



LIONS PRIDE

Lions District 12-O January - February, 2015
District Governor: Mel Tryon



65 YEARS OF SERVICE!

DG Mel presented Etowah Lion Marlin "Doc" Wilson with a plaque in recognition of 65 years of service with perfect attendance. The plaque was given by the Etowah Club at the December 2 Christmas party.

Continuing Our Journey!

What a joy it is serving you as District Governor! Lion Nancy and I are really enjoying our club visits and learning so many great things that Lions do to help those in need in their communities. I am often reminded, when discussing our membership campaign, ASK 1, that we are not only changing people's lives for the better through our Lions work; we are changing our own lives for the better. Be sure to ask one person to become a Lion and allow them to have a better life. It's great to be a Lion!

The Lions Learning Retreat in Manchester in January was again a huge success. Our district had 28 attendees, our largest number to date. A broad range of topics were covered in the seminars. Every club is helped by having a member in attendance. Don't let your club miss this opportunity. Please put

next years' dates on your calendar now, January 15 – 17, 2016, so you can plan to attend.

Two very important items were introduced at our mid-year cabinet meeting in Fairfield Glade on January 10th that you need to be aware of and for which we need your input: First, the District has a totally refreshed website at the same address:

www.tennesseelions.com.

Thanks to PDG Jerry Pala's management and a computer class at Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga, we have a great new communication tool. Thanks also to Lion Steve Hankins for many years of work as the webmaster. I urge you to take a look at it and share your thoughts about it. Tell us what else you would like to see there. We are adding the Fall Conference handout, Using Your Zone Chair, and we'd really like to hear from you. What additions do we need to make this your go-to source of information about our District and Lions in our area? Secondly, GLT John Moon is developing a brand new club level orientation program for new members and old members who'd like a refresher. Our Lions association does so much that we all have a tough time telling people about ourselves. Where to begin? What to share? This orientation program is intended to be used by your club. It will help you bring those new members up to speed quickly and help deliver the message of how awesome our association really is. I will never forget taking a member of my club, now deceased Lion Don Swisher, through an orientation and his remark, "I knew Lions are great, I just didn't know how great." We will be asking each club for a "fact sheet" of information about their club. The activities of your club will be incorporated into the

orientation, so new members will know more details about the club they just joined as well as our association. The new program parallels LCI's orientation guide, so written information is provided for their continued use after the orientation session. Your Zone Chair will be contacting your club. Lastly, I'd like to thank Lion Roy Koskinen and the Fairfield Glade Club for hosting this recent meeting.

Our District Convention is March 13th and 14th at the Mountain View Inn in Cleveland. The registration form is included in this newsletter. You can also go to our website for the form and view the biography of our fantastic keynote speaker, PIP Wayne Madden. Don't let your club miss this great event.

Thanks for all you do.

Mel Tryon, DG

District Governor's Visitation Schedule

January

26 Cookeville - Noonday
26 Celina
28 Cleveland

February

2 Brainerd
5 Jasper
7 District 12-I Convention
9 Spring City
12 Monterey
14 District 12-S Convention
16 Cookeville Evening
21 District 12-N Convention
26 Hixson; Daisy-Dallas; and Soddy-Daisy
28 District 12-L Convention

1st VDG Lelia Gibson



Happy New Year! During the long weekend of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, Lions from throughout the state gathered in Manchester, Tennessee, for three days of fellowship and training at the Lions Learning Retreat. One of the most moving parts of the weekend was when Lion Amie Green introduced

us to her 4-year old daughter, Layla, a Lion Cub in the Manchester Lions Club. At seventeen months old, Layla was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.

Amie talked about the challenges that Layla faces on a daily basis and how even if they do things just right something can go wrong. The Manchester Lions Club held a Strides Walk in the Fall and raised almost \$4,000 to donate in Layla's name to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. As we were leaving the banquet area at the Lions Learning Retreat, the attendees raised an additional \$733 to donate. Layla's story reminded me what great things we are doing to help Layla and others like her. It also reinforced how generous and kind-hearted Lions are.

Preventing Diabetes is an important issue to me. Twenty years ago this March, my father passed away from diabetes complications. Diabetes is the number one cause of blindness. Is your club looking for a new or different service project? Think about doing something to raise awareness of diabetes. Sponsor a diabetes screening in your community, hand out fliers about diabetes, or host a Strides Walk. Lions Club International can provide you with an organization kit that will explain exactly how to plan a Strides Walk.

