

UPCOMING
EVENTS:

JULY 4th 
INDEPENDENCE
DAY

July 13-17, 2025
International
Convention,
Orlando, FL

July 19, 2025
Organizational
Meeting - 10:00 AM
LVBI Morristown

August 2, 2025
MD12 Organizational
Meeting,
Nashville, TN

‘Welcoming the New’



A lot of “new” has made it into my life lately. June 7th was the happiest day of my life: I married my best friend Tatum. We were able to travel over the pond to Europe for our honeymoon which was also a “new” experience for both of us. I even spotted a few Lions Club signs while I was over there! One new I am very excited about is being the “New DG.” I am very humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve, lead and be around many great Lions. I want to thank Keltie for the awesome job that she did during her time as DG. I am inspired and hopeful for growth with the team we have built for the district; there will be many “new” faces who have stepped up to serve and are already sharing new ideas.

I want to encourage our clubs to embrace change. If someone has a new out of the box idea – listen to them. It doesn’t mean you have to agree with them, but hear them out. Don’t be the person who says, “We’ve never done that before.” Or “We’ve always done it this way.” One of my favorite artist Bob Dylan sang “The times they are a changing.” Lets welcome it with open arms and embrace the new - whatever that may be.

In Service....Nathanael Hughes, District Governor

VDG's Lionhearted Lessons



2025 July - Fun in Club Meetings

Lions Club meetings should be more than just discussions—they should be engaging and enjoyable! A lively atmosphere strengthens camaraderie and keeps members motivated. Start with an icebreaker or a lighthearted moment to set a positive tone. Incorporate interactive activities, such as themed events or storytelling sessions, to make meetings memorable.

Celebrate achievements, recognize members'

contributions, and encourage laughter. Creative fundraisers and social gatherings help maintain enthusiasm. Most importantly, foster an inclusive and upbeat environment where everyone feels valued. When Lions Club meetings are fun, members are more engaged, inspired, and dedicated to making a difference in their communities!

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



Embracing the Call to Serve

The day has arrived, and I am honored to begin my journey as a member of the District Governor team, serving as your 2nd Vice District Governor. It is with both excitement and humility that I step into this new role.

For those whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, allow me to share a brief introduction. Over the past six years, I have served as Cabinet Secretary, in addition to holding various leadership roles at the Multiple District 12, District, and Club levels. I am currently serving as Secretary

of the newly chartered Sevierville Lions Club, following seven years as a Charter Member of the Sevier County Lions Club.

These experiences have helped shape my path and prepared me for the responsibilities ahead. I am deeply grateful to those who have supported, guided, and encouraged me to take this next step in service.

I look forward to working alongside DG Nate and 1st VDG Wayne as we lead and serve together with our fellow Lions across District 12N.

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

Bulls Gap Lions Club



L to R: President Robert Davis and DG Keltie Kerney

On June 5th, DG Keltie presented Bulls Gap President Robert Davis with one of the Bowls from the Hunger Bowl Initiative. She encouraged their club to fill the bowl with “Service” and empty the “Service” into their community.



DG Keltie congratulated each Lion for achieving respective milestones for years of service which has touched the lives of many people in their community.



L to R: President Robert Davis, Lion Gaylon Williams (50 year Chevron award), DG Keltie, Lion Sukie Perkins (10 year chevron), and Connor Williams accepting a 10 year chevron on behalf of his Mother, Lion Barbara Williams (not present). Pres. Davis also accepted chevron awards for Lion Bill Haskins (25 years) and Chester Haskins (10 years).

Harriman Lions Clubs



The Harriman Lion's Club held their annual "America's Greatest Pancake Breakfast" on June 14th at the Harriman Methodist Church. The pictures show the Lions sampling the breakfast to make sure it was ready to serve, and some of our many attendees.



We all had a great time and made new friends, and hopefully, some new members.



Inskip Lions Club



Nora Barber Wiser was sworn into the Inskip Lions Club by Past District Governor Dave Crawford. Nora moved to Knoxville when she was in the 4th grade attending Inskip Grammar School and graduating from Central High School. She married William (Bill) Wiser and has three children - Scott, Alan and Karen. After high school she pursued a career in accounting and retired from Hodges, Doughty & Carson in 2019. She attends Inskip Baptist Church where she has served in many jobs. She has also volunteered at The Free Medical Clinic, Mobile Meals, and Sacred Ground Hospice House plus many volunteer jobs at her church. She is an Inskip girl through and through - and lives within a mile of where she grew up!



