

The Oklahoma Lion



June, 2026



Upcoming Council Dates

- June 20, 2026 OKC Westside

Hello Lions!

The 2026 Lions of Oklahoma State Convention was held April 24-25 at the FISTA Center in Lawton, OK. The convention began with the Lawton Fort Sill chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers' presentation of colors. Mr. Wallace C. Moore Sr., the organization's historian, told the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. Mr. Moore is a poignant storyteller, and his stories were fascinating.



On Saturday, there were speed learning sessions with 10-minute sessions on 4 different topics. Topics included Cyber Security, Twisting and Tailing, Stop the Drop, and a presentation by Hough Ear Institute. Everyone seemed to have fun and enjoy this learning technique. Our keynote speaker at the convention was **PIP Douglas X Alexander**. He was the 2021-22 Lions International President and the first African American president of LCI. PIP Douglas Alexander was the president of LCI during COVID when I was the governor of 3SW. There were many challenges that year. All the training and the international convention were held online.



During his after-dinner address, Lion Doug discussed the need to recruit younger Lions and pay our LCI dues. He mentioned that we would retain our membership if we had meaningful service projects, and he talked about the need to have fun as a Lion.

All of the proposed Constitutional and By Laws amendments were passed. We welcomed eight (8) first-timers at the convention this year. I am grateful to the Convention Planning Committee for their hard work



behind the scenes, to the facilitators for guiding our sessions, and to the Lawton Lions for their hospitality and support.

Also, thank you to the silent auction facilitators and the pin traders who uphold a long-standing convention tradition and contribute to the event's fellowship. Thank you all for helping with the convention.

I had the pleasure of attending the 75th anniversary of the OKC West Side Lions Club. The club was chartered on April 24, 1951. They have provided services to the community in their neighborhood for many years. The West Side Lions Club leases its building for community events, including the Lions of Oklahoma council meetings. **Congratulations to the OKC West Side Lions Club on its 75th anniversary.**

The **Boneyard Outing 2026** will be held on Friday, June 19, 2026, at the Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The cost is \$9.00 for those over 62, and military veterans are free with ID. Please meet for lunch at the Winnie Mae Café at 11:00 am on the third floor. Tour the museum and leave at your leisure.



I have enjoyed serving as the Council Chair of the Council of Governors this year. A special thanks goes out to our governors, Frances Pointdexter, Nancy Wood, and Sharyl Pickens. I would also like to thank Marie Burns, Sue Thompson, Derek McCubbin, and the GAT team. To all those that I didn't thank, thank you! There are many moving parts to this council chair position, and I appreciate everyone's contributions. Lastly, I would like to *thank the Lions in Oklahoma for your hard work, service, and financial support.* I realize that at times we work in our communities with very little praise, but our communities are stronger because of our efforts. We raised around \$54,000 for Lions Club International, and the organization is stronger as a result of our efforts. The Lions of Oklahoma exemplify the motto **"We Serve,"** and I sincerely thank you for your service.

Remember to get your officer slate into the portal. Also, remember that your LCI dues will be due on the portal again on July 1st, 2026. Best wishes to our incoming council chair, David Wooddell, for a wonderful year ahead. I look forward to seeing everyone at the council meeting on June 20, 2026.

CC Mark Adair

2025-2026

**District 3 E
Governor
Nancy Wood
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tional parking and put down new gravel/rock. And DGE Patty Bryant presented Lion Rick Gardner with a Melvin Jones Fellowship!

Broken Bow Lions Club Scholarship



Greetings District 3-E Lions!!

Summer is upon us, school is out and this Lion Year is about over! We've done a lot this year, but there is still a lot more to do! I am happy to say that all 38 Clubs in our District have gotten their LCI dues paid and we have **No Status Quo Clubs!!**

Many of our Clubs gave out Scholarships to the schools in their area: **Broken Bow, Henryetta, Idabel, Jay, McAlester, Okmulgee, Pocola, Sallisaw, Vian, Wagoner, and Wilburton.**

The Wagoner Lions held their Annual Lakes Views Festival with a BBQ Competition, a Car Show, and a Gumbo Cook-Off. And our 2VDG,



Monica Medley, took 1st place in the Gumbo Cook-Off!! Way to go Monica!



