



Sponsors of The
Metcalf Avenue of Flags

October 2010

The Lions' Roar

Overland Park Host Lions Club
Overland Park, Kansas
www.oplions.org



WE SERVE

Garage Sale To Be Held

October 15-16

To benefit the general account, our club will hold a garage sale on October 15-16 at the Claxton's. Please bring smaller items October 9-10 and bring larger items October 15. This will help to keep future dues increases smaller. Your donated items are appreciated.

October Service Project:

TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL

Sunday, October 31

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Matt Ross Community Center

The city of Overland Park is holding its third annual safe night of trick-or-treating. As a service account fundraiser, our club will sponsor a popcorn booth. In addition to candy, activities will include crafts, games, and toys, all of which are free of charge. See <http://opkansas.org/Events/Trick-or-Treat-Trail> for more information and photos from last year. To join in the festivities, be sure to sign up at the next meeting.



October 9 Meeting:

Sons of the American Revolution to Present Award



Our club has been honored by the National Sons of the American Revolution. Bob Mellott, president, and Craig Dillavou, program chair of the local chapter, will present an award to us in recognition of our Avenue of Flags program. Mr. Dillavou is owner of the Wild Bird House, 7342 West 80th Street, one of the merchants in the Downtown Overland Park who recently joined our flag program. This meeting will be an opportunity for us to personally thank him for his support and participation.



DUES TO INCREASE IN 2011

The Board of Directors voted to raise dues from \$25 to \$30 per quarter, effective January 1, 2011. Additionally, they opted to eliminate discounts for advance payments.

In order to further boost the general fund, meals will be billed at \$55 instead of \$44 for members who pay by the quarter. Meals will be \$11 per meeting for those who do not pay by the quarter. Please note that meal charges are not considered part of dues.

The purpose of these increases is to help the Club offset a projected budget deficit in the general operating account.

Next Candy Day to be October 23

Our next Candy Day will be held at the HyVee on 91st Street, east of Metcalf.
Sign ups will begin
at our October 9 meeting.

Calendar of Activities

- October 9 Regular Meeting, Red Robin
..... Sons of the American Revolution
- October 15, 16 Garage Sale
..... Claxton's Home, 10404 Nieman
- October 23..... Regular Meeting, Red Robin
..... Bob Moore, Historian/Curator of the KC Chiefs
- October 23.....Candy Day, HyVee
..... 91st and Metcalf
- October 24.....K.C. Chiefs Lions Club Day
..... Kickoff time 12:00 p.m.
- October 28..... Visitation, Bonner Springs Club
..... 6:30 p.m.
- November 11 Flags up 6:00 a.m.
- November 12..... Flags down 6:00 a.m.
- November 13 Regular Meeting, Red Robin
..... Shoeboxes for Soldiers work day*
- November 20... Board Meeting, Perkins, 87th and Nieman
..... 7:30a.m.
- November 27... Regular Meeting, Red Robin
... Eleanor Craig, Oregon Trail Trip for the visually impaired
- December 4..... Board Meeting, Perkins, 87th and Nieman
..... 7:30a.m.
- December 11..... Breakfast with Santa
- December 25..... Christmas Day, no meeting
- January 8..... Regular Meeting
Sandee Munson, Employment Specialist, U.S. Probation Office

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- October 17: Mary Lou Albaugh
- October 17: Twyla Binau
- October 26: Linda Larson



Anniversaries:

- October 15: Neal and Beverly Nichols
- October 23: Greg and Kristin Trainor

Board Meeting Location Has Moved

Please note that the Board will now meet at **Perkins at 87th and Nieman Road (near I-35)**. Breakfast orders from the menu can be placed beginning at about 7 a.m. and the meetings will be called to order at 7:30. There is a private room for the meetings and we will not be under pressure to be out by 9 o'clock as we have in the past. Board meeting dates for the rest of the year are November 20, December 4, January 15, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 18, and July 2.



President's Message for October

By Big Lion Neal Nichols

You have read elsewhere in this issue that your Board of Directors voted to raise our dues to \$30 per quarter, effective January 1, 2011. This is an increase of \$5 per quarter. Meals will be billed at \$55 instead of \$44 per quarter.

This was a painful decision but necessary to avoid a crisis in the general (operating) account.