Johnny Cecil sponsors another new member, Nora Wiser, to the Inskip Lions Club



L to R: Lion Johnny Cecil, New member Nora Wiser, President Martha Jean Bratton, and PDG Dave Crawford.

Johnson City Lions Club



DG Keltie presents President Judan Alison a bowl from the Hunger Initiative and thanked their club for the impact they have made in their community for many years.



PDG Ed Gibbons presents Lion Charles Green a Melvin Jones Award.



Kingsport Lions Club

Kingsport Lions Club hosted it's 79th Annual Turtle Derby, May 31, 2025. The event was named in memory of PDG Bob Miller who turned 106 on October 29, 2024 and passed away from complications of a fall on October 31, 2024.



The track team getting ready to set turtles in motion , Lions Bill Murdoch, Neil Smith, 1VDG Wayne Garland, Doug Hillmuth, Jim Fischer and Lion Larry White's granddaughter, Henley.



Approximately 250 visitors gathered to "roar" for the turtles!



DG Keltie with dear friends Justine Hill and Robyn Kennedy who volunteered at the Derby.



Winner of the Boy's bicycle



Lion volunteers- Doug Hillmuth, Kyler Kerney-Elliott (Sevierville Lions Club) and PDG Adam Bowling.



Winner of the Girl's bicycle 7

Kingsport Lions Club (con't)

DG Keltie presented summer history folders to 4th grade students at an Elementary School in VA. The Lion picture was located in the Library of this particular school.



Kingsport Lions packed 200 community meals at Shades of Grace. This is a monthly service project which has been ongoing for two years. Lions have packed approximately 5,000 meals since the project began. Assisting was DG Keltie, Lion Don Abernathy, Lion Neil Smith, VDGE Wayne Garland and Lion Jim Fischer. Not pictured is Lion Val Abernathy.



During the Sevierville Charter Night Celebration, DG Keltie (Kingsport Lions Turtle Derby Chair) presents Karns Lion Kevin Monaghan a certificate for the turtle he sponsored in the Derby named "Lettuce III". Lion Kevin's turtle scooted down the track and arrived in the winners circle as a first runner up. 8

Knoxville North Lions Club

Lion President Doug Rodenbeck (Knox North Lions) receives recognition for ringing the Salvation Army red kettle bell for 60 years. It is extremely rare to find a Lion that has been participating in the same type of service project for 60 years!!



Knox North ringers included Clare Crawford, Dave Crawford (Farragut Lion), Rick Long and his non-Lion brother, Angela Faulkner, John Cox, (pictured - the 3 Rodenbecks) Doug Rodenbeck, Martha Rodenbeck and Lion Cub Joshua Rodenbeck.

Maryville Lions Club



On Tuesday, June 17th, DG Keltie installed the Maryville Lions Club 2025-2026 officers at their meeting where they hosted a yummy BBQ, salad and dessert spread. DG Keltie thanked each officer for his/her willingness "To Serve" in these important leadership roles.

Also, on behalf of the Maryville Lions Club, DG Keltie presented Mollie Nicholson with a Melvin Jones Award for her work with an agency "A Place to Stay". Mollie is being honored for her devoted work with the homeless community in Blount County and the new ideas that she has brought to the Maryville club for service.



Additionally, DG Keltie presented Lion Mollie with a Hunger Bowl, a project that Lion Carol Bowling spearheaded with over 100 bowls being made. Funds raised from the bowls were donated to the Second Harvest Food Banks in Northeast, TN and the Maryville Second Harvest Food Bank. The empty bowl represents an opportunity for Lions to "fill the bowl with service" and "pour service into the communities they serve".



Morristown Hamblen Lions Club

On June 9th the Morristown-Hamblen Lions Club held their annual picnic at the Fred Miller Park in Morristown. A great time was had by all, until Mother Nature decided to surprise them with a downpouring of rain. Despite the weather change, everyone enjoyed the food and each other's company.



Lion Larry Reneau
grilled burgers
and hot dogs at
the Club picnic



The Lions Clubs International is challenging all of its clubs to recycle plastic bags! For every 1000 pounds we recycle by dropping off at local grocery stores, a Lions club bench is placed in the clubs honor. Our Morristown-Hamblen Lions are well on our way, and have already collected over 51 pounds of plastics!