The Bartlesville Lions held their Pancake Breakfast on May 2nd. They provided meals for the volunteer Medical Workers at the Hope Clinic (free clinic) on May 12th, and have been making improvements at their Club House. They created some addi-

The Henryetta Lions held a couple of Garage Rummage Sales and



raised over \$6000 for their Christmas Basket Program. Good job Henryetta!



The Bristow Lions hosted their 4th Annual Tabouli Festival on May 9, 2026. Proceeds from the Festival were to benefit the Fine Arts Program at the Bristow Public Schools. I heard they had some very good Tabouli!

The Broken Bow Lions presented Rick Harder with a Melvin Jones Fellowship. For their Beautification project, they re-landscaped around their City Sign (which also has a nice big Lions sign), putting down some new mulch and cleaning it up. They are getting ready for their Annual 3-Man Golf Tournament to be held on May 30th, 2026. They also presented 3 \$1,000 scholarships to students at BBHS. They were Violet McCarrell, Isaiah Fields and Nesly Zaragoza (not pictured).

The Idabel Lions are busy making plans for their Annual Golf Tournament which is to be held on July 18, 2026.

The Okmulgee Lions built a Blessing Box, located at the YMCA, and have been keeping it stocked for those in need. They also built a ramp for a woman who lost both of her legs after being attacked by a pack of dogs when she was riding her bike. Now they're busy planning for their 2nd Annual Fishing Derby to be held on June 6th for kids ages 5 to 12..



The Pryor Lions Club is partnering with the Sertoma Club to provide 400 hamburgers and hot dogs for the 2nd Annual Pryor Library Reading Program on June 4th.

The Tulsa Downtown Lions have been busy doing Vision Screenings. And now they are making plans to serve water, pickle juice, and fruit to the riders at the Tulsa Bike Race.

The McAlester Lions recently served at the McAlester Italian Fes-



The Tulsa Metro McCullough Lions Club provided an American

Flag to honor PDG Gene Redford at the Flag Raising Ceremony at the Floral Haven Cemetery for their 54th An-



nual Avenue of Flags. The Flag honoring PDG Gene was raised by the **Tulsa Metro McCullough Lions** immediately after the program and was

flown for the Memorial Day weekend, then taken down at 5pm on Memorial Day.

The Lions of Grove recently held a Food Drive and packed meal kits for the Grove Food Pantry. They are planning another event soon to pack some more meal kits for the food pantry.



PDG Kathy Donahue and PCC Neal Wood received President's International Award at the State Conven-



tion presented by Past International President, Douglas Alexander.

Hugo Lions –

Presented 25 year Chevrons to Harolynn Wilford and Clark Leforce. They



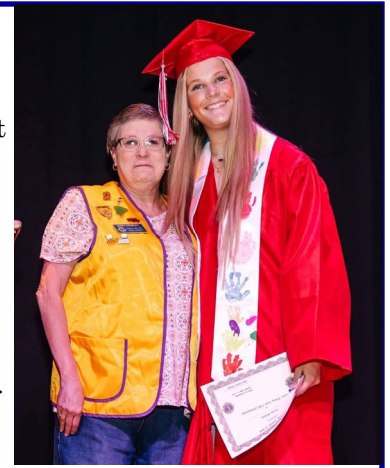
also cleaned up their Lions Park.



Dewey Lions Club gave out two \$500 scholarships. They were given to Kaden Fowler and Lacey Nichols.



Lacey is one of the student volunteers that always helps with fundraisers.



The Vian Lions Club received four 10 year Chevrons and one 20 year Chevron. They recently welcomed four new members to their Club!



Way to go Vian!! Vian Lions Karen & Ronnie Fisher received 10 year Chevrons.

We will be having our final Cabinet meeting for this year on Saturday, June 6th, in Henryetta at the Briefcase. Doors will open at 9:00 am, with the meeting to start at 10:00am. We have some Awards to present and some business to wrap up for this year. (And have a little fun too!)

Please make plans to attend as I pass the gavel on to our District Governor Elect Patty Bryant. I would like to thank everyone for all their help this past year. It was greatly appreciated!

