

May, 2008



Sponsors of The
Metcalf Avenue of Flags

The Lions' Roar

Overland Park Host Lions Club
Overland Park, Kansas

www.oplions.org



WE SERVE

51st Anniversary Banquet To Be May 4; "Kansas Profile" Broadcaster to Speak; Make Your Reservations NOW!

Our 51st-Anniversary celebration will be held on Sunday evening, May 4 at the Ritz-Charles Conference Center, 137th and Antioch in Overland Park.

Lion Dottie Bloome says that if you haven't already made reservations you can do so through this Saturday, April 26. **Payment of \$30 per meal MUST** accompany your reservations. Lion Dottie will also need to know what entrée you'll want so she can make final meal arrangements with the Ritz-Charles staff.



The evening's entertainment will feature **Ron Wilson** (left), director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University in Manhattan. The mission of the Huck Boyd National Institute is to help rural people help themselves.

Mr. Wilson is heard regularly on "Kansas Profile," a weekly radio program produced by the Institute to help achieve its mission. He relates unusual and interesting stories about people and places all around the state.

Each week the program, which has been on the air since May 1992, describes the ideas and achievements of a local leader or entrepreneur in a rural community. By providing positive recognition to such leaders and sharing their ideas, the Huck Boyd Institute hopes to encourage these and other Kansans to build on their examples. In doing so, rural Kansas can be made an even better place to live and work.

Mr. Wilson also writes and performs cowboy poetry.

Kansas Leos Need Help on Service Project: Collecting Books For Alternative Schools

Kansas Leo Clubs will be doing a service project at the Kansas Lions State Convention (May 29-31 in Wichita) that requires help from Kansas Lions. These young people are conducting a book drive to create libraries for area alternative schools. Books from middle-school age through adult level are needed. The Leos will sort the books brought to the convention by Lions. Then the Mulvane Leo club will deliver them to appropriate locations the next week. Any books found to be unsuitable for students will be donated to the Wichita public library for its book sale.

Planning to attend the State Convention? Takes some books with you! Can't go? Then see Lions Neal or Beverly Nichols to arrange for them to take books for you. **Today's Leos are tomorrow's Lions! They are learning what "We Serve" is all about. Let's help them out!**

2nd Annual Pasta Supper & Silent Auction Helps OP Host Lions Raise Nearly \$1,200; CSF II "Model Club" Goal Within Reach!

A large crowd of Lions and friends from around the district gathered at the Overland Park Christian Church on Saturday night, April 12 for our Second Annual Pasta Supper and Silent Auction.

Lions from Eudora, Lansing, Leawood, Lenexa, Louisburg, Scranton, Shawnee, Turner, and the Kansas City, KS Club Branch of the Turner Lions Club were present. Their help in making the event the success that it was is greatly appreciated.

As of Tuesday evening, April 22, almost \$1700 had been raised, with "money still coming in," said Lion Treasurer Roger Claxton. Expenses will probably total a little over \$500, leaving net proceeds of around \$1200. All profit from the dinner and auction will be donated to Lions Clubs International Foundation Campaign SightFirst II (LCIF, CSF II).

Many Lions contributed to the success of the supper, including **Ron Bloome, Ken Collyard, Pat Gray, Bryan and Heather Lanigan, and Art Meganck** (and as always, we've probably overlooked some!). A few, however, went "above and beyond the call." **Lions Dottie Bloome, Mae Claxton, Carole Collyard and Beverly Nichols** did much of the planning, cooking, serving, and getting and displaying the auction items.

Lion Dale and Billie Warden deserve special recognition for arranging with the Overland Park Christian Church for use of the facilities.

The OP Host Lions Club is a "Model Club" in the CSF II program. Model Clubs pledge a minimum of \$400 per member, to be paid over five years. Contributions from individual Lions and profits from other fund raisers year have brought us close to reaching that goal well ahead of schedule.



Past District Governor (PDG) **Lion Frank Piepenbring** (blue shirt, right) looks on as **Inez** chats with PDG **Bob Slapar** (back to camera) and his wife **Darlene** of Eudora. **Lion Janette Reh's niece** is at far left, awaiting her turn to be served.

