

**District 26-M5 Lions Cabinet Meeting and Convention**  
**March 7-8, 2025**  
**Quality Inn, Warrensburg, MO & Warrensburg Community Center**

**PENDING FINAL APPROVAL @ the next District Cabinet meeting**

The fourth District Cabinet meeting of 2024-25 was held March 7 in conjunction with the Hospitality night at the Quality Inn in Warrensburg, MO. The Convention portion of the event was held the next day March 8 at the Warrensburg Community Building.

The Cabinet meeting/Hospitality Night began at 6 p.m. with bountiful food and fellowship. We welcomed International Director, Bert Nelson and his wife, Lion Pamela Nelson from Minnesota. PCC BJ Blahnik from Wisconsin and his Leader dog, Jackson joined us as well.

District Governor Mickey Beach called the meeting to order welcoming everyone and introducing the head table. DG Mickey led the invocation. 1VDG Alena Hoeffling led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lion Lillie Pitts-Wingate called the Roll Call for Lion Donna Jungerman. There were 63 lions and guests in attendance representing 19 clubs with 7 visiting lions from M1, M2, M3, and M6.

The minutes of the last Cabinet Meeting were emailed out to the clubs at an earlier date. Hearing no corrections or additions, PDG Jerry Romig made a motion to accept the report and PDG Ron Ballard seconded. Motion carried.

Lion Lillie Pitts-Wingate presented the Treasurer's report. Lion Aaron Hoeffling made a motion to accept the report and Lion Christine Dugan seconded. Motion carried.

DG Mickey appointed Lion Duane Ball as Tail Twister.

DG Mickey announced that District 26 M5 had attained 100% Service Reporting.

**Committee Reports:**

Constitution & By Laws: PDG Jene Crook explained the ballot and voting procedure for the next day at the convention. At the Convention we will be voting to accept the planned location of the 2025-2026 District Convention. At this time, 1VDG Alena reported that she and District M4 have decided to join their conventions and have them at the same time/place. As of now, it will be held in the Liberty, MO area. M4 is required to have theirs within their district area, but our District M5 is not. Also, we will vote on electing Lion Alena Hoeffling as District Governor for 2025-2026, Lion Warren Trivett as 1st Vice District Governor, and Lion Duane Ball as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor. Nominations from the floor for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor were called. Hearing none, PDG Bruce made a motion to cease nominations and PDG Ron Ballard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Convention – District: Lion Joyce Schemmer talked about the Service opportunities available at the Convention tomorrow. They are Eye Mission, making blankets for Warrensburg nursing homes, Hearing testing, Strides Walk for diabetes awareness and sorting recycled eyeglasses.

Convention – State & International: Lion Christine Dugan

State Convention will be held in St. Louis. If you want a registration form, come see me. The date is May 1-4.

International Convention will be held in Orlando, FL July 13th - 17th. You have to register online.

Go to:

Lionscon.lionsclubs.org and it will take you to the convention sight.

Click on Register and just follow instructions.

The cost is now \$265.00 pp thru July 10th. After that it goes up to over \$300.00

They will also have flight and hotel information for you on that sight.

Diabetes: Lion Liz Whelan provided a program for Belton Host Club in January. She is currently setting up a diabetes info table for the convention tomorrow and will be assisting Lion Martha Beach with the Strides Walk.

GMT: Lion Duane Ball

Lion Mike Quatela, president of the Lake Winnebago Lions Club, received the Membership Baton on behalf of his club for this quarter. As always, Lion Duane is available to help any person or club in any way that he can. He is available to visit the clubs.

GST: Lion Karen Calvert

Hot wheels are my passion and service is my thing. We have done a great job this year at the district level of being able to help CCVI, Veterans Village, and the Concordia Senior Center. We have donated 610 items and \$725 to those agencies. At this meeting, we are making lap blankets for two Warrensburg nursing homes and collecting supplies to make comfort bags at the state convention for the Veterans Hospitals. We will collect those tomorrow. Information was in the latest newsletter. I estimate we have helped 700 to 800 people through supplies and money donated so far this year. That is not counting hot wheels. It's not an accident our district received the state service award. M5 serves our communities. Our Hot Wheels theme this year is "4 for 5." We have special money and a special song. I'm your reminder for our project! I never give up seeking your help. Our goal this year is 6000 cars and we have a poster showing our progress. A bag was passed around for donations for cars.

Hearing Committee: Lion Vickie Norton reported that she is collecting the Hearing Sweepstakes tickets. There will be a drawing for \$25 tomorrow at the Convention and again at the State Convention for larger sums.

