

**Serving Our Community**

When I visit clubs here and abroad, the one question that comes up in conversation is "why did you become a Lion"? The answers that top the lists vary. The most common one is that I like serving my community. Lions are well known for their service projects, fundraisers or positive impact led by Lions Club International Foundation.

**Dates to Remember****Jan 9, 2024****Nat'l Law Enforcement  
Appreciation Day****Jan 26-28****Lions Learning Retreat  
Manchester****Feb 16-18, 2024****District 12N Convention  
Meadow View Resort****April**

This season of thanks, I am fortunate to have more than one thing to be thankful for. I am humbly challenging all Lions to consider our law enforcement personnel. It is definitely evident that times have changed in our towns that we grew up in as well as others. There is more crime, shootings, drugs, or other offenses than there ever was. It is not just the simple showing off in your car or your parents' car. Yes, you know who you are. These select people protect and serve our community to try and make it a better place. They put their lives on the line and in some instances die in the line of duty. While we cannot provide answers to times that are changing, we can be thankful for what we have in front of us. As a service project for MD-12 it is proposed that every Lions club on Jan. 9, 2024, have a law enforcement appreciation day. This is a great way to show our gratitude to those who have served and are serving. Thank you for your support on this project.

Yours in Lionism,

*DG Frank*

# Vice Governor's Musings



## Season of Thanks

There is a time and a place and a reason and a Season for everything! During this Season of Thanksgiving, please know how much I appreciate each Lion for your dedicated Service. Thanks to each Lion who has served in a leadership role - whether it's in your club, in our 12-N District or in a state or international role. And a special thanks to each of you who may be considering stepping up and accepting a new leadership role.

Thanks to Each Lion who help ensure the success of all the many initiatives - whether it's vision screening, packing lunches for a homeless ministry, providing toys for the children's hospitals, planting trees, etc. or supporting fundraisers such as selling pecans or selling raffle tickets, etc. It's a pleasure to serve with each of you, especially during this Season of Thanksgiving and Blessings!

***Serving with you, 1st VDG Keltie***



As we close out 2023, it's healthy to take a moment and pause and look back. By pausing, we get the opportunity to reflect on what we have accomplished personally, professionally, spiritually etc. Through reflecting we can also find areas of opportunity where we can improve in different areas through our life. What areas are you looking to improve in? What about your Lions' club?

What things went well, and what didn't go so well? Why was this? As we close out the rest of this year, let's look to finish strong and not quit right before the finish line.

***WE SERVE, 2nd VDG Nathanael***



# DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

## Johnson City Turtle Derby



The Johnson City Lions Club hosted a mechanical turtle derby where children from the community watched their turtles race to the finish line in hopes of winning a bicycle or some other prize. As a club fundraiser, members of the community sponsor the turtles. A great time was had by all.





# DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

## Kingsport Activities



Lions Carol Bowling and Eileen Hillmuth shopped and delivered toys to COO Dwight Owens and staff at Indian Path Hospital.

1st VDG Keltie Kerney and Indian Path Team Member Meghan with more toys donated by Kingsport Lions.



1ST VDG Keltie, daughter Suzanne and grandson Teague helped pack shoe boxes for Samaritan's purse.





# DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

## Kingsport - More Activities



Kingsport Lions Celeste Dickson, Bill Moore, Larry White, Wayne Garland, 1st VDG Keltie Kerney, Rhonda White (spouse of Lion Larry), Kathy Moore and Dan Abernathy packing lunches for Shades of Grace community food ministry. Not pictured - Lions Neil Smith and Val Abernathy.

1st VDG Keltie thanks Rhonda Straley, Mgr Volunteer Services at Ballad Holston Valley Medical Center and Indian Path Community Health for sharing an informative program about the need for volunteers at each hospital.





# DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

## Knoxville Tri-County Lions



Knoxville Tri-County Lions prepared, packaged, and delivered Happy Fall handcrafted cards and a sack meal to the senior citizen community in Seymour Sunday afternoon, October 29.

Each of the approximately 80 residents received a turkey sandwich, chips,

condiments, and cookies.





## DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

### Norris Good Neighbors Assn Donation



The Norris Area Good Neighbors Association recently received a \$500 donation from the Norris Lions Club. Receiving the check for the organization are (from left to right) Tracy Haley, Brandon Berg, and Lisa Barger with the Norris Lions. Good Neighbors is an organization with representatives from area churches which dates

back to the founding of Norris in the mid-1930s. They have been providing food for needy families at Christmas since the 1950s and toys and clothing gifts for children since the 1980s. Their most recent program "Happy Feet" provides shoe vouchers (\$30 for elementary and \$40 for middle and high school students) for qualifying students to buy shoes at a local store. To date the program has provided vouchers for over 200 pairs of shoes to students in area schools in Norris, Lake City, Fairview, Andersonville, and Anderson County. The Norris Lions are proud to support the good work Good Neighbors does in our community.

