



DISTRICT 12N NEWS & VIEWS

TNLions.org



Visit our District 12N
Facebook page

* USA/Canada Forum

Sept. 3-5, 2026
Memphis, TN

* Fall Cabinet Meeting

October 24, 2026
9:30 AM
King Family Library, Sevierville



Critical Training for District Lions

Lions district training is essential for keeping our clubs strong, effective, and ready to serve our communities. This year, our district is adding specialized sessions on **service reporting**, **membership retention and welcoming**, and **getting new members for your club** – core skills that help clubs grow and sustain meaningful service. Watch for upcoming announcements about the dates and times. Please plan to attend this critically important training and implement in your club.

In addition, because strong leadership is the backbone of strong clubs, district officers, committee chairs, and club officers have access to courses through the Lions portal under the **"Learn"** dropdown. We want to reinforce the importance of continuous learning and leadership development across the district. These courses build confidence, sharpen skills, and ensure leaders are prepared for the year ahead. Even if you've been a Lion for years, things are always changing and you will learn something new. This training isn't just helpful; it's also required to earn the **Club Excellence Award**. To receive the award, clubs must ensure certain members complete designated training. I hope all clubs in the district can receive the Club Excellence Award this year – it is doable! See the August News & Views for the complete criteria.

**- Yours in Lionism,
District Governor, Wayne Garland**

Leading the Pride:



1st VDG
Connie Emmons

Lots of service projects going on all around us. Remember to listen to your new and old members as they have suggestions on new projects or revamping an old one.

Trying something new? Look at other clubs that have done that project for advice. Sometimes they can help us avoid some of the potential pitfalls.

Let's start stronger this year in support of LCIF. We are at about 20% of our goal so far. Look at your communities to see where one of our grant possibilities might be of help.

Thank you for your service!

Serving in Harmony!

Attending the MD 12 Organizational Meeting in Nashville was a wonderful and inspiring experience. The theme, "Serving in Harmony," reminds us that when we work together, respect one another, and combine our unique gifts, we can make an even greater impact in our communities.

Let us continue to serve with unity, purpose, and a shared commitment to making a difference.

Together, we can accomplish more!
At your service,



2nd VDG
Doris Watta Kaifa

Special Announcement!!!

Exciting News!

*Daniel Elkins, who has just been elected as an International Director, has agreed to do a seminar for our district on Membership Growth. All Lions are invited and you do not want to miss this. ID Daniel's district (Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia) has had great success in increasing their membership. DG Wayne heard him speak at the International Convention in Hong Kong this year and was very impressed with what he had to say. Also, he is familiar with our district and has visited us previously. Put this special event on your calendar for **Tuesday September 29 at 7:00 PM.***

It will be by Zoom.

East Tennessee Lions District 12N is inviting



**International Director
Daniel Marney-Elkins**

you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: ID Daniel Elkins District 12-N

Seminar on Membership Growth

*Time: Sep 29, 2026 07:00 PM Eastern
Time (US and Canada)*

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367324757?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83367324757?pwd=hXmb5nn83diLduQiDvwUHxEtT1ra7.1)
[pwd=hXmb5nn83diLduQi](#)
[DvwUHxEtT1ra7.1](#)

Meeting ID: 833 6732 4757

Passcode: 165829

DON'T MISS!

Treasurer's Report from PDG Keltie Kerney



District 12N Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2026

Administrative Account Balance beginning 07/01/2026	\$52,543.70
Deposits: June 18 event, Dinner sales	+\$3,665.52
Expenses: Copies, June 18 expenses, Directories, Envelopes	-\$2,912.13
Ending balance as of 07/31/2026	\$53,297.09

District 12N Charities Inc. Treasurer's Report as of 07/01/2026

12N Charities Account Balance as of 05/01/2026	\$17,737.54
Deposits: LCIF membership grant, reverse raffle sales, White Cane donations.	+\$2,622.42
Expenses: Disaster supply expenses, donation to New Tazewell for tornado disaster relief, White Cane Project contribution	-\$3,347.36
Ending balance as of 07/31/2026.....	\$17,012.60

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

Account Balance as of 07/01/2026.....	\$778.72
Deposits: Inter account transfer	+\$2,051.48
Expenses: Disaster supplies	-\$2,297.77
Ending balance as of 07/31/2026	\$1,406.63

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

Account Balance as of 07/01/2026.....	\$75,209.03
Deposits: None	+00.00
Net Interest Earned	+\$31.94
Ending balance as of 07/31/2026.....	\$75,240.97

Submitted by, Keltie Kerney

PDG, 12N Treasurer Administrative and Charities Accounts



“Leadership Corner” from PDG Wendy Cain



One of my favorite authors is John C. Maxwell, and this month I continue the series highlighting *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*.

3. **The Law of Process:** Leadership develops daily, not in a day. Small improvements compound over time.

- For example, a new Lion attends training, volunteers consistently, and eventually becomes an outstanding club president.
- *What daily habit is helping you become a better leader?*

4. **The Law of Navigation:** Leaders see the destination, plan the route, and prepare for obstacles before moving forward.