Amie and Layla were just two of the wonderful speakers and presenters at this year's Lions Learning Retreat. If you have not attended a Lions Learning Retreat, please consider attending next year's retreat. It will be January 15-17, 2016, in Manchester, Tennessee. The district will again offer scholarships for first timers to attend the Saturday sessions.

I hope that I get to see you at our District's Convention in March.

Yours in Lionism,

Lelia F. Gibson
First Vice District Governor
leliafgibson@gmail.com

PIP WAYNE MADDEN TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT DISTRICT 12-O CONVENTION



Wayne Madden, of Auburn, Indiana, USA, was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 95th International Convention, held in Busan, Korea June 22-26, 2012.

Past President Madden is an insurance agent and a certified insurance counselor.

A member of the Auburn Lions Club since 1984, he has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, region chairperson, state council chairperson and district governor. In addition, he is a past president of the Indiana Lions Foundation. He served as a District Governor-elect Seminar faculty member five times and as Campaign SightFirst II sector coordinator for Multiple District 25.

In recognition of his service to the association, Past President Madden has received many awards, including the 100% Club President Award, Life Membership in the Association, the Senior Master Key Award, four Extension Awards, an International President's Leadership Medal, nine International President's Medals and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. He is a Charter W.P. Woods Fellow, a Kentucky Colonel, a Duke of Paducah, a Helen Keller Fellow and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In 2008, he was recognized for his humanitarian service by the governor of Indiana as a Sagamore of the Wabash, the highest honor the governor can bestow.

In addition to his Lion activities, Past President Madden has been active in numerous professional and community organizations.

Past President Madden and his wife, Linda, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters and five grandchildren.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

For the District12-O Convention in March.

Please contact Lion Eileen Laura at the
Crossville Lions Club – 931-788-6924, or
at grl76ell@frontiernet.net



Tennessee School for the Blind Christmas Party



Above: The Lions sing Merry Christmas to the students; far left: DG Mel Tryon presents \$50 to a student; and Lion Marilyn Boone from the Athens Lions Club presented a check to PDG Ralph Brewer in support of the program.



Lions Learning Retreat

Lions from Signal Mountain, Athens, Crossville, Fairfield Glade, Tennessee Tech, and Spring City represented the District well at the January 17 Lions Learning Retreat. The Signal Mountain Club had 13 Lions in attendance.

Peace Poster and Environmental Photo Contest



The **Athens Lions Club** sponsored the Lions Peace Poster Contest. At left are some of the participants at Athens City Middle School: Becky Bryant - art teacher, Dominic Cover, Lexi Blake, Logan Coates, Camryn Ververka, Evashta White, and Patience Portman. **Athens Lions Club** President Herb Hoffman said he was impressed by the expression and creativity of the students at Athens City Middle School "It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their visions."

And the winner of the local, District, and State competition went to Camryn Ververka of Athens City Middle School, sponsored by the **Athens Lions Club**. With Camryn is Becky Bryant - art teacher.

"Camryn's poster has advanced winning both the district and the state level competition and is now on it's way to the international level competition if he is to be declared the international grand prize winner," Herb Hoffman said.

One international grand prizewinner and 23 merit award winners will be selected. The grand prize includes a cash award of US\$5,000 plus a trip for the winner and two family members to a special award ceremony in Honolulu, Hawaii. The 23 merit award winners will each receive a certificate and a cash award of US\$500



The environment photo contest had only one entry, that of Sheila Chesanow of the Athens Lions Club.

The Lions Environmental Photo Contest provides a way for Lions to portray, through an original photo, their pride and commitment to improving, protecting and preserving the environment. Every Lion from a club in good standing can enter a photograph of his or her immediate surroundings into the club-level Lions Environmental Photo Contest. This photo of a box turtle by Lions Sheila Chesanow was the only entry in this years contest for 12-0. We hope that more lions will submit entries next year.



The **Athens Lions Club** is partnering with Athens City Middle School in planning one of the biggest service project opportunities this community has ever seen. On Saturday, April 25, the middle school will be hosting a "**Feed My Starving Children**" packing event. On that one-day we will be packing 100,000 meals that will be distributed to countries such as Haiti, where children are starving from lack of proper nutrition. We will also be partnering with Coordinated Charities by asking volunteers to bring canned goods to donate to our local food bank. The Athens Lions Club is empowering our middle school students to make a difference both locally and globally. The Athens club will be forming teams to help with this packing event. If you or your club members would like to participate contact 2ndDVG Sheila Chesanow at schesanow@yahoo.com for more information.

Pictured are students Lydia Davis, Lauren Roby, Lion Herb Hoffman and Sandy Starr, teacher at Athens City Middle School. Athens Lions club presented them with a check and will be signing up as a team to help pack.

