



# District 12-N News & Views

**"I Believe"**



April-May 2012

District 12-N, Tennessee (USA)

<http://tnlions.org/>



Fellow Lions of District 12-N,

I attended a memorial service for a deceased Lion, one of too many I attended this year. The experience crystallized for me that our human race continues because others are born into our population at a rate faster than those leaving and, therefore, our population grows in number. But not all populations grow in number.

In the animal kingdom, species whose birth rates are less than the death rate eventually die out. Without intervention, extinction of these species is the ultimate fate. In this country and in many places around the world humans do intervene on behalf of endangered species and offer protections and help in order to prevent their extinction. Such animals are placed on the endangered species list and are afforded special protections to head off their demise. In our District and in much of our country, Lions are not joining our ranks at a rate faster than they are leaving. I am very concerned about the future of Lionism. As with the animal kingdom, without intervention, the ultimate fate of Lions in this country is extinction. Therefore, I propose that we put Lions on the endangered species list. I propose that we afford special protections to head off our own demise.

We can implement these special protections by a two pronged approach. First, we take special care of our existing Lions to make sure their needs are being met; that they feel a part of our Lions family and are appreciated for what they are doing in their clubs and communities. While we cannot do anything about the Lions death rate, we can do much about our living Lions to ensure they are not leaving our ranks because we fail to recognize their individual contributions. Be sure to say, "Thank you for all you do" to all Lions, especially those who may feel their contribution is too small. The second part of the special protections is to increase the Lions birth rate to ensure a growing population. Remember, a growing population results when people enter the population at a rate greater than people leaving the population. In our case, the birth rate is analogous to new members.

Under the Lions Endangered Species Act we need to never miss an opportunity to invite people to join our ranks and at the earliest opportunity give the new Lions the experience of personally helping someone in need. I am convinced that once new Lions feel, for themselves, the very special personal satisfaction obtained from helping change the life of someone in need, they will feel they have received more than they have given. Please, join me in implementing the Lions Endangered Species Act; everybody, take care of one another and invite a new member to join our ranks.

Thank you for all you do. --Chuck--

## Jellico Area Lions Club Chartered

Our Association has officially chartered the Jellico Area Lions Club (116377) as of March 22, 2012. Congratulations and a big THANK YOU to all who worked so hard to bring this about.

All Lions of District 12-N are invited to the Cour charter celebration scheduled for 6:30 P. M. Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> in the conference room of the Jellico Library, at 104 North Main Street, Jellico, TN.

The event will be catered by buffet style heavy hors d'oeuvres at a cost per person of \$15.00. Reservations are required so that the caterer will know how much to prepare. Please RSVP by phone to Guiding Lions Nellie and Dean Harshbarger at 865-494-7599, or by e-mail to [squillpot@bellsouth.net](mailto:squillpot@bellsouth.net) or [edharsh@bellsouth.net](mailto:edharsh@bellsouth.net). Cash or checks will be accepted at the door.

Special speaker for the evening will be Past International Director Bill Watkins. We look forward to having you present for this great celebration.

**Welcome Jellico Area Lions!**

## Campbell County Lions Club Sponsors Leo Club

Lions, The Campbell County Lions Club proudly announce that on the 23rd of April the Campbell County High School Leo's Club will be chartered. We will be sending out more information as we get it. At this time it is scheduled to be held at our current meeting place for the Lions Club. 1st Presbyterian Church, 110 W. Ash Street, La Follette at 6:00PM. Attached is our new club banner displayed today at our regular meeting held at Campbell County High School. The Leo's meet every Wednesday at 11:45 in the Chorus Room. - Lion IPDG Bill Club Advisor



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**12N Rezoning**

Approximately 10 years have passed since our Lions District 12-N, has considered club groupings into zones and regions. In that time, clubs have come and gone in our district. Following election of District Officers at our recent convention in Knoxville, it was felt that a re-examination of current club groupings was timely to ensure that all zones contain at least one strong club and that geographical relationships still make sense.

