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## FOURTH ANNUAL GOLF BALL DROP JULY 26, 2025 HERMITAGE GOLF COURSE



### Fourth Annual Golf Ball Drop

Join us on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Hermitage Golf Course for the Fourth Annual Golf Ball Drop! We'll gather between 6:30-6:45 AM and start throwing out the golf balls between 6:45-7:00 AM.

#### Prizes and Participation

- Winner's Prize: 10% of the monies raised.
- Golf Balls: \$5 each. You can purchase any number of golf balls.

#### How You Can Help

We need your support! We're asking all Lions to help sell chances for the golf ball drop. This is a public fundraiser, and while Lions can purchase golf balls, we encourage you to ask your family and friends to participate as well.

If someone isn't interested in the raffle, ask if they'd like to make a donation instead. Let them know that at MTLSS, we assist with cataract surgery and provide low vision equipment.

#### Event Day Volunteers

We need Lions to show up on Saturday, July 26 for the Golf Ball Drop. With so many golf balls, we need plenty of people to throw them out. We have buckets of balls that need a Lion behind them to be tossed out. I know it's early, but in the past, I've brought my grandchildren who helped not only throw out the balls but also pick them back up.

#### Additional Volunteer Opportunities

We also need volunteers to sell golf balls at the following events:

- Chapel Hill's Tractor Pull of the South: July 18 and 19
- Macon County's Hillbilly Day: June 20, 21, and 22

If you can work at either of these events, please let us know.

#### Online Purchases

You can also purchase golf balls online at [<http://www.mtlss.org>](<http://www.mtlss.org>). There is a short online application and a place to make payments through PayPal, Venmo, or credit/debit card.



**FACEBOOK**  
**CARL WEBSTER AND AMY ROWE ARE KEEPING THE MTLSS**  
**FACEBOOK PAGE ACTIVE. CHECK IT OUT. LIKE US.**

# Two Constitutional changes are under consideration. These changes will be voted on at the July Annual Board Meeting.

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Current reading of the Constitution:  
ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 9. Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore, with approval of the Board. In no case will the compensation and expenses of a Director or Executive Director be more than 8% of the current year White Cane funds as provided by District 12-I and District 12-S. Monies in existing savings or private donations shall not be used in this calculation.

Proposed Change to:

Section 9. Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefore, with approval of the Board.

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Current reading of the Constitution:  
ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1.

- b. One (1) Medical Director who is an Ophthalmologist at the facility which provided the majority of services for the Corporation.

Proposed change to:

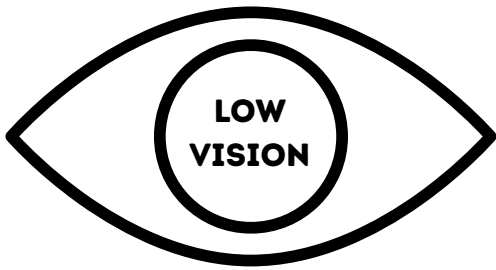
ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Section 1.

- b. One (1) Medical Director who is an Ophthalmologist/Optomestrist who is willing to serve as an advisor to Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service.

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The Family of Shirley Staats attended the April Board meeting. We have a Memorial Service to honor the memory of service that Shirley gave to MTLSS. She was the Executive Director for 20 years. We presently Gene Staats with a gift bag of memorial donations that had been made.

We also included John Thyen in this Memorial Service. John served as President of MTLSS in 2021-2022. He also led the Constitutional Committee in 2022-2023 and made many much needed changes. We also have some memorial donations to be presented to Sandra Thyen in memory of John’s work to MTLSS.



**HANDHELD MAGNIFIER**



**CLOVER BOOK**

Our Low Vision Department has expanded, and we now offer a range of new and improved equipment that surpasses the old, heavy CCTVs. Among our offerings are various Clover Books, which are user-friendly and equipped with state-of-the-art technology. Additionally, we have several handheld portable digital magnifiers that are particularly useful for the elderly. These magnifiers are great for reading instructions, checking mail, and reviewing prescriptions. They are also convenient to take along when dining out or grocery shopping. We also have four pieces of equipment that were gifted to us and were gently used. We are putting them to good use as well.

Given the advanced technology and higher cost of our current equipment, we require clients to sign a lease agreement. We also conduct follow-ups to ensure the equipment is being used daily and that all features are being utilized. If the equipment is not used regularly or if all features are not utilized, we will request a return or exchange. We want to see the best use possible out of each machine.

