

IN FOCUS



GOLF BALL DROP

The Second Annual Golf Ball Drop, our largest fundraiser, was held at Hermitage Golf Course on July 29, 2023 early in the morning.

We had about 35 Lions, families, and children present to help throw out 2,530 golf balls.

Dianne Corlew, Executive Director, pulled out the winning golf ball. Number 67 was the winner- that number belonged to Donelson Lions Club.

Congratulations, Donelson Lions Club!! They will be presented with a check for \$1,265.





At the Second Annual Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service Golf Ball Drop we were able to raise \$12,650. These funds will go toward cataract surgeries. Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

Thanks to everyone who sold tickets. Your efforts will help to restore someone's vision. You will have made a difference in someone's life!



We held our Annual Board Meeting on July 27, 2023.

We had 55 in attendance. This is the largest attendance we have ever seen. We are so excited to see Lions interested and participating in MTLSS. We had some first time attenders. Every club is a part of MTLSS and we welcome everyone's service and support. Our next meeting will be October 26, 2023.



PCC Ron Anderson inducted the Officers and Board of Directors of Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. With the new Board of Directors, we plan to accomplish a lot this year. We already have some goals to work on. Ultimately, our goal is to make MTLSS the best that it can be and to be able to provide more service to more people.



MISSION STATEMENT

At Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service, our mission is to establish a valid, reliable commitment to the disadvantaged and be of service in the aid of restoration of vision in order to continue an independent, productive lifestyle.

VISION STATEMENT

To bring aid in the restoration of vision for the disadvantaged.

End of Year Patient Update

**Surgeries: 16 patients,
23 eyes**

Awaiting surgery: 2

Awaiting appointments: 8

Helped but not surgery: 2

Denied or unable to help: 7

**2 More applications just
approved**

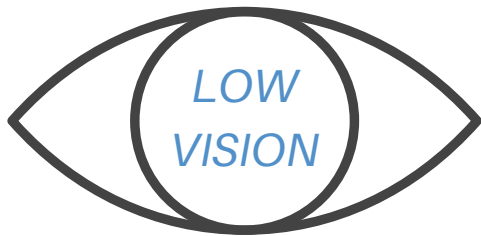
*Constitution
Changes were voted
on and approved.
We will file those
changes with the
State of Tennessee
as required. Thanks
to the Constitution
Review Committee
for their hard work.*

Investment Committee Report.

David Lawrence was a great Lions who believed in the causes of Lions. He was a regular attender of MTLSS meetings. He was an only child with no family. He sent his estate up to go to various charities. MTLSS was blessed to be one of those charities. Over the last two years we have received funds from the David Lawrence Estate. It was Lion Lawrence's desire that those funds provide longevity to MTLSS. We have invested those funds and hope to be able to leave them there to grow for 6-8 years. When those funds have had time to grow and hopefully double, we will begin to pull some of those funds out yearly to supplement the income of MTLSS. What an amazing gift David Lawrence has given Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service!

We do have a Beneficiary Designation Statement to provide anyone who wants to designate MTLSS in their will. I was contacted earlier this year by a lady who was setting up her will. Lions helped her parents with eye surgery for her when she was just 4 years old- some 65 years ago. She had to have one eye removed. Lions not only helped with payment for the surgery they sat with her parents during the surgery and provided meals. She wants to pay back. I really don't care if that amount is \$10 or \$100,000. I just love to know that Lions are remembered for what we do in people's lives and that we are able to touch lives in an important way, a way that is remembered for a lifetime!

The MTSU Campus Lions Club wanted to provide a fund raiser for MTLSS. They have received approval for a license plate to benefit MTLSS. They did a lot of research first- looking for license plates that do not exist and one they thought would sell. We have tried Lions licenses plates in the past, but Lions did not purchase them. The Campus Club was looking for something that would sell to the public. They designed a Jolly Roger Pirate license plate. They submitted to legislation and received approval to move forward. We are hoping to market it to boaters, motorcyclists, and those who would like it. It may not be the plate I would be drawn to, but my kids and grandkids loved it. We will soon have it set up so those who want one can pay by Venmo. We will soon have a list of places that the brochures need to go to like car shows, motorcycle shops, marinas, and local restaurants. We will need help distributing brochures and getting the word out to the public and those who might like one. We will soon be adding the brochures to the website and people can hopefully sign up through the website. We need to presale 1,000 for autos and motorcycles by June of 2024. If we can do the presales, then it will be on the board of choices for licenses plates to be purchased. The work is done then, and we will just receive the funds. We stand to make thousands and thousands of dollars if we can get the presales done. Thank you, Cliff Swoape and the MTSU Campus Lions Clubs for this out of the box idea and your willingness to help MTLSS!