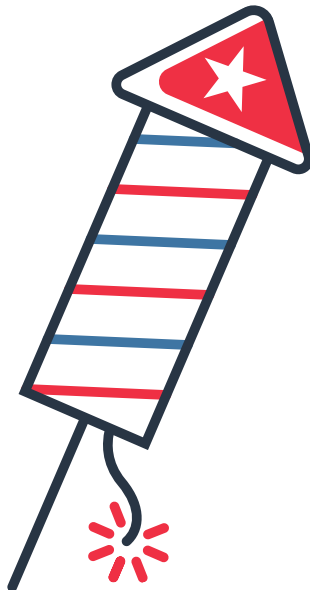
Rogersville Lions Club



DG Keltie presents a Make Your Mark pin and a Mission 1.5 pin to President Tim Seaton



New Members L to R: Ed Pleser, Martha Pleser, Lindy Williams, DG Keltie, President Tim Seaton, Bill Baylan, and Jennifer Baylan



L to R: DG Keltie, Barbara Seaton, and Tim Seaton

Sevier County Lions Clubs

Pres. PDG Rich Wilson (L), Frank Aparicio (seated) along with Mountain Hope-Good Shepherd Community Outreach Director Julia Pearce (R) staff the monthly vision clinic at First Baptist Church of Sevierville.



Gloria Christiansen (L) and Rane King (R) delivering eyeglasses to one of the 55 recipients of eye exams and eyeglasses provided by Sevier Co Lions at their April 30 vision clinic.

L to R: Wilma White-Stayton, PDG Jim McFarland, Rane King, PDG Rich Wilson, and Dr. Larry Zube.



L to R: Frank Aparicio (Sevier Co Treasurer), Tri-County Lions President Spencer Perry, and PDG Rich Wilson (Sevier Co President). Knox Tri-County Lions Club received a donation from the Sevier County Lions Club towards their \$80,000. LCIF/District 12N grant for the purchase of a new Fire Truck for the Seymour Fire Department.



Sevierville Lions Club

★★★★★ Welcome, newly Chartered Club

On June 16th, the Sevierville Lions Club proudly celebrated the chartering of their new Club with a special event held at the Chop House in Kodak, TN. The celebration was attended by over 40 people, including members, family, friends, and fellow Lions; all gathered to mark this exciting milestone.



Charter Members of the Sevierville Lions Club L to R: Kyler Kerney-Elliott, Sarah Collins, Janice Schroeder, Ashley Sellars, Meredith Rose, Stacy Anderson, Summer Blalock (joined during the Charter event), Erik Hofstad, PDG Millie Burke, 2VDGE Kim Osborne, Bob Babson, Piia Babson, President Kathi Hofstad, Liz Gibson, Tom Gibson, and Chuck Osborne. Not pictured: Francis Hamilton, Steve Hamilton, Mandra Hicks, David Hicks, Deb Howe, Jacob Lowe, Kim Lowe, Judy Norwood, and Leah Salyer.

A 'Special Edition' of the News & Views will be published in the upcoming weeks with more photos and stories from this special event. Watch for it!!





Tellico Village Lions Club



Lion Larry Elder officiates the induction of New Lion Kent Henderson. Lion Mark Williams assists in placing the Lions pin on Kent's vest. Club President Kathleen Dooley observes during the June 3rd ceremony.



L to R: New Lion Kent, Sponsored by Lion Mark, President Kathy, and Ceremony by Lion Larry.

On June 17th, new member Cheryl Henderson was inducted. L to R: Kent Henderson, Cheryl Henderson (new member), Lion Chris Garner (performed the ceremony), Janice Knob (Sponsor), President Kathleey Dooley. →



L to R: DG Keltie, Bill Spencer, Harry Rucker - President, Dennis Kelly, Tom Kelley, Rosie Sylvester, Janice Knob, Bob Wolf, Kathy Dooley - Past President, Don Skalecki. Not Pictured: Mark Williams, Michael Elkins, Bill Cooley, Perry Sylvester



West Knoxville Lions Club

On June 16th, the West Knoxville Lions Club installed new Club Officers for 2025-2026. The Installations were conducted by PDG Rich Wilson.



