



UPCOMING
EVENTS:

March 4th, 8 PM
IPDG Keltie's Disaster zoom

March 26th Deadline to
register for IGNITE
Leadership Institute

March 27-28, 2026
District 12N Convention
Farragut, TN

April 18, 2026
Eyeglass Recycling event
at LVBI

SAVE THE DATE:
Organizational Meeting -
July 18, 2026
King Family Library
Sevierville, TN

Renewed in Service

I'm incredibly grateful for the opportunity to attend our Lions Club District Convention in Farragut on March 27th and 28th. It is always inspiring to gather with such dedicated Lions who truly embody our motto, "We Serve." Their passion, leadership, and unwavering commitment to strengthening our communities create a lasting impact that reaches far beyond what is seen on the surface.

District Conventions are more than just meetings—they are opportunities to learn, to share ideas, and to celebrate the meaningful work happening across our clubs. The fellowship and encouragement we experience at Convention help renew our energy and vision for the months ahead.

I'm especially thankful to stand alongside men and women who so generously give their time, talents, and resources to serve others. Their example challenges and motivates me to continue striving to make a difference. When Lions come together with a shared purpose, there is no limit to the good we can accomplish. I look forward to bringing that renewed enthusiasm back to our club and continuing our work of serving our community with heart and dedication.



VDG's Lionhearted Lessons



2026 March - Membership Growth Strategies

As you know, our Lions motto is “We Serve”. Lions in District 12-N are providing amazing service to our communities. But the only way to maintain this service and provide even more needed service is to grow our club membership. This is why we have the Mission 1.5 initiative throughout Lionism. Membership growth is critical, but it is also challenging and sometimes our efforts do not bear fruit. Don't get discouraged - there are strategies that have been successful for clubs in our district and state (MD-12). I've tried to collect some of these. Every club and community is different but one or more of these ideas may work for your club. To see the list, see page 28 in this Newsletter. Please let me know if you have another strategy that has worked for your club or others.

Yours in Lionism....Wayne Garland, 1st Vice District Governor



A Season of Renewal

March is a season of renewal – and for Lions, it's a reminder of how service brings fresh hope to our communities. Since 1917, Lions Clubs International has united volunteers around one simple mission: We Serve. That mission lives on each day through local projects that make a real difference.

This month is also a great time to reflect on the lasting inspiration of Helen Keller, who challenged Lions in 1925 to become “Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness.” Her call continues to guide our commitment to vision programs, eye screenings, and helping people see a brighter future.

Beyond vision, Lions support hunger relief, disaster assistance, youth programs, and community needs of all kinds. Every project, meeting, and volunteer hour helps strengthen our communities.

As spring begins, March is the perfect time to share our story, invite new members, and continue growing the spirit of service that defines Lionism.

Embracing the Call....Kim Osborne, 2nd Vice District Governor



District 12N Convention Registration



DISTRICT 12-N 2026 ANNUAL LIONS CONVENTION



Fellow Lions,

Get ready – the District 12-N Convention is coming March 27-28, 2026 in Farragut, Tennessee, and it's shaping up to be a weekend that celebrates everything we stand for: fellowship, leadership, and being "All in" for service.

We're thrilled to welcome ID Mark Mansell as our keynote speaker, joined by his wife Lion Debbie Mansell. Their passion for service will set the tone for an unforgettable convention.

Friday Night – Casino Night: "All In"

Step out in style and join us for an evening packed with energy, connection, great food, and plenty of fun. It's the perfect kickoff to a powerful weekend.

Saturday – Convention Day

We'll start the morning with breakfast and dive into a day of inspiration – hearing from 12-N leaders, celebrating club achievements, and spotlighting the incredible service happening across our district. You'll also have the chance to roll up your sleeves and make an impact through our District Service Project: assembling Disaster Preparedness Kits.

We'll wrap up at noon, energized and united for the year ahead.

Let's come together, strengthen our pride, and show what it truly means to be All In for service.

Thank you,
Nathanael Hughes
District 12-N Governor

District 12-N Convention Registration (con't)



DISTRICT 12-N 2026 ANNUAL LIONS CONVENTION



EVENT INFORMATION

Date: March 27th and 28th, 2026 | Friday 5pm - 9pm | Saturday 7am - 12pm
Location: Farragut Community Center - 239 Jamestown Blvd, Farragut, TN 37934
Featuring: International Director, Mark Mansell
Special Guest Lion, Debbie Mansell
Room Reservation Deadline - Friday, March 3rd, 2026
Hotel Information - Staybridge Suites, 11319 Campbell Lakes Dr. Farragut, TN - \$115.00 + tax
Reservations: 865-204-0263

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION 1

Name: _____
Position: _____ T-Shirt Size: XS S M L XL XXL XXXL
Club Name: _____ Circle One: Lion Leo Guest
Address: _____
Phone #: _____ Email: _____

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION 2

Name: _____
Position: _____ T-Shirt Size: XS S M L XL XXL XXXL
Club Name: _____ Circle One: Lion Leo Guest
Address: _____
Phone #: _____ Email: _____

REGISTRATION FEE

Early Bird Registration Fee Received by March 1st: \$40.00 per Guest
Number of Registrants: ____
Late Registration: Payment Received after March 1st: \$50.00 per Guest
Number of Registrants: ____

ALL MEALS INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION FEE

Friday March 27th Dinner: Yes No
Saturday March 28th Breakfast: Yes No
Special Dietary Needs: _____

PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Make Checks Payable to: District 12-N Lions
Mail to: Keltie Kerney, 1822 Ft. Robinson Drive, Kingsport, TN 37660
****New 2026 members will receive free registration to the convention with a copy of 2026 new member application mailed in to the address listed above with the registration form****

