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Metcalfe Avenue of Flags

August, 2008

The Lions' Roar

Overland Park Host Lions Club

Overland Park, Kansas

www.oplions.org



WE SERVE

Lions Bingo and Lions Jeopardy! This Saturday, August 9 At Ice Cream Social and Membership Orientation Night

Mark your calendars for 7 o'clock, Saturday evening, August 9, and get ready for an Ice Cream Social! Meet at the clubhouse at Pat Gray's condominium complex. The address is 11330 Pflumm (across from Aquinas High School).

The purposes of this event, besides socializing, will be to have an orientation session for our relatively new Lions and to inform prospective members what our club is all about! Activities throughout the evening will be designed to keep everyone involved in the fun. It won't be just a "set and get" meeting.

"Lions Bingo" and "Lions Jeopardy!" games created by our own Big Lion Beverly will be highlights of the evening. Several freezers of home-made ice cream, along with a variety of toppings and cookies, will be available for "taste-testing" under the direction of Lion Dottie Bloome, social chairperson.

Who among your friends might be prospective Lion members? Get out and invite them!

Program and Activity Notes

July 12: District Governor Peggy Jacobson installed our club's 2008-2009 officers.

Last meeting: 1st Vice President Bob Larson conducted a very entertaining "Liars' Contest." Seven Lions each told two stories, one true and one false. Club members voted on which story was false and got "points" if they guessed correctly. Lion Carole Collyard was the winner of the "Immunity" Lion for August; she got 6 out of 7 right.

Saturday, August 9 (next regular meeting): Doug Brown, Director of Public Works for the City of Overland Park, will be guest speaker.

Saturday evening, August 9, 7:00 p.m.: Ice cream social and orientation meeting. (See details in lead article above.)

Saturday, August 16: District Cabinet meeting, First Church of the Nazarene, Lawrence.

Saturday, August 23: Cliff Franklin, of the Children's Diabetic Camp in the Republic of Georgia will be guest speaker.

Monday, September 1: Our next Flag Day (Labor Day). Sign up now to help out! Up at 6 a.m., down at 4 p.m.

Saturday, September 6: Board of Directors meeting, 7:30 a.m., Mimi's Café, Oak Park Mall.

Saturday, September 13: Program to be announced. Lions Chuck Binau and Ken Collyard are responsible.

Saturday, September 27: **NO REGULAR MEETING.** Overland Park Fall Festival, Commons, 81st and Santa Fe.



District Governor Peggy Jacobson (Overland Park Noon Lions Club), installs Lion Beverly Nichols as OPHLC President for 2008-09. Lion Peggy used a "Candy-Bar Installation" format for her installation ceremony. Each officer and director received a candy treat that represented the office or position. Lion Beverly got a Reece's "Big Cup" as the new Big Lion. (Photo by Roger Claxton)

The Big Lion's Message for August

"Miracles through Service" performed by "Everyday Heroes." The first words in quotation marks are the theme of International President Brandel. The last two words are his description of Lions around the world. Do we have "Everyday Heroes" in the Overland Park Lions Club? *You bet we do!*

- Lion Art Meganck organized the feeding of 250 student athletes at the Hershey Games at Shawnee Mission South stadium in June. Overland Park Host Lions, co-operating with the Hershey organization, provided a miracle for the youngsters who participated.
- Lion Janette Reh orchestrates Candy Day year after year. Funds raised result in multiple miracles of sight conservation.
- Lions such as Dale Warden and Edson Parker provide transportation for members who need help in getting to meetings.
- PDG Frank Piepenbring initiated the *Metcalfe Avenue of Flags* over forty years ago. Overland Park Host Lions oversee a miracle every time Flags are unfurled along our city's main thoroughfare.

Whom do you perceive as an "Everyday Hero," a Lion who quietly provides some miracle through his or service? Let me know so that we can recognize that Lion in a future newsletter.

—*Beverly Nichols, President*



Stark(s') Reality

As I sit here reminiscing over the years spent with Alice and Rubye, I find absolutely amazing the impact that women have made on my life over the years. Actually there has been very little positive influence from the masculine side of my family. As best I can recall, my father apparently abandoned his family about the time I was four or five years old. To my knowledge, he provided no support or parental guidance for me or my brother. He left my mother to care for us during the depression years, when there was no "safety net." This same lack of parental skill and abandonment of responsibility carries over in my brother, one of his sons, a daughter, and on down the family tree to a grandson.

