

2nd District 7-L Cabinet Meeting

December 13, 2014

Western Sizzlin, Arkadelphia, AR

ATTENDANCE:

(CABINET MEMBERS): DG Bob DeVinney (HSV Evening), 1st VDG Maxine Crittenden (Texarkana Evening), 2nd VDG John Collier (Hope), Sec. Nell Rockett (HSV Evening), Treas. Jim O'Connor (HSV Breakfast), ZTL2 Joanne Blos (Jesse D. Hawkins), ZTL4 Don Draper (HSV Breakfast), ZTL6 Elane Cecil (Texarkana Evening), GMT/PDG/Leo Chr. John Lewis (Saratoga), Convention Chr. Bill Hankins (Heber Springs), LCIF/PDG Chr. Bruce Davis (HSV Evening), PDG/Mid-South Art Ritter (Bryant), WSB/Sight Conversation Chr. Dave DeGraff (HSV Evening), Member Co-Chr. Richard Welch (Benton), Eye Bank Chr. Dennis Williams (Arkadelphia)

(CLUBS/GUESTS): Lions Julian Jaeger, Chuck Hollingshead, Dennis Williams, Anita Williams, Jim Stone, and Jennifer Story (Arkadelphia); Lion Chuck Shelnett (Benton); Lion Earlene Hankins (Heber Springs); Lion Bill Freeman (Hope); Lion Mindy Johnson (Little River); Lions Larry Bauer and Larry Ketcham (HSV Evening); and Lion Jimmie Crittenden (Texarkana Evening).

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Governor Bob DeVinney.

PLEDGE led by VDG Maxine Crittenden & **INVOCATION** led by VDG John Collier.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES: A motion was made by Lion Dennis Williams and seconded by Lion Joanne Blos to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

CONVENTION REPORT: Convention Chair Bill Hankins presented the financial report for the D7-L 2014 Convention. Registrations, Ad Sales and Donations netted \$4,960.00. Expenses totaled \$4,960.00. Lion Chuck Hollingshead moved and Lion Dennis Williams seconded a motion to accept the convention financial report as presented. Motion passed. Con. Chr. Hankins recognized the "Freaky Friday" Committee and thanked all Lions assisting in the various aspects of the convention.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurer Jim O'Connor reported a budget of \$7,200, expenses totaling \$2,244, leaving a balance of \$4,956. A motion was made by Lion Dennis Williams and seconded by Lion Chuck Hollingshead to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Update on Bearden Lions Club
DG DeVinney reported that Bearden requested to be dropped; however, members were not dropped resulting in LCI sending an invoice which the district paid. He reported that Camden Lions Club was asked to accept the Bearden club as a Branch Club. DG DeVinney, Lion Tony Anthony and Lion Charlotte Young will visit with the Bearden members to request that they consider becoming a Branch Club of Camden Lions. DeVinney explained the characteristics, definition, and benefits of this change in club status.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Status of new Murfreesboro Lions:** DG DeVinney recognized Hope Lions as the sponsoring club. Guiding Lion Larry Ketcham reported the difficulty of getting the 21 signed-up members to meet for regular meetings. Numerous meetings with Guiding Lions Larry Ketcham and Dennis Williams, GMT John Lewis, ZTL4 Don Draper, DG DeVinney, and other cabinet members have occurred with only one to two Murfreesboro Lions in attendance. GMT John Lewis is still working with several individuals in the community to promote more interest. DG DeVinney recommended a team made up of ZTL Draper, GMT Lewis, Sec. Rockett, and himself travel to Murfreesboro to meet with key individuals in the community. Several key contacts were recommended (Sweedon Tractor Company, Rusty Silver from Delight, and retired principal Arlene Fuggit). DG DeVinney recommended January as a time to make this visit.
2. **Status of new Hope Evening Lions:** VDG John Collier reported that as of December 1, 2014 the Hope Evening Lions received their charter and presently has 24 members. The newly chartered club assisted the Hope Lions with their Christmas Auction. The Hope Evening Lions will also be responsible for the continental breakfast at the upcoming Mid-Winter Forum in Hope. Charter Night for this new club is tentatively set for February 27, 2015. Hope Lions is the sponsoring club and the guiding lions are Lions Dave Phillips and Bill Freeman.
3. **Report on struggling Delight Lions Club:** GMT John Lewis reported he has made numerous visits to the Delight Lions and he will initiate

several new members in January. DG DeVinney expressed his appreciation to GMT Lewis for the numerous hours he has spent with both the Delight Lions and Murfreesboro Lions. DG DeVinney also expressed the importance of recruiting and supporting the leadership positions in these clubs.

