

**2013 MISSOURI LIONS MD 26  
91<sup>ST</sup> STATE CONVENTION SUMMARY  
KANSAS CITY, MO**

**FIRST PLENARY SESSION  
FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013  
4:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: Council Chair-Elect Gina Boettcher

She explained that Council Chair John Yount could not be there due to recent surgery, and she passed around a Get Well card for him for signatures.

Invocation: DG Lisa Alexander

Pledge of Allegiance: DG George Spengler

Led in singing of My Country Tis of Thee: DG Kenny Goetz

Protocol: PDG Ann Anderson established protocol for the duration of this MD 26 State Convention.

Introductions: CCE Gina Boettcher

M1 – District Governor Casey Morris

M3 – District Governor Lisa Alexander

M4 – District Governor George Spengler

M5 – District Governor Kenny Goetz

M6 – District Governor Walter Hamer

M7 – District Governor Darlene Jost

Past International Director Dr. Dwayne Garrett, M3

Past International Director W. R. O'Riley, M4

Past International Director Leland Kolkmeier, M5

International Director Donal Knipp & Partner in Service Lion Betty Knipp

2<sup>nd</sup> International Vice President Joe Preston & Partner in Service Lion Joni Preston

Welcome: District Governor Kenny Goetz welcomed everyone to District 26-M5. He told fun facts about some of the first State Conventions, and said that there were a lot of things to see and do at this year's convention – to just choose what to get out of it.

Recognition of Lions by District (International Certificates of Appreciation signed by International President Wayne Madden): ID Donal Knipp & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Preston

M1 – District Governor-Elect Larry Kimbrow

M2 – PCC Terry Boettcher

M2 – PDG Elmer Weinrich

M2 – PDG Debbie Blumenberg

M4 – PDG Wayne Cunningham

M6 – Lion Jennie Mosher

M7 – Lion Ruth Gross

M7 – Lion Brenda Weider

Presiding: DG Casey Morris

Rules Committee: PDG Tom Rayfield

The rules were approved by the committee and submitted to the Council of Governors for approval to be printed in the Program. The Rules Committee moves the Convention attendees approve the rules as submitted and printed in the official program. Motion seconded by PDG Ann Anderson, and passed.

Resolutions Committee: PDG Debbie Blumenberg

She presented four resolutions:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> International Vice President Lion Joe Preston
- Convention & Visitors Bureau of Kansas City, MO
- Holiday Inn CoCo Key Resort
- District 26-M5

Motion was made by PDG Debbie Blumenberg that these resolutions be adopted. Seconded by DG Casey Morris. Motion passed.

Presiding: DG Lisa Alexander

LBOMB: Lion Allen Lohsandt reported that the Committee met in January. Lion Dan Muessig has resigned due to family health issues. The annual audit was reviewed in detail and accepted. Some roadside rest area facilities have been closed for remodeling. Mr. Branson reported that there are a total of 41 facilities at this time with 11 under temporary management. A new facility was opened in St. Louis last month. Several donations have been received, and there was some discussion of a possible merger of some facilities. A smoother system was established for paying bills. An ongoing effort to cut costs and run a more efficient program is having positive results. The new budget will reflect those changes. The Committee had also met earlier that day, and an annual report was at their booth if anyone wanted one.

USA/Canada Forum – Overland Park, Kansas: PDG Neal Nichols, Kansas Lions and Chair of the Host Committee, reported that the dates are September 19-21, with a wide range of seminars scheduled. Leadership techniques that will be taught are useful not only for Lionism, but also in church, business, etc. They had a table in the exhibit area and encouraged everyone to stop by for registration forms, etc. He pointed out that this would be a less costly Forum to attend for Lions in Missouri.

MLERF: PCC Al Blumenberg, President of the Board, reported that the Children's Vision screening program is going very well, with over 30,000 screened in the first 8 months of this year, and 2,875 referrals. For the first time in anyone's memory they have put into place a strategic planning program, and they have been through five drafts and are moving the Foundation forward. He mentioned that Obamacare is cutting the amount of money for cornea transplants. Overall, MLERF is doing great. Lion Dr. Ron will retire in 2014, and they are currently in the process of looking for a new Executive Director.

Receive reports: Motion by DGE Larry Kimbrow to receive the reports. Seconded by DG Lisa Alexander. Motion carried.

At this time, CCE Boettcher had everyone stand and be recognized by District. She asked our International Guests from Arizona to stand and be recognized. CCE Boettcher recessed the Convention until Saturday morning.