Let me emphasize, though, that this is only a stop-gap measure. We'll probably get through this year all right, but we'll face the same problems again, especially in the next two years when Lions Clubs International dues are expected to increase by a total of \$4 per year.

The Budget and Finance Committee under the leadership of **Treasurer Roger Claxton** had recommended a larger increase that would have put our general account on sound footing for the next few years, eliminating the need to come back frequently with smaller increases. Committee members also thought that all fund-raising efforts should focus on the service budget—community-focused needs—instead of having our time and energy drained by working to fund internal needs.

The options now before us are to consider more dues increases, to hold fund-raising events, to recruit more new members or a combination of all three.

As a start, a garage sale will be held at the Claxton's home (10404 Nieman Road) on October 15 and 16. All of us need to pitch in, not only by being present to help but by donating items for sale—especially "big-ticket" things such as furniture and appliances.

I had the privilege of sponsoring a new Lion last month. It's too bad he couldn't join our club—but a Saturday morning club was not a "good fit" for him. That's a message we get over and over and over in our recruiting efforts. Lions Ken and Carole Collyard, Bob Larson, Beverly Nichols, Grant Rogers and I attend Chamber of Commerce events and belong to other networking groups. We promote the Overland Park Host Lions in every way we can, but the club's meeting time remains a challenge to growth.

Have you ever considered a "club retreat"? Why don't we take a day to get off by ourselves—with **all** of our members included, not just the faithful regulars—in a relaxed atmosphere and take a long, deep look at our club, its problems and its possibilities. There are well-qualified Lions (experts—you know, *outsiders with a briefcase*) who are willing to come here and help guide the process. We don't have to do it alone. Let me know what you think.

In the meantime—as **Past President Bob Larson** said in his message each month . . . **see you Saturday!**

—Big Lion Neal

OVERLAND PARK FALL FESTIVAL A ROARING SUCCESS

The Overland Park Fall Festival was once again a huge success, due to the leadership and commitment of **Lions Roger and Mae Claxton** and the support of numerous volunteers. Volunteers began setting up Friday evening and early Saturday morning, selling donuts and coffee from the start. A new addition to the menu this year was assorted chips, which sold out. The temperature was perfect and business was brisk.



Customers patiently wait for hot dogs, brats, popcorn, chips, and soda. The lines get especially long after the parade, but the prices are right and service is friendly, so everyone's happy. Pictured with their backs to the camera, left to right, are **Lion Bob Larson and Lion Edson Parker** (both at the wrapping station) and **Lion Chris Pucci** (selling).



Early morning volunteers (from left to right): **Lion Teresa Wolfe, Cub Zoe Ralph, Lion Dottie Bloome, Lion Grant Rogers, Lion Chris Pucci, Lion Ken Collyard, and Lion Lynn Wolfe.**



A special addition this year was the Mobile Screening Unit, parked a stone's throw from the food booth.

MOBILE SCREENING UNIT JUST IN TIME FOR ONE GENTLEMAN

Lion Mae Claxton shares a story that illustrates how significant the Mobile Screening Unit [MSU] was in one instance that occurred during the Overland Park Festival:

It is often said that God works in mysterious ways, but I like to think that the MSU and the volunteers that donate their time to screen the public are part of that overall plan. Here is how that plan fell into place to save the vision of one man:

In August, our club decided to sponsor the MSU at late notice and found out that it was indeed available for our proposed date. We called other clubs to help us staff the bus and had representatives from the Leawood, Lenexa, Shawnee and KCK Downtown Lion Clubs, Blue Valley Leos and a KU med student as well as our own members, friends and even a neighbor.

Late in the afternoon, a gentleman and his wife visited the MSU. On registration duty was **Lion Janette Sanders Reh** (retired patient advocate from KU Eye Clinic) who became concerned that his symptoms of flashing lights and blurred vision on the right side could possibly be a retinal detachment. After asking him a few more questions, she was even more concerned and called me over to talk with him. I am a registered nurse that was in charge of a pediatric eye clinic for 15 years and a certified ophthalmic technician before becoming the school nurse at the Kansas State School for the Blind. I asked him the same questions and tested his peripheral vision. He admitted that the symptoms started two days ago.

Her concern was well founded. We both advised the gentleman to go directly to an Emergency room so that an Ophthalmologist could be called in to examine him for a possible retinal detachment.