Information Technology: Lion Scott White

The District Webpage has been updated! I finally had enough time to figure parts of it out and can update and post information. I am still working on getting the organization part figured out, but will be updating the calendar, newsletters, and documents. I will capture club events as they come out in the District newsletter. If you have an event that did not make it into the District newsletter email [lionscottwhite@gmail.com](mailto:lionscottwhite@gmail.com) and I will gladly add your event to the district calendar. Also, let me know if there are additions you would like to see or any incorrect information or anything that should be updated or changed and I will work diligently to try and keep things current.

LCIF: PDG Pat Scott

We are doing very well as a District with our contributions to LCIF. Our goal this year is \$26,644. We have raised \$16,022 to date with \$9,642 to go. That is 62% of our goal. Because of our donations, our district was able to apply for and receive grants. Please see our LCIF board for another way of giving. You may also mail your contribution directly to LCIF, or to:  
PDG Pat Scott, 9235 Mitchell Trail, Lexington, MO 64067  
PDG Jene Crook, 3001 Marr Ave, Marshall, MO 65340

Opportunities for Youth: District Governor Mickey Beach

Peace Poster/Essay- We will be awarding the 2025 top 3 Peace Posters at the convention luncheon on Saturday, March 8. Kits are now available for the 2025-26 Peace Poster contest. The theme is "Together As One". Please encourage your neighboring schools to participate in this contest for 11-13 year olds. We are working with Alhaphointe to encourage some essay contest participants.

LEO Club- Sedalia has the only recognized Leo club at this time. 1VDG Alena plans to start an Omega Club for 19-30 year olds. Ten members are required to start the club.

Youth Camp Exchange: DG Mickey Beach - To my knowledge, District M5 will not be sending anyone to an international camp after having done so for the last two years. The state is always in need of host families for international students coming to Missouri. If you are interested in being a host family, let me know and I will get you more information.

Sight Conservation- Missouri Lions Eye Mission Foundation: DG Mickey Beach

There are some great things happening, not only in our district but across the state. The first eye mission of 2025 was held in Branson where 45 people were served. The second one will occur right here in Warrensburg on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Orrick has one on March 29<sup>th</sup> and Raytown has one on April 5<sup>th</sup>. There are 13 scheduled missions across the state by the end of May. Planning is also ongoing for a mission in Mexico and possibly Ghana. Missouri Lions continue to provide glasses that are used in other missions as well including in the Philippines and Jamaica, and others.

Lion Leon Hove reported our district is now cleaning, sorting and reading recycled eyeglasses and feeding them into the stream for distribution at our various missions. We transport 1,000-2,000 pair of recycled eyeglasses to every mission and even then don't always have prescription that we need. Having District M5 supplement our Jeff City recycling program and the glasses that are read by the St. Charles Club along with the ones we are now reading with the new lensometers we purchased is a tremendous help. We have 87 appointments for eye testing tomorrow at the Convention. Currently there are 16 more missions scheduled with at least nine other clubs and/or districts in the process of locating a site or selecting a date.

Zone Reports: The clubs are busy with various fundraisers and service projects. Please see the Newsletter for these activities.

At this time, Lion Lillie Pitts-Wingate made a motion to accept the committee reports and Lion Martha Beach seconded. Motion carried.

Liaison Reports:

CCVI: Children's Center for the Visually Impaired: Lion Martha Beach

CCVI is gearing up for the 37<sup>th</sup> annual Trolley Run on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The Trolley Run is the largest fundraiser for Children's Center for the Visually Impaired. All proceeds support educational

and therapeutic services for kids who are blind or visually impaired! If you are interested in supporting this event, check out the CCVI Facebook page or their website, [trolleyrun.org](http://trolleyrun.org).

Kid Sight: PDG Jene Crook

From July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 our staff and volunteers provided screenings for **28,669 children at 433 screening events** across the state. At these screenings, we **identified 2,653 children** who needed a full eye exam including **615 who were at high risk for vision loss**. (Those with amblyogenic risk factors.) So far this year, we have served children in **94 Missouri counties** across the state. In addition, KidSight has hosted **5 mobile clinic days**, bringing vision exams into schools for KidSight referrals! At these clinics, **37 kids received free eye exams** and we provided **36 free pairs of glasses**.

