

Count Down 100
7 Months



ROAR
Newsletter

8.23.2023
Edition

Chartered February 18, 1924

**2023-2024
OFFICERS
& BOARD**

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BRANDY GUNTER

PAST PRESIDENT

MELINDA FREEMAN

**TWO 20 Guns in 20 Days Raffle Ticket and Plate Meals Sales Events
Successful for Biloxi Club on Aug. 25 & 26**



L: On Friday August 25th Biloxi Lions SVDG Penny, Club Pres. Jerry Gardner, PDG Carl Nehlig and Glenn Bremenkamp manning the Biloxi Club's tent event to sell raffle tickets for the Mississippi Sight Foundation 20 Guns in 20 Days. As a club fundraiser pulled pork and ham & cheese poboy plates were sold. Not pictured is Lion Dorothy Nehlig, she took the picture. Thank you Biloxi Pawn for supporting the Biloxi Lions in this event



R: On Saturday Aug 26th Biloxi Lions Pres. Jerry G. and PDG Greg Crapo repeated the raffle ticket and meal plate sales at JB's Pawn in Gulfport. Providing entertainment for the event was local musician Thomas Edwards. Both days saw temps near 106. Thank you JB's Pawn for support the Biloxi Lions. Not pictured is SVDG Penny, she took the picture

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

AUG 30	FVDG Elijah Mitchell, International Convention
SEPT 1	20 Guns Raffle Ticket Sale, Biloxi 1st Friday, 5-9
SEPT 9	Vision Screening, Train Museum, 9:30-5
SEPT 13	Doug Bradford, Area Team Coordinator, Operation Christmas Child
SEPT 14	BLC Board Meeting, Cadence Bank, noon, BYOL
SEPT 20	BLC Board Meeting Minutes Review
SEPT 16	Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum Annual Drawdown
SEPT 16	Mid-South Lions Cooper-Young Festival, Memphis
SEPT 21-23	USA/CANADA Forum, Reno, Nevada
SEPT 27	Patrick Pearson, Mississippi Aquarium

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

Mississippi's Secretary of State Michael Watson Visits the Biloxi Club

It was a very special day for the Biloxi Lions to have Michael Watson, Mississippi's 36th Secretary of State join us as our guest speaker. Accompanying Sec. Watson from his staff was Ray Carter, Tideland Lease Specialist, and Kelly McMullan, attorney.

Secretary Watson is a MS Gulf Coast native from Pascagoula and a former member of the Mississippi Senate claims the Gulf Coast is his passion but the whole state of MS is in his sights for what it right. His office oversees many avenues of the state from elections and voting, public services, licensing, to state owned lands.

Elected in 2019 Sec. Watson states he was elected to serve Mississippians and proceeded to do so by implementing 'Tackle the Tape' to navigate the red tape and cull out the obsolete and/or just plain bad state regulations from the over 118,000 regulations on MS books. Anything that is just not good business related regulations is being addressed through the State's 29 Boards and Commissions and it is calculated that by 2029 all 118,000 regulations should have been reviewed and addressed accordingly.

One such implementation is cleaning up each County's voter rolls to ensure fair and clean elections are held for the 2.9m citizens in the state. This process has started by meeting with each county Election Commissioners. The SoS website feature 'MyElectionDay' was designed to help qualified voters through the election process such as voter locations, candidates and even tracking of their absentee ballot.

After explaining about the state owned lands Sec. Watson introduced Ray Carter, Senior Attorney for Tidelands, who presented a power point presentation on the Public Trust Tidelands.

The 40 pages of the power point covered everything from the legal description and definitions of the Public Trust Tidelands, the history going back to the 6th century in Roman Law to 1957 Mississippi Supreme Court ruling that "the shores of the sea below the high water mark belong to the state as trustee for the public" and again in 1986 when the Court held "Title to all lands naturally subject to tidal influence, inland to today's mean high water mark, is held by the State of Mississippi in Trust."

The 1986 Mississippi Supreme Court doctrine holds particularly special attention for the Gulf Coast as it directly addressed the tidelands for the purpose of future dockside gaming ventures seeking operations in Mississippi. By reiterating the coastal land under the sea as Tidelands, leases then generate income from the Corporate Gaming operations. You want to use the tideland under the sea, then you must file application to for a lease. The Tideland Leasing is enforced by the Secretary of State's office as the Secretary of State is the Trustee of the public land. Complicated, yes.

In closing, Secretary Watson stated "it is important to have coast constituents in his corner" to give him feed back on the pulse of the coast. A lot of what happens on the coast affects the rest of the state. For more information on the Secretary of State office go to www.sos.ms.us



Secretary Watson



Tidelands Specialist Ray Carter

L-R

Secretary of State
Michael Watson

BLC Program Director
Lion Jerry Dodge

Tidelands Specialist
Attorney Ray Carter



8.23.2023 Meeting Recap

Opening: Lion President Jerry Gardner called meeting to order at 12:05pm; The BLC Choir led us in God Bless America; Lion 1stVP Tadd led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Lion Darrell offered the prayer

Guests: Lion Jerry D. introduced his wife Tami; **Zoom:** none

50/50 drawing: \$21 was won by Lion Cindy; **King of Clubs Progressive:** Lion Kathryn drew the 9 of Diamonds, \$1632 to the winner if the King of Clubs was drawn. There are 26 cards left to draw...Will the winner of the King of Clubs Progressive be you?

