May, 2007



We Sponsor The Metcalf Avenue of Flags

The Lions' Roar

Overland Park Host Lions Club Overland Park, Kansas www.oplions.org

Lionism's 90th Year 2006-2007

Our 50th Year



WE SERVE

A HIGH FIVE-O!



Mae Claxton and Beverly Nichols Awarded Melvin Jones Fellowships





President-Elect Mae Claxton and 1st Vice president Lion Beverly Nichols proudly hold Melvin Jones Fellowship plaques that were presented by PID Tichenor at the 50th-Anniversary celebration on May 4.

After more than a year of planning and preparation, Overland Park Host Lions celebrated their fiftieth anniversary on Friday, May 4, 2007 at the Overland Park Convention Center.

Well over 100 persons attended, including Lions from fourteen other clubs in Kansas District 17-K7 and Missouri District 26G.

Past International Director Dennis Tichenor of Portland, Oregon was guest speaker. In his speech he asked, "Who are the heroes?" He answered his own question by pointing out that true heroes are people such as Lions who live the motto "We Serve" with little recognition day after day to help meet the needs of others.

Lion Dennis pointed out that a baseball "star" who bats .300 actually fails 70% of the time, yet is acclaimed as a "hero" by fans. Lions who help carry out very successful programs years after year without public acclaim are the heroes in his book, he said.

(See "Banquet Program" on next page)

Starks, Meganck, and Brown Honored With Lions International's Third-Highest Award: Presidential Certificate of Appreciation



Lion Art Meganck (left) and Lion Ben Starks, with Past International Director Dennis Tichenor, display their Presidential Certificates of Appreciation. Lion Jack Brown also was selected to receive a Certificate but was unable to attend the banquet.

PID Dennis Tichenor presented Presidential Certificates of Appreciation signed by International President Jimmy M. Ross to three outstanding Overland Park Host Lions Club members during the 50th-Anniversary banquet on May 4.

(See "Certificates" on next page)

Certificates . . . (continued from front page)

Lion Ben Starks, Lion Jack Brown, and Lion Art Meganck received the Certificates. (Lion Jack, recovering from foot surgery, was unable to receive his in person. It will be presented to him at our next meeting.)

The Presidential Certificate of Appreciation is the third highest honor bestowed on a member by Lions Clubs International. Only the Presidential Leadership Medal and the "Ambassador of Goodwill" award are higher.

Not 'Readin', 'Ritin', and 'Rithmetic but . . .

Club's History Related in Word and Song by "The Three Rs"—Ralph, Roemerman, Rogers

Three Rs—Lion Grant Rogers, Lion Heather Ralph and Lion Paul Roemerman (*shown below, left to right*)—collaborated with a presentation of the club's history that helped Overland Park Lions reminisce about the past 50 years. Lion Heather began this part of the banquet program with a vocal solo, "Fly Me to the Moon." Lion Paul then reviewed events of the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. Lion Heather then sang "You Light Up My Life," followed by Lion Grant's review of club activities from the 1980s, '90s, and 2000s. Lion Heather ended this part of the evening's program with another vocal solo, "I Hope You Dance."



Mark Your Calendars Now . . .

2007 Metcalf Avenue of Flags Schedule

Saturday, May 19	Armed Forces Day
Monday, May 28	
Thursday, June 14	Flag Day
Wednesday, July 4	
Monday, September 3	Labor Day
Tuesday, September 11	Patriot Day
Monday, October 8	
Sunday, November 11	Veterans Day
Flags go up at 6:00 a.m., come down at 4:30 p.m.	
Meet at Newcomer's Chapel garage (the "Body Shop"), 82nd and Metcalf.	

Two Charter Members Attended the Celebration



Lion Don Maxon (left) and Nelson Lear (right), both charter members of the OPHLC, posed with PID Dennis Tichenor after festivities had concluded in the Convention Center. During the evening, Nelson received numerous accolades for his determined efforts in the 1970s and '80s to get a track constructed at the Kansas State School for the Blind.