**SECOND PLENARY SESSION  
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013  
8:30 A.M.**

Call to Order: CCE Gina Boettcher

Invocation: DG Casey Morris

Recognition of Lions by District (International Certificates of Appreciation signed by International President Wayne Madden): ID Donal Knipp & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Preston

M3 – Lion Gene Schulte  
M7 – DGE Jeff Hilke  
M6 – PDG Dave Harris  
M6 – PDG Bob Crump  
M4 – Lion Cody Johnson  
M4 – Lion Greg Hall  
M1 – PDG Vern Griffith  
M2 – Lion Jackie Hartmann  
M1 – Lion Charlotte Williams  
M2 – PDG Ron Koppelman  
M6 – PDG Gordon Wellman  
M5 – Lion Bing Sakach  
M5 – Lion Larry Cleveland

CCE Boettcher recognized the Host Convention Committee.

Informational Seminars: PDG Tom Rayfield reminded everyone about the Informational Seminars later that morning – Audio Reader, Vision Research Foundation, World Services for the Blind, Kansas City Barbeque, to name a few.

Presiding: DG George Spengler

Athletic Committee Report: PCC John Anderson reported that the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Lions All-Star Football Game will be held July 20 in Warrensburg at the Walton Stadium, Vernon Kennedy Field. The Gold Team coach is Matt Webb from Maryville, and the Blue Team Coach is Mark Barousse from Poplar Bluff. The first and second round drafts have taken place, and they are waiting to hear from the last of the players. Game ticket prices remain the same as last year. The Banquet will be held Friday night, and Chance Wistrom, who played in our game in 1989 and coached in it in 2003, will be the speaker. The Committee is working on preparations to make it a success. They need everyone's help in supporting the game by purchasing ads in the program book. All proceeds go to MLERF.

MLERF: Lion Dr. Ron Walkenbach presented three Haywood Snipes Awards, with help from ID Donald Knipp and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston: PDG Allen Kohler, PDG Eldon Shipps & PDG Jim Bernhardt. Lion Dr. Walkenbach reported that they passed the Eye Bank Association inspection. Over 1,800 individuals worldwide have received assistance to see in the last 9 months. Their goal for the year was that every town in Missouri with a Lions Club had some MLERF program. Mission accomplished! The Children's Vision Screening Program alone was in every Lions Club town this year! Their ongoing goal now is for every town with a Lions Club to be touched by MLERF.

Presiding: DG Kenny Goetz

Band Committee Report: PDG Ron Koppelman reported on the Band Trip this year. They will be going to New Orleans and Memphis, and the cost per student is \$900. The Camp will start on June 22 at Fort Leonard Wood, with the farewell concert there on June 26. They will stop at Veterans Homes, World Services for the Blind, and Mid-South Sight and Hearing along the way, returning July 5. The Committee has sent letters to all Band Directors in the state, as well as students from prior years, and committee members have attended band conferences and festivals throughout the state to get students. The total number of students to date was 20-22. Many more students are needed! The Band will need to be established by December-January next year to go to Ontario to allow time to get passports, authorizations of parents, etc.

Lion Steve Eubanks added that he is working on his PhD at MU now and wants to write his dissertation on his experiences as the Missouri Lions Band Director. He would like to include in his dissertation that Missouri placed first and Mississippi placed second in both Ontario and in Hawaii! He offered to make the Lions of Missouri a deal – they get him 200 students, and he'll get them first place!!!

LCIF Report: No Report.

Presiding: DG Walt Hamer

Leader Dog: Lion Linda McClane and "Disney" represented Leader Dog. Lion McClane reported that they had 205 graduate with a dog last year, and over 400 new applicants for home visits. She has had Disney for eight years. Her previous dog died of cancer and she had to make a decision to go back to Leader Dog for another dog; she needed to do so to continue her independent lifestyle. She has been blind all her life, has had dogs since going to college, and has raised three children and a husband. She thanked the Lions for all they do.

Presiding: DG Darlene Jost

Mid-South Sight and Hearing: Lion Brad Baker mentioned their recent Lions Leaders Weekend. They need to raise \$25,000 to get a matching grant. He urged everyone to visit his booth to get brochures. They have been helping people for over 70 years. He talked about the Champions of Change at Lions Day at the White House that he was a part of, where he said he learned not to limit our service. The Lions of Missouri are not limiting their service.

State & International Convention Committee: PDG Bill Botzow asked PDG Ron Jordan and others to stand to show the Missouri Lions shirt. The State Store would be open that day until 4:30, selling shirts, caps and patches for blazers. Also, they would be distributing state pins for those attending the International Convention.

CCE Boettcher recessed the Convention until noon luncheon.