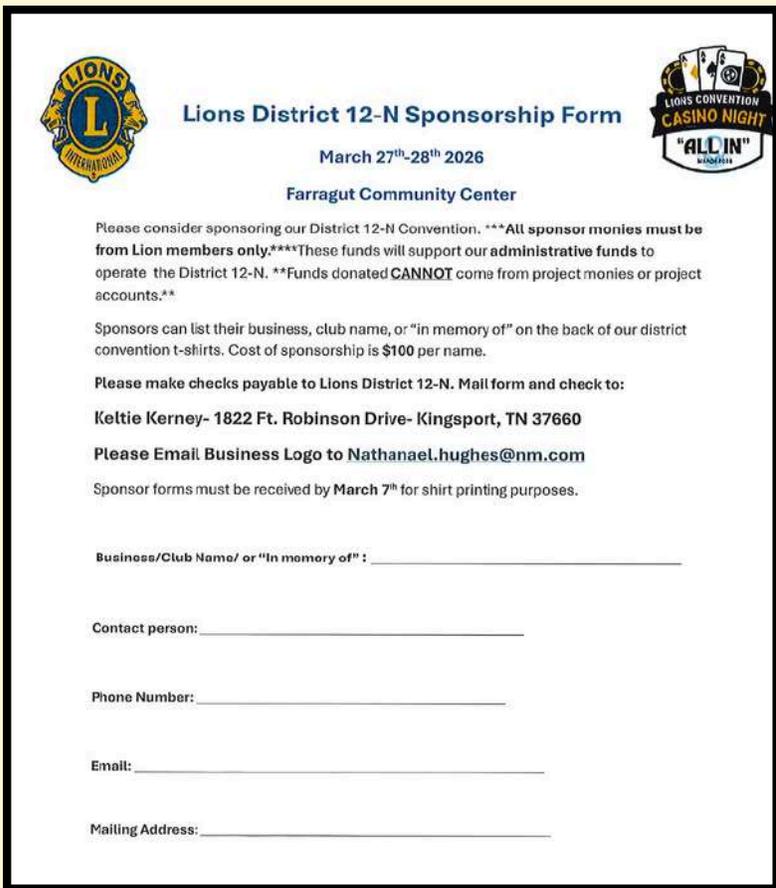
District 12-N Convention Registration (con't)

We have a few ways you can support the District 12-N Convention this year that takes place on **March 27th and 28th** at the Farragut Community Center in Knoxville, TN.

Attached is a **Sponsorship form** outlining how your business, club, or in memory of can be listed on the back of our convention tee shirt this year. These funds raised from the sponsorship will help support the operations of Lions District 12-N. Shirt sponsorships are \$100. (Directions are listed on the form).

Lastly, we will be having a **Silent Auction** this year at the district convention. Highest bidders will be announced at the conclusion of the convention on Saturday. I am asking all clubs to be **ALL IN** to create a silent auction basket for the convention. I would encourage a minimum of \$50 dollars in value, however the sky is the limit. Starting bids will be based on at minimal, initial investment in the basket.

***** All clubs who participate in providing a basket for the silent auction will be entered into a drawing where the club who is drawn will receive 10% of ALL proceeds raised in the silent auction. ******



The image shows a sponsorship form for Lions District 12-N. It features the Lions International logo on the left and a 'Lions Convention Casino Night All In' logo on the right. The form is titled 'Lions District 12-N Sponsorship Form' and is dated 'March 27th-28th 2026' at the 'Farragut Community Center'. The text on the form includes instructions for sponsors, such as 'Please consider sponsoring our District 12-N Convention. ***All sponsor monies must be from Lion members only.' and 'Sponsors can list their business, club name, or "in memory of" on the back of our district convention t-shirts. Cost of sponsorship is \$100 per name.' It also provides contact information for Keltie Kerney at 1822 Ft. Robinson Drive, Kingsport, TN 37660, and an email address: Nathanael.hughes@nm.com. At the bottom, there are several blank lines for providing business/club name, contact person, phone number, email, and mailing address.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the convention. Please send your club baskets with any of your members who are attending so we can display them for bidding on Friday and Saturday.



District Convention Activities

NOTE: Scheduled events are subject to change

FRIDAY - March 27, 2026, Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestown Blvd, Farragut, TN 37934

Featuring: International Director, Dr. Mark Mansell & PDG Debbie Mansell

- 4:45 - 5:45 PM - Convention **Registration & Delegate Certification**
- 4:45 - 9:00 PM - Silent Auction opens
- 5:00 PM - East TN Lions Eye Bank Annual Board Meeting & Presentation
ALL 12N Lions are invited to attend.
- 6:00 PM - Welcome and Introductions
- 6:20 - 7:20 - **DINNER**
- 7:20 Special Guest Speaker - **International Director Dr. Mark Mansell**
- 7:45 PM - **District 12N Charities Board Meeting**
ALL Lions are invited to attend.
- 7:45 - 9:00 PM - Games & Special Entertainment

SATURDAY - March 28, 2026, Farragut Community Center, 239 Jamestown Blvd, Farragut, TN 37934

7:00 - 7:45 AM - **Registration, Delegate Certification, and Breakfast**

7:00 AM - Silent Auction opens

7:45 AM - DG Nathanael opens District 12N **Cabinet Meeting**

- Necrology Service
- Cabinet Reports
- Awards
- District Elections
- District Bylaws Updates
- Suspend Cabinet Meeting and Convene 12N Charities Meeting
 - Board of Directors Elections, Proposed Amendments to Bylaws

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM - District Service Project - **Packing Disaster Preparedness Kits**

NOON - Convention concludes

THINGS TO KNOW:

- All Attendees must register in advance or upon arrival at the location. Dress Code for both days is business casual.