In the same vein, in Rubye's family her mother raised five children—two boys and three girls—without male support.

I observed the sacrifices of these strong-willed women made in providing for the care and welfare of their children,

far and away above minimal necessities. As I recall, we were sort of like the song "Alabama" recorded: "We were poor, but we didn't know it." The guidance these mothers gave over the years endowed me with the determination that I was not going to perpetuate the failure of the men in my history, but adopt the sacrificial agenda that the females followed. Hopefully, my daughter's life reflects the results of their guidance!

So if anyone has anything detrimental to say about the so-called "weaker sex," they'll have me to contend with. As I recall, Abe Lincoln stated, "Everything I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." If I've had any margin of success in my life, or any achievements or accomplishments, they are due to the support, encouragement, insight, foresight, hindsight, counseling, guidance and training from my mother, mother-in-law, Rubye, Alice, Laura, stepdaughter, sister-in-law, aunt and great niece, plus a plethora of friends and associated too numerous to list. So . . . bad-mouth women to me only at your own peril!!

Notes from Board of Directors Meeting, Saturday, August 2

The Board of Directors met on Saturday, August 2. Here is a summary of the key business items:

- Service (projects/charity) Budget approved: Estimated revenue, \$27,050; estimated expenditures, \$26,000.
- General Account (administrative) Budget approved: Estimated revenue, \$9,850; estimated expenditures, \$9,624.
- Candy Day dates set (*all tentative*): October 24 & 25; April 3 & 4; May 8 & 9.
- New program: scholarships for 2009 high school graduates (Shawnee Mission North, Shawnee Mission West, Shawnee Mission South, one \$500 award per school): Grant Rogers and Beverly Nichols to coordinate.
- Overland Park Fall Festival: approved proposal to invite KCK Club Branch to participate and share revenue from popcorn sales.
- Club Goals for 2008-2009 (to help fulfill District Governor's program for the year): (1) increase membership by 10% or minimum of four members; (2) build stronger relationships with Shawnee Mission District and parochial schools that lie within boundaries of Overland Park; (3) revitalize club visitation program.



Mae Claxton (right), Immediate Past President, proudly shows off a Lions paperweight gift presented by President Beverly Nichols at the installation of officers ceremony on July 12. (Photo by Roger Claxton.)

A Word About Service

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

—Helen Keller

Condensed Treasurer's Reports

(July, 2008)

General Operating (Account) (Administrative Funds)

Income:	
Meals	\$ 1842.00
Membership dues	1480.00
Tail Twister	36.00
Total Income	\$ 3358.00
Expenses:	
Dues	
District 17-O	\$ 328,28
LCI Semi-Annual	741.00
Total dues	1069.28
Meals and meeting room	462.02
Total Expenses	\$ 1531.30
Net Income	\$ 1826.70

Service Account (Projects and Charitable Funds)

Income:	
Kansas Lions Band Camp Reimbursement ...	\$ 25.00
Total Income	\$ 25.00
Expenses:	
"A Call to Serve" (Children's Diabetic Camp) .	\$ 500.00
OPHLC Endowment Fund	50.00
Total Expenses	\$ 550.00
Net income	(\$ 525.00)

21st Century Lions: Will the Legacy Continue?

Commentary by Lion Joseph F. Gaffigan, Past International Director

PID Gaffigan served on the International Board, 2006-2008. He was speaker at the 17-K7 District Convention in Ottawa, KS in 2008

A note from Ye Olde Editor: This commentary was written in 1995 by then-PDG Joe Gaffigan. PDG Bernard Lee of our own District 17-K7 (now 17-O) gave me a copy last year. PID Gaffigan's comments profoundly affected my attitude toward change. They are reprinted here as a challenge to each of us to consider: In what ways must the Overland Park Lions Club change to recruit and keep more members?



It can be argued that Lions are the noblest volunteers of all. We have accomplished so much in our [91] years of service. Millions of the world's blind now see because of us. Each and every community serviced by Lions can tell countless stories of the wonders of our humanitarian accomplishment. We have much to be proud of.