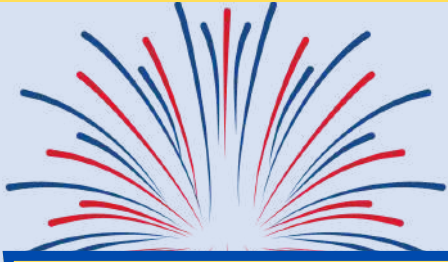
L to R (back): Tom Miller, Dr. Paul Wittke, PCC Mike McDonough, Ron Riehn, PDG Rich Wilson, and George Flanagan. L to R (front): Beverly Gilmer, Sheila Wittke, Charlotte Miller, and PDG Jim McFarland.

FOURTH OF JULY TRIVIA QUIZ

1. When were fireworks first used in an official Fourth of July celebration?
a. 1777 b. 1877 c. 1907
2. What historical event do Americans celebrate on the Fourth of July?
a. Official signing of the Declaration of Independence
b. George Washington's birthday
c. Formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence
3. Which newspaper first printed the Declaration of Independence?
a. The New York Times
b. The Pennsylvania Evening Post
c. The National Enquirer
4. Which U.S. president was born on Independence Day?
a. Calvin Coolidge b. James Buchanan c. George W. Bush
5. When did the Fourth of July become a federal holiday?
a. 1880 b. 1870 c. It's a state holiday, not a federal holiday.
6. How many signers of the original Declaration of Independence died on July 4th?
a. 0 b. 1 c. 2
7. What percentage of retail fireworks sales occur during the Fourth of July holiday?
a. 90% b. 75% c. 48%
8. What actor in "Born on the Fourth of July" was actually born on July 3rd?
a. Tom Cruise b. Oliver Stone c. Kyra Sedgwick
9. What was Uncle Sam's occupation?
a. Builder b. Soldier c. Meat Packer
10. Which colony was the first to declare itself independent of Great Britain?
a. Rhode Island b. Vermont c. Connecticut
11. Who has the largest signature on the Declaration of Independence?
a. Benjamin Franklin b. John Hancock c. Thomas Jefferson
12. The Declaration of Independence had how many signers?
a. 42 b. 56 c. 31



Welcome New Members



Outstanding!

Jennifer Baylan - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Tim Seaton
Bill Baylan - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Tim Seaton
Karen Beggs - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Pam Mayo
Summer Blalock - Sevierville Lions - Sponsor Stacy Anderson
Susan Eychner - Kingsport Lions - Sponsor Doug Haseltine
Cody Fleming - Dandridge Lions - Sponsor Carolyn Rinehart
Cheryl Henderson - Tellico Village - Sponsor Janice Knob
Kent Henderson - Tellico Village - Sponsor Mark Williams
Aaron Johnson - Karns Lions - Sponsor Joshua Bolling
Melissa Johnson - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Tim Seaton
Timothy Johnson - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Tim Seaton
Trina Lloyd - Sevier Co Lions - Sponsor Wilma White-Stayton
Chris Manley - Kingsport Lions - Sponsor Doug Haseltine
Jacob May - Greeneville Lions - Sponsor Jacob Ball
Edward Pleser - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Barbara Seaton
Martha Pleser - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Barbara Seaton
Peyton Shelton - Greeneville Lions - Sponsor Jacob Ball
Dawn Shumate - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Tim Seaton
Lindy Williams - Rogersville Lions - Sponsor Pam Mayo

Lion Peggy Tillery - Inskip Lions

In Loving Memory

2025-2026 EAST TN LIONS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

February 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

March 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 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						

June 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				

July 2025						
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
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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						

September 2025						
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				

October 2025						
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	

November 2025						
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						

December 2025						
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			

Important dates:

JULY 13-17, LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN ORLANDO, FL	OCTOBER 4, FALL CABINET MEETING Location to be Determined
JULY 19, 10:00 AM ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, LVBI in MORRISTOWN	NOVEMBER 1, MD12 FALL RALLY, CUMBERLAND UNIVERSITY
AUGUST 2, MD12 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, NASHVILLE, TN	JANUARY 10, 2026 WINTER CABINET MEETING VIA ZOOM
SEPTEMBER 18-20, USA/CANADA FORUM, ATLANTIC CITY, NJ	MARCH 27-28, 2026 DISTRICT 12N CONVENTION, Location to be Determined

District 12N Matching Grant with LCIF



Dear District 12N Lions,

We are pleased to share that on May 12, 2025 we received confirmation from LCIF that our request for the Matching Vision Grant of \$150,00.00 for the Gribetz Commercial Mattress Quilting Machine was approved. This machine is replacing a forty-three-year-old machine with an obsolete computer system which can no longer be updated. This is a vital piece of equipment needed to continue the legacy of helping blind people “gain dignity through employment.”

