



We Serve

Magnolia Lion



We Serve

October 2025

White Cane Days

White Cane Funds:

- **MS Lions Eye Bank**
- **Deaf Camp**
- **All-State Band**
- **Diabetes Awareness**
- **Sea and Sun Camp**
- **Leadership Conferences for Boys & Girls**



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White Cane, Cackle for the Gold...

by White Cane Chairman Richie Dickson

Back a few years ago, Lion Miss Charlotte served as the White Cane Chair of the Lions Sight Foundation of Mississippi, Inc using the theme of "Lions still have something to crow about" with roosters everywhere, crowing all the time! The Lions of Mississippi exceeded their goal and set a high-water mark that has lasted for a number of years.

This year we are bringing the yardbirds back. But instead of the noisy, crowing roosters, we will be watching and listening to the Plymouth Rock Hens as they "Cackle for the Gold!" And why, you say, do we want to "CAKLE"? All day long the chickens are wandering around the yard looking for food. Scratching the dirt for worms, looking for

corn feed thrown out by the humans and keeping an eye out for predators also searching for food among the flock. All during this time, there is a lot of clucking going on!

Night comes- the chickens go to roost in the chicken house, to rest and to lay eggs. This is when the cackling occurs. Farmingpedia defines cackling "as a loud and rapid series of clucks, typically made by hens after laying an egg, signally to others that they have laid. This behavior often indicates pride and is a signal to the rest of the flock." I like to think of a cackle as a joyful sound. The Cackle epitomizes the new motto of International President Lion A. P. Singh of Kolkata, India, "Serve to Lead, Lead to Serve!" This cycle is essential in life. A

Lion's life spent in Service to Leadership brings others to Leadership in Service. Not for ourselves but to benefit the multitude of folks in need of Service!

Therefore, let us begin our journey of raising the money needed to benefit folks in great need of service. Last year the Sight Foundation raised \$96,541. The Budget set by the Foundation in July to raise this year is \$101,000 due to raising only 95% of last year's budget. However, I believe we can do better. My Challenge Goal is \$130,000 and the following 10 steps show how we can get there. Remember- Serve to Lead, Lead to Serve. CAKLE JOYFULLY ALL THE WAY

(cont. page 2)

Mississippi Lions All-State Band Wins 39th International Championship



We Serve

Orlando, Florida

July 14, 2025



We Serve

International Director Candidacy Update



PDG Greg Crapo

Hello Lions of Mississippi. First, let me again thank you for the honor you have given me to represent you as a candidate for International Director. So many of you continue to contact me and ask, "What can I do to help?" I haven't really been able to give an answer, but things are changing rapidly. Just to catch you up. On advice from Lions who have been through this process, it was suggested I request that my endorsed nomination, the nomination that you bestowed upon me in Batesville, be held until after the convention in Orlando this past July.

The reason? By the time the legal office at Lions had received the endorsement and verified my credentials as a viable candidate, there were over 17 candidates already verified and had spent time promoting their candidacy. As many of you know, Lions is so large and from so many areas of the world, that candidates are vetted to make sure they will represent our organization the way it needs and deserves to be represented. There was just no time for my candidacy to catch up in the few weeks between our state convention and the international convention. Those 17 candidates that had been vetted were vying for just 8 open positions.

Orlando has come and gone, my candidacy became active and we are now in the mix for Hong Kong in 2026. There will be even fewer available positions as the Lions population of the U.S. has continued to drop in correlation to the rest of the world. Hopefully we will get this reversed soon.

The first chance we get to put forth a good image will be in Atlantic City for the USA / Canada forum. I have been asked, along with the other candidates attending, to be on stage and answer an unknown question to show my ability to

'think on the fly' when visiting districts if I am elected. I'll let you know how that went in the next issue. Remember that Mississippi has not had a candidate since PID Howard Jenkins over 20 years ago. It is past our time.

Funds are necessary to promote our cause, so if you or your club wishes to help support the campaign financially, please send to Mike Flynt at the state office and they will keep and monitor all funds. I want to thank our campaign committee and invite you to join if you wish to get in on the decision making part of the campaign. A special thanks to campaign chairman PCC James Wilkerson, and wishing him a continued speedy recovery from recent health issues.

