



# District 12-N News & Views

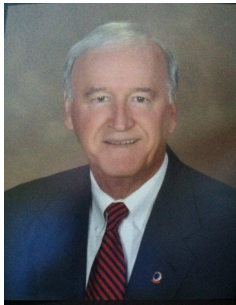
*"In a World of Service"*



November 2014

District 12-N, East Tennessee (USA)

<http://tnlions.org/>



Fellow Lions,

It is such a pleasure to meet so many Lions Club members as I visit your clubs. Thank you Knox County North, Clinton, Newport, Union County, Kingsport, Halls and South Knoxville for making me feel so welcome. As you can see from one of the enclosed pictures of me getting

my tie cut off by a Tail-twister, this job has its fun moments. However, I do become serious when I talk about Membership, a new Service project and Club Excellence Process (CEP). Plus, I really enjoy hearing about what's going on in your Club. I have had the honor of inducting new members into some of the Clubs I have visited.



It is my hope that every Club will have a positive membership growth by the time my term expires next year. All you have to do is JUST ASK ONE. Being in sales all my life I know firsthand how you feel when you ask someone to your Club and the response is a no. But you will be surprised how easy it becomes after the first or second no to just keep asking. You'll get that good feeling when you finally get a yes. If you have sponsored a new member during October, you have earned a Silver pin from LCI. Don't forget, if you sponsor another member in April 2015 you will get a Gold pin and your Club will receive a special Banner Patch to recognize its commitment to "Strengthening The Pride".

The results are in. The Club Excellence Process (CEP) is a big hit with Lions Clubs. Over 5500 Clubs participated in workshops, and they are sharing success stories about the difference CEP has made in their Clubs. Clubs that complete CEP will be recognized on the Find A Club section of the LCI website with a Virtual Banner Patch. The CEP is one of my three goals for your club; so I am hoping you will start it for your Club very soon.

My second Cabinet meeting is November 15<sup>th</sup> at Volunteer Blind Industries beginning at 8:30 am. There will be coffee and doughnuts. Our GMT (PDG Dave Crawford) and GLT (PDG Wendy Cain) have some interesting things in store. I also have some new things to discuss that our District 12N can be involved in that will

be of great interest to all clubs in 12N. I expect to see each club represented. All clubs and Zone Chairmen/ Chairwomen need to send their reports to our District Secretary for inclusion in our meeting as soon as possible. I will try my best to be finished by noon at the latest if not before.

I have added some more dates on my club visits (see page 3). Be sure and check these dates to see when you can expect me at your club. A big THANK YOU to VDG Paulette and PDG Chuck Bailey for updating the 12N directory. There are changes in the Directory every month to keep it updated and they are on top of it when they know about changes. You can check it out on the Multi-District website. <http://www.tennesseelions.org>

Yours in Lionism,

DG Ed, District 12N

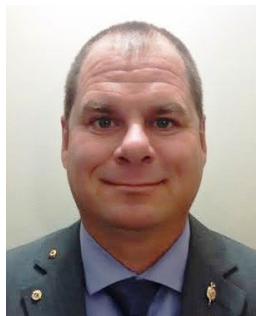
## Don Britton announces retirement from LVBI

Fellow Lions, I will be retiring as CEO of LVBI in December of 2014. What a ride! I have spent a very fast 42 years working for Lions Volunteer Blind Industries in various capacities, from temporary salesman, to trainer, rehabilitation director, and finally CEO of this wonderful organization.

In LVBI's 62 year history, over 600 blind people have been paid wages as our workers, and hundreds of others have benefited from the services of our rehabilitation center. This has all been possible because a previous generation of Lions in District 12-N answered a call to provide employment opportunities to our blind Tennesseans. Our mission to "provide blind people with the dignity of independence through employment" stands strong today because today's Lions accept the torch and continue their support of this District 12-N project.

LVBI would not exist had it not been for the Lions of District 12-N. As my successor, Trevor Southerland, takes over the leadership of LVBI, I want to encourage you to extend your helping hand to him, as you did to me in 1972.