- For example, before launching a vision screening event, the project chair recruits volunteers, secures supplies, and develops contingency plans.
- *How well do you prepare others before asking them to act?*

Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 22-24, 2027: Tennessee Lions Learning Retreat in Lebanon, TN. Registration information will be available soon!
<https://tennesseelionsllr.com/>

Club Excellence Award Criteria: Club Officer Training:

For your Lions Club to be eligible for the 2026-2027 Club Excellence Award, the Club **President, 1st Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer must participate in club officer training by Oct. 31, 2026.**

If you did not attend the June 2, 2026 District Club Officer Zoom training, please login to the Lion Portal, go to the Lions Learning Center, and complete the respective Learning Path: President (and 1st Vice President), Secretary, or Treasurer

Lion Portal: <https://lionsinternational.my.site.com/>

Information on creating account: <http://tnlions.org/member-resources/training/>

Understanding Membership Dues 101

Club Dues:

- Each Club sets their own dues structure (i.e. amount, frequency)
- Club dues are remitted directly to Club Treasurer

District 12N Dues:

- Are governed by the current District 12N Bylaws
- Current rates are \$8.00 per member charged semi-annually (**\$16.00 per year**), based on member counts as of June 30th and December 31st of each year.
- Twice a year, the 12N Treasurer submits an invoice, typically via email, to each Club Treasurer
- Student Members pay one-half of total amount of dues (\$4.00 semi-annually or \$8.00 yearly)

Multiple District (State MD) Dues:

- Are governed by the current MD 12 Bylaws
- Current rates are \$2.30 per member charged semi-annually (**\$4.60 per year**), based on member counts as of June 30th and December 31st of each year.
- Twice a year, 12N Treasurer submits an invoice, typically via email, to each Club Treasurer.

Both 12N and MD dues are consolidated into one single invoice. The Club Treasurer is tasked with remitting **payment directly to the District 12N Treasurer** for the District and MD dues in a timely manner.

Once the District Treasurer receives the invoice for Multiple District 12 dues from the Multiple District Treasurer, the district treasurer promptly remits the payment to the MD Treasurer.

International (LCI) dues:

- Are governed by the current LCI Bylaws.
- Current rates are \$25. per member charged semi-annually (**\$50.00 per year**) based on member counts as of July 1st and January 1st of each year. LCI recently passed an increase as of 2028.
- Assigned Family members are charged half-rates. (\$12.50 semi-annually or \$25.00 per year)
- Dues are paid by each Club Treasurer **directly to Lions International (LCI)**.
- Invoices are posted to each club through the Portal. **NO paper invoices are mailed to Clubs.**

If you have any questions regarding membership dues, feel free to reach out. I'm happy to assist.

PDG Keltie Kerney - District 12N Treasurer

See page 28 for explanation of 2028 Dues increase per LCI

Service Reporting 101

The explanation below is to help clarify some issues regarding service reporting in the Portal of the number of people served since these are often times being overstated.

Club Events – The number of people served for any single club event should only be reported **once** as follows:

Date of Event, # of People Served, # Volunteers, Volunteer Hours, etc.

Please do **NOT** report the same event individually for each of the volunteers for that day – this would overstate the # of people served.

If you have a club event that requires preparation time on other days, this **MAY** be reported separately, however, you most likely will **NOT** have people served for those preparation activities.

Let me cite an example: Several clubs participated in the district food packing event in January. Yes, we packed approx. 40,000 meals but each club did not pack that many. The club service reporting should be whatever number of boxes they took back to their communities for distribution; i.e., 10 boxes X 32 bags per box = 320 x 4/bag = 1280 people served. Supposedly each bag feeds a family of 4.

FYI – Lions International caps the people served at 3,000 per activity, but it's ok that you report the actual # served for your own records.

The Club of the Year Contest criteria will be reviewed by a Committee at the end of the year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

PCC Paulette Bailey
District 12N Contest & Awards Chair
Email: ladipee@gmail.com



Club Excellence Information



2026-2027 CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

★ **RECOGNIZING CLUBS MAKING A DIFFERENCE**



★ **New clubs chartered after January 1, 2027, are not eligible for the award.*

CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD CRITERIA



1 MEMBERSHIP

- ✓ Achieved a net growth of **two (2) members** or **10% or more members** (Reinstated members and charter members above the minimum 20 members will qualify.)
- OR**
- ✓ Sponsored a new Lions club or Club Branch



2 SERVICE

- ✓ Report a minimum of **four (4) service activities**. (Three (3) must align with our **Global Causes** around Youth, Vision and Environment (one in each Global Cause) these service projects can be completed throughout the 2026-2027 Lion year.)

**YOUTH**

**VISION**

**ENVIRONMENT**



3 LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Clubs in Good Standing: not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. Club dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.
- ✓ Report newly elected club officers for the 2027-2028 Lions year in the Lion Portal by May 15, 2027, of the current Lions year.
- ✓ Club officers to attend instructor-led club officer training (in person or virtual), organized and reported in Learn by GLT coordinator, between March 1, 2026 - October 31, 2026.



INVEST IN LEADERS. STRENGTHEN YOUR CLUB. SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY.



4 LCIF

- ✓ Contributed to LCIF a minimum of the club's membership total at the start of the 2026-2027 Lion year multiplied by US\$20.



5 DISTRICT, REGION AND ZONE CRITERIA

- ✓ For the District, Zone Chairperson and Region Chairperson, **90%** of the clubs must earn the club excellence award for them to receive this award.