Stark(s) Reality

By Lion Ben Starks

The mocking bird was once again on his favorite perch, heralding the breaking dawn with his usual exuberance. Several cardinals joined in, adding their ecstatic morning praises to their Creator, for the blessings of the emerging spring coming to life all around them. Robins were in abundance, eagerly searching while a blue jay chimed in with his raucous cry, heralding the day. A Gold Finch sported his latest sartorial trappings for all the world to admire and envy while the grass glistened in its new spring finery. The forsythia was in its golden splendor while the magnolia tree was just beginning to blossom. The pear and other flowering trees and shrubs were preparing themselves for their moments in the sun, while the jonquils, tulips and pansies vied for their time in the spotlight. All the world's a stage awaiting the grand entrance of the most recent starlet.

As I turn a corner, there appears high up in a tree a strange, seemingly menacing apparition that vaguely resembles the shape of a large raptor, perhaps a red-tailed hawk, but lacking the definition and devoid of color. Then a puff of wind revealed its true identity—a black plastic trash bag lodged in the branches. What our overactive imagination sometimes conjures up, assigning mystic and mysterious powers to the most mundane of items.

How a few hours changes our environment and scenery. What was once so bright and beautiful now lies drab and dripping. The April showers that bring May flowers have made their appearance, temporarily darkening the outlook. Rain! That necessary ingredient for the nurturing of nature has put a momentary damper on things. Water—the very life blood of living plants—can, in overabundance, be the very bane of their existence. How strange that what can be a blessing in moderation can be such a curse and calamity in overindulgence. I guess that speaks volumes to us—to keep everything under restraint and to exercise forbearance in our daily affairs. All we have to do is look to nature as a model and to its Creator for our continued growth in wisdom and knowledge. To Him be all praise, glory and exultation!!

Highest Total in Several Years . . .

Last Week's Candy Days Bring in \$1054

Candy Days at Wal-Mart (119th and Metcalf) on April 11 and 12 resulted in outstanding collections, according to Chairperson Lion Janette Reh and Lion Treasurer Roger Claxton. \$1054 was collected over the two days by fifteen Lions, the most in recent years.

Helping "man" the collection point were **Lions Chuck Binau, Ron Bloome, Roger Claxton, Chris Claxton, Ken and Carole Collyard, Pat Gray, Larry Lavelly, Art Meganck, Neal and Beverly Nichols, Edson Parker, Janet Reh, Paul Roerman, and Ben Starks.**

Lion Janet also said that a Wal-Mart grant of \$1000 was received as matching funds for last year's Candy Day efforts.



"We Serve" . . . Pasta, Meatballs, Salads



Lion Dottie Bloome hands plates to Twyla Binau and Lion Chuck, while Lions Carole Collyard and Mae Claxton dish up more food for the next in line at the Pasta Supper and Silent Auction on April 12.

"Emergency-Prepared Neighborhoods" To Be Program at Meeting of Saturday, April 26

Ms. Clarin Blessing-Olsen of the Johnson County Emergency Management Department, will be the guest speaker at our regular meeting of April 26. As usual the meeting will begin at 7:45 a.m. at the Wyndham Garden Hotel (breakfast and fellowship, of course, at 7 or a little after).

Ms. Blessing-Olsen's topic will be about "Emergency-Prepared Neighborhoods." **Lion Carole Collyard** arranged for our speaker to appear.

This meeting will be your last chance to make your reservations for the 51st Anniversary Banquet to be held at the Ritz-Charles Conference Center on Sunday evening May 4. See the article on page 1 for more details about the program.

Officers Elected; Installation on July 12

Officers for the 2008-2009 Lions year were elected at the regular meeting of April 12.

Big Lion will be **Beverly Nichols**. **Vice Presidents** will be **Lions Bob Larson, Pat Gray, and Neal Nichols**. **Lion Carole Collyard** was re-elected **Secretary**; **Lion Roger Claxton** was re-elected **Treasurer**; and **Lion Ron Bloome** was re-elected **Tail Twister**.

Lion Art Meganck was elected **Lion Tamer**.

The **Membership Committee** will be **Lions Ken Collyard** (Chairman); **Heather Lanigan** (Vice Chairman) and **Grant Rogers** (member).