“Leadership Corner” from PDG Wendy Cain



ALL LIONS! If you would like to be inspired and energized as you learn more about our organization, what other Lions are doing, and how to lead in your club, don't miss the IGNITE Lions Leadership Institute that will be held April 16 (evening) to April 19 (lunch) in Lebanon, TN. **The registration deadline is March 26.** The Institute is intended to provide newer Lions or club leaders with skills and experiences to navigate the opportunities and challenges in our Lions Clubs. With the aid of grant funding, the fee of \$150 includes lodging and meals during the event. And. . . our District has funds set aside to scholarship participants (reimbursement after you attend). **If you are able to invest the time, Lions will invest in YOU!** More details at: <https://rlli.lionsoftn.org/>

CLUB PRESIDENTS! If you have not yet designated a Nominating Committee for 2026-2027 Club Officers, now is the time! Club officers for the next Lions year (beginning July 1) should be elected and reported in the Lion Portal **before May**. This timeframe is necessary to prepare the District Directory for next year and have it published in time, as well as to promote Incoming Officer Training.

Upcoming Events:

Go to <http://tnlions.org/calendar/> for Registration forms or Zoom link.

- **March 26:** Deadline to register for IGNITE Lions Leadership Institute (April 16-19).
- **March 27-28:** District 12-N Convention, Farragut Community Center
- **April 7:** District 12-N Officer “Power Hour” from 8-9 p.m. via Zoom for Presidents/VPs, Secretaries, Treasurers, Membership Chairs, and Marketing Chairs.
- **April 16-19:** IGNITE Lions Leadership Institute, Lebanon, TN.
- **April 30-May 2:** Tennessee (Multiple District 12) Convention, Clarksville



District 12N Treasurer's Update:

District 12N Treasurer's Report as of January 30, 2026

Administrative Account Balance beginning 01/01/2026 \$50,913.79
Deposits: Dues, Donation, and Pass Thru funds+\$79,146.40
For the Seymour Volunteer Fire Dept. Vehicle **
Expenses: 1st VDG Mileage, Zoom, Convention, and D&O Insurance,
..... -\$1,592.56
Ending balance as of 01/30/2026..... \$128,467.63

****The grant funds have been sent to the Seymour Volunteer Fire Dept. since this report was prepared.**

District 12N Charities Inc. Treasurer's Report as of 01/01/2026

12N Charities Account Balance as of 01/01/2026 \$26,372.79
Deposits: Donations, Respects recycling+\$5,887.78
Expenses: D&O Insurance, Recycling funds disbursed, disaster mileage
..... -\$3,740.36
Ending balance as of 01/30/2026..... \$28,520.16

District 12N Charities Inc. DBA Lions District 12N Disaster Preparedness

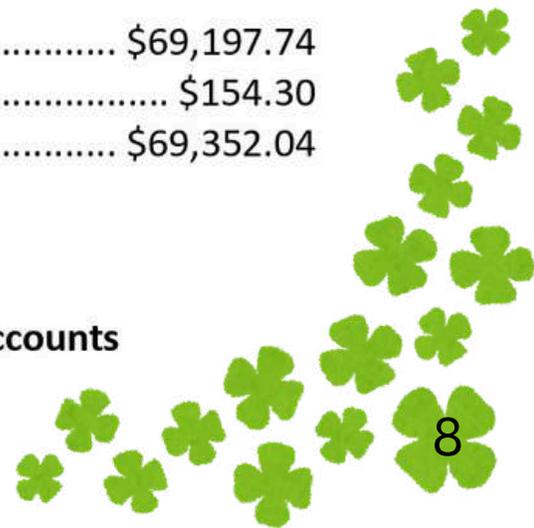
Account Balance as of 01/01/2026..... \$9,415.20
Deposits:..... \$0.00
Expenses:..... \$0.00
Ending balance as of 01/30/2026..... \$9,415.20

District 12N Charities Inc. DBA White Cane, DBA LCIF (Business Money Market)

Account Balance as of 01/01/2026..... \$69,197.74
Net Interest Earned \$154.30
Ending balance as of 01/30/2026 \$69,352.04

Submitted by,
Keltie Kerney

IPDG, 12N Treasurer Administrative and Charities Accounts



Updates to District 12-N Constitution & By-Laws

Summary of Changes to the District 12-N Constitution & By-Laws Enacted at the 2024 and 2025 Lions International Conventions

Amendments were made to the District 12-N Constitution & By-Laws at the LCI Conventions held in Melbourne in 2024 and in Orlando in 2025. Based on the Supremacy Clause, these are mandatory changes that need to occur to the District 12-N Constitution & By-Laws and will be presented at the District 12-N Convention to be held in Farragut, TN, on March 27-28, 2026.

REFERENCES:

Constitution:

Article V: Supremacy Clause

Article IX, Section 2: Automatic Updates

By-Laws:

Article XI: Amendments, Section 2: Automatic Updates



CHANGES:

Constitution:

Article VI, Section 2. DISTRICT CABINET: The district shall have a district cabinet composed of the district governor, **as chairperson**, ~~the immediate past district governor~~, the first and second vice district governors, **none of whom shall be from the same club**, the immediate past district governor, the region chairpersons ...

- **Clarified that district governor, first and second vice district governors, cannot be from the same club.**

By-Laws:

Article II, Section 6 (c). FIRST AND SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND OTHER VACANCIES: Have served or will have served at the time they take office as first or second vice district governor:

(1) As ~~officer~~ **president** of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof; and
(2) As a member of the **board of directors** of a Lions club for no less than two (2) additional years; and

(3) As zone chairperson, region chairperson, **district global extension team coordinator, district global leadership team coordinator, district global membership team coordinator, district global service team coordinator, district LCIF coordinator**, or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof. member of the district cabinet for a full term or major portion thereof.

- **Clarified wording on (c)(1) and (c)(2). Added wording on (c)(3) that allows GET, GLT, GMT, GST, LCIF Chairs to be eligible to serve as FVDG and SVDG.**

VOTING REMINDERS FOR CONVENTION

Here are a few important reminders to keep in mind before attending and voting at the upcoming District 12N Convention on March 27-28, 2026



DUES PAYMENTS - Club dues (International, Multiple District, and District) must be paid in full by **March 12, 2026**, for your club delegates to be eligible to vote. **REMINDER:** You no longer receive a written invoice in the mail from LCI. International Financial statements are available online now on the Portal and payments should be made immediately. MD and District dues statements have been sent via email by Treasurer IPDG Keltie Kerney to Club Presidents and Treasurers.