**TOGETHER WE SERVE.
TOGETHER WE EXCEL.**

Making a Difference, Together 

WE SERVE WITH COMPASSION. WE LEAD WITH PURPOSE. WE IMPACT LIVES.



SERVICE

We make
a difference



MEMBERSHIP

We are
stronger
together



COMMUNITY

We serve
with
compassion

Calendar of Events

East TN Lions District 12N 2026-2027 CALENDAR

	July 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	4
18 th Organizational Meeting, Sevierville	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	

	August 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1
1 st MD Organizational Meeting, Nashville	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
23 rd District GAT Team meeting ZOOM only 7 PM	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

	September 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
3 rd – 5 th USA/Canada Forum in Memphis, TN	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
15 th and 17 th ZOOM training Service Reporting – 7PM – Attend one or both	27	28	29	30			
29 th – ZOOM Membership Growth w/ID Daniel Elkins 7:00 PM							

	October 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
8-18 th VISION week of Service	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
24 th DG Wayne's Fall Cabinet Meeting King Family Library, Sevierville 9:30 AM							
31 st Halloween							

	November 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7 th Eyeglass Recycling 9:00 AM @LVBI	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
7 th MD Fall Rally & Honors Banquet, Lebanon, TN	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					
26 th Thanksgiving							

	December 2026						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
25 th Christmas	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		

	January 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	2
3 rd DG Wayne's Winter Cabinet Meeting ZOOM only - 7 PM	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22 nd – 24 th Lions Learning Retreat, Cumberland University	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

	February 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
13-21 st YOUTH week of Service	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
13 th MD Winter Meeting, Cumberland University	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28						
14 th Valentine's Day							

	March 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	6
12 th – 13 th District Convention in Kingsport, First Broad Street Methodist Church	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			

	April 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
April 30 th – May 1 st , MD State Convention, Manchester, TN	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	

	May 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1	
April 30 th – May 1 st , MD State Convention, Manchester, TN	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
29 th -June 6 th ENVIRONMENTAL week of Service	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31					

	June 2027						
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4	5
29 th -June 6 th ENVIRONMENTAL week of Service	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			

Here's A Winning Idea - from DG

One of Lions Clubs International's Weeks of Service this year focuses on Youth, and I recently came across a project that sparked some ideas. It's not a Lions project, but it's an excellent model. Across northeast Tennessee, United Way organizations have partnered with WCYB Bristol and Eastman Credit Union for a **"Stuff the Bus"** campaign to collect back-to-school supplies such as pencils, notebooks, and lunch boxes. With prices up 7.7% from last year, these items are a real strain on many families.

Donations have poured in from local businesses and individuals, and events are being held in Kingsport, Johnson City, and Greeneville. The project has received strong publicity through TV coverage, newspapers, and social media—where many donations originated.



This kind of collaboration could be a great blueprint for Lions Clubs.

Individual clubs—or several clubs working together—could team up with a local TV station and a civic-minded business to launch a youth-focused service project and amplify it through social media. And the idea doesn't have to be limited to youth; the same approach could support any Lions cause.

Yours in Lionism, Wayne Garland District Governor

Global Extension Team (GET) Spotlight



Meet Lions Clubs International
Leadership Division Manager

JON MONTGOMERY

Hear 1st hand about Institutes, Lions
Learn portal, VDG/DGE training,
upcoming events.



Submit a question for Jon Montgomery by 9/15 to education@lionsusa.org



LCI Live 3rd Thursday of the Month

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8pm EDT / 7pm CDT / 6pm MDT / 5pm PDT

Register @ <https://bit.ly/LCILive>

A look Inside how LCI Headquarters supports clubs | powered by Lions USA

Stay curious. Stay growing.



**WISDOM
WEDNESDAYS**

Wednesday, September 2

8 pm EDT / 7 pm CDT / 6 pm MDT / 5 pm PDT

PROTECT YOUR 501(c)(4) STATUS

Every Lions club must file an IRS Form 990-series return or notice by November 15 every year. Miss the required filing three years in a row and your club's 501(c)(4) tax-exempt status can be automatically revoked.

Getting it back means more paperwork, more time—and added cost.

Protect your club. Know what to file. Stay current. Join Lion Judge Anthony Paradiso as he walks you through what to file and how to stay current.



Register once. Join every month.

<https://bit.ly/LUSAWisdom>

Questions? info@lionsusa.org

NEW LION SPONSOR CHECKLIST

- 1 Make Introductions
- 2 Arrange Induction + Pin
- 3 Ask About Their Interests
- 4 Bring Them to Club Meetings
- 5 Arrange Club Orientation
- 6 Provide Club Roster
- 7 Encourage District Orientation
- 8 Get Them Into Projects
- 9 Invite Them to District Events
- 10 Encourage Them to Get Involved
- 11 Encourage Them to Bring a Friend

TOGETHER, WE SERVE.

SIDE 1



THE LIONS CLUBS OF ARIZONA

A great orientation helps a new Lion become part of the club. It builds relationships, explains how Lions works, and quickly connects new members with meaningful service. A Lion who feels welcomed, informed, and involved is more likely to be a happy Lion.

WE SERVE.