If you would like to make a donation to Good Neighbors for food baskets or support their Happy Feet program, send your donation by check to Good Neighbors and mail to:

Norris Religious Fellowship  
P. O. Box 276  
Norris, Tenn. 37828

# DISTRICT CLUBS SERVING FROM THE HEART

## Sevier County Activities



Lions Wilma, Kim, Jennifer, Bryce, Chuck, and IPDG Rich (not pictured) had fun handing out candy at the My People Senior Center Halloween event.



Members IPDG Rich, Brian P, Chuck, Kim, Ranee, Piia, and Bob attended the national showing of Medicine Man: The Stan Brock story on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Not pictured, but in attendance, were Deanne, Brian O, and Wilma.



Sevier Lions decorated a tree for the Gatlinburg Fantasy of Trees event. Back row: IPDG Rich, Ranee, Brian, Kim, and Chuck. Front row: Jennifer, Emily.



Members prepared 550 Christmas cards that were sent to the Veteran's Last Patrol, to be distributed nationwide to Hospice Veterans. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that Sevier Co Lions have participated in this project.



## OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

### Johnson City—Kingsport Zone Meeting



Our very first Lion Zone meeting was a fantastic success! We discussed Ideas for community outreach , youth engagement , and more . Our Zone meeting was a testament to the power of collaboration and service. We can't wait to

turn our ideas into action and serve our community with passion and dedication. Thank you to all the passionate Lions who joined us. Your passion and dedication are the Driving Force behind our mission . Together, we are ready to make a positive impact in our community!

### **ATTENTION** **DISTRICT 12N FOOD PACKING EVENT**

The Operation Inasmuch Food Packing Event scheduled for December 5th at Hanger at Pathways Church in Sevierville is being **POSTPONED** until the spring of 2024. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming months. Meanwhile we suggest doing what you can to help serve the hungry in your communities.



## OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

### Eyeglass Recycling Lions Workday 11-11-23



Lions from across the District got together to sort and crate thousands of pairs of glasses to be shipped to Re-Spec in CA for further recycling. The District receives a check in return to be used for our various sight related projects.



There were glasses of all kinds and sizes. Doris and Paulette went crazy trying some of them on.





## OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

### 2023 TN HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



**Congratulations** to District 12N Lions PCC Tony Gross (Karns Lions Club), PDG Wendy Cain (Oak Ridge Lions Club), and PDG Bill Slover (Karns Lions Club) for being inducted into the Tennessee Lions Hall of Fame at tonight's Honors Banquet held at Cumberland University.

District 12 N Lions are proud of our newest inductees! The honor is well-deserved by all.

## **OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS**

### **CALL FOR DISTRICT 12N LEADERSHIP 2ND VDG CANDIDATES Deadline for Candidate Qualification is FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

#### **ARE YOU QUALIFIED TO BECOME 2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR NEXT YEAR???**

**Are you an active member of your club?**

**Have you been Club President?**

**Have you been a Board member of your club for two or more years?**

**Have you been a Zone Chair, Region Chair, District Secretary or District Treasurer?**

**Are you willing to accept the challenge and become our District Governor in 2026?**

**For more information and details, please contact PDG Chuck Bailey at 423/371-9737 or email at [chuck-yegg001@gmail.com](mailto:chuck-yegg001@gmail.com)**



## OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

### East TN Children's Hospital Donation

On behalf of the District 12 N Childhood Cancer Project - Paulette Bailey crocheted and donated another 43 character beanies to East TN Children's Hospital in November. In addition to these cuties there were several Princess Elsa, Anna and Jack Sparrow Wigs that were among the mix. I create beanies in various sizes to accommodate different aged children.



# OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

## Service Awards



To all Club Service Chairs:

This year I would like each club to nominate someone to be considered for recognition in the service category. The individual can be nominated for innovation, time spent or any other service related criteria each club deems worthy.

Please have your club submit their recommendation to the District GST (Lion Connie Emmons) for a final submission to the MD GST (Lion Connie Emmons). Please submit your candidate to me by January 25, 2024 to be considered. Please provide their name and why you nominated them.

I will be giving recognition in each District as well as one from the State. I can't do this without your help and input. Please start thinking now.

Let's lift each other up and be supportive in any way that we can.