DISCOUNTED MEMBERS – During the 2023 International Convention, a new membership category, “Discounted Member,” was introduced. This category includes Family members, Leo-Lion members, student members, and young adult members. These members **are not** included in your club’s delegate entitlement. For example, if your club has 16 members and three of them are classified as “discounted members,” your delegate entitlement will be calculated based on 13 members. As a result, your club would qualify for only one voting delegate instead of two.

DELEGATE FORMULA - The delegate formula is: One delegate/alternate for every 10 members or major fraction thereof (over 5 members). It is important to note that a “discounted member” can serve as your club’s voting delegate if they are attending the convention and are selected by your club to represent it.

Additionally, as a reminder, all Past District Governors (PDGs) and Past Council Chairpersons (PCCs) are eligible to vote, regardless of their club’s delegate entitlement.

For questions about these two items, please reach out to your District Constitution & Bylaws Chairperson, 1st VDG Wayne Garland at gardener956@yahoo.com or Cabinet Treasurer, Keltie Kerney at keltiekerney@hotmail.com.

Clinton Lions Club

On Valentine's Day, the Clinton Lions Club sponsored the monthly Anderson County Veterans Appreciation Breakfast, honoring local veterans. Approximately 150 veterans and guests were present for the breakfast and the fellowship it offered.



Presentation of the Colors was provided by the Clinton High School Air Force Jr. ROTC. After breakfast, several veterans were honored with handmade quilts crafted by volunteers from the Clinch River Quilts of Valor Foundation, honoring the veterans for their sacrifices and service.



Lion President Gwen Cole (Pres of Clinch River Foundation) presenting Quilts of Valor to honor these veterans.



The morning's activities ended with the drawing of door prizes and the presentation of hand-crafted service plaques made by Clinton Lion PDG Neal Vaughan.

PDG Neal Vaughan presenting Army plaque to veteran Don

Dandridge Lions Club

The Dandridge Lion's Club did a "in meeting service project" at their Feb. meeting. Lions put together little Valentine's – signed the cards from the Dandridge Lion's Club, stuck a little stress ball on the card, and put the cards in clear bags to make 112 valentine "gifts". Later in the week, the gifts were presented to Jefferson Park Nursing Home.



L to R: Pres. ReJane O'Connell, Lion Carolyn Rinehart, and Administrator Roger Mynatt of Jefferson Park.

Kingsport Lions Club



Kingsport Lions Club member, Asher Elliot helped pack food bags.

Kingsport Lions Club members changed things up a little in February and met at Italian Village for a monthly Board meeting, pictured below (L to R:) Lions Don Abernathy, Carol Bowling and First Vice President, Shannon Southerland.



The Kingsport Lions Club's annual Valentine Social was held at the Chop House in Kingsport. It was coordinated by Lion Bob Kerns, who also presented each lady with a red rose.



IPDG Keltie delivering plastics to the Food City's collection site.

Kingsport Lions Club (con't)



Thank you to the Kingsport Lions Club for providing and preparing 200 bagged meals to served at Shades of Grace.



IPDG Keltie Kerney, Kingsport Lions Club helped shop for supplies and pack 144 food bags for children to take home. This project started as a grass roots community project and now has been approved as a core service project for the Weber City Scott County VA Club where Lion Mike Kerney is the club President.

Maryville Lions Club



At a recent meeting of the Maryville Lions Club Leader Dog and LCIF Chair Connie Emmons and her beautiful yellow lab, Leyah paid a visit! 7-month-old Leyah just quietly laid there paying attention to all the goings on. She whimpered from time to time when she wanted attention or treats but otherwise she was very well behaved.

Lion Connie shared interesting information and stories about Leader Dogs for the Blind and the need for puppy raisers. She admitted that as a puppy raiser there are challenges but the rewards far outweigh any issues. She also shared that she and Leyah will be going to a puppy camp in Michigan later in May and Leyah has been selected to be a “poster” puppy and will get her picture on cards and bookmarks in the future.

Lion Connie then talked about Lions Clubs International Foundation and the many benefits District 12-N has gained from the disaster relief and matching grants made available through LCIF. The club was honored to present Lion Connie with checks for both organizations, thanking her for her informative presentations.

Since it was “Fat Tuesday”, the club also celebrated Mardi Gras with beads, hats, masks and a “King Cake” with a plastic baby hiding inside. Lion Jamie found the baby in his piece of cake but luckily did not break any teeth!



Maryville Lions Club (con't)

MARYVILLE LIONS SUPPORT SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Lions Paulette, Catherine, and Joan with medals

All participants received a medal since all participants were considered winners. It was such an awesome experience to see their faces light up as we placed the medals around their necks. We received many high fives and some asked if we were proud of them!

Several members of the Maryville Lions Club supported the Blount County Parks & Rec Special Olympics Basketball tournament by handing out medals to all participants. The medals were mini-bronze, bronze, silver and gold.



Lions Catherine & Paulette placing medals

The tournament consisted of skills training and two of the local schools played against each other in a condensed basketball tournament. Several of the students were in wheelchairs or had some other severe handicap but regardless they gave it their all and worked through the skills training. It was truly an awesome experience.



Lion Chuck got to work the scoreboard for the skills training. Lion Jamie was our awesome photographer.



Special Olympics team waiting for skills training

Morristown Hamblen Lions Club



Morristown-Hamblen members Lion Erin, Lion Debbie, Lion Wiley, and President Ann, have collectively amassed an impressive 254 pounds of plastic materials for recycling so far.

We are incredibly proud of this progress and remain committed to continuing these crucial efforts to support a greener future for Morristown-Hamblen.



Sevier County Lions Club

Sevier County Lions brought Smoky Mountain Lions Charities to the Sevier County Jail. This mission provided vital vision services to our community and was supported by a dedicated team of Lions, professionals and volunteers. 36 exams were given and all will receive eyeglasses.