We have a website that will update the process and give shout-outs to all who contribute their time, talents and dollars. Please check in every so often, there is a great history video of our past Directors for your viewing. <https://id4ms.org> Our E-mail address is id4mississippi@gmail.com. Send us a message with your ideas, hopes and support.

Thank you again, my family, the Great Lions of Mississippi.

Cackle for the Gold...

Last year 35 Lions Clubs in Mississippi gave \$0. If each of those clubs only gave \$200, that would increase \$7,000. Last year personal contributions, through Avery McKinley Awards, added up to \$4,670. Using the incentive of 100% Club pins, the figure could be \$12,500.00. The previous time this incentive was used \$11,450 was raised. Last year, Lights for Sight contributions totaled \$1,875. If each Lions Club gave 2 Lights for Sight (One Honorarium and one Memorial) the figure could be \$4,000. The First ever drawdown at State Convention netted \$3,200. With a little effort we should be able to double it. 20 Guns in 20 Days Raffle gave 10% of the net proceeds to White Cane for \$4,850. Increase the net proceeds to \$60,000 and White Cane grows another \$1150. 20 Chickens in 20 Minutes Raffle at State Convention should net \$3,000. Facebook birthday fundraisers gave \$33

last year. If all 24 Trustees held a fundraiser on their Birthday for \$200, the total could be \$4,800. Imagine what one member per Lions Club could do?

Last year, at State Convention, the silent auction raised \$817. By bringing quality items of interest and money to bid, we should be able to match the average on the previous 4 State Conventions, \$1,936. Last Year Lion Sight Foundation Pin sales was \$0. Matching the average of the previous 4 years, we could raise \$200. ACH Contributions last year were \$1,675. ACH is drafts from personal banking accounts. If one Lion in each club gave \$20 a month we could realize \$17,525.

Our total increase could be \$45,916. If we add that to last year's total of \$96,541, we could shatter last year's total and raise \$142,457 for this year's White Cane campaign.



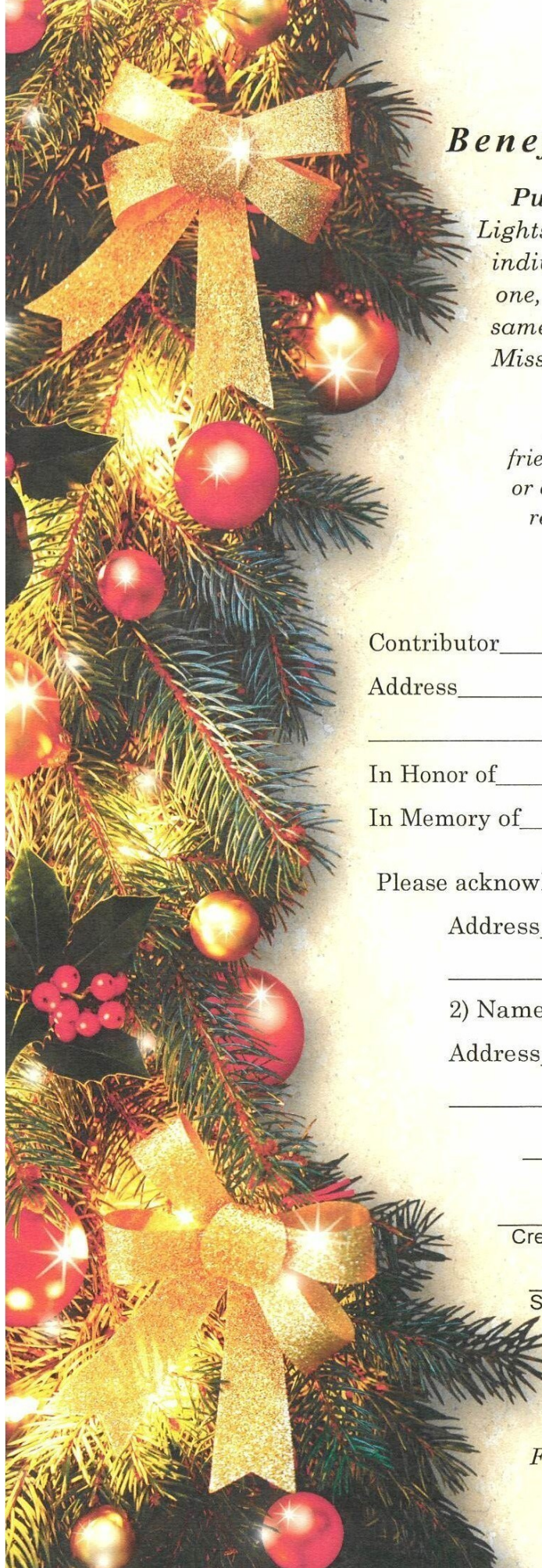
Pat Patterson Award (Trustees)