Thank you for your service as well,

Lion Connie Emmons  
Global Service Team Chair  
[conniemay2017@outlook.com](mailto:conniemay2017@outlook.com)







Warm greetings fellow Lions, Please join me as we come together and CROWN LION BOB MILLER at 105 years-old-young for his remarkable service. While he's still with us, let's shower him with virtual flowers, gratitude, and admiration for a lifetime dedicated to SERVICE and making a positive impact on humanity. Other seniors along with Bob will be crowned by Vice Mayor Aaron Murphy on Saturday at 3pm, Dec. 2nd. Hope you can come.



# OTHER DISTRICT RELATED ITEMS

## ARBOR DAY 2024



Lions District 12N is emphasizing Arbor Day 2024 this year as an effort to support our Lions Environmental cause. This project is being coordinated through the Tennessee Environmental Council. All clubs are encouraged to plant trees with your municipalities beautifying our towns and parks.

District 12N will be providing 3-5 trees (depending on cost) per club at **NO COST TO THE CLUBS**. Please feel free to order more for your clubs or yourselves! We will work on a delivery chain to get them to you. All other trees ordered have a pick-up date of March 15th and 16th from your chosen pick-up site. More information to come.

I thought it would be great if we could all participate in Arbor Day this year. The Tennessee Environmental Council is trying to reach a goal of one million trees. I purchased some last year and they are all thriving even with the very hot weather this summer.

Here is the list of trees that will be available for Tennessee Tree Day 2024. Please be aware that not all trees will be available at every pickup location.

Tulip Poplar, Bald Cypress, Shortleaf Pine, Persimmon, White Oak, Pecan, Eastern Redbud, River Birch, Cherry Bark Oak (red), Willow Oak (red), Serviceberry, Pawpaw, Flowering Dogwood, Wild Plum, Beautyberry, Black Cherry, & Native Pecan

For more information and ordering please call:

Connie Emmons  
District 12N Global Service Chair  
Email: [conniemay2017@outlook.com](mailto:conniemay2017@outlook.com)  
Cell: 865/456-0127







# Lions Learning Retreat

## January 26-28, 2024

Manchester Coffee County Conference Center  
Manchester, Tennessee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name to be used on name tag \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ Lion \_\_\_\_\_ Leo \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Lion \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

First Time Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Meals: Diabetic \_\_\_\_\_ Low Sodium \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Name#2 \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_ Lion \_\_\_\_\_ Leo \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Lion \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

First Time Attender: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Meals: Diabetic \_\_\_\_\_ Low Sodium \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Other? \_\_\_\_\_

Early registration - MUST be Postmarked by November 1, 2023 \$130.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Late registration - post-marked by January 5, 2024 \$140.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Includes all seminars. Friday Dinner, Saturday Lunch and Banquet & Sunday Brunch

On-site registration - May NOT receive meals \$150.00 \_\_\_\_\_

includes all seminars but NO MEALS

Saturday only Registration available until December 20, 2023 \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Includes seminars, Lunch & Banquet for Saturday

Mark if appropriate - Will NOT attend--

Friday meal \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday brunch \_\_\_\_\_

Check# \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Lions Learning Retreat

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. Code \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the LLR to charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card. **Add Convenience Fee of \$5 per Reg.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Send all registrations and payments to:

Lion Jim McFarland, 8030 Whitestone RD, Knoxville, TN 37938





## **REMINDER Of 12N SCHOLARSHIPS**

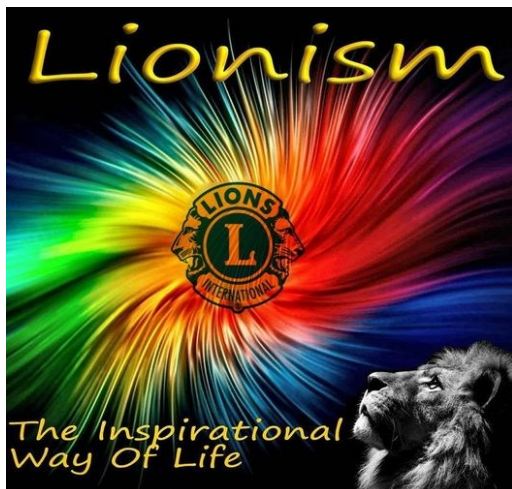
Your District is offering Scholarships for the following upcoming events:

Lions Learning Retreat

January 26-28, 2024

Manchester Coffee County Conference Center  
Manchester, Tennessee

DG Frank gets one free registration to distribute but the District has also approved offering 10 registration scholarships for the first individuals to sign-up.