SIDE 2

Clinton Lions

The Clinton Lions Club members are raising funds for the purchase of a **Diabetic Alert Dog (DAD)** for Lion Michael Jones. Michael, who has Down Syndrome, is a member of the Clinton club and was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of 11. Michael was able to tell when he had high or low blood sugar for 21 years, but currently is unable to do so. His doctor diagnosed him with 'Diabetes Unawareness' and recommended that he obtain a Diabetic Alert Dog. A contact was made with Diabetic Alert Dogs of America, and a dog was specifically trained to alert when Michael's blood sugar was high or low.

Michael received a trained dog, Ami, in February, 2018. Ami, sadly, was diagnosed with cancer and has recently passed. Ami saved Michael's life several times when he was having problems controlling his diabetes. She even alerted to strangers on occasion whose blood sugar levels were either too high or too low.

A new dog is now in the process of being trained for Michael by Diabetic Alert Dogs of America. Although Michael has a continuous glucose monitor, a DAD (dog) can sense changes in blood sugar more than fifteen minutes or more quicker than a glucose monitor. This time may be critical for a Type 1 diabetic.

If you wish to help Michael, please send a check to the Clinton Lions Club (PO BOX 836, Clinton TN 37716) with a note "Diabetic Alert Dog/ Michael J. Jones", and we will forward it to Diabetic Alert Dogs of America with funds we have already received.



NOTE: Diabetic Alert Dogs of America is a 501(c)4 organization, while the Clinton Lions Club is a 501(c)3 organization.

Thank you for your support
PDG Michael Vudragovich, Clinton Lions Club

Clinton Lions

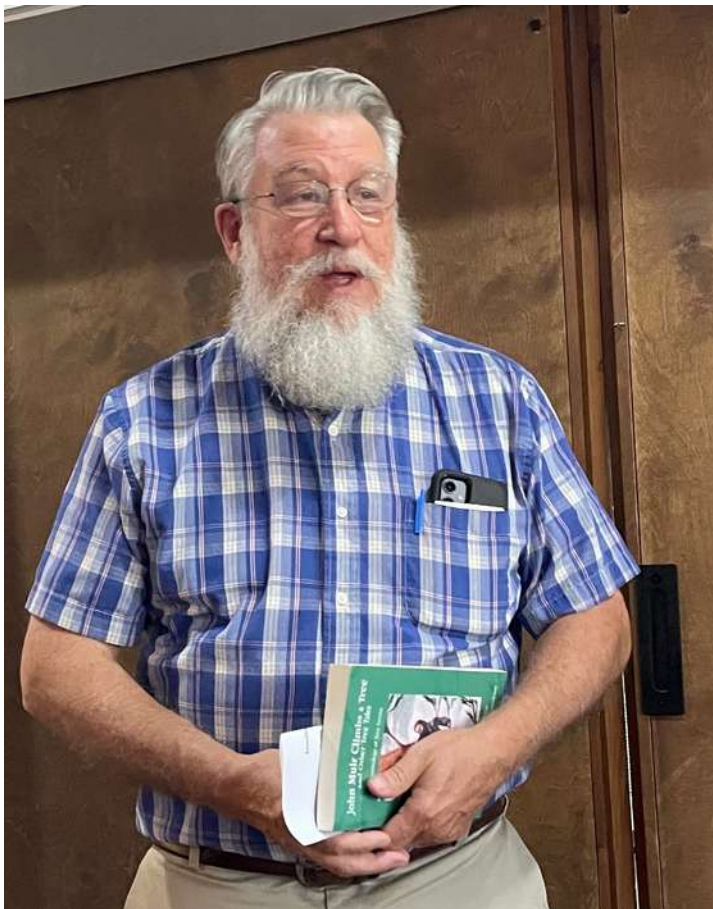
On August 16 the **Clinton Lions Club** participated in the seventh Annual Anderson County Resource Fair held at the First Baptist Church in Clinton. There were over 170 civic organizations and agencies present, sharing information about various social service resources available to residents of Anderson County. They ranged from housing, to health care, addiction treatment, children services, food pantries, legal services and many others.



The Clinton Lions had the opportunity to discuss what we do, including upcoming vision screenings for Head Start, Anderson County and Clinton City schools. We were able to demonstrate the PlusOptix vision screening camera by testing several youngsters who attended. One girl said "I know you. You tested my eyes last year at school." We were also able to answer other questions about providing eye exams and glasses, where to drop off used eyeglasses, and what we do to support those in need and various programs in our community. The Resource Fair provided a great opportunity to learn about other organizations, exchange ideas and see the multitude of resources available in our community.

Dandridge Lions

Lion Eldon Mitchell was the winner of the two season tickets for all of the UT Vols home games when his name was drawn at the August 24th meeting. Funds raised from the sale of the tickets will go right back into the local community. It is the first time a Lion has ever won!



Jim Cortese, Arborist and Author, was the guest speaker at the Dandridge Lions Club meeting on August 24, 2026. In his lively talk, he explained how to measure trees and treat arbor illnesses. His book can be purchased at www.Jim.Cortese.com

The Dandridge Lions (who cover ALL of Jefferson County) meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Shoney's in Dandridge at 6:30. All are welcome!!!

Inskip Lions



L to R: Ralph and Tracey Paden

Ralph and Tracey Paden were inducted into the **Inskip Lions Club** by Lion Johnny Cecil who gave a great dissertation on the history of the Inskip Club.

Johnny then presented the total exam and glasses given out by Inskip Lions Club during fiscal year 2025-2026. 31 people received exams and/or glasses. He then presented a summary of how many members are in the 34 clubs in the 12-N district.