Being a Lion is one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences in my life. As Jackie and I travel, we see the Lions symbol in many cities and towns that we pass through. It warms my heart to see that good is being done not only locally but all across this country and abroad. Whenever we meet a Lion they always smile and hold their heads high and tell about the great things their clubs are doing and the things they want their clubs to achieve.

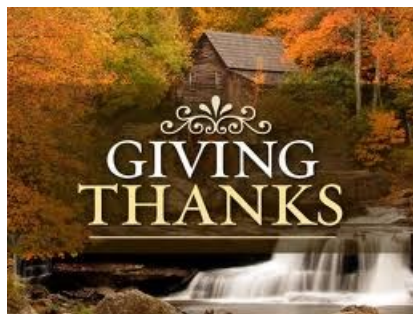
It was a gift to me from Lion Dr. Ray Lipps that allowed me achieve these experiences. He told me about Lionism and invited me to a Farragut Lions Club Charity Event. I met the people of the Farragut Lions Club and felt the warmth of who they are and what they do for the community of Farragut. The following day Lion Ray asked, "Hey Fletcher would you like to be a Lion?"

I would like to extend my thanks to all of the 12-N District Lions for allowing me to serve as 1<sup>st</sup> VDG. The month of November is a busy month for us as we are attending the Multi District Council Meeting and Governor's Training on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in Nashville and our 12-N Cabinet Meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup> in Morristown. We will also be traveling extensively on work related destinations.

Time flies as Halloween has passed and Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Christmas is fast approaching. It is not too early to start thinking about your 12-N District Convention. DG ED Gibbons and his Convention committee are preparing a great program. Please ask your club to send delegates and members to attend the convention. District Conventions are a great way to meet Lions from your District and Lions from across the state. It is also a great way to share what your club is doing and learn new ideas to build better and stronger clubs.

Come join us, we'll see you there!

Fletcher Stephens,  
1<sup>st</sup> VDG



As we approach the Thanksgiving season we often reflect on what we are thankful for such as family and friends, food and shelter, health, financial and personal accomplishments, military victories, the end of a drought or rainy season and sometimes life in general. Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life and turns what we have into being enough. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, or a stranger into a friend.

We all liked being thanked. It's a great feeling to have someone tell us that we made a difference in their lives. With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we should not only be thankful for what we have but give of ourselves to those who do not have. We should make it a habit to serve others without the expectation of anything in return.

The Lions Motto "**We Serve**" is our way of giving thanks to our communities through service. As one of International President Joe Preston's Centennial Service Challenges, he asks that during December and January lions around the world organize projects that mobilize club members to make a difference in their communities by planning one or more of the following activities to help relieve hunger:

- Sponsor a community food drive to replenish a local food pantry
- Volunteer to deliver prepared meals to elderly citizens
- Prepare and deliver food baskets to families in need
- Help plant a community garden

Many resources are available through the Member Center of the LCI website at [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org). By sharing your project on the MyLCI online Service Activity Report form your club may be eligible to receive a banner patch as having met one of the Centennial Service Challenges. You can also share your stories and photos on the District 12N Newsletter by sending them to [newsandviews12n@yahoo.com](mailto:newsandviews12n@yahoo.com)

Here's to giving thanks all year long – not just at the holidays.

With thanks to you and your families,

*Paulette Bailey*  
12N - 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG



## DISTRICT 12-N CABINET MEETING

Saturday , November 15, 8:30 AM  
Lions Volunteer Blind Industries,  
758 W Morris Blvd, Morristown, TN

All Club **Presidents** and Club **Secretaries** are encouraged to attend in addition to any 12-N Lion.

The GLT and GMT teams have some special events planned immediately following the meeting. We are looking for a BIG crowd to attend.

**Y'all Come**

### Still looking for

#### District 12-N Centennial Coordinator

Develop and promote a plan of recognition for the district and individual Lions where significant contributions to Centennial service and membership development have been made. Contact 2nd VDG Paulette Bailey or DG Ed Gibbons if you can assume this important role.



