

Count Down 100
9 Months



ROAR
Newsletter

7.26.2023
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**

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MEMBERSHIP

DOROTHY NEHLIG

TAIL TWISTER

GLENN QUAVE

1 YR DIRECTORS

MARGOT SWETMAN
JERRY DODGE

2 YR DIRECTORS

MIRIAM MITCHELL

3 YR DIRECTORS

CINDY BAMBURG
BRANDY GUNTER

PAST PRESIDENT

MELINDA FREEMAN

The 2023 Lions International Convention Boston, MA



The Lions of Mississippi
Delegation

**The 2023 Lions of Mississippi
All State Band**

International Champions
37 times since 1951



UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

AUG 2	Dept of Marine Resources
AUG 4/5	4th: Mid-South Hall of Fame Induction; 5th: Quarterly Meeting\\ Note: Biloxi's own Lion Greg Crapo is being inducted into the Mid-South Hall of Fame
AUG 9	Susan Hunt, Biloxi Excel By 5
AUG 10	BLC Board Meeting, Cadence Bank, 2nd Floor, noon, BYOL
AUG 16	Gerald Blessey
AUG 23	Michael Watson, Mississippi Secretary of State
AUG 30	FVDG Elijah Mitchel, International Convention
SEP 21-23	USA/CANADA Forum, Reno, Nevada

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

7.26.2023 Meeting Recap

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

Guest(s): none **Zoom:** new member Susan Bumgardner

50/50 drawing: \$20 was won by Lion Austin; **King of Clubs Progressive:** Lion Darrell drew the 4 of Diamonds, \$1365 won today if the King of Clubs drawn

Auction Item: none

Club Business and Announcements:

1. President Jerry G:

a) August 10th Board Mtg, 13th at Cadence Bank on Howard Ave., 2nd floor, noon, bring your own lunch

2. PP Melinda welcomed Lion Kathryn back after her recuperation from surgery. She presented Lion Kathryn with a Certificate of Appreciation for serving the Biloxi Lions so well during Lion Melinda's term as President. PP Melinda also welcomed new member Lion Susan Baumgartner, via zoom, to the club. Lion Susan and her husband transferred to the Biloxi from the Woolmarket Club.

3. Lion Margot gave the Vision Screening Committee report on the Edgewater Rotary Children's Health Fair held on June 22. During the 4 hour event the Biloxi Lions screened 75 children with 42 passing, 26 being referred to see an optometrist, and 7 screened inconclusive. Club volunteers were Lions Brandy Champlin, Tadd Gabrielson, Rev. Elijah Mitchell, Miriam Mitchell, Juanita Horton, Dorothy Nehlig, Glenn Quave, and Margot Swetman.

3. District 305 LCIF Coordinator Lion Carl gave a report on his attendance to the LCIF training in Chicago. PIP Brian Sheehan, LCIF Chairman, is asking that every member donate at least \$1 so that the Club can be a 100% Club. Lion Carl also reported on the Moss Point tornado disaster relief project. Approx. \$1K has been used of the \$10K grant funding. This has been for ice chests, cooling towels and 2x4s. The ice and water has been donated thus far. There are still 500 families displaced. The Woolmarket Club's cleaning and care kits are still being distributed as needed. In closing he said that he and Lion Dorothy are driving to Reno for the USA/Canada Leadership Forum and have room in their vehicle should anyone wish to attend the forum on Sept. 21-23.

4. **Program:** Pres. Jerry introduced today's guest speaker, Michelle Anderson, ED Infinity Science Center, Photos below

Michelle Anderson, ED, Infinity Science Center

As many of us residing on the MS Gulf Coast know, we are truly blessed with the large facility located in Hancock County known as the NASA Stennis Space Center. As a recent BLC's noon program reminded us, the space center tested the Saturn V rockets for the Apollo moon mission and is now testing rockets for the Moon and Beyond mission to Mars.

From the space center coastal involvement came an idea to start a museum at Stennis. This small museum was relocated on land donated by NASA on Interstate 10, expanded to 70,000 sq, ft, and is now known as the Infinity Science Center. Today's speaker, Michelle Anderson, was appointed as the Executive Director in August 2020. Assisting Michelle today was her husband, Gus.

Assuming her duty during the world-wide pandemic of COVID19 Michelle said that going from a staff of 20 to a staff of 4, and losing thousands of dollars of revenue because of not being able to open as many days due to the COVID restrictions, the Center is just now starting to bounce back to pre-COVID days.

The mission to Inspire, Amaze, Engage, Create, and Cultivate is still strong with all of the original programs offered such as the for-all-ages interactive exhibits and the video features, as well as the Infinity's Hero Astronaut Fred Haise Exhibit. Of course, Fred Haise, a native of Biloxi, served aboard the Apollo 13 Mission to the moon. Watch the Ron Howard movie, Apollo 13th if you are not familiar with this mission. Fred serves on the Infinity Board and is very instrumental ISC Ambassador.

Getting aback to Infinity's other offerings....**Field Trips:** the 2019 pre-COVID trip trips numbers were 720. The numbers are climbing back and the Center feels the scheduled field trips will far exceed those in 2019; **Virtual Field Trips:** about the only way to experience the Infinity Center during COVID, the virtual field trips are a success and are still continued; **Multiple Level Labs; Homeschool Events; Homeschool Supplemental Material; Scout Programs/Events; Birthday Parties; Camps; Virtual Camps; and Professional Developments/CEUs.**



Michelle Anderson
Executive Director
Infinity Science Center



Don't forget you can ZOOM a meeting if unable to attend in person. Please contact in advance Lion Wayne 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**



Dessert Pledges
August-September

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
2nd Cindy Bamburg	6th Cindy Bamburg
9th Carl & Dorothy Nehlig	13th Open
16th Leslie Johnson	20th Open
23rd Cindy Bamburg	27th Carl&Dorothy Nehlig
30th Glenn Bremenkamp	

Only 2 left in Sept. Please sign Up! Your dessert does not need to be home made, we will enjoy store bought just as much.
 If you are not able to attend the meeting in which you have pledged a dessert, please info Lion Penny prior to your date. Hopefully, your date can be picked-up by another member.