Allen Lyon presented a resolution to merge Lions Communications Service into MTLSS Low Vision. Lions Communications Service was founded by Lions of 12S in 1988 to provide a mobile sight and hearing screening tool. It evolved into an Eye Screening Machine loaning agency. When the merger is completed, MTLSS will have eye screening machines to loan to clubs in 12I and 12S who don't have a machine or need additional machines for screening. Call in advance to reserve the machines.



Check out our Facebook page- Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. Follow us and Like us. Share with your club. We are trying to keep our page updated with information about MTLSS.

WWW.MTLSS.ORG

Check out our website: www.mtlss.org. You will find all the information you will need there. Look under "For Lions Clubs". There you will find the Process for a club to submit an application. You can print a copy of the latest application. The Poverty Guidelines that we use are there also. There is also a section for the current and all past InFocus newsletters.

Knight for Sight Recognitions



Our then President Beverly Webster presented Knight for Sight Recognitions to four outstanding Smyrna Lions.

Thank you, Smyrna, for your outstanding support to MTLSS.

MTLSS is proud to recognize Lions who do outstanding work in the field of vision.

Those recognized are from left to right:

Linda Lucarini, Marian Jordan, Sherry Smith, and Debbie Young.



Kroger Community Rewards Program

This is one of our Fundraiser. If you have a Kroger Rewards Card, it will cost you nothing. Kroger will send MTLSS a check of a percentage of all you spend. Get your family and friends who shop at Kroger to sign for MTLSS. Once you link your card to MTLSS, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your shopper's card or enter your Kroger Plus number. Our organization is : Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service, Inc. - RH495. You have to re-enroll annually in August. So don't forget to sign up this month. The more people who sign up for MTLSS the larger percentage who earn. Sign up at Kroger Community Rewards, Kroger website, or on your Kroger app.

Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service

Board of Directors for 2023-2024

Executive Officers

President: Lynn Wright

Vice President: Chris Ross

Secretary: Ashea Dearing

Treasurer: Brenda Butler

Immediate Past President: Beverly Webster

Executive Director: Dianne Corlew

District 12 I

First Year Directors

1-Celia Anderson

2-Phil Barnes

3-Tommy Goetz

4-Chelsea Jones

Second Year Director

1-Bobbye Kassing

2-Thom Smelser

3- Wade Wilson

4- Emily Wright

District 12 S

First Year Directors

1-Tawyna Buster

2- Daryl Justice

3- Tashena Martinez

4- Gary Overman

Second Year Directors

1-Carl Hirston

2- Tom Irwin

3- Carl Webster

4- Tony Webster

Outgoing President Message

Greetings,

From time to time, two words are uniquely appropriate to express "SINCERE" GRATITUDE from my Heart. THANK YOU...THANK YOU for your LOVE, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, SUPPORT, and DEDICATION. I have experienced "IMMEASURABLE" BLESSED opportunities in my life but "ONE" of the most "HEARTWARMING" BLESSINGS has been the Entrustment in serving Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service. As a "TREASURED" BLESSING, it has been a "TRUE" HONOR and PRIVILEGE to be an integral part of a TEAM that has thoroughly "Impacted" and "Changed Lives" of the Disadvantaged. Through TEAMWORK, Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service has remained "WHOLEHEARTEDLY" FOCUSED and COMMITTED to its' Vision and Mission through step-by-step progressive and measurable advancements. Our PERSEVERANCE has prevailed with "Genuine" PRODUCTIVITY and PROSPERITY. "TOGETHER WE CAN" has validated that Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service DOES "Make a DIFFERENCE".

Alone we can do so little; TOGETHER we can do so much! -Helen Keller
We have created BLESSINGS at Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service and my CHALLENGE to you is to "KEEP THOSE BLESSINGS FLOWING"!
ONE EYE AT A TIME.

HAPPINESS IS...Taking Care of Someone in Need.

GOD is Good!

THANKS AGAIN!

Your "BIGGEST" Cheerleader,
Beverly Bollinger-Webster
Past President Middle Tennessee Lions Sight Service

Incoming President Message

Hello MTLSS Members!

I would like to begin with how honored I am that you have asked me to be the President for 2023-24. We have had so much growth over the past few years thanks to Dianne and her efforts. We have been blessed to have folks step up to make sure the visual needs of people are taken care of. And I know we will continue in the years to come.

I will try to be a good representative for MTLSS. But I know our success is determined by the efforts of all of us working together. I have witnessed this especially through the Golf Ball Drop, which brings so many funds for surgeries needed by those who cannot afford it.

Eyesight is a gift that only the grace of God can give. We are the avenue

He uses to help the less fortunate by sharing our efforts, and giving what we have been so blessed with.

I feel blessed to be associated with such a great group of caring individuals. Let's all keep working to make MTLSS be the answer for so

many people and help restore the gift of sight. I'm looking forward to a great year of serving TOGETHER!!

PCC Lynn Wright, President