Criteria for 100% Status:

1. **Contact each club twice during the year.**
2. **100% of assigned clubs make a donation.**
3. **Increase in donations over the previous year.**
4. **Attend at least two LSF meetings.**
5. **Minimum of 10 individual donations.**

Archie Bethune Awards (Club)

1. **Bronze - \$1,000-\$1,999**
2. **Silver - \$2,000-\$4,999**
3. **Gold - \$5,000-\$9,999**
4. **Platinum - \$10,000-\$24,999**
5. **Diamond \$25,000 or more**



Lights for Sight

Benefiting Lions Sight Foundation

Purchase a Light in Honor of Someone Special

Lights for Sight is a program designed to allow clubs and individuals to recognize a friend, club member or loved one, living or deceased, throughout the year and at the same time show support for the White Cane Program of Mississippi by placing a light on the Christmas Tree in the state office building.

Please consider honoring an outstanding club leader, friend or family member or memorializing a deceased Lion or other loved one with a gift we feel is in keeping with the real meaning of the Christmas season. All gifts will be acknowledged with a card to whomever you choose.

(Duplicate as necessary.)

Contributor _____ Club _____

Address _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Please acknowledge: 1) Name _____

Address _____

2) Name _____

Address _____

_____ # of lights x \$25 = _____ Total

Credit Card #

Exp Date

Signature

3-digit code

Mail to: Lions Sight Foundation
431 Katherine Drive
Flowood MS 39232

Form also available on website: lionsofms.net

District 30-M News

Past District Governor John Storley

District 30-M was well represented at this year's Lions Clubs International Convention held in Orlando, Florida, July 13th – 17th. Members of various 30-M Lions Clubs made the trek to participate in the annual event. We also had the privilege of representing Mississippi and MD-30 by marching behind the Mississippi Lions All-State band during the Lions Clubs International Parade. Once again, the Mississippi Lions All-State band won first place in the marching band division and brought home their 39th International title. We attended multiple learning sessions, while many of us participated in service projects, such as packaging food for a local food pantry. Some Lions made blankets for homeless shelters, while others help manufacture wigs for cancer patients. The highlight of the convention was supporting the "Howling at the Moon" fundraiser. It was a grand party where Lions mixed and mingled with other Lions from all over the world, as well as our fellow Lions from District 30-S. This year's convention was an exciting way to start the Lions year.

Our first cabinet meeting was held on August 9th in Columbus. On a sad note, District Governor Russ, and 2nd Vice District Governor Kathy resigned from their respective positions effective August 31st, due to health reasons. I hope you will join me by keeping the Lambs in your thoughts and prayers.

As a result of the Lambs' resignations, the Past District Governors from 30-M met at the Batesville Lions Club Building on September 6, 2025 to nominate a replacement for District Governor that will be submitted for consideration by the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International. I am honored to have been nominated. My name will now be submitted to Lions Clubs International for approval. If approved, I will continue to move forward with Lion Russ's vision. I will maintain all current positions, and we will have our Mid-Winter Convention

in Grenada, as planned. More information regarding the convention will be in the next issue of the Magnolia Lion. During the upcoming year, I would like to focus on increasing and maintaining our membership, training new leaders, and placing a special emphasis on conducting and reporting more service projects.