Right: The **Crossville Lions Club** collected hundreds of coats and jackets to be distributed through their *Coats for the Cold* projects. Pictured are Eileen Laura, Gary Laura, Pam Karnatz, and PDG Virgil Karnatz.



Left: Gary and Eileen Laura, District Coordinators, presented the District's collection of key chains, box tops for education, and labels for education to the Tennessee School for the Blind. District 12-O gave 1,500 Box Tops, 1,175 Points of Labels for Education, and over 55 key chains.



A Cool way to get members: The **Dayton Lions Club** used this idea at the county fair and sold about \$300 of cold drinks even though the crowds were not that big. It should work where there are large number of people such as car shows and festivals. It also offers the opportunity to talk to people about joining the Lions club.

Correction: In the last issue it was reported that the **Ooltewah-Collegedale Lions Club** donated \$60 to White Cane. That amount donated by the club to White Cane should have been \$600.



DG Mel & Lion Nancy visited the **Overton County Lions Club** on January 6th, pictured with King Lion Jerry Flowers.



The **Meigs County Lions Club** recently reorganized and also inducted eight new members. DG Mel Tryon was present as 2nd VDG Sheila Chesanow of the Athens Lions Club officiated. The new members are Angela Ward, Brenda Colbaugh, Bonnie Appelt, Mary Elizabeth Correll, Richard Dickeson, Deloris Grissom, and Jonathan Rathbun. Two other new members, Duane Johns and Jim Welch will be inducted at the next meeting. All of the new members were sponsored by Ralph Jarvis, Treasurer of Meigs Lions. Sheila Chesanow and her husband Dan will serve as Guiding Lions for the club through its first two years.

Left: Lions Dan and Sheila Chesanow of the **Athens Lions Club** were invited to present to the 20 new graduates of Leadership McMinn. Interestingly only one of the graduates was a member of a civic club. Three of the graduates are interested in joining the Lions.

Additionally, after a fire destroyed the flag at their meeting place in March of 2014 the Athens Lions Club president Herb Hoffman presented a new flag and stand from the club to Bob Rice, owner of Western Sizzlin after they reopened. The club is very happy to return to its meeting place at the Western Sizzlin in Athens.



GPS CLASS UPDATES DISTRICT 12-O WEB PAGE

The Web Design class at **Girls Preparatory School** in Chattanooga took on the task to update the District 12-O web page as their class project. PDG Jerry Pala and Lion George Davenport from **Signal Mountain Lions Club** met with the students to give the class some ideas and they took it from there. They worked four weeks on redesigning the page and updating the files. You can see their results at: www.tennesseeelions.com

The girls scored an "A" on their project.



At the January 19th meeting of the **Fairfield Glade Lions Club**, DG Mel Tryon inducted three new members, bringing total membership to 117. New members are Frank and Cherie Kazmierczak sponsored by Cathy Muldoon, and Don McCumber sponsored by PDG Pontius, shown with Queen Lion Carol Pontius.



Above: **Spring City** Service Organizations join Spring City Middle School in local food drive. Pictured from (L-R) Holly Roberson Spring City Middle School Beta Club; Mercedes Payne Spring City Kiwanis Club; **Spring City Lions** Jim Reed, Nickolas Frazier, Tonya Sorrow, and Jonathan Thompson; Tina Stinnett Spring City Middle School Principal; and members of the student body who each were the winners of their homeroom food collection contest.

Above right: On November 21st, 2014 Members of the **Spring City Lions Club** delivered clothing items to Spring City Middle School Principal Tina Stinnett to stock the schools clothes closet. Pictured L-R: Lions Jonathan Thompson, Stephania Motes, Janice Murray, Alex Reed, Nicholas Frazier, Tina Stinnett, and Jim Reed.



Right: Promoting the **Spring City Lions Club** with cupcake, coffee and cider sales at the 51st annual Spring City Christmas Parade.



Above, left & right: At the **Fairfield Glade Lions Club** December meeting, Weslie Webster, Director of Education at the Cumberland County Playhouse, along with one of the regular actors, Mike Ruff, brought 20 of their students to present our Christmas program. In turn, a number of these students will be starring in the upcoming show, Wizard of Oz, that opened on January 31. The club was very appreciative of their contributions.

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

JANUARY

Daisy-Dallas 1962
Delano 1973
White County 2006

FEBRUARY

Benton 1941
Jasper 1945
Madisonville 1939
Soddy Daisy 1945

District 12-O Sight Service Spends Record Amount to Help the Needy

In the last six months of 2014 the District 12-O Sight Services spent a record \$25,111 for cases in White County, Overton County, Athens, Crossville, Cleveland, Etowah, Meigs County, and Fairfield Glade (paid for by the club.) On the waiting list are cases from Cleveland and Red Bank.