4. **Lions International Peace Poster Contest:** Secretary Nell Rockett announced that Emma Hill from Jessieville Middle School was the local and district 7-L first place winner. She placed third on the state level. Miss Hill's picture and poster were viewed by those in attendance. Several suggestions to increase participation for 2015 were made:
 - a) get materials to schools early,
 - b) made sure the schools understand the rules so they are followed in order for posters to qualify, and
 - c) find a key person at each school to be in charge, such as the art teacher or the gifted/talented facilitator.
5. **Alert Team/Trailer:** Alert Chair Charlotte Young and DG DeVinney reported receiving \$8,500 grant to go toward the purchase of an alert trailer and the stocking of necessary items for said trailer. An alert account will be set up at Farmer's Bank & Trust in Camden. It was recommended that the trailer be housed on the parking lot of the Western Sizzlin in Arkadelphia. DG DeVinney passed pictures of an alert trailer around. He suggested that a decal on the trailer indicate it to be District 7-L Lions. The contents of the trailer will be kits (plastic tubs) containing such items as tarps, linens, toiletries, etc. Arkadelphia Lions President Julian Jaeger offered several reasons for housing the trailer in Arkadelphia: a) be close to I-30, b) be easily seen while parked in Western Sizzlin parking lot, c) be kept locked and maintained, d) a driver provided to transport trailer to disaster areas, and e) Arkadelphia Lions can assume the responsibility of the trailer. All present raised hands in support of housing the trailer at Western Sizzlin in Arkadelphia.

Other recommendations/suggestions in reference to Alert Team/Trailer:

- a) DG DeVinney suggested that every club in District 7-L have an Alert Chair in order to have an individual to coordinate with the district alert chair and the state alert chair.
- b) Lion Larry Ketcham asked whether the trailer might be dedicated in memory of a deceased Lion. It was thought that

there were too many to be recognized, too many names would have to be placed on the trailer.

- c) It was recommended that at least three (3) bids for the purchase of the trailer be sought. The Benton Lions will seek one and the Arkadelphia Lions will seek two.
- d) It will be necessary to look into finding a sign shop to place the appropriate lettering on the trailer.
- e) DG DeVinney recommended that several lions come together to assist in putting together the kits. ZTL Don Draper recommended that we do this project prior to the Mid-Winter Forum or a district meeting.
- f) Alert Chair Young was asked to obtain \$100 from the state alert fund in order to maintain the account at Farmer's Bank & Trust.
- g) Secretary Rockett recommended that memorials or contributions from individuals or clubs can be made to the alert fund. The alert chair can be responsible for sending out a notice of receipt of a memorial to the family of person being honored.
- h) DG DeVinney asked Alert Chair Young to form an Alert Committee. Said committee was immediately formed with the following members: Lions Julian Jaeger, Larry Bauer, Richard Welch, and Larry Ketcham.
- i) Lion Bill Freeman reminded the cabinet members that the Alert Committee is undertaking a serious job and will need By-Laws and to Incorporate. The Alert Committee, Lion Bill Freeman, and DG DeVinney will begin work on writing By-Laws and begin process of Incorporation. District Alert Chair Charlotte Young will visit with other district governors to determine how they are handling this process.

REPORTS:

1. **Overview of Zones 4,5, & 6 by VDG Maxine Crittenden.** VDG Crittenden presented a PowerPoint depicting the make-up of the clubs in Zones 4,5, & 6 in D7-L. The presentation showed total membership of each club and then broke it down into number of male members and female members. VDG Crittenden stressed the need for an increase in membership, especially women and minority members. There are still clubs in the district with no female members. VDG Crittenden also passed out a sheet listing leadership roles for the

district cabinet and asked those present to consider serving or submitting names of other lions who might be interested in doing so.

2. Zones 4, 5, 6 ZTL reports:

a) **ZTL Don Draper (Zone 4)** passed out a Zone 4 Report. The report outlined the club projects of each club in zone 4 for the first six months of the fiscal year. (Report attached to official minutes)

b) **ZTL Elane Cecil (Zone 6)** reported that all clubs in her zone are active clubs. The second zone meeting will be held in Mineral Springs. She outlined some club projects in her zone. She expressed a couple of concerns: 1) Mineral Springs not reporting service projects and 2) membership recruitment is low. ZTL Cecil is asking Lion Don Draper to meet with Mineral Springs to assist them in reporting of projects and VDG John Collier to assist with recruitment.

c) **ZTL Rene Roberts (Zone 5)** was not present.

3. Overview of Zones 1, 2 & 3 by VDG John Collier. VDG Collier reported that clubs in Zones 1, 2 and 3 are working hard; however, did specify several needs:

a) membership recruitment (some loss of members in these zones),

b) active club activities,

c) getting outside zone presenters for club meeting programs,

d) encouraging clubs to participate in CEP,

e) problem in Zone 1 (not a lot of activity or interest). Zone 1 will be a greater area of interest for the remainder of the year.