L to R: PDG Jim and Lion Ranee



L to R: Ranee, Gloria, Ashley, and Terry



January at the Smoky Mountain Lions Charities Vision clinic. 55 complete eye exams, 63 pairs of glasses (22 were made on site).



L to R: Lions Henry, Ranee, and Tim

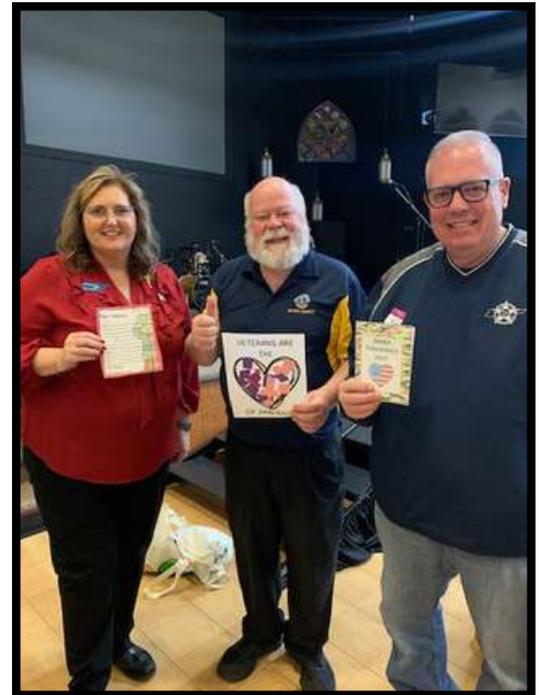


Sevier Co Lions Club (con't)



Lions Trina and Wilma took Valentine gift packs to Dominion Senior Living in time for Valentine's Day.

Veterans Day project. Lion Miriam's class made beautiful Veterans Day cards. Lion Rich distributed them at a Veterans Day breakfast held in Kodak.



L to R: Tracy Widener DAR, Lion Rich, and Sevier Co Sheriff, Michael Hodges.



L to R: Lions Wilma, Ranee, Terry, and Cecilia.



Sevier County Lions participated in a 2 day Free Health Fair doing vision screenings and handing out community resource information. More than 75+ applications for vision services were accepted.

Sevierville Lions Club



Lions members donated over 400 hats/gloves, in addition to several hundreds of pounds of food, to Sunset Gap Food Pantry



At the Feb. Miss Smoky Mtn. Pageant, over 13,000 food items were donated, which Sevierville Lions member, Tom, delivered to Sevier Co Food Ministry



At the February Club meeting, special Guest was Lion Connie Emmons with Leader-dog-in-training Leyah.



L to R: Lions Judy, Kathi, Meredith, Kristy from Brookdale, Lions Kelly, and Alissa.

At the February meeting, Lions welcomed:

New Members

Alissa MacKenzie
Martha Schelski



After the meeting, members traveled to Brookdale Senior Living Center to deliver Valentine Treat Bags & Cards, and stayed to play Bingo with the residents.

Sevierville Lions Club (con't)



Lions members Stacy, Trever, Summer, Chuck, Kim, Andrea, Liz, Kathi, and Erik. Not pictured: Meredith, Kelly, and Tom

On Saturday, Feb. 7th, Sevierville Lions assisted with the Miss Smoky Mountain Pageant, Directed by our own Lion, Summer Blalock. Lions sold concessions and assisted with collecting food items that were



donated by the participants.



Lions Erik & Chuck helped to load the 13,000+ items of donated food.



Lions Kelly, Kathi, Liz, and Meredith



Lion Andrea



Lions Trever & Stacy assisted with registration



Lions Kathi & Kelly competed in the Pageant

Tellico Village Lions Club

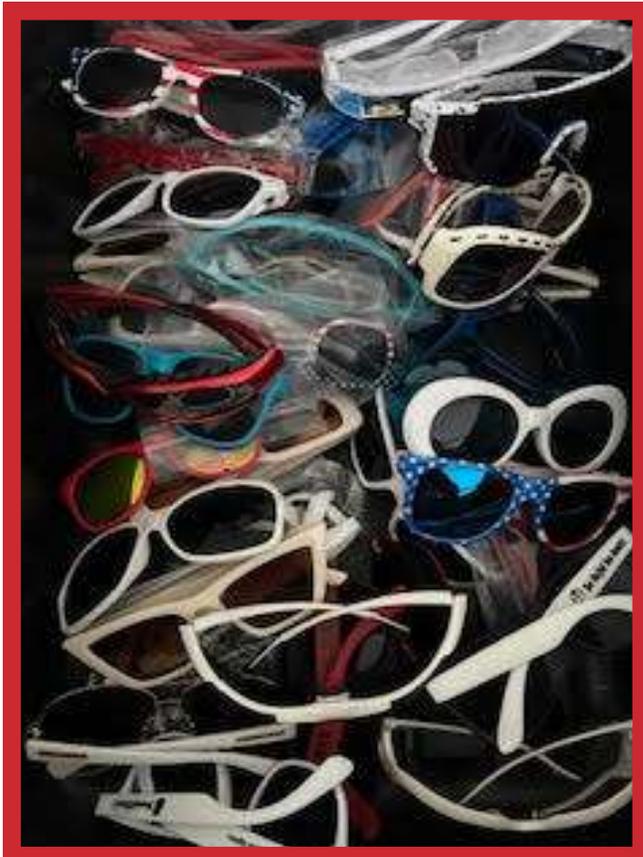


New Tellico Lions member Maureen Collins was inducted into the club by her Sponsor, Curt Isakson, and by Lions Chris Garner.

L to R: Sponsor, Curt Isakson; new member Maureen Collins; and Lion Chris Garner.



America 250 Project



IPDG Keltie is asking for your help with securing red/white/blue over-the-counter (no prescriptions) sunglasses for an upcoming America 250th Celebration. As you're sorting through your recycled glasses, save the 'patriotic' ones to give to IDPG Keltie.