**THIRD PLENARY SESSION/LUNCHEON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013  
12 NOON**

Call to Order: CCE Gina Boettcher

Invocation: DG Kenny Goetz

Introductions: CCE Boettcher introduced the head table:

DG Kenny Goetz and Lion Julie Goetz, M5  
DG George Spengler and Lion Alice Spengler, M4  
International Director Donal Knipp and Lion Betty Knipp  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joe Preston and Lion Joni Preston from Arizona  
Keynote Speaker Mark McAuliffe of Kearney, Missouri  
DG Walter Hamer and Lion Alice Hamer, M6  
DG Darlene Jost and Lion Ruth Gross, M7  
DG Lisa Alexander, M3  
DG Casey Morris and Lion Jocelyn Morris, M1  
PCC Terry Boettcher, M2

Tail Twisters: Lion Kevin Cantrell, M6, Tail Twisters Chair, introduced the other Tail Twisters:

M1: PDG Julie Erskine  
M2: Lion George Winkeler, Jr.  
M3: Lion Mary Brunkhorst  
M4: 1<sup>st</sup> VDGE Richard Warner  
M5: Lion Sam Krog  
M7: PDG Ron Jordan

Motion by Lion Cantrell that money collected be donated to the MOLATE Project. Motion was seconded and passed.

Recognition of Lions by District (International Certificates of Appreciation signed by International President Wayne Madden): ID Donal Knipp & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Preston

M5 – Lion Jan Ferguson  
M5 – Lion Velma Redwine  
M7 – Lion Tom Peoples  
M1 – PDG Julia Erskine

(Break for Lunch)

Keynote Speaker: CCE Boettcher introduced the Keynote Speaker, Mark McAuliffe. He gave a little of his life story. He was driven by his career and nothing else until an accident helped him see that the life he had created was sabotaging the life he truly desired. The International Association of Lions is the largest service club organization in the world, and has the best global Board. Be a world-class Lion. Our world is in trouble. Churches need the help of service organizations. When there is no vision, people perish. What is your vision? Be significant in someone's life. Be footprints, not buttprints.

2014 State Convention Host Committee: Chairperson PDG Charlie Thompson, PDG Jene Crook, Lion Sterling Green. Lion Green congratulated PDG Tom Rayfield on a great Convention and gave a presentation on next year's State Convention in Sedalia.

Georgia Diabetic Camp: CCE Boettcher held their drawing, and the winner was Lion Ruth Gross.

Harvesters Cans: CCE Boettcher announced that the Harvester Lions were collecting non-perishable food or money in the lobby.

Tail Twisters: PDG Bob Crump helped the Tail Twisters auction off their aprons. The grand total of money raised for MOLATE was \$663.70.

Caucuses: CCE Boettcher announced the locations of the caucuses and reminded everyone of the requirements to vote.

CCE Boettcher recessed the Convention until the Banquet that evening.

**FOURTH PLENARY SESSION/BANQUET  
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013  
7:00 P.M.**

IPCC Kimberly Taylor welcomed everyone to the Banquet, opening with the Grand March:

The newly elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governors:

- M1 – Lion Donald Shelhammer
- M2 – Lion Joe Foster and his spouse, Lion Michelle Foster
- M3 – Lion John Deters and his spouse, Carol Deters
- M4 – Lion Tharran Gaines and his spouse, Barb Gaines
- M5 – Lion Bruce Dugan and his spouse, Lion Christine Dugan
- M6 – Lion Craig Lehman and his spouse, Lion Darlene Lehman

The newly elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governors:

- M2 – Lion Missy Carr and her partner in service, Lion Kevin Carr
- M3 – Lion John Clark and his spouse, Mary Jane Clark
- M4 – Lion Richard Warner
- M5 – Lion Gary Curtis and his spouse, Lion Janice Curtis
- M7 – Lion Emery Smola

The newly elected District Governors:

- M1 – Lion Larry Kimbrow and his spouse, Lion Amy Kimbrow
- M2 – Lion Sharyn Scheidt and her spouse, PDG Roger Scheidt
- M3 – Lion Sandy McCann and her escort for the evening, Lion Jim McClintock
- M4 – Lion Roger Unruh and his spouse, Donna Unruh
- M5 – Lion Ellen Upchurch and her spouse, Lion Bill Upchurch
- M6 – Lion Nick Paulin and his spouse, Lion Noma Paulin
- M7 – Lion Jeff Hilke and his companion in service, Lion Amy Bell

The current leaders of our district and other honored guests:

- M1 – District Governor Casey Morris and his spouse, Lion Jocelyn Morris
- M3 – District Governor Lisa Alexander
- M4 – District Governor George Spengler and his spouse, Lion Alice Spengler
- M5 – District Governor Kenny Goetz and his spouse, Lion Julie Goetz