That re-examination indicated certain deficiencies in the current make up of zones. The following regrouping of clubs into zones is contemplated in order to achieve the desired balance. For example, Region I would become one zone by combining some clubs from Region I Zone II into Zone I and the others into Region II Zone II. Region III would go from three Zones to two Zones by reallocating Knox County clubs to Region IV.

As contemplated, the resulting Region and Zone makeup will look like the following. Clubs in parenthesis are yet to be chartered. Leo Clubs will remain in the Zone of their sponsoring club:

**Region I, Zone I**

East Hawkins LC  
Elizabethton LC  
(Erwin LC)  
Johnson City LC  
Johnson County LC  
(Jonesboro LC)  
Kingsport LC

**Region II, Zone I**

(Alcoa LC)  
Dandridge LC  
Knoxville Tri-County LC  
Maryville LC  
Newport LC  
Sevierville LC  
White Pine LC

**Region II, Zone II**

Bulls Gap LC  
Greenville LC  
Hamblen County LC  
Morristown LC  
Morristown Cherokee LC  
Morristown Morris Blvd. LC  
Rogersville LC  
Rutledge LC

**Region III, Zone 1**

Fountain City LC  
Inskip LC  
Karns LC  
Powell LC

**Region III, Zone II**

Campbell County LC  
Clinton LC  
Halls Community LC  
(Jellico Area LC)  
Lake City LC  
New Tazewell LC  
Norris LC  
Oak Ridge LC  
(Oliver SpringsLC)  
Oneida LC

**Region IV, Zone 1**

Coalfield LC  
Harriman LC  
Kingston LC  
Lenoir City LC  
Loudon LC  
Morgan County LC  
Tellico Village LC

**Region IV, Zone II**

Farragut LC  
Knox North LC  
(South Knox LC)  
West Knox LC

Continued (next column)

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**12N Rezoning (Continued)**

In the above make up, some zones have grown in numbers of clubs but their geographical relationship seems manageable such as in Region II Zone II, while others have become smaller such as Region III Zone I where combining strong and not so strong clubs is intended to strengthen those not as strong. Any such, contemplated rezoning cannot happen until the beginning of the upcoming Lions year, July 1, 2012, so there is time to consider the above and make comment prior to any implementation. The intent is to make our District stronger by growing stronger clubs. District Governor Elect, Diane Wilkerson, is in the process of seeking committee and Zone Chairs, so your timely input on the contemplated changes is appreciated.

Thank you. DG Chuck

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**It's All About Money !!**

Recycle cartridges and mobile phones for KidSight. Support KidSight by collecting and shipping used computer cartridges and mobile phones. Pack them in any cardboard box, tape closed, place an addressed pre-paid label on the box, print your club name near (but not on) the label.

For pre-paid labels and additional information, contact PDG Lynn Wilhoite at (615) 690-8644 x223 or [lynn\\_md12hq@tnlions.com](mailto:lynn_md12hq@tnlions.com)

District 12-N Monies earned for KidSight Program  
January-March 2012

| <u>Club</u> | <u>Cartridges</u> | <u>Phones</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Knox North  | 17                | 7             | \$19.25      |
| West Knox   | 44                | 0             | \$33.00      |
| Total       | 61                | 7             | \$52.25      |

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**Fellow Lions:****It's that time of year again - updating of the Lions Club Directory!**

Have you submitted you PU101 to LCI for your new officers for the 2012-2013 Lions year? If you have, please let me know. If not, would you please provide me with the following information for 2012-2013: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Vision Chair, also Meeting location, time and day since so many of them have changed this year. Yours in Lionism

Paulette Bailey  
District 12N Cabinet Secretary

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**Please send your submissions to:**  
[newsandviews12n@yahoo.com](mailto:newsandviews12n@yahoo.com)  
**Thank You for your submissions! -Editor**

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## State of the Lions District 12-N

The state of our District, on a scale of 1-10, in my view, is about a 6. We are blessed with many dedicated Lions who serve not only their communities at their Club level but also at the District level and some at the State Level.

All clubs that I have visited have at least one Service Project and at least one Fund Raising project to pay for the Service Project. Most Clubs have many of each. In that regard nothing has changed from the beginning of this Lions year till now. Thank you all for what you do.