We do need to continue to fundraise for this project. I am officially requesting invitations to present the LVBI Mission to Clubs.

Thank you for your continued support of this worthy project.

**Please contact LCIF
Matching Grant Project
Manager and LVBI Chair
PDG Millie Burke at
gebgem@snet.net or
860-912-4171 for more
information or to
request a Club visit.**



Commercial Mattress
Quilting Machine

Respectfully Submitted, PDG Millie Burke

Plastics Recycling Project



Lions of District 12N are continuing to participate in the NexTrex soft plastics recycling project for 2025-2026. For each 1,000 lbs. of plastics collected, a bench is earned. During 2024-2025, Lions of 12N earned one bench, which will soon be placed at East Tennessee Children's Hospital in Knoxville. We would now like to work toward earning a second bench, with a location to be determined.



Recycling locations include Food City, Kroger, Publix, Kohls, Ingles and Food Lion. To participate in this program, take a photo of your plastics, the weight, the store name and the city where you donated the plastics, and **send this information to the 12N Coordinators for this project, Lions Don & Val Abernathy.** Their email address is: **donvalabernathy@gmail.com**. Luggage scales are great for weighing the plastics.

This project is set up through NexTrex. If you would like more information, visit the NexTrex website at <https://nextrex.com/view/programs>



TN Sales Tax Holiday July 25th-27th

TAX FREE

Computers \$1,500 or Less

When is the tax holiday?

- It begins the last Friday in July each year at 12:01 am and ends at 11:59 pm the following Sunday.

Who can buy tax-exempt computers?

- Anyone (not just students) can buy computers that qualify.

What's tax-exempt?

- Computers with a purchase price of \$1,500 or less. This includes laptops as well as tablets (iPads, etc.).
- Computers for personal (not business) use.
- More items are listed at www.tntaxholiday.com

What's still taxable?

- Computer parts, like keyboards and monitors, when not sold with a CPU.
- Storage media, like flash drives and compact discs.
- Individually purchased software.
- Video game consoles.
- Computer printers and supplies.
- Electronic readers (Kindles, Nooks, etc.) and personal digital assistants.
- Cell phones, including smart phones.
- Please consult our spreadsheets at www.tntaxholiday.com for a more comprehensive list of items.

Tennessee's traditional sales tax holiday on clothing, school supplies and computers begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, July 25, 2025, and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, July 27, 2025.

During this time clothing, school supplies and computers may be purchased tax-free. Certain restrictions apply. Items sold online are also eligible.

For more information, visit:
www.tntaxholiday.com

SALES TAX HOLIDAY

School Supplies and School Art Supplies \$100 or Less



When is the tax holiday?

- It begins the last Friday in July each year at 12:01 am and ends at 11:59 pm the following Sunday.

Who can buy tax-exempt school supplies?

- Anyone (not just students) can buy school supplies that qualify.

What's tax-exempt?

- School and art supplies with a purchase price of \$100 or less per item, such as binders, backpacks, crayons, paper, pens, pencils, and rulers, and art supplies such as glazes, clay, paints, drawing pads, and artist paintbrushes.
- Items that are normally sold together cannot be split up to stay beneath the \$100 threshold.
- More items are listed at www.tntaxholiday.com

What's still taxable?

- School and art supplies individually priced at more than \$100.
- Items purchased for business or trade use.
- Please consult our spreadsheets at www.tntaxholiday.com for a more comprehensive list of items

Lions Clubs may wish to take advantage of this opportunity by purchasing items needed for future Service Projects. Back-to-school supplies, school clothing closets, etc.

SALES TAX HOLIDAY

Clothing \$100 or Less



When is the tax holiday?

- It begins the last Friday in July each year at 12:01 am and ends at 11:59 pm the following Sunday.

Who can buy tax-exempt clothing?

- Anyone (not just students) can buy clothing that qualify.

What's tax-exempt?