Johnny Cecil telling Ralph and Tracey Paden about the history of the Inskip Lions Club.



Martha Jean Bratton receiving a Sponsor pin from Lion Johnny Cecil



Ralph and Tracey Paden with Membership Certificates presented by Johnny Cecil and Martha Jean Bratton

≡Welcome≡

Inskip Lions



President, Martha Jean Bratton giving out pencils at Inskip Elementary.

As part of our Lion's support, we supplied Crayola crayons, pink erasers, and 2400 sharpened pencils. At our last monthly meeting we bundled the pencils in groups of 10 to make handing out the pencils go smoothly.

Lion members showed up at the school's 'Meet the Teacher' evening and assisted in handing out school supplies to the eager kids - not necessarily as eager to go to school but to be getting new stuff for their new backpacks!

Lion Betty Jo Mahan, Lion Suzanne Matheny and community advocate Anita Case ready to give out supplies

Inskip Lions helped Inskip Elementary School with school supplies for the school year 2026-2027.

Our partnership is called "Friends of Inskip Elementary School" who work together to provide school supplies, new shoes, and new backpacks in this "Pack a Backpack" yearly effort. The mascot for Inskip Elementary is also a Lion, which makes our relationship with the school even more special.



New members Ralph and Tracey Paden, Lions Betty Jo Mahan, Shirley Underwood, Nora Wiser, Johnny Cecil, and visitors Braiden Lamb and Caleb Dotson bundling pencils for easier handling.



Kingsport Lions



Service Project- packing 200 meals. Lion Bill Murdoch and DG Wayne Garland



Eagle Scout candidate Aidan, and his father Michael, loading more old newspaper vending machines for the eyeglasses repurposing project

The **Kingsport Lions Club** has endorsed an environmental project led by Eagle Scout candidate Aidan Brandby with a donation to purchase supplies for the project. The project involves repurposing old newspaper vending machines into free standing eyeglasses collection boxes. Pictured below are Aidan, and his father Michael, who serves as one of the Scout mentors. This project had the blessing of our dearly departed Lion Jim Fischer who promoted the benefit for the Lions recycling service project and involving youth. Lion Jim volunteered with the Scouts every Tuesday night for over 30 years. Aidan will present the project at the Kingsport Lions Club November 10th meeting.



Maryville Lions Club

Maryville Lions Club Partners with Maryville College Freshmen for a Service Project

As part of Maryville College's fall orientation, the **Maryville Lions Club** recently partnered with Maryville College Freshmen for a two-hour afternoon of service. Twenty students rolled up their sleeves and tackled two vision-focused projects. One project was sorting approximately 2,000 pairs of donated eyeglasses collected by the Maryville Lions Club in preparation for recycling. The second project was assembling more than 400 vision kits to be distributed to 8 assisted living centers throughout Blount County. The vision kits contained microfiber cloths, magnifying glasses, notepads and pens and packets of tissue. Attached to the bags were cards saying "Thinking of You from Your Friends, the Maryville Lions Club and Maryville College students".

This event was held to introduce the students to some of the service project opportunities that benefit their community and that they may want to participate in to earn volunteer hours. Volunteering gives students an opportunity to meet people, build connections, learn about local needs, and experience the satisfaction that comes from helping someone else.

To read more about this project, the activities of the Maryville Lions Club and ways to get involved, visit the club website at <https://www.maryvillelions.org> and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MaryvilleLionsTN/>.



Preparing Vision Kits



Eyeglass Sorting

Sevier County Lions

On July 29th, the **Sevier County Lions** hosted a Community Partners Health Fair and Vision Clinic at Ministry Villages Helping Hands. We serviced 98 patients by providing eye exams and glasses. Five individuals were referred to KAPA for cataracts and glaucoma evaluations. Thirteen community agencies participated by providing vital resources, including Boys and Girls Club, American Red Cross, Sevier Co Office of Alcohol and Drugs, Safe Harbor, and the American Job Center.



Clinic stations



Lions setting up for the exams



Mountain Hope Good Shepherd Mobile Clinic was on site



Members of Sevier United helped out



Medical students from Mountain Hope Clinic assisted us with our clinic



Lion Terry, and Sevier Co School System, Nurse Kim

Sevier County Lions (con't)

Additional photos from Vision Clinic



Lion Terry; Stephen, Ministry Village Director; Senior Pastor, Dan; and Lion Ranee



Clinic stations



Don and Lion Alejandro – Sevier County Lions

Sevier County Lions participated in the local Boys & Girls Back To School event, providing approximately 25 screenings with 6 referrals for exams, which were scheduled for our July 29 Vision Clinic.



Lions Wilma, Ranee and Miriam



Lions Wilma and Terry assisting students with Spin the Wheel for prizes and back to school supplies.



L-R Lions Terry, Ranee, Wilma and Rich

Sevierville Lions

On July 26th, **Sevierville Lions** had a fun time at the “Queens for a Cause” Pageant by celebrating the progress of our friend, Hayden, while raising funds for Hayden’s medical expenses from recent cancer treatments. A grand time was had by all !!