I have been blessed in having a great Cabinet that supported me and my objectives for our district. There never has been a time when the District needed something that the Cabinet wasn't there to meet the need. Thank you; IPDG Bill McDonald my mentor, DGE Diane Wilkerson, VDG Mike McDonough, Cabinet Secretary Paulette Bailey, Cabinet Treasurer PDG Jim McFarland, GLT Coordinator PCC Nancy Hall, and GMT Coordinator PDG Clare Crawford.

Speaking of Objectives, My Objectives for the District were three fold plus one from our International President, Dr. Wing Kun Tam:

- Grow the District by 3 Clubs
- Increase District Membership by 60 (3 clubs times 20 members per club)
- Leave in place a team dedicated to continued revitalization of our District
- President Tam's objective; plant one tree per member.

The Strategy was to add clubs of young people who could do the heavy lifting of Lions for many years to come while holding membership in existing clubs to a net "0", i.e., no loss of membership. Nurture the new clubs with Recertified Guiding Lions to ensure their survival. How did we do?

Each VDG accepted responsibility for starting 2 new clubs. DGE Diane tried for 3. Alcoa, Jonesboro, and Erwin. Community Needs assessment were sent and analyzed for each of the three. Alcoa and Erwin are still a work in progress with Recertified Guiding Lions PDG Kevin Storberg and Lion Joe Klint. Jonesboro was unresponsive to our efforts. VDG Mike was successful in starting the Jellico Area Lions Club along with Recertified Guiding Lions Dean & Nellie Harshbarger. A yeoman's effort to start the Oliver Springs Club with Recertified Guiding Lion PDG John Kelsey was finally abandoned when those potential members whose interests seemed sincere but they didn't return applications after extended prodding. A series of misfortunes including the city manager leaving just at the wrong time didn't help matters. In order to have the Certified Guiding Lions in place GLT Coordinator PCC Nancy Hall conducted Guiding Lion Training last fall and recertified 9 Guiding Lions so that they would be ready for nurturing the planned new clubs.

Recertified Guiding Lions Names Nellie & Dean Harshbarger, Carol & Bill McDonald, Nancy Hall, Joe Klint, Kevin Storberg, John Kelsey and Diane Wilkerson. Thank you Nancy and Guiding Lions for stepping up for your District. So, instead of 3 new clubs we have one and two still in process. Instead of achieving 60 new members we have 20.

How did we do at maintaining the membership in existing clubs? We started the year with 1,132 Lion members and as of 30 April we have 1,135 members in the district including the 20 from Jellico Area Lions Club. (continued next column)

So, we didn't hit that target either. We had 98 members inducted or rejoin clubs in the district; we dropped 95 Lions of which 12 were due to death. As in previous years our membership in existing clubs continues to dwindle. And there are clouds on the horizon. The Union County Lions Club would have been Lost if it were not for the Heroic work of Bonnie Peters to save it. Although listed at 9 members, she has recruited the Catholic Church to rebuild the club membership. Thanks Bonnie. The New Tazewell Lions Club submitted a letter indicating they will no longer function as a club. That club of 71 members has had an independent attitude as long as I have been around. We are striving to find a core of members who want to continue the club with the help of VDG Mike McDonough and IPDG Bill McDonald and restart it. Clearly it does not have the 71 members listed on the roster, but saving the club is our objective.

My third objective was to leave in place a team dedicated to the continued revitalization of our district. In my view what I, originally thought would be the toughest objective has turned out to be realized as of our District Convention where the two existing VDG's who have done marvelous jobs were joined via election of Ed Gibbons as Vice District Governor. From a leadership standpoint, the district could not be in finer shape. Thank you Diane, Mike and Ed for your commitment to serving our District.

How about International President Tam's objective? Prior to conferring the Title of District Governor, President Tam asked each of the then DGE's to commit in writing to planting Trees as part of his 1 Million Tree Campaign. I pledged 1143 to be planted in 12-N, one per member of the district, so I thought at the time. District 12-N planted 2000 Loblolly Pines and 12 Poplars at LVBI in Morristown. It is an easy number to remember, it is the same number as our calendar year. That was an extraordinary effort. Thank you.