- General apparel that costs \$100 or less per item (shirts, pants, jackets, socks, shoes, dresses, etc.)
- Items that are normally sold together, such as shoes, cannot be split up to stay beneath the \$100 threshold.
- More items are listed at www.tntaxholiday.com

What's still taxable?

- Apparel that costs more than \$100.
- Items such as jewelry, handbags, or sports and recreational equipment.
- Items purchased for business or trade use.
- Please consult our spreadsheets at www.tntaxholiday.com for a more comprehensive list of items.

LIONS VOLUNTEER BLIND INDUSTRIES



History of Lions Volunteer Blind Industries 2000 - 2009

In 2000, LVBI participates in prototype development of IPFU (Improved Physical Fitness Uniform) pant to replace fleece sweatpants for the Army. LVBI faces the challenge of 500,000 government credit card buyer's by-passing priority on blind-made products by purchasing direct from other commercial vendors in 2000.

In 2001, LVBI celebrates 50th anniversary! Initiates "Project Paycheck" annual employment scholarship program.

In 2002, TNVOL Manufacturing & Services, Inc. is established as a related non-profit company whose sighted employees assist LVBI blind workers in manufacturing JWOD (Javits Wagner O'Day Act) products.

In 2003, LVBI opens a Factory Direct showroom and mattress outlet store. A loss of financial support from the Division of Rehabilitation Services forces a reduction in force for rehabilitation personnel.

In 2004, a strengthened partnership from government customers with additional items: mattresses, various styles of helmet covers for Army/Marines. LVBI marketed rehabilitation services to surrounding states to offset loss of Tennessee funds.

Continued on the next page.....

Submitted by Lion Trevor Southerland - CEO of LVBI

LIONS VOLUNTEER BLIND INDUSTRIES

(con't)



History of Lions Volunteer Blind Industries (con't) 2000 - 2009

In 2005, LVBI implemented Strategic Planning Process to meet vision. Increases involvement with Package Room vendors to federal customers with resulting sales jump. Secured LCIF grant (\$150,000) for new sewing equipment.

In 2006, returned NIB (National Industries for the Blind) ratio to 76.35% direct blind labor after a year of surge protection due to accelerated deliveries. Record sales for mattress department (\$3 million +)! Introduce corporate partnerships to “Project Paycheck” program. Record sales year for LVBI (\$11.5 million).

In 2007, LVBI posts record sales for 57-year history! Revenues approach \$15 million!!! LVBI hosts first annual “American Dream Team” fund raiser to support “Project Paycheck” scholarship costs of \$310,000.

In 2008, LVBI expands its employment commitment to the disabled community by focusing the mission of TNVol Mfg. toward employment of people with severe disabilities, and affiliating that company with NISH (National Industries for the Severely Handicapped) in 2008.

In 2009 Fred Overbay retires after 15 years with LVBI. Don Britton is promoted to Executive Director. LVBI commits to service employment through the employment of a Director of Information Technology and a Call Center Project Manager.

Continued history from the 2000's in the next News & Views Edition

Submitted by Lion Trevor Southerland - CEO of LVBI

USA/Canada Forum News:

Are you planning to attend the USA/Canada Forum in Atlantic City, NJ? Will you be flying into the Philadelphia Airport and need transportation to the Venue? If so, check this out!



BREAKING HEADLINES

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Philadelphia Airport to Harrah's Atlantic City

BOOKING NOW AVAILABLE



Buses depart from Philadelphia Airport, **Wednesday, Sept. 17th** between 10am and 8pm

Buses depart from Harrah's Atlantic City, **Sunday, September 21st** between 3am and 1pm

Cost **US\$90 per round trip**. One-way tickets not sold.

No refunds after August 1st

[Reserve Your Bus Ticket Now](#)



KENTUCKY Disaster Relief Efforts

As many of you are aware, strong storms and tornadoes tore through counties of Laurel and Pulaski, KY on May 16th and 17th, resulting in numerous loss of lives and extreme devastation to homes and businesses.

As a response to this tragedy, DG Keltie approved a donation of \$1,000 that was sent from East TN District 12N to the Laurel Community Lions Club as a show of support to our neighboring Lions. The money was designated to be used for tornado disaster relief efforts.