Our Global Action Team (GAT) will be available to help with membership recruitment. We should strive to increase membership by 2 new members per club. We recently had to postpone the Mississippi Lions Leadership Institute (MLLI) due to a lack of participation. I am looking for new dates for the Mississippi Lions Leadership Institute and would like to reschedule the meeting as soon as pos-

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VDG Deb Storley and Lion Rachel Storley helped package food for an Orlando food pantry while at the Lions Clubs International Convention.

sible. The requirement is to have at least 17 people, but we would like to have 25 participants to fill the class. If you have not had a chance to attend a MLLI in the past, please take the opportunity to do so. Many graduates of the MLLI have said

to once again serve as your District Governor, I am excited to have the opportunity to serve. Together we can work to ensure the vision that DG Russ had for District 30-M is realized, and together, **WE SERVE!**

JOIN IN ON THE

LIONS SIGHT FOUNDATION 20 GUNS IN 20 DAYS RAFFLE

Benefiting the Blind and Visually impaired, the
Deaf and the youth of Mississippi

Drawing begins November 1



BUY A
TICKET
WIN A GUN
A DAY FOR
20 DAYS



Tickets: \$20 each or 6 for \$100.
Purchase from any Lions Club Member

District 30-S

News

30S Lions...

This year, I am focusing on five goals to strengthen District 30-S.

Club Satisfaction and Membership

Retention:

"You change when you grow...And you grow when you change!"

Mission 1.5 led to growth in new clubs and members globally, but member retention is an issue. District 30S started with 712 members on 7/1/24 and ended with 674 on 6/30/25. LCI set goals for 2025-26: 2 new clubs and 71 new members for District 30S. If each of our 36 clubs adds just 2 new members, we'll surpass 700—making it vital to retain current members.

30-S – I Know We Can Do This!

Community Service Imagine:

Lions in the United States (CA1) are working to boost membership and retention with fresh strategies. One effective approach has been encouraging non-members to see Lions as "**Super Heroes of Service**," which is also this year's 30S District theme. Remember "Where there is a need...There is a Lion."

Visit LionsUSA.org for more ideas.

Communication:

A monthly District Newsletter will be emailed to Zone Chairs and Club Presidents/Secretaries to help keep members informed. Clubs and Zone Chairs are encouraged to submit any significant updates for inclusion in the newsletter. This may include information about inductions, upcoming fundraisers, service projects, and photographs documenting these events. Please email your submissions, particularly photographs, directly to DG Penny at lionpennyedwards@gmail.com. Social media is also a communication tool. A new District 30-S Facebook page has been created. This report includes a banner photo to identify the official new Facebook page. Don't forget to join, like, and share!

Training:

Club officer training is essential for a club's success. All Lions can access training modules anytime via the Lions Portal Learning Center (LLC). Club Secretaries should have portal access and can assist other officers in navigating to the LLC if needed. In-person training is also available. Details regarding location, date, and time will be provided in the district newsletter once arranged by a Club or the District GLT. A Guiding Lion is required to establish a new club, and there is currently no Guiding Lion in 30-S. Those interested in becoming a Guiding Lion may contact GLT Cindy Bamburg at cin-dy.bamburg@gmail.com.

Proactive Disaster Relief:

Following the March 2025 tornadoes, disaster preparedness has become a priority. In South Mississippi, tornadoes, floods, or hurricanes are inevitable. 1st VDG Tony Nettles is leading the 30-S Disaster Relief Plan committee to ensure prompt service when needed. Updates will be provided as the project progresses.

Ten Lions from District 30-S attended the 107th International Convention in Orlando. Biloxi members included PDG Elijah Mitchell, PDG Greg Crapo, CC Cindy Bamburg, Miriam Mitchell, Juanita Horton, Penny Graham, Gerald Gardner, and DGE Penny Edwards; Columbia: PCC Glenn Harrison; Hattiesburg: PCC Larry DeLeon. Details about incoming President Singh are in the Summer 2025 Lions Magazine. A whole tableful of MD30 Lions enjoyed a "FUNraising night" out to Rock and Roar in support of the Florida Lions Right to Sight Campaign. The Sumrall Lions Club invited PDG Elijah Mitchell, DGE Penny Edwards and CC Cindy Bamburg to participate in their July 4th parade and park activities. Other Biloxi Lions attending included 2VP Miriam, Cheryl Horton, and Juanita Horton. MD-30 Marketing Chair, PCC Tommy Ragan organized a display to share infor-

District Governor

Penny Edwards

mation about the Mississippi Lions Clubs and offered branded items and membership applications.

PDG Elijah Mitchell conducted the Woolmarket Club Officers installation ceremony and presented PDG Charles Cruthirds with his **50 Year Membership Award**. He also inducted **nine** new members. During my club visit on August 7th, I presented a Certificate of Appreciation to President Terri-Husley Crawford in recognition of Woolmarket's addition of nine new members. Great way to start with a bang! Also, a Woolmarket-Biloxi Lions Club collaboration hosted a sight screening opportunity for children at the Woolmarket Lions Summer Fest.

