



## "IT'S GREAT TO BE A LION"

**"It Can Make A Difference In Your Life  
and the Lives of the Visually Impaired"**

Melvin Jones, founder of Lions Clubs, and friends meeting, in Chicago decided to organize and International Lions Club to foster good will and provide humanitarian service. (His stone was dedicated at our 2010 History Walk).

Springfield Host Club was organized in 1921 with 76 members. We are most noted for our aid to the blind.

We have operated the Duck Pond at the Ozark Empire fair since 1948. Probably our most unusual service, was in 1929 when we bought gloves for all the newsboys in the city.

Our first picnic for the blind was in August 1932 at Phelps Grove Park. (still going today). The Club gave the first Lion Of The Year Award" in 1948. Our club is truly International in scope, as we often have members attend the International Lions Convention somewhere in the world. The President of Lions International from Japan, gave the keynote address at our sixtieth anniversary in 1981.

We have furnished 9 District Governors in our almost 90 years of service. We will celebrate our 90th anniversary in 2011 and are second oldest Lions Club in Missouri.

### **CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE**

International: <http://www.lionsclubs.org> (Link to: Our Work)  
Local Host Lions Club: <http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/springfieldhostmo/>

### **SOME HOST LION CLUB SERVICE PROJECTS**

**History Stones:** At Nathanael Greene Park "History Walk"

**Eye Glasses:** Help obtain eye glasses for needy

**Leader Dog:** Assist persons in obtaining leader dogs

**4th Grade project:** Education to students on blindness

**Eye Glasses Collection:** Used glasses collected for Third World countries

**Peace Poster Contest:** Local school children participate

**Eye and Hearing Screenings:** Kids Sight Program for Pre-schoolers and Adults screenings

**Picnic & Christmas Party:** For visually impaired

**Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation (MLERF)** Annual contributions

**Lions International Projects:** Annual contributions to worldwide **Sight II** and **LCIF**

**Mid-South Eye Research Hospital:** Support eye services in Memphis TN



**This picture of the annual Blind Christmas Party won the Lions International photo contest for service projects for the fiscal year 2003-2004. It was taken by Lion Virgil Calhoun.**

### **THE JUNGLE JOTTINGS**

The Jungle Jottings is a monthly newsletter sent to each Host Club Member, updating them of local happenings, news of activities and projects and details of programs at weekly meetings. The first Jottings was distributed in 1936.

### **HOST CLUB MEMBERS ARE PROUD**

We are proud to belong to the world's largest service organization. There were 1.8 million members in October 2010, in 48,000 clubs in 204 countries and areas of the world. We wear the famous lapel pin identifying us as part of the world wide movement doing good works for so many in all varied cultures, all speaking the universal language of humanitarian services.

### **HOST LIONS CLUB MEMBERS RAISE FUNDS**

The club has sponsored many and varied money making projects for our many service programs. Now members choose to earn funds through the operation of the **Duck Pond at the Ozark Empire Fair**. Over two million ducks have been dipped since we started counting in 1948. In 2010, this service project netted almost \$11,000 used for helping others.

### **HOST CLUB MEMBERS MEMBERSHIP**

- 1) An opportunity is afforded for service to humanity and to the under privileged;
- 2) To promote principles of good government and citizenship;
- 3) Promote drug awareness;
- 4) To keep the problems of sight before the public;
- 5) Publicize the needs for those with hearing and speech conservation;
- 6) To be informed concerning environmental needs of our state and city;
- 7) Interest in all health activities and promote a higher "Quality of Life" to all.

### **INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT REMARKS**

**International President Sid L. Scruggs III**, a retired surgeon, stresses "the importance of eye screening in the countries he visits". "He encourages Lions to rededicate themselves and have hands on service."

### **LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL (LCIF)**

Since 1968, LCIF has donated \$700,000,000 to such cause as \$7.8 million for hurricane relief during Katrina and \$15 million to Tsunami Relief. Lion relief was in Haiti the day after the earthquake.

Closer to home, LCIF gave grants of \$30,000 for the victims of the Billings, Clever and Nixa tornados of 2003 and 2006 and the 2007 Springfield ice storm.

### **HELP THE HOST LIONS CLUB**

Ask a Host Lion how to join. Help those who are less fortunate.

### **WHY JOIN SPRINGFIELD HOST LIONS CLUB?**

- 1) "Weekly association with a wonderful group of like minded persons who are **both men and women**".
- 2) "The Host Lions Club is among the top clubs in Missouri."
- 3) "Membership helps a person consolidate his charitable efforts."
- 4) "There is a strong psychological need to associate with others of like interests."
- 5) "Opportunity is afforded members to gain valuable insights into civic and governmental affairs" provided by local speakers at each meeting.
- 6) "Members are given the opportunity **TO SERVE**."
- 7) "Members are eligible to attend conventions worldwide, the state and district."

### **HOST LIONS CLUB NEEDS YOU**

How do you become a Lion member? Contact our membership committee: Lions Wyman Grindstaff, Judy Young or Fred Brice at **417-833-9879** or **mail the Host Lions Club, P. O. Box 3161, Springfield, MO 65808**. Contact any active member of the Club, visit a regular club meeting or any of our projects.

**Meetings are: Each Thursdays from 12:05 until 1:00 PM, Heritage Cafeteria 1364 E Battlefield, Springfield, MO. Come join us.**