East TN Lions District 12N 2026 CALENDAR

January 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

3-11th Hunger Week
10th Winter Cabinet Meeting via ZOOM 9AM
16th-18th Lions Learning Retreat in Manchester, TN

July 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2nd-7th International Convention, Hong Kong
18th Incoming DG Wayne's Organizational Mtg.

February 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

3rd GLT Power Hour ZOOM 8PM
4th IPDG Keltie's ZOOM 8PM
14th VALENTINE'S DAY
25th DG Nate's ZOOM 8AM
28th Deadline to submit Lion of the Year/Lion of the Decade

August 2026						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

4th IPDG Keltie's ZOOM 8PM
17th St. Patrick's Day
26th Deadline to register for IGNITE Leadership Institute
27th-28th District 12N Convention - Farragut Community Center

September 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			

3rd-5th USA/Canada Forum in Memphis, TN

April 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

5th Easter
7th GLT Power Hour ZOOM 8PM
16th - 19th IGNITE Leadership Institute
18th Eyeglass Recycling - LVBI
18 - 26th Environmental Week
29th DG Nate's ZOOM 8PM
30th April - 2nd May MD12 TN State Conv.

October 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

31st Halloween

May 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

30th April - 2nd May MD12 TN State Convention
27th DG Nate's ZOOM 8AM

November 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

26th Thanksgiving

June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

18th DG Nate's End-of-year Gala & Reverse Raffle
24th DG Nate's ZOOM 8PM

December 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

25th Christmas



Saint Patrick's Day

Lucky or Unlucky?

Guess if these are known to be lucky or unlucky



Lucky Unlucky

	Lucky	Unlucky
1. Tossing Spilled Salt Over Your Shoulder		
2. Walking Under a Ladder		
3. Breaking a Mirror		
4. Opening an Umbrella Inside		
5. Finding a Penny		
6. Saying "God Bless You"		
7. Black cats crossing your path		
8. A rabbit's foot		
9. The Number 7		
10. Shoes on a table		
11. Blowing out all the candles in one go on your birthday		
12. Friday the 13th		
13. Finding a horse shoe		
14. Placing a mirror just across your door		
15. Trimming Nails at Night		
16. Resting purse or wallet on the ground		
17. Sitting at the corner of a table		
18. Knocking on wood		

Answers on Page 35





Clifford Hayworth: LVBI's 2025 Milton J. Samuelson Award Winner



Lions Volunteer Blind Industries is proud to announce Clifford Hayworth as the recipient of the 2025 Milton J. Samuelson Career Achievement Award. This national honor recognizes Clifford's outstanding professional growth and his unwavering commitment to excellence within our organization.

Clifford's journey at LVBI is a testament to the power of resilience and ambition. Throughout his tenure, he has not only excelled in his primary responsibilities but has also actively sought opportunities for career development and leadership. His colleagues describe him as a determined professional whose impact is felt across the company, from his technical contributions to his positive influence on the team.

Beyond his professional achievements, Clifford is recognized for his dedication to the community and his role as an advocate for independence and inclusivity. Receiving the Samuelson Award—a distinction reserved for those who have reached significant milestones in their professional lives—highlights Clifford as a national model for career advancement for individuals who are blind or low vision.

We celebrate Clifford's hard work, visionary leadership, and the inspiring example he sets for us all. Congratulations, Clifford, on this well-deserved career achievement!

Employee Spotlight: Celebrating Andrea Bojang



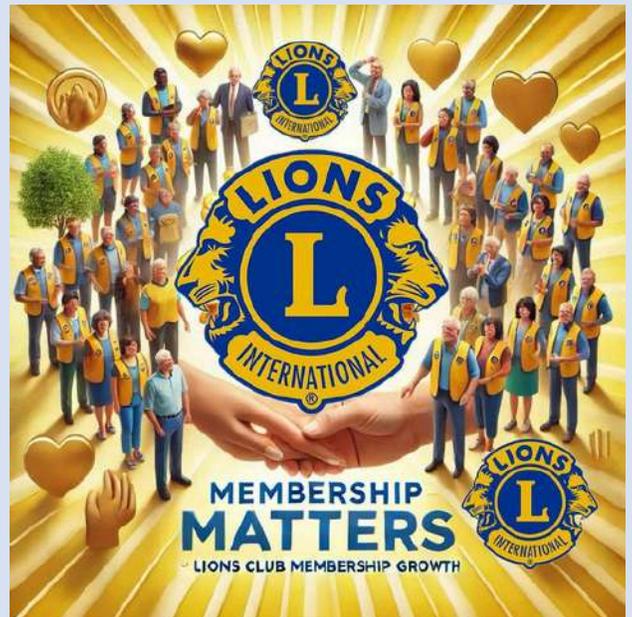
We are thrilled to announce Andrea Bojang as our 2025 Peter J. Salmon Award winner! For nine years, Andrea has been more than just an employee; she has been a cornerstone of the LVBI family.

Andrea's story is one of incredible resilience. After losing her sight at the age of 24, she transitioned into a career here at LVBI that has spanned nearly a decade. Known for her kind nature and steady work ethic, Andrea is the definition of a "quiet leader."

Outside of work, Andrea is a woman of faith and family. You might find her singing in the choir, studying the Bible, or catching up on her favorite matchmaking shows while enjoying her favorite treat—crab legs! She attributes her strength to her mother's influence; a bond that clearly shaped the caring person we see every day. Congratulations, Andrea, on this well-deserved honor!