We in District 12N understand all too well how devastating environmental disasters can be. Our thoughts and prayers are with the residents of the affected towns in Kentucky. As urgent needs will persist for some time, DG Keltie encourages all 12N Clubs to consider how they might continue to offer support during this critical period.

If you wish to reach out to the Laurel Community Lions, their address is P.O. Box 1892, London, KY 40743.
Attn: Eugene Callebs, Club Treasurer

An additional contact is Doris Callebs, (wife of Eugene), Past President. Her email is DGcallebsfam7@gmail.com and her phone number is 1-606-312-8844



Does your club qualify??

2024-2025

CLUB EXCELLENCE AND 5 STAR EXCELLENCE AWARD APPLICATION

This application features criteria for the Club Excellence Award and 5 Star Excellence Award. As you go through the application, please check all qualification boxes that your club has met. At the end of the application are criteria for the 5 Star Excellence Award. Your club will be awarded either the Club Excellence Award or the 5 Star Excellence Award.

Club name: _____ Club number: _____ District: _____

2024-2025 club president name: _____

Member number: _____ Email address: _____

1. MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Achieved a net growth of two (2) members or 10% or more members (whichever is greater) or ☐ Chartered a new Lions club.

Name of Lions club: _____

2. SERVICE

- ☐ Started a new service project. *Consider one of our global causes!* Explain: _____

- ☐ List three service activities your club participated in that were reported to Lions International:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. LCIF

- ☐ Contributed to LCIF an amount greater than or equal to the club's membership total multiplied by US\$10.

Year-end membership count _____ x US\$10 = _____

4. LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- ☐ Club is in Good Standing: Not in Status Quo or Financial Suspension. District dues paid and no unpaid balance with Lions International greater than US\$50 outstanding 90 days or more.

- ☐ Reported club officers to Lions International.

- ☐ Key officers participate in club officer training.

☐ District

☐ Webinars

☐ Multiple district

☐ Lions Learning Center

☐ International

5. MARKETING

- ☐ The club has publicized its service activities through local media or social media.

Provide a link to where they were publicized: _____

Learn more about [promoting your club and activities](#), and learn about the Marketing Award.

DOES YOUR CLUB QUALIFY FOR THE 5 STAR EXCELLENCE AWARD?

- ☐ Achieved the Club Excellence Award.
- ☐ Membership increase of 20% (minimum of five (5) members for small clubs).
- ☐ Minimum donations of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000 (whichever is less).
- ☐ Annual service and membership report submitted.

2024-2025 district governor signature*: _____

District: _____

District governor member number: _____

Date: _____

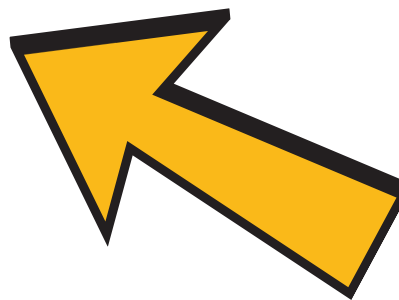
**If sent from district governor's registered email, it qualifies as signature on applications submitted electronically.*

Due by: August 31, 2025

Send to: clubexcellenceaward@lionsclubs.org

Awards mailed to: 2025-2026 district governors

Request to review award eligibility from a disqualified club will be considered only if received at Lions International Headquarters within 12 months after completion of the Lion year, provided that the original application form is already filed at Lions International.



Deadline is Aug. 31, 2025 to apply



Lions International

District and Clubs Administration

Lions International

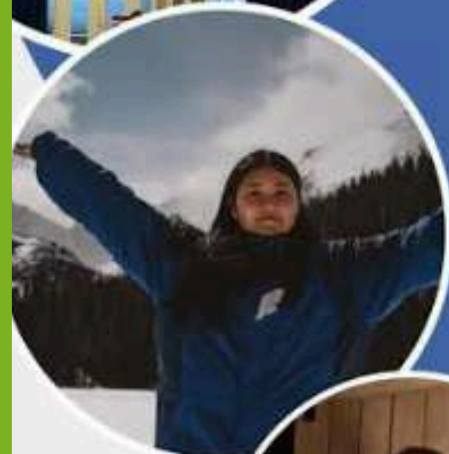
300 W. 22nd St.

Oak Brook IL 60523-8842 USA

www.lionsclubs.org

DA-CEA 4/2024 EN

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THERE IS A TIME, A PLACE AND A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING!