The gentleman responded that his HMO did not cover ER visits unless it was a life or death emergency and that he could see his doctor on Monday morning. He also felt that emergency rooms were for broken bones, heart attacks and the likes.

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This is what we told him, "Retinal detachments are a bona-fide eye emergency. The earlier they are detected, the better the results of retaining good vision in that eye. The best outcomes are when they are detected and treated within 24-48 hours of the first symptoms. The earliest warning signs are flashing lights and blurred vision in a field of gaze that then progresses to a feeling that a curtain is falling over your vision. Retinal detachments can be caused by a variety of reasons, they can happen spontaneously for no reason at all, being over 50, needing thick eyeglasses to see at a distance, high blood pressure and diabetes or trauma ." His only claim to any of those was age but he did not look that much older than 50!



Outside the Mobile Screening Unit are (from left to right): **Lion Jack McLain, Lion Linda Estes** (from the Shawnee Club), and **Lion Janette Reh**. (photos by **Lion Roger Claxton**).

He finally agreed to stop at his optometrist at Wal-mart and "if" the optometrist agreed with our concerns then he would go to an ER. I gave him my number and asked him to call me with the outcome, and he agreed. Well, at 8PM, I received a call from him. He had just gotten home after visiting the ER. The ER was also concerned and called in an Ophthalmologist who examined him. A hole in the gentleman's retina was found. Laser treatment was done immediately to stop the progression. The gentleman expressed his profound gratitude and said, "God lets you bump into the people you need when you need them the most".

I wanted to share this story with the Lions Sight Foundation, the MSU committee, Lions clubs who sponsor the MSU and the volunteers that staff them. While you may not have the extensive eye background that Janette and I have, please keep this story in mind. When you hear those kinds of complaints, do not hesitate to persuade that person to seek immediate professional help. Vision is a precious sense and should never be taken for granted. Never delay seeking a professional exam if you experience any symptoms.

Thank you to the Lions Sight Foundation for sponsoring the MSU, and the clubs which bring it to their town. Let's make sure those bumps continue to happen.

Sincerely,
Mae Claxton RN

2010-11 Officers

President	Neal Nichols
1 st Vice President	Chris Pucci
2 nd Vice President	
Immediate Past President	Bob Larson
Secretary	Carole Collyard
Treasurer	Roger Claxton
Tail Twister:	Ken Collyard
Lion Tamer:	Bryan Lanigan
Membership Committee:	Beverly Nichols (Chair)
Membership Committee:.....	Grant Rogers (Vice-Chair)
Membership Committee:	Cindy Fisher (Member)
Director (2010-2012):	Mae Claxton
Director (2010-2012):	Heather Lanigan
Director (2009-2011):	Edson Parker
Director (2008-2011):.....	Dottie Bloome

Treasurer's Report - September 2010

General (Operating) Account

Income	
Meals	\$ 88.00
Membership Dues	125.00
Tail Twister	15.00
Miscellaneous Income.....	<u>32.00</u>
 Total Income.....	 \$ 260.00
Expenses	
LCI New Member Fee	\$ 82.60
 Net Income.....	 \$ 177.40

Service (Project or Charity) Account

Income	
Metcalf Avenue of Flags.....	\$ 176.00
Overland Park Fall Festival.....	<u>4795.41</u>
 Total Income	 \$4971.41
Expenses	
Flag Expense	\$ 147.50
Overland Park Fall Festival	2082.97
KSSB Field Trip.....	91.00
Candy Day	<u>75.00</u>
 Total Expenses	 \$2396.47
 Net Income	 \$2574.94

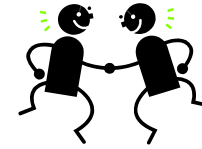
September Meeting Speaker Jim Mathis

September's program was offered by Jim Mathis, who has had several businesses in the community, including Homer's coffeeshop in downtown Overland Park. He demonstrated the evolution of viewers over the past 100 years or so.



Jim Mathis, owner of Mathis Photography in Overland Park, accepts a bronze Lion statuette after his presentation (photo by **Big Lion Neal Nichols**).