From July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, **2,824 children in MD26-M5** received a KidSight vision screening. KidSight identified **259 children who were referred** to local eye doctors for full examinations. KidSight has partnered with KC FEC to host 3 mobile clinic days at which **21 students in M5 received free eye exams and glasses!**

LBOMB: Lion Donna Jungerman – this report from the Council of Governors Meeting  
LIONS BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MISSOURI BLIND – DG Melissa Anderson presented a short video of a new blind manager's miraculous story. A local T.V. station in Kansas City did a story on him at Christmas. She shared that this blind manager has impacted so many because of the positivity that he brings into the workplace every day. On October 1st, he took over a large micro-market in Kansas City. That micro-market does about \$25,000 a month in sales. He will also be managing a new coffee shop in that same federal building. They are investing about \$50,000 to get it up and going. DG Melissa just finished the federal reporting that was due by December 31st. Their program, last fiscal year, which ended September 30th, 2024, did \$45 million in gross sales. That is the highest gross sales in the last 12 years. They have one-third of the facilities they had 12 years ago. A large portion of that comes from Fort Leonard Wood. But one manager did hit \$1 million in sales for the first time ever. He works at the IRS complex in Kansas City. Employees are there 24/7. He opens the doors at 6:00 a.m. and closes his doors at 8 p.m. He is there every day for that entire time. DG Melissa is very excited about the things that are coming. There are four people currently in training and six more that are interested. If anyone ever wants to tour a facility, has questions, or needs a speaker for clubs, contact them. She thanked everyone for their support.

LEADER DOG: PCC BJ Blahnik from Wisconsin and his guide dog, Jackson were with us for the meeting and Convention. He spoke of his experiences as a visually impaired person and having a Leader dog. He has an incredible story and his listeners go through all the emotions.

Mid-South Sight and Hearing: PCC Phyllis Krebs reported that there will be a Visiting Lions Weekend.

COME TO VISITING LIONS WEEKEND  
FRIDAY HOSPITALITY, HALL OF HONOR DINNER  
SATURDAY, PROGRAMS, TOURS, FELLOWSHIP

APRIL 4-5 HAMILTON EYE INSTITUTE  
\$50 REGISTRATION INCLUDES 2 MEALS +

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 1180 UNION AVE  
IS OUR HQ HOTEL \$130 PER NIGHT  
ROOM, BREAKFAST, TAX, PARKING INCLUDED  
CALL 901-276-1175 FOR RESERVATIONS  
ASK FOR THE LIONS RATE

**CALL 888-546-6042 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Saving Sight: PDG Pat Scott

March is Eye Donor Awareness Month. We are encouraging people to pledge to be eye, organ, and tissue donors through the donor registry. We provide the highest quality corneal tissue, impeccable service and convenience so you can focus on what is most important – restoring your vision. Our main office is located in Kansas City at 10560 North Ambassador Drive, Suite 210, KC, MO 64153. Phone: 1-800-753-2265.

Old Business:

District Community Grant updates: Lion Lillie Pitts-Wingate and DG Mickey Beach.

The lensometers are being used as are the new audiometers. High school students have volunteered to process recycled eye glasses.

New Business:

Peace Poster kits are available for purchase now.

ID Bert spoke to the group telling stories about his experiences as an International Director and life in general. We look forward to hearing more from him tomorrow at the Convention.

At this time Lion Mark Petersen from Concordia was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by ID Bert Nelson and DG Mickey Beach.

DG Mickey also gave Lions Joyce and Marvin Schemmer and Lions Donna and Harvey a thank you for their work on the convention. He thanked all of the helpers making the convention possible.

Lion Duane reported that \$110 was collected for various infractions during the meeting. It was unanimously decided to give the money to Lion Karen Calvert to buy more Hot Wheels.

PDG Kenny Goetz motioned that the meeting be adjourned, PDG Bruce Dugan seconded. Motion carried.

More food, visiting and a few rounds of SINGO (music bingo) were played.

The next meeting is tomorrow March 8 at the Warrensburg Community Building. Coffee and registrations begin at 8 a.m. followed by Necrology service at 9 a.m. and the remainder of the convention. After the awards at lunch, we will disperse to the various service projects.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Donna Jungerman  
District Cabinet Secretary  
MD 26 M5

**District 26-M5 Lions Convention**  
**March 8, 2025**  
**Warrensburg Community Center, Warrensburg, MO**

The Convention of MD26-M5 resumed at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts provided by Warrensburg Lions Club. Registration and check-in was opened.

At 9:00 a.m. Mayor Bruce Uhler welcomed our group.

Immediately following PDG Greg Gilliam led the Necrology Service honoring those lions that have passed during the past year. The Zone Chairs read the names of the lions that were members in their zones and lit a candle to honor them. Those honored were:

Omar Lovercamp – Alma Lions Club  
Roger Tieman – Alma Lions Club  
DeWayne Duncan (Lee) – Sedalia State Fair Lions Club  
Dennis M Docheff – Warrensburg Lions Club  
Richard Miller – Warrensburg Lions Club  
Frances Lee Phillips – Indep Noland Road Lions Club  
Robert Durbin – KC Red Bridge Lions Club  
Kirby Vanatta – Lee’s Summit Lions Club  
Stephen Savitzke – Lake Winnebago Lions Club  
Shirley Howell – Harrisonville Lions Club  
Ernest Jungmeyer – Peculiar Lions Club  
Leonard D Ernsbarger – Nevada Lions Club  
Terry Bohannon – Adrian Lions Club

At 9:30 a.m. District Governor Mickey Beach welcomed those present and introduced the head table. 2VDG Warren Trivett offered the invocation and 1VDG led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of clubs was taken with 90 lions and 3 guests answering. Included were one from District M1, two from M2, one from M3, two from M4, three from M6, ID Bert and Lion Pam, PCC BJ Blahnik from Wisconsin and PID Don Noland from M3. More Lions and guests arrived later in the morning and for lunch as well as the Peace Poster winners and their families.