Lions Dottie Bloome and **Ben Starks** will be **Directors, 2008-2011**. **Lions Grant Rogers** and **Janette Reh** will continue as **Directors** for the **2007-2010** term.

Lion Mae Claxton will continue to serve on the Board of Directors as **Immediate Past President**.

Lions Edson Parker and **Paul Roerman** will continue as **Directors** for the **2006-2009** term.

Newly-elected District Governor Peggy Jacobson of the Overland Park Noon Lions Club will be our guest on July 12 and will install the officers.

More Pasta Supper Scenes



(Above) Lion Beverly Nichols was hostess at the dessert table. Pie, cake, and cookies were sold as "extras" at the Pasta Supper and helped swell the coffers for CSF II.

(Below) A view of the tables full of items that were donated for the silent auction.



Big Garage Sale Coming Up May 22-24; Another Campaign SightFirst II Project!

A garage sale to benefit the LCIF Campaign SightFirst II effort will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 22-24 at the Nichols' home, 6116 West 85th Terrace. (May 24 is a regular meeting date, so the garage will open at 9:30

All types of items are needed. Large items (furniture, appliances, etc.) as well as clothing, baby supplies, toys—all kinds of donations will help. Be saving up your discardables for delivery to the Nichols. But, please! No deliveries before the week of May 19!

Lions' help will be needed, too. If you can spend a few hours on any (or all!) of those days, please sign up at the next couple of regular meetings.



Busy, Busy, Busy...

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 3: Board of Directors meeting at Mimi's Café, 95th and Quivira. All club members are invited to attend; newly elected officers and board members are especially encouraged to attend.

Saturday, May 10: Regular meeting at the Wyndham Garden. Program details are being worked out. go to Campaign Sight-First II. See details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Saturday, May 17: Armed Forces Day. First Flag Day of the year! Plenty of help will be needed.

Saturday, May 24: Regular meeting at the Wyndham Garden. The program will be a Memorial Service honoring our deceased members.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, May 22, 23, 24: Garage Sale at Nichols' home (6116 West 85th Terrace). All proceeds will go to Campaign SightFirst II.

Monday, May 26: Memorial Day. Second Flag Day of the year! Again, plenty of help will be needed.

Tuesday, May 27: T-Bones baseball outing. "Service Club Challenge." Game-only tickets, \$7 each; tickets for game *and* pre-game tailgate meal are \$20 each. Friendly competition among metro-area service organizations—Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimist and Sertoma. Who'll bring the most (heaviest) canned goods to benefit The Harvesters?

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, May 29, 30, 31: Kansas Lions State Convention, Airport Hilton Inn, Wichita.

Saturday, June 7: Board of Directors meeting at Mimi's Café, 95th and Quivira. All club members are invited to attend; newly elected officers and board members are especially encouraged to attend.

Saturday, June 14: Flag Day, 6 a.m.. No regular meeting. After Flags, we will gather at the Kansas State School for the Blind in Kansas City, KS for district convention, social and awards.

Friday, Saturday, June 20, 21: Candy Days. Details, including times and locations, will be announced later.

Saturday, June 28: Regular meeting at the Wyndham Garden. Janet Reh is arranging a program on service dogs. Details will be announced later.

Friday, July 4: Flag Day. Plenty of help needed. Please try to be there.

Saturday, July 5 (tentative): Board of Directors meeting at Mimi's Café. First meeting of the new board.

Saturday, July 12: Regular meeting at the Wyndham Garden. Incoming District Governor Lion Peggy Jacobson will install our new officers.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum— Saskatoon Saskatchewan, September 18-20

Plan a mid-fall vacation to beautiful Saskatchewan and take in the excitement of the USA/Canada Forum at the same time. For program details or registration information, contact Lions Neal or Beverly Nichols.



www.options.org

May, 2008 Issue

The Overland Park Host Lions' Roar
Neal K. Nichols, Interim Editor
6116 West 85th Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66207-1515



2008 "Metcalf Avenue of Flags" Schedule

May 17: Armed Forces Day

May 26: Memorial Day

June 14: Flag Day

July 4: Independence Day

September 1: Labor Day

September 11: Patriot Day

October 13: Columbus Day

November 11: Veterans Day

"Take Pride. We Do."