These are the cases that have gone through the Lions Sight Service since July 1, 2014. At this time Sight Services is not taking any additional applications due to the combination of lack of funds and waiting for our doctor in Chattanooga to reduce the waiting list.

Cases around the Chattanooga area use a doctor who provides cataract surgery free of charge. He provides one surgery per month. If a patient has 2 cataracts, the case is scheduled over two months. Cases in the north end of the district use Dr. Galloway, who charges a very reasonable rate of \$2,000 per cataract.

NEW MEMBERS THROUGH CANVASSING

by John Rhines, Dayton

Area	Population	New Members from Canvassing
Spring City	2000	23
Dayton	6500	13
Decatur	1500	13

I first learned about canvassing when we decided to start a new club in Spring City. After we decided to go ahead with this effort we contacted International, set a date, and International sent us a New Club Coordinator from Kentucky. He was real helpful in getting us organized and that is where I got most if not all the points on canvassing. With the help of DG Mel Tryon, GMT John Moon, PDG Barbie Blansett, 2nd VDG Sheila Chesnow, PDG Keith Pontius from our district, as well as PDG Marvin Keener and PCC Carol Rhines, we canvassed the Spring City area on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Through this we got 22 members signed up. One year later the Spring City Club has 32 members. Spring City has a population of 2000 people.

After seeing the results, it occurred to me that we could do the same thing in Dayton. With a population of about 6500 we got 13 new members. Note: New people who give you an application with a check can be approved by the Executive Board by phone or the Internet for membership. As you can see by the numbers, canvassing does work for new clubs as well as existing clubs. One common comment of those we approached was that people did not know there was a lions club in town.

Each club that does canvassing will need one person to head it up to take care of details and see that everything gets done.

To start, we met at 8:30, had coffee, and chose teams. If you have Lions from other clubs they should be paired with a local Lion. Each team gets a prepared folder filled with what they need to do for their job. This should include a map to show teams the area they are to cover.

We then met at Noon. Some of our ladies prepared a chili lunch and we were able to discuss things. We decided about canvassing in the afternoon.

- Clubs may get help the first day but after that it is up to the club to finish the job. Canvassing can be ongoing.

- Canvassing can also be done any place there are large numbers of people such as voting places, or golf tournaments. If there is a factory they may let lions canvas during shift change.

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- Most people we talked to during canvassing have never been asked to join the Lions Club.

Your schedule should probably be done through the District Governor.

Even if we do one club per month it is going to take three and a half years to do our district. The sooner we start the sooner we get done.

For More Information Go To: www.tennesseelions.com



A PREVIEW OF THE REVAMPED DISTRICT 12-O WEBSITE

District 12-O Lions Clubs
We Serve!
Mel Tryon District Governor 2014-2015

Home | District Officers | Newsletters | Forms & Reports | 12-O Clubs | Archives | Auxiliary Groups | Photos

Please click on any 12-O county on the map above to see information about the clubs in that county.

PIP Wayne Madden to be Keynote Speaker at District 12-O Convention on March 14, 2015.

Looking for???

- Officers
- Newsletters
- Forms/Reports
- 12-O Clubs
- Archives
- Auxiliary Groups
- Photos

Click on any county to see the clubs in that county.

Click and contact the District Governor via e-mail.

Download the District Convention registration form.

Download the *Just Ask* recruitment guide.

Click to see the meeting place for each 12-O club.

... and much, much more!

Instant links to LCIF websites.

Upcoming Events
All Lions Are Encouraged to Attend!!
District Convention
March 13-14, 2015
Cleveland
[Registration Form](#)

More information about all upcoming events can be found in the [District Newsletter](#)

Just Ask Recruitment Guide
[Just Ask!](#)
[MD-12 Website](#)

Click on the links below to visit these websites

[Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION](#)

[LeaderDogs](#)

[Lions Eye Center](#)

[Email Webmaster](#)

District 12-O Leads MD-12 in membership gains for most 6 months of 2014-2015.

13 Clubs have positive gains, 16 have no change, and 12 are negative.
12 Clubs with largest gains: Dayton +12; Meigs County +8; Fairfield Glade +7; Red Bank +5 and 8 Clubs with +1 in membership.
Overall - District 12-O lost 468 69 members and lost 69 members for net change of zero. District membership on January 1, 2015, was 934.

Read more about District 12-O membership growth in the [District Newsletter](#).