We have also started an alliance with representatives from other organizations who work with the visually impaired. We will furnish a piece of our equipment to clients that are working with. They can work with our clients for more assistance.

## **CRUSADE AGAINST DARKNESS SPECIALTY PLATES**



WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE WITH YOU THE LATEST IN CRUSADE AGAINST DARKNESS SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES. THERE WERE 2,639 LICENSE PLATES SOLD IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH.

THIS THE RUNDOWN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR.  
QUARTER 4: 2088 PLATES SOLD, (THESE WERE OUR PRE-SALES.)

QUARTER 1: NO SALES, PLATES WERE BEING MADE

QUARTER 2: 1022 PLATES SOLD.

QUARTER 3: 2639 PLATES SOLD.

TOTAL FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR:  
5,749 PLATES SOLD.

## Application Review Committee

We have approved 6 applications from February to March 30, 2025.

- • CI, 63, Lives on social security retirement and food stamps, not working but would like to work part time if he could see, approved and has appointment 6/9/25
- • RH, 62, she had to complete another application and be reviewed since it was longer than 6 months since her last application, not much had changed, she is supported by her sister and brother in law in exchange for housekeeping services, she has no income, had first eye done 3/4/34, she was approved and her second eye was done on 2/24/25
- • DP, 50, lives in a camper on his sister's property, he has advance stage liver disease- non alcoholic, unable to work, approved and has appointment 4/24/25
- • PP, 55, application sent from Lawrenceburg Health Department, He has been "adopted" by them, He is homeless and no job, they speak of him very lovingly, approved and has appointment 6/17/25
- • TA, 57, she is working but still in the poverty guidelines, she will lose this job if she can't get her vision fixed, approved and has appointment 4/23/25
- • SD, 72, she draws social security disability, she does not have medicare, with the SSD they would take over \$500 to cover her medicare out of her \$1633 income leaving her a little over \$1000 per month to live on, approved and has appointment 4/25/25

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Six more applications were considered and approved during the month of May.

## RACK CARDS

We needed a way to let optometrists, other health care workers, and other in the community know we do.

President Chris Ross helped design Rack Cards that can be placed in offices. I have placed some with optometrists, health departments, and other agencies that help those in need. If you have a place where they can be placed, contact me. I can send you some cards or I can mail them directly to that office. This helps with our Goal 1 in our Strategic Plan: Raising awareness.

**DARRELL WOODCOCK ATTENDED OUR APRIL MEETING. WITH INVESTMENTS DECREASING HE WANTED TO BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS WE HAD AND TO GIVE US REASSURANCE. IT'S GREAT TO HAVE OUR INVESTMENTS AND CONCERNS MONITORED SO DILIGENTLY.**



I had the opportunity to present eight Knight for Sight recognitions to some of the outstanding Lions at the Smyrna Lions Club. Seven of the eight were present to accept their recognitions. New Knight for Sight recipients are: Neil Alexander, Gary Evans, Jimmy Carney, Jansen Donsbach, Eugene Hardman, Eric Jordan, Wilma Youree, Judy Garner.



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Lions Team,

What an incredible start to 2025 and a strong close to the third quarter of our Lions Year! I'm filled with excitement and gratitude as I watch MTLSS continue to grow and thrive as a 501(c)(3) organization.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our recent board meeting—and to all those who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure our services reach those who need them most. Your dedication is the backbone of our mission. Our specialty license plate sales have been a tremendous blessing for MTLSS. Please continue to spread the word among your friends, neighbors, motorcycle and boat enthusiasts—this is an easy and meaningful way to support our cause.

As our organization expands, so too does our need to raise funds to sustain and grow our services. Our annual Golf Ball Drop is just around the corner! I encourage each board member to help Lion Lynn Wright by filling in the ticket sales sheet. For those who prefer to make purchases online, golf balls can be bought securely through our website at [www.mtlss.org](http://www.mtlss.org).

Looking ahead, I'm eager to continue our work on the master plan. Our next area of focus is expanding access to ophthalmological services, specifically cataract surgeries—an initiative that promises to make a life-changing impact for those in need.

Thank you once again for your unwavering commitment and for helping us carry forward the mission of MTLSS.

In Lionism,

Lion Chris Ross

President, MTLSS

## **NEXT MEETING ANNUAL MEETING**

**ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH CLUB IN  
DISTRICT 12I AND 12S CAN VOTE.**

**JULY 24, 2025**