



DISTRICT 12-N NEWS & VIEWS



Brandon Johnson, Editor

SEPTEMBER 2015

Teresa Clinton, Publisher



From the DG's

Desk

Hello, fellow Lions of 12-N! Club visits are amazing! Past District Governors have let me know that club visits would be the highlight of my DG term. Well, they were correct.

Meeting the Lions of East Tennessee first hand has been an experience I will not forget. Thank you to West Knox, Clinton, Halls, Fountain City, Johnson City, Powell, Dandridge, Kingsport, Teleco Village, Greeneville, Loudon and Campbell County Clubs for your hospitality, friendship and all the work your clubs are doing in the name of Lionism.

Visits continue in September and as Willie Nelson sang "I can't wait to get on the road again."

Membership is increasing across the district and response to the membership commitment campaign is going well. I encourage you and your club to make your commitments an accomplishment. It is so rewarding to be a Lion, a reward that should be shared with others. Membership Chairs—let's get growing! Ask to give a report at club meetings and form a committee if needed. Let everyone here your **ROAR!**

Last month we saw a new look to our News and Views. Brandon and Teresa are working to give it a new refreshing look and add some excitement for our reading pleasure. I have been told that more changes are forth coming and that they would like to make our News and Views an award winning caliper newsletter. Thank you Lions Brandon Johnson and Teresa Clinton for the work you have done with the News and Views.

On the road again,

-Fletcher



Paulette's Post



LEADERDOGS

"Leader Dogs for the Blind empowers people who are blind, visually impaired or Deaf-Blind with skills for a lifetime of independent travel, opening doors that may seem to have closed with the loss of sight. "

Recently Lion Chuck and I visited **Leader Dogs for the Blind** in Rochester Hills, MI. LDFB was started by three lions club members in 1939 and they have now served over 14,500 guide dogs and clients. We learned about the lifecycle of a Leader Dog from breeding, puppy raising and training to hearing about other LDFB programs such as the Accelerated Orientation and Mobility program (white cane training), a summer kids camp and a deaf-blind program. All of these provide clients with skills for a lifetime of independent daily living. The current dog breeds used in their programs are Labradors, Golden Retrievers and German Shephards

We were also given a tour through the new Canine Development Center being built to house even more puppies in an air-conditioned, puppy friendly atmosphere. To learn more about this and make donations go to www.leaderdog.org/canine-center.

The highlight of the day was the opportunity to walk blindfolded with a guide dog – it's truly amazing how acute your other senses become and how you suddenly rely so heavily on your furry friend walking next to you!

Lions not only provide monetary support through our White Cane donations but we also refer clients to the Leader Dog facility. **Leader Dogs for the Blind** truly go above and beyond for their clients and puppies !

Yours in Lionism

Paulette Bailey

NORRIS LIONS CLUB SPONSORS FOUNDATION

In January of 2014, the Norris Lions Club formed a committee of Lions and representatives of area organizations to create the Norris Area Community Foundation.

A member of the Lions had visited West Yellowstone, Montana and learned about their Community Foundation and how it had supported worthwhile community projects, such as youth programs, a ski trail, artist in the schools, fire and rescue cadet training, Shakespeare in the Park, a lake map and others. The West Yellowstone Foundation was begun by a wealthy couple that left a large sum of money to begin its charitable work. Since its creation, many have contributed to the Foundation.

The organizing committee met several times and decided to create the Norris Area Community Foundation as a affiliate of the East Tennessee Foundation.

All the documents were signed and the NACF was launched on April 26, 2014.

During the first year of operation, the Foundation Board raised over \$15,000 and had their first year anniversary and grantee reception on June 25, 2015. At that time more than \$7,000 was awarded to four community organizations. The money will be used to provide backpacks, purchase an electric pottery wheel, provide scholarships for admission to a local museum,, and help start a theater arts program at the local middle school.

The Mission Statement of the NACF reads:

The Norris Area Community Foundation provides a way for those who love the Norris Area to donate money and other resources for a variety of purposes, benefiting current and future area residents. The Foundation will provide grants for community or economic development, historic preservation, education, cultural activities, recreation, environmental enhancement, humane care of animals, and other charitable purposes. The Foundation serves the larger Norris area, including the unincorporated areas of Andersonville, Bethel, and Fairview in Anderson County.

In addition to sponsoring the organizing committee, the Norris Lions Club made a grant to help start the Foundation. For more information on the Foundation you can go the website of the East Tennessee Foundation (www.EastTennesseeFoundation.org) or call Jim Hayes, Chair of NACF at 494-7502.



(Signing the organizing documents - left to right- Linda Ahlstedt, Ellalyn Crossno, Fred Fields, Jim Hayes, Tim Hester and Lib Morgan. Not present were Dennis Curtin and Loretta Painter.)



EYE BANK

TO HOLD ELECTION

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 neal-lion@comcast.net and PDG Clare Crawford's e-mail is lion-clare1987@gmail.com. If you wish to submit your name to be put on the ballot, please include a short bio of yourself.



USA/CANADA

LEADERSHIP FORUM

September 17-19, 2015

Grand Rapids, Michigan

The mission of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is to develop leader, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs.

The Leadership Forum is for any Lion who wants to enhance their leadership abilities in an atmosphere that is non-stop learning and fun. There are over 60 seminars to choose from. Registration forms can be found online at the forum website, or by contacting 1VDG Paulette Bailey .

www.lionsforum.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 10—12N Eyeglass Recycling
Roanoke, Virginia

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

FEBRUARY 19&20— 12N Convention
Doubletree Hotel, Oakridge, TN

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Due to a rotation in News and Views staff, Lions of 12-N will **no longer** automatically be sent a hard copy of this publication. **Even if** you are currently receiving this in hard copy—you **MUST** mail in this form to continue receiving it after **THIS ISSUE**. If a Lion wishes to continue to receive it in any way other than via email/the 12-N website, then they must fill in the below information and submit it to the News and Views Publisher, via the mail, no later than September 30th. The address is listed above. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

NAME: _____ CLUB: _____

ADDRESS: _____
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Please send future News & Views submissions to: tndistrict12news@gmail.com