We also have much to be concerned about . . .

Many of us have spent the greater portion of our lives serving the less fortunate. We have literally grown old together heading into our golden years together. We never want our lifelong friendships to end. Unfortunately, we cannot hold back the years. We have come to the most important crossroad in the history of our club—the present.

Today's decisions and actions will determine whether our club makes it to the 100-year anniversary of Lions International in the year 2017. We hold the very destiny of community service through Lions in our hands. Will we make decisions today that will make us the greatest generation of Lions, or the last?

How exciting it was to join our club in the beginning. Remember how full of life we were? We had the world by the tail. We were going to solve the problems of our communities no matter what it took. We, and our clubs, would live forever. Our families grew up together . . . grew old together . . . grew tired together. We don't want it to end, but we know that it must. What can I do now to ensure the survival of Lions long after I am gone?

Remember: *Lionism does not belong to us. It belongs to our community.* (Continued in next column)

The Overland Park Host Almanac . . .

(Stuff you really ought to know!)

2008-2009 Officers and Board of Directors

Beverly Nichols	President
Mae Claxton	Immediate Past President
Bob Larson	1st Vice President
Pat Gray	2nd Vice President
Neal Nichols	3rd Vice President
Carole Collyard	Secretary
Roger Claxton	Treasurer
Art Meganck	Lion Tamer
Ron Bloome	Tail Twister
Edson Parker	Director, 2006-2009
Paul Roerman	Director, 2006-2009
Janet Reh	Director, 2007-2010
Grant Rogers	Director, 2007-2010
Dottie Bloome	Director, 2008-2011
Ben Starks	Director, 2008-2011
Ken Collyard	Membership Committee Chair
Heather Lanigan	Membership Committee Vice-Chair
Grant Rogers	Membership Committee Member

SEARCH YOUR LIONS HEART

1. Remember what it was like when you joined. Could you ever have seen yourself allowing your club to fade away and die around you?
2. Remember your sponsor. Could you tell your sponsor today that you have honored him/her with your maximum effort to keep your club vital and growing?
3. Be realistic and accept the fact that the *times have changed*. Seriously consider just what sort of club today's potential members are likely to join.
4. Make the decisions regarding the membership policies of your club based on what is best for the club and your community. **Do not sacrifice the very survival of your club to preserve the comfort levels of a few!**
5. Be an instrument of commitment to membership growth and retention in your club. Help spark the members of your club to turn their legendary commitment to service on themselves by developing and implementing an aggressive membership recruitment and retention game plan.
6. If you need younger members, invite them in groups. They need someone to relate to if they are to be comfortable joining a group that is predominately older.
7. Support your young leaders. They are the future of Lions. When there is disagreement, come to terms with the future of Lions in mind.
8. Make membership recruitment and retention Discussion Topic Number One at every regular, special and board meeting of the club.
9. Remember that helping the less fortunate is a moral obligation as old as the Scriptures. It is an obligation of every compassionate, service-minded man and woman.
10. Realize that someone who needs a helping hand doesn't care about the gender, race, religion or nationality of that helping hand. It is a helping hand of compassion and, perhaps, life itself.

District 17-O (formerly 17-K7) Officers

Peggy Jacobson (Overland Park Noon)	District Governor
Susan McDonald (Auburn)	Vice District Governor
Marjean Neve (Lansing)	Secretary
Rick Dodson (Lansing)	Treasurer
Neal Nichols (OP Host)	Immediate Past District Governor

For Your Calendar

See "Program and Activity Notes" on first page.

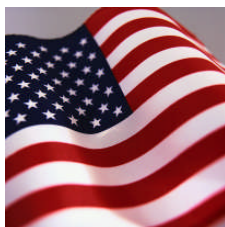


Wear Your Pin With Pride!

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2008 "Metcalf Avenue of Flags": Remaining Schedule

September 1: Labor Day
September 11: Patriot Day
October 13: Columbus Day
November 11: Veterans Day
"Take Pride. We Do."



**USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum
September 18-20, 2008
Saskatoon Saskatchewan, Canada**

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.