Welcome New Members

Alissa MacKenzie - Sevierville Lions - Sponsor Kelly Robison
Martha Schelski - Sevierville Lions - Sponsor Kathi Hofstad



In Loving Memory

NONE REPORTED

Membership Growth Strategies:

Membership Growth Strategies That Have Worked for Some Clubs in MD-12
Maybe one of these ideas would work for your club:

1. **A Dinner** – Rogersville Lions asked each member to invite 4 guests to a free dinner where they had exhibits set up on what Lions do. Pulaski invited other groups serving the community to a “Thanks for Giving” dinner and had exhibits on what Lions do. Pulaski also did a “Breakfast with Santa” during the holiday season.
2. **An Open House** – Lafayette did this, which can be easier than a dinner. For success, great publicity is needed, as well as exhibits on what Lions do.
3. **Partner with another organization** that supports one of the same causes as Lions. Some of the members of that organization may join Lions after learning what we do. One club partnered with a nurse group for diabetes. Kingsport club has partnered with Appalachian Miles for Smiles, the YMCA and Goodwill. Sevier Co. Club has partnered with another local organization. Clubs have gotten new members and also started branch clubs this way.
4. **Invite non-Lions** to help with a service project (can be better than inviting them to a meeting). If they are interested, you can talk to them about joining. Get their contact information on a sign-up list for follow up. Sevierville Lions and others have done this.
5. **Attend Chamber of Commerce meetings** and meet with local business leaders. Ask about community needs. Keep in mind that new people may not be interested in existing club projects – they may want to do different things. Start a project to address a need and ask the businesses to help.
6. **Invite family members** of Lions. Karns club and others have had success with this.
7. **Social media.** Works best with an anchor – someone well known in the community to spread the message. People usually don’t respond to someone unless they know them. Get someone involved who has connections with various community organizations.
8. **Targeting those who have recently retired.** Generally they will have time available (if you get to them quickly) and may be looking for a way to serve their communities.
9. **Wearing Lions gear** (shirts, hats, etc.) – someone will ask about it and you can tell them about Lions. This can be at a Lions service event or individually.
10. **Joint Clubs** - This was in North Carolina, not MD-12, but 2 small clubs that were struggling with membership joined together and made a fresh start and now they are growing.

Roaring News and Notes:

Eyeglass Recycling Event:

The week of April 18-26 is the Lions Clubs International Environmental Week of Service, and as a District 12-N project we will be recycling glasses at LVBI in Morristown on Saturday, April 18th. The event begins at 9:30 and should be completed around mid-day depending on how many volunteers we have (no food will be provided). Bring your glasses and cases and plan to have at least one person from your club stay to help with the sorting process.

Presorting of glasses by clubs is **encouraged** but is not a requirement.

Here are the items that are being recycled:

- Regular prescription glasses - (parts/pieces/complete glasses that aren't reading glasses or plano sunglasses)
- First class eyeglass cases - (in excellent condition and like new)
- Plain sunglasses - (sunglasses that do not contain a prescription)
- Reading glasses

Questions? Contact Harry Ennis at hrennis@chartertn.net

Reverse Raffle Update – Change in date, location and prizes!

The **Reverse Raffle** will be conducted on June 18, 2026 – this is a date change. It will be held at Eden's Vista in Gray, TN – this is a location change.

The prizes will be **\$1,000** for the last ticket drawn (Grand prize), **\$500** for the second to last ticket drawn and **\$250** for the third to last ticket drawn. Winners do not need to be present to win.

Reverse raffle tickets will be distributed to the clubs beginning on March 1st. Please contact IPDG Keltie Kerney with any questions.



More Announcements:

12-N Membership Numbers:

Number of Clubs (34)
Current Total Member Count (701)
YTD ADD (+40)
YTD Drop (-70)
Member Count 12 Months Ago
(727)
YTD Net Growth (-22)
YTD Net growth % (-3.04%)

As of 1/31/2026.

Submitted by PDG/GMT Rich Wilson



Semi-Annual District and MD Dues Notice:

The Semi-Annual District and MD District dues invoices for the period January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026 have been emailed to all club Treasurers and Club Presidents & Secretaries where the Secretary is also serving as the Club Treasurer. The dues were calculated on the number of members in the club ending December 2025.

Please remit to:

Lions District 12N of Tennessee
C/O Treasurer Keltie Kerney
155 Locust Street
Weber City, VA 24290 Due

If you have questions, contact IPDG/Treasurer Keltie at: keltiekerney@hotmail.com or 423-416-7407.



Training Opportunity

Save the Date: She Leads – A Global Lions Symposium

📅 March 8, 2026 | International Women’s Day

🕒 9:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

This International Women’s Day, join us for She Leads—a powerful, global symposium uplifting women in Lionism and shaping the future of inclusive leadership in service.

- ◆ Theme: Empowering Women. Inspiring Action. Leading Together.
- ◆ Who’s Invited: Lions, Leos, allies, and change-makers worldwide
- ◆ Where: Global | Virtual

🔗 Registration: [CLICK ON THIS LINK](#)

📌 Meeting ID: 879 1014 7859

🔒 Passcode: 636835

🌐 [Full Join Instructions](#) OBJ



Expect powerful panels, regional spotlights, and bold dialogue on:

- 💡 Leadership & visibility
- 🗣️ Global storytelling & allyship
- ✅ Strategies for growth and inclusive innovation

Together, we rise. Together, She Leads.

Please register, even if you cannot view the ZOOM live. You will be sent a link to view at your leisure.

Submitted by PDG/GMT Rich Wilson

Training Opportunity



DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS MARCH 26, 2026

April 16-19, 2026

A 3-day institute for Lions and Leos designed to accelerate leadership development and club growth across our regions.



One Cumberland Square, Lebanon, TN



**Comfort Suites, 904 Murfreesboro Rd.
Lebanon, TN 37090 (Exit 238 off I-40)**

WHAT: Interactive participation with your peers and faculty in a casual environment dealing with what Lions are all about. While all Lions who have not attended a Regional Institute are welcome to register, this Institute is intended to arm newer Lions and Leos with skills and experiences needed to navigate the challenges of modern-day Lions. Issues such as “Diversity”, “Lions Fundamentals”, and “How do I break through in a club with outdated ideas?” are addressed.

This is your opportunity to get your questions answered by a faculty of Lion International Certified Trainers.

DRESS: Casual attire, no vests, no name badges, just your Lions pin and an open mind.