AUGUST LIONS

Melinda Freeman Jerry Gardner Alan Serotta
 David Stanovich Pete Wilson Miriam Mitchell
 Brandy Champlin

What's happening ...
 Don't forget me brother Lions...
 you can reach me c/o Lion Penny's email:
lionpennyedwards@gmail.com



Welcome Back
 Lion Kathryn!
 We missed you!



Dates to Save

- Sept. 21-23, 2023
 USA/CANADA Forum, Reno Nevada
- Jan. 19-20, 2024
 District 30S Mid-Winter Convention
 Hattiesburg, Location TBA
- Feb. 2024
 Biloxi Lions Club 100th Celebration
 Date and Location TBA
- April 28-29, 2024
 Lions of MS State Convention
 Biloxi, MS, Additional Information TBA
- June 21-25, 2024
 Lions International Convention
 Melbourne, Australia

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.

Lions of MS Sight Foundation Needs Your Help in 2023-2024

As a Lion, how many of you have attended, or volunteered at, any of the following Lions of Mississippi supported programs?

Hearing and Deaf Camp for Hearing Impaired Children
Sea and Sun Camp for Visually Impaired Children
Boys Leadership Conference
Girls Leadership Conference
Diabetes Camp for Children

Or, utilized the Lions Eye Bank, or listened (or marched behind) the International Award Winning Lions of Mississippi All-State Band (by the way who just won the 2023 International Competition for it's 37 time!)

If you have...Great and thank you!...you will agree that the program is vital its purpose, to the community children it serves, to you, and to your club in sponsoring or volunteering. Ever wonder where the majority of the above programs funding comes from?

The Sight Foundation is the fundraising arm of the Lions of MS. The Foundation needs support through contributions to assure the continuation of the vital work started.

Each year a budget goal is set by the Sight Foundation based on a budget each of the above committees send to the Foundation. If the fiscal year ending budget goal is met, or surpassed, the Sight Foundation then disburses funding for the requesting program. However, should the fiscal year ending goal not be met then the requested funding is incrementally reduced by the total of percentage raised by the Foundation. Example: contributions received by clubs and individual members was only 78% of the goal, therefore, the funding to be received by the programs was reduced by 23%. Which is actually what happened this year.

Those of you who do volunteer your time and talent to make the above programs successful will realize how much money it takes to put on a 3 day camp, conference, or send the band internationally. Now visualize cutting even the smallest amount of funding...now imagine how hard may it be to bring an particular activity to that camp the additional funding was meant to cover in that year's budget? Yeah...

And we, Lions, are very fortunate to have the only Eye Bank in the State of MS. It takes funds to keep the doors open, lights on, and staffed for this vital part of our program and for those who may need corneas.

Were do the Foundation funds come from? Mainly through club fundraising and individual member contributions. That's right...you, the member. By your support of your Club's fundraising activities and contributing personally to Avery McKinley and White Cane fundraising activities. Please continue your support of the White Cane/Avery McKinley projects.

The Sight Foundation started an endowment campaign 2 years ago with the 15 Guns in 15 Day. It was very successful in its first 2 years selling raffle tickets for 15 sponsored pistols, hunting rifles, and shotguns. This year it was changed to 20 Guns in 20 Days. Again, Raffle Tickets are being sold. The Sight Foundation is asking for Clubs to support this vital fundraising activity.

The 2023 Raffle flyer is on page 5 for your convenience to print. Tickets are the same: 1 for \$20 or a book of 6 for \$100. Drawing will start on November 1 and continue for 20 days. The winner of that days drawing will be notified and their ticket will be returned to the batch, meaning a winning ticket has the possibility of winning again.

See Lion Penny for your book(s) tickets to start selling today. She will have them at the 8/2/2023 meeting. Also, there may be an opportunity for a Second Amendment Weekend (Saturday 8/26 only) tent sale co-sponsored by a previous ticket winner at his business in Gulfport. Planned is for food sales, music, and us selling raffle tickets. More informing is coming next week.

JOIN IN ON THE

LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION

20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS

RAFFLE

Benefiting the Blind and Visually impaired, the Deaf and
Hearing impaired and the youth of Mississippi

Drawing begins November 1, 2023



BUY A
TICKET
WIN A GUN
A DAY FOR
20 DAYS



Prizes: Savage Axis 6.5 CM, Bergara 300 Winchester, Tikka T3x 30-06,
Remington 700 ADL 6.5 CM, Ruger 10/22 Carbine, Savage MKII FVSR .22 LR,
Henry Lever Action .22 Magnum, Bergara BMR 22 Long Rifle, Browning A-Bolt3
7 mm, Browning X-Bolt 6.5 CM, FN 509 Compact 9 mm Pistol, Glock 43X9 mm
Pistol, Browning Buckmark 22 Pistol, Taurus G3C 9 mm Pistol, Maverick 12 GA,
Beretta A300 20 GA, Stoeger M3020 20 GA, Benelli Nova Compact 20 GA,
Winchester SXP 12 GA, Winchester SXP 20 GA

Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Purchase from any Lions Club Member