Auction Item: none

Club Business and Announcements:

1. Pres. Jerry's Announcements:

A) 20 Guns in 20 Days Raffle Ticket sales event volunteer sign up sheet for Aug. 25 & 26 is going around. SVDG has tickets if you need them to sale. Drawing starts Nov. 1. \$20 per ticket/\$100 for book of 6

B) Don't forget to go to the WXXV Website and vote for Lion Carl as the Best Volunteer

2. Lion Carl is raffling off Saints tickets to benefit the purchase of a trailer for the Boys Leadership

3. Thank you Lion Kathryn for you're the pulled chicken sandwiches and baked beans, and thank you to Lions Cindy for providing the cookie assortment for dessert

4. **Program:** Lion Jerry D. introduced our speaker The Honorable Michael Watson, Secretary of State. Joining the Sec. of State was Ray Carter and Kelly McMullan with Secretary Watson's Gulfport office

As promised, the continuation of Gerald Blessey's talk on the Mississippi Sound Coalition from the 8.16.2023 ROAR

In the 8.16.2023 ROAR Edition, the Mississippi Sound Coalition's mission was to work with state and federal leaders to find national solutions to the problem of the freshwater damage to the Mississippi Sound when the Bonnet Carre Spillway was opened for 118 days in 2019.

After a suit filed by the Coalition against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Mississippi River Commission, a U.S. District Court Judge on January 18, 2023 ruled "the U.S. Corps of Engineers must consult the National Marine Fisheries Service about ways to avoid future harm to fisheries habitat in the Mississippi Sound and Lake Ponchartrain caused by openings of the Bonnet Carre Spillway."

The next step according to Blessey is to offer our facts and mitigation methods to National Marine Fisheries Service to use in meetings with the Corps as directed by the Federal Court.

But, we need the help of local citizenry interested in preserving the Mississippi Sound fisheries and economy by sharing this story and sharing your interest. To join the movement to ensure all steps so far are not for naught contact Gerald Blessey, Mississippi Sound Coalition Manager at:

Gerald Blessey
Manager and Counsel
Mississippi Sound Coalition
2577 Chatham Ct.
Biloxi, MS 39531

LIONS STATE OFFICE HAS A NEW WEBSITE!!

LIONSOFMS.NET

"For LIONS" Tab

"New Lions Registration"

Follow prompts: Name, Club, Email, etc.

Submit

You will receive an email with instructions for setting or resetting your password

Have you registered at the new

Lions of MS State Office Website?

Awesome! Oh, you haven't got around to it yet?

Just follow the instructions at the left.

But be patient, Lions all over the state are registering and processing may take a little while.

You will receive emails along the way.

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.**



AUGUST LIONS

Melinda Freeman Miriam Mitchell

Brandy Champlin Jerry Gardner

David Stanovich Pete Wilson

Alan Serotta

Remember you can reach me c/o Lion Penny's email: lionpennyedwards@gmail.com to help spread any LIONS news you feel need sharing!

20 GUNS in 20 DAYS RAFFLE starts Nov. 1st

Kudos to the Biloxi Lions that braved the record breaking heat and the extreme heat index to sell Gun Raffle tickets and meal plates from 10-2 on both Friday and Saturday.

A big thanks to PDG Carl, Lion Dorothy, Lion Star, Lion Glenn Bremenkamp, BLC President Jerry G. and SVDG Penny for set up, manning, and tear down of the tent sale at Biloxi Pawn on Friday; and, Pres. Jerry, PDG Greg and SVDG Penny for the same on Saturday at JB's Pawn in Gulfport. Report is \$460 in tickets sales and 34 \$10 meals were sold for the 2 days. Entertainment was provided by Thomas Edwards on Saturday. Lion Carl's pulled pork and Lion Penny's Ham & Cheese poboyos were big hits! I hear that the BLC have been invited back to both locations at anytime for Gun Raffles or any type of fundraisers. Photos on front page of this ROAR and a short video of Saturday's event was posted on FB.

By selling the raffle tickets you will be supporting the Lions of MS Sight Foundation's efforts to strengthen funding for an endowment. Penny still has plenty of tickets for distribution.



ARLO

Dessert Pledges

August-September



Remember, 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 ask another member to cover your date.

AUGUST
30th Glenn Bremenkamp

September
6th Cindy Bamburg
13th Jerry Dodge
20th Penny Edwards
27th Carl & Dorothy Nehlig

Oct—Dec sign up at next meeting.



ROAR



Dates to Save

Sept. 16, 2023 Mid-south Lions Cooper-Young Fest. Memphis	April 28-29, 2024 Lions of MS State Convention Biloxi, MS, Additional Information TBA
Sept. 21-23, 2023 USA/CANADA Forum, Reno NV	June 7, 2024 Mid-South Lions Golf Tournament Olive Branch, MS
Jan. 2024 Mid-South Lions MECA Cataract-A-Thon, Details Coming Soon	June 8, 2024 Mid-South Lions Cataract-A-Thon
Jan. 19-20, 2024 District 30S Mid-Winter Convention Hattiesburg, Location TBA	June 21-25, 2024 Lions International Convention Melbourne, Australia
Feb. 17, 2024 Biloxi Lions Club 100th Celebration Biloxi Visitor's Center, 6-10p,	
April 12-13, 2024 Mid-South Lions Visiting Lions Week-end, Memphis, TN	

Lions Club of Biloxi
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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.