



From the DG's *Desk*

Hello, fellow Lions of 12-N! October has been a great month for Lions across our district. Eye screenings are in full swing, and I am being told they will continue into November. Many fund

raisers are taking place such as pecan sales, chili dinners, broom sales, cookies and pie sale, and many other great projects. It is great to be a Lion!

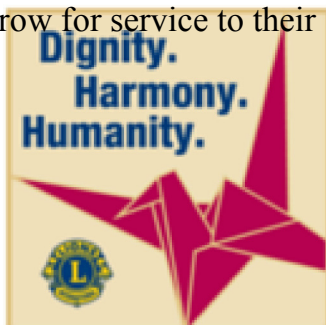
Jackie and I continue to have an incredible time meeting Lions across the district through club visits. Thank you East Hawkins County, Morristown Cherokee, Elizabethton, Knox Tri County, and Hamblen County Lions for all your hospitality and friendship.

I have received District 12-N Chevron awards for fiscal year 2015-2016. This year there will be 112 Lions receiving Chevron awards totaling 2,375 years of service. Thank you for your years of service, and all of the work that you will continue to do.

Membership is up this month! As of October 29th, we currently have 992 members with a positive net growth of 16 YTD. We are getting there! Our goal is 1000+ members by June 30th, 2016. Remember to just ask one more, and let's continue to grow.

District 12-N Lions are special, we care about serving and we care about each other. I would like to extend a special thank you to Lion PDG Bill McDonald and Lion Kathy Burrow for service to their community's and our district.

-Fletcher



Ask1



Paulette's Post

Membership Motivators

Let's talk membership – we know that members are the lifeblood of our organization and without them our lions clubs would fade away and thus our service to our communities. During the various training sessions that I have attended over the last couple years I have gleaned several tips for membership growth but these ten seem to appear over and over and I would like to share them with you here.

- 1) Someone “asked” – what a novel idea!
- 2) They care about the Lion's mission
- 3) The desire to give back to their community
- 4) Motivated to improve quality of life in their community
- 5) Seeking the “good feeling” of volunteering and serving others
- 6) Desire to use their skills volunteering as a Lion
- 7) Looking for training and/or experience to enhance their resume
- 8) Enjoy volunteering
- 9) Looking for social contacts within organization
- 10) Likes to feel needed and useful to others

What motivated you to join your club? We need to re-evaluate our communities based on these motivators and go after the ones which may encourage individuals to join us to serve those in need. Let's get out there and ASK 1 or 2 or 3...!

At this time of year we have much to be thankful for and I want to wish a Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

1st Vice District Governor

A “Spooky” Zone Meeting Thrills and Terrifies

The East Tennessee State University Lions Clubs recently held a zone meeting that’s quite different than what we are use to. To change the pace of the evening, the ETSU Lions decided to hold the meeting at a local German restaurant that served delicious schnitzel and bratwurst. After a *quick* meeting, the Lions gathered outside to take a haunted ghost tour of Downtown Johnson City. Led by one of the most highly rated tour guides in the county, everyone was spooked out a little.

There is no proof, but rumors have it that Zone Chair Brandon Johnson was so scared that District Governor Fletcher had to calm him down.

With this out of the box idea—that ETSU club would like to



Lions Environmental P H O T O C O N T E S T

This year’s Special theme: Dignity, harmony, humanity. Celebrating the peaceful coexistence of species

Categories:

Animal life

Urban or natural land-

scape nomenclon

Weather phe-

Plant life

Take those pictures, Lions, and get them to PDG Ken Moffett (Knoxville Tri-Counties Lions Club) at 1909 River Shores Drive, Knoxville, TN 37914 by November 15 so the District 12-N selection can be entered in the MD-12 (Tennessee) Contest! Winners will be displayed at the LCI Convention and may appear in an annual calendar. Here is a link to the LCI Contest Rules:



*The Loudon Lions Club cordially invites you to attend our
80th Anniversary Celebration*