L to R: Liz, Chuck, Hayden, Judy, Meredith, and Tom



L to R: Our very own “Queens”, Kathi and Kelly



L to R: Lions Andrea & Stacy



Pageant Director, Lion Summer, with one of the contestants



Lions serving concessions at the pageant



Tazewell-New Tazewell Lions



The **Tazewell - New Tazewell Lions Club** wishes to extend a warm THANK YOU for our two new blessing boxes that were proudly built and donated by the team members of Clayton Giles of New Tazewell. Jennifer Prichard, director of the Hunger committee of the TNT Lions Club will put these boxes to great use as they bless the communities where they will be located.

The TNT Lions Club was honored to sponsor the Open House during the Dedication Service of Isaac's House Farm & Recovery Community. Special THANKS to Lion Carla Reece for preparing the food, Lion Stella Nelson for Hosting, and Lion Adam Hopson for being an amazing servant to our community. Also, thanks to the New Tazewell Tourism Commission for hosting the ribbon cutting.



Lion Ian, is shown dropping off the final delivery for the disaster relief grant. The 15k grant was spent except for \$0.66!

Tellico Village Lions

The **Tellico Village Lions** recently added a new member, Marianthe Matses-Isakson (spouse of current member, Curt Isakson). Both Marianthe, and her husband and sponsor Curt, laugh it up after Chris Garner announced "The Sponsor may now kiss the new Member!



Lions Beverly and PDG Jim with Sevier Co Lion Ranee (center)

West Knox Lions

Several members of the **West Knox Lions Club** assisted the Sevier Co Club with a vision clinic on July 29th. Shown are members of the West Knox Club at this clinic.



L to R: Optician volunteer Judy and PDG Lion Jim



L to R: Lion Larry Zubel, OD; volunteer Bob; PDG Lion Jim; PDG Lion Tim; and PDG Oak Ridge Lion Bill. Back row: Dr Todd Hackney

Past District Governor's Retreat

On August 14th & 15th, Past District Governor's from across MD12 gathered in the Karns area for a weekend retreat.

On Friday evening, the PDG's toured the East TN Lions Eye Bank (ETLEB) followed by President Tony Gross welcoming the group to the Karns Lions Pavilion for dinner.

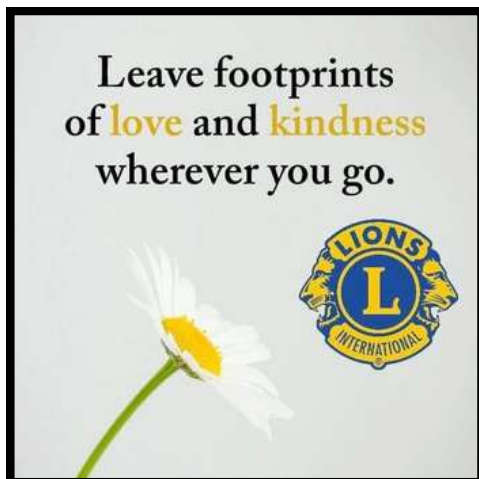


Following the business meeting on Saturday morning at The DoubleTree Hotel in Oak Ridge, everyone headed to Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary for lunch and a tour.



Welcome New Members

Sandra Barboza - Karns Lions - Sponsor Kevin Monaghan
Beal Bourne - Knoxville East Lions - Sponsor Brenda Nelson
Ronald Dwy - Tellico Village Lions - Sponsor Kent Henderson
Josie Koppie-Dwy - Tellico Village Lions - Sponsor Kent Henderson
Diana Ford - Campbell Co Lions- Sponsor Mollie Jones
Richie Ford - Campbell Co Lions - Sponsor Mollie Jones
Marianthe Matfes-Isakson - Tellico Village - Sponsor Curt Isakson
Ralph Paden - Inskip Lions - Sponsor Martha Bratton
Tracey Paden - Inskip Lions - Sponsor Martha Bratton
Diane Praytor-Cartwright - Morris. Hamblen - Sponsor Debbie Chance
Kathy Winchester - Karns Lions - Sponsor Nathan Winchester



In loving memory

None Reported

UPDATE ON LIONS VOLUNTEER BLIND INDUSTRIES (LVBI)

Several weeks ago, the LVBI Board of Directors updated the 12N membership on current events and committed to regular updates. The Board was considering all options including an acquisition, merger, layoff, or winding down the business.

These considerations stemmed from significant industry changes in recent years. Changes in government funding and government contracts being sporadic and unpredictable have contributed to difficulty in planning with resulting profit losses. The LVBI business model has been primarily with government contracts. The inability to compete with commercial vendors and other factors has created a significant decline in the need for the products made by LVBI.

Thanks to strong support from the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and renewed optimism, the forecast has improved modestly. Several important developments are moving forward at a rapid pace.

We engaged consultant Dennis Steiner, whose leadership experience includes serving as CEO of Vision Corp in Pennsylvania. Throughout his career, he has worked closely with organizations focused on growth, operational excellence, and mission-driven impact, making him a valuable resource for LVBI.

Dennis has a heart for the Mission and a deep understanding of the challenges faced by individuals who are blind or visually impaired; as he is legally blind himself. This personal perspective, combined with his professional experience, enables him to bring valuable insight, empathy, and practical understanding to the work LVBI team members are undertaking.

Continued on the following page.....