So much for the numbers. That is not what Lionism is all about. What did we do in 12-N this year?

- White Cane income and donations; we still need your support to reach our commitment for giving to 12-N Charities for next year.
- Closed out the LVBI Grant for LVBI expansion in Johnson City and the Disaster Relief for tornado victims in Greene & Washington Counties
- Enacted Constitution and Bylaws changes at our District Convention; we are now in full compliance with LCI.
- \$1,500 Discretionary help for a young girl, Emilie Gregg, matched Harriman/Kingston donations + other clubs added donations.
- 3,460 KidSight screenings were conducted in 2012 (almost half of all those in Tennessee) with 97 being referred
- Thousands of Public School students had their eyes screened.
- Thousands of Eyeglasses have been collected for recycling to those who otherwise would not be able to see.

Your individual communities are better for Lions having been there. Food Pantries, Scholarships, parks, eyeglasses / exams and on and on and on.

Challenge to incoming Leadership Team. . . . Rezoning to combine strong clubs with not so strong clubs. . . Sandra Thaler will take on the GMT Coordinator. . . Restarting New Tazewell. . . Clubs with aging Lions struggling to gain members will ultimately disappear. . . New Club formation. This has been a year I will never forget. Thank you all for making it so.

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NEWS & VIEWS  
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**From The District Governor:**

The Advisory Committee regarding disbursement of District Governor Discretionary funds has unanimously endorsed a request by the Kingston Lions Club (*see letter below*) for use of discretionary funds to help the family of a young girl with mounting medical bills to preserve her sight. The Kingston and Harriman clubs pledged \$1,500.00 which was matched by the DG Discretionary Fund making the total Lions contribution \$3,000.00. If, after reading the attached letter, your club feels it can also help, information for making a contribution can be found in the letter. Yours in Lionism, DG Chuck

“Dear DG Chuck,

The Kingston and Harriman Lions Club, in a joint effort, request funds from your Discretionary Fund to provide one-time assistance for a young girl whose illness results in loss of vision. The Kingston Lions Club has pledged \$1000 and the Harriman Lions Club has pledged \$500 toward a one time gift to assist. While you have been advised of our endeavor, I repeat the facts so that members of your Committee will have a complete picture of the circumstances.

A young girl in our community has been diagnosed with Hypoplaasminogenemia, a rare disease only known to exist in five documented cases in the world. This is an incurable blood disease that can affect all organs of the body, but it has attacked her eyes more than any other organ. She is under the care of a doctor at East Tennessee Children’s Hospital. Membranes grow in her left eye that are causing scar tissues which affect her vision greatly. She has changed glasses several times over the past two years due to her vision worsening and the muscles in her eyes weakening. She also has had 11 surgeries in the past two years to keep the membranes away. (continued)

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However, surgeries alone cannot succeed in a cure. There is a medication that helps keep the membranes melted away – Technoclone Glu-Plasminogen. The cost of the medication for her eyes alone is \$2600.00 per month! This does not include other medications that she requires.

As stated above, the Kingston and Harriman Lions Clubs have pledged a total of \$1500 as a one-time donation toward the child’s medications. We request at least a matching donation from the Governor’s Discretionary Fund to assist in providing monies to assist payment of the medications. The funds should be sent to the Bank of America, designated for Emilie Gregg Account #444011953388. The address is 616 N. Kentucky Street, Kingston, TN 37763.

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**DISTRICT 12N EVENTS CALENDAR**

**May 19** – Walk for Sight and Car Show, Fountain City Park

**May 24** – Lions Club Officer Training, Powell

**May 31**—Jellico Area Lions Club Charter Celebration

**June 6** –“Club Officers – Teamwork” Lions Training by Webinar (8 p.m. EST)

**June 12** –“Club Officers – Teamwork” Lions Training by Webinar (11 a.m. EST)

**June 15** –“Club Officers – Teamwork” Lions Training by Webinar (8 p.m. EST)

**June 22-26** – 95th Lions Clubs International Convention, Busan, Korea

**To access up-to-date District 12N events, click on: <http://tnlions.org/calendar/>**

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