



"Taking Pride in the Pride"

District 7-L Cabinet Meeting

January 21, 2017 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Western Sizzlin, Arkadelphia, AR

ATTENDANCE:

(CABINET MEMBERS): DG John Collier (Hope), 1st VDG Larry Ketcham (HSV Evening), 2nd VDG/ Internet Technology Chair Don Draper (HSV Breakfast), Secretary Nell Rockett (HSV Evening), Z1Chr. Carla Mosley (Mena Lioness), Z2 Chr. David Shockey (HS), Z3 Chr. Pete Beck (HSV Evening), GMT/PDG James Griffin (Hope), GLT Claudia Griffin (Hope), PR Chr. Rene Roberts (Mena Lioness), Environmental & Strategic Plan Chair, PDG Bob DeVinney (HSV Evening), Mid-South Coord./ PDG Art Ritter (Benton), PCC/Honorary Bill Mertins, Nominations/Credentials Chair PDG Claude Jamerson (Jesse D. Hawkins), PDG/WSB Bruce Davis (HSV Evening), Nominations/Credentials Member/LCIF Chair/PCC Dave DeGraff (HSV Evening), Eye Bank Chr. Dennis Williams (Arkadelphia), Youth Activities Chr. Penny Lynch (Prescott) Lions Quest Chr. Toni Shockey (HS Noon), Alert Chr. Charlotte Young (Camden).

(CLUBS/GUESTS): Lions Jim Stone, Jimmy Baugh, Travis Burton, Anita Williams and Jennifer Story (Arkadelphia); Lions Richard Harder and Richard Fleming (Bryant); Lions Nancy Otto and Helen Van Stone (Hot Springs Village Breakfast); Lion Irene Lewis (Texarkana Evening).

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by DG John Collier.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: PDG Bruce Davis

PRAYER: PCC Dave DeGraff

INTRODUCTIONS: Individual introductions of each Lion present.

APPROVAL OF October 15, 2016 MINUTES: Minutes were emailed to cabinet members and club officers prior to the meeting. Motion was made by PDG Art Ritter and seconded by Lioness Rene Roberts to accept the minutes as emailed. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: In lieu of Treasurer Laurie Pinner, Secretary Nell Rockett presented the January Financial Report. The report reflected the following: a beginning balance of \$5,805.42, Deposits of \$2,058.99, Withdrawals/expenses of \$3,744.87, leaving an ending balance of **\$4,199.54**. A detailed financial report was disseminated. Motion was made by PDG Bob DeVinney and seconded by Lion Pete Beck to accept the financial report as presented. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