COST: 2025 IGNITE is subsidized by a grant from LCI and the Multidistrict 12 (Tennessee) Council of Governors as an investment in our Lions and Leos. However, the subsidies don't cover the full cost. Therefore, the cost for each student is \$150.00 (for double occupancy hotel room or \$275.00 (for single occupancy hotel room) for 3 nights lodging, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner on Friday and Saturday and Breakfast on Sunday.

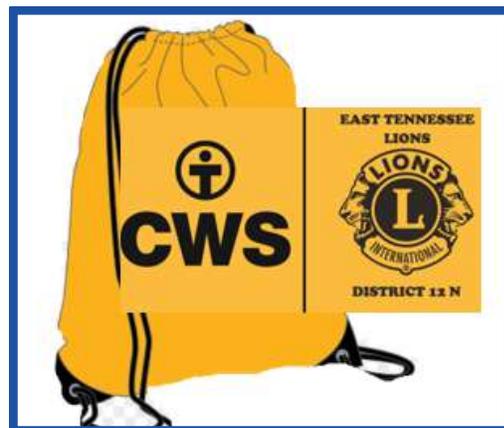
REGISTRATION:



Disaster Preparedness Updates

Calling all Volunteers! Are you “All IN” to help pack 400 Emergency Preparedness “To-Go KITS” at the 12N Convention? The kits will be packed on Saturday, March 28 beginning at 11:00 AM and lasting for approximately one hour.

The contents of the kits will include items that an individual would likely need during the first 24-48 hours following a disaster. Kits will contain the following items: a hand-crank/solar radio with cord for charging items, N95 mask, waterproof document bag, disposable gloves, whistle, manual can opener, inflatable plastic pillow, blanket, water filter straw, hygiene kits, First aid kit, rain poncho, pen/notepad, USB, Kleenex/tissue paper, trash bag, multi-functional tool, unisex socks, waterproof matches, and an informational tri-fold.



Lions have been preparing an **educational video** to further emphasize the importance of being prepared for a disaster and to encourage everyone to take the time to make a “To-Go KIT”.

The KITS will be distributed among the participating clubs who helped to assemble the bags at the convention. Each club then can make the decision as to how they will distribute their “To-Go KITS”. Clubs are encouraged to immediately get the bags in the hands of potential users.

This service project is made possible thru the Lions Club International Foundation Disaster Preparedness Grant awarded to District 12-N in July 2025.

IPDG Keltie Kerney

Chair Disaster Preparedness Team

Continued on page 35

Disaster Preparedness & Relief Updates

As part of the ongoing Disaster Preparedness Grant effort, a short 'Disaster' documentary is being produced. The photos shown here are interviews that were recently conducted with three of the 'survivors' of the Hurricane Helene floods.



Interviewing Bobby (L) in Bumpus Cove with Lion Chuck (R) & Videographer Andrew



L to R: Interviewing Ms. Linda in Del Rio with Lions Kathi & Kim



L to R: Interviewing 'B' in Hartford with Lion Kathi & Videographer Andrew

Disaster Relief Update as of February 28, 2026

District 12-N has received only one request for disaster relief assistance during the previous month. If you know of individuals or families who have ongoing needs caused by Hurricane Helene, please contact the Disaster Relief team as there are some funds still available.

Submitted by: IPDG Keltie Kerney



Saint Patrick's Day Lucky or Unlucky? Answer Key

	Lucky	Unlucky
1. Tossing Spilled Salt Over Your Shoulder	✓	
2. Walking Under a Ladder		✓
3. Breaking a Mirror		✓
4. Opening an Umbrella Inside		✓
5. Finding a Penny	✓	
6. Saying "God Bless You"	✓	
7. Black cats crossing your path		✓
8. A rabbit's foot	✓	
9. The Number 7	✓	
10. Shoes on a table		✓
11. Blowing out all the candles in one go on your birthday	✓	
12. Friday the 13th		✓
13. Finding a horse shoe	✓	
14. Placing a mirror just across your door	✓	
15. Trimming Nails at Night		✓
16. Resting purse or wallet on the ground		✓
17. Sitting at the corner of a table		✓
18. Knocking on wood	✓	



Special Weeks of Service

LIONS & LEOS WEEKS OF SERVICE 2025-2026



The Weeks of Service centers around significant International days, highlighting the impact of Lions through the world. Lions are encouraged to do service that greatly impacts their communities while also finding sustainable ways to increase service impact, and visibility of the Lions brand through consistent periods of service.

THE 3 FOCUS AREAS FOR THIS FY INCLUDE:



MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING
LIONS SERVICE WEEK WILL BE ON
OCTOBER 4-12, 2025

COMPLETED



HUNGER
LIONS SERVICE WEEK WILL BE FROM
JANUARY 3-11, 2026

COMPLETED



ENVIRONMENT
LIONS SERVICE WEEK WILL BE FROM
APRIL 18-26, 2026



Lions Code of Ethics



To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To Hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them an unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor and means.

To Aid others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To be Careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.

NEWS & VIEWS ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

We know you're making a difference in your communities, and we want to hear about it! Whether it's a service project, fundraiser, officer installation, new member inductions, or recognizing a member's hard work, share your experiences with us. Let's inspire and learn from each other.

Articles for News & Views should be submitted in WORD or JPEG formats (please avoid PDFs). Use the font size of 16, and keep articles under 200 words. If including photos (strongly encouraged!), limit your article to 100 words and include the names of individuals in the photos when possible.

Send your submissions to 2nd VDG Kim Osborne at kimosborne607@gmail.com by the 20th day of the month. We look forward to seeing your stories!

WE NEED YOUR HELP:

It's come to our attention that some of our fellow Lions may not be aware of the News & Views Newsletter that's delivered to inboxes at the start of each month. This monthly publication is packed with valuable updates, event information, and resources that are important for all of us in District 12N.

We're encouraging all Club Presidents to highlight News & Views at each meeting and help spread the word. Please remind your members to check their email and take a few minutes each month to stay informed and connected through this helpful resource.



Together, let's make sure every Lion in 12N is in the know! 🦁📧
2nd VDG Kim Osborne - News & Views Editor and Publisher