UPDATE ON LIONS VOLUNTEER BLIND INDUSTRIES (LVBI) - con't

Dennis has already participated in a zoom board meeting, met virtually with the leadership team, and was on site in Morristown August 25th -28th. During his visit, he spent time engaging with staff, touring plant operations, reviewing key reports and performance data, evaluating production processes, and gaining a deeper understanding of current opportunities and challenges for LVBI.

The schedule included a SWOT exercise with board members designed to help identify strategic priorities, evaluate strengths and areas for improvement, and plan for possible future endeavors. The goal was to develop a comprehensive and strategically updated plan and establish a practical pathway forward for sustainable growth, long-term progress, and continued success.

The LVBI Board will continue to evaluate all options during this challenging time; however, it is the desire to maintain employment for our valuable team members, if at all possible.

The Board has also accepted the resignation of Trevor Southerland, CEO, effective August 21, 2026. The Board wishes him success in his new endeavors.

The pathway forward is open to growth, success and a commitment to maintaining employment for our valuable team members, beginning with a restructuring of the LVBI organization.

PDG Keltie Kerney
LVBI Board Chairman

International News Update:

AMENDMENT 2 ADOPTED!

at the 2026 LCI Convention

Hong Kong



Amendment 2 increases **INTERNATIONAL DUES** over five years beginning in 2028.



This gradual increase will help Lions International keep pace with rising costs and continue investing in the services, resources and support that strengthen our clubs and empower our service.



Member Support



Leadership
Development



Technology &
Communications



Global
Service

NEW INTERNATIONAL DUES SCHEDULE

EFFECTIVE DATE	SEMI-ANNUAL DUES (Per Member)	ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DUES (Per Member)
CURRENT (Thru June 30, 2028)	\$25	\$50
JULY 1, 2028	\$26	\$52
JULY 1, 2029	\$27	\$54
JULY 1, 2030	\$28	\$56
JULY 1, 2031	\$29	\$58
JULY 1, 2032	\$30	\$60



A \$10 ANNUAL INCREASE OVER FIVE YEARS

Just \$2 more per member per year.

A small investment today for a stronger Lions tomorrow.



IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

This increase applies **ONLY** to the international portion of dues. It does **NOT** automatically increase district dues, multiple district (MD12) dues, or club dues. Each district and club will make its own decisions.

*Thank you for
your continued
service and
commitment!*

TOGETHER, WE SERVE. TOGETHER, WE GROW. 

International News Updates (con't):



NEW LIONS CLUB FINANCIAL UPDATE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR
— **TREASURERS** —



HEADS UP TREASURERS!

Starting the 2026-2027 Lion year, there is an amendment to the club suspension policy that is posted online, changing the

120-DAY SUSPENSION RULE TO 90 DAYS.



AUTOMATIC CANCELLATION WILL BE SCHEDULED THE SECOND MONTH FOLLOWING SUSPENSION.



So check the Portal for your Club's dues statement and **get it paid.**



You might also make a plan to **check monthly for invoices** from LCI so that nothing is missed.



**NO ONE WANTS A CLUB
SUSPENDED FOR NONPAYMENT.**

Thank you for keeping your club strong and in good standing!

TOGETHER WE SERVE. TOGETHER WE SUCCEED.



International Weeks of Service



WEEKS OF SERVICE

THREE WEEKS.
THREE POWERFUL CAUSES.

2026-2027

LIONS SERVE. COMMUNITIES THRIVE.  TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!



VISION

OCTOBER 8-18, 2026

Opening eyes. Changing lives.
Promote eye health and support sight-saving initiatives in your community and around the world.



YOUTH

FEBRUARY 13-21, 2027

Empower today. Lead tomorrow.
Invest in our youth through service, mentorship, and programs that build brighter futures.



ENVIRONMENT

MAY 29-JUNE 6, 2027

Protect today. Preserve tomorrow.
Take action to care for our planet through sustainability, conservation, and clean community initiatives.

EAST TN LIONS EYE BANK COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

POLICY

The Community Services Committee is the charitable arm of the **East Tennessee Lions Eye Bank. (ETLEB)**

This committee was established by the ETLEB By-Laws, Article VIII, Item 1.



The Board of Directors (BOD) will establish the Community Services Committee of four or more volunteer BOD members annually.

The committee will approve the distribution of funds based on the applications received from District 12-N Lions Clubs.

The committee will make a report to the ETLEB Board of Directors at each quarterly meeting.

The committee will establish where the financial accounts will be held. The committee will require two signatures on each check and have four authorized signers on the committee.

The committee will provide the Policy and Procedures to each Club president and secretary and have it published annually in the District news letter, the News & Views.

The committee will do Club visits as requested to properly inform the Clubs on procedures.

Continued on the following page:

EAST TN LIONS EYE BANK COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE POLICY AND PROCEDURES (con't)

PROCEDURES

The committee will not provide a form for the Clubs to fill out. The Club will follow their normal procedure for reviewing a client for assistance; this includes the client's finances, genuine need and if insurance is available. The Club will also work with the providing doctor, clinic or surgery center, anesthesiology, laboratory, etc. to establish a lower fee. Also, the Club will find out if the client and Club can help with the finances. When this is done the Club can submit their request for assistance to the committee.

Each case will be considered individually by the committee.
Post procedures may not (not, will not) be considered.