Veterans - Lions!
Coming your way is a brochure about veterans as Lions. New this year - veterans can join without paying the \$25 initiation fee. Copies of the brochure are being sent to each club.

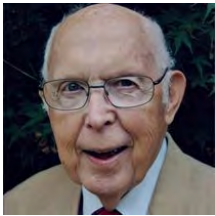
A great video showing Lions in action as Lions Help Save Cross's Eyesight

Lions Fact:
So far this fiscal year 105 teams have graduated from Leader Dog School, 4 deaf/blind teams, 51 completed the Advanced Mobility Program and 18 participants attended the Leader Dog Summer Experience in Rochester Hills in Michigan. There are 27 working teams in MD 12 District. District 12-O is the second largest group with 7 teams.

Here's a map of the meeting places for the District 12-O Clubs:

Seeing is Believing - visit the web site and see for yourself!
www.tennesseeelions.com

The Lions of District 12-O extend their sympathies to the families and fellow club members of the following Lions who recently passed away.



BURGESS: Longtime legendary WHUB Radio announcer/sportscaster Eldon Burgess, 83, died December 23, 2014 in NHC Cookeville after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was a long-time member of the **Cookeville Evening Lions Club** and was once named "Lion of the Decade." His love for people, service and the community continued after retiring from WHUB. He worked at Hooper Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home for several years and greeted visitors with a warm smile.



GARRISON: Robert "Bob" Terrell Garrison, 75, of Hixson, passed away Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015. Retired from TVA, Mr. Garrison was a graduate of Central High School, Class of 1958. He was a veteran of the United States Army, a charter member of **Dallas Bay Lions Club** and a charter member of **Daisy Dallas Lions Club**. Bob was also an avid fisherman.



HICKS: Bert Leonard Hicks, 73, of Ringgold, Georgia, died on January 18, 2015. He was an elder at East Ridge Presbyterian Church for several years. He retired as a vice president in wealth management from AmSouth Bank. He was past president of the **Chattanooga Downtown Lions Club** where he received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award. A graduate of the Tennessee Bankers School of Vanderbilt, School of Banking of the South at LSU and Covenant College, he was a board member of the following: Bonny Oaks Foundation, Bethel Bible Village and VITAL (Visually Impaired Training and Learning).



Rothberger: Glenn S. Rothberger, 87, of Signal Mountain, died on Tuesday, December 2, 2014. Glenn was born in Chattanooga and worked in the area following college and a stint in the United States Army. As a member of the **Signal Mountain Lions Club**, he served as King Lion in 1990-1991.



SCHRIBER: Floyd A. Schriber passed away on January 22, 2015. Floyd served in the U. S. Air Force for twenty-two years as an Air Weapons Controller, with assignments in NORAD, Alaska, and Viet Nam. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Floyd joined Lions Clubs International in 1972 and served as **District Governor for Western Tennessee in 2003-2004**. He was past president and member of the Board of Directors of Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service. In 2004-2009, he spearheaded the successful effort to bring over 2800 Lions to Memphis for a four-day leadership conference. In May 2010, he served as vice chairman of the Tennessee/LCIF flood relief efforts. Most recently he coordinated a pilot project in Shelby County to provide free eye exams and glasses for indigent adults.



SKIDMORE: Irene Parker Skidmore, 100, of Chattanooga, died at her home on November 30, 2014. Irene graduated from Central High School and Edmondson Business College. During the 1930s and 40s, she worked at the Chevrolet dealership on Market Street. She then moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico where she lived for 20 years. Returning to Chattanooga, she became an active member of the **Lookout Valley Lion's Club** in 1997, having served as a Lioness before that.

In The Future

District 12-O Convention	March 13 - 14, 2015	Cleveland, TN
MD-12 State Convention	May 8 - 9, 2015	Clarksville, TN
Zone & Region Chair training	May 16, 2015	Red Bank Club - 9:30 am
Club officer Training	May 30, 2015	Crossville - First National Bank - 9:00 am
Club officer Training	June 6, 2015	Red Bank Club - 9:30 am
District Organizational Meeting	July 25, 2015	Spring City - 9:30 am
USA/Canada Forum	September 17-19, 2015	Grand Rapids, Michigan



LLIONS PRIDE is a publication of the Tennessee District 12-O Lions, and is printed six times a year.

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Website: www.tennesseelions.com/

HAVE NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS?

Send those photos and articles about your club's accomplishments or scheduled activities to:

district12Oeditor@yahoo.com

Next Deadline: March 26, 2015.

HAVE SUGGESTIONS OR QUESTIONS?



Send them to:

district12Oeditor@yahoo.com