Banquet Program . . . (continued from front page)

PID Tichenor referred especially to Lion Larry Lavely, Pat Gray and John Thiessen (*deceased*) for the quiet but effective service they have performed over the years. PID Tichenor called Lion Frank Piepenbring the "patriarch" of the club for his long-time service and work in establishing the Metcalf Avenue of Flags program.

Past International Directors Gene Vogel (Turner Lions Club) and Bob Tonjes (Prairie Village Lions Club) were present along with nine Past District Governors.

Big Lion Ken Collyard was the Master of Ceremonies. PDG Frank Piepenbring led the Pledge of Allegiance. Lion Heather Ralph led the crowd in singing "America." Lion Ben Starks offered the invocation and Lion Chuck Olsen led the "Lions' Toast."

Mayor Gerlach Proclaims May 4, 2007 As "Overland Park Host Lions Club Day" in City

Mayor Carl Gerlach issued a proclamation declaring May 4, 2007 to be "Overland Park Host Lions Club Day" in the City of Overland Park, Kansas. His proclamation urged all citizens to recognize and congratulate the members of the OPHLC for their many contributions to the city.

His proclamation noted the "Metcalf Avenue of Flags" and mentioned that it received many favorable comments from community residents. He also mentioned that we helped fund and install the Audio-Domes and Braille signs to assist blind and visually impaired visitors to the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, that we were instrumental in getting the track for the Kansas State School for the Blind, and that we provided eye examinations and glasses to needy school children, among other activities and service projects.

Stark(s) Reality by Lion Ben Starks

I was very much intrigued by a recent article in the paper regarding a minister in the Northland who challenged his congregation to go twenty-one days without uttering a gripe, criticism, or gossip. They were to wear a purple bracelet to remind themselves of their pledge, and if they failed they were to switch the bracelet to the other wrist and start over.

That idea so snowballed that to the date of the article the church had sent over 4.5 million bracelets out around the world.

Wow!! What a concept! Put that together with the Don Imus debacle and, who knows? It might change the whole content of our conversations. Just imagine everything being positive. No negative thoughts, no more degrading Rap or racist slurs.

And at the same time, what if we could get a similar response to the random shootings going on around the country? What is the motivation behind this violence? Could it be a response to careless conversation, saturated with caustic criticism or degrading and debasing gossip that undermines faith and destroys a person's self-worth?

I suppose bullying would fall in the same category. Would that we evaluate carefully the weight of our words before we release them on the world. As we well know, once released, then words cannot be recalled.

As we have been so well advised—"May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, Oh Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."

Just twenty-one days. Let's give it a go!

KSSB Field Trip to Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead Noted With Picture in *Kansas City Star* Newspaper

Elementary and pre-school children from the Kansas State School for the Blind participated in a field trip to the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead in Overland Park on Wednesday, May 9. Several Overland Park Host Lions were on hand to help guide the children to various exhibits, especially those with interpretative Braille signs and/or Audio Domes.

Lion Carole Collyard earlier contacted one TV station as well as the *Kansas City Star* and the *Johnson County Sun* newspapers that the children would be visiting the Farmstead. The TV station did not cover the event, but both the Star and the Sun had photographers on hand.

A picture of Lion Carole with one of the blind children at a Braille sign was published in the *Star* on Thursday morning, May 10. It can be found in the "Local" Section (Section "B") on page B3.

We have asked both the KSSB and the Children's Center for the Visually Handicapped to notify us well in advance of future field trips to Deanna Rose so that news media can be alerted for additional publicity and event coverage.



Overland Park Lions Provide Funding . . .

Accessible Arts' Oregon Trail Project Is Named Semi-Finalist by Presidential Committee on Arts

Eleanor Craig, Discovery Trails Coordinator with Accessible Arts (located at the Kansas State School for the Blind) was notified in early May that the Oregon Trail program has been chosen for recognition as one of only fifty 2007 *Coming Up Taller* Semi-finalists in the United States.