### Lions Learning Retreat

The 2015 Lions Learning Retreat will be held at the Coffee County Conference Center in Manchester, TN January 16-18. The theme is "Strengthen the Pride." The LLR is an opportunity to meet Lions from across the state of Tennessee in a learning environment where experiences are shared to create improved Lions leadership. An early registration discount is available through November 15. Registration forms can be accessed on the LLR site, <http://kmmoffett.net/llr/> and will shortly be available on the District 12-N web site <http://tnlions.org/>.

Rooms are on hold at the adjoining Holiday Inn Express, 111 Hospitality Blvd., Manchester, TN 37355 until December 31, 2014. Rates are \$85.99 / night + tax and reservations can be made by calling (913) 728-9383 and asking for the Lions rate.

District 12-N pays for the registration fee for first time attendees. Make and pay for your registration, attend the LLR and submit a refund request to Kathy Burrow, 12-N Treasurer, for reimbursement.

## District Governor's Club Visitation Schedule

November 3-	West Knox Lions Club
November 11-	Sevierville Lions Club
November 17-	Rogersville Lions Club
November 20-	Loudon Lions Club (79 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
November 24-	Campbell County lions Club
November 25-	Rutledge Lions Club
December 1-	Karns Lions Club
December 2-	Open
December 8-	Jellico Area Lions Club
December 9-	Farragut Lions Club
January 7-	Morristown Morris Lions Club
January 12-	Morristown Lions Club
January 15-	White Pine Lions Club
January 20-	Tellico Village Lions Club (15 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
January 26-	Inskip Lions Club
February 2-	Coalfield Lions Club
February 5-	East Hawkins County Lions Club
February 9-	Harriman Lions Club
February 19-	Bulls Gap Lions Club
February 23-	Dandridge Lions Club
March 5-	Powell Lions Club
March 2,3,4,9,11,16,17,18-	Open (let me know if any of these dates will work for my club visit)

### **Tellico Village Lions Club serves over 600 people at their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Oktoberfest**



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### **DISTRICT 12N EVENTS CALENDAR**

November 10, 6:30 PM Zone Meeting hosted by Kingston Lions Club at Shoneys in Harriman

November 15, 8:30 AM - Noon, District 12-N Cabinet Meeting at LVBI in Morristown TN. All are welcome, but at least Presidents and Secretaries from each club are encouraged to attend.

January 16-18, 2015, Lions Learning Retreat at Coffee County Convention Center in Manchester, TN

February 17, 2015, 6:30 PM Zone Meeting hosted by Tellico Village Lions Club at Classico Restaurant in Tellico Village

Feb. 20-21, 2015, District 12-N Convention in Johnson City, TN

May 8 -- 10 2015, Tennessee State, MD-12 Convention at the Riverview Inn, Clarksville, TN

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**To access up-to-date District 12N events, and additional details for above events, go to: <http://tnlions.org/calendar/>**

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**Please send your News & Views submissions to: [newsandviews12n@yahoo.com](mailto:newsandviews12n@yahoo.com)**

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### **District 12N Welcomes New Lions!!**

Lion CHESTER HASKINS, Bulls Gap Lions Club  
Lion CHARLENE LONGMIRE, Campbell C'ty Lions Club  
Lion PAUL S. WALDROOP, Clinton Lions Club  
Lion RALPH STEVE BROWN, Dandridge Lions Club  
Lion MICHAEL D. DOCKERY, Dandridge Lions Club  
Lion LOU G. WILLOUGHBY, Dandridge Lions Club  
Lion VICTORIA BRIEST, ETSU Lions Club  
Lion AMANDA MARIE FLYNN, ETSU Lions Club  
Lion BILLY HOLLAND, ETSU Lions Club  
Lion DEDIPYA IMMADISSETTY, ETSU Lions Club  
Lion PHYLLIS S FRENCH, Greeneville Lions Club  
Lion MITZI K NEAS, Greeneville Lions Club  
Lion JAMES WALDEN, Jellico Lions Club  
Lion JLOUISE WALDEN, Jellico Lions Club  
Lion ANTHONY J. WEST, West Knox Lions Club  
Lion JAMES HARRINGTON, West Knox Lions Club  
Lion THERESA WRIGHT, West Knox Lions Club



**Just imagine if every Lion, 1.36 Million, asked one person to join their club.....**

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