Networking Tips



Bob Young, founder of Biz2BizConnections, spoke to our club last January about networking. Quoting an interview between John Assaraf (founder of OneCoach) and Ivan Misner (founder of BNI—Business Networking International), he left us with the *Top 10 Traits of 'Master Networking'*:

- Dedication to our network—our club, our district, and LCI. Let people know what we're all about and extend invitations to join.
- Sincerity—have a passion for Lionism and let it show!
- Helpfulness. "We Serve!" Put our motto in action whenever an opportunity presents itself.
- Gratitude
- A 24/7 commitment to networking—take advantage of every opportunity to promote Lionism and our club in particular.
- Good listening skills
- Trustworthiness
- Motivation and Enthusiasm
- Positive attitude
- **Timely Follow-Up!** When someone shows interest and wants more information, get it to them as soon as possible.

Nichols Attend USA/Canada Forum



Big Lion Neal Nichols and **Lion Beverly Nichols** worked the Forum Store at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin last month. Neal came home with an umbrella, which he plans to use as a prop at various Lion events. Beverly worked at a table offering Lion-related pins and jewelry.

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by the
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Editor: Lion Cindy Fisher,
cindy0112@everestkc.net; 913.341.0447
Distributed by Big Lion Neal K. Nichols, PDG:
pdgneal0708@aol.com; 913.642.7520

Contributors:

Lion Roger Claxton, Lion Mae Claxton,
Lion Grant Rogers, Lion Edson Parker, Lion Beverly Nichols,
Past President Bob Larson, and Big Lion Neal Nichols.



NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT: SHOEBOXES FOR SOLDIERS



WE WILL CONTINUE OUR ANNUAL PROJECT OF PACKING SHOEBOXES FOR SOLDIERS. ONCE AGAIN, SCHOOL NURSES FROM THE SHAWNEE MISSION SCHOOL DISTRICT ARE JOINING WITH US. WE ARE WORKING ON OBTAINING A CONTACT IN AFGHANISTAN.

WE HAVE INCREASED THE BUDGET FOR THIS PROJECT TO \$1500. POSTAGE FOR 60-65 BOXES (WHAT WE SENT LAST YEAR) WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THAT. FILLING THE BOXES, IF WE BOUGHT EVERYTHING, WOULD TAKE APPROXIMATELY \$20 PER BOX, SO WE NEED CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITEMS OR DOLLARS TO HELP US STAY WITHIN BUDGET.

HERE ARE ITEMS WE ARE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTING (TAKEN FROM THE LIST PROVIDED BY OPERATION SHOEBOX, WITH SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FROM A BATTALION CHAPLAIN.)

FOOD/SNACKS

HARD CANDY (NO CHOCOLATE)
GUM SUCH AS CHICLETS (NO STICK)
BEEF JERKY
CANNED FRUIT (POP-TOP CANS)
TUNA KITS
HONEY ROASTED PEANUTS
HOME MADE COOKIES
TRAIL MIX

TOILETRIES/HYGIENE

BABY WIPES
DEODORANT (LIQUID ROLL-ON)
HAND LOTION (TRAVEL SIZE)
HAND SANITIZERS (TRAVEL SIZE)
Q-TIPS
DISPOSABLE RAZORS
SHAMPOO (TRAVEL SIZE)
TISSUES (TRAVEL PACK)
TYLENOL

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE BOOKS
SUDOKU BOOKS
CDs
DVDs (NEW AND USED)
MAGAZINES (FAIRLY RECENT)
SOCKS (CUSHIONED, WHITE, CALF-HIGH)



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NO AEROSOL CANS OR
SOLID STICK DEODORANT

THE DOLLAR STORE IN THE 91ST & MET-
CALF SHOPPING CENTER IS A GREAT
PLACE TO BUY ITEMS AT A GOOD PRICE.

THE WALMART TRAVEL SECTION IS
ANOTHER BARGAIN SPOT.

HOMEMADE COOKIES WILL BE PACKED
CAREFULLY, BUT IN PROVIDING THEM
BAKE COOKIES THAT ARE NOT FRAGILE,
SUCH AS OATMEAL RAISIN.



LIONS CAN BRING ITEMS TO MEETINGS ON Oct. 9 AND/OR Oct. 23. THIS WILL ALLOW TIME
TO ORGANIZE FOR THE WORKING MEETING.

CAN'T SHOP? A MONETARY DONATION WILL BE A GREAT HELP.

**WE WILL USE THE NOVEMBER 13 MEETING AS A WORKING MEETING TO INVOLVE ALL
CLUB MEMBERS AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN PACKING THE BOXES.**