4. Zones 1, 2, 3 reports:

a) **ZTL Joanne Bloss (Zone 2)** reported next zone meeting will be February 21, 2015. ZTL Bloss highlighted several activities of the clubs in her zone. Hot Springs Oaklawn is working on CEP and Jesse D. Hawkins is planning to participate in CEP. Both of these clubs are working together on gathering glasses. Glenwood and Hot Springs South are preparing for their Gun Show at the Convention Center in Hot Springs. Other projects mentioned were: bell ringing for the Salvation Army, United Way roadside clean-up, mentoring, garage sale, Salvation Army thanksgiving and Christmas meals, Bingo, Fishing Derby, Blood Drive, and Scholarships. ZTL Bloss complimented Hot Springs Diamondhead for getting into the spirit of Lionism. DG DeVinney and ZTL Bloss are working with this club to get

them out of the “city limit” mode. This club is a good example of a club doing good work but not tooting their own horn. A written report of club activities in Zone 2 will be attached to the official minutes in the secretary’s notebook.

b) ZTLs for 1 and 3 were not present.

5. WSB Chair Dave DeGraff reported that WSB is having financial problems and may be forced to close the doors. The staff has been reduced. Lion DeGraff recommended that each club make a significant donation to WSB. A letter will soon be distributed to all clubs expressing the need for financial assistance. DG DeVinney asked that the VDGs and Zone Team Leaders make appeals to clubs for donations.

6. Membership Report from GMT John Lewis and DG Bob

DeVinney: Reported the following:

- a) Mineral Springs Club has 9 members instead of the reported 7.
- b) Two new clubs have received charters; one not doing well (Murfreesboro).
- c) Now working on one (1) branch club.
- d) Work continues in forming new a Hot Springs Noon Lions Club. To date have received 9 charter members’ applications with 4 members submitting money and 4 members without money.
- e) DG DeVinney talked about the Hot Springs blitz in trying to start up the new Hot Springs Noon Lions.
- f) DG DeVinney asked that all cabinet chairs and officers begin thinking of sites in the district for possible new clubs.
- g) GMT Lewis reported that he is looking toward Fouke as the next possible site for a new club.
- h) GMT Lewis stated his goal for the year is to visit clubs and assist in membership recruitment.
- i) DG DeVinney announced that 88 members in the district have dropped, four of those are deceased. Twenty of the 88 is due to the drop of the Bearden club.
- j) Clubs are encouraged to use the fee waiver for Vets and the family plan for couples.
- k) Alternate types of memberships were discussed (associate, member-at-large, and honorary).
- l) DG DeVinney asked that the district cabinet be used as a resource for membership recruitment.

7. State Projects:

- a) **LCIF: Chair Bruce Davis** reported that LCIF is available for additional emergency relief. He is available to speak to clubs about Mid-South, WSB and LCIF activities/projects. He reported that the state projects are in need of help.
- b) **Mid-South: District Coordinator Art Ritter** reported that patients can get initial work done in Hot Springs. He reported that receiving a grant from LCIF has cut the waiting list time.
- c) VDG John Collier added that at this time of year is when the state projects need money because typically contributions come in at mid-year or earlier and this time of year can be a time of greater need.
- d) Lion Bill Freeman encouraged clubs to give even if it is a small amount. Those small amounts add up to help these state projects.
- e) DG DeVinney stated that these state projects need to be considered as clubs vote on proposed budgets.

8. Mid-Winter Forum: February 6-7, 2015, Hempstead Hall, UACCH, Hope, AR

- a) VDG John Collier, Forum Chair reporting.
- b) Three clubs assisting: Hope Lions, Hope Evening Lions & Prescott Lions
- c) Friday Night Activities: two bands playing & Hamburgers furnished by Prescott Lions. Hospitality room at the Hampton Inn
- d) Forum program will be available on a jump drive.
- e) Forum program: Three breakout sessions in morning and three in afternoon. Lunch is fried catfish and trimmings furnished by the Hope Lions. Keynote speaker is International Vice President Robert Corlew.
- f) Forum flyer, registration, and outline of events will be sent out.
- g) Have to work to be eligible for a door prize. Will receive directions.
- h) International Vice President Corlew will be meeting with the Leos and District Leadership to discuss how to celebrate the centennial. He will also be attending the Council of Governors meeting which is open to all Lions.
- i) Pre-registration with discount before January 15th.

9. District Web Site Report: Webmaster Don Draper

- a) Is redesigning the first page of website with new message from the district governor.
- b) Asked to think of better ways to post club or individual accomplishments.

10.State Convention:

- a) April 17-18, 2015 in Searcy
- b) DG DeVinney announced that Lion Don Draper has agreed to serve as Sgt. at Arms.
- c) DG DeVinney asked cabinet members to think of possible chairs for three committees: Resolutions, Rules, and Constitution/By-Laws.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS: DG DeVinney presented the following awards:

- 1. "Certificate of Achievement for Guiding Lion" presented to Lion Dennis Williams.
- 2. "Extension Award" presented to GMT/PDG John Lewis for assisting in the start-up of the Little River Lions Club.

WRAP UP: In closing remarks, DG DeVinney asked all present to encourage club members to increase participation on all levels (local, district and state).

NEXT MEETING: Next cabinet meeting will be sometime during the state convention in Searcy, April 17-18, 2015. The fourth cabinet meeting is tentatively set for June 13, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Nell C. Rockett, Secretary

District 7-L