The Accessible Arts/Discovery Trails program was one of over 350 reviewed by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

If the Oregon Trail program is chosen as a finalist, Accessible Arts will receive a \$10,000 award.

Overland Park Host Lions contribute annually to Accessible Arts. On page 3 of this newsletter there is a picture of Past International Director and Mrs. Dennis Tichenor visiting Accessible Arts at KSSB on May 4.

Overland Park Host, Belton, and Adrian Lions Partner To Collect Used Eyeglasses at Government Workplace

Members of three metropolitan-area Lions Clubs—Overland Park Host, Adrian (MO) and Belton (MO)—are partnering to run an eyeglasses and cell phone drive at the Federal Government Bannister Complex on Bannister Road in Kansas City MO where they all work. A recent week-long drive netted 143 pairs of eyeglasses that will be cleaned and repaired, have the prescriptions read, and sorted and distributed worldwide. They also collected 19 cell phones that will be cleaned, repaired, and distributed to victims of domestic violence.

The four-member team is comprised of our own Lion Edson Parker and Lions Cathy Rayfield and Joyce Bivans of the Belton club, and Lion Richard Apple of the Adrian Club. The staff of the Snack Bar at the Federal complex has partnered with this Lions team. A Lions eyeglasses collection box will now be permanently available at the Snack Bar for eyeglasses from anyone who wishes to donate in the future.

Seen at the Banquet



(*From left*) Lion Bob Larson and his wife Linda pose with Lion Bob Campbell, President of the Prairie Village Lions Club. The Overland park Host Club sponsored the Prairie Village Club 49 years ago!

PID Tichenor and Judi Treated to Tour of Key Projects Supported by OP Host Lions



Past International Director Dennis Tichenor and his wife Judi spent much of Friday, May 4 with Overland Park Host Lions touring sites of some of the major projects that we support. In the top photo, Eleanor Craig (third from left) explains features of the topographical map "puzzle" that helps visually impaired students understand better the geography of the American West. OPHLC Secretary Carole Collyard looks on in the background. Each piece of the puzzle represents a different state and students learn to assemble it by feeling the thickness of the edges. They also trace the various rivers, valleys, and mountains with their fingers to learn the routes pioneers and their wagon trains followed in settling the West.

In the lower picture, PID Tichenor inspects one of the Braille signs at the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead. The Host Lions Club, under the leadership of Lion Art Meganck, was instrumental in getting the Braille signs and the Audio Domes that provide an enhanced listening experience installed.

Along Metcalf Avenue, the Tichenors saw the yellow stripes on the curbing that mark locations of Flags. At Newcomer's, Lions Art Meganck and Kraig Hickey had placed four Flags at streetside. These gave the visitors a condensed view of how Metcalf Avenue looks on a regular Flag day. The Tichenors also visited the Newcomer's garage where they saw the storage facilities and equipment used in the Flags project.

PID Tichenor paid a high compliment to OPH Lions when he said, "I'm certainly going to take THIS idea back to my own club!"

Board Also Fills Temporary Vacancies... 2007-2008 Officers Elected At April 14 Meeting

The slate of officers for 2007-2008 as presented by the Nominating Committee was elected at the April 14 meeting. New leaders are as follows:

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President	Mae Claxton
1st Vice President	Beverly Nichols
2nd Vice President	Bob Larson
3rd Vice President	Pat Gray
Immediate Past President	
Secretary	Carole Collyard
Treasurer	Roger Claxton
Lion Tamer	Mark Jorgenson
Tail Twister	Ron Bloome
Director, 2007-2010	Janet Sanders-Reh
Director, 2007-2010	Grant Rogers
Director, 2006-2009	Paul Roemerman
Director, 2006-2009	Chuck Olsen
Director, 2005-2008	
Director, 2005-2008	Art Meganck
Membership Chairperson	Dottie Bloome
Membership Vice Chairperson	(to be selected later)
Membership Committee Member	(to be selected later)

Lions Mae Claxton, Grant Rogers, and Neal Nichols comprised the Nominating Committee.