My time as East Tennessee Lions District Governor has been a time to see our Pride of Lions respond abundantly during the aftermath of hurricane Helene. Each Lion served in a unique way, at the right time and in the right place and impactfully. This is a time not only to celebrate the milestones achieved but also to embrace the opportunities ahead with renewed vigor and purpose. The dedication displayed by Lions who give so selflessly reminds us that every act of kindness, no matter the scale, carries the power to inspire change and encourage others to join our Lions and contribute to the 1.5 Mission - to nurture and increase membership.

The year has been full of service activities and some “noise and distractions” with strong winds that temporarily altered our “Flight Path”. However, service hours escalated as Lions responded to the disaster relief needs.

As we navigate this journey together, it’s essential to remain grounded in the values that define us—compassion, resilience, and the unwavering commitment to service. Each challenge we’ve faced has offered a lesson, and each triumph has reinforced our purpose. Let us take this moment to strengthen the bonds within our community, especially our Lions community, ensuring that every effort is met with encouragement and every voice is heard. Let’s seek to intentionally increase communication. By uniting our strengths with a shared vision, we position ourselves to not only meet the immediate needs of today but also to build a foundation for tomorrow.

Please continue to Serve in your area of passion with an emphasis to support Lions global causes of Vision, Hunger, Disaster Relief, Youth, Environment, Humanitarian and Childhood Cancer. There are unlimited service needs in your community. Serve with a smile, offer kind words knowing that someone may be having a bad day and Your words may be the Joy of their day. Thank you again for all that you have done to Serve and your future Service.

THERE IS A TIME, A PLACE AND A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING! (CON'T)

It's transition time as our district prepares for DGE Nate to be installed as DG at the International Convention in Orlando around July 16.

As we look toward the horizon, let us embrace the evolving roles we contribute within our District. I will continue to serve as the district disaster chair, begin a new role as 12N treasurer and serve as the District GET (Global Extension Team) focusing on starting new clubs within our district. Additionally, I'll be pleased to serve as DG Nate requests.

Through our collective spirit of dedication and adaptability, we can overcome challenges, address new opportunities, and inspire a new generation of leaders to carry forward the Service mission. By fostering an environment where each voice counts and collaboration and communication flourish, we set the stage for transformative initiatives that will encourage Lions, strengthen relationships, and address the unique needs of our time. Serving, truly together, we can ensure that the legacy of Lions' service continues to impact every corner of our world, beginning in East Tennessee.

It's been a privilege to Serve as District Governor for East Tennessee Lions, District 12N. Thank you for this opportunity. It's been a blessing to meet so many wonderful Lions across the district. I also extend a heartfelt Thank You to my family members who have served along this year with me.

Serving with you,

Keltie Baker Kerney
East Tennessee Lions - District 12N
District Governor 2024-2025



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 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



Answers to Fourth of July Trivia:



Fourth of July Trivia Answer Key

1. When were fireworks first used in an official Fourth of July celebration?

- a. 1777 b. 1877 c. 1907

2. What historical event do Americans celebrate on the Fourth of July?

- a. Official signing of the Declaration of Independence
b. George Washington's birthday
c. Formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence

3. Which newspaper first printed the Declaration of Independence?

- a. The New York Times
b. The Pennsylvania Evening Post
c. The National Enquirer

4. Which U.S. president was born on Independence Day?

- a. Calvin Coolidge b. James Buchanan c. George W. Bush

5. When did the Fourth of July become a federal holiday?

- a. 1880 b. 1870 c. It's a state holiday, not a federal holiday.

6. How many signers of the original Declaration of Independence died on July 4th?

- a. 0 b. 1 c. 2

7. What percentage of retail fireworks sales occur during the Fourth of July holiday?

- a. 90% b. 75% c. 48%

8. What actor in "Born on the Fourth of July" was actually born on July 3rd?

- a. Tom Cruise b. Oliver Stone c. Kyra Sedgwick

9. What was Uncle Sam's occupation?

- a. Builder b. Soldier c. Meat Packer

10. Which colony was the first to declare itself independent of Great Britain?

- a. Rhode Island b. Vermont c. Connecticut

11. Who has the largest signature on the Declaration of Independence?

- a. Benjamin Franklin b. John Hancock c. Thomas Jefferson

12. The Declaration of Independence had how many signers?

- a. 42 b. 56 c. 31



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