M6 – District Governor Walter Hamer and his spouse, Lion Karen Hamer  
M7 – District Governor Darlene Jost and her Zone Chairperson, Lion Ruth Gross

M2 – District Governor and Council Chair-Elect Gina Boettcher and her spouse,  
PCC Terry Boettcher

These next leaders continue to provide leadership to our Multiple District and continue to be great mentors and role models to many of us:

Past International Director Dr. Dwayne Garrett & his spouse, Lion Jeanette Garrett, M3  
Past International Director W. R. O’Riley & his spouse, Lion Carole O’Riley, M4  
Past International Director Leland Kolkmeier & his spouse Lion Marcia Kolkmeier, M5  
International Director Donal Knipp & his spouse, Lion Betty Knipp, M7

A big Missouri Lions welcome to our International Guest:

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joe Preston & his spouse, Lion Joni Preston, of Arizona

Call to Order: CCE Gina Boettcher

Invocation: DG Walter Hamer

Introductions: CCE Boettcher introduced some very special members of our Lions family:

Lion Becky Henderson, spouse of former Past International Director Wayne Henderson  
Lion Anita Keely, spouse of former Past International Director Harold Keely, could not be with us as she was recuperating from surgery, and we wish her a speedy recovery.  
Ms. Vanessa White, Director of Development from World Services for the Blind  
Lion Tony Woodell, Chief Operating Officer of World Services for the Blind  
Lion Linda McClane and “Disney” from Leader Dogs for the Blind  
PDG Hall Griffin from Texas and Lions Clubs International

CCE Boettcher then asked the following to rise and be recognized:

Past Council Chairpersons  
Past District Governors  
Military Veterans

Entertainment: The Sinag-Tala Dance Troupe and Music provided by Danny Beal

(Break for Dinner)

CCE Boettcher introduced International Director Donal Knipp, who introduced International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joe Preston. ID Knipp said that the first time he met him, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston was doing a training seminar and brought in a bag of different color hats to demonstrate the different hats you need to wear. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston has been a Lion since 1974, has held many positions and received numerous awards. Both he and his wife Lion Joni are Melvin Jones Fellows. They have two sons, one daughter, and five grandsons.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Preston spoke of his recent trip to Panama and watching a cataract surgery. He doesn’t particularly like watching medical procedures, but he reminded us that as Lions we may not always do things we particularly enjoy, but we need to focus on the good Lions do. He spoke about his visits to Missouri programs such as Alpha Pointe and Audio Reader. Missouri is doing so many good things but can always do more. Set your sights a little higher. He recognized the Council Chair-Elect and the current District Governors, as well as PDG Tom

Rayfield and the Host Convention Committee, for their good work. Missouri has the reputation for sending outstanding leaders to the LCI Board, such as International Director Donal, Past International Directors Leland, W.R., and Doc. He thanked everyone for the Melvin Jones Breakfast and our support of LCIF. He said Missouri made wise use of the \$70,000 grant for Joplin tornado relief. He reminded everyone of President Madden's theme, "In A World of Service". He talked about his participation in Lions Day at the White House last October, where eleven Lions were honored as "Champions of Change", including PDG Debbie Whittlesey of District 26-M6. He mentioned the Club Excellence Award and said to look on the LCI website for the list of requirements. Service is keeping us together, despite different religions, despite where we live, etc.

International Director Knipp thanked 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston and said that Missouri will accept the challenge to continue to set our sights higher.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston, along with ID Knipp and PIDs Kolkmeier, O'Riley and Garrett presented the following International Awards:

Leadership Awards:

- M5 - Lion Ken Johnson
- M5 - Lion Elizabeth Viscusi
- M4 - PDG Ann Anderson
- M3 - PDG Freda McKee
- M3 - PDG Larry Davis
- M2 - Lion George Winkeler, Jr.
- M6 - Lion Kevin Cantrell

Presidential Awards:

- M2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> VDGE Joe Foster
- M5 – Lion Alcy Malkmus
- M5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> VDGE Bruce Dugan

ID Knipp announced to 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Preston that the Host Convention Committee was making a \$500 donation to LCIF. Lion Betty Knipp presented a gift from the state of Missouri to Lion Joni Preston. Lion Joni expressed her appreciation to the Lions of Missouri and said she would like to meet everyone while here.

Ballot Issue: CCE Boettcher announced that Proposition 1 had passed.

CCE Boettcher again thanked the Host Convention Committee for a job well done, and declared the 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Missouri Lions State Convention closed.

Respectfully submitted:

*Lion Brenda Weider*

Lion Brenda Weider  
Council Secretary-Treasurer  
State Office Administrator