Loudon Lions Club is the oldest club in District 12N

Thursday, November 19th at 6:00 PM

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 917 Pond Rd – Loudon, TN 37774

Guest Speaker will be:

Int'l Director Jerome Thompson from Alabama



Catered Dinner: \$20

**(Make checks payable to: Loudon Lions Club)
516 Engel Rd - Loudon, TN 37774**



Entertainment provided by: Early Bird Special

**Please join us as we share stories of our history,
Make special award presentations
and enjoy camaraderie with Lions from across the District**

**EAST TENNESSEE
LIONS EYE BANK**



The East Tennessee Lions Eye Bank nominations committee members are PDGs Clare Crawford and Neal Vaughan, co-chairs.

Anyone in good standing in a District 12-N Lions Club can become a member of the Board of Directors. If you have ever wondered what the East Tennessee Lions Eye Bank and its Board of Directors do, now is your chance to find out.

The election will be held at the District 12-N Convention February 19, 2016, which is being held at the Doubletree Inn in Oak Ridge. The Eye bank is currently in the top ten in the world for tissue placement and is one of the leaders in using the latest technology available.

If you wish to be placed on the ballot for a three year term of service please let PDG Clare or PDG Neal know. We will be electing five (5) members to the Board. We will not accept any names for the ballot after January 4, 2016. PDG Neal Vaughan's e-mail is neallion@comcast.net and PDG Clare Crawford's e-mail is lionclare1987@gmail.com. If you wish to sub-

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 14th—12N Cabinet Meeting
Morristown, TN—LVBI

NOVEMBER 19th—80th Anniversary
Loudon Lions Club
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection

**January 15-17—TN Lions Learning
Retreat**
Manchester, TN

FEBRUARY 19&20— 12N Convention



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Contact Information

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Don't forget to file your IRS Form 990-N

Most small tax-exempt organizations whose annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less are required to electronically submit Form 990-N, also known as the *e-Postcard*, unless they choose to file a complete Form 990 or Form 990-EZ instead. Most Clubs in our district are 501 (c)(4) organizations under the IRS Tax Code and are exempt from federal income taxes so long as they file the required form 990 annually.

If you do not file your *e-Postcard* on time, the IRS will send you a reminder notice, however, club treasurers and secretaries often change frequently leaving the IRS with a bogus address. There is no penalty assessment for late filing the *e-Postcard*, but an organization that fails to file required *e-Postcards* (or information returns – Forms 990 or 990-EZ) for three consecutive years will automatically lose its tax-exempt status. Losing tax-exempt status may require your club to pay back taxes on moneys your club took in even though it was used for administrative or charitable purposes.

The *e-Postcard* is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax year. For Lions Clubs the tax year ends June 30, therefore the **tax filing date is November 15**. It is a simple process if you have your club's tax number (EIN). You just attest that

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10 Ways to Kill a Lions Club

I found this article in Lions District 25-F Newsletter and thought it might be useful in our District. Normally, I try to leave a positive message, but perhaps this will get the point across from a different point of view – the NEGATIVE side. Food for thought,

- 1) Don't attend meetings, but if you do, arrive late.
- 2) Be sure to leave before the meeting is over.
- 3) Never have anything to say at meetings, wait until you get outside.
- 4) At a meeting, vote to do everything and then do nothing to help.
- 5) Be sure to sit in the back of the room and talk with another member. No one will notice.
- 6) Take no part in Club affairs.
- 7) If you are appointed to a committee, never give any time to it; let the chairperson do all the work.
- 8) Never accept an officer position; it is much easier to criticize than do things.
- 9) Threaten to resign at every opportunity
- 10) Don't do anything to help. When others willingly and unselfishly help the cause, howl, because the Lions Club is being run by a clique.

Let us all commit to moving our clubs in a positive direction. If you are a Lion and cannot or will not be in a Leadership role, please consider serving on one of the many committees that are needed to keep things running. Your input is needed and should be heard. It takes many hearts, heads, and hands to SERVE. Please be one of them.

Please send future News & Views submissions to: tnldistrict12news@gmail.com