PCC BJ Blahnik from Wisconsin spoke and told his life story about discovering he was going blind and what transpired after that. His presentation was very sad, moving, inspirational, encouraging and all the emotions in between. There were many tears and much laughter. The Leader Dog program saved him and he made us proud to know him and be a part of an organization that supports Leader Dog. Jackson is his 5<sup>th</sup> Leader Dog.

At this time, we heard nomination speeches and seconds for the candidates for the 2025-2026 Lions year. PDG Jessi Troester nominated 1VDG Alena Hoeffling to be elected as District Governor and Lion Jeff Wimann seconded. Lion Vickie Norton nominated 2VDG Warren Trivett to be elected as First Vice District Governor and PDG Bob Norton seconded. Lion Russ Gaggens nominated GMT Duane Ball to be elected as second Vice District Governor and Lion Scott White seconded. Voting instructions were given and voting took place.

We then heard from our honored International Director, Bert Nelson. He and his Partner in Service, Lion Pamela Nelson came to us from Minnesota. He is first and foremost a Lion. He challenged us to be Super Heroes. To be successful as Lions servants we must:

- Stay Proactive
- Have a vision and bring it to life
- Focus on positives outcomes

He shared a gold cape for DG Mickey to wear as our leader. DG Mickey passed it on to DGE Alena Hoeffling as she is our upcoming leader.

Next on the agenda was our District Service Chair, Lion Karen Calvert. As always, she was energetic and on fire for Hot Wheels! Dressed as Dolly Parton, she led us singing the signature song "4 for 5" to the tune of Dolly's "9 to 5" song. Going into last night, we had collected 5852 cars. Collected last night and today were 314 more cars plus \$811.50. That gives us a total of 6815 hot wheel cars to give to kiddos at Children Mercy Hospital! Our goal for the year ending June 30, 2025 was 6000. We have surpassed that and still collecting. Some items for Veterans goody bags were collected and those will be taken to State Convention to add to the project there.

At this time, the results of the election were announced. All candidates were elected and the Liberty, MO location of the next District Convention passed as well. There was some concern over joining with another district for our convention next year and also having it outside of our district boundaries. DGE Alena addressed it saying in the spirit of working together for a greater cause, they have decided to try it. There will be a joint Convention committee having members from each district to plan it. There is no date at this time. PDG Pat Scott made a motion to destroy the ballots and PDG Alcy Malkmus-Espinoza seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lunch was enjoyed before and during the Awards presentations.

The 3 winning district peace posters were displayed all morning for all to see.

First Place: Addison Arnold – sponsored by Lake Winnebago Lions Club

Second Place: Lily Weston – sponsored by Knob Noster Lions Club

Third Place: Cheyenne Cox – sponsored by Knob Noster Lions Club

Receiving Club Melvin Jones Fellowships:

Lion Elvie Leone – Kansas City World Outreach Lions Club

Lion Jonel Loreno - Kansas City World Outreach Lions Club

Lion Martha Beach – Kansas City Red Bridge Lions Club

Lion Russ Gaggens – Kansas City Red Bridge Lions Club

Receiving District Melvin Jones Fellowship:

Lion David Marcos – UMKC Branch club of Kansas City Red Bridge

Receiving State Melvin Jones Fellowship:

Lion Helen Hatz

Cora Jones was inducted as Lion Cub in Kansas City Red Bridge Lions Club.

AnneMarie Ball was inducted as a new member of the Kansas City Red Bridge Lions Club

A Sedalia LEO club member was introduced.

Silent Auction Results were given. Total of \$624 was raised to offset convention costs and if over and above the convention costs, it will be donated to Lions programs.

The 50/50 raffle resulted in \$299.00 to be used to offset costs and to donate after expenses are paid.

Instructions were given on the various Service Projects: Eye Mission, Blankets for Nursing Homes, Hearing Testing, Strides Walk for diabetes awareness, and sorting and testing recycled eye glasses.

At this time District Governor Mickey called for a motion to adjourn. 2VDGE moved to adjourn and Lion Robert Espinoza seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Jungerman  
District Cabinet Secretary  
District MD26 M5