A Lions Quest Community Partnership

Grant has been requested in District 30-S, with support from Alabama District 34-C DG Sarah 'Rindy' Vaughan and Lions Quest Coordinator PID Jerome Thompson. If approved, the program will be implemented at a school in Russell, Mississippi, where DG Rindy teaches. Their expertise will help introduce Lions Quest to the area, potentially paving the way for more grant opportunities in district 30-S.

The District/Cabinet meeting took place on July 26th at the Lions State Office. VDGs Tony Nettles and Monty Wilson received their pins, and introductions were made for MD-30's Council Chair Cindy Bamburg, District Cabinet members, Zone Chairs, and committee chairs. Each member present was given a district pin. The agenda included approval of the district budget, review of old business from the April 2025 district meeting, consideration of new business, announcement and discussion of 2025-2026 membership goals, and disclosure of tentative dates and location for the district convention.

The next cabinet/district meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2025, at 2:15 p.m., and will take place at the Lions State Office.



Participating in the Sumrall Lions Club July 4th parade is CC Cindy Bamberg, PDG Elijah Mitchell and District Governor Elect Penny Edwards



Biloxi Lions enjoying the shade under Marketing Chair Tommy Ragan's Mississippi Lions Promotion tent at the Sumrall Lions Park July 4th Festival



While at the International Convention, MD-30 Lions enjoying the Lions ROCK & ROAR event held at the Howling at the Moon Bar & Grill. The ROCK & ROAR fundraiser event was to support the Lions of Florida RIGHT to SIGHT Campaign. It was standing room only so a BIG Shout out to PDG Greg Crapo for reserving a table.



Woolmarket Lion PDG Charles Cruthirds receives his 50 Year Lions Pin from fellow PDGs Elijah Mitchell and Carl Nehlig



Biloxi 2VP Miriam Mitchell speaking with a Gulfport resident at the Health and Resource Fair held in Gulfport. Event organizers all agree that a Lions Club needs to be reestablished in the Gulfport area.



DG Penny Edwards presenting Woolmarket Club President Terri Husley-Crawford a Certificate of Appreciation for induction 9 new members

Another Communication Tool

The "official" new Lions of Mississippi District 30-S FaceBook page is up and going. There is a previous page still up; however, the passwords were not available, thus the necessity of a new page. This is the banner you want to see to ensure that you are on the new page. Please Join so you can post your Club's upcoming events, service projects, and other Club news. And... Don't forget to LIKE, and SHARE!



A Vision Screening Opportunity held at the Woolmarket Club's Summer Fest. Manning the table is Woolmarket Lion George Azar (standing) and Biloxi Lions Gerald Gardner and Glenn Bremenkamp

**Lions of Mississippi/
Lions Sight Foundation**

431 Katherine Drive
Flowood MS 39232

Phone: 601-420-5739

Fax: 601-420-5743

E-mail: Lionsofms@aol.com

New Website: lionsofms.net



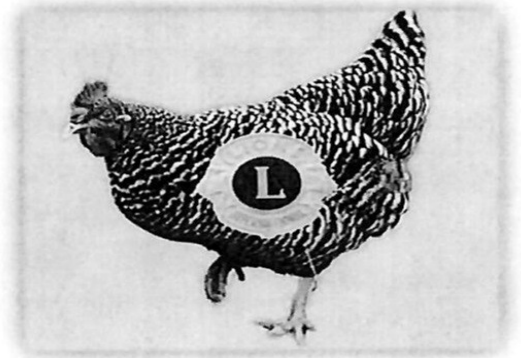
We Serve!

Cackle for the Gold

White Cane 2024-25

Avery McKinley

Contribution



NAME: _____

CLUB: _____ DIST _____

Amount enclosed (\$25 each) _____ Check# _____ Credit Card _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp Dt _____ Security Code _____

Authorized Signature _____

Mail this form, with contribution to: **Lions Sight Foundation**

431 Katherine Drive

Flowood MS 39232

Make Check Payable to: Lions Sight Foundation, indicate in memo area - Avery McKinley