**Mail applications to:
Community Services Committee
P.O. Box 444
Powell, TN 37849**

For questions, contact:
PDG Neal Vaughan:
neallion@comcast.net
(C)865-405-9647



Notes from DG Wayne:

Dues Reminder:

All of our district clubs are rightly focused on service to their communities, but there are some administrative obligations to keep that service going. As of this reporting, there are several clubs that are more than 30 days past due on International dues (in addition to several clubs being past due on MD & 12N dues). The Lions International criteria for suspension of clubs has recently changed – clubs can now be suspended after only 90 days of past due statements (instead of the previous 120 days). We don't want any clubs to have to face the difficulties involved in suspension. Please check to be sure your club's international dues are paid. We serve! **See page 6 for additional information on dues**

2027 District Convention Planning Committee:

If anyone would like to volunteer to be on the **2027 District Convention Planning Committee**, and/or would like to volunteer to help at the Convention in March 2027 (greeter, parking, registration, etc.), please contact Convention Chair PDG Keltie Kerney or District Governor Wayne Garland.

Nominations for the Virginia Lindsey Leadership Award are due September 30. Candidates must be 50 years old or younger and be a Lion for not more than 8 years. See the state web site tnlions.org for additional requirements.

Nominations for the Tennessee Lions Hall of Fame are due September 30. Any Lion can nominate someone. Nominee must have at least 15 years of service. See the state web site tnlions.org for additional criteria and the application forms (note: has not been updated for 2026 as of August). There will also be a new category for deceased Lions.

The MD-12 Tennessee State cabinet has approved an LCIF matching grant request written by our state KidSight Chair, Arthur Wilhoite. This grant request is for PlusOptix cameras for 12 clubs in the state including 3 clubs in District 12-N (Oak Ridge, Sevierville and Tazewell-New Tazewell).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer Lions are needed to support the 2027 MD State convention planning and implementation. Some of the areas where support is needed are in decorating, set up and tear down, registration, and Sergeant at Arms. Special Guest will be our own TN Past International President, Bob Corlew. Convention is scheduled for April 30 – May 1, 2027 in Manchester, TN. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this 2027 State Convention, reach out to 1st VDG Don Boyles at: dboyles@epbfi.com
Cell number is 423-762-1891



Don Boyles FVDG District 12-O 2027 State Convention Chair

LCIF Update:

New Orleans was the location for LCIF training this year. We are off to a great start this year. Over \$416,000 was raised by CA1. Think about becoming a legacy member. The minimum amount is \$1,000. Recurring donors have new pins and ink pens. For as little as \$10 per month (12 months) you can qualify, or a one-time recurring donation of \$120.00, or quarterly.

What do you see in your community that could benefit from an LCIF grant? There are numerous opportunities to help your community. Did you know that your club Community Impact Grant money can also be used toward a matching fund grant? Tennessee has received over 4.5 million in grants and our District 12N has received over 1.4 million of that. This is thanks to you who find causes and apply. There is money there to help us do more.

Final News:

PDG Keltie would like to remind everyone that the sunglasses project is underway again. Please save all 'good condition' non-prescription sunglasses for repurposing. Recently, over 500 pairs were sorted, sanitized and distributed at an all day America 250 event. If you have usable sunglasses, you may drop them off at LVBI or contact PDG Keltie to arrange for pick up.



Next Eyeglass Recycling Event:

Saturday, November 7, 2026
Lions Volunteer Blind Industries
@9:00 AM



All Lions are encouraged to come and assist with sorting and boxing glasses to be recycled.

USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM
September 3-5, 2026

MEET LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND!
Our Lions Engagement team, CEO Lion Melissa Weisse and many Leader Dog clients will be at the Forum!

VISIT OUR BOOTH: In the Exhibitor's Hall (Located within the Leadership Forum)

SPECIAL SEMINAR: Friday, Sept 4, 3:30-4:40 p.m., Room 104

SEMINAR TOPIC: Sharing easy ways to make Lions events and meetings more accessible to support member recruitment and create an amazing experience for all community members.

TOGETHER, WE SERVE. TOGETHER, WE LEAD. TOGETHER, WE CHANGE LIVES.

Memphis, TENNESSEE!

CONNECT • LEARN • INSPIRE • MAKE AN IMPACT

INVITE LIONS FROM YOUR DISTRICT TO ATTEND!

We Serve



Lions helping out at LVBI.
L to R: DG Wayne, Chuck, Kathi, Kim, Ann, and PDG Keltie



WANTED: NEWS & VIEWS EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Help Tell the Story of District 12N Lions!

The East Tennessee Lions District 12N
is seeking a volunteer to serve as the next
**Editor & Publisher of the
News & Views Newsletter.**

THIS IS A REWARDING OPPORTUNITY TO:

-  Share the accomplishments of Lions throughout the district
-  Promote upcoming events and service projects
-  Highlight member achievements
-  Keep Lions informed and connected

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

- ✓ Prior newsletter experience is not required
- ✓ Training and support will be provided
- ✓ Learn valuable communication and publishing skills



If you enjoy organizing information, working with photos and stories, and helping promote the good work of Lions, this may be the perfect opportunity for you!

*Interested?
Contact:*



Lion Kim Osborne
kimosborne607@gmail.com

*Help us continue sharing the stories of service that
make a difference throughout District 12N!*



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 Lion Kim Osborne at kimosborne607@gmail.com by the 20th day of the month.

We look forward to seeing your stories!



WE NEED YOUR HELP:

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! 🦁 📧