On Saturday, May 5, the Board of Directors appointed Lions Bob Larson and Pat Gray to fill the unexpired 2006-2007 terms of 2nd Vice President and 3rd Vice President, respectively. Lion Pat will fill the dual role of Lion Tamer and 3rd VP through June. Lion Mark Jorgensen will assume the position of Lion Tamer in July.

Program Assignments: May and June

(SPECIAL NOTE: Prior to each meeting, Big Lion Ken Collyard will select a Lion to offer the *invocation*. But if you will not be present when you are responsible for the *Flag Salute* or *Lions Toast*, please notify him well in advance so he can ask someone else.)

Flag Salute by Jennifer Tridle Lions Toast by Jason Tyrer JUNE 23 INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS (speaker TBA)

Flag Salute by Dale Warden Lions Toast by Al Witwer

Program Team Members should keep each other informed about progress; one Lion should be responsible for "hosting" and introducing the program.

Programs should be 20-25 minutes in length. Time for a short questionand-answer time should be allowed. NOTE: Speakers appear at their own expense, without remuneration of any kind, including travel. They are, however, the club's guests for breakfast. They should not solicit contributions, donations, or political affiliation or support, nor should they offer products for sale as part of any program.

Plan programs as far in advance as possible (a minimum of six weeks is ideal). Until a permanent newsletter editor takes over, give details about your program—including speaker's name, position, and program topic—to Lion Neal Nichols (913-642-7520) or e-mail to taximath@aol.com.

First Flag Day of Season Is May 19; Pancake Feed at Antioch Park Afterward

Armed Forces Day is Saturday, May 19. Mark the date on your calendar now and plan to help get Flags up at 6 a.m. and down at 4:30 p.m. Meet at Newcomer's (affectionately known as the "Body Shop"). The "Drop Off Teams" will already have the Flags placed at strategic locations along each route.

Afterward, plan to go to Antioch Park (entrance near 67th Street and Antioch Road) and enjoy a pancake feed sponsored by the Merriam-Shawnee Lions Club. You can hardly beat the price! It's only \$5 per person and a ticket entitles you to all you can eat. Well, almost. They'll quit serving at 11 o'clock—but until then? Eat hearty!

Heart to Heart Care-Kit Project Ends This Month!

For <u>May</u>: bring a crisp new one-dollar bill (to help offset shipping costs of the completed kits)

Tail Twister Lion Ron Bloome will gently remind you, should you forget. And it's still not too late to contribute if you haven't done so.

This year-long project includes the following items:

July: two one-gallon Zip-Loc bags.

August: a new wash cloth.
September: a new hand towel.
October: a travel-size bar of soap.

November: one plastic travel size soap dish. **December**: ten Band-Aids (3/4" width).

January: one wide-tooth comb.

February: one small bottle of shampoo.

March: one new, individually wrapped toothbrush. *April: one travel-size tube of toothpaste*.

May: one crisp new one-dollar bill (to offset shipping costs). A "work party" will be scheduled soon, at which time the bags will be assembled for sending to the Heart to Heart warehouse in Kansas City, Kansas.

News and Notes

Welcome to new Lion <u>Bryan Lanigan</u>. Lion Bryan lives in Gardner and attends Johnson County Community College. He was sponsored by another brand-new Lion, Heather Ralph. Lions Bryan and Heather, along with Lion Mark Jorgensen, were inducted into membership by PID Dennis Tichenor at the 50th-Anniversary banquet on May 4. PID Tichenor also helped welcome Lion Tina Jenkins into our club. Lion Jenkins lives in Kansas City and is employed at the Kansas State School for the Blind. She has transferred her membership from the Alpha Lions Club in Kansas City, MO to OPHLC.

