

October Quarterly Meeting

October 27, 2022

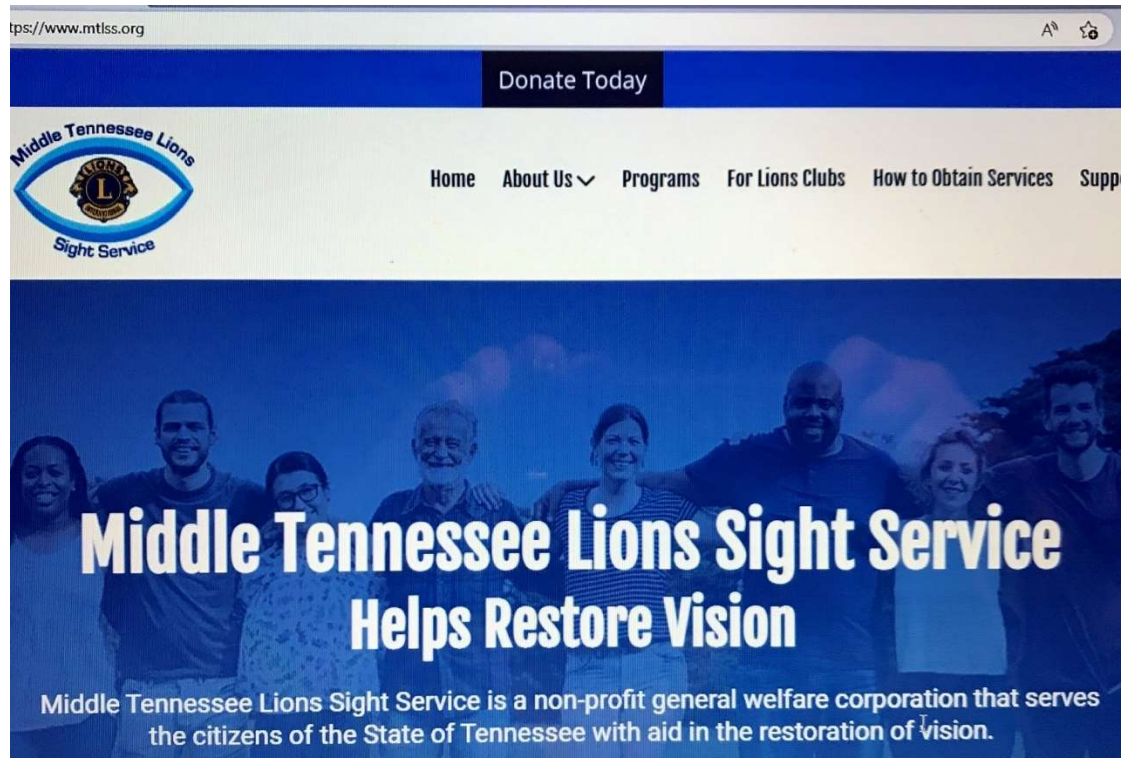
We held our quarterly meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2022. What a great meeting! President Beverly Webster conducted the meeting with her energy and enthusiasm. Forty Lions attended: 16 Board of Director members and 24 supporting Lions. Thank you, supporting Lions. Larry Lyon catered the fine meal of chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, green beans, salad, rolls, and cherry cobbler.

We covered much information in this meeting. Many of the items we covered in the meeting we will share with you in this newsletter. One of the new things President Beverly did in the meeting was the passing of a Blessing Jar. We need to be able to say that the Board of Directors all support Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service when we start to write grants. The Board and supporting Lions gave \$509 in the Blessing Jar. They blessed MTLSS but I hope the Blessings flow back to them.

Read on!



Board of Directors present at the October Quarterly meeting.



Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service Website www.mtlss.org

New Website

MTLSS.org

The Publicity Committee has been hard at work. We finally have our Webpage up and available to you. Our website is MTLSS.org. Check it out.

There is information on the website about who MTLSS is and what we do.

The "About Us" tab has the History of MTLSS, a short biography of the Executive Director, a list of Board of Directors, and a list of Committees.

Under the "Programs" tab you will find information about what we do. Cataracts are the most significant cause of vision loss and the leading cause of blindness in the world. That is why we assist with cataract surgeries for those who are needy and without insurance. We also continue our Low Vision Program. We have numerous desktop low vision magnifiers in home, nursing homes, and libraries. These CCTVs assisted those with low vision.

The website has information for clubs to reference: process on how a club can help someone to get assistance, information for someone who needs assistance about the process, poverty guidelines, applications you may print, and PDF fillable applications.

Ways to "Support Us" are listed on the website. Information on mailing in donations is available. Online donations are coming soon with PayPal. There are several "Donate Today" buttons on the website. Memorial Donations and Bequests are explained on the website. There is also information on Kroger Rewards Program. This is explained later in this newsletter. Amazon Smile is in the process and hopefully will be added before we start our Christmas shopping. Knight for Sight Awards information is listed on the website.

The website is a work in progress. Continue to check us out as we update the website.