## Earn Presidential LCIF Supporter Recognition



Don't miss your chance to earn this year's international president-themed recognition for qualifying individual and club donations to LCIF. These limited-edition pieces celebrate your commitment and support to our global foundation. The pins are fulfilled for individual donations of US\$50 and above. Your contributions, no matter the size, play a crucial role in empowering Lions and Leos to create positive change in communities across the world. If you're making your contribution online (through the LCI website - [Lionsclubs.org](https://Lionsclubs.org) under "LCIF") and your one-time donation amount meets the eligibility criteria as noted in the levels of recognition, remember to select "Yes" in the third step titled "Who is the donor?" This ensures that your pin request is acknowledged. If you choose alternative methods to contribute to LCIF, kindly reach out to us at [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org) to initiate your pin request. There are multiple levels of recognition to honor donors based on their one-time donation amount that meets the eligibility criteria as noted in the levels of recognition. The levels are as follows.

### **All Donors:**

Bronze Pin - US\$50 to US\$99.99

Silver Pin - US\$100 to US\$199.99

Gold Pin - US\$200 and above



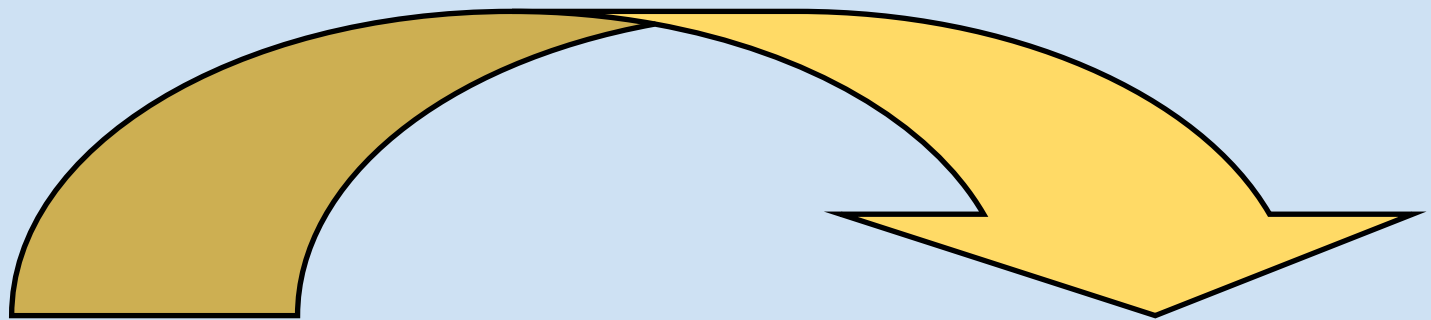


## **NEWS & VIEWS ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS**

**We NEED your stories and photos. We know you are serving your communities. Whether it is a service project, a fundraiser, Officer Installations, New Member Inductions or thanking a member for a job well done - let us know what you are doing. We can all learn off each other!**

**Articles for the News & Views should be in WORD or JPEG formats and NOT PDF formats. Font size should be at least 16 and 200 words is the maximum limit for articles. If photos are submitted (encouraged) the articles should be no longer than 110 words and please name the people in the photo(s) if possible.**

**Submit all articles and photos to Paulette Bailey at [ladipee@gmail.com](mailto:ladipee@gmail.com) by the 20th of the month.**



## **WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

**Gwen McKenzie - Knoxville East**  
**Larry Hill - Norris**  
**Sue Hill - Norris**  
**Elizabeth Siegenthaler - Norris**  
**John Siegenthaler - Norris**

***WELCOME NEW  
MEMBERS***

## **IN MEMORY OF**

**Kristy Jones—Kingsport**







**Did you know that Lions Volunteer Blind Industries in Morristown and Johnson City employs over 100 disabled individuals, some of whom have been with us over 30 years?**

This team of highly-skilled employees produce mattresses, foundations, mattress pads, army and navy physical-fitness pants, helmet covers for the military, and industrial paper towels. The products made by our blind and visually-impaired employees can be found in homes, colleges and universities, hotels and resorts, and on military bases both at home and abroad.

Begun in 1951 by the combined efforts of Lions Club Members, the National Industries for the Blind, the State of Tennessee, and other interested individuals, **Lions Volunteer Blind Industries** began our mission of providing blind people with **"The dignity of independence through employment."** Our goal is to help people who are blind to help themselves by achieving personal and economic independence.

***We are always hiring blind and visually-impaired people, and offer a very competitive compensation and benefit package. We can use your help to recruit visually-impaired applicants! How? Get the word out in your community and refer interested applicants to us by sharing this link: <https://www.facebook.com/ComfortCraftersMorristown/videos/186130468965042/>***

**How can we help YOU? Please consider us for a fundraiser with our Comfort Crafters® mattresses!**



For more information about employment opportunities, please contact

Michele Love at 423-586-3922 ext 123, or by email at: [Michele.Love@volblind.org](mailto:Michele.Love@volblind.org).



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