Campaign SightFirst II to be Topic of Next Meeting

Past District Governor Lion Bobby Duvall will be the guest speaker at our regular meeting on Saturday, May 12. Lion Bobby is an area coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II and CSF II will be, as you might guess, the subject of his presentation. He is a member of the Topeka Sunflower Lions Club.

Programs for May 26, June 9 and June 23 are not finalized, although one of the June meetings will probably be installation of new officers.



OUR CHARTER

The Lions Club of Tomahawk Located in Overland Park, KS Sponsored by the Lenexa Lions Club

Winning Raffle Prize Tickets Picked at Banquet

Eight lucky tickets were drawn by Judi Tichenor. Approximately 750 tickets were sold by OPHLC members at regular club meetings and on the many visitations that were made to promote the big event.

The winners and their prizes are . . (*drum roll, please!*)

Grand Prize: Great Wolf Lodge, Kansas City, Kansas (one night's lodging, four Water Park passes, and \$317 gift card for restaurant, gift shop, another night's lodging, or more Water Park Passes)

Won by Lion Dallas Caster, Auburn Lions Club

First Prize: Stainless Steel Outdoor Bar-B-Q Grill

(courtesy of Wal-Mart, 119th and Metcalf, Overland Park)

Won by Lion Bob Fritsch, Leawood Lions Club

Second Prize: 20" Magnavox Color Television Set

(Donated by a friend of the Club)

Won by Lion Cheryl Kerns, Louisburg Lions Club

Third Prize: <u>Lions-Themed Lap Quilt</u>

(Hand-sewn, hand-quilted by Lion Mae Claxton

Won by Jane Klassen

(daughter of OPHLC member Merlyn Albaugh)

Fourth Prize: <u>Set of Two Lions-Themed Pillows</u>

(Hand-crafted by Lion Mae Claxton)

Won by Lion Rick Dodson, Lansing Lions Club

Fifth and Sixth Prizes Nature-Scene Photos, matted

(Photography by Bruce Nichols, Parker, Colorado)

Won by

Lion Carleen Rajala, Shawnee Lions Club Lion Shelly Shaefer, Robinson Lions Club

"Consolation Prize"

Game-themed basket

(Created by Eudora Lions)

Won by Lion A. C. Byrd, Lansing Lions Club

More "Seens" from the 50th-Anniversary Banquet



Lions Mae Claxton, Carole Collyard, and Dottie Bloome—with significant help from Lion Tamer Pat Gray—sorted through boxes and boxes of materials in "the trailer" at Wes Cohee's place in Spring Hill. After getting most of it in clean, shiny "like-new" condition, they put it on display at the banquet. The large ceremonial gavel above is from Lion Frank Piepenbring's tenure as District Governor in 1971-72. The two pictures below give a better idea of the scope of work Lions Mae, Carole, and Dottie did in getting the display ready.







New members and their sponsors share the spotlight. (From left) Mae Claxton, sponsor of Tina Jenkins; Pat Gray, sponsor of Mark Jorgensen; Lion Tina; Lion Mark; Beverly Nichols, sponsor of Heather Ralph; Lion Heather, sponsor of Bryan Lanigan; and Lion Bryan.



(From Left) Louie and Malvena Adams and Twyla and Chuck Binau enjoy friendly conversation while waiting for their meals to be served.



Lion Frank Piepenbring was elected District Governor of 17-AE 31 years ago! Among memorabilia on display at our banquet this year was this notebook with some of his campaign material.

The Overland Park Host Almanac . . .

(More than you ever wanted to know about anything!)