Next Meeting January 26, 2023

6:00 pm
Murfreesboro Lions Club Building

Amazon Smile is hopefully coming soon. We hope to have Amazon Smile in place before everyone starts Christmas shopping.

Carl Hirston is working on pins for Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service.

He has designed a pin for MTLSS with our new logo. We will have them for sale at the District Conventions. He is also updating the Knight for Sight pins that we use along with the Knight for Sight Awards

More Publicity Committee News

We also have a new email address: Sight @ mtlss.org. Please start using this email to replace the old Mtlss12@yahoo.com

Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service has a Facebook page also. We will post once or twice a month with update information. We will post periodic updates on surgeries and services. Also, we will post a Monthly Eye Fact around the 15th of the month. Share the Monthly Eye Fact with your club. You can amaze your friends with your knowledge. These facts will be interesting, educational, and/or fun.

Follow us on Facebook. Like our page. Share with other Lions.

The Publicity Committee has been hard at work with zooms, emails, and phone calls.

All these social media outlets are important to Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. They combine to make us look much more professional. They get the information out and available for Lions Clubs and our Lions Members. As the Executive Director has attempted to obtain corporate funds and grants, one of the first things that is asked is the name of your website.

We hope these social media outlets open doors for us as well as share information.

Photo of the Publicity Committee: Patrick Scott, Thom Smelser, Jill Smelser, Tashena Martinez, Dennis Jackson, and Chris Ross. Missing from the photo is Carl Webster.



Knight for Sight Awards to Ann Young, Bobbye Kassing, and Mark Kassing at the July Board Meeting.

Knight For Sight Awards

Knight for Sight Awards are a recognition that Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service gives to someone who is deserving. That person could be recognized for a financial contribution of \$500 or greater. These outstanding donations go a long way in helping us to cover cataract surgeries.

The other way to be recognized is through your club. A Lions Club can choose to recognize someone in the club who does outstanding service in the field of sight. The Club will choose to make a \$500 donation to recognize that person.

We have had the joy of being able to present several Knight for Sight Awards recently. Let us share with you.

Inez Nunley was surprised by Warren County Lions Club presenting her with a Knight for Sight Awards presented at MD 12 S Summer Gathering.



Application Review Committee

The latest updates

We have received many inquiries this quarter. Applications are beginning to come in. It is important that application is completely filled out. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.** Please make sure the application contains a sponsor sheet and a financial form. The Club will fill out only the top Sponsor area and the Applicant completes the rest. **There are two places the applicant needs to sign.** Applications and the process for applying are on the new website.

Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service Vice President Lynn Wright and I had the honor to recognize an outstanding Lion in Tennessee. PDG Ralph Brewer was recognized at the District 12 I Fall Gathering with a Knight for Sight Award. Ralph's whole life has been dedicated to the blind and the visually impaired and to serving others.



Annual Golf Ball Drop Held July 2, 2022



Winner PDG Lion Ralph Brewer.

The Fundraising Committee created a fundraiser to get funds from the committee not just from Lions Club members. The Annual Golf Ball Drop was approved by the State. Lions in many clubs helped with ticket sales. Each ticket cost \$5 a piece and allowed the ticket holder to one golf ball. Individuals could purchase as many tickets as they desired. The first golf ball in the hole was the winner. The winner would receive 10% of the monies raised. We were able to raise \$7615.00 in golf ball ticket sales.

The winner would receive \$761.50. The winning golf ball was 301. The winner was PDG Lion Ralph Brewer. Lion Ralph was so surprised. He said he had never won anything before. Lion Ralph donated his winnings back to Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. Thank you, Ralph!!!

We are planning on making this an annual fundraiser. The paperwork has been filed with the State of Tennessee for next year. Hermitage Golf Course is excited to have us back.

Next year's Gold Ball Drop will be July 29, 2022. We scheduled it a little later in order to not interfere with Independence Day and Lions Clubs International Convention.

We are hoping to double last year's ticket sales. As soon as the State of Tennessee approves us and gives us permission, we will be asking you to help us with ticket sales. Get ready to sell tickets.



Photos: Top Left: Executive Director Dianne Corlew with Winner Ralph Brewer , Top Right: Winning Ball 301, Below Left: The great Lions who came to help, Below Right: Throwing out over 1500 balls.





At the October MTLSS President Beverly presented three Knight for Sight Awards. Two Lions from the Waverly Lions Club were recognized for the work that they do with eyeglasses and cataract referrals for the community. I personally know they spend many hours working with these people to help them in any way they can. Kathryn “Candy” Miller and Jimmy R. Milan were recognized.

President Beverly Webster served as DG of District 12S last year. Her District budget allotted for 2 awards for a Knight for Sight Award. One will be given at a later date. She awarded a Knight for Sight Award to Allen Lyon. Al Lyon is 91 years old and has been a faithful supporter of MTLSS for many years. He has set an excellence example with both of his children, Brenda and Larry, being active in Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service also.



Many positive changes have been made with Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. No one person has made all these changes. It has been and will continue to be teamwork. Working Together. We invite you to share in the work. We invite you to share in the accomplishments. We invite you to share in the joy of helping others.

Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do little; together we can do so much.”