***District Governor 3E
Nancy Wood***

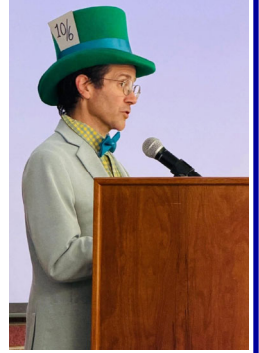
2025-2026



**District 3-NW
Governor
Sharyl Pickens
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sbcglobal.net**

Club presented \$1000 dollar Scholarships to Prague HS Seniors Addison Richardson, Hope Birdwell, Jeremiah Griffith, Brianna Roller, and Britten Himle (photo Sharon Lee Prague Times-Herald).

Additionally several other member in the club. The Mad Hatter even showed up! New officers have been elected. Members conducted 268 vision screenings at Special Olympics Opening Eyes.



The Prague Lions hosted their **49th Annual Prague Lions Scholastic Lunch and Awards Ceremony** April 28 recognizing Prague High School students who are selected to receive recognition at the Lions Club Scholastic Awards program that evening.



Lions preparing and serving lunch are (L to R) Darren A Terrell, Jason D. Chandler, Christy Ann Rainwater, Sharon Capron, Jerry

opella, Richard Yokley, Nancy Opela, Nicolle VanZant, and Vicki Pfeiff (Photo Misty Cooper, High School Counselor). At the Awards Ceremony that evening the Lions

The Stillwater Noon Lions Club had a successful BBQ Fundraiser, and \$4,000 was donated to Mission of Hope in Stillwater (photos). The



Ponca City Noon Lions packed and handed out Police Survival Bags at a recent meeting.



They also inducted a new member-Rebecca Spore-with her sponsor Debbie Woodruff. Welcome Rebecca!



club also hosted an Afternoon Tea Membership Drive in honor of History of Women in Lions, which included a testimony from the first female

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SAVE THE DATE

**MONDAY
JUNE 29TH
2026**



5215 W COUNTRY CLUB ROAD
STILLWATER, OK



GOLF Tournament



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

OKC WEST SIDE LIONS CLUB 3RD ANNUAL CAR SHOW



Food Trucks and Vendors

DOOR PRIZE 50/50 RAFFLE

JUNE 27, 2026

ALL YEARS AND MODELS ARE WELCOME

4135 NW 10TH STREET OKLAHOMA CITY

***A PART OF PROCEEDS WILL HELP OKLAHOMA BOYS RANCH AND EYEGLASSES FOR THE COMMUNITY**

TOP 10 AND SPECIALTY TROPHIES

Car show registration starts at 9. Car Show is from 10-2:00

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration only \$25.00 until June 15th Registration at the event \$30

Name _____ Email Address _____

Phone# _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Vehicle _____ Year _____ Make _____ Model _____

Color _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO OKC WESTSIDE LIONS CLUB

Question?

Mail Pre-registrations to P. O. Box 30335 Midwest City, OK 73140
Poindexter

Call Frances

Thank You! A Part of Proceeds will help with OK Boys Ranch & Eye Glasses 405-642-1068

Eye Glass Recycling



Okmulgee	719
Edmond	750
Woodward	1700
OKC NW	2947
Tulsa DT	871
Harrah	2200

This makes a total of 9187 pairs of eyeglasses recycled from Oklahoma Lions for May!



Hearing Aids.

Remember we have Eyeglass collection boxes for \$10.00 and Hearing Aid collection boxes for \$15.00! If your Club needs boxes and are unable to purchase



Hearing Aid Recycling

Lions Hearing Aid Recycling enables Lions to provide affordable hearing aids for hard-of-hearing individuals who have limited financial resources.

them, please visit with the office to see if

we can help.

***Please consider setting aside one day a month to sort glasses at your club so they will be sorted when they reach our office. Please mark the number in each box. Many Thanks to those clubs who have come to sort glasses.**

Lions Clubs have helped recycle over 244 hearing aids to distribute to needy Oklahomans! Thank you!

2025-2026



**District 3-SW
Governor
Frances Poindexter
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Hello SW Lions!

Well, my year is coming to an end and it makes me sad to give up being your leader. I have enjoyed traveling all over SW Oklahoma and meeting all the clubs and their members.

We are blessed with amazing members that serve all over. You have done a good job making the Lions visible in all areas. Whether it be pancake breakfast, golf tournaments, sorghum festivals, watermelon festivals, or car shows, you all do what you can to fundraise and make people smile.

We will all continue to collect glasses, KidSight, buy Cowboy Cash tickets, ring bells for Salvation Army, and make people aware of what White Cane Day is all about. We are the "Knights for the Blind", so let's continue to support anyway we can.

I will still be around to help you and the new Governor Alyeska Factor in anything that is needed. I will be your next Vice Council Chair and help Council Chair David Wooddell helping our Governors for next year.

May was a fast month with lots of activities!

On May 5th I visited the **Norman Lions Club** to present a Melvin

Jones Fellow award to Bryan Hapke. He earned this award at our SW Convention by buying a square on the MJF board.



Congratulation Bryan, you deserved

this for all your work with your club and taking fantastic pictures for them and us at our convention. Their club also handed out awards to all the officers for their hard work this year. Their club works a carnival each year in April and they have

been asked by the city to help with a carnival next year on July 4th at Reed Park, more details will be coming.

On May 16th, **OKC West Side Lions Club** celebrated their 75th anniversary.



We had great food, a good silent auction and entertainment by Verdiana Adams, PCC.



We had several special

guest new and old members. One of our past presidents from 46



years ago, slide show, talks of history from Richard Shiver and Phil Hendrick and when opened to the floor for comments several of our club members told of their experience with the club. I read a proclamation from the Mayor of Oklahoma City, proclaiming May 16, 2026 as OKC West Side Lions Club Day. We also had our Council Chair Mark Adair, and Cletus Adams from Anadarko.

Our new member Sri Jaiswall and two potential members also attended.



Hope our club can make another 75 years. Thanks for all that were able to come.

May 19th I drove down to **Wewoka Lions Club** and handed out 3 of the 9 chevrons for their members. **Ferril Williamson – 45 years,**



Mildred Moore – 25 years and Shela Egge – 10 years. The rest are the

following: Keith Claybrook – 45 years, Walter Egge – 10 years, Cheryl Graham 25 years, Kay Hargrave – 30 years, Connie Massey – 35 years, Paige Sherry – 35 years. I also got to meet two of their new members, both ball coaches.



This club works a concession stand for baseball season for their fund raiser. They handed out 2-\$1000 scholarships, work on the Sorghum Festival, and FAA Banquet. This year they celebrate their 100th anniversary in June but have decided to celebrate in the fall.

Keep up the hard work, with the new members your club will continue to grow and do great things for our Lions and your town.

Hope all of you had a great **Memorial Day weekend with family and friends!**

In June, I get the privilege of installing the **OKC NW Lions** officers for next year and hand out their chevrons. Looking forward to seeing their members. I will always be available for any club that needs me to help with this.

I also get to go the **Shawnee Lions Club** to hand out a 40 year chevron to Greg Arbuckle and 10 year chevron to Jennifer Carpenter.

June 19th is our last Cabinet Meeting for the year. I will be having this on zoom so I hope that all of you will zoom in and let us all know how your clubs have done this year.

June 20th is also our last Council Meeting for all districts to attend. We will have our reports and hand out some awards. Please if you are able to attend we would all love to see you. Meal will be handled by our Council Chair Mark Adair.

On June 28th my last act as Governor will be to install **the Canute Lions Club** officers for next year. This club has grown so much over the years and continues to grow in membership. The projects that they do are beneficial to their community from filling blessing boxes, Easter Egg Hunts, working the park, flying flags, working with Elk City at the Rodeo concession stands and helping with Christmas baskets.

Keep up the good job of being servants and serving the community.

June 23rd **Altus Lions Club** will donate a raffle item to support the Jackson County Community Baby Shower at the Senior Citizen Center.

May 16th **Mustang Lions Club** had their 8th Annual Car Show. On May 9th they had a celebration for Rob Estes for getting the Lion of the Year at our State Convention. I was able to go and say a few words honoring him



and his club's many accomplishments

May 17th **Ardmore Lions Club** held their 10th annual Ride for Sight Poker Run, with 61 people participating.



PDG Cloye Thompson and PDG Russ Wright at the Ardmore Poker Run.



June 27th **OKC West Side Lions Club** will have their 3rd Annual Car Show. If you have any kind of car that you would like to show off, call and make your registration now. Our car show flyer is at the end of this newsletter.

July starts a new Lions Year and all new officers should be in the por-

tal before June 30th. If you need help let me know and I will guide you through it. Also remember to keep your club dues up to date by going to the portal and pay any dues that are under your club statement. Again, International is no longer mailing out statements so its up to each club to keep up with your own dues. If anyone needs training on the portal, contact me and I will get training for you.

Welcome out new Governor's term for next year and help support them in any way that you can.

District Governor Alyeska Factor, 1st Vice District Governor Cynthia Farrell and 2nd Vice District Governor Victoria Cleveland. If you can serve as a zone chair or officer this year, contact Alyeska Factor to be added to her list.

I want to thank all of my Zone Chairs, Cabinet officers and all the officers of each club that helps in growing our District. We have lost a few clubs and gained a branch in **Anadarko**. We are -3 in membership but we continue to grow and hopefully all of our clubs will continue to add new members and look around to see the potential of new clubs.

Communication is a large part of being a good Club and District, Open up if you need something and don't be afraid to ask.

We donated \$189,728 to LCIF so far this year. LCIF is there to help us in all of our needs when there is a disaster. We get grants from them that helps with those in need. If you want to serve on the Disaster team, let us know.

Again, thank you for letting me be your District Governor this year and for all the help that I received during the year. Continue to be proud of being Lions-show Oklahoma that we are the best! Love and respect each of you and hope to see you all at more of the Council Meetings.

Your District 3SW Governor,

Frances Poindexter

An Eternal Memory...

...Until We Meet Again

Those special memories of you
 will always bring a smile
 if only I could have you back
 for just a little while
 Then we could sit and talk again
 just like we used to do
 you always meant so very much
 and always will do too
 The fact that you're no longer here
 will always cause me pain
 but you're forever in my heart
 until we meet again

2025-2026 Memorials

In Memory of those who go before us, we acknowledge their accomplishments, service, and legacy. Mostly, we honor them with love. The love they had for their community and the services they provided through Oklahoma Lions. This is the legacy that lasts forever!

PID George Hazelbaker

- Deanna Carson

PID Pat Shurley

- Ferril and Phyllis Williamson
- Deanna Carson
- Nancy Ann Calhoun
- Verdana Stephens Adams
- Anadarko Lions Club

All Past District Governors

- Oklahoma Lions Boneyard

PDG Linda Hughes

- PDGs Dollie and David Wooddell

Larry D Graham

- Duncan Lions Club

Rev. David Rose

- Jack Bryant & OKC NW Lions Club

Bob Lindstrom

- Poteau Noon Lions Club

Rachel Dollarhide

- Idabel Lions Club

Lions State Office MD3 Calendars, News, and Notes

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 Federal Holidays- Office Closed
 OK Lion Newspaper online:

State Secretary Email:

mburnsolsf@gmail.com

Sue Thompson Email:

sueok@swbell.net

2025-2026 DIRECTORY is now online

www.oklionsfoundation.org

Please call Office for Password

Upcoming Council Dates:

- June 20, 2026 Westside

Members of the Boneyard remember our outing on June 19, the day before the Council Meeting. We are meeting at the Oklahoma History Center. Please be at the Winnie Mae Café on the third floor at 11 AM. It is located at 800 Nazih Zudhi Dr. across from the Oklahoma State Capitol See you there!

The Council has decided to only offer The Oklahoma Lion online or by email which saves a lot of money! If you do not have correct email, please let us know!



Lions Office keeps Resources available!

Eye Glass Recycling Boxes available for \$10.

Hearing Aid Recycling Boxes are \$15.

Yard Signs are \$20

Please let us know if you will be picking one or more items at the Council Meetings!

Lions of Oklahoma State Patches (6" diam.) are \$10.00 each.

