telephone check. To be eligible for the program you must 55 or older, live alone or home bound, older adults or disabled adults.

8) Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program: or better known as D.A.R.E. This nationwide program has uniformed police officer trained in drug abuse prevention education intended to give elementary school children skills to peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs and alcohol.

Another program is the BPD's Citizen Police Academy. This is an 8 week, 1 night a week, program and is open to citizens age 21 and older. It is designed to take the average citizen through the life of a police officer. They receive hands on education in traffic, gun range, drug identification, etc. You will get the behind the scene experience of an active police department's day to day operations. The next Citizen's Academy is scheduled for January 2024.

Officer Wallace closed with explaining the volunteer program the BPD has for anyone wanting to volunteer during large events, such as Cruisin' Coast. During the large events the department provides boxed meals for not only their officers but also for officers who are hired from out of town to help cover the number of hours of man power needed for the event. Volunteers would help with cooking, box up and pack meals, and perform clen up for as many meals that are needed to be served. Many Biloxi Lions took his card so to sign up for the volunteer program....That's what we do folks, whether individually or as a club, In Biloxi-We Serve!

Chief John Miller spoke briefly about the operational end of running a police dept. After Katrina the force had 115 officers budgeted. In the last 10 years the budget ran between \$21-\$22 million and the man power was brought up to 144. However, with COVID as a main issue, the force is currently at 120. The budget was raise to \$24M to help cover the more increasingly demands made for forces by the federal government. The BPD has monthly major training to keep their officers up to-date on all changes. Then every 3 years policies are review and revised by a state accreditation service which assist the department with keeping up with the national reviews. He closed with addressing the homeless situation. This situation is more of an mental health issue and got worse as funding on the federal and state level for mental health declined. He felt that getting better mental assistance would help ease those finding themselves homeless.

Don't forget you can ZOOM a meeting if unable to attend in person.

Direct Access to the Biloxi Lions Club weekly meeting is available on our website [Www.biloxilions.org](http://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 Greg at 228.760.0239 for help**



## Dessert Pledges

### March

MARCH	APRIL
1st Carl & Dorothy Nehlig	5th open
8th Jaye Brice	12th open
15th Glenn Bremenkamp	19th open
22nd open	26th Penny Edwards
29th open	

There are a lot of openings....if you enjoy a dessert with your meal... please sign up.

The April-June Quarter Dessert Sign-Up Sheet is now available on the dessert table. Please sign up and showcase your special dessert. Dessert pledges are posted in the ROAR in case you forget your date.

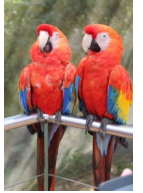


## MARCH LIONS

Bob Talley Austin Krue  
Jane Meynardie

### NEWS Flash!!!

Camp Wilkes is readying the facility for the 2023 season. The pool is already cleaned, filled, & online for the May 15 opening day. A new coat of paint is going on the retaining wall. MSU will not be utilizing the facility so 7 cabins are now available instead of 5. A portion of pier will be opened like last year. Funds are still needed to completely repair the pier. The kayak launch area is being prepared and all of the trails are clear and ready.



And speaking of trails...Camp Wilkes is hosting a "Walk the Trails" Day on Sunday, March 12 starting at 10 AM. It is free for Camp Wilkes members/\$5 for non-members. A guided tour exploring 3 miles of trails winding through beautiful wooded 77 acres.

Come join us!!!



### Dates to Save

#### March 10-12, 2023

Girls Leadership Conference, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville MS

#### March 17-19, 2023

Boys Leadership Conference, Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville, MS

#### April 15, 2023

Mid-South Lions Visiting Lions Day

#### April 21-23, 2023

Lions of MS Deaf Camp, Camp Wilkes, Biloxi

#### May 5-6, 2023

Lions of MS State Convention, Columbus, MS

#### May 17-19, 2023

Lions of MS Sea and Sun Camp, Camp Wilkes, Biloxi

#### July 7-11, 2023

International Convention, Boston, MA

Lions Club of Biloxi  
P.O. Box 196 Biloxi, MS 39533  
228.424.7840

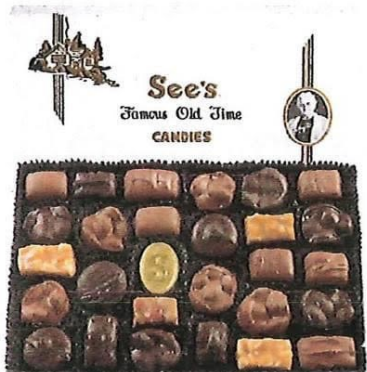
<http://www.biloxilions.org>  
<http://m.facebook.com/BiloxiLions>

To enjoy back editions of the Biloxi Lions ROAR newsletter please visit our website.



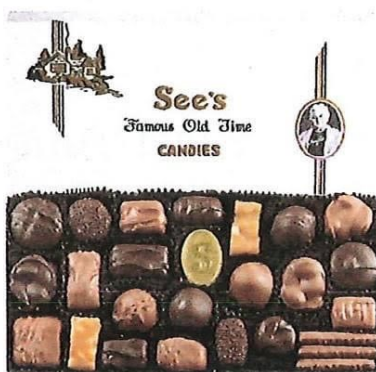
**ORDER YOUR EASTER SWEETS TODAY FROM ANY BILOXI LION OR THROUGH OUR WEBSITE biloxilions.org  
 Deadline is March 15th to place your orders for Easter.**

**2023 Biloxi Lions See's Candies Fundraising**



**Nuts and Chews (1 Lb) \$31.00**

*Yummy, crunchy and chewy*



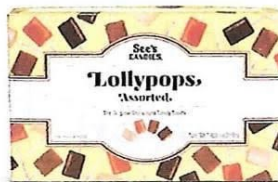
**Assorted Chocolates (1 lb ) \$31.00**

*Irresistible mix of nutty, chewy, crunchy and soft centers*



**Peanut Brittle (1 Lb 8 oz)  
\$31.00**

*Buttery, crunchy and irresistible*



**Assorted Lollypops (1 Lb 5 oz)  
\$31.00 (about 30 lollypops)**

*Vanilla, Butterscotch, Café Latte', ...*



**Toffee-ettes (1 Lb)  
\$31.00**

*Rich Danish Butter Toffee*



**3.4 oz Marshmallow  
Scotchmallow®Eggs  
\$10.00**



**3 oz Peanut Butter  
Egg  
\$9.10**



**3 oz Chocolate Butter  
Egg  
\$9.10**



**3 oz Bordeaux™ Egg  
\$9.10**



**3.5 oz Hoppy Surprise Box \$11.50**