Our Web Site: www.oplions.org

2006-2007 Officers and Board of Directors Overland Park Host Lions Club

Ken Collyard	President
	Immediate Past President
Beverly Nichols	1st Vice President
Bob Larson	
Pat Gray	3rd Vice President
	Secretary
Roger Claxton	Treasurer
Pat Gray	Lion Tamer
Ron Bloome	Tail Twister
Dick Ferguson	Director, 2004-2007
Grant Rogers	Director, 2004-2007
Jack McLain	Director, 2005-2008
Art Meganck	Director, 2005-2008
Paul Roemerman	Director, 2006-2009
	Director, 2006-2009
Darrel Stone	Membership Committee Chair
Dottie Bloome	Membership Committee Vice-Chair
Bob Larson	Membership Committee Member

District K-7 Officers

David Hentges (Turner)	District Governor
Neal Nichols (Overland Park Host)	District Governor Elect
Peggy Jacobson (Overland Park Noon)	Vice District Governor Elect
Richard Barnes (Shawnee)	Secretary
Rick Dodson (Lansing)	Treasurer
Bernard Lee (Scranton) Imm	ediate Past District Governor

For June and later, submit all information for publication in *The Roar* no later than Tuesday after the first Saturday of each month. Submit by e-mail to taximath@aol.com and put "OPHLC Newsletter info" on the subject line. If you don't have Internet access, send by US Mail and then call (913) 642-7520 and leave word that you've sent material.

For your calendar . . .

Sat., May 12 Regular meeting, Wyndham Garden, 7:00 a.m.
Sat., May 19 Flags (Armed Forces Day) Up at 6; down at 4:30.
Merriam-Shawnee Lions Pancake Feed, Antioch Park, after Flags, \$5
Fri. and Sat., May 25-26 Candy Days, Wal-Mart, 119th & Metcalf
Sat., May 26Regular meeting, Wyndham Garden, 7:00 a.m.
Mon., May 28 Flags (Memorial Day) Up at 6; down at 4:30.
Mon., May 28 June Board of Directors meeting after Flags, Winstead's
June 1-3, 2007 Kansas Lions State Convention, Hutchinson
International President Jimmy Ross will speak—in person!
Sat., June 9 Regular meeting, Wyndham Garden, 7:00 a.m.
Thurs., June 14 Flags (Flag Day) Up at 6; down at 4:30.
Sat., June 23 Regular meeting, Wyndham Garden, 7:00 a.m.
And later on

July 2-6, 2007 Lions International Convention, Chicago Join the 90th Anniversary Celebration in the Windy City!

Sep. 6-8, 2007 USA/Canada Forum, Grand Rapids, MI.

Campaign SightFirst II is well underway. Will you make a generous donation? \$1 can prevent a case of river blindness. \$6 can restore a person's sight. Your contribution will help our club reach its goal of being a Lions International "Model Club."

Treasurer's Report – Service fund April 30, 2007

1 ,
<u>Income</u>
Candy Day Income 522.55
Recycle, Inc
SightFirst II Income
Flag Income 526.00
Total Income
Expense
Bank Service Charges
Candy Day Expense
Office Supplies
Postage and Delivery 39.00
Printing and Reproduction
Total Office Supplies
Overland Park Days Expense
Service Fund Disbursements
Kansas Lions Band Camp
Boy Scout Troop #425
Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead project
Eyeglasses for indigent persons
Kansas Lions Sight Foundation (Claude DeVorss Fellow) 1,000.00
Total Service Fund Disbursements
Total Expenses
Net Income
11ct income 3,070.33

Treasurer's Report – General Account

The USA/Canada Leadership Forum, 2007: "Get Hooked on Grand Rapids"

 Miscellaneous
 38.08

 Room and Meal Expense for Meetings
 747.55

 Total Expense
 826.06



The 2007 Forum will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 6-8. Plan now to attend. Early registration means a better chance to get assigned to the hotel of your choice. The Forum is a tremendous opportunity to enhance your skills as a Lions leader—present or future! Past International Director Ed McCormick of Kansas is general chairman for 2007.





gro.anoilqo.www

May, 2007 Issue

The Overland Park Host Lions Rost Meal K. Michols, Interim Editor 6116 West 85th Terrace Overland Park, KS 66207-1515