State Convention: by DG John Collier

- State Convention is April 28-29th. The Friday night concert at Hempstead Hall will be Ronnie Milsap. It was originally planned to the first 38 registered receive free tickets; however, after a brief discussion, it was decided that all Lions will pay \$20 per ticket until April 1st. After that date, tickets must be purchased through the ticket office at Hempstead Hall/UACCH. The conference registration is \$20.17. Registration form will be sent to Secretary Rockett to be disseminated via email. The Prescott Lions will provide a hamburger dinner on Friday night. The regular convention will be Saturday. Saturday night will be a “Black Tie” event.
- Two **breakout sessions** already planned: “Human Trafficking” and “All You Need to Know About Lions” are on the agenda for Saturday and an open discussion followed to brainstorm a possible third breakout session. PDG DeVinney recommended possibly something on what Lions do in the area of education. VDG Draper suggested a session on Pre-School Eye Screening. PDG Ritter suggested “Services for Youth.” Lioness Roberts suggested a session on “Hunger” and Lion Lynch suggested “Service Projects.” DG Collier will take these suggestions to the Conference Committee. Saturday night is a “Black Tie” event.
- **Merging Districts Resolution:** DG Collier asked whether a club in D7-L should put a resolution forward if the Council of Governors did not do so? A discussion followed. GLT Claudia Griffin recommended that state wide there should be an Arkansas Leadership Institute. Clubs realize there is a need for leadership but hesitates on merging districts. Lion Toni Shockey reminded all that LCI has a requirement of a certain number of members to sustain the four districts and Arkansas is down in membership. GMT James Griffin warned that the resolution will fail if clubs do not have a good plan for the governance of the merger. DG Collier reminded all that the merger will increase the leadership pool and possibly finances. PDG Bruce Davis recommended that a presentation be developed and presented to all districts in order to have the same message to all Lions. GMT Griffin reinforced that a Plan of Governance must be developed and be very clear. PDG DeVinney added that there is a need to attach an emotion of pride in Lionism to the merger. In summary, if the Council of Governors and/or a club will not put forth a resolution for merging the four districts to two, then the Council should continue to study/research the pros and cons of merging and develop a plan. PDG Ritter added that the Council perhaps should eliminate a full-time state secretary position and have only a part-time secretary.
- **Awards:** DG Collier emphasized a need to start submitting names for the state awards. Application for awards can be found on the state web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Goals Review:** DG Collier stated that the district is still losing membership. The GMT is doing a good job visiting clubs and talking about membership. Leaders are looking at Gurdon for a new club. Contacts have been made with school officials. The Arkadelphia Lions have been asked to be a sponsor club. There will be a need for two Guiding Lions. It is possible to start a Branch Club in Gurdon, but it is preferable to have a full-fledged club. Other sites for new clubs are Fouke and Stamps. DG Collier asked all to be thinking about other possible sites.
- **MD7 Centennial Activities:** There will be celebrations of centennial activities at the State Convention in Hope on April 28-29th and the Mid-Winter Forum on January 27-28th. Two major awards will be presented at the state convention: 1) Legacy Project (best project and an overall award), 2) Recognition of club secretaries for outstanding job in submitting reports to LCI. Nominations for the club secretaries’ recognition will come from club presidents. Presidents must submit a written recommendation outlining what the secretary has and is doing. A blurb will later be sent out to clubs.

- **Convention Fund:** DG Collier explained that the convention fund of \$25,000 will be hit to help defray cost of the state convention. Will also be looking to write a grant. The registration for the convention is only \$20.17.

REPORTS:

Zone Team Chairs

1. Zone 1 Chair Carla Mosley reported:

- DeQueen Lions: Held their annual radio fundraiser raising \$12,000. Some of the proceeds went to help with Toys for Tots. They are very involved with helping community with eyeglasses and working with the schools in recognizing outstanding students. They are currently working on their next Youth Fishing Day Derby and recently recruited 3 new members.
- Hatfield Lions: Still working on Legacy project of getting the old school auditorium and gym updated so it can be used by the community. Their part is installing a new kitchen. They have assembled 25 baskets filled with food items and given to home bound and elderly in the community. They also made donations of \$250 to help two people with hospital bills.
- Lockesburg Lions: Raised money selling chances to win a ticket to the LSU vs. AR game in November. They provided gifts for 30 children on the Angel Tree. Presently working with Cossatot Community College in DeQueen to have a fundraiser dinner to raise funds to help with their legacy project.
- Mena Lions: Had two new members join. Had Sharon Giovinazzo from WSB attend a meeting and presented her with a \$500 check. Currently working on their next Gun/Knife Show scheduled for April 1-2 at the Polk County Fair Grounds
- Mena Lioness Lions: Raised \$1,170 in October by making root beer floats during the CMA Rally. Hosted an event for WSB in November. Presented CEO Sharon Giovinazzo with a check for \$1,300. In November the Pulse Multi Media partnered with the Mena Lioness for the second Harvest of Hope Radiothon to collect donations for the Food for Kids Backpack Program. With money raised, they presented a check for \$23,000 in January to CEO Rhonda Sanders of the Arkansas Food Bank. This money comes back to Polk County to help fill the backpacks. The Mena Lioness Lions led off the Mena Polk County Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights as Citizen of the Year. In lieu of exchanging gifts at their Christmas party, they collected \$950 for the CASA foster children's birthday presents for 2017. They will be making baked goods for the Mena Lions Gun/Knife Show.

2. Zone 2 Chair David Shockey reported:

- Visited all clubs in Zone 2 during the month of December.
- Hot Springs Oaklawn just added one new member. Working on possible fundraisers.
- HS South had some members helping as bell ringers for the Salvation Army.
- Jesse D Hawkins presented gifts to a family they adopted for Christmas. They will be hosting a Roast & Toast on January 21st at St. Luke Church in Hot Springs. Tickets are \$25 each.
- Hot Springs South collected \$744.50 for Salvation Army by ringing bells at Wal-Mart. On Thursday, December 15th, they presented gift cards to the Ouachita Children Center. January 28-29th will be their Gun & Knife Show at the Hot Springs Convention Center.
- Visited Hot Springs Diamondhead Club on December 20th. They received a \$750 donation towards the Fishing Derby they host yearly for special needs children. This

club has only one charter member left. They have several projects and fundraisers throughout the year, including the fishing derby, trash pick-up, collecting aluminum cans, and bingo.

3. Zone 3 Chair Pete Beck reported:

- Had zone meeting on January 14th in Benton. Fourteen Lions were present. At that time four of the five clubs presented their Club Profile both in writing and orally. The profile included Fundraisers/Community Services/Outside the Community Contributions, Membership (club status and activities for membership orientation, recruitment, retention), Communication (various media), Leadership (club leadership, training, district leadership), and Centennial Celebration (Legacy Projects and Celebrations). Also in attendance were DG John Collier and GMT James Griffin. DG Collier talked about the upcoming state convention and GMT Griffin stressed the need for membership growth and retention. GMT Griffin conducted a CQI survey at the January 19th HSV Evening Lions meeting. Total zone 3 membership is down by 10 members. The HSV clubs have a combined loss of 14 members. Bryant club has 4 new members. A Zone 3 meeting is scheduled for March 18th.
- PDG Bob DeVinney (Legacy Project Chair for HSV Evening Lions and HSV Breakfast Lions) briefly talked about the legacy project "Village Gardens" and announced a kickoff reception on February 22nd, 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the Coronado Center. If interested in attending contact Nell Rockett at nrockett@att.net and you will be given directions and your name will be put given to the gate for entry into the Village.

4. Zone 6 Chair Jimmie Crittenden: Reported by Secretary Rockett in his absence:

- The Texarkana Noon Lions is a charter club and will be celebrating 100 years this year. The event will be held on July 8th at the Arkansas Convention Center in Texarkana. They have a block of 100 rooms at \$75 per night at the hotel. Have visited this club three times this year. They have several fundraisers and projects proposed for the year: fishing tournament, fish fry, Valentine Banquet, food drive in December, Christmas Bell Ringing and Eye exams/eye glasses. They have several new members, one being a female.
- Saratoga Tri-County Club is in the process of trying to get a grant and they are working with the community leaders to get a school back in Saratoga.
- Little River Lions partnered with Wal-Mart for a fundraiser and is trying to recruit new members.
- Texarkana Evening Lions has adopted a portion of Broad Street in Texarkana and cleaned up the street in October. They also call Bingo at the Nursing Home. A raffle was recently held to raise money to fund a scholarship. Members donated Dallas Cowboy paraphernalia for a Cowboy Cooler. The cooler was given away on January 9th. Funds from the raffle will be used to give a scholarship to an Arkansas High graduate in the name of PDG John Lewis. PDG Lewis was a 1954 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School which was closed in 1969 and all students went to AR High School.
- Nashville Lions are working to recruit new members. I plan to visit this club in February.
- Trying to set up a time to meet with the Mineral Springs Lions.

Cabinet Reports:

1. In the absence of the Centennial Chair, DG Collier reported that there will be Lion floats in two parades. One will be the Mardi Gras Parade in Texarkana on February 24th. Need Lions to walk beside the float to throw beads.
2. DG Collier announced the loss of the state convention chair Lion Valerie Sanders. She has obtained a new job and will be moving.
3. 1st VDG Larry Ketcham:
 - Filling cabinet positions for 2017-18 fiscal year.
 - All clubs in Zones 4, 5 & 6 submitted PU101s.
 - Membership down 7 members in these zones.
 - Having a membership drive in Nashville in the month of February.
 - Visited all clubs in Zones 4, 5 & 6. Having difficulty getting some of them to have regular meetings.
 - Most of the clubs in Zones 4, 5 & 6 are small but active in the community.
 - Lion Ethan Dunbar, President of Lewisville Lions, will be attending the Emerging Lions Institute in Chicago. Lion Ethan attended the Zone 3 meeting on January 14th.
 - Encouraged all clubs to send events and accomplishments to PR Chair Rene Roberts.
4. 2nd VDG Don Draper:
 - Been out with knee surgery but recovering and will be back out there visiting clubs.
5. GLT Claudia Griffin:
 - Has conducted Leadership Training for several clubs.
 - Is assisting GMT James Griffin with the statistics from surveys from clubs for club excellence.
6. GMT James Griffin:
 - One 7A school in District 7L reflects fewer people which affects Lions Club.
 - Have four clubs with less than 10 members. DG Collier reminded that there are now two Leos in the District.
 - Several clubs not submitting membership and activity reports in over a year.
 - Trying to visit all clubs in district to assist with membership.
7. LCIF Chr. Dave DeGraff:
 - Every club in the district should have an LCIF Coordinator. Purpose is to promote LCIF.
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8. Disaster Alert Chr. Charlotte Young:
 - Encourage clubs in the district to use the Disaster Alert Trailer for events.
 - Alert Trailer will be at the state convention.
 - Balance in the Disaster Alert Fund is \$3,620.72.
9. Webmaster Don Draper:
 - Need events and details of events from clubs to post on website.
10. WSB Chair Bruce Davis:

- Encourage clubs to request WSB CEO Sharon Giovinazzo to visit clubs for a presentation on WSB.
- WSB is one of the four state projects; always need contributions. Only a little over one half of the clubs in the district contributes to WSB.
- DG Collier shared letters from Mid-South and WSB for the contributions from the District Convention.

11. Peace Poster Winner:

- The District and State winner for the Peace Poster Contest was a student from Ft. Lake School District. The student was sponsored by HSV Breakfast Lions.

12. Youth Activities Chr. Penny Lynch:

- Leos from Prescott are going to the Mid-Winter Forum in Harrison.
- The Leos are having large Vision Boxes built and placed all over Prescott. These boxes will hold many more used glasses than the smaller boxes. They are decorating the boxes to make them noticeable and attractive.
- Hope Leos have submitted a grant to LOAF for the purchase of eye screening equipment. They plan to offer eye screening to young children.

13. Lion Quest Chr. Toni Shockey:

- Attended all 4 district conventions.
- Spoke to several Lions Clubs in southeast Arkansas.
- Am in need of financial support or grants to fund Lions Quest workshops. Schools are charged a small fee.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. PDG Claude Jamerson invited everyone to attend Jesse D. Hawkins Roast & Toast tonight at St. Luke Church in Hot Springs.
2. Lion Dennis Williams announced that the Arkadelphia Lions are hosting an appreciation dinner for the First Responders in the city.
3. Lions Nancy Otto announced the annual Chili Day hosted by HSV Breakfast Lions. She had tickets for sale.

NEXT MEETING: Tentatively set for State Convention, April 29, 2017. Notice will be email.

BENEDICTION: PDG James Griffin

MEETING ADJOURNED

Respectfully